



Year 9 Options 2017



Over the next few weeks you will be thinking about the courses you would like to study next year. This booklet tells you about the courses we are offering to Year 9 as you move into year 10, and gives you some advice about how to fill in your option form and make the right choice for you.

You will be able to find out lots of information about your KS4 courses and the option subjects from your tutor, your subject teachers and in assemblies. This booklet is the start of the process. **The Year 9 Options Evening is on Tuesday 7th March 2017 from 3.15pm – 6.00pm** where you and your parents/carers will have a chance to discuss your choices with a range of people.

If you would like to meet with our careers advisers, you can arrange this through Ms Qureshi. Your tutor will be glad to discuss your choices with you and you should also talk to Year 10 and 11 students in your tutor group about their experiences of the courses.

It is important, however, to remember that the final choices on your option form are yours.

Don't think about:

- What your friends are doing, as they don't have the same needs as you.
- Who your favourite teacher is, as they may not be teaching your group.

Do think carefully:

- Do you enjoy the subject content and activities and want to learn more?
- Are you good at the subject and are achieving or exceeding your targets?
- Are you thinking about studying the subject after Levenshulme at A Level?
- Is the subject connected to a career you are considering?
- Will these subjects open or close future choices?

Read this booklet carefully and fill in the option form at the back. Then, get your parents to agree to your choices and sign the form. It will need to be with your tutor by **Friday 17th March 2017** during Tutor Time, when your tutor will review your choices and sign off your form. If your tutor is concerned about your choices, your form will be given to Ms Hannan to review it in her role as Head of Progress.

We hope to meet you and your parents/carers at the Year 9 Options Evening when you can discuss your choices with Ms Hannan (Year 9 Head of Progress), Mr Norton (Assistant Head) and Mr Johnson (Deputy Head) and our staff team.

The Year 9 Academic Tutorial Evening is also on **Tuesday 7th March 2017 from 3.15pm-6pm**. This is the annual opportunity for you and your parents/carers to discuss your progress in school with your form tutor. At this event, you and your parents/carers also will have the opportunity to discuss Key Stage 4 courses with the relevant Heads of Faculty.

Key Stage 4 options choices are an important stage in your life; take it seriously and you will enjoy your last 2 years at Levenshulme and be in the best position possible to progress post 16. You will be assigned a member of staff who will meet with you in small groups to discuss the Options process and how to make the best choices.

What do I have to study?

All students at Levenshulme study a **core curriculum**.

English

All students study towards a GCSE in English Language and most students study English Literature to GCSE. Your English teacher will give you more information. You will study 4 hours of English a week.

Maths

All students work towards a GCSE in Maths. You will be studying 4 hours of Maths a week.

Science

Almost everyone in Y10 and Y11 studies at least double award Science at GCSE. You need to think carefully about whether you need to study Triple Award Science at Key Stage 4. Some of you may wish to study Triple Science; due to the extra content, opting for Triple Award Science means you lose one option and you will study Science for eight hours per week.

If you would like advice, concerning which choices to make, talk to your current Science teacher

It is important to remember that Double Award Science can also be used as a route to do A Levels in Science and will be the course that the majority of year ten will take. If you take Double Award Science you will study Science for five hours per week.

Ethics, Philosophy and Religion (EPR)

Almost all girls at Levenshulme study EPR to GCSE level. You will sit 2 exams at the end of Year 11. You will have 1 hour of EPR a week.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

You will study PSHCE and work-related learning through special PSHCE Focus days where the normal timetable is suspended and you will have the opportunity to study a PSHCE topic in depth.

Physical Education

You will have 2 hours of PE a week. People who are fit and healthy achieve better results than people who do not exercise. They also live longer. The attitude you have toward exercise now will affect the rest of your life.

You will need to bring your kit and join in the activities if you are going to make the most of the opportunities offered to develop your physical skills, knowledge and understanding. There is an opportunity for all students to achieve nationally recognised qualifications in core PE time.

The English Baccalaureate

This is an important measure of a young person's progress.

To qualify for the English Baccalaureate you need to achieve 9-5 grades in English, Maths, double Science, a foreign language and history or geography.

Some colleges and most sixth forms have high entry qualifications, and the English Baccalaureate is almost always a requirement, often at Grades 5 and above.

Modern Foreign Language

Many girls will choose at least one language at GCSE. You have the choice of French, Spanish, German, Urdu or Arabic. However, for your language option you must choose a language you are already studying or of which you have some prior knowledge.

Read the summary for GCSE languages carefully and choose wisely. You may wish to take advice from your language teacher or Mrs Helsby. You will study a language option for 3 hours a week.

Geography or History

The English Baccalaureate requires a GCSE at 5 grade or above in either history or geography. This increasingly is a qualification many colleges and universities will be expecting students to have.

What do I have to do to succeed?

Girls who do best at Levenshulme are those who:

- attend every day on time
- always try their very best
- seek, take and act upon the advice and support that is available
- contribute in a positive way to school life.

We are clear about our expectations for you. We set challenging targets for you because we believe they will lead to your success. If you follow them and try to be the best you can be – we will be proud of you, they will be proud of you at home and, most of all, you will be proud of your achievements. Good grades at 16 set you up to move on with your life. They are worth the effort.

What happens next?

- Detach and complete the Blue Option form at the back of this book.
- Hand in your option form, signed by your parent or carer, by **Friday 17th March** to your form tutor. It will be checked by your tutor then passed to Ms Hannan.
- After half term, when the courses have been scheduled, you and your parents will get a letter to confirm your course choices for Key Stage 4.

Dates to remember:

Tuesday 7th March 3.15-6.00pm	Year 9 Student-Led Academic Tutorials and Options Evening in Errwood Hall
Friday 17th March 8.30-8.55am	Hand in your Options Form to tutor

PLEASE DETACH and COMPLETE the BLUE OPTION FORM

The Blue Option pathway is for those serious scientists.

If you choose the Blue Option, you will be on a pathway to achieve the English Baccalaureate and the only other choices you need to make are

- which language you will study and
- whether you will study History or Geography

Course title: Art
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: GCSE grades 9-1
Assessment Methods: Controlled assessment 60% Externally Set Task 40%
Course content: Portfolio of work (Independent Project, Issues-Based project and one other project chosen from a selection) Externally set task (one project chosen from a selection provided by AQA)
Skills you need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to develop and explore ideas. • An ability to work independently. • An ability to draw with some accuracy and creativity. • The ability to analyse and evaluate artists' works, in writing, to a high standard. Skills you will acquire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative thinking and problem solving. • Technical skills and practical ability in drawing, painting, photography, sculpture and new media. • Time management and organisational skills/ • How to conduct research. • Working well independently. • Self-expression and symbolism. • How to draw accurately for a range of different purposes.
Progression routes and linked careers: Post 16 courses e.g. A level, BTEC, NVQ, Foundation studies in Art & Design. Career paths: Graphic Design, gallery work, painting/ ceramic restoration, commercial artist, Fine Art, Illustration, Animation, Teaching, Design, Architecture, Advertising...
Other information: Be prepared to spend time on the work set in class. Complete homework.
Any questions see: Miss Howells

Course title: GCSE Business Studies
Qualification: GCSE Business Studies
Level of course: Pupils must have a grade 6 or above in English to succeed in GCSE Business studies
Assessment Methods: Business 1: business activity, marketing and people 1 Hour 30 Minutes examination. Business 2: operations, finance and influences on business 1 Hour 30 Minutes examination.
Course content: In year 10 you will learn about marketing and look at different types of strategies companies use to advertise to different groups of people. You will visit Cadbury World to look at their Marketing strategies and how they advertise their chocolates to different groups of people. You will then learn about Enterprise and the steps to be taken to start your own business. In year 11 you will learn about human resources within business and how companies hire and fire people; if you like 'The Apprentice' you will enjoy this unit. You will then do the finance unit where you will look at share prices, costs of running businesses and look at financial documents business have to create.
Skills you need: An enthusiasm to learn about how different businesses operate is key to the success of this course. You need to be prepared to work hard and will be required to do some independent learning to achieve a rewarding GCSE. Skills you will acquire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn how businesses market their products • Be able to calculate finances required to run a business. • Being able to apply knowledge to case studies. • Improve thinking skills • Improve problem solving • Improve communication and presentation skills
Progression routes and linked careers: A Level/ BTEC Business Studies; A Level Accountancy, Law, Economics. Possible linked careers include: Marketing; Communication; Customer Service; Accountancy; Management; Banking or Law
Other information: Business offers students the opportunity to develop their business skills by offering enterprise activities. Pupils are given the opportunity to join the Young Enterprise Scheme where they work with business people to set up their own business.
Any questions see: Mrs Ejaz or Miss Downey

Course title: GCSE Computer Science

Qualification: GCSE

Level of course: This is suitable for a pupil who achieves constant 6/7 grades in English, Maths and Science.

Assessment Methods:

- One written paper (40%)
- One written paper (40%)
- One Controlled Assessment (20%)

Course content:

- Fundamentals of computer systems.
- Computational Thinking and Algorithms.
- Understanding of loops and functions within code.
- Completing research of a computing issue.
- Using programming techniques to solve problems.
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Skills you need:

- You will need a good aptitude for Maths.
- Understanding of computer programs.
- You will need to be competent at coding.

***Computer science** is at the forefront of a modern society. If we want to continue to produce computing software within a global market we need those technical skills required to succeed. Are you innovative, creative, logical and proactive?
Be at the forefront of the next computing generation, take Computer Science at GCSE.*

Skills you will acquire:

- You will learn how to program in a specific language.
- You will learn how to analyse data networks.
- You will learn how to convert whole numbers into hexadecimal and binary.
- You will learn how to create computer programs that solve problems.

Progression routes and linked careers:

AS/ A level ICT
AS/A level Computing
Computer Science
Computer programmer
ICT consultant
Software developer
App developer

Any questions see: Miss Downey

Course title: Food preparation (cooking) and nutrition
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: Must be projected grade 4 or above.
Assessment Methods: Written exam (50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple choice questions (20 marks) • Five questions, each with a number of sub questions (80 marks) Non-exam assessment (50%) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task 1: Written or electronic report (1,500 – 2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation. • Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.
Course content: Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics: Food, nutrition and health Food science Food safety Food choice Food provenance
Skills you need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of how to work safely in the cooking room. • Basic cooking abilities and interests. • Ability to plan dishes and keep calm under pressure whilst multi-tasking. Skills you will acquire: This new GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.
Progression routes and linked careers: Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study, or embark on an apprenticeship or full time career in the catering or food industries.
Other information:
Any questions see: Miss Howells

Course title: Gateway Double Award Science
Qualification: The Combined Science option leads to two GCSE qualifications in Science and is made up of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics.
Level of course: For students considering taking A Levels in Science or other Science related courses, or for students who are interested or talented in Science and who are considering taking a non Science related vocation.
Assessment Methods: The Combined Science GCSE has three components, Biology, Chemistry and Physics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The six Biology modules are tested as two separate exams, B1B2B3 counts for 16.7% of the final grade, B4B5B6 also counts for 16.7% of the final grade. • The six Chemistry modules are tested as two separate exams, C1C2C3 counts for 16.7% of the final grade, C4C5C6 also counts for 16.7% of the final grade. • The six Physics modules are tested as two separate exams, P1P2P3 counts for 16.7% of the final grade, P4P5P6 also counts for 16.7% of the final grade. • There is no controlled assessment for this course and all six exams are taken at the end of year eleven.
Course content The Science studied in year ten covers a range of topics including ecology, how the body works, genetics and the problems developments in this area are highlighted, how we can change chemicals to suit our needs, rates of reaction, chemistry and the Earth, how we use energy in our homes and the structure of the Universe. The Science studied in year eleven covers a range of topics including how we can alter our environment to suit human needs and the effects of human actions on the environments we live in, the periodic table, quantitative chemistry, chemical economics and chemicals effects on the environment, the forces involved in movement and radioactivity.
Skills you need: You must have an interest in, and enthusiasm for, science; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must have a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods; • You must be able to acquire and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its essential role in society; • You must be able to acquire scientific skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for progression to further learning Skills you will acquire: You will develop explanations, theories and modeling in science along with the implications of science for society.
Progression routes and linked careers: This course allows for students wishing to continue their Science studies on to A level and beyond to University. The number of Science courses available to study at University is very large including Medicine and Dentistry, however Science A levels are also seen as a good grounding to continue on into Law amongst other subjects.
Any questions see: Mr Simpkins

Course title: AQA Drama

Qualification: GCSE

Level of course:

Best for students achieving a 4 and above in Drama.

Assessment Methods:

The course is split into:

40% Understanding Drama- this is a written exam lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes. Students will answer a short multiple choice question and then write about any given scene from a play that is studied. The final part is a theatre review of one performance of live theatre that is seen over the course.

40% Devising Drama- This is mostly marked on **practical performance** of a devised play. There is an assessed drama journal which is similar to one students have been keeping this year.

20% Texts in Practice. This is a **practical performance** of 2 extracts from one play. Both extracts are worth a total of 25 marks each.

Written Examination- This is partially based on the development of practical work completed during the course but also on the study of a scripted play and reviews of productions seen.

Course content:

The course is practical. It allows students to study two plays, one as a complete text and two extracts from the other. The plays are studied practically but a set text is examined through the written exam. Students also get to devise and create their own practical performance task. A reflective journal which reflects and record their progress and skills development will be an ongoing part of the course and counts as 20% of the devised unit. Students develop their performance work through a range of devising and scripted work.

Students are also given the opportunity to see a number of performances and will be asked to develop the language of theatre critique in order to comment on professional performance. They will be able to attend workshops to help them develop their understanding of theatre and performance.

Skills you need:

- You need to be able to work and contribute to group work.
- You need to have an interest in creating, performing and reflecting on your own work and those of others. You need to be able to enjoy performing and understanding plays.
- You need to be able to write about the development of your own work and that of others.
- You need to have an interest in Theatre and enjoy watching plays.

Skills you will acquire:

- Develop your performance skills,
- Encourages you to develop creatively and imaginatively.
- Develop your communication skills and self-confidence.
- Be able to reflect on your own work and that of others.
- Develop the language and insight of Theatre critiques.

Progression routes and linked careers:

Overall a good pass in Drama will demonstrate that you are a confident and mature communicator.

A Drama GCSE is an essential choice for anyone who wants to work in the Arts. It is also an excellent choice for anyone who wants to work in an environment where there is plenty of social interaction. Possible career opportunities or links to specific professions are: Lawyer (Presenting in court), Social Work or Psychology, Events Manager, Teacher, Actor, Dancer, Presenter or Marketing.

It provides a strong and appropriate foundation for further progression to Drama courses, including A-level Drama and Theatre Studies, and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Other information:

The Drama GCSE is an enjoyable course in which your course tutors will strive to play to your strengths.

It will encourage students to explore and actively engage in a wide range of creative and stimulating activities to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

It will give students the opportunity to show their work in both theatres and other venues.

Your drama teachers ensure that you experience a wide range of high quality performance opportunities such as Not in My Honour at a Manchester Grammar School and participation in school productions such as The Jungle Book.

Any questions see: Ms Mian and Ms Norbury

Course title: AQA English
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: Compulsory
<p>Assessment Methods: 2 exams at the end of the course (2019). Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing – 1 hour 45 mins, 50% of the GCSE. Both reading and writing are tested. Paper 2: Writer’s viewpoints and perspectives – 1 hour 45 mins, 50% of the GCSE. Both reading and writing are tested.</p>
<p>Course Content: You will study a range of both fiction and non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st Century. You will develop your analysis skills, particularly focusing on how writers use language to achieve certain effects as well as exploring writer’s viewpoints and opinions. The skills of comparing texts and evaluating them will also be focused upon. In terms of writing, you will develop your grammatical accuracy and understanding as well as develop your vocabulary. You will also focus upon how texts are structured, use of paragraphing and sentences. You will need to write creatively in a range of styles. Spoken Language is not assessed but you will be required to demonstrate use of standard English when speaking and to deliver effective presentations as well as to be able to question others.</p>
<p>Skills you need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening skills • Speaking skills • Communication skills • Ability to work within a group and independently • Reading • Writing • Thinking creatively • Motivation • To be able to work and read independently <p>Skills you will acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and writing skills • Analytical and evaluative skills • Comparing texts • Thinking skills • Problem solving • Communication skills • Literacy • Writing creatively
<p>Progression routes and linked careers: This course would enable you to study English at ‘A’ Level and then onto degree level. You need at least a Grade 5 in English Language to study A levels in any subject but most courses/colleges will expect at least a 6 grade. Future careers with English include teaching, journalism, law, editing, marketing, media and management.</p>
Any questions see: Ms Narayanan, Ms Suthar or Miss Foster

Course title: AQA English Literature
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: Everyone will study this course.
<p>Assessment Methods: Two exams at the end of year 10. Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel – This exam is for 1 hr 45mins and counts for 40% of the GCSE. Paper 2: Modern texts and Poetry – This exam is for 2 hrs and 15 mins and counts for 60% of the GCSE.</p>
<p>Course content: You will study one modern play or work of prose as well as an anthology of poetry. You will also need to be able to explore poetry that you have never seen before and compare poems that you have studied. You will also be required to study a full Shakespeare play and to be able to analyse extracts from it as well as explore the entire play. You will also study a 19th century novel. No texts can be taken into the exams so you will need to read your set texts a few times before the exam and to learn some key quotes off by heart.</p>
<p>Skills you need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening skills • Speaking skills • Communication skills • Ability to work within a group and independently • Reading • Writing • Thinking creatively • Motivation • To be able to read independently <p>Skills you will acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and writing skills • Analytical and evaluative skills • Comparative skills • Thinking skills • Problem solving • Communication skills • Literacy
<p>Progression routes and linked careers: This course would enable you to study English at 'A' Level and then onto degree level. Most colleges require at least a Grade 6 to study English Literature at A level. Future careers with English include teaching, journalism, law, editing, marketing, media and management.</p>
Any questions see: Ms Narayanan, Ms Suthar or Miss Foster

Course title: Fashion & Textiles
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: GCSE grades 9-1.
Assessment Methods: Controlled assessment 60% Externally Set Task 40%
Course content: Portfolio of work. Controlled assessment
<p>Skills you need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to develop and explore ideas. • An ability to work independently. • Basic sewing machine or hand stitching skills. • Ability to think of design ideas and draw them with some independence. <p>Skills you will acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative thinking. • Technical skills and practical ability in textiles: illustration and drawing, designing garments and other items, pattern cutting, machine sewing, CAD/ CAM, construction processes. • Time management. • How to conduct research effectively and meaningfully. • Working well independently. • Self-expression and symbolism. • Ability to analyse and compare fashion and other textiles garments throughout history.
<p>Progression routes and linked careers: Post 16 courses e.g. A level, BTEC, NVQ, Foundation studies in Art & Design.</p> <p>Career paths: Fashion designer, marketing, textile artist, interior designer, fabric designer and sampler, illustrator, teacher.</p>
<p>Other information:</p> <p>Be prepared to spend time on the work set in class. Complete homework.</p>
Any questions see: Miss Howells

Course title: Geography (AQA)

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment Methods:

In GCSE Geography you will sit three separate written exams. One of these will be based on two field trips to contrasting locations.

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment.

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment.

Paper 3: Geographical Applications.

Course content:

- This GCSE course studies Geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them.
- Extensive use is made of up to date case studies throughout the course. Students will explore case studies in the United Kingdom, newly emerging economies and lower income countries.
- The topics reflect current geographical thinking and all involve the study of topical issues such as climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use.
- Students are encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

The main topics studied will be:

Paper 1 - Living with the Physical Environment (35%)

- The Challenge of Natural Hazards
- Physical Landscapes in the UK
- The Living World

Paper 2 - Challenges in the Human Environment (35%)

- Urban Issues and Challenges
- The Changing Economic World
- The Challenge of Resource Management

Paper 3 - Geographical Applications (30%)

- Issue Evaluation (based on pre-release materials)
- Fieldwork (based on 2 contrasting fieldtrips)
- Geographical Skills
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Skills you need:

- An interest in geographical issues the world around you.
- Ability to work within a group and independently.
- Ability to describe, analyse and evaluate data.
- Ability to make links and connections within and between topics.
- Ability to categorise information and recall key facts.
- Ability to research and investigate using ICT.
- Ability to consider various viewpoints on a given topic.

Progression routes and linked careers:

This course would enable you to study Geography at 'A' Level and then onto degree level. You will need a Grade 5 or 6 to do A Level Geography.

Linked careers include; Geologist, environmentalist, teaching. However, there are a vast array of jobs that use geographical skills, jobs that are affected by geography and jobs that exist because of geography. Therefore, Geography would also be useful for any career needing analytical and evaluative skills, for example; banking or accountancy.

Any questions see: Miss Whitley, Mr Millington or Ms Wright

Course title: AQA History

Qualification: GCSE

Level of course: GCSE

Assessment Methods:

Two examination papers - 100%

Paper 1 - 50% - Understanding the Modern World

- Section A – six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Plus four marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

Paper 2 - 50% - Shaping the Nation

- Section A – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Plus four marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

Both papers are 1 Hour and 45 Minutes

Course content:

A Period Study: The American West 1840-1895: Expansion and consolidation

- The Native American Indians
- Settlers in the American West
- The American Civil War
- The Plains Wars

A Wider World Depth Study: Conflict and tension between East and West 1945-1972

- Cold War
- Cuban Missile Crisis
- Vietnam
- Space Race

A Thematic Study: Health and the People – circa 1000 – Present Day

- Medicine in the Middle Ages
- Medicine in the Modern World
- Disease and Infection; Public Health; Surgery and Anatomy

A British Depth Study: Norman England – circa 1066 – 1100

- Norman Conquest
- Power of state and religion
- The Historic Environment

Skills you need:

- Listening skills
- Communication skills
- Ability to work within a group and independently
- An interest in the past and a desire to find things out
- Motivation

Skills you will acquire:

- Analytical and evaluative skills
- Thinking skills
- Problem solving
- Communication skills
- Literacy

Progression routes and linked careers:

This course would enable you to study History at 'A' Level and then onto degree level. You will need a Grade 5 to do A Level History.

Linked careers include; working in a museum, Archaeologist, Teaching.

But it would also be useful for any career needing analytical and evaluative skills, for example; Banking, Law, Medicine or Accountancy.

Any questions see: Ms White; Miss Oldroyd; Mr Holian; Mr Weaver.

Course title: Mathematics

Qualification:
GCSE Mathematics

Level of course:
Compulsory for all pupils.

Assessment Methods:
A linear exam is taken at the end of Year 11. Pupils will be entered for one of two tiers, Foundation or Higher. The Maths exam consists of three papers all lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. The first exam is a non-calculator and the second two exams are calculator papers. There are no controlled assessments in Mathematics.

Course content:
Algebraic Manipulation, Equations and Functions, Sequences and Graphs, Calculations, properties of Number, Fractions, Percentages, Ratio, Geometrical Reasoning, Measures, Area, Perimeter and Volume, Data, Averages, Range, Constructing and Interpreting Charts and Probability.

Skills you need:

- To be able to Represent Mathematical Concepts and Ideas
- To Communicate Mathematically
- To Reflect on our Mathematical Learning
- To Analyse using Mathematical Reasoning
- To Analyse using Appropriate Procedures
- To be able to Interpret and Evaluate Mathematics

Progression routes and linked careers:
Most careers require a pass in Maths. It has been shown that pupils who go on to take 'A' Level Maths earn 20% more than pupils who do not take 'A' Level Maths.

Other information:
Good attendance is vital to chances of examination success. Students should have a scientific calculator of their own and bring this to lessons along with the usual lesson equipment of pen, pencil and ruler. Students must complete homework on time. This provides a great opportunity to consolidate learning on key topics. It is expected that pupils have independent study skills and should use Mathswatch and other e-learning platforms such as GCSE pod to help prepare for assessments.

Any questions see: Ms Shakoor (Head of Mathematics)

<p>Course title: GCSE Arabic/French/German/Spanish/ Urdu. (Additional languages available for native speakers.)</p>
<p>Qualification: GCSE</p>
<p>Level of course: Suitable for students who have studied the language in KS3.</p>
<p>Assessment Methods: French/German/Spanish/Urdu: Listening – final exam (25%); Reading – final exam (25%); Speaking – final exam (25%); Writing – Final exam (25%).</p>
<p>Course content: 3 themes will be covered: - Theme1, Identity and Culture- Theme 2, Local, national, international and global areas of interest – Theme 3, Current and future study and employment. Various topics such as 'Relationships', 'Jobs', and 'Free Time and the Media' will be covered within these main contexts.</p>
<p>Skills you need: Language awareness, ability to work independently and in small groups, dictionary and ICT skills, willingness to communicate and an interest in other countries and cultures.</p> <p>Skills you will acquire: Communication, application of numbers, and Information and Communication Technology, working with others, improving own learning and performance, problem solving, research, independent and team working.</p>
<p>Progression routes and linked careers: A GCSE pass at grade 5-9 could lead to further study at AS/A2 level and then onto a degree. Knowledge in one or more 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. For other jobs, a combination of languages plus other qualifications, knowledge or skills may be needed. For example, people with language skills plus ICT, law, finance or sales skills are very much in demand.</p>
<p>Other information: At GCSE, we follow the AQA syllabus (Edexcel for Arabic). Foreign language assistants assist with language lessons. 3 x 60 minute lessons are given to each group every week.</p>
<p>Any questions see: Mrs Helsby.</p>

Course Title: Music

Course Title: AQA Music

Qualification: GCSE

Level of course:

Students from a variety of backgrounds can do GCSE music.

Some will have achieved a good KS3 level; a 6 or above is an appropriate grade to consider taking up this subject. Some may have achieved certificates in performing and/or general music theory and others may possess no formal qualifications in music at all but have a natural flair for the subject.

Candidates are not therefore required to have any formal qualifications before commencing the GCSE course. As 60% of the assessment is based on performance it is crucial that students can play an instrument or sing to a good standard. A love of music and a love of performance, composition and exploring different genres of music is essential to progress in this course.

Assessment Methods:

- 4 practical controlled assessments - Internal Teacher Assessment and moderation by AQA (60%)
- 1 Listening and Appraising Exam – Externally marked (40%)

Course content:

- Performing Music (30%). Candidates perform a solo as well as a group (ensemble) performance.
- Composing Music (30%). Candidates will compose 2 pieces of music based on a range of genres set by the exam board. One of these will be based on a selection of composition briefs set by the exam board.
- Area of Study 1 – ‘Western Classical Tradition 1650-1910’ – Students will study the history of classical music. The set study piece is the 2nd movement from *Haydn’s Symphony No.101 in D Major (The Clock Symphony)*
- Area of Study 2 – ‘Popular Music’ – This is the study of pop from 1960 to the present day. The set study pieces for this topic are The Beatles’ ‘With A Little Help From My Friends’, ‘Within You Without You’ and ‘Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds’ from the album *Sgt Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*.
- Area of Study 3 – Traditional Music – This includes traditional music from places such as Africa, The Caribbean and South America. The study pieces are Santana’s ‘Smooth’, Migra’ and ‘Love of My Life’ from the album *Supernatural*.
- Area of Study 4 – Western Classical Tradition Since 1910. This is the study of modern and avant garde orchestral music. The study pieces are Aaron Copland’s ‘Saturday Night Waltz’ and ‘How Down’ from *Rodeo*.

Skills you need:

- You will need to be able to sing or play an instrument to a basic standard and you will be helped along the way with this by being provided with a private instrumental or singing lesson once a week.

Skills you will acquire:

- A deepening of musical understanding of performance, composition, listening & appraising as well as learning about the theoretical side of the subject.
- An opportunity to play with others and improve your creativity when performing with your peers and other musicians.
- Access to learning about many different styles of music and being introduced to styles you may not be already familiar with.

Progression routes and linked careers:

There are many employment opportunities in music with 130,000 people nationally working full-time directly in music including; Performance and Composition, Sound Engineering, Music Teaching, Music Therapy, Music Industry (promotions & management) as well as Arts Administration, Television & Radio Industry, Instrument Manufacture & technology, Music Publishing, Copying, Copyrights and Music Law.

The North West and particularly Manchester is renowned for being progressive in the performing arts with the Royal Northern College of Music in the city centre and the BBC and Media City expanding rapidly in Salford Quays.

Other information:

Universities see music as a serious and challenging GCSE as well as A – Level. Having GCSE Music enables you to show that you have self discipline and the ability to be creative which is something employers and colleges see as a positive attribute. It should be pointed out, that whilst GCSE music is open to any individual, on a practical level it is a challenging course of study that requires a thorough approach to academic study as well as possessing an ability to 'self-manage' ones work.

You must be able to attend instrumental lessons and be willing to practise your instrument/voice in-between lessons to progress.

Any questions see: Ms Ryan or Ms Wheatley

Course title: Photography (lens and light based media)
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: GCSE 9-1
Assessment Methods: Controlled assessment 60% Externally set task 40%
Course content: 4 complete projects: Food glorious food (blog based project developing basic skills and technical knowledge) The weird, the wonderful and the supernatural (special effects photography, Photoshop etc) Music video project (make your own music video or short film using either film or animation) Issues-based photography Final exam project (choose from 7 topics given by the exam board)
Skills you need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to develop and explore ideas. • An ability to work independently. • An interest in taking photographs and some basic understanding of what makes a good photo. • The ability to draw and some enjoyment of different types of drawing. • Ability to write about the work of photographers and artists by analysing and evaluating their work. Skills you will acquire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative thinking • Technical skills • Time management • Researching • Digital editing
Progression routes and linked careers: Post 16 courses e.g. A level, Career paths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching, Design, • Graphics, Advertising, Journalism, TV/media, Web design, Fashion, Animation, Film, professional photography.
Other information: Be prepared to spend time on the work set in class. Complete homework.
Any questions see: Miss Howells

Course title: AQA Specification A Religious Studies
Qualification: GCSE
Level of course: All students
Assessment Methods: Two examination papers – 100% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices • Component 2: Thematic studies
Course content: The study of religions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity: Beliefs and teachings • Christianity: Practices • Islam: Beliefs and teachings • Islam: Practices Thematic studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships and families • Religion, peace and conflict • Religion, crime and punishment • Religion, human rights and social justice
Skills you need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empathy • An ability to see things from different perspectives • Respect for differing points of view • Listening skills • Communication skills • Ability to work within a group and independently Skills you will acquire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to form balanced arguments • Analytical and evaluative skills • Thinking skills • Problem solving • Communication skills • Literacy
Progression routes and linked careers: This course would enable you to study philosophy, theology politics and other humanities 'A' Level and then onto degree level. Linked careers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice worker • Teaching • Archivist • Journalism But it would also be useful for any career needing analytical and evaluative skills, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social work • Law • Charity work/Campaigner • Youth worker
Any questions see: Mrs Clarke

Course title: Gateway Triple Award Science

Qualification: The Triple Award Science option leads to three GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Level of course: For students considering taking A Levels in Science

Assessment Methods: Each of the GCSEs has two components.

Biology

- Modules B1B2B3 examined by a ninety mark one hour forty five minute written paper, this counts for fifty percent of the final grade.
- Modules B4B5B6B7 examined by a ninety mark one hour forty five minute written paper, this counts for fifty percent of the final grade.

Chemistry

- Modules C1C2C3 examined by a ninety mark one hour forty five minute written paper, this counts for fifty percent of the final grade.
- Modules C4C5C6C7 examined by a ninety mark one hour forty five minute written paper, this counts for fifty percent of the final grade.

Physics

- Modules P1P2P3 examined by a ninety mark one hour forty five minute written paper, this counts for fifty percent of the final grade.
- Modules P4P5P6P7 examined by a ninety mark one hour forty five minute written paper, this counts for fifty percent of the final grade.

There is no controlled assessment for this course, all exams are at the end of year eleven.

Course content

The Biology GCSE covers a range of topics including ecology, how the body works, genetics and the problems developments in this area are highlighted, how we can alter our environment to suit human needs and the effects of human actions on the environments we live in.

The Chemistry GCSE covers a range of topics including how we can change chemicals to suit our needs, rates of reaction, Chemistry and the Earth, the periodic table, quantitative chemistry, chemical economics and chemicals effects on the environment.

The Physics GCSE covers a range of topics including how we use energy in our homes, the structure of the Universe, the forces involved in movement, radioactivity, how we use waves and how we can use electricity

Skills you need:

- You must have an interest in, and enthusiasm for, science;
- You must have a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods;
- You must be able to acquire and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its essential role in society;
- You must be able to acquire scientific skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for progression to further learning

Skills you will acquire:

- You will develop explanations, theories and modeling in science along with the implications of science for society.
- You will develop the skill of being actively involved in all lessons.

Progression routes and linked careers:

This course is designed for students wishing to continue their Science studies on to A level and beyond to University. The number of Science courses available to study at University is very large including Medicine and Dentistry, however Science A levels are also seen as a good grounding to continue on into Law amongst other subjects.

Any questions see: Mr Simpkins

Blue Option Form

Name _____ Tutor Gp _____

If you are following a pathway to study the triple Science award, you have the following choices to make.

CHOICE 1: Please tick the box next to the Humanities subject you wish to study.

History

Geography

CHOICE 2: Please tick the box next to the language you wish to study.

Arabic

French

German

Spanish

Urdu

CHOICE 3: Please tick the box next to the GCSE subject you wish to study.

Art

Business Studies

Computer Science

Drama

Cooking and Nutrition

Music

Triple Science

Photography

Textiles

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Form Tutor Signature: _____

White copy: Student

Blue copy to your form tutor by: **Friday 17th March 2017**