

Belfast Model School for Girls



Belfast Model
School for Girls

ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Key Stage 4

CURRICULUM GUIDE 2019 *



*Updated version

Introduction



Our focus at Key Stage 4 is to provide a curriculum for students which will provide them with the qualification, experiences and success that they need to progress onto a wide range of study, employment and other training destinations.

Key Stage 4 is an exciting time for students in that this is the first time that there will be an element of choice in what they will study. It is also the first time that courses will inevitably lead to public examinations.

We hope that this information will help your daughter to make an informed and guided choice at this stage of her career. We want all students to find enjoyment in their Key Stage 4 studies and to reach their full potential.

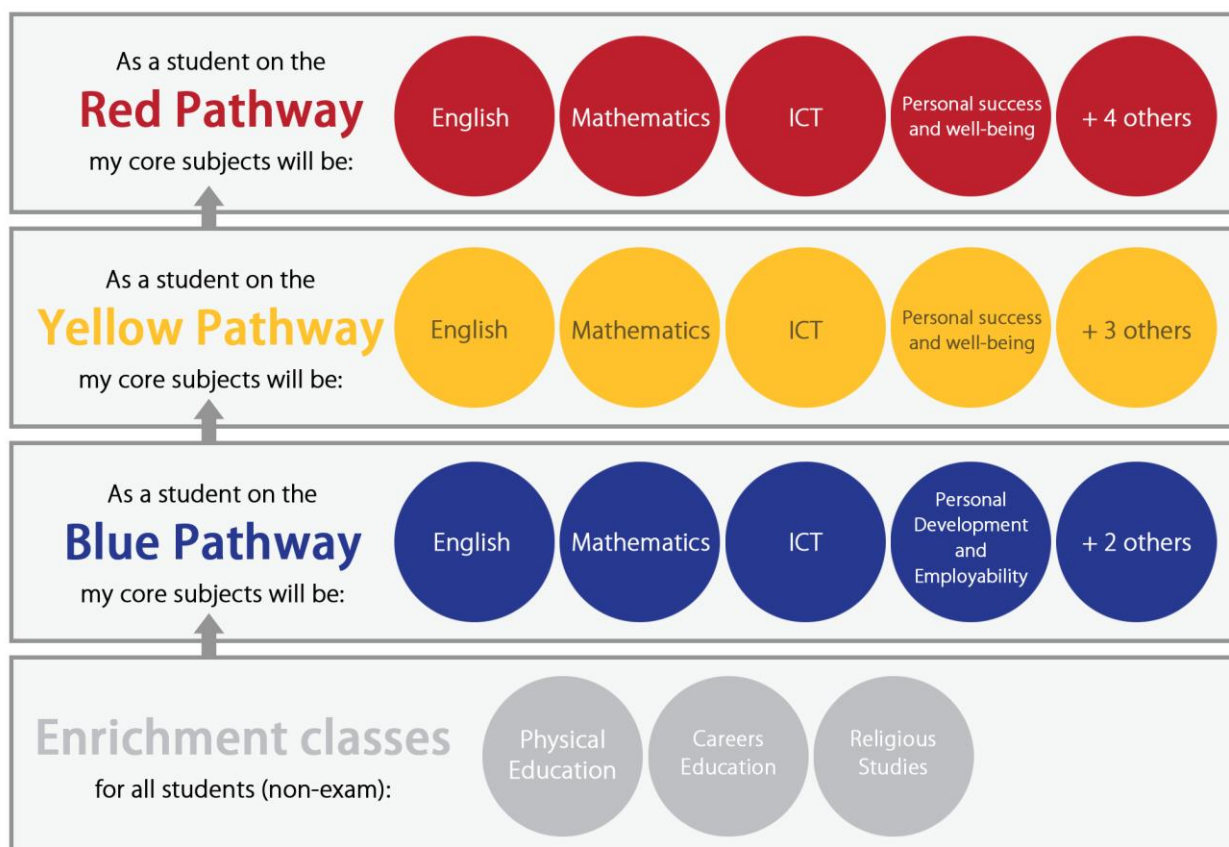
The KS4 curriculum on offer for students at Belfast Model School for Girls is flexible and tailored to very effectively meet the Individual needs, abilities and career aspirations of students. It has been designed to create maximum opportunity for each student to be the very best that she can be. Each student will have her own pathway to success. Each pathway is individualised by one of our school colours.

My colour is:

(please tick)



Each Pathways may be different but each offers a curriculum that is broad and balanced as well as being challenging and achievable – a curriculum that is suited to each individual student's abilities and interests and one that will maximise a student's chance of success.



Information is included on subjects that comprise:

The core curriculum
core subjects taken by all students

The optional curriculum
optional subjects which students choose themselves

Class sizes

Department of Education regulations state a maximum number of students in the following Practical Subjects:

20

Art and Design
Physical Education
Technology & Design
Hospitality
Catering

24

Science
Music

Please note: -

If a situation arises where there are more students choosing to study a subject than places available due to DENI/class size regulation and/or classroom accommodation, selection criteria may have to be applied. If too few students want to study a particular course it may not be viable in terms of allocation of resources. If this situation arises we will communicate this information to students at the earliest point possible.

Every attempt will be made to accommodate student's first subject preferences. However, it may not always be possible due to matters beyond our control. Therefore, it is important to give careful consideration when choosing 2nd and 3rd preference subjects.

Information for students:

This will be the first time you have chosen subjects to study and so you need to think carefully about your choices. The information in this booklet and on the school website is to assist you in the process of choosing the most suitable courses for you.



Try to keep the following points in mind

What do I want to be?

What do I like?

What am I good at?

What are my strengths?

Consider how you are doing in the subject: -

- Choose subjects you enjoy and do well in.
- Consider your Year 10 examinations results, what you achieved and how this compares to the range of marks achieved within the year group.
- If you already do the subject, ask your teacher about what grade you might hope to achieve at GCSE level.
- Think about what you want to do when you eventually leave school – find out what qualifications will be most useful to you for your future career.
- Discuss possible choices with your parents.
- Find out as much as you can about subjects before making your final decision. Read carefully how a subject is assessed to consider if this type of assessment will suit your learning style – particularly if the subject is new to you.
- Talk to older students about their experiences on different courses – did they make the correct choices? If not, why not? Ask for advice in school if there is something you are unsure about

Level 1 courses

Equivalent to GCSE grades D – G

If successfully completed can lead to Level 2 courses post-16

Key Points relating to KS4 Qualifications

In Year 11 and Year 12 students will take either GCSE or equivalent Level 1 and 2 courses:

General Certificate of Education (GCSE)

GCSE subjects are awarded by grades A* - G in Northern Ireland **OR** by a numerical grading system 9-1 in England and Wales. Fuller information about the mapping of A* - G grades with numerical grades 9-1 can be found on our school website.

Passes at GCSE range from A* - G, however, most universities, colleges and employers treat grades A* - C as 'good' passes.

Level 2 courses

Equivalent to GCSE grades A* - C

If successfully completed can lead to Level 3 courses post-16 or A-Levels

Please note these Level 1 and Level 2 courses carry equivalence and if successfully completed can lead to Level 3 courses at Post 16.

Important Additional Information

Core Subject ICT

A qualification in ICT is a compulsory element of the KS4 curriculum. Most students will study OCN NI Certificate (Level 2) in Information Technology Applications.

OCR Computer Science

A number of students will have the opportunity to study OCR Computer Science. The decision regarding those students who will be successful in studying Computer Science is made using academic performance data and in consultation with Ms Barkley-Smith, Leader of Learning, Digital Technologies.

Subjects involving Performance

If you are performer in Music, Drama, Dance or interested in production roles, there are three subjects you could consider, Drama, Music and Performing Arts:

1. If you are a singer or you play an instrument you could study GCSE Music (see page on GCSE Music).
2. If you are a dancer/actor and interested in backstage production roles (stage management/sound/lighting) you could choose AQA Technical Award in Performing Arts (see page on Performing Arts) or CCEA GCSE Drama.

GCSE English Literature

This subject is taught alongside English Language. The decision regarding those students who will be successful in studying English Literature is made using academic performance data and in consultation with Mrs Green, Leader of Learning, English.

Essential Skills Maths and English

Please note that some students may have the opportunity to study Essential Skills Maths (Application of Number) and Essential Skills English (Communication) as part of their chosen pathway, in addition to GCSE Maths and English with the aim of maximising success and attainment in these subject areas.

Occupational Studies Courses

In Belfast Model School for Girls, it is possible for students to opt to study a maximum of 2 Occupational Courses as part of their GCSE programme. When choosing which Occupational Course(s) to study it is important to remember that a maximum of 1 course may be studied from within each occupational area.

The information below outlines the course possibilities from within each area and the specific Unit combinations.

Further details of unit content can be found on individual subject content pages in this booklet.

Students should Select 1 COURSE FROM EACH AREA

Please note that as Contemporary Cuisine and Patisserie and Baking belongs to two areas, it must only be chosen once.

Business and Services

Course 1:

Contemporary Cuisine
Patisserie and Baking

Course 2:

Manicure+Nail Art
Facial Skincare

Course 3

Childcare: The Play Environment
The Physical Care of Babies

Design and Creativity

Course 1:

Contemporary Cuisine
Patisserie and Baking

Course 2:

Creative Styling on Long Hair
Total Beauty

X

Finally...reasons not to choose a subject

- X** You like the teacher who taught you at Key Stage 3
- X** You think it will be easy
- X** Your parents want you to do it but you don't – come to a decision together
- X** Your friend is doing it
- X** It sounds good but you don't know anything about it

Please think carefully about the choices you need to make.

Contents

Compulsory Subjects

English Language
Mathematics
Information Technology Applications
Personal Development and Employability
OR Personal Success and Well-being

Optional Subjects

Art & Design
Business Studies (BTEC)
Child Development & Care (CACHE)
Contemporary Crafts
Drama
Geography
Government and Politics
History
Hospitality
Leisure, Travel & Tourism
Moving Image Arts
Music
Performing Arts (Technical Award Level 2)
Religious Studies
Religious Studies (OCN)
Single Award Science
Double Award Science
Sociology
Spanish
Sports Science (OCR)

Occupational Studies Courses

Business and Services

Course 1:

Contemporary Cuisine
Patisserie and Baking

OR

Course 2:

Manicure and Nail Art
Facial Skincare

OR

Course 3

Childcare: The Play Environment
The Physical Care of Babies

Design and Creativity

Course 1:

Contemporary Cuisine
Patisserie and Baking

OR

Course 2:

Creative Styling on Long Hair
Total Beauty

English Language

Leader of Learning // Mrs C Green

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE English Language

How is the subject assessed?

Unit 1: Writing for Purpose and Audience and Reading to

Access Non-Fiction and Media Texts (30%)

- External written examination
- Untiered
- 1 hour 45 minutes
- Students to respond to five tasks

Unit 2: Speaking and Listening (20%)

- Controlled assessment
- Untiered
- Teachers assess the tasks and CCEA moderate the outcomes

Unit 3: Studying Spoken and Written Language (20%)

- Controlled assessment
- Untiered
- Teachers assess the tasks and CCEA moderate the outcomes

Unit 4: Personal or Creative Writing and Reading Literacy and Non-Fiction Texts (30%)

- External written examination
- Untiered
- 1 hour 45 minutes
- Student to respond to five tasks

Requirements of the Course:

English Language is a compulsory subject.

Additional Information

This course develops key analytical and communication skills to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives.

Mathematics

Leader of Learning // Mrs C Muirhead

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE Mathematics

How the subject is assessed?

Students must complete two units:

One unit will be completed in Year 11 – M1, M2, M3 or M4

- Each unit consists of a calculator paper

Second unit will be completed in Year 12 – M5, M6, M7 or M8

- Each unit consists of a calculator and a non-calculator paper

Requirements of the Course:

The content of each unit relates to:

- Numbers
- Algebra
- Shape, space and measures
- Handling data

Students must:

- Recall and use their knowledge of the course content;
- Select and apply mathematical methods in and range of contexts;
- Interpret and analyse problems and generate strategies to solve them

Additional information

In May/June of Year 12 students may have the opportunity to improve their grade by either re-sitting a unit or attempting a higher unit. This is decided on a case by case basis, in collaboration with students and parents.

Information Technology Applications

Leader of Learning // Mrs C Barkley-Smith

Examination Board & Syllabus //
OCN NI Certificate (Level 2) in Information Technology Applications

How the subject is assessed?

This subject is made up of 4 Units, which are all coursework based and are internally assessed; and externally moderated

- Website Software
- Digital Imaging
- IT User Fundamentals
- Multimedia Software

Requirements of the Course:

This course is designed to suit all levels of ability and students are provided with skills in a wide range of software applications.

Students will be required to plan, design and create an interactive website. Students will be encouraged to develop their coding skills through html for an identified audience.

Students will be required to conduct detailed research and explore developments and procedures for the safe use of IT equipment, and the maintenance of hardware and software.

Students will create an interactive multimedia presentation for a given scenario. Emphasis will be place on design and use of advanced features.

Students will develop a digital imaging portfolio for a given scenario, placing emphasis on creative products and developing a transferrable skillset for image manipulation software.

Additional Information

This is a vocational course.

This course is awarded as Merit (equivalent GCSE grade B) or Fail (U)

This qualification can allow you to progress to:

Post 16 Curriculum: Cambridge Technical Level 3 in ICT/
Further Education: Website Design, Interactive Multimedia, Graphic Design, Business Employment within the ICT Sector

Personal Development and Employability (PDE)

Leader of Learning // Mrs N Corner

Examination Board & Syllabus //
The Prince's Trust

What is this subject about?

The Qualification in Personal Development and Employability is designed to prepare students for life beyond school. It focuses on aspects of Personal Development such as: dealing with stress, personal planning and managing time effectively. Students will be introduced to a range of methods for understanding, recognising and dealing with stress including meditation, visualisation and breathing techniques. Students will also engage in a range of units to prepare them for the world of work such as: Teamwork, Career Planning and Work Experience in conjunction with their Career's Education Programme.

How is the subject assessed?

This two-year course is assessed continuously throughout the two years through the portfolios of evidence students complete for each unit. Students will gain credits for each unit completed successfully, which contribute toward the 21 credits required to obtain the overall qualification at the end of Year 12.

Students usually complete between 5 and 7 units and portfolios of evidence to obtain the required 21 credits. The portfolios of evidence are Internally Assessed by the class teacher before being Externally Assessed by The Prince's Trust Qualifications Team.

Requirements for the Course:

As this is a continuously assessed course, excellent attendance is required throughout the two years to ensure that the necessary credits are achieved to obtain the qualification.

GCSE Equivalency:

This Qualification has GCSE Equivalency.

Although most students in our school successfully complete the Qualification at Level 2, the Qualification is also available at Level 1.

Level 2 Qualification = 2 GCSEs at Grade B (BB).

Level 1 Qualification = 2 GCSEs at Grade D (DD).

It is anticipated that all new students will follow the Level 2 programme.

Additional Information:

Gaining this Qualification can assist students in achieving the 5 A*-C GCSEs that is often expected for moving into Further and Higher Education or employment.

For further information, contact Mrs N Corner.

Personal Success and Well-being (PSW)

Level 2 Certificate

Leader of Learning // TBC

Examination Board & Syllabus //
OCN NI

What is this subject about?

The Qualification in Personal Success and Well-being is designed to prepare and equip students for a successful life beyond school. It gives students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding around relevant personal, social health and well-being issues such as: improving confidence and self-esteem, personal motivation, healthy and unhealthy lifestyles, relationships, peer pressure, bullying, cyberbullying, equality, diversity, prejudice and discrimination.

How is the subject assessed?

This two-year course is assessed continuously throughout the two years through the portfolios of evidence students complete for each unit. Students will gain credits for each unit completed successfully, which contribute toward the 13 credits required to obtain the overall qualification at the end of Year 12 which is equivalent to a grade B at GCSE.

Students usually complete approximately 9 units and portfolios of evidence to obtain the required 13 credits. All evidence will be internally assessed by qualified centre assessors and internally verified by the approved centres

Requirements for the Course:

As this is a continuously assessed course, excellent attendance is required throughout the two years to ensure that the necessary credits are achieved to obtain the qualification.

GCSE Equivalency:

This Qualification has GCSE Equivalency.

Level 2 Qualification = 1 Grade B at GCSE.

Additional Information:

Gaining this Qualification can assist students in achieving the 5 A*-C GCSEs that is often expected for progressing to the next stage of their educational journey, such as, Post 16 at Belfast Model School, Further and Higher Education or employment.

Optional Subjects

Art and Design

Leader of Learning // Ms Ward

Examination Board & Syllabus //
AQA GCSE Art and Design

How the subject is assessed?

Component 1: Portfolio (60%)

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)

Students will explore a range of media: e.g. drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, textiles, fashion, ceramics, digital art, jewellery making etc.

Students will be encouraged to work in the medium and technique they like best in the Externally Set Assignment in Year 12.

Requirements of the Course:

Year 11

Component 1: Portfolio

- Portfolio of practical work

Year 12

Complete Component 1 in Autumn term

Externally Set Assignment – Spring Term

- Preparatory work
- 10 hours to make final piece

Additional Information

- Students should enjoy working in a practical manner
- Good attendance is essential
- Students must be prepared to work outside class time
- This course prepares students for progression to A-Level Art and Design Study
- Marked 1-9

Business Studies

Leader of Learning // Mrs N Gault

Examination Board & Syllabus //
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business

How is the subject assessed?

Four units are studied over two years;

Internal: Three of the units are assignments which are completed within school and marked by the teacher.

These units are:

- Introduction to Business
- Enterprise in the Business World
- Recruitment, Selection and Employment

External: One unit is assessed by examination.

This unit is:

- Finance for Business

Final grades awarded are:

Grade	Equivalent to
Distinction	Grade A
Merit	Grade B
Pass	Grade C
Level 1	Grade D

This grade is worth one GCSE.

Additional Information:

- Following on from this course is Level 3 Business in combination with other A-Level subjects.
- Studying this subject will give you an insight into working in a Business.
- This is useful for anyone interested in setting up their own business or wishing to pursue a career in retail, working with people or advertising.

Further information can be found at www.edexcel.org.uk

Child Development & Care

Leader of Learning // Mrs L Booth

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CACHE Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care

How the subject is assessed?

Assessment is through the production of three separate units.

Unit 1 and Unit 2 will be assessed through two internal pieces of written coursework, based around a range of childcare related areas, for example the physical development of a child, placement preparation and inclusivity within a childcare setting.

Unit 3 will be assessed through one external multiple choice examination. Learning for this will also be based around topics covered in Unit 1 and Unit 2.

Requirements of the Course:

This course is an equivalent to a GCSE grade A* - D.

This qualification consists of 3 units:

Unit 1 - An introduction to working with children aged 0-5 years

Unit 2 - Development and well-being of children aged 0-5 years

Unit 3 – Childcare and development aged 0-5 years

Additional Information

This course will provide learners with the knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being necessary for working with children in a variety of settings, for example: Day Care and Nursery schools.

Upon completion learners will be able to progress to the Level 3 Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development (CCLD) in Sixth Form.

Contemporary Crafts

Leader of Learning // Ms Ward

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE Contemporary Crafts

How the subject is assessed?

Component 1: Making: Exploring Materials, Techniques and Processes (60%)

Component 2: Working to a Brief (40%)

Students will work in two craft areas:

- Ceramics (using clay)
- Textiles (using fabrics)

Requirements of the Course:

Year 11

Component 1: Portfolio of practical work

Learning file containing:

- Investigation of relevant crafts people or designers
- Knowledge of Health and Safety
- Careers in the Creative Industries

Year 12

Complete Component 1 in Autumn term

Working to a brief – Spring Term

- Preparatory work
- 10 hours to make final craft piece
- Written evaluation

Additional Information

- Students should enjoy practical work and making craft objects
- Good attendance is essential
- Students must be prepared to work outside class time
- This course prepares students for progression to A-Level Art and Design study
- Marked A* - G

Drama

Leader of Learning // Ms N Simpson

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE Drama

How the subject is assessed?

Component 1 (25%) – Practical – Devised Performance (15%) and accompanying Student Log (10%)

Component 2 (35%) – Practical – Scripted Performance

Component 3 (40%) – External written examination – Knowledge and Understanding of Drama

Requirements of the Course:

Component 1 – Devised Performance

Devising is the creation of a new piece of work for the stage. All drama is created through the devising process. All devising begins with a blank sheet of paper or an empty space and by the end of the Devising Process and rehearsals a piece of Drama is created. You must work in a group of between two and six. The performance should last at least 10 minutes for smaller groups and no more than 30 minutes for larger groups.

Component 2 – Scripted Performance

You will read and explore a range of published play scripts and in groups of between two and six you will choose one of these scripts from which to perform an extract. The performance should last at least 10 minutes for smaller groups and no more than 30 minutes for larger groups.

Component 3 – Knowledge and Understanding of Drama

You will study the play “Blood Brothers” by Willy Russell, exploring the play in performance using a range of rehearsal ideas and Drama Strategies.

Additional Information

The study of Drama allows all students to build their confidence and knowledge as well as develop their speaking and listening skills. Drama encourages students to explore and take risks as well as developing a sense of responsibility thereby becoming independent learners. We want our students to feel good about their success, yet they should also know that it is perfectly reasonable not to be a success – yet. The key here is that we give our students the resilience to keep trying. It is our aim that students will leave our school with ambition, positive self-esteem and air of confidence that will equip them for the demands of the world of work.

Geography

Leader of Learning // Mrs C Chisim

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE Geography

How the subject is assessed?

GCSE Geography is assessed by three modular examinations from September 2016

Module 1 looks at the Natural World and you complete the studies of The Restless Earth and Coastal Environments begun in Year 10 and you go on to study Rivers and Weather in Year 11. This is examined at the end of Year 11 and comprises 40% of the total marks for the GCSE.

Module 2 looks at the Human World and you will study Population, Urban Environments, Development and Managing Resources. This is examined at the end of Year 12 and comprises 50% of the total marks for the GCSE.

Module 3 is Fieldwork. You will conduct a study outside of the classroom, produce results which you will take into a one-hour examination and answer questions about. This is worth 20% of the GCSE and may be completed at the end of Year 11.

Requirements of the Course:

This course is open to everyone who is interested in the world around them and the people who live in it.

If you are interested in how the world was formed, why it rains or how we will cope with global warming in the future, we will study and investigate these in Physical Geography. If you are more of a people person and interested in issues of migration, pollution or tourism, then we also cover that in Human Geography.

You will be willing to take part in a field trip to gather data for fieldwork paper.

Additional Information:

Geography is a valued subject by both employers and universities. Having a GCSE in Geography shows that you can think for yourself, communicate well and work with data using Mathematics and ICT.

Geography can lead you along many career paths including:

Social worker	Travel Agent	Pilot
Housing officer	News researcher	Cartographer
Estate Agent	Weather presenter	Teacher
Civil Engineer	Disaster manager	Tour Guide

Government and Politics

Leader of Learning // Mr. McNeill

Examination Board & Syllabus // CCEA GCSE
Government and Politics

How the subject is assessed?

Two external, written examinations papers.

Paper 1: is worth 50% of the total marks.

This is assessed at the end of Year 11. There is one opportunity to repeat this unit at the end of Year 12.

Paper 2: worth 50% of the total marks.

This unit is assessed at the end of Year 12.

Requirements of the Course:

The GCSE Government and Politics course consists of two units:

Unit 1 – Democracy in Action

Political Ideas, Decision making in a Democracy, Elections, Political Parties, Information, Media, Taking action in a Democracy

Unit 2 – International Politics in Action

Interdependence, The European Union, Conflict and its resolution, Northern Ireland, Migration, Human Rights.

Additional Information:

- The study of GCSE Government & Politics offers opportunities to build on the skills and capabilities developed through the delivery of the Northern Ireland Curriculum at Key Stage 3. It is an engaging and highly relevant specification that enhances students' understanding of political issues and the impact of politics on their everyday lives.
- Students considering choosing Government and Politics at GCSE level must have a genuine interest in this subject.
- A positive attitude and willingness to work hard both in class and at home is the key to success in GCSE Government and Politics. Good attendance at school is vital.
- Good results in Key Stage 3 assessments, especially **History and English**, provide a sound basis for study and success at GCSE Level
- Government and Politics is recognised by employers and colleges of further education as an academic subject which promotes the development of transferable skills.
- Full details of the GCSE Government and Politics syllabus can be found in the Government and Politics Microsite on the CCEA website

www.ccea.org.uk

History

Leader of Learning // Mrs L Johnston

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE History

How the subject is assessed?

Two external, written examinations papers.

Paper 1: is worth 60% of the total marks.

This is assessed at the end of Year 11. There is one opportunity to repeat this unit at the end of Year 12.

Paper 2: is worth 40% of the total marks.

This unit is assessed at the end of Year 12.

Requirements of the Course:

The GCSE History course consists of two units

Unit 1 – Study in Depth

Section A: Life in Nazi Germany 1933 – 1945

Section B: Changing Relations, Northern Ireland and its Neighbours 1920 – 1949

Unit 2 – Outline Study

International Relations 1945 – 2003

Additional Information:

- Students considering choosing History at GCSE level must have a genuine interest in this subject.
- A positive attitude and willingness to work hard both in class and at home is the key to success in GCSE History. Good attendance at school is vital.
- Good results in Key Stage 3 assessments provide a sound basis for continued study and success at GCSE Level
- GCE A Level History is offered at this school.
- History is recognised by employers and colleges of further education as an academic subject which promotes the development of transferable skills.
- Full details of the GCSE History syllabus can be found in the History Microsite on the CCEA website www.ccea.org.uk

Hospitality

Leader of Learning // Mrs S Jackson

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA

How the subject is assessed?

This course is assessed through a combination of a controlled assessment and two external examinations. Over the two years' students will complete three units of work to develop core knowledge about the hospitality industry and the skills required for working in it.

Course structure

Unit 1: The Hospitality Industry – external written examination (25%)

Unit 2: Hospitality and the Customer – external written examination (25%)

Unit 3: Food and Beverage Preparation and Service – internal controlled assessment (50%)

Requirements of the Course:

Excellent attendance is vital to prepare for the controlled assessment as well as developing key knowledge in preparation for the written exams. Any interest in or any experience of food and cooking will also be beneficial.

Course content includes:

Unit 1: The Hospitality Industry – students develop an understanding of and acquire knowledge about the diversity of the hospitality industry. They explore the hospitality industry in the economy and investigate careers and job roles, health and safety and promoting healthy eating.

Unit 2: Hospitality and the Customer – students investigate the different types of customers and how the hospitality industry can meet their needs through providing products and services.

Unit 3: Food and Beverage Preparation and Service – this is a practical unit in which students develop skills in preparing and serving food and beverages appropriate for the hospitality industry.

Additional Information:

This GCSE course will require further qualifications at post-16 to enter the job market such as Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Hospitality.

It is an ideal course to give students a real 'taste' of what it is like to work in the hospitality and catering industry.

Leisure, Travel & Tourism

Leader of Learning // Ms L Campbell

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE Leisure, Travel & Tourism

How the subject is assessed?

GCSE Leisure, Travel and Tourism comprises three units:

Unit 1: Understanding the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry

- External written examination (40%)

Unit 2: Promoting and sustaining the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry

- External pre-release written examination (40%)

Unit3: Working in the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry

- Set controlled assessment tasks (20%)

The qualification is graded from A* - G.

Requirements of the Course:

There are no formal requirements for this course however, prior knowledge of day-trips and family holidays is useful.

ICT is used throughout the course and access to a computer at home for research and the production of coursework is advisable. You will have the opportunity to learn and develop a range of ICT skills.

You must demonstrate the use of good quality written communication throughout your coursework and examination.

Excellent attendance is essential due to the high level of examination content associated with this course.

Additional Information:

The leisure, travel and tourism industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. It covers a whole spectrum of activities, from visiting a tourist attraction and going to a health club to eating in a restaurant or travelling abroad. GCSE Leisure, Travel and Tourism gives students a broad knowledge and understanding of the leisure, travel and tourism industries in the UK.

This qualification prepares you for further training, further education or for moving into employment mainly within the leisure, travel or tourism industries. Many students with a GCSE in Leisure, Travel and Tourism go on to complete A-Levels or BTECs. Some go on to study an NVQ in Travel Services or in Sport, Recreation and Aviation Studies (Cabin Crew).

Moving Image Arts

Leader of Learning // Ms Ward

Examination Board & Syllabus //
GCSE CCEA Moving Image Arts

How the subject is assessed?

Year 11:

Component 2: Gaining skills in Moving Image Film Production (20% of total GCSE Mark)

Year 12:

Component 3: Planning and Making a Moving Image Film or Animation (40% of total GCSE Mark)

Component 1: Understanding of Creative and Technical areas in films (40% of total GCSE Mark)

Requirements of the course:

- Create a storyboard
- Use your mobile phone or a camcorder to record film and sound
- Edit your footage on the Apple Mac computers
- Record and create sounds
- Experiment with studio lighting
- Create and film your own animation
- Understand film language through watching and discussing films
- Students will be required to plan and make a short film or animation of their own
- At the end of Year 12, students complete Component 1 – a 90-minute online examination

Additional information

- No previous knowledge of film making needed
- Be interested in making your own film
- Could lead to a job in the Creative Industries
- To do well, be creative, enthusiastic, organised, a steady worker, a team player and meet deadlines
- High standard of English is essential
- Be prepared to watch lots of films and animations
- You must be prepared to work outside class time to record and edit your film
- Course prepares you to progress to A Level MIA

Music

Leader of Learning // Mrs R Ashe

Examination Board & Syllabus //
Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Music

How the subject is assessed?

Performance (30%)

- Solo performance (15%)
- Ensemble (group) performance (15%)

Composition (30%)

- Composition 1 (15%)
- Composition 2 (15%)

Areas of Study (40%)

- 1 hour 45 minutes written and listening examination in May/June of Year 12

Requirements of the Course:

Performance

Students should be approximately grade 3 (minimum) on their instrument or voice.
Students will have to attend lessons outside the classroom in their agreed performance instrument or voice. These will be paid for by parents/guardians.

Composition

Students will have to complete their homework in the Music Department at lunch time and after school, as the majority of this is saved in the Music/ICT room.

Areas of Study

Students will study eight Set Works from four areas of study. These are:

- Instrumental Music 1700 – 1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

This paper is designed to test students' listening and appraising skills. It will test their knowledge of the Set Works through analysis.

Additional Information

Students should have developed a good level of musicality in Key Stage 3. This has been tested using the Bentley Test at the beginning of Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10.

Students must be willing to sing or play an instrument to fulfil the Performance requirements of this course. Their performances will be recorded in the Recording Studio and sent to the Examiner.

Students will be required to sing in choir or participate in concert band or rock band as appropriate.

Performing Arts

Leader of Learning // Mrs A Graham

Examination Board & Syllabus //
AQA Technical Award in Performing Arts

- Are you someone who enjoys performing?
- Do you enjoy being on the stage?
- Do you enjoy singing, dancing or acting?
- Are you eager to learn how to design costumes or design makeup?

Well then, Performing Arts is for you.

How the subject is assessed?

Compulsory Units:

Unit 1: Unlocking Creativity (30%) – Internally assessed – To deliver a performance pitch with a group of 5 from a title set by AQA.

Unit 2: The Production/Performance (30%) – Internally assessed – To produce a performance from a list of 5 briefs set by AQA.

Unit 3: The Performing Arts Industry (40%) – Written examination – Externally assessed.

Requirements of the Course:

- Excellent attendance
- Should enjoy performing in front of an audience
- Should be able to work as part of a team
- Some previous experience in at least one performance discipline (music, dance, drama, stage management, lights, sound, etc.)
- Should enjoy portfolio work
- Can remember facts for examination

***Audition required assessing skill level before entry to the class.**

Additional Information

This is a Level 2 + Level 1 qualification, which is the equivalent of a GCSE. Your marks will be distinction, merit or pass, which are equivalent to GCSE grades A* - E.

Religious Studies

Leader of Learning // Mrs L Dalzell

Examination Board & Syllabus //

CCEA GCSE Religious Studies

How the subject is assessed?

Religious Studies GCSE is assessed over 2 years:

Unit 1 (50%)

- Christianity through a study of Matthew's Gospel – will be examined at the end of Year 11
- One examination paper lasting 1 hour 30 minutes

Unit 2 (50%)

- Christian Ethics (Morality) – This will be examined at the end of Year 12
- One examination paper lasting 1 hour 30 minutes

There is a single tier of entry for all students – Grades A* - G.

No coursework or controlled assignments.

Requirements of the Course:

The Religious Studies course requires students to have a good standard of English and an interest in the subject.

Students are challenged to reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes on contemporary issues and encouraged to respect the values and opinions of others.

Additional Information

Religious Studies would be of general interest as topics which are explored include: forgiveness, use of money, end times, relationships, crime and punishment, abortion, equality and bioethics.

It would be especially interesting for those considering a career in Teaching, Child Care, Social Work, looking after the elderly, Nursing, Youth work and Charity work.

It is a course for students interested in people and which equips you for life and in the modern world.

Religious Studies (OCN)

Leader of Learning // Mrs L Dalzell

Examination Board & Syllabus //

OCN NI Certificate (Level 2) in Religious Studies

How the subject is assessed?

This subject is made up of 9 Units, which are all coursework based and are internally assessed. These units include:

- Addiction
- Marriage and Divorce
- Life and Death issues
- A World Faith
- Charities

Requirements of the Course:

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to develop an awareness and understanding of different religious beliefs, cultural diversity and moral issues. Students will be required to complete a variety of Coursework tasks to produce a portfolio of evidence which covers each of the 9 units of study.

Additional Information

Religious Studies would be of general interest as topics which are explored include: Addiction, Identity and Personal faith, Capital Punishment, prejudice and Reconciliation.

It would be especially interesting for those considering a career in Teaching, Child Care, Social Work, looking after the elderly, Nursing, Youth work and Charity work.

It is a course for students interested in people and which equips you for life and in the modern world.

Single Award Science

Leader of Learning // Mrs J Taggart

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA Single Award Science

How the subject is assessed?

Single Award Science is assessed over the two years of the course by four external module examinations and a Practical Skills Assessment (coursework).

- Biology (25%)
- Chemistry (25%)
- Physics (25%)
- Practical Skills & practical exam (25%)

There are no terminal examinations.

Requirements of the Course:

This course is designed to suit all abilities and there are assessments and course materials to suit all.

The course is open to all who have successfully completed the KS3 Science course.

Single Award Science is an ideal qualification for students thinking about a possible STEM career such as teaching or nursing where a Science GCSE is usually compulsory.

Additional Information

Successful students will have a broad and balanced knowledge of the Science required for today's life and work.

This qualification can prepare students for careers in manufacturing; Aerospace, Textile, Plastics and Food Technology. It also prepares students for entry to the following services; Nursing/Care Assistant, Veterinary Nursing, Laboratory Assistant and Dental Nurse.

Double Award Science

Leader of Learning // Mrs J Taggart

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA Double Award Science

How the subject is assessed?

Double Award Science is assessed in Year 11 by three module examinations taken in March and June. In Year 12 four further examinations are taken in June, one of which is a practical exam. There is also a Practical Assessment, completed and submitted towards the end of Year 12.

- Year 11 Module Exams (33%)
- Year 12 Terminal Exams (42%)
- Practical Exam (17.5%)
- Practical Assessment (7.5%)

Requirements of the Course:

This is a more demanding Science course, designed for those who have performed well in KS3 Science and hope to follow a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths (STEM).

You should be consistently scoring in the top third of your year group in Science.

Double Award Science is sufficient preparation for all Science A-Levels and this supports further scientific study at university or college or in the work place.

Additional Information

Successful students will have a broad and balanced knowledge of the Science required for today's life and work. A good grade in Double Award Science allows students to take Advanced Level Science courses.

This qualification can prepare students for careers in manufacturing; Aerospace, Textiles, Plastics and Good Technology. It also prepares students for entry to the following services; Health and Social Care, Veterinary Nursing, Laboratory Assistant and Dental Nursing.

Sociology

Leader of Learning // Mrs M Fitzpatrick

Examination Board & Syllabus //
WJEC EDUQA GCSE (9-1)

How the subject is assessed?

Unit 1: Understanding social processes (50%)

- Written paper
- 1 hour 45 minutes

Questions

A written assessment with a mix of short answer, structured questions and extended response questions, all compulsory. The extended response questions will require candidates to draw together different areas of knowledge, skills and/or understanding from across the relevant specification content.

Unit 2: Understanding social structures (50%)

- Written paper
- 1 hour 45 minutes

Questions

A written assessment with a mix of short answer, structured questions and extended response questions, all compulsory. The extended response questions will require candidates to draw together different areas of knowledge, skills and/or understanding from across the relevant specification content.

Requirements of the Course:

To be a successful Sociology student you must:

- Be willing to express your views in class discussions, debates and presentations
- Be able to listen to and respect the views of others
- Keep up to date with current issues by reading a newspaper or watching TV news
- Keep up to date with the homework that is set each week
- Your commitment and enthusiasm will be rewarded with an excellent GCSE grade

Additional Information

Many students who study GCSE Sociology go on to study A-Level Sociology in Sixth Form and this works well with other subjects like Media, Politics, Health and Social Care, History and Geography.

In addition, Sociology is an extremely valued subject for higher education entry and future careers. Sociology students are in demand for people centred occupations which demand analytical skills hence Sociology students have gone into wide ranging careers such as Media Research, Law, Police, Journalism and Teaching, Local Government, Policy Making, Advertising and Nursing, Social Work and Youth Work.

Spanish

Leader of Learning // Mrs J Johnston

Examination Board & Syllabus //
CCEA GCSE Spanish

How the subject is assessed?

Spanish will be assessed through four units

- Listening (25%)
- Reading (25%)
- Writing (25%)
- Speaking (25%)

The Listening, Reading and Writing examinations may be assessed at either Foundation or Higher Level and your level of entry will be agreed between yourself and your teacher.

There is only one tier of entry for Speaking and this will include two role-plays and a general conversation on two chosen topics.

Requirements of the Course

How do you know if you are capable of GCSE Spanish?

- You will have displayed an interest and love for this subject during your KS3 studies and you will have attained a sound Year 10 Spanish examination result.
- You will be ready and willing to work hard from the beginning of the GCSE course, attending every day and applying maximum effort in class to learning the new material.
- You will understand that time needs to be set aside at home for extra consolidation of class work as well as completing homework to the best of your ability.
- You will have a positive attitude and give it your best shot!

Additional Information

The main topics covered in GCSE Spanish are: your life, family, home and interests; your lifestyle and attitudes to the environment and global issues; your school and career aspirations. All of these topics will also be related to young people in Spanish speaking countries.

Studying a language at GCSE level is exciting and interesting! In the world in which we live it makes sense to study a second European language and Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world! Many employers value a language qualification as well as the transferable skills that are naturally developed through language learning, such as listening, speaking and problem-solving skills as well as working with others and appreciating different cultures and traditions.

Sports Science

Leader of Learning // Miss J Clarke

Examination Board & Syllabus //
OCR Cambridge Nationals in Sport

How the subject is assessed?

Unit 1: Reducing the risk of sports injuries

- Written paper
- 1 hour
- 60 marks

Unit 2: Applying Principles of Training

- Coursework
- 60 marks

Additional Units

- Sports Nutrition (coursework) – 60 marks
- Technology in Sport (coursework) – 60 marks

Requirements of the Course:

All Sports Science students should have an interest for sporting activity and the desire to improve their Leadership skills. You will learn about injury prevention and improving your personal fitness as well as creating appropriate training programmes including nutrition and technology.

There is an expectation that Sports Science students will commit to extra-curricular clubs during this two-year course, in order to apply learning in the sporting context.

Additional Information

If you enjoyed all aspects of Key Stage 3 PE and would like to develop your knowledge and understanding of key areas of sports science this is the course for you!

Studying this course will help you gain confidence and provide you with a sound basis for improving your leadership skills. It will also support study of the Level 3 OCR Cambridge Technical in Sport.

Occupational Studies- Cuisine, Patisserie and Baking (Business and Services)

Leader of Learning // Mrs S Jackson

Examination Board & Syllabus // CCEA

How the subject is assessed?

This course is assessed through continuous assessment of portfolio based work. Students will complete 12 practical cooking assessments (each worth 5% of the overall GCSE) and a range of knowledge tests, evaluations and diaries of learning activities over the two years.

Course structure:

Year 11: Contemporary Cuisine unit (50%)

Year 12: Patisserie and Baking unit (50%)

There is no external examination.

Requirements for the Course:

Excellent attendance is vital as a range of practical skills and knowledge will be assessed in lessons throughout the duration of this two-year course. An interest in or any experience of food and cooking will also be beneficial.

Course content includes:

Contemporary Cuisine: This unit, completed in Year 11 covers a range of knowledge including health and safety and knowledge on starters, mains and desserts. Students make an interesting menu of starters, mains and desserts using a range of ingredients and a variety of preparation techniques and cooking methods.

Patisserie and Baking: This unit, completed in Year 12, also covers extended knowledge of health and safety and patisserie and baking theory. Student make a delicious menu that challenges their ability to practice a range of bread, pastry and cake making preparation techniques.

Additional Information

This is a vocational course, which will require further vocational qualifications at post 16 to enter the job market such as Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Hospitality. This is an ideal course to give students a real 'taste' of what it is like to work in the hospitality and catering industry.

Occupational Studies Manicure and Nail Art and Facial Skincare (Business and Services)

Leader of Learning // TBC

Examination Board & Syllabus // CCEA

How the subject is assessed?

- Internal assessment no external examinations
- Learners complete two units
 1. Manicure and Nail Art
 2. Facial Skincare
- They carry out tasks to gather the required assessment evidence in a portfolio for each unit
- Tasks include answering questions, carrying out practical activities and evaluating their own performance
- The teacher assesses the portfolio of evidence, which are externally moderated

Requirements of the Course:

Excellent attendance is essential as a range of practical skills and knowledge will be assessed in lessons throughout the duration of this two-year course. An interest and passion for hair styling would also be beneficial.

Course content includes: Manicure and Nail Art (Unit 8):

This unit is designed to give the learner an understanding of manicure treatments and nail art techniques. It is suitable for learners who wish to pursue a career in the beauty industry. Learners will carry out consultations with clients and provide appropriate manicure and nail art treatments.

Unit content: consideration of the role of the beauty therapist and career opportunities; consideration of health and safety procedures necessary in the beauty salon; communicating with clients during consultations to plan treatment; providing manicure treatments; providing nail polishing treatments and nail decoration; consideration of environmental issues relating to the use and disposal of products; and a review and evaluation of performance.

Facial Skincare (Unit 6):

This unit is designed to develop learners' knowledge and practical skills in facial skincare. Learners will carry out consultations with clients and agree a treatment plan to meet the clients' requirements.

Unit content: consideration of health and safety procedures in the beauty salon; analysis of skin types and conditions; carrying out client consultations to identify appropriate treatment plans; application of facial skincare products in a safe and professional manner; giving aftercare advice to clients and obtaining client feedback; consideration of recycling, minimising waste and the use of environmentally friendly products; consideration of career opportunities in beauty therapy; and a review and evaluation of performance.

Additional Information:

This is a vocational course, which provides students with an insight into this industry and is a good first step towards carving out a career in this field.

Occupational Studies Childcare (Play Environment and The Physical Care of Babies) (Business and Services)

Leader of Learning // Mrs L Booth

Examination Board & Syllabus // CCEA-Occupational Studies/Business and Services

How the subject is assessed?

- Assessment is through the production of a portfolio of evidence
- This is a practical course where you will be required to demonstrate competency in a range of tasks, for example how to bath a baby
- You will also complete a series of knowledge tests (A01) and evaluative accounts (A03)
- There is no formal examination

Requirements of the Course:

There are 2 units to be completed over Year 11 and Year 12

Unit 1: The Physical Care of Babies – you will learn how to care for a young child including how to:

- Bath a baby
- Sterilize bottles and make formula feeds
- Put a baby to sleep safely
- Provide a balanced diet for children

Unit 2: The Play Environment – you will learn how to encourage and support children's learning through:

- Designing appropriate children's games
- Setting up a book corner
- Making a visual aid, for example puppets, to support talking and listening

Additional Information

Assessment outcome is stated as a Level, which are equivalent to GCSE grade:

Level 2 Distinction*	A*
Level 2 Distinction	A
Level 2 Merit	B
Level 2 Pass	C
Level 1 Distinction	D
Level 1 Merit	E
Level 1 Pass	F/G
Refer	U

Upon successful completion there is the opportunity to return in Sixth Form to study Early Years full time.

Occupational Studies- Cuisine, Patisserie and Baking (Design and Creativity)

Leader of Learning // Mrs S Jackson

Examination Board & Syllabus // CCEA

How the subject is assessed?

This course is assessed through continuous assessment of portfolio based work. Students will complete 12 practical cooking assessments (each worth 5% of the overall GCSE) and a range of knowledge tests, evaluations and diaries of learning activities over the two years.

Course structure:

Year 11: Contemporary Cuisine unit (50%)

Year 12: Patisserie and Baking unit (50%)

There is no external examination.

Requirements for the Course:

Excellent attendance is vital as a range of practical skills and knowledge will be assessed in lessons throughout the duration of this two-year course. An interest in or any experience of food and cooking will also be beneficial.

Course content includes:

Contemporary Cuisine: This unit, completed in Year 11 covers a range of knowledge including health and safety and knowledge on starters, mains and desserts. Students make an interesting menu of starters, mains and desserts using a range of ingredients and a variety of preparation techniques and cooking methods.

Patisserie and Baking: This unit, completed in Year 12, also covers extended knowledge of health and safety and patisserie and baking theory. Student make a delicious menu that challenges their ability to practice a range of bread, pastry and cake making preparation techniques.

Additional Information

This is a vocational course, which will require further vocational qualifications at post 16 to enter the job market such as Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Hospitality. This is an ideal course to give students a real 'taste' of what it is like to work in the hospitality and catering industry.

Occupational Studies Creative Styling on Long Hair and Total Beauty (Design and Creativity)

Leader of Learning // TBC

Examination Board & Syllabus // CCEA

How the subject is assessed?

- Internal assessment no external examinations
- Learners complete two units
 3. Creative Hairstyling on Long Hair
 4. Total Beauty
- They carry out tasks to gather the required assessment evidence in a portfolio for each unit
- Tasks include answering questions, carrying out practical activities and evaluating their own performance
- The teacher assesses the portfolio of evidence, which are externally moderated

Requirements of the Course:

Excellent attendance is essential as a range of practical skills and knowledge will be assessed in lessons throughout the duration of this two-year course. An interest and passion for hair styling would also be beneficial.

Course content includes:

Creative Hairstyling on Long Hair: This unit covers a range of knowledge including health and safety, knowledge on different hair types, current trends and salon policies and reception responsibilities.

Creative Styling Using Blow Drying Techniques: This unit covers extended knowledge of health and safety in the work place, knowledge of client consultations as well as working with clients on a professional level to satisfy their requirements.

Additional Information:

This is a vocational course, which provides students with an insight into this industry and is a good first step towards carving out a career in this field.