



KINGS' SCHOOL NAD AL SHEBA

GCSE
OPTIONS BOOKLET
2024

KING



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Kings' School Nad Al Sheba, where our commitment to a bespoke and enriching educational experience delivers on our mission statement: 'the best by every child'.

In the foundational years of Key Stage 3, years 7, 8, and 9, we lay the groundwork for a robust education by ensuring that every student engages with a diverse range of subjects. This comprehensive approach is fundamental to cultivating a well-rounded knowledge base and ensures the development of a variety of essential learning skills.

As we progress to the GCSE level in years 10 and 11, a pivotal stage in your child's academic journey, we introduce a more personalised approach. Students are empowered to make choices regarding their subjects, providing them with the opportunity to delve deeper into areas of interest. We work together with our careers coach, tutors and subject experts to build a bespoke curriculum for all our students. There is no 'one size fits all' approach here at Kings' School Nad Al Sheba.

In alignment with our holistic approach to education, students continue to benefit from our pastoral program where self-leadership, coaching and mentoring are key foci as our learners mature. Building confident, independent and resilient young people is as important as supporting our students to be high achieving in their chosen pathway.

The curriculum for students aged 14 to 16 aligns with Key Stage 4 of the English National Curriculum. The process of selecting GCSE subjects is a crucial one, and we are fully committed to guiding both you and your child through this decision-making process with an extensive support program.

Our passion for curriculum adaptation is at the core of our educational philosophy, and we are proud to develop the individual pathways that ensure all of our students have the qualifications that they need to be successful.

If you have any questions or need further guidance, please feel free to reach out to your child's form tutor.

Scott Johnson
Secondary Headteacher

OPTIONS TEAM

Dear Students,

The time has come to start planning for the future of your education and life after school. This booklet will provide you with all the information you require to get a better understanding of what the GCSE courses will look like as you transition into Year 10.

If you have any queries regarding your subject choices, please ensure that you speak with your tutor or one of the members of the options team. For tutor and subject leader contact details, please see the final page of this booklet.

We look forward to supporting you through the options process.



Miss Marston

Assistant Headteacher,
Secondary

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SELECTING OPTIONS

At Kings' School Nad Al Sheba, we allow students to select a bespoke combination of 4 subjects. Within these 4 choices our students have the option to study 2,3 or 4 GCSE option subjects. Students who do not take the maximum 4 GCSE options they will follow our skills curriculum (Core 6) which provides extra core subject learning (Maths, English and Science) alongside project based learning opportunities and skills development.

Please take note below of the compulsory subjects, option subjects and recommendations:

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

- **Arabic A or B (Up to year 10 for Arabic B)**
- **Science**
- **Core PE**
- **English Language (English as second language also available)**
- **English Literature**
- **Islamic Studies (for Muslim students)**
- **Maths**
- **Moral, Social and Cultural Studies**

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS (Choose 4, with 2 reserves)

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| • Art | • French | • Music |
| • Business | • Geography | • Photography |
| • Dance | • Global perspectives | • Physical Education (PE) |
| • Drama | • History | • Psychology |
| • DT: Food | • Information and Communication Technology | • Separate Sciences |
| • DT: Resistant Materials | • Media | • Spanish |
| • Enterprise | | |

FURTHER GUIDANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

We advise that our students should maintain a broad and balanced subject range within their GCSE pathway. Our team will support with the subject choice process from start to finish ensuring that we get the correct balance for each student considering student future pathways and career aspirations.

The option blocks are designed to support a range of skills development across our four curricular domains of 'Cognitive', 'Digital', 'Self-Leadership' and 'Interpersonal'. This ensures that all skillsets required to be a successful learner in the future are developed across the course of our 2 year GCSE's.

ARABIC A

COURSE: IGCSE • EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL



FUTURE CAREER

Journalist
International
Finance
International
Banker
Lawyer
Government
Representative

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Arabic course will deepen students' linguistic skills developed in Key Stage 3. The ability to communicate in different languages provides an international dimension to the choice of IGCSE subjects studied and is highly valued by employers.

The Arabic A Curriculum in Key Stage 4 is based on the textbook of UAE and the Cambridge IGCSE first language syllabus. Students are encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which language can be used.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language qualification also develops more general analysis and communication skills, such as synthesis, inference and the ability to write long passages using complex structures and different grammar rules effectively

ASSESSMENT

- **Paper 1 (50%)**
Reading
2 hours
- **Paper 2 (50 %)**
Writing
2 hours



STUDENT QUOTE

"Studying Arabic GCSE goes beyond exams. It's about getting better at reading, writing, and understanding language. You learn to adapt your writing style for different situations. It's not just about rules; it's understanding how words work."

ART & DESIGN

COURSE: IGCSE • EXAM BOARD: CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Fine Artist
Curator
Arts Writer
Interior Design &
Architecture
Games Designer
Art Consultant
Illustrator
Animator

COURSE OVERVIEW

GCSE Art & Design equips students with the skills to enjoy, produce and engage with visual art throughout their lives. Students will develop confidence and enthusiasm as they practice technical skills in two- and three-dimensional form and composition.

They will identify and solve problems in visual and tactile forms, as well as develop ideas from initial attempts to final solutions. Finally, they will develop an awareness of the role played by the visual arts in society and history.

COMPONENT 1

Personal Portfolio (50%)

Students develop skills and produce a portfolio of work responding to different project themes. They will study different artists and designers, experiment with materials and techniques, and refine and develop ideas, producing a personal response (final piece) at the end of each project. This will then be presented in x4 sheets of A2 boards.

COMPONENT 2

Externally Set Assignment (40%)

Students receive a broad theme set by Cambridge, after which they have 6-8 weeks to develop ideas, producing a portfolio of sketchbook work and preparatory studies. Students then produce a personal response to the theme in an 8-hour period of sustained focus under exam conditions.



STUDENT QUOTE

"My Art GCSE has really helped me develop my creativity. I feel that my knowledge and skills have really grown this year and I'm enjoying being able to explore a range of Artists and styles."

DANCE

COURSE: GCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** AQA



FUTURE CAREER

Dancer
Choreographer / Director
Lighting / Set / Costume Designer
Stage Management
Company Management
Dance Therapist
Personal Trainer
Photographer / Videographer
Dance Teacher

COURSE OVERVIEW

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. The AQA specification recognises the role of dance in young people's lives and students will study a range of dance styles and style fusions. Apart from the solo performance, they can choose any style in which to perform and choreograph, providing it meets the assessment criteria. The study of the anthology of professional works will develop their ability to critically appraise professional dance works and provide a springboard for engaging in practical tasks. Students will get the opportunity to work alone, with peers and collaborate and choreograph with their teacher and other professional dance artists. They do not need to have experience in dance but students need to have an interest in the subject and be willing to read about, watch and learn about different dance styles and professional dance works, dancers and choreographers.

COMPONENT 1

Performance and Choreography (Practical 60%)

- Three performances made up of set phrases, a duo or trio and own choreography.
- Set phrases - a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration). Students perform 230 second dances set by the exam board.
- Duo/Trio - performance of 3-5 minutes choreographed collaboratively between students and Teacher using elements of the set phrases.
- Choreography - a solo or group dance choreographed by the student, using stimuli set by the exam board.

COMPONENT 2

Dance Appreciation (Theory 40%)

Exam questions assessing students knowledge of choreographic processes and performing skills, critical appreciation of students own practical work and critical appreciation of 6 professional dance works set by the exam board.



STUDENT QUOTE

"Dance, to me, is the language of self-expression. Dance isn't just a subject; it's a transformative experience, and I'm excited to be stepping into this world of rhythm and self-discovery."

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Architect
Mechanical / Electrical / Electronics / Avionics / Aeronautics / Marine / Civil / Design
Gas & Oil Engineer
Interior / Product Designer
Teacher
Doctor
Scientist

COURSE OVERVIEW

This 2 Year iGCSE course is designed to further enhance students' problem-solving skills, building upon the foundation developed during Key Stages 2 & 3. One of the key objectives of this course is to instil in students a deep passion for continuous improvement in both products and their own practices. Through engaging lessons and practical exercises using the latest cutting-edge equipment, students will develop the ability to confidently communicate their ideas and implement design iterations that enhance solutions to real-world situations.

By the end of this course, students will not only possess advanced problem-solving skills but also a strong drive to constantly seek improvement in their work. Effective communication and iterative design processes will be emphasised, enabling students to excel in addressing challenges that arise throughout the design process. This comprehensive curriculum aims to foster a mindset of growth and innovation, empowering students to make meaningful contributions in their future endeavours.

ASSESSMENT IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING 3 METHODS:

Part 1: (25% = 50 Marks)

1 hour 15 minutes on Product Design Paper.
Questions are based on the Common content: Product Design.

Part 2: Project (50% = 100 marks)

School-based assessment which is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Part 3: (25% = 50 marks)

1 hour on Resistant Materials Paper
Questions will be based on the Specialist option:
Resistant Materials content and the Common content: Product Design.

Section A: Answer all questions. **Section B:** Answer one question.



STUDENT QUOTE

"I always enjoy being creative. DT is so different from my other subjects as the challenges set, really test my problem solving skills, which is exciting and nice to look forward to."

DRAMA

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Actor
Journalist
Set Designer
Set Manager
Theatrical Producer
Director
Cinematographer

COURSE OVERVIEW

The GCSE Drama qualification at Kings' will challenge students to explore a range of social, historical and cultural contexts through practical exploration to prepare for their GCSE performances (both scripted and devised) and a written examination (based on practical work and the exploration of a play). Students will examine human and social issues, through dramatic exploration and through performance work. They will be assessed their performance ability, understanding of the performance contexts and their understanding as a performer, director and designer. Finally, they will sit a written examination based on a significant play studied during the course and their respond to their devised performance.

Drama skills transfer wonderfully to life and the world in which we live. The subject assessment procedures will reward students' creativity, emotional intelligence and collaborative skills. Students will work frequently with others and occasionally develop work alone. Workshop activities will evolve from a range of stimuli including journalism, literature, photography, film and other Arts. Exposure to live theatre is an important part of the learning journey.

COMPONENT 1

Written Examination (40%)

Externally Assessed

COMPONENT 2

Practical work (60%)

Candidates submit three pieces of practical work:

- Individual performance based on an extract from a play
 - Group performance based on an extract from a play
 - Group performance based on an original devised piece.
- Internally assessed and externally moderated.



STUDENT QUOTE

"Taking GCSE Drama was one of the best decisions I made with my options. It has been a really enjoyable course that has allowed me to learn about the world of theatre as an actor, director and designer. The skills that I have learnt on the course have not only helped with my GCSE course, but are transferable skills for my future."

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

International Business
Translator
Journalism
Diplomacy
Tourism
Public Relations
Customer Service

COURSE OVERVIEW

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language is tailored for learners with a foundation in the language. The syllabus is designed for those studying in English, fostering skills in understanding, using English in diverse situations, and enhancing language-learning skills—reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

The focus is on practical communication for daily use, offering a foundation for further language study and building transferable skills to complement various areas of the curriculum.

ASSESSMENT

PAPER 1

Reading and Writing (70%, 60 marks)

Candidates respond to six exercises: four reading and two writing, Structured and essay style questions.
2 hours

PAPER 2

Listening (30%, 40 marks)

Candidates listen to five exercises of short and longer texts, Multiple-choice style questions.
Approx. 50 min.

PAPER 3:

Speaking (40 marks)

Candidates take part in an interview, short talk and discussion.
Approx. 10–15 min.



STUDENT QUOTE

"The English as a Second Language course has boosted my language skills, equipping me with practical communication skills for real-life scenarios. The course not only broadened my understanding of English but also laid the groundwork for further language exploration, making learning enjoyable and applicable."

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Digital Copywriter
Editor
Journalist
Lawyer
Publisher
Content Manager
Public Relations
Manager



STUDENT QUOTE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Cambridge IGCSE (9–1) First Language English has Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking at the heart of this course. The curriculum focuses on honing learners' abilities to articulate thoughts clearly and effectively through both spoken and written communication. The course places a strong emphasis on expanding vocabulary while ensuring mastery of grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Students are encouraged to cultivate a distinctive personal style and an acute awareness of their target audience. Additionally, the course promotes extensive reading for both enjoyment and enhancing understanding of the diverse applications of English. Beyond language mastery, First Language English fosters broader analytical and communication skills, fostering the capacity for inference, and are empowered to confidently articulate their opinions..

ASSESSMENT

PAPER 1

Reading (50%, 80 marks)
2 hours

PAPER 2

Directed Writing and Composition (50%, 80 marks)
2 hours

"I thoroughly enjoyed the First Language English course and it has been an enriching journey. I have had the opportunity to immerse myself into the world of accomplished writers such as Harper Lee, who wrote the profound narrative of "To Kill a Mockingbird". Delving into the complexities of language, I found myself captivated by the power of storytelling and the expressions intricately crafted by skilled writers before us. This course not only sharpened my analytical abilities but also provided me with invaluable perspectives on societal dynamics and the lasting influence of renowned literary figures. I not only developed analytical skills but gained vital and perceptive insights on the world around me, and the greats that came before us."

ENGLISH LITERATURE

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Editor
News Reporter
Communications
Director
Freelance Writer
Public Relations
Manager
Psychologist



STUDENT QUOTE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Engaging in the Cambridge IGCSE English Literature course offers a gateway to inspiration and creativity, fostering essential skills for a global context. The exploration of literature provides a unique opportunity to comprehend the world through diverse narratives, including stories, poems, novels, and plays.

Throughout the course, learners will delve into drama, prose, and poetry texts, with coursework tasks focusing on modern drama and literary heritage. Developing inferential skills, students will adeptly connect texts, exploring characters and themes to gain a profound understanding of the literary landscape.

ASSESSMENT

PAPER 1

Poetry and Prose (50%, 50 marks)

Two questions on two texts: one poetry and one prose
1 h 30 min.

PAPER 2

Drama, Open Text (25%, 25 marks)

One question on one text
45 min.

PAPER 3

Unseen (25%, 25 marks)

One question requiring critical commentary
1 h 15 min.

"Studying English Literature is like unlocking a treasure chest of characters and themes that connect to our everyday lives. It's not just about reading stories; it's about understanding the world on a deeper level and developing the empathy that sets you up for success in life."

FOOD & NUTRITION

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Health educator
Nutrition specialist
Food service associate
Health coach
Registered dietitian
Nutritionist
Chef
Entrepreneur

COURSE OVERVIEW

iGCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is a captivating and dynamic course, designed to ignite your passion for nutrition and health, food science, and the fascinating realm of food choice and provenance. Embark on a journey of discovery as you delve into the practical skills that will not only enhance your culinary abilities but also deepen your understanding of the scientific principles behind food and nutrition.

With this course, you'll gain a comprehensive knowledge base and develop practical skills that will empower you to make informed choices about food to lead a healthy, fulfilling lifestyle. This is where creativity meets science, and it allows students to unlock the secrets of delicious and nutritious cuisine.

PAPER 1

Theory (50%, 100 marks)

Short, structured and extended response questions. This paper tests subject content in section 3. Externally assessed. (2h)

PAPER 2

Practical Test (50%, 100 marks)

The Practical Test is split into two parts:

• Planning Session

Candidates are given their allocated test question and complete three Preparation Sheets. (1h 30min.)

• Practical Test

Candidates carry out the Practical Test. Internally assessed and externally moderated. (2h 30min.)



STUDENT QUOTE

"This subject makes you think deeply about what we consume and why we consume the food that we do. Being able to bring your own creativity into the Lab during practical sessions, allows us to experiment and produce individual dishes which are very tasty."

FRENCH

COURSE: GCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** AQA



FUTURE CAREER

Translator
Foreign correspondent
Journalist
Travel Agent
Language Teacher
International Business Specialist
Content Creator
International Lawyer

COURSE OVERVIEW

The GCSE in MFL (French or Spanish) course will deepen students' linguistic skills developed in Key Stage 3. The ability to confidently communicate and understand different languages provides an international dimension to the choice of GCSE subjects studied

CONTENT

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based. Theme 1: Identity and culture. Theme 2: Local, national and international areas of interest. Theme 3: Current and future study and employment.

ASSESSMENT

Broken down over the following 4 skill areas:

• Paper 1 (25%)

Listening

• Paper 2 (25%)

Speaking

• Paper 3 (25%)

Reading

• Paper 4 (25%)

Writing



STUDENT QUOTE

"The French GCSE course has allowed me to unravel a new world through languages. It isn't just a course it's a passport to unlock the world."

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Engineer
Geologist
Lawyer
Town Planner
Journalist
Documentary Creator
Architect
Developer

COURSE OVERVIEW

Part A - Geographical Themes:

Theme 1 - Population and Settlement
Theme 2 - The Natural Environment
Theme 3 - Economic Development

Part B - Geographical Skills:

Building Geographical Skills and ability at handling geographical information.

Part C - Geographical Enquiry

(For use for coursework)

ASSESSMENT

- **Paper 1 (45%)**
Geographical Skills
1h 45min.
- **Paper 2 (27.5%)**
Geographical Skills
1h 30min.
- **Paper 3 or Coursework (27.5%)**
Centre based assignment of up to 2000 words.
1h 30min. if paper 3 is chosen



STUDENT QUOTE

"Geography isn't just learning about rocks, mountains and rivers. It is learning about every part of the Earth around us and the lives of the people that live on our planet. It is fascinating to study but more importantly is vital for our future and the future of our planet. I would definitely recommend choosing it at GCSE!"

HISTORY

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Historian
Archaeologist
Journalist
Politician
Lawyer
Archivist
Political Scientist

COURSE CONTENT

Section A (Core Content)

The 20th Century - Peace Treaties of the early 20th Century, the League of Nations, Collapse of international peace in the 1930s, the USSR and the spread of Communism, events in the Gulf c1970-2000.

Section B (Depth Study)

Germany 1918 -1945 - The Weimar Republic, The Rise of Hitler & the Nazi regime, Life in Nazi Germany.

ASSESSMENT

- **Paper 1 (40%)**
Section A and B: Structured Questions. 2h
- **Paper 2 (30%)**
Section A: Document Questions. 1h 45min.
- **Paper 3 or Coursework (30%)**
Section B or a chosen depth study from the syllabus or chosen by the centre. 1h if paper 3 is chosen.



STUDENT QUOTE

"I have always liked History - but since studying it at GCSE, it is now easily my favourite subject! Studying the major events of the 20th century has helped me understand the people, decisions and life-changing events that have shaped the world that we live in. It has also helped me develop my critical thinking and writing skills which has helped hugely in my other subject. I would wholeheartedly recommend studying History at GCSE to anybody."

ISLAMIC

COURSE: IGCSE • EXAM BOARD: CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Public relations
International affairs
Teacher
Human Resources
Lawyer

COURSE OVERVIEW

The aims of the syllabus are to enable candidates to acquire a knowledge of the major sources of Islam, the main beliefs and the history surrounding Islam.

The curriculum is designed to develop an enquiring mind with regards to the study of Islam. Students will identify and explore the religious, historical and moral questions raised in the material they study.

ASSESSMENT

Candidates should be able to demonstrate that they have closely studied the topics set. They should be able to:

- **Recall, select and present relevant facts from the main elements of the faith and history of Islam.**
- **Demonstrate understanding of their significance in the teachings of Islam and in the lives of Muslims.**



STUDENT QUOTE

"GCSE Islamic has challenged me in various ways that has enhanced my everyday life to lead according to Allah and His Prophet's teaching. It's a fantastic opportunity to enhance my knowledge about Quran, Sunnah and Shariah Law."

MATHS

COURSE: IGCSE • EXAM BOARD: CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Aerospace Engineer
Economist
Market Research Analyst
Graphic Designer
Architect
Software Developer
Computer Programmer
Game Developer
Cryptocurrency Analyst

COURSE CONTENT

- **Number** - Students will develop numerical skills, including the ability to estimate and check whether their answer to a question is reasonable.
- **Algebra** - Students will learn how to simplify expressions, solve equations and use graphs to express relationships.
- **Coordinate Geometry** - Students will learn how to represent and analyse geometric shapes and relationships using coordinate grids.
- **Geometry and Mensuration** - Students will learn about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, how to make and use measurements, and how to construct and transform objects.
- **Trigonometry** - Students learn about the relationships between angles and sides of triangles using sine, cosine and tangent functions.
- **Transformations and Vectors** - Students learn how to manipulate and describe geometric figures through translation, rotation, reflection and enlargement as well as through vector operations
- **Probability** - Students will develop an understanding of the probability of an event happening
- **Statistics** - Students will learn how to collect, process, represent and interpret data.

CORE (GRADES 1-5)

- **Paper 1 (50%, 80 Marks)**
Non Calculator
- **Paper 3 (50%, 80 Marks)**
Calculator
(Scientific Calculator Necessary)

EXTENDED (GRADES 3-9)

- **Paper 2 (50%, 100 Marks)**
Non Calculator
- **Paper 4 (50%, 100 Marks)**
Calculator
(Scientific Calculator Necessary)



STUDENT QUOTE

"I find Maths challenging but I like the challenge because I know it provides me with everyday skills and tools that are needed for problem solving, reasoning and facing difficult situations. I also enjoy it because I know it can provide me with lots of opportunities in my career and future."

MEDIA

COURSE: GCSE • EXAM BOARD: AQA



FUTURE CAREER

Media
Journalism
Advertising
Film and TV
Marketing & Sales

COURSE CONTENT

MEDIA 1

Section A will focus on Media Language and Media Representations. Questions in this section can test any two of the following forms: magazines, advertising and marketing, newspapers, online, social and participatory media and video games.

Section B will focus on Media Industries and Media Audiences. Questions in this section can test any two of the following forms: radio, music video, newspapers, online, social and participatory media and video games, film (industries only).

MEDIA 2

Section A will be based on a screening from an extract of one of the television Close Study Products and can test any area of the theoretical framework.

Section B will be based on either newspapers or online, social and participatory media and video games and can test any area of the framework.

MEDIA 3

Coursework

- Application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework.
- Ability to create media products.

Media 1

Written exam
35%, 84 marks
1h 30min.

Media 3

Written exam
30%, 60 marks
A choice of one of five annually changing briefs, set by AQA - coursework.
1h 30min.

Media 2

Written exam
35%, 84 marks
1h 30min.



STUDENT QUOTE

"Media comment from a student: 'I am really enjoying studying media. It is allowing me to view how things are represented in different ways by exploring links of how different sources are presented and change to suit the audience. It is also helping me in my understanding in English lessons and my communication skills.'"

MUSIC

COURSE: IGCSE • EXAM BOARD: CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Music Producer
Music Therapist
Musician
Sound Designer
Sound Engineer
Radio Producer
Broadcast Engineer

COURSE CONTENT

This exciting course is designed to develop students' collaboration and listening skills, attention to detail, performance and presentation skills, their creativity and self-evaluation. It also extends a student's interest and understanding of music through practical musicianship and the study of musicology of a variety of styles.

Students perform solo and ensemble pieces on their chosen instrument as well as write their music. Music technology such as Sibelius, Logic and Garage Band is used to present work as well as a tool for engagement and knowledge of technology.

COMPONENT 1 - LISTENING (40%)

Section A: Unprepared Western Repertoire Study the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods and the Twentieth Century, as well composers and historical understanding.

Section B: World Music This focuses on music from African, Arab, Latin American, Chinese, Japanese, Indian and Indonesian traditions.

Section C: Skeleton Score (16 marks) Read music and undertake simple rhythmic and/or melodic dictation.

Section D: Set Work Study a specific set work and answer questions on any aspect of the music in the extract. The set work is Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 in C Minor (Movements 3 and 4)

COMPONENT 2 - PERFORMING (30%)

Students must sing or play solo - either one piece or two short contrasting pieces (on the same instrument) and sing or play in an ensemble, either one piece or two short contrasting pieces (on the same instrument)-but this does not need to be the same instrument as that offered for solo performing.

COMPONENT 3 - COMPOSING (30%)

Candidates submit two compositions, written for different instruments or voices, which must be recorded. Composition 1 must be in Western, tonal style, fully notated using staff notation; Composition 2 may be in any style in any form of notation appropriate to music.



STUDENT QUOTE

"Music helps me express my true emotions through the mesmerising and relaxing strings of notes. I've been able to explore music genres that I'm passionate about and bring my own creative flair to the classroom."

PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE: GCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** EDEXCEL



FUTURE CAREER

Clinical Psychologist
Educational Psychologist
Forensic Psychologist
Business Marketing

COURSE CONTENT

In this course, students will explore human behaviour and gain an understanding of themselves and others, building skills that will support progression to further study of Psychology. Psychologists observe and conduct experiments to find out more about the way people act and interact. They try to understand what motivates, challenges or changes us and use this understanding to help us tackle personal and social problems.

THE COURSE CONTENT AND TOPICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Development
- Memory
- Social Influence
- Psychological Problems
- The Brain and Neuropsychology
- Criminal Psychology
- Sleep and Dreaming
- Research Methods

ASSESSMENT

- **Paper 1 (50%)**
1 h. 45 min.
- **Paper 2 (50%)**
1 h. 45 min.



STUDENT QUOTE

"The way the human brain works has always interested me. I have found the start of this course fascinating as I am learning about the developmental stages of the brain and had the chance to observe FS and Year 1 children to review their stages of development. Psychology is also really helpful as I am studying about myself as a learner, these skills and the different types of learner is helping me in all my subjects, especially with revision techniques."

SCIENCES (SEPARATE)

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Dentist
Veterinary Nurse
Doctor
Environmental Consultant
Software Engineer
Operational Researcher

COURSE CONTENT

Similar to coordinated science, separate sciences are designed to enable students to think analytically and apply critical evaluation and problem solving skills to common and abstract every day scenarios. / Separate Sciences allow students who enjoy science to delve into more depth and detail in the three sciences - Biology, Chemistry, and Physics - receiving a GCSE for each subject.

While it is not essential to have Separate Sciences to access medical courses at university, it can be viewed favourably during the application process.

CORE CANDIDATES TAKE PAPER 1 AND PAPER 3

- **Paper 1: Multiple Choice (30%, 40 marks)** - 45min. 40 four-option multiple-choice questions. Externally assessed.
- **Paper 3: Theory (50%, 120 marks)** - 2h. Short-answer and structured questions. Externally assessed.

EXTENDED CANDIDATES TAKE PAPER 2 AND PAPER 4

The questions are based on the Core and Supplement subject content:

- **Paper 2: Multiple Choice (30%, 40 marks)** - 45min. 40 four-option multiple choice questions. Externally assessed.
- **Paper 4: Theory (50%, 120 marks)** - 2h. Short-answer and structured questions. Externally assessed.

ALL CANDIDATES TAKE ONE PRACTICAL PAPER FROM A CHOICE OF TWO

- **Paper 5: Practical Test (20%, 60 marks)** - 2h. Questions will be based on the experimental skills in section 4. Externally assessed.

or

- **Paper 6: Alternative to Practical (20%, 60 marks)** - 1h 30 min. Questions will be based on the experimental skills in section 4. Externally assessed.



STUDENT QUOTE

"I chose to take separate sciences because I enjoy science and I get to spend more time learning about biology, chemistry and physics. Physics is my favourite and doing this course allows me to do more experiments and cover more topics that I find fascinating, going into more detail than coordinated science."

SCIENCES (COORDINATED)

COURSE: IGCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** CAMBRIDGE (CIE)



FUTURE CAREER

Dentist
Veterinary Nurse
Doctor
Environmental Consultant
Software Engineer
Operational Researcher

COURSE CONTENT

Science at GCSE level aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of scientific theories, but also their ability to apply that knowledge and analyse and evaluate information in practical and everyday scenarios. The coordinated science course (worth 2 GCSEs) covers three disciplines: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Students are awarded a grade based on their overall performance across all three disciplines. The coordinated science qualification does not have any impact on option choices at A-Level. Students taking the combined science qualification are able to take A-Level sciences.

CORE CANDIDATES TAKE PAPER 1 AND PAPER 3

- **Paper 1: Multiple Choice (30%, 40 marks)** - 45min. 40 four-option multiple-choice questions. Externally assessed.
- **Paper 3: Theory (50%, 120 marks)** - 2h. Short-answer and structured questions. Externally assessed.

EXTENDED CANDIDATES TAKE PAPER 2 AND PAPER 4

The questions are based on the Core and Supplement subject content:

- **Paper 2: Multiple Choice (30%, 40 marks)** - 45min. 40 four-option multiple choice questions. Externally assessed.
- **Paper 4: Theory (50%, 120 marks)** - 2h. Short-answer and structured questions. Externally assessed.

ALL CANDIDATES TAKE ONE PRACTICAL PAPER FROM A CHOICE OF TWO

- **Paper 5: Practical Test (20%, 60 marks)** - 2h. Questions will be based on the experimental skills in section 4. Externally assessed.
- or
- **Paper 6: Alternative to Practical (20%, 60 marks)** - 1h 30 min. Questions will be based on the experimental skills in section 4. Externally assessed.



STUDENT QUOTE

"Science is my favourite subject! I love learning about fun and interesting things like space, gravity, and how the body works. Science allows me to question ideas and concepts and shows me how and why things happen the way they do."

SPANISH

COURSE: GCSE • **EXAM BOARD:** AQA



FUTURE CAREER

Translator
Foreign correspondent
Journalist
Travel Agent
Language Teacher
International Business Specialist
Content Creator
International Lawyer

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Spanish course will deepen students' linguistic skills developed in Key Stage 3. The ability to confidently communicate and understand different languages provides an international dimension to the choice of GCSE subjects studied

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based. Theme 1: Identity and culture. Theme 2: Local, national and international areas of interest. Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is broken down over the following 4 skill areas:

- **Paper 1 (25%)**
Listening
- **Paper 2 (25%)**
Speaking
- **Paper 3 (25%)**
Reading
- **Paper 4 (25%)**
Writing



STUDENT QUOTE

"Studying Arabic GCSE goes beyond exams. It's about getting better at reading, writing, and understanding language. You learn to adapt your writing style for different situations. It's not just about rules; it's understanding how words work."



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