



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL



KEY STAGE 4

Course Information Guide

2022-2024

Inspiring Individuals • Empowering Minds • Defining Futures



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION

Year 9 is a very important time for you in school, and this can be both worrying and exciting. The decisions about which courses to study in Years 10 and 11 are crucial to your future aspirations, whether you intend to enter employment, training, go into the Sixth Form or move to a college of further education.

This booklet tries to set out, as clearly as possible, the courses which you have to study and the choices which can be made. Please be aware that this process will not allow you to have an open choice of every subject. The school's curriculum offer is influenced by government requirements such as the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) where students are encouraged to study a broad range of subjects such as computer science, geography, history and languages. We are ambitious for our students and strongly urge them to consider the merits of continuing to pursue a broad and balanced curriculum so as not to close down opportunities for the future too soon. This means you are encouraged to choose at least one course which is humanities based and also one which develops skills in using a modern foreign language alongside choices from a variety of other subjects. This said, we understand that different students have different needs and aspirations and personalised guidance has been provided to each individual. In addition to these you will be able to choose from a variety of other subjects.

There are many different courses available at Queen's Park High School and it is of paramount importance that you read the information in this booklet very carefully. Study the course information pages and ensure you are fully aware of the type of learning and assessment you will experience in each subject, before making a decision.

Your initial choices form must be completed by Friday 18th March 2022; we encourage this to be done via Microsoft Forms, but there are hard copies available where required. This however, will not be the end of the process. Students may have an interview with a member of staff, to discuss any issues arising and make any necessary alterations to their options form. We will do everything possible to accommodate your wishes, but courses may be withdrawn if very few students opt for a particular subject, hence the need to make considered reserve choices.

Much effort has been put into the preparation of this booklet and a great deal of time is spent on the whole process. You and the people around you are a crucial part of the process and we want it to work successfully for you. Use the time wisely and talk to your teachers, your tutor and your parents.

The next few weeks are important for you and your future!

Mrs C Scanlon
Deputy Headteacher

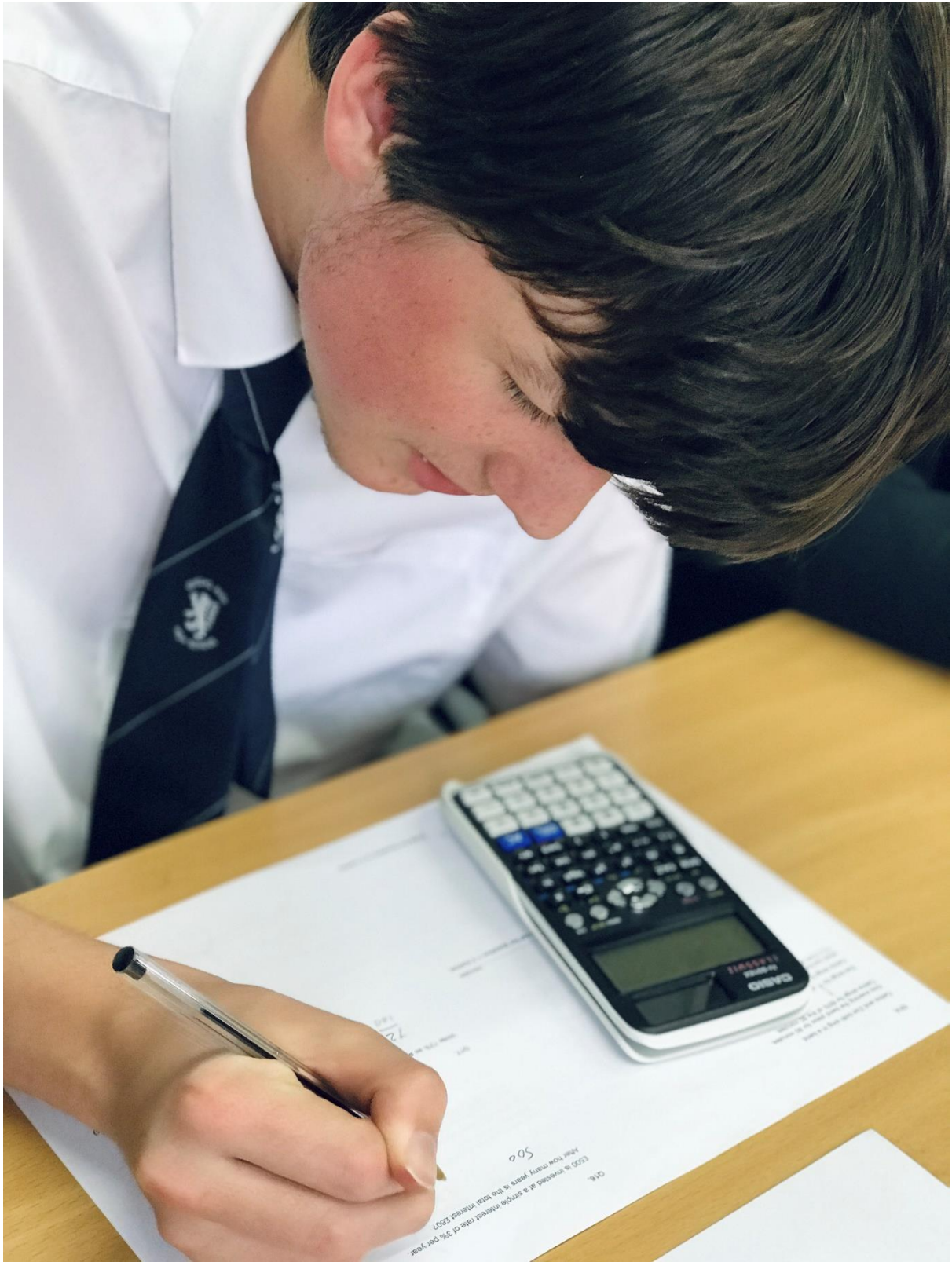
KEY DATES

| DATE | EVENT | INFORMATION |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Wednesday 2 March 2022 | Year 9 Options Evening | Talk on options and opportunity for parents to talk to subject teachers in a market place environment. |
| Friday 18 March 2022 | Deadline for option forms | Signed option choice forms to be completed via Microsoft Forms or hard copies which should be handed in to the TALS Office or Mrs Scanlon. |
| April 2022 | Review of students' choices | Senior teachers to review individual student choices, check subject viability, and arrange follow up interviews if necessary. |
| May 2022 | Option choices confirmed | Students will be informed of their finalised option choices |

SUBJECTS, QUALIFICATIONS & EXAM BOARDS

| Subject | Qualification | Exam Board |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Art and Design | GCSE | AQA |
| Biology | GCSE | AQA |
| Chemistry | GCSE | AQA |
| Combined Science | GCSE | AQA |
| Computer Science | GCSE | OCR |
| Creative iMedia | Cambridge National | OCR |
| Drama | GCSE | EDEXCEL |
| English | GCSE | AQA |
| English Literature | GCSE | AQA |
| French | GCSE | AQA |
| Food Technology | GCSE | AQA |
| Further Maths | GCSE | AQA |
| Geography | GCSE | AQA |
| Health and Social Care | BTEC Tech Award | EDEXCEL |
| History | GCSE | AQA |
| Maths | GCSE | EDEXCEL |
| Music | GCSE | EDUQAS |
| PE | GCSE | EDEXCEL |
| Photography | GCSE | AQA |
| Physics | GCSE | AQA |
| Religious Studies | GCSE | AQA |
| Spanish | GCSE | AQA |
| 3D Design | GCSE | AQA |

The above table is a list of subjects taught within school. Please be aware that there is no guarantee that every subject will run this year. Viability is reliant on staffing and student numbers. The subjects highlighted in red are Ebacc subjects, and the list is designed to give you information on what qualification can be achieved through each subject and which board is used should you need to access revision material etc.



Core

Subjects

ENGLISH

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

What will I learn about?

For English Language you will study: Literary fiction, descriptive or narrative writing, non-fiction texts, literary non-fiction texts, writing for a range of audiences and purposes.

For English Literature you will study: Shakespeare, a 19th century novel, modern texts and poetry.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by examination in four papers:

English Language paper 1: Creative reading and writing (1 hour 45 minutes)

English Language paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives (1 hour 45 minutes)

English Literature paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel (1 hour 45 minutes)

English Literature paper 2: Modern texts and poetry (2 hours 15 minutes)

What do I need to study this subject?

All students will take this subject. To be successful you need to have a desire to read and understand a wide range of reading materials. You will also have a passion for improving your writing skills when writing for a wide range of audiences and purposes. You will be required to take part in some speaking and listening tasks as well.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

You can go on to study English Language and Literature at A Level. This course will also equip you for a vast range of other subjects such as media, film, psychology and law. You will need to pass this course to access many higher education and career opportunities.

MATHEMATICS

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Mathematics

What will I learn about?

The specification is split into :

- 1) Number
- 2) Algebra
- 3) Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change
- 4) Geometry and Measures
- 5) Probability
- 6) Statistics

These are all topics that the students will have studied in KS3 but the GCSE course will expect students to be much more fluent in their application of numbers.

How will I be assessed?

The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and has 80 marks available.

The content outlined for each tier will be assessed across all three papers.

All three papers must be at the same tier of entry and must be completed in the same assessment series. Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3.

What do I need to study this subject?

All students are required to study GCSE Mathematics.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Success in GCSE Mathematics can lead to studying Mathematics and Science subjects at A Level and then on to university.

All students will gain invaluable numeracy skills during the course which will help them in their life.

CORE RELIGIOUS STUDIES, ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY

What qualification will I gain?

This is a compulsory element of education in all schools. There is no final qualification.

What will I learn about?

Crime and Punishment - The death penalty/the penal system in the UK. The laws on drugs and alcohol.

Peace and conflict - War and Peace, the 'Just War Theory'.

Matters of Life and Death - Abortion, Euthanasia and Life after Death.

Medical Issues - Fertility treatments/Genetic Engineering and the ethical implications of their use. All topics will be examined from a secular point of view and from the point of view of two Religions – Christianity and Islam.

How will I be assessed?

Written work and discussion will be commented on and marked. Extended pieces of writing and exam style questions will be awarded an exam style grade.

What do I need to study this subject?

- A KS3 knowledge of RE and an enquiring mind!
- The willingness to think about a wide range of topics and understand different points of view.
- A respect for diversity.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Religious Studies graduates go on to work in a wide range of fields, including Financial Services, Medicine, Politics, Consultancy, Journalism, Media, Social & Pastoral Care, Education, Publishing, Law, Community & Voluntary work, and many others.

COMBINED SCIENCE

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Combined Science

What will I learn about?

Students will learn traditional Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics taught by a specialist teacher.

Biology topics include cell biology, bioenergetics and ecology.

Chemistry topics include quantitative chemistry, the periodic table and organic chemistry.

Physics topics include electricity, forces and waves.

How will I be assessed?

During the course you will have assessment tasks including in-class challenges, online learning and end of unit tests. You will have six exam papers: two biology, two chemistry, and two physics, all 1hr 15mins long. Questions will include multiple choice, structured closed, short answer and open response.

What do I need to study this subject?

All students are required to study GCSE Combined Science if they do not choose Triple Science as an option. However, all students must demonstrate a positive and hardworking attitude towards this challenging subject.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Studying Combined Science provides an all round balance of the subject which prepares pupils to complete further study in the sciences if desired.

CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What qualification will I gain?

Core P.E.

This is a compulsory, non assessed course of study. All students are automatically enrolled as per the national curriculum guidelines. This is with a view of encouraging healthy active lifestyle for all.

What will I learn about?

Students are provided with the opportunity to become involved in a range of activities that develop personal fitness and promote an active, healthy lifestyle. Students will be provided with specialist and individual feedback to help them develop their technique, tactics and strategies as well as being taught the skills to successfully evaluate their own and others performances. The ultimate goal remains enthusing students with a love and enjoyment for sport and facilitating an appreciation of a healthy, active lifestyle. In addition, offering support to high achievers in pursuit of sporting excellence whether this be through community links, sports clubs or regular competitive sports.

How will I be assessed?

This is a non-assessed course, as there is no qualification to gain.

That said, students will acquire sporting specific knowledge. The strength of their knowledge will be assessed through directed questioning with formative feedback given throughout the course. There will also be opportunities for student to engage in performance analysis using ICT video. This will enable students to improve their performance via peer assessment.

What do I need to study this subject?

There is an expectation that you bring your P.E. kit to lessons and try your best at all times. An enthusiasm and determination to engage positively in all sports that are covered.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

This subject will help to keep you fit and healthy, enabling you to achieve in all aspects of school.

Option

Subjects

ART AND DESIGN

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Art, Craft & Design

What will I learn about?

Students must select and present a portfolio representative of their course of study. The portfolio must include both:

1. A sustained project developed in response to 'Identity' and the 'Environment' evidencing the journey from initial engagement with ideas to the realisation of intentions. Students will explore different artists, designers, craft people and photographers, to develop their knowledge and understanding across their course of study. Skills developed in the use of painting, drawing, 3D, glass, ceramics and Photoshop can be explored and used to create their work.
2. A selection of further work resulting from activities such as trials and experiments and skills-based workshops will be used to support the portfolio submission.

How will I be assessed?

The Art and Design course combines an element of coursework and practical examination components. In this way, students are assessed on both their practical skills and their written knowledge and understanding.

Component 1: Portfolio

60% of GCSE

Component 2: Externally set assignment

40% of GCSE

What do I need to study this subject?

A broad depth of knowledge and understanding from all of your current subjects is an excellent starting point. Having a creative imagination and the enjoyment of wanting to make and create is fundamental.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

A Level Art and Design, Photography.

Degree courses in Art, Architecture, Textiles, Fashion, Interior Design, Animation, and Film - to name but a few!

COMPUTER SCIENCE

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Computer Science

What will I learn about?

Principles of Computer Science - The first component is focused on five topics: Computational thinking and Algorithms, Data and Data Representation, Computer Software and Hardware, Computer Networks, and the Issues and Impact of Computer Science.

Application of Computational Thinking - The second component is focused on understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work in relation to creating programs, understanding how to decompose and analyse problems and the ability to read, write, refine and evaluate programs.

Practical Programming - All students undertaking this course will have ample experience throughout of programming using the Python programming language.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science - Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
(50% of the qualification)

Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking - Onscreen examination: 2 hours
(50% of the qualification)

What do I need to study this subject?

You must have a real interest and an enthusiasm for the subject.
Strong maths skills are an advantage.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

You can progress from this qualification to further studies at school or college and further/higher education, for example A Levels or a BTEC in Computer Science

You could also gain employment where further training may be available, using the skills and knowledge gained during this course.

CREATIVE iMEDIA

What qualification will I gain?

Level 1/Level 2 Cambridge National in Creative iMedia (GCSE Equivalent Qualification)

What will I learn about?

- You will learn to design and create interactive digital media products for chosen platforms, for example, products found across the media industry, in games, websites and apps.
- You will learn about the sectors, products and job roles that form the media industry, along with the legal and ethical issues considered and the processes used to plan and create digital media products.
- You will learn how media codes are used within the creation of media products to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences.
- You will learn to select, edit and repurpose multimedia content of different kinds and create the interactive elements necessary for an effective user experience.

How will I be assessed?

Grades are based on assessment across three units. Students will be awarded a grade from Pass at Level 1 through to Distinction* at level 2.

There are two mandatory units:

- Creative iMedia in the media industry (Exam - 40%)
- Visual identity and digital graphics (Coursework - 25%)

And one optional unit:

- Interactive digital media (Coursework - 35%)

What do I need to study this subject?

An interest in using graphic design skills to create original digital graphics which incorporate your visual identity to engage a target audience is important. Having a creative imagination and the enjoyment of wanting to make and create is fundamental.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

This course will provide you with the skills for further study in subjects such as media, journalism, design or business. It also prepares you for a range of creative and technical job roles within the media industry. Digital Media is a key part of many areas of our everyday lives and vital to the UK economy. Production of digital media products is a requirement of almost every business so there is huge demand for a skilled and digitally literate workforce.

DRAMA

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Drama

What will I learn about?

The course is designed to develop not only an understanding of theatrical conventions and dramatic technique, but also the development of core skills such as confidence, the ability to work within a group, leadership, management and presentation skills. You will have the opportunity to visit theatres all over the country and appreciate the power of live work. You will study a range of plays through practical exploration and perform them for audiences. There will be numerous opportunities for you to develop your own pieces of work based on a range of stimuli, which you will be given throughout the two year course. Most importantly, you will learn more about your own identity in relation to the world around you and how it can be used to express ideas in creative yet meaningful ways.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is spread across three components. The first component focuses on the ability to create original pieces of work from a stimulus, which is chosen by the teacher. You will then perform your piece and hand in a portfolio of evidence exploring the process you went through. Component 2 is a live performance from two sections of a script for a visiting examiner. You can design for this section of the GCSE. Finally, for Component 3 you will sit a 1hr 45min written examination based on a play you have studied, and also a theatre production you have been taken to see as part of the course.

What do I need to study this subject?

You must have enthusiasm, commitment and a strong desire to better yourself and respect the work of others. You must be an excellent listener and a reflective thinker who can accept criticism and deliver it sensitively to others.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Many students have used this course as a corner-stone of self-development before moving on to a vast array of further courses. Natural progression routes include moving to a level 3 course such as A Level Drama and Theatre Studies. Beyond that, most employers see GCSE Drama as a sign of a confident and effective team worker.

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

What will I learn about?

The course focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

1. Food commodities
2. Principles of nutrition
3. Diet and good health
4. The science of food
5. Where food comes from
6. Cooking and food preparation

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition (50% of qualification)

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action (50% of qualification)

Non-examination assessments: internally assessed, externally moderated

Assessment 1: 8 hours

Assessment 2: 12 hours

What do I need to study this subject?

Students who have an interest in developing an array of culinary techniques, as well as a knowledge of nutrition, food traditions and kitchen safety. Having a creative imagination and enjoyment of wanting to prepare and practice cooking skills is fundamental.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

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.

GEOGRAPHY

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Geography

What will I learn about?

The UK Government has recently changed the rules on what is to be covered in GCSE Geography. The GCSE has become more contemporary with a focus on modern day geography related issues.

- Challenges of the natural environment
- The living world
- Physical landscapes in the UK
- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management
- Issue evaluation
- Fieldwork skills

How will I be assessed?

There will be single tiered papers and three assessments.

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment

1 hour 30 minutes – 35% of the qualification

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment

1 hour 30 minutes – 35 % of the qualification

Paper 3: Geographical Application

1 hour 15 minutes – 30% of the qualification

What do I need to study this subject?

You need to have worked hard in Year 9 Geography, and be committed to working well in groups and individually. Students who study GCSE Geography must want to learn about places and how people interact with them. You will need good maths skills and also be able to write longer written essays.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

GCSE Geography can lead onto further study at A Level, or onto related courses such as Environmental Studies.

A degree in Geography or Geography-related courses in the future leads to careers in sustainability, green issues, urban regeneration, energy supply, retail location, managing natural hazards and climate change, and town planning.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

What qualification will I gain?

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care (GCSE Equivalent Qualification)

What will I learn about?

You will learn about the many changes that happen during a life time, such as physical growth or puberty and learning about people of all ages. You will gain an understanding about the impact of life events, such as starting school or divorce, new job. You will have the opportunity to learn about both health care and social care services, jobs and the behaviours professionals should use, when dealing with people.

How will I be assessed?

There are three units that you will be covering, two coursework units in Year 10 and one exam in Year 11

These are;

- Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development
- Component 2 – Service and Values in HSC
- Component 3 – Health and Well-being

What do I need to study this subject?

Having an interest in learning about how people grow and develop throughout their lives is important. Having an understanding in the factors such as lifestyle choices, relationships and lifestyle events which can affect your growth and development.

A knowledge about a variety of health conditions and how to improve these as well as positive life style choices for the best possible health and well-being would also be an advantage.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

You could choose to take a Level 3 qualification or Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care. Level 3 students can go on to have careers in the following areas: Nursing, Social Work, Teaching, Public Health, Therapy, Residential care work, Dietician, Speech and Language Therapy, Paramedic, Art Therapy, Occupational Therapy and many more.

HISTORY

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE History

What will I learn about?

- America, 1840–1895: Expansion and consolidation.

This unit will look at the impact of European settlement and expansion of the Wild West.

- Conflict and tension: The interwar years 1918-1939.

This unit will look at Europe after the First World War.

- Britain: Health and the people, c.1000 – Present Day

This unit is a study of medicine in Britain from the middle ages to today.

- Elizabethan England, c.1568-1603

This unit will look at Queen Elizabeth's reign and incorporate a Historic Environment study.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 written exam: 2 Hours – 50% of GCSE

- Section A – six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)

Paper 2 written exam: 2 Hours – 50% of GCSE

- Section A – five compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)

What do I need to study this subject?

You must be able to read and write effectively.

You must have good English skills.

You must be prepared to write longer essay style answers.

You must be able to revise and remember a wide range of facts.

You must be able to sit long written exams.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

History is a traditional academic subject.

It is accepted as a good GCSE for a wide range of careers. Anything that involves looking at information, making decisions, arguing a point, using evidence or explaining your thoughts will make use of your History skills.

All jobs could make good use of the skills that you will learn.

LANGUAGES (FRENCH/SPANISH)

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE French/Spanish

What will I learn about?

Students will become more confident and fluent with the language through exposure of a variety of topics. These include new and more relevant topics such as the media, health, work and employment, social issues, the environment and leisure.

Within each topic, a range of grammar points and vocabulary will be taught through key skills such as translation, interpreting, reading and writing, speaking and listening. There will also be the opportunity to learn about culture and life in French and Spanish speaking countries around the world through film, music and literature.

Materials are drawn from a wide range of new and up to date sources reflecting the new GCSE syllabus introduced in 2017. The MFL department are proud to offer these materials to students at Queen's Park High School, which include a platform unique to each learner, with access to extra practice exercises, assessment and guided feedback.

How will I be assessed?

Students will complete examinations in the four skill areas at the end of the course. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing are weighted equally and each makes up 25% of the final grade.

Students will be entered at either Foundation or Higher Tier.

What do I need to study this subject?

Students may have studied the language at KS3 and should want to learn about different cultures and customs.

They must be prepared to learn vocabulary and approach their learning with a growing mind set through constant practice of vocabulary and participation in all lessons. There is heavy emphasis on group work and speaking in order to prepare for the role play elements of the final speaking exam.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Language studies can be combined with all subjects. MFL graduates are the third most employable, after doctors and lawyers. Qualifications can lead to prestigious jobs in multinational companies and organisations as part of an increasingly globalised economy. A growing amount of universities and Sixth Form colleges now ask for a language GCSE as a minimum requirement for entry.

MUSIC

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Music

What will I learn about?

The course is designed to develop musicianship through the three core areas of composing, performing and appraising. Students will learn to perform as part of an ensemble and will also be supported to develop their solo performance skills, if they so wish. There will be ample opportunity for students to work on their own compositions using the recording software in the studio, two of which will be submitted for assessment. In addition to this, there is a final written examination in which students will respond to a range of short and extended listening and appraising questions based on music linked to 4 Areas of Study which will be covered during the 2 year course. The Areas of Study are as follows: Musical Forms and Devices; Music for Ensemble; Film Music and Popular Music.

How will I be assessed?

30% of the final grade will be based on a programme of performance. At least one of the pieces must be an ensemble performance and others can be either solo or ensemble pieces. 2 compositions make up a further 30% of the final grade. One of these will be in response to a board set brief, and the second is a free composition. A written examination makes up the remaining 40%. The examination will consist of eight questions, two on each area of study. Of the eight questions, six will be on unprepared musical extracts and two on board set extracts.

What do I need to study this subject?

You must have a good level of musical competency on at least one instrument or voice. You must be confident, enthusiastic and be prepared to perform. You should also have a strong desire to work on your musicianship outside of school time to develop your skill level.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Natural progression includes moving to a level 3 course such as A Level or BTEC Music. Beyond that, most employers see GCSE Music as evidence of a talented individual with an added depth of character and high commitment levels. Ensemble performance develops team working and problem solving, which are good basic skills for a range of careers. This is a strong foundation for a career in the Music industry.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Physical Education

What will I learn about?

Within the GCSE Physical Education course, students will learn about the anatomy and physiology of the body and how it facilitates sporting performance. Students will gain an understanding of why people become involved in physical activity and the long-term health benefits of a sustained active lifestyle. Students will also learn about the relationship between exercise and diet, as well as how these factors contribute towards a balanced healthy lifestyle.

The practical aspect of the course allows students to experience a diverse curriculum that gives them the opportunity to specialise in three chosen sports.

How will I be assessed?

This course is divided into both theoretical and practical assessments. The theoretical aspect of the GCSE is worth a total of 60% of the course. This is comprised of two externally marked exams; component 1 exam (36%) relates to fitness and body systems, whereas the component 2 exam (24%) relates to health and performance. Both of these exams include multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions.

The practical element of the course accounts for 30% of the final grade. This is made up of practical grades from three sports which are selected from a predetermined list; each sport is worth 10%. The final 10% of the course is assessment via coursework. This involves students designing and evaluating the effectiveness of a personal exercise programme.

What do I need to study this subject?

Students require an enthusiasm for sport and a desire to understand how physical activity enhances lifestyles. A good standard of physical performances is essential, as this makes up 30% of the total GCSE. Students also need good organisational skills and the ability to work autonomously and as part of a team.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

A GCSE in physical education has a clear pathway into the BTEC Level 3 offered in the QPHS Sixth Form. Students can then undertake higher education courses such as degrees in sports science, sports pedagogy, sports psychology or physiotherapy.

PHOTOGRAPHY

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Photography

What will I learn about?

Students must select and present a portfolio representative of their course of study. The portfolio must include both:

1. A sustained project developed in response to 'Identity' and the 'Environment' evidencing the journey from initial engagement with ideas to the realisation of intentions. Students will explore different artists and photographers to develop their understanding across the course of study. Skills developed in the use of DSLR cameras, mobile phone cameras and Photoshop editing software will be used to create their work.
2. A selection of further work resulting from activities such as trials, experiments and skills-based workshops will be used to support the portfolio submission.

The Photography course combines an element of coursework and practical examination components. In this way, students are assessed on both their practical skills and their written knowledge and understanding.

Component 1: Portfolio
60% of GCSE

Component 2: Externally set assignment
40% of GCSE

What do I need to study this subject?

A broad depth of knowledge and understanding from all of your current subjects is an excellent starting point. Having a creative imagination and the enjoyment of wanting to make and create is fundamental.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

A Level Photography.

Degree courses and careers in Photography including Fashion, Journalism, Film, Documentary, Advertising, Media and Marketing.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES, ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY

What qualification will I gain?

A full GCSE in Religious Studies

What will I learn about?

Any four of the following religious, philosophical and ethical themes:

- Theme A: Relationships and families
- Theme B: Religion and life
- Theme C: The existence of God and revelation
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment
- Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice

Also a study of the beliefs and practices in two religions – Christianity and Sikhism

How will I be assessed?

Two Written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes each

Each exam has a common structure of four five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.

What do I need to study this subject?

The **maturity** to express your views on complex and emotive moral issues without trying to impose them on others. The ability to **evaluate**, both verbally and in extended pieces of writing. A curiosity to tackle some of the **big questions** e.g. “When does life begin?”, “Can killing ever be justified?”, “Is there Life after Death?”

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Religious Studies graduates go on to work in a wide range of fields, including Financial Services, Medicine, Politics, Consultancy, Journalism, Media, Social & Pastoral Care, Education, Publishing, Law, Community & Voluntary work, and many others.

TRIPLE SCIENCE - BIOLOGY

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Biology

What will I learn about?

The curriculum content is based on key concepts and principles such as cell division, respiration and photosynthesis. You will develop practical science skills and learn to interpret case studies and apply your understanding to new situations. Topics studied are: cell biology; organisation, infection and response; bioenergetics; homeostasis and response; inheritance variation and evolution and ecology.

How will I be assessed?

During the course you will be assessed on your practical skill development, interpretation of data and end of unit assessments. Students will also have extended writing and homework tasks. Students will have two exams of 1hr 45min that will assess their knowledge and understanding of topics; questions will be multiple choice, structured closed, short answer and open response.

What do I need to study this subject?

You will need to be working at a grade 5 in both Science and Maths with a good homework and in class learning record. A positive attitude to learning will help you to succeed in this subject.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Studying Triple Biology is great preparation for A Level Sciences. In addition to this, it provides a great foundation for careers such as working in medicine, veterinary work and biological sciences.

TRIPLE SCIENCE - CHEMISTRY

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Chemistry

What will I learn about?

The curriculum content is based on key concepts of atomic structure and the periodic table and the properties of matter and quantitative chemistry. You will develop practical skills and learn to interpret data and apply your understanding to new situations. Topics studied are: atomic structure & the periodic table; bonding; structure & properties of matter; quantitative chemistry; chemical changes; energy changes; the rate and extent of chemical change; organic chemistry; chemical analysis; chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

How will I be assessed?

During the course you will be assessed on your practical skill development, interpretation of data and end of unit assessments. You will also have specific tasks, both in class and in homework time. You will have two 1hr 45min exams with multiple choice, structured closed answer and open response questions.

What do I need to study this subject?

You will need to be working at a grade 5 in both Science and Maths with a good homework and in class learning record. A positive attitude to learning will help you to succeed in this subject.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Studying Triple Chemistry is great preparation for A Level Sciences. In addition, Chemistry is great preparation for careers in medicine, veterinary, pharmacy, and chemical engineering, as well as jobs which require the ability to handle data such as accountancy and finance.

TRIPLE SCIENCE - PHYSICS

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE Physics

What will I learn about?

The curriculum content covers important areas of physics. These include forces, energy, waves, electricity and magnetism, particle model of matter, atomic structure and space physics. There are also eight required practices for you to develop your analytical and investigative skills.

How will I be assessed?

During the course you will be assessed on your practical skill development, mathematical manipulation of physics equations, and end of unit assessment, and in class and homework tasks. You will have two 1hr 45min exams with multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

What do I need to study this subject?

You will need to be working at a grade 5 in both Science and Maths with a good homework and in class learning record. A positive attitude to learning will help you to succeed in this subject.

Where could this subject take me in the future?

Studying Triple Physics is great preparation for A Level Sciences. In addition, studying Physics will help in careers such as engineering, aeronautics, architecture, and sports science.

3D DESIGN

What qualification will I gain?

GCSE in 3D Design

What will I learn about?

Students must select and present a portfolio representative of their course of study. The portfolio must include both:

1. A sustained project developed throughout the course where students will develop the ability to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques. The course will allow students to develop their knowledge of a range of materials and the use of new technologies. Students will learn how to design, make, evaluate and advertise products over the 2 year course. Students will explore different artists and designers to develop their knowledge and understanding across their course of study.
2. A selection of further work resulting from activities such as trials, experiments and skills-based workshops.

How will I be assessed?

The 3D Design course combines an element of coursework and practical examination components. In this way, students are assessed on both their practical skills and their written knowledge and understanding.

Component 1: Portfolio
60% of GCSE

Component 2: Externally set assignment
40% of GCSE

What do I need to study this subject?

- Have a passion for design
- Creative imagination
- Enjoy practical design and production
- Good hands-on skills

Where could this subject take me in the future?

- A Design subject in the Sixth Form
- A Design/Technology subject at college or university
- Engineering/Nutritional courses



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