

KEY STAGE 4

OPTIONS BOOKLET

2017 - 2019

Good evening and thank you for making time to attend our Key Stage 4 Options Evening.

Over the next few weeks your son or daughter will be asked to decide which subjects he or she would prefer to study in Years 10 and 11, where choices are offered.

This booklet sets out exactly where choices have to be made, and the options which are available. It also contains details of all the subjects that students will be following in accordance with the demands of the English Baccalaureate and the new Progress 8 focus.

There has been a lot of recent publicity around the changes to end of course examinations and a move away from some courses which no longer retain GCSE equivalency. The curriculum we have designed responds to both of these pressures whilst ensuring that those students whose needs will not be best served by the changes retain a genuine choice of courses from which to select.

All students are asked to select their choices on the separate Student Options Form and to return it to Student Reception by the 24th February (or at the parents evening on the 23rd February). The school will do its utmost to meet all requests, subject to staffing and resources and to the choices being appropriate for long term career aspirations.

Tonight you will be given further details about the process of making these choices and an opportunity to meet subject teachers and to discuss their subjects at Key Stage 4.

With your support, we hope to ensure that your son or daughter will make appropriate and positive choices, whilst establishing high expectations for the future. If you require any further information either tonight or in the coming weeks please contact Mr Marston.

Section 1 – These courses are studied by all students and are preselected.

Subject	Qualification Awarded	
English Language	GCSE	X
English Literature	GCSE	X
Maths	GCSE	X
Science	2 x GCSE (3 for triple science)	X
Core PE	No qualification	X

Section 2 – The language is already preselected but students must select either History or Geography in this section.

Subject	Qualification Awarded	
Language	GCSE (compulsory for the English Baccalaureate)	X
History	One of these must be selected here, this is a full GCSE and is now a compulsory choice. Students wishing to study both History and Geography should select Geography here and History in section 3.	
Geography		

Section 3 – In section 3 students must select one subject from Block 1 and one from Block 2.

Block 1			Block 2		
Subject	Qual's		Subject	Qual's	
Art	GCSE		History	GCSE	
Philosophy & Ethics	GCSE		Drama	GCSE	
Physical Education	GCSE		Business and Computer Skills (ECDL separate qualification)	BTEC ECDL	
Media	GCSE		Media	GCSE	
Health & Social Care	BTEC		Graphic Communication	GCSE	
Music	BTEC		Food Technology	GCSE	

The decision making process and key dates:

Students and parents attend options evening on 1st February 2017.	
Students and parents to talk to tutors and subject teachers where further information is required.	
Parents, students and teachers discuss choices at Parents' Evening on Wednesday 23rd February 2017. Forms can be submitted on this date.	
Completed forms handed in to Student Reception by 24th February 2017	

Some Advice to Students

DO

- Choose a subject because you like it, not because it is the “least worst”
- Choose a subject you have an interest in
- Choose a subject which might help you with a particular career
- Choose a balanced range of subjects
- Be aware of the requirements of the course and the style of assessment involved
- **DO NOT**
- Choose a subject because your friends are doing it
- Choose a subject because you like the teacher (there may be a different one next year)
- Choose a subject because it looks easy
- Rush into anything - REMEMBER TO FIND OUT AND SEEK ADVICE

Business Studies and ECDL

Travel and Tourism

Health and Social Care

Business Studies BTEC level 2 & ECDL

This course will result in two qualifications, each equivalent to a GCSE. Students will study the full BTEC in Business Studies but during the course will also have specific time set aside to work towards the European Computer Driving License. In both qualifications the students have the chance to work towards a pass (equivalent to the new level 5 / old C grade) or to push on for merits and distinctions which are equivalent to the higher GCSE gradings.

The Business course includes an examination which must be passed for students to access the merit or distinction level grades. Those who do not achieve a level 2 pass in the exam will have to ensure all of their coursework is strong enough to achieve the overall pass qualification.

STAFF CONTACT: Mr J Burke and Mr I Singh

Travel & Tourism BTEC level 2

This course covers all aspects of the travel and leisure industry. Students will work through a varied coursework portfolio and will sit a formal exam which needs to be passed if the Merit or Distinction levels are to be accessed. Those not achieving a level 2 pass in the exam will have to rely on the highest level of coursework to achieve their level 2 qualification.

Health and Social Care BTEC level 2

This is a major area of growth for employment and is an excellent access route for those seeking to pursue careers in child care or the social care sector more broadly. Students will work through a varied coursework portfolio and will sit a formal exam which needs to be passed if the Merit or Distinction levels are to be accessed. Those not achieving a level 2 pass in the exam will have to rely on the highest level of coursework to achieve their level 2 qualification.

STAFF CONTACT: Mrs S Quanton

MUSIC

SECTION 1

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
BTEC Level 1/2	EDEXCEL	600/6818/8

COURSE:

BTEC music is for those students who have an interest in creating and performing music, and want to learn about the music industry and live performance. During the two year course students will be able to develop their skills, and learn about a wide variety of music. Students will have the opportunity to create and perform music using their preferred instrument and music software, as well as planning and developing a live music event. For the performing unit students will need to perform a selection of solo and/or ensemble pieces, on a chosen instrument.

UNITS

Unit 1: The music industry

In this unit students will learn about the areas and organisations of the music industry and how they work together.

Unit 2: Managing a music product

This unit provides the opportunity for students to plan and deliver and participate in a live music event.

Unit 4: Introduction to music composition

In this unit students will explore music composition using music software and their own instruments.

Unit 5: Introduction to music performance

In this unit students will have the opportunity to develop their skills both as a solo and ensemble/ band performer, working towards final performances.

ASSESSMENT:

Unit 1: The music industry -1 hour Written paper - 25%

Unit 2: Managing a music product - Controlled assessment - 25%

Unit 4: Introduction to music composition - Controlled assessment - 25%

Unit 5: Introduction to music performance - Controlled assessment - 25%

STAFF CONTACT: Mrs R. Sanders (Head of Music)

- ◆ ENGLISH LITERATURE
- ◆ ENGLISH LANGUAGE
- ◆ MATHS
- ◆ COMBINED SCIENCE
- ◆ TRIPLE SCIENCE

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8702

COURSE:

English Literature creates, builds and sustains a love of books: novels, plays and poetry. This GCSE develops students' ability to analyse plot, characters, themes, language and structural devices, and context. They will study old and modern texts, make comparisons between literary works and develop their ability to identify effects on the reader.

Students will study a range of texts; these texts will be chosen from such works as Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, William Golding's novel *The Lord of the Flies*, Dennis Kelly's play *DNA*, Arthur Conan Doyle's novel *The Sign of Four*, and poetry from a 'power and conflict' anthology both past and present.

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment is 100% examination.

Exam One: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel (40% of qualification)

Exam Two: Modern Texts and Prose (60% of qualification)

STAFF CONTACT: Ms Pollard (Head of Department)

BTEC COURSES

In addition to our GCSE subjects we are also running BTECs in a number of subject areas.

BTECs all have full GCSE equivalency and are run by subject specialists in the same way as the GCSE courses. The style of assessment is where the BTECs differ, each course involves an examination but also covers a number of units of study which students complete throughout the two years of Key Stage Four.

This means that they can be better suited to students who prefer to complete their assessed work throughout the course rather than rely on success in the final examination series in Year 11.

The BTEC courses we will be running are;

Music

Health and Social Care

Travel and Tourism

Business Studies with Computer Skills (ECDL)

These can be selected on the subject preference form in the same way as the GCSE subjects.

For more details about the BTEC courses please speak to Mr Altaf who coordinates these programmes of study.

STAFF CONTACT: Mr Altaf

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

LEVEL	EXAM BOARD	COURSE CODE
GCSE	AQA	8062

COURSE:

Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues.

Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. They will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare them for further study.

Students must take assessments in the following two components in the same series:

- a) Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices
- b) Component 2: Thematic studies

Why choose AQA GCSE Philosophy & Ethics?

Modern and engaging – Students can gain a deeper understanding of two religions, Christianity and Judaism, and explore philosophy and ethical studies in the modern world.

Designed to inspire – The specification includes exciting content that explores; relationships and families, the existence of God and the ultimate reality, peace and conflict, human rights and the dialogue between religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes.

Skills for today's world – Philosophy & Ethics can open up the possibility of in-depth debate, which leads to critical evaluation and analysis.

ASSESSMENT:

The course is assessed at the end of Year 11 through two exams that are each 1 hour 45 minutes long. Each exam is worth half of the GCSE and is broken down into short and long answer questions, designed to test knowledge and understanding. Students will have a choice of questions to answer and these will require students to explain their own views as well as others and to evaluate claims made by religious and secular thinkers.

STAFF CONTACT: Mrs H. Bunn (Head of Department) & Mrs K. Wilson (Lead Teacher)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8700

COURSE:

English Language focuses on developing core literacy skills: reading and writing. This GCSE develops students' ability to use and explore language in different contexts, and for different purposes and audiences. It also includes some analysis of literary and media texts. Students will have opportunities to write creatively and demonstrate their discussion and formal presentations.

Students will sit two examinations which assess both their reading and writing skills. A range of unseen fiction and non-fiction texts from 19th, 20th and 21st centuries will be provided in the examinations. Students will need to show a range of reading skills including comprehension, deduction, summary, analysis and evaluation. In addition, students will be required to produce extended pieces of writing which will include imaginative texts such as a narrative or descriptive piece as well as transactional writing such as a letter of application or a newspaper article. In both the reading and writing sections of the examinations, students' literacy (spelling, punctuation and grammar) will be assessed.

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment is 100% examination over two examinations.

Reading skills: 50% of qualification

Writing skills: 50% of qualification

STAFF CONTACT: Ms Pollard (Head of Department)

MATHEMATICS

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	EDEXCEL	1MA1

COURSE:

The purposes of this qualification are to:

- ♦ provide evidence of students' achievements against demanding and fulfilling content, to give students the confidence that the mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding that they will have acquired during the course of their study are as good as that of the highest performing jurisdictions in the world.
- ♦ provide a strong foundation for further academic and vocational study and for employment, to give students the appropriate mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding to help them progress to a full range of courses in further and higher education. This includes Level 3 mathematics courses as well as Level 3 and undergraduate courses in other disciplines such as biology, geography and psychology, where the understanding and application of mathematics is crucial.

Students will follow either the Foundation or Higher Tier course

- ♦ Foundation tier - grades 1 to 5 available
- ♦ Higher tier - grades 4 to 9 available (grade 3 allowed)

ASSESSMENT:

100% examination. Students sit three equally weighted papers at the end of the course: one paper is non-calculator and the other two papers are calculator. Each paper is 1hr 30mins and carries 80 marks.

STAFF CONTACT: Mrs K Nash (Head of Department)
Mrs Laverick (2nd in Department - KS3)

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8200

COURSE:

Students on the Graphic Communication GCSE course are introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of media, techniques and processes, including both traditional and new technologies.

The GCSE is designed to allow students to experience how it feels to work like a graphic designer in industry, using the most up to date Adobe Master Collection software with teaching from a subject specialist. Students work to a brief, just as they would in industry, which receives regular verbal and written feedback to enable students to challenge themselves and make progress. Students will have two creative spaces to work from; a newly installed ICT suite and an Art classroom to allow their work to be explored beyond the computer screen.

Students will cover areas of study within Photoshop, Digital Photography, Typography, Illustration, Layout/Design for Print, Animation, Print Making, Advertising and Packaging Design.

Students who choose Graphic Communication will enjoy being creative digitally and traditionally and will take inspiration from photographers, designers and artists alike, to aid in their visual communication venture! It is a practical course that gives students skills within the subject, as well as potentially aiding Art and Media subject knowledge.

ASSESSMENT:

GCSE Graphic Communication is 60% coursework and 40% exam.

STAFF CONTACT: Ms. L Kennett (Head of Creative and Expressive Arts and Design Technology).
Mrs. Ware (Lead Teacher of Graphic Communications).

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8585

COURSE:

In this option students will be taught to:

- Investigate, research, develop and communicate ideas
- Carefully select materials, tools and equipment and make quality products
- Evaluate products, understanding how and why they have been designed
- Change and improve their work as the course progresses

This is an exciting, creative and interesting subject to study. Most of the learning is through practical lessons. The subject involves;

- Experimenting, investigating and testing products
- Learning about foods, ingredients, processes, techniques
- Being creative and designing new products
- Understanding how a product can be developed in a test kitchen
- Having an insight into how products are made in industry
- Developing skills which enable you to make food products
- Understanding about diets and health
- Making choices as consumers

ASSESSMENT :

50% of the grade is gained from a one hour forty five minutes written exam. This carries 100 marks with 20 of these coming from multiple choice questions.

The rest of the marks are awarded for the non-exam element which consists of two tasks.

Task 1: Food investigation

This is a written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation. Task 1 provides evidence of students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Task 2: Food preparation assessment

This measures students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

Evidence for task 2 will be a written or electronic portfolio which must include photographic evidence of the three final dishes.

STAFF CONTACT: Ms L Kennett (Head of Creative and Expressive Arts and Design

Technology)

COMBINED SCIENCE

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	EDEXCEL	1SC0

GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE:

All students will study nine hours of science per fortnight leading to two GCSE qualifications in Combined Science. Students in the top set will follow the Triple Science pathway.

The sciences provides the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Students will learn essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They will gain appreciation of how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas that relate to the sciences and that are both inter-linked and are of universal application.

COURSE CONTENT:

The GCSE Combined Science courses contain units which cover a wide range of Chemistry, Biology and Physics topics that will extend and develop the ideas encountered during our KS3 curriculum.

All our GCSE Science courses provide a modern and relevant curriculum for all students that will allow them to develop a sound theoretical understanding while recognising the wide applications of Science. The course will also develop students' ideas and understanding of how science works and the investigative approaches used in Science.

ASSESSMENT:

The combined science course will be assessed using six externally assessed papers which will all be completed at the end of Year 11. Each paper is 70 minutes and is worth 60 marks. Papers are available in both higher and foundation tiers.

STAFF CONTACT:

Mr C. Curtis (Head of Department)

TRIPLE SCIENCE

Level	Exam Board	Course Codes
GCSE	EDEXCEL	1BIO, 1CHO, 1PHO

GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE

Students in the top set will follow the Triple pathway and will have extra curriculum time to study 4 hours of Biology, 4 hours of Chemistry and 4 hours of Physics per fortnight to work towards separate GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

COURSE CONTENT:

The individual science GCSEs cover all of the topics found in the combined science course in greater detail and depth. It also covers some extra topics, such as astronomy, static electricity, dynamic equilibria, nanoparticles, alcohols and the eye.

The triple science course provides a more detailed foundation for any students wanting to study sciences at A level and smooths the transition into them.

ASSESSMENT:

The total triple science course will be assessed using six externally assessed papers (two for each GCSE) which will all be completed at the end of Year 11. Each paper is 105 minutes and is worth 100 marks.

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Given the extra demands of the course, students should be consistently working at a flightpath 6 in order to take triple science.

STAFF CONTACT:

Mr C. Curtis (Head of Department)

MEDIA STUDIES

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	EDUQAS	4390

COURSE:

The GCSE course has a focus on the assessment of knowledge and understanding, description and analysis of media texts and key concepts. Students are encouraged to create and evaluate at all times as controlled assessment centres on Pre-Production and Production work. Students will explore Media Concepts and ideas through:

- ◆ Media texts - genre, narrative, and representation
- ◆ Media organisations
- ◆ Media audiences and users

Students who choose to study this course encounter the following texts in depth:

- ◆ Films and film trailers
- ◆ TV programmes
- ◆ Advertising (moving image and print based)
- ◆ CD covers/DVD covers
- ◆ Music tracks, CD covers and music videos
- ◆ Computer games and gaming culture
- ◆ New media platforms and digital technologies

ASSESSMENT: Two distinct examination components—70%

Component 1: Exploring Media Language and Representation (30%)

Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products (40%)

Component 3: Creating Media Products (30%) Non exam assessment.

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Diverse skills, i.e. independent, critical, creative learners imbued with practical skills.

A knack for current affairs and digital media is an added asset.

STAFF CONTACT:

Mr. A. Chatora (Lead Media Teacher)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	4890

COURSE:

Students will have two teachers for GCSE PE as there are two theory elements to the course.; anatomy and physiology section and the social cultural section. The course is ideal for students who wish to move onto A level PE.

Some of the topics covered are:

- ◆ Individual differences affecting participation and performance
- ◆ Fatigue/stress
- ◆ Injuries – identification, causes and treatment
- ◆ Differences between aerobic and anaerobic exercise
- ◆ Characteristics and benefits of leisure and recreation
- ◆ Health, fitness and a healthy lifestyle
- ◆ Training principles
- ◆ Diet and effects on performance
- ◆ School influences – opportunities and pathways available for becoming and remaining involved in physical activities
- ◆ Emotional health and wellbeing
- ◆ Cultural and social factors affecting participation
- ◆ International and other factors (such as media, technology and sponsorship)

ASSESSMENT:

GCSE PE Theory is assessed by a one and a half hour examination at the end of the course. This constitutes 60% of the total marks.

The Practical aspect is assessed over three sports. Students can perform two of the following roles over the four sports: Player/Performer, Organiser, Leader/Coach, Choreographer, Official. The students will also complete one written assessment piece on evaluating and improving performance. The Practical assessment is 40% of the total marks. A residential will be on offer to give students the opportunity to be assessed in outdoor adventurous activities.

STAFF CONTACT: Mrs S Masterson (Head of Physical Education)

SECTION 2

◆ MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Students not studying a language will already have a BTEC subject preselected on their option's form

◆ HISTORY

◆ GEOGRAPHY

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE Spanish/French	AQA	8659

COURSE:

The GCSE courses in French and Spanish build on the vocabulary, phrases and grammar that students have learned in Years 7, 8 and 9. At GCSE students study three key themes: Identity and culture; Local, national, international and global areas of interest; Current and future study and employment. Students then develop their opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/communities where the language students are studying is spoken. The aim is to expand cultural knowledge while developing language skills.

The skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are all practised and developed. Students build on their grammatical knowledge, moving into more complex areas, and also learn strategies to help them understand and communicate more easily.

ASSESSMENT:

This is a linear qualification which means that students are assessed by examination at the end of the course. Students may be entered for either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier but must be entered at the same tier for all four skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing). Each language skill is worth 25% of the marks. There are a number of different tasks in each paper, involving short and long texts. Students individual speaking assessment is conducted by their language teacher.

STAFF CONTACTS: Mr P. Marshall (Head of Department),

Mrs K. Gregory, Ms C. Mayes

DRAMA

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8261

COURSE:

Drama encourages students to develop a personal interest in why drama matters. Students will be inspired, moved and challenged by studying a broad, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. Students will work imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts, generating, developing and communicating ideas. They will consider and explore the impact of social, historical and cultural influences on drama texts and activities. Students will reflect on and evaluate their own work and the work of others. They will develop and demonstrate competence in a range of practical, creative and performance skills.

Practical work

- ◆ Show commitment to their group
- ◆ Carry out research to share with their group
- ◆ Set targets after each rehearsal to ensure their piece progresses effectively

ASSESSMENT:

- ◆ Knowledge and understanding of Drama and Theatre
- ◆ Study of one set play from a choice of six
- ◆ Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Students will also have a written exam of 1 hour and 45 minutes which is worth 40% of the GCSE.

A qualification in Drama demonstrates that students have:

- ◆ Shown creativity and imagination
- ◆ Worked constructively with others
- ◆ Worked to, and met, deadlines
- ◆ Learnt to communicate effectively
- ◆ Interpret their own and others' ideas through performance

STAFF CONTACT: Miss Charlotte Vine (Drama Teacher)

ART AND DESIGN

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	4200

COURSE:

In Art and Design students will be able to discover new and interesting ways of making art. In Year 10, they will learn a wide variety of skills, techniques and processes. Students will explore the work of artists and develop their own ideas. The coursework consists of a portfolio of work which includes at least one extended project. The exam is set in January of Year 11 where students respond to a question, followed by a ten hour practical exam (across 2 full school days) in April. Commitment to independent learning and a passion for art are essential.

Student comments:

“It is a lot of work, but the outcome is worth it.”

“I have learnt loads of new skills, for example, lino printing, inks and painting.”

“I always look forward to my art lesson. Although it is hard work, it brightens up my day”

Choose Art and Design if you enjoy developing ideas, experimenting with materials and taking inspiration from artists. It is a practical and creative course that gives you the chance to develop new skills within the subject. If you liked Key Stage 3, you will love Key Stage 4!

ASSESSMENT:

GCSE Art is 60% coursework and 40% exam.

STAFF CONTACT: Ms. L Kennett (Head of Creative and Expressive Arts and Design Technology).

HISTORY

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8145

COURSE:

This course explores History through the ages with a particular focus on American History, Elizabethan England 1568-1603, Conflict and Tension (the War in Asia 1950-75) plus a thematic study of Britain: Health and the people c1000 to the present day.

Paper 1 will focus on understanding the Modern World with a particular focus on the War in Asia, 1950-75. This will cover the Korean War of 1950-53 and the war in Vietnam. The section on America 1920-1973 will focus on the opportunities and inequalities experienced by a range of people who lived in America at the time. We will look at the campaign for civil rights for both African—Americans and women as well as the Depression of the 1920s, the impact of World War Two on America and life in the 1950s.

Paper 2: Section A includes a thematic study which covers British History, Health and the People:1000-to the present day and will cover topics like surgery, the impact of war and religion on medicine over time and the treatments people used.

Section B covers Elizabethan England and includes a study of an Elizabethan building/ significant place.

ASSESSMENT:

The exam comprises of two papers, both worth 50% of the GCSE and each exam lasts 1 hour 45 minutes. Each exam is split into 2 sections, A and B. Paper 1 has 10 questions and Paper 2 has 8 questions.

Students with a Flightpath of 4+ would be most suited to this course.

STAFF CONTACT: Ms Riches (Head of Department), Mr Jardine, Mr Maddox, Ms Waddams, and Miss Constantine

GEOGRAPHY

Level	Exam Board	Course Code
GCSE	AQA	8035

SECTION 3

COURSE:

Choosing GCSE Geography will enable students to achieve Ebacc as part of their Key Stage 4 education. It is a solid academic subject and well respected by universities and employers alike.

Geography helps students to make sense of the world around them. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. Our GCSE course has a good mix of topics such as urban issues, world development, extreme environments, rivers and hazards to name but a few. The course will give students the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions which affect our world and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

There are so many ways of learning in geography. It is very practical with opportunities to learn new skills such as modern computer based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques.

The course follows the new AQA specification and consists of three components:

Living with the physical environment – 35%

Challenge of natural hazards – Tectonic hazards, weather and climate

Physical landscapes in the UK – Coasts and rivers.

The living world – Ecosystems and Tropical Rainforests, Hot deserts OR cold environments

Challenges in the Human Environment – 35%

Urban issues and challenges

Changing economic world

Resource management

Geographical application – 30%

Issue evaluation

Fieldwork

Fieldwork:

There is a requirement that students attend two days of fieldwork in which a human environment and physical environment will be studied. This will be assessed in an exam at the end of Year 11.

ASSESSMENT:

There will be three written exam papers at the end of Year 11 (split as above). Each paper is an hour and a half long and will be a progressive paper consisting of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions.

♦ **ART & DESIGN**

♦ **DRAMA**

♦ **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GCSE)**

♦ **MEDIA STUDIES**

♦ **FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

♦ **GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION**

♦ **PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS**