

# NORLINGTON SCHOOL FOR BOYS



## **A Guide to Year 10 and 11 2011–2013**



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# NORRLINGTON SCHOOL FOR BOYS

A SPECIALIST MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTING SCHOOL

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Maths &  
Computing

## INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students

This booklet is intended to give you information to help you make informed choices about which subjects you will study in Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4).

In Key Stage 4, there is a core curriculum that all students will study. It consists of:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- CPR (Religious Studies/Certificate in Preparation for Working Life)
- Physical Education
- ICT

All students then choose three option subjects. In effect, students have a free choice of their remaining subjects, although students considering applying to University should consider the recently created English Baccalaureate. The English Baccalaureate is awarded to students who achieve a GCSE at C or better in English Language, Mathematics, two sciences, a foreign language and a humanities subject (history or geography). We are not sure how important this qualification will become in the future, but it is possible that some Universities will use it as an entry qualification for their courses.

There is a variety of courses available, including “traditional” GCSEs and Level 2 BTEC courses. It is important to consider these choices carefully as it not only affects what is studied for the next two years but it also could affect your choices at 16+. Selecting the right courses means matching ability, interests and aspirations to the subjects and courses on offer. We would advise you to talk to subject teachers and to attend the Year 9 Parent’s Evening on 24th March.

We cannot guarantee first choices because of timetabling and staffing issues, but we make every effort to accommodate student choices. All students should make a reserve choice so that students can be given their fourth choice if one of their other choices cannot be accommodated.

Ms Coleshill  
Assistant Headteacher  
March 2011



# QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

As well as offering a variety of subjects, we offer a variety of qualifications and it is important that students understand the differences between the qualifications and make informed choices about which style of learning is right for them.

All nationally recognised qualifications have a “points value”, so that comparisons can be made between different qualifications. Also all qualifications available in school are classified as a Level One, or a Level Two qualification.

- a Level One qualification is equivalent to grades D - G at GCSE
- a Level Two qualification is equivalent to grades A\* - C at GCSE

## GCSEs

GCSEs are graded A\* - G (hence a Level One or a Level Two qualification) and the points values are as follows:

A*	- 58 points	D	- 34 points
A	- 52 points	E	- 28 points
B	- 46 points	F	- 22 points
C	- 40 points	G	- 16 points

There is also an unclassified grade (U) which gains 0 points.

GCSE have a mixture of examinations and “coursework” that has to be completed under “controlled conditions” (i.e. in a classroom where students would be given a set amount of time to complete a set task).

GCSE **Short Courses** are worth half a GCSE and can be taught in less time. All students will sit short course examinations in Religious Education in Year 10 and Preparation for Working Life in Year 11.

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATES

BTEC Extended Certificates are a **Level Two** qualification and are equivalent to **two** GCSEs (Grade A\* - C). They are graded as a Distinction, Merit or Pass and the points values are:

Distinction	- 110 points (2 x 55, equivalent to two A/A* grades at GCSE)
Merit	- 98 points (2 x 49, equivalent to two B/A grades at GCSE)
Pass	- 80 points (2 x 40, equivalent to two C grades at GCSE)
Fail	- 0 points

BTEC Extended Certificates are 100% coursework and students need to complete a portfolio of evidence to show they have met the assessment criteria.

# QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

## OCR NATIONALS (LEVEL 2)

These are stand-alone **Level Two** qualifications and are equivalent to one GCSE. They are graded Distinction, Merit or Pass and the points values are as follows:

Distinction	-	55 points (equivalent to an A/A* grades at GCSE)
Merit	-	49 points (equivalent to a B/A grades at GCSE)
Pass	-	40 points (equivalent to a C grades at GCSE)
Fail	-	0 points

OCR Nationals are 100% coursework and students need to complete a portfolio of evidence to show they have met the assessment criteria.

## CiDA

CiDA (Certificate in Digital Applications) is the main qualification gained by students studying ICT (Information Communication Technology). It is equivalent to two GCSEs. Two closely related qualifications for ICT are AiDA (Award in Digital Applications) and DiDA (Diploma in Digital Applications). Further information is given in the ICT subject information section of this booklet.

## English Baccalaureate, EBacc

The EBacc (English Baccalaureate) was announced by the Department for Education (DfE) in late 2010. The DfE state that in due course it is their intention to award a separate certificate to students gaining the EBacc. To gain the EBacc students will need to attain GCSEs at grade C or better in the following five subjects: English, Mathematics, Science (Double award), a Modern Foreign Language (MFL) and a Humanity subject (History or Geography).

# CHOOSING AN OPTION SUBJECT

## DO

1. Read the entire booklet thoroughly.
2. Listen to advice from your
  - Form tutor
  - Subject Teachers
  - Connexions Adviser
  - Parents
3. Think carefully before you choose.
4. Think about your preferred learning style. Which type of qualification is likely to be better for you?
5. Choose subjects you enjoy.
6. Choose subjects you are good at or those you could do well in.
7. Make sure you know all about new subjects before making a choice.
8. If you are considering University and have a course in mind, check the entry requirements at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com). Also, consider whether you should be choosing subjects to achieve the English Baccalaureate.
9. Check the route to a certain career if you have one in mind.
10. Complete the Option Form with care.

## DO NOT

1. Choose a subject you really dislike, you may not do well in it.
2. Choose a subject only because you like your present teachers. It is unlikely they will teach you next year.
3. Choose a subject simply because your friend wants to study that subject. You will not necessarily end up in the same group.

# PATHWAYS

There are three main routes available to students which we hope will lead them to success and enable them to progress to further education, training or employment at the end of Key Stage 4. We will use the assessment data we have for each student to guide them onto the most appropriate route.

## Red Route:

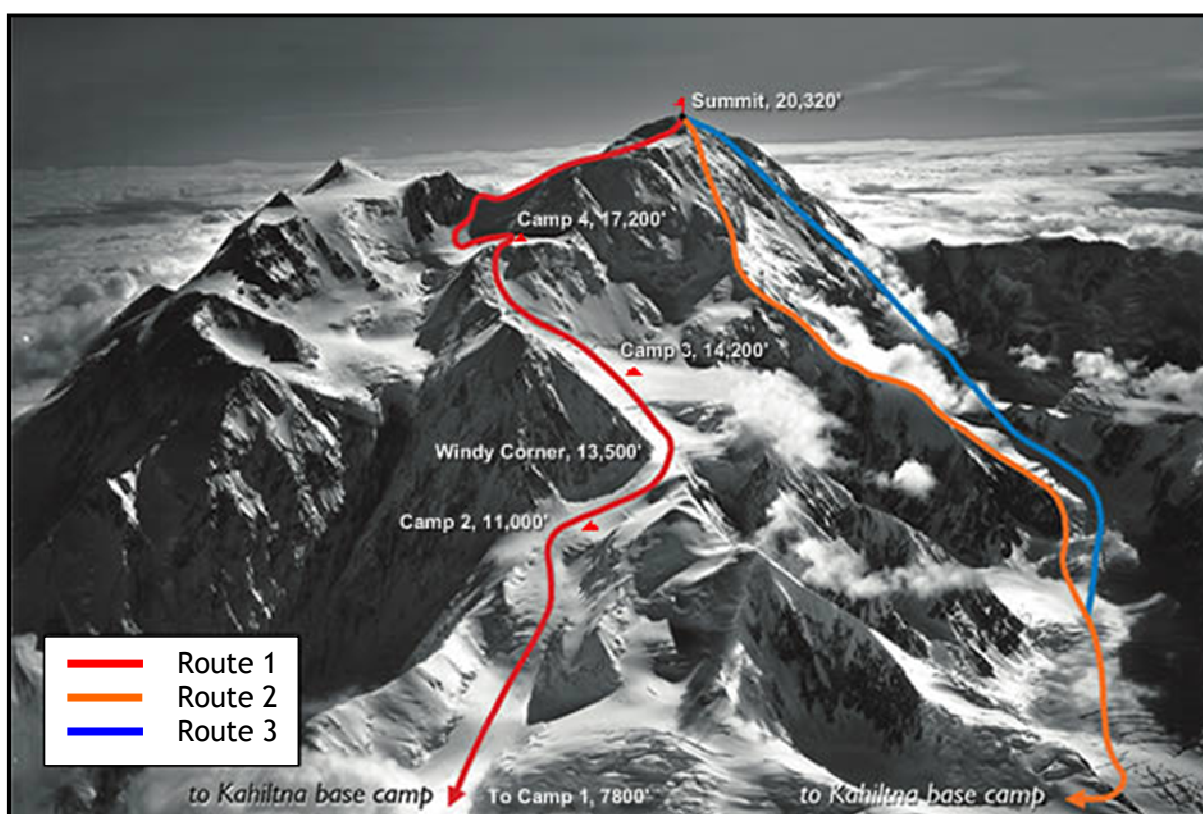
Students would study the core curriculum, a foreign language and would pick either geography or history. In addition to this they would then pick one further option from the list in this booklet.

## Orange Route:

Students would study the core curriculum and would pick three options from the list in this booklet. We may advise some students to take a vocational (BTEC) course if we feel this would be appropriate.

## Blue Route:

For some pupils the full range of option choices may not be appropriate and these pupils will be interviewed with their parents to discuss appropriate courses. We may also contact parents if we feel your son requires additional support from the Learning Development department.



# NORLINGTON SCHOOL OPTION CHOICES 2011/2012

Please follow the instructions below carefully. Return the form to Ms Moller in the SCHOOL OFFICE as soon as possible but no later than 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011

Step 1: Fill in your son's name and tutor group

Name.....Tutor Group.....

STEP 2: Choose either

ICT CIDA OCR NATIONALS
---------------------------

.....

Step 3: Choose four subjects from the option block

ART
BUSINESS STUDIES
FRENCH
GEOGRAPHY
GRAPHIC PRODUCTS
HISTORY
MUSIC
PE STUDIES
PRODUCT DESIGN
TRIPLE SCIENCE
STUDY SKILLS
URDU
BTEC DRAMA
BTEC MEDIA STUDIES
BTEC PE

1st choice.....  
2nd choice.....  
3rd choice.....  
1st reserve.....

Step 4: student and parent sign the form

Parent name.....Signature.....

Student's signature.....Date.....

# STUDENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

We, the Student Development Department, are in the centre of school. Our role is to help and guide you during your remaining two years in Norlington. You may be concerned about the demands of the courses for example, the amount of coursework and individual study that you will be required to do. If you have any concerns, come and talk with us and we will point you in the right direction.

At Norlington we strive to provide for individual needs and to offer equal opportunities for all.

Our team of specialist assistants is here to imbue our students with enthusiasm, interest and enjoyment in learning whilst attaining the highest standards. We are a well qualified, dedicated team of staff with a range of distinct abilities and experience offering specialist support in a suite of rooms equipped with computers and Interactive Whiteboards.

As you approach your examinations, additional help might be offered which will cover such areas as study skills including revision. Our main aim for years 10 and 11 is to encourage and to make sure that every opportunity exists for students to achieve their full potential.



# NORLINGTON SCHOOL FOR BOYS



## INFORMATION ABOUT CORE SUBJECTS



# ENGLISH : AQA

## COURSE OUTLINE:

The English Department teaches the AQA syllabus. There are 2 courses available for study:

- GCSE English - 1 GCSE
- GCSE English Language and English Literature - 2 GCSEs

These courses will assess:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and listening

GCSE English Language consists of 3 units:

Unit 1 - Understanding & Producing Non-Fiction Texts

Unit 2 - Speaking & Listening

Unit 3 - Understanding Spoken & Written Texts and Writing Creatively

GCSE English Literature consist of 3 units:

Unit 1 - Exploring Modern Texts

Unit 2 - Poetry Across Time

Unit 3 - The significance of Shakespeare and the English Literary Heritage

GCSE English comprises some elements of both GCSE English Language and English Literature. It is a high quality course which has less content than GCSE English Language and GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. It is recognised by colleges and universities.

Each of these courses is assessed through a mixture of external examination and controlled assessment at times set by AQA during Year 10 and 11. Students and parents will be given these dates in September.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES

English is a core subject and as such is essential for all post - 16 studies and careers.

# MATHEMATICS: Edexcel Specification A (Linear)

## COURSE OUTLINE:

All students will study GCSE mathematics in years 10 and 11. The course will follow on from the maths covered at Key Stage 3. Students will be entered for the GCSE exam at one of two levels, either **foundation** or **higher**.

Teaching groups will correspond to these levels. A student will be placed in a group based on his achievement at the end of year 9. This will be measured both by exam and teacher assessment.

## FOUNDATION OR HIGHER

The course is assessed by final exam only. There is no coursework.  
50% is assessed without a calculator. 50% is assessed with a calculator.  
Around 5% of the final marks are awarded for quality of written communication.

In the exam students are expected to demonstrate their ability to:

- recall and use their knowledge of the prescribed content
- select and apply mathematical methods in a range of contexts
- interpret and analyse problems and generate strategies to solve them.

Grades available are:

Foundation	C - G
Higher	A* - D

## OTHER MATHS COURSES

Students likely to get A\* and A grades will be offered the opportunity to study OCR Additional Maths. This is a post GCSE qualification and an excellent preparation for any student aiming for A level maths. This will be done in Year 11 as the boys will be taking the GCSE maths exam in Year 10. Students likely to get B and C grades will be offered the opportunity to study GCSE statistics in Year 11. This is a full maths GCSE qualification. Students that will be taking the Foundation paper in Year 10 will have the opportunity in Year 11 to take the Higher paper.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES

- AS and A level maths and statistics
- AS and A level physics, business studies, computing, economics
- C+ required for University
- A wide range of vocational qualifications

# SCIENCE

## COURSE OUTLINE:

The Science department offers three courses in Year 10 and 11:

AQA Biology, Chemistry and Physics (triple award) As Spec A double award but with additional three units of Biology (B3), Chemistry (C3) and Physics (P3). This is a very intensive course and requires extra ISA's and exams are done at the same time as the core and additional exams. Students who gain 6a or above can opt for this course, however if standards are not kept high enough they will complete the double award.

AQA GCSE Double Science Spec. A Students who gained a level high 5 or 6 in KS3 will take this course

BTEC Foundation; Applied Science (Equal to 2 GCSEs). Students who gained a level 2, 3, 4 or low 5 at KS3.

## AQA Spec. A

**Year 10.** There are 3 units; Biology (B1), Chemistry (C1) and Physics (P1) and each unit lasts about 11 weeks. Students take 1 examination in January and 2 examinations in June. The examinations the students take will depend on the units they have covered by January and June. Each examination lasts only 1 hour.

In addition to the normal Science lessons, students take 2 or 3 Investigative Student Assessments or ISA's. The ISA's have replaced coursework and are completed by means of practical work and a 1 hour examination based on the practical work. The written exam usually occurs on the day of the practical work. The ISA's are marked by Norlington staff and are then externally moderated.

At the end of Year 10 students gain a core Science GCSE. There are no re-taking of exams at this stage.

**Year 11** students follow exactly the same routine as Year 10, but complete additional units in Biology (B2), Chemistry (C2) and Physics (P2). (Examinations in January and June, ISA's completed internally etc). The Year 11 course is called Additional Science and students build on what they learnt in Year 10. At the end of Year 11 students gain their second GCSE.

Examination entry can be either HIGHER or FOUNDATION.

The HIGHER entry means that students can gain DD => A\*A\*GCSE grades.

Those students entered for Foundation level can only achieve GG => CC GCSE grades.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Students that achieve 2 GCSE B grades or better at the end of the AQA course are suitably prepared to go to College and complete A-level science courses.

# **BTEC FOUNDATION in Applied Science - Edexcel**

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

This course is 100% assessed, which means that there are no examinations of any sort in Year 10 or 11. Students complete various units that have single and double assessments over the two year course.

There are approximately 8 Biology, 8 Chemistry and 8 Physics assessments.

## **ASSESSMENTS:**

Assessments are graded as PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION. If a student gets 18 passes, he will be awarded the equivalent of 2 GCSE grade C's. Achieving 18 merits will gain 2 GCSE B grades and if a student gets distinction in all 18 assessments this will be rewarded with 2 GCSE A or A\* grades. Should students get an assessment combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction, grades will be awarded accordingly.

GCSE grades D, E, F, and G are awarded if students do not achieve Pass grade levels.

## **PROGRESSION ROUTES:**

Students that complete the BTEC course can go on to do other BTEC courses at college. The BTEC courses at college can lead to students gaining a further 2 GCSEs or at the Higher level BTEC courses can be the equivalent of 2 A-levels.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION - LEISURE

All boys will do leisure in Year 10 and 11. This will be a 2 hour lesson where students will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of physical activities both in school and off site. There will be chances to do new activities that students have not had the opportunity to do at Key Stage 3.

Students will have the option to take a number of qualifications that will help later in life and ensure a life long interest in sport. These include:

- Sports Leaders
- First Aid
- Officiating Courses

**IN ADDITION TO TRADITIONAL ACTIVITES SUCH AS FOOTBALL AND CRICKET SOME OF THE NEW ACTIVITIES WE ARE GOING TO OFFER ARE:**

- Climbing
- Badminton
- Water-based activities (Kayaking, Rowing, Sailing)
- Handball
- Boxing Training

Hopefully students will find an activity that they would like to take up regularly outside school and continue after you leave.

In line with the National Curriculum this is compulsory.

You will be expected to bring full kit and participate fully.



# CPR - Citizenship, Personal Health and Sex Education and Religious Education

## COURSE OUTLINE:

All students will follow a GCSE Short Course in Religious Studies (RS) in Year 10, and a Certificate in Preparation for Working Life course in Year 11. These courses meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and allow students to gain two further qualifications recognised by colleges.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES : WJEC

Studying RS gives students the opportunity to gain a GCSE (Short Course).

- Units:
1. Our World - Religious responses to environmental issues
  2. Relationships - Love, marriage & divorce
  3. Is it fair? - Wealth & Poverty/Prejudice & Discrimination
  4. Looking for Meaning - Issues of Life & Death

## ASSESSMENT:

This course will be completed in 1 year. The final exam will be in June 2010. Pupils will be awarded Grades A\* - G 100% Examination.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Religious Studies - 'A' Level

Range of other humanities subjects.

When combined with Certificate in Preparation for Working Life it gives pupils an additional GCSE that can count towards college entry.

## CERTIFICATE IN PREPARATION FOR WORKING LIFE -YEAR 11 : AQA

This course will give students the opportunity to gain essential skills and knowledge needed for the modern workplace, and for them to take part in society as thinking, informed citizens.

Students will take lessons in Citizenship, Careers and Work Related Learning, health and Sex Education and Action Planning for your future.

## ASSESSMENT:

This course is assessed by a 1 ½ hour exam. In addition students will produce the following Coursework: - Preparation of CV

Letter of Application

Notes on interview preparation.

Studying this course gives students the opportunity to gain a GCSE Short Course.

# NORLINGTON SCHOOL FOR BOYS



## GUIDE TO OPTION CHOICES



# GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES: OCR

## COURSE OUTLINE:

GCSE Business Studies is a two year course during which you will develop an understanding of the ways in which businesses operate in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy. It encourages students to explore the challenges that businesses often face and how these affect the decisions made by business owners. Students analyse realistic business problems and come up with solutions to them based on the skills they have developed. On completion of the course you should have developed knowledge of how the main types of business are organised, financed and operated and how they relate with other organisations, consumers, owners and the community. You will also be given the opportunity to develop numeracy skills and interpretation of data.

The course involves the study of 3 Units. It is a modular course, this means you will be assessed at the end of each unit. The 3 units are:

Unit	What kind of things will I be learning about?	How will I be assessed?
1. Business and People	Business activity, business ownership and location. Recruitment and selection. Motivation. Training.	1 hour exam in <u>Year 10</u>  25% (60 marks)
2. Marketing and Enterprise	Market research and data collection. Marketing Mix. Enterprise and the business plan.	Controlled assessment completed in Term 1 Year 11.  25% (60 marks)
3. Production, Finance and the External Business Environment	The production process and managing production costs. Sources of finance and financial forecasting. The UK economy and globalisation.	1hr 30min exam based on a pre-seen case study. End of Year 11.  50% (90 marks)

## PROGRESSION ROUTE:

'A' Levels: Business Studies, Business Studies (applied), Economics and Accounting

BTEC: Business Studies, Business Administration, Business and Communication Systems

OCR Nationals: Business

NVQ: Business and Administration

# GCSE GEOGRAPHY: OCR B

## COURSE OUTLINE:

This course has a focus on both physical and human geography which incorporates a variety of skills that can enhance a variety of career paths. The aim is to develop values and attitudes towards the world while investigating relevant case studies from a local, national and global scale.

## TOPICS

You will study four themes:

- Theme 1: Rivers and Coasts
- Theme 2: Population and Settlement
- Theme 3: Natural Hazards
- Theme 4: Economic Development

## ASSESSMENT

There are three components

- Geographical Enquiry - 25% - controlled coursework  
This consists of a fieldwork assignment and a geographical investigation
- Sustainable Decision Making Exam - 25% - completed in Year 10  
This consists of a pre-released resource booklet that is used to argue for or against a new development.
- Final Exam - 50%  
This consists of 4 questions based on the Themes.

## SKILLS

All of the humanities option subjects enable the student to have the best of a variety of skills which can be utilised in all areas of further study or work

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Literacy</li><li>• Communication</li><li>• ICT</li><li>• Different Scales</li><li>• Critical Thinker</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study at different scales - local, national, global</li><li>• Interpretation of sources</li><li>• Analysis of data / sources</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to date Case Study analysis</li><li>• Enquiry</li><li>• Numeracy</li><li>• Fieldwork</li></ul>
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# GCSE GEOGRAPHY: OCR B

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

The study of Geography will enhance key skills that open the doors to a variety of careers.

### Environment and Sustainability - Management

- Urban Planner
- Landscape Architecture
- Forestry Manager

### Physical Systems - Analysing data and managing IT

- Weather Forecaster and Presenter
- Hazard Management
- Flood Protection Manager

### Society - People skills

- Teacher/Lecturer
- Human Resources Manager
- Marketing
- Public Relations

### Business World - Data interpretation, understand economic trends

- Banker
- Accountant
- Lawyer

### Global Issues - Knowledge and understanding of the world

- Human Rights Officer
- Diplomat

### Settlement - Understand issues on development

- Surveyor
- Town Planner
- Conservation Officer

### Travel - Experience different cultures

- Travel Agent
- Travel Writer
- Leisure Centre Management

# GCSE HISTORY: WJEC A

## COURSE OUTLINE:

This course will consider relevant key events, people, changes and issues in specific periods of time. Where appropriate, students will consider the social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of the societies. The aim is to encourage students to adopt an enquiry approach to the study of history.

## TOPICS

- Germany in Transition, 1929 - 1947
- Wales and England in the Early Twentieth Century, 1900 - 1919
- The development of the USA, 1929 - 2000

## ASSESSMENT

There are four components

- Germany in Transition 1930-1945 -25%
- The Development of the USA Exam -25%
- Britain: 1930-1951 -25%
- Controlled Coursework -25%

The question will be set by the exam board

## SKILLS

All of the Humanities option subjects enable the student to have the best of

a variety of skills which can be utilised in all areas of further study or work

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Literacy</li><li>• Communication</li><li>• ICT</li><li>• Different Scales</li><li>• Critical Thinker</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study at different scales - local, national, global</li><li>• Interpretation of sources</li><li>• Analysis of data / sources</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to date Case Study analysis</li><li>• Enquiry</li><li>• Numeracy</li><li>• Fieldwork</li></ul>
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# GCSE HISTORY: WJEC A

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

The study of History will enhance the skills of evaluating, analysing evidence, research, critical thinking, think creatively, and making independent view point.

- Archaeologist
- Teacher/Lecturer
- Publisher
- Archivist
- Marketing
- News Correspondent
- Tour Guide
- Historical Researcher
- Journalism
- Editor

# INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The following Information Communication Technology Courses will be offered this year:

You may choose from:

- a) **OCR Nationals IT** - Single option choice, equivalent to two GCE's
- b) **CiDA(Certificate in Digital Applications)** - Single option choice, equivalent to two GCSE's

Before making your ICT choice you should consider how you learn and work best. If you learn best by doing lots of small tasks - OCR Nationals is for you, but if you enjoy doing project work CiDA may be the better option. Before you make your option choice it would be a good idea to speak to your ICT teacher for advice.

## COURSE OUTLINE

- A) **OCR Nationals IT** - Single option choice, equivalent to two GCSE's

This course is a vocational qualification which concentrates on the core Office Applications. The skills learnt in this course will provide a good grounding in ICT for future study or the world of work. In the course you can get up to two (A-C equivalent) GCSE qualifications and you will study up to four different units of work, first compulsory unit;

**Major Unit 1: ICT for Business** - this is a compulsory module (it must be done) and this unit focuses on how ICT is used in the world of business. It achieves this by setting the student a range of small tasks which combine to create a number of computerised systems for a fictitious company. Students will have started some of these tasks in their year 9 coursework. Tasks include creating and organising folders, spreadsheet and database creation and management, and producing promotional materials. Software required for this unit are an Office suite and a web browser.

You will be given a choice for your other units.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

This qualification is designed to enable students to enter the world of work and employment at operative or trainee level within a wide range of business office environments.

The qualification has been designed to aid progression to a range of ICT courses at level 3 (A/AS level) and specifically GCE ICT or GCE Computing qualifications.

# INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

- B) **CiDA - (Certificate in Digital Applications)** - Single option choice, equivalent to two GCSE's.

This is a two year vocational course which builds on the ICT lessons you have taken part in over the last three years.

This course has no examination it is 100% coursework based, it is worth two GCSE's. The work has to be done electronically as part of an ePortfolio.

The course consists of two units they are:

- 1) **Using ICT** - this introduces the students to the course and covers the core ICT skills needed to use office and presentation applications.
- 2) **Multimedia** - In this unit you will use a range of multimedia skills to produce a project. Skills you will learn include animation, video and sound editing.

The course is suitable for all ability levels but you should only choose this option if you are prepared to do a lot of coursework.

Choose this course if you want an ICT course that offers **office plus multimedia skills**.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

The qualification is designed to enable students to enter the world of work and employment at operative or trainee level within a wide range of ICT based businesses. Routes students could take to achieve this include Modern Apprenticeships or NVQs in IT.

Appropriate further education for those achieving a Level 2 qualification includes GCEs and BTEC Nationals

## INFORMATION FOR ALL ICT COURSE OPTIONS:

All students are expected to have a memory stick to back up their work. A computer at home with internet access is helpful but not essential as students can use ICT room computers at lunchtimes and after school for coursework.

The main pieces of software we use are Microsoft Office, Serif Webplus and Macromedia Studio 8. This is available at reduced prices for students (We can provide details of suppliers if required). The school will provide some additional software for use at home, the license agreement we have makes it clear that after the course is completed this software must be uninstalled.

# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

## GRAPHIC PRODUCTS: AQA

### COURSE OUTLINE:

- Drawing skills
- CAD/CAM
- Design process
- \* Pro desktop
- \* Colour Theory
- \* Packaging

In this course students will be expected to combine designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding in order to design and make quality products.

The final grade will be made up from: **40% exam and 60% coursework**

Students will study the full GCSE for 3 hours per week in Year 10 and 2 hours per week in Year 11.

This course will appeal to students who have a flair for drawing and designing. 2D and 3D products will be modelled from card, foamboard and corraflute, but the emphasis will be on Graphic Design.

Students will develop the ability to communicate information by using a variety of graphical techniques, and learn to enhance their drawings with tone, texture and line techniques.

The course will encourage students to evaluate current commercial designs and develop a graphic style of their own.

A high standard of presentation will be expected.

### ASSESSMENT

60% Coursework. This will be an extended task in Year 11 which will include an investigation and a design and make task. The coursework for assessment will take at least 40 hours. This includes researching, developing ideas and practical work.

60% coursework. Students will be assessed for all practicals throughout the year.  
40% exam

### PROGRESSION ROUTES

- Graphic Design
- Architecture
- 'A' Level
- NVQ courses
- \* Games /web designer
- \* Advertising
- \* Marketing

# ART and DESIGN (Fine Art): AQA

The GCSE Art course is organised over a 2 year period and has two units— **Unit 1 : Portfolio of Work** and **Unit 2 : Externally Set Task**.

## COURSE OUTLINE:

The practical work will include drawing and painting, block printing, using scrap materials to make collages and photomontage plus using a camera for a variety of purposes.

Part of the course will entail going to art galleries.

There is no written exam but students are **expected** to write about their work and the work of others and should annotate their sketchbooks.

Students interested in GCSE Art should be prepared to work hard, do their homework regularly, enjoy looking at other artists and above all show enthusiasm and a willingness to experiment with ideas.

## ASSESSMENT:

### UNIT 1 : PORTFOLIO OF WORK

This unit is worth **60%** of the total marks and the pupil's work should comprise of **more** than one extended project which shows an ability to sustain work from a starting point to a finished piece(s). The work should include evidence of research, the development of ideas and links with other sources—e.g. other artists etc

The work will be project based.

The projects are open ended which means that students are encouraged to think and work independently and interpret the project title in a way that interests them.

At the start of each project a good deal of the work is teacher led but in time students are expected to make their own decisions regarding the direction of their work.

The direction of the work should be clear from the way a student carries out his preparatory work and should include drawings, written notes and collecting relevant information like postcards/pictures of artists' work. A proportion of this work will be done in students **sketchbooks** often as part of the set **homework** - the preparatory work should lead to the final main piece(s).

As the course progresses pupils are encouraged to revisit earlier projects and if needs be review and modify their work

### UNIT 2 : EXTERNALLY SET TASK

This unit is worth **40%** of the total marks and is set by the AQA exam board.

The starting points (questions) for the **Externally Set Task** (exam) will be given to pupils during the spring term of Year 11 and has a preparatory period typically of between 5 and 6 weeks - the test itself is 10 hours and is usually spread over 2 days.

When the exam period is complete both **units** will be assessed in school and presented in the form of an exhibition that is marked by a visiting moderator whose assessment will lead to the final award of your son's GCSE in Art.

# ART and DESIGN (Fine Art): AQA

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Students and parents often ask about possible career paths involving Art so it should be said that a GCSE in this subject alone is of not much use if it is not supported by successes in other subject areas.

Art courses at college and later at degree level can lead to a variety of career options - these could include working as a photographer, a fashion designer, an illustrator, a sign writer, an architect and so on.

- Fashion design
- Photography
- Computer Aided Design
- Illustration

# BTEC MEDIA STUDIES

This subject offers the opportunity to combine a theoretical understanding of the mass media in our society with the practical skills of media production.

The BTEC first in Media consists of 3 units over the two academic years and include a detailed study of the following:

- Research in the Media
- Video Production
- Advertising production

The course is 100% coursework and students will be required to produce a completed portfolio of assessments to be graded at the end of the units. Tasks include written documentation and practical productions, as well as the ability to report using basic ICT skills.

Students will also research and then film their own video productions at the end of Year 10.

## FEATURES

QCA accredited NQF level 2-work related qualification also the BTEC first certificate is equivalent to 2 GCSEs grade A\* - C.

## ADVANTAGES

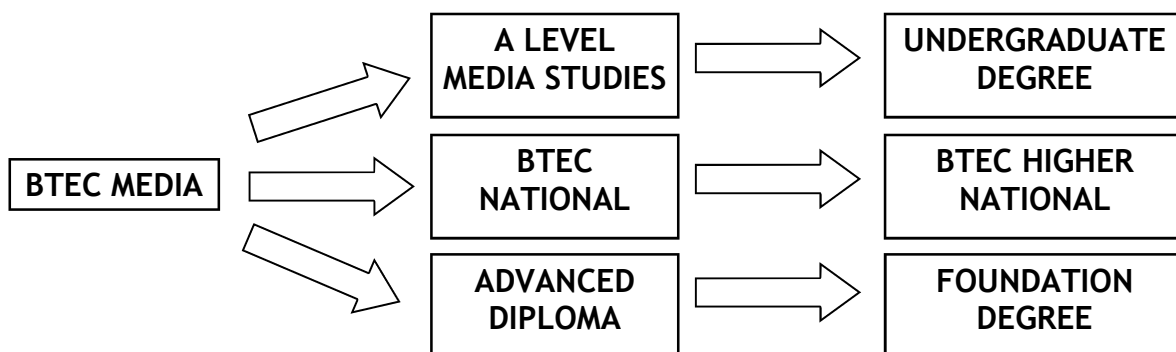
Providing opportunities for students to gain a nationally recognised vocationally specific qualification to enter employment in the media sector.

BTEC qualifications are recognised by employers and education institutions and provide a good progression route to more advanced qualifications.

This course is very enjoyable but requires good time management and organisation. It is very demanding amongst the students at Norlington.

*“Media studies has been an interesting experience, I have learnt a lot about the media industry and its role in society”*

*Year 10 Pupil*



# BTEC DRAMA

## CORE UNIT - ACTING

Students learn the basic techniques of acting, including vocal and movement skills, interpreting and developing characters and performing an acting role. They will take part in a series of practical workshops, making an actor's log, and rehearse and perform **at least two different demonstrations lasting between 20 to 30 minutes each**. One will be improvisation, and one text-based. Students will assess their demonstration.

## SPECIALIST UNITS:

### UNDERSTANDING DRAMA

Students learn to understand the social and historical context of drama, the structure of the play and they will explore the process of dramatic performance. They will produce **at least two pieces** of drama lasting five minutes that will be recorded. They will create written work or logbooks which explore types of drama. Students will participate in discussion and debate.

### PERFORMING SCRIPTED PLAYS

Students rehearse and perform play scripts. They will learn how to understand and interpret roles, develop a role through rehearsal, take part in the performance, and understand the effectiveness of their role. They will create a learning log of the process and a video of the performance. They will complete a written/oral evaluation. Students must take part in rehearsing and performing **two contrasting plays, each lasting between 20 and 30 minutes**.

### DEVISING PLAYS

Students will develop a devised play, understanding a range of techniques, communicate issues, ideas and feelings, and understand the effectiveness of the piece. They will use practical workshop classes, rehearsals and performances. They must take part in creating and performing **two devised performances, each at least eight minutes** in length. They will create a working log, a video diary or recorded discussion work.

*(Two specialist units must be completed)*

Comparison to GCSE.

Pass: 18 - 29 (equivalent to two grade C)

Merit: 30 - 41 (equivalent to two grade B)

Distinction: 42 - 53 (equivalent to two grade A)

Distinction\*: 54 (equivalent to two grade A\*)

# GCSE - PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Edexcel)

## COURSE OUTLINE:

This 2 year GCSE course is designed for students who enjoy sport and physical activity and want to extend their learning by studying 'healthy and active lifestyles' and 'your healthy active body'. Students will develop the skills and knowledge they have learnt in three years of PE and Games at Norlington and also have the opportunity to try new activities.

The course is divided into two major parts; Knowledge & Understanding and Practical Performance.

## KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING (WRITTEN EXAM 40% OF FINAL GRADE)

The 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour exam will cover the following:

- The benefits of a healthy active lifestyle and the influences on it
- Fitness and physical activity as part of a healthy and active lifestyle
- Personal health and well being
- The Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems
- The Muscular and Skeletal Systems

This element will be mainly classroom based, they will keep a folder of notes and will complete a coursework project. It will involve recording a 6 week Personal Exercise Programme (PEP). The course requires a commitment to study, there will be regular homework and an interest in science is beneficial.

## PRACTICAL ELEMENT (PRACTICAL EXAM 60% OF FINAL GRADE)

Students will have the opportunity to participate in a range of activities in lessons. In the practical exam they will be assessed in 3 recognised sports or activities by an external assessor. These can be activities done outside school. Some of the activities that can be selected include:

Football	Basketball	Hockey	Rugby	Cricket	Softball
Archery	Table-Tennis	Badminton	Volleyball	Skiing	Judo
Karate	Athletics	Gymnastics	Trampoline	Rowing	Rock-climbing

Students will be also assessed in two areas of fitness - Circuit Training / Continuous Training.

The new specification allows students the opportunity to develop leadership skills and officiate.

Students are expected to participate in all activities and be in full Norlington kit.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

The course allows students to progress to higher level qualifications such as GCEs (A Levels), and is beneficial to boys who are considering going to University to study PE / Sports Science. The course would be beneficial to those who wish to become involved in sports leadership, fitness training or coaching.

# **BTEC FIRST - EXTENDED CERTIFICATE (Edexcel)**

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

This is a two year course which is designed for the type of student who would prefer assignment based work with physical activity compared to exams and moderations.

Students need to complete 4 units of work, each looks at different aspects of sport. Students are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Being awarded a full BTEC First - Extended Certificate equates to:

Pass: 2 GCSE's at C Grade

Merit: 2 GCSE's at B Grade

Distinction: 2 GCSE's at A Grade

## **WE HAVE OFFERED THE FOLLOWING UNITS IN RECENT YEARS:**

**Unit 1: (Compulsory) - Fitness Testing and Training**

**Unit 2: (Compulsory) - Practical Sport**

### **PLUS 2 ADITTIONAL UNITS FROM:**

**Unit 4: Anatomy and Physiology**

**Unit 5: Injury in Sport**

**Unit 15: Sport and Leisure Facility Operations**

**Unit 20: Planning and Running a Sport Event**

## **PROGRESSION ROUTES:**

This course is vocational based and allows students to progress into a career within the sports industry. Those wishing to continue in education can go on to study Level 3 BTEC Qualifications for entry to Universities.

# PRODUCT DESIGN: AQA

This course is designed to provide students with a balanced and coherent study of all elements of Design and Technology. Students have the opportunity to study, propose and realise prototype solutions to designing and making situations closely linked to the real world of product/system manufacture.

The course offers a sound basis for progression into further or higher education, or to enter employment in the engineering, manufacturing or design industries.

## PRODUCT DESIGN KEY AIMS:

- Develop and sustain students' own innovation, creativity and design and technology capability, to recognize and produce high quality products.
- Apply essential knowledge, understanding and skills of design production processes to a range of technological activities and develop an understanding of industrial practices.
- Use information and communication technology (ICT) to enhance design and technological capability.
- Develop appropriate skills in communication, application of number and ICT.
- Identify the importance of, and apply mathematical and scientific principles, in design and technological activities.

## COURSE OUTLINE:

The Course is made up of two elements and these are graded with a weighting as shown

### **COURSEWORK 60% EXAMINATION 40%**

The course covers the design process and takes on board the knowledge and understanding through project work. Students will experience how to produce and present a design folder and will work to deadline dates, which will be given at the start of each project and especially before the major project in Year 10. Each project is set up in the same manner as the major project, which means they will understand what is expected in their final project. This is very important because the major project is worth 60% of your final grade, which could put students in a good position before they go into their exam in Year 11.

The coursework is standardised and marked by the teaching staff and then moderated by the exam board. A moderator will agree the marks or disagree and recommend marks and adjustments where necessary. This plus what is achieved in the exam will make up the final grade. The product will be made in a any of the chosen material like, wood, metal, plastic, card or paper.

A deadline is set by the examination board, which is normally around the 30th April of that examination year. We set the date 4 weeks before to hand in all completed coursework to allow us time to standardise and mark the work. This is to make sure we are giving the best grades possible to you the pupil.

# PRODUCT DESIGN: AQA

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

The range is enormous. There are technology and engineering jobs in almost every sector, not just in the traditional and obvious ones:

- Careers related to design or product development
- **Architecture**
- Construction: technical work and management
- Civil and constructional engineering
- Website design and management
- **ICT: programming, systems analysis and design**
- Display and exhibition design
- Desktop publishing
- Jobs in the food and drink industries
- Market research
- Marketing
- Food science and technology
- **Fashion**
- Graphic design Interior design
- Industrial design
- Textile and surface design
- Designer craftspeople
- Engineering—an introduction to the work and training
- **Design engineering**
- **Medical engineering / Electrical engineering / Electronic engineering**
- **Vehicle engineering and design**
- Landscape architecture
- Management & Science
- Working in industry
- Packaging

# MUSIC: OCR

The idea of GCSE is to develop your own music, and learn new skills. Students will study different kinds of music, learn instruments, play and write music, use music computers and multi-track recording, and work on their own projects.

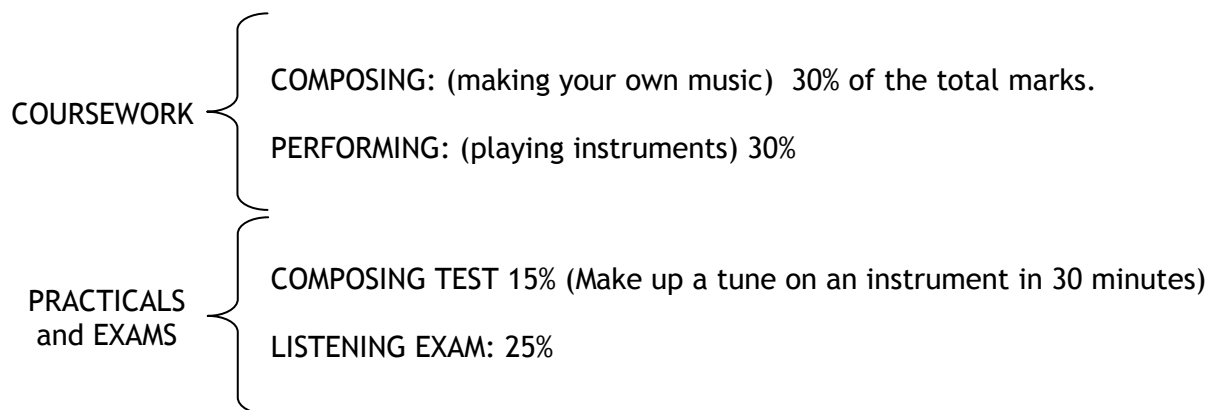
## COURSE OUTLINE:

For **Performance** it is essential that a student is committed to becoming a good player on an instrument.

For **Composition** (Making up their own music), students can ask other people to play/sing their ideas for/with them if they wish.

We can help and encourage students to play but they must really want to improve. They can perform on their own or with others in their group or with friends. They choose the style of music and the piece. Students have two years to get ready.

## ASSESSMENT:



## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

- Diplomas:** BTEC Music Tech. BTEC Music Production.  
BTEC Higher: Music or Popular Music or Music Tech and Music Management or Music Production and A Level Music and Music Tech.
- Degrees:** BA (Hons) Music. BA (Hons) Popular/Contemporary Music Performance.  
BA (Hons) Music Culture: Production. BA (Hons) Music with Theatre Studies etc.
- Careers** In Performing, Music Management, Music Production, Studio Production, Teaching, Music Technology, Publishing and the Media.

# LANGUAGES

## FRENCH

### COURSE OUTLINE:

Students follow the AQA GCSE exam course. The course is based on a series of themes or topics relating to everyday experiences and the kind of languages which will be pertinent for situations you might come across in a French / Spanish-speaking country.

### ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed in the 4 skills involved in Language learning and each skill carries the following percentage marks:

- A Listening exam - end of Year 11 - 20%
- A Reading exam - end of Year 11 - 20%
- 2 Speaking Controlled Assessments } Over 2 Years 30%
- 2 Writing Controlled Assessments } 30%

### WHY TAKE A LANGUAGE?

- It is an academic subject valued by colleges, universities and employers.
- The UK has a shortage of people who can combine language skills with other specialisms. Employers consider having a language qualification on your CBV as a notable advantage.
- An A-C grade in a foreign language is needed to be awarded an extra qualification called the English Baccalaureate.

Most importantly, being able to express yourself and communicate in a foreign language is one of the most rewarding skills you can learn.

For further information on how languages add value to all career pathways, visit the following website: [www.languageswork.org.uk](http://www.languageswork.org.uk)

# URDU Edexcel

## COURSE OUTLINE:

Urdu is offered as an option in Year 10 and 11. Boys will study in topic-based units, leading to a GCSE exam in Listening and Reading skills will be completed at different stages of the course.

3 Controlled Assessments:

- LISTENING 20% Exam
  - READING 20% Exam
  - SPEAKING 30% 1 Controlled Assessment
  - WRITING 30% 2 Controlled Assessment
- End of Year 11

The large percentage of marks allocated to Speaking is good news for boys who are orally fluent in Urdu.

**PLEASE NOTE HOWEVER THE LARGE PERCENTAGE ALLOCATED TO WRITING WILL MEAN THAT ANY BOY UNABLE TO WRITE TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL WILL FIND IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCESS GRADE C OR ABOVE.**

# STUDY SKILLS PROGRAMME

The aim of this programme is to strengthen literacy and numeracy skills and by doing this to have a positive impact on attainment in GCSE subjects. Students will have an opportunity to gain accreditation for their work.

Mrs. Feltham, SEN co-ordinator will contact the students and their parents who will benefit from this course.