## Year 9

 Options Evening

## The Curriculum 2023-25



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## English Baccalaureate

- Ensures students study a broad and balanced curriculum
- To achieve this, students must gain a grade 5 or above in 6 different academic subjects: English, Maths, Double or Triple Science, Geography, History, Computer Science and a Foreign Language



## How should I pick my Options?

## What to consider when choosing options:

- What subjects are you successful in?
- What subjects do you enjoy? (as you will be studying them for the next two years)
- What might you want to study after GCSEs? Do you need a GCSE in a specific subject if you want to study it Post-16?
- What do you study in the subject and is it right for you?


## How should I pick my Options?

## Common Mistakes:

- Picking a subject because your friends are doing it
- Picking a subject based on the teacher(s)
- Deciding without discussing it with your family
- Deciding against a subject because you don't want a career in it


## Core Subject - English Language

## Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

1 hour 45 minutes
80 marks - 50\% of final grade
Section A: Reading of one fiction text
1 short form question ( $1 \times 4$ marks)
2 longer form questions ( $2 \times 8$ marks)
1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Section B: Writing - descriptive or narrative
1 extended descriptive or narrative writing task (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and

## Perspectives

1 hour 45 minutes
80 marks - 50\% of final grade
Section A: Reading of two linked texts, one nonfiction and one literary nonfiction
1 short form question ( $1 \times 4$ marks)
2 longer form questions ( $1 \times 8,1 \times 12$ marks)
1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)
Section B: Writing - expressing a viewpoint
1 extended writing task that expresses a viewpoint ( 24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Spoken Language: Non-examination assessment - Teacher assessed (0\%)
A formal presentation using Standard English, up to 10 minutes in length, followed by questions.

## Core Subject - English Literature

## Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Century

 Novel1 hour 45 minutes
64 marks - 40\%

Section A: Shakespeare
Macbeth
Section B: The $19^{\text {th }}$ century novel
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Robert Louis Stevenson
Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

$$
2 \text { hours } 15 \text { minutes }
$$

$$
96 \text { marks - } 60 \%
$$

Section A: Modern Texts
Lord of the Flies - William GoldingBlood Brothers - Willy Russell
Section B: PoetryLove and Relationships Anthology Cluster
Section C: Unseen Texts

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## Core Subject - Maths

## Students study the Edexcel Exam Board

- Mathematical methods
- Problem solving
- Mathematical reasoning
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.


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## Additional Maths

This is a level 3 qualification that is offered to students who are interested in studying Maths at A Level

Students study this qualification in year 11
Assessment: 2 Hour written paper


## Core Subject - Science

| Year 10 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Biology | Chemistry |  | Physics |  |  |
| 4.1 | Cell biology | 5.1 | Atomic structure <br> and the periodic <br> table | 6.1 | Energy |
| 4.2 | Organisation | 5.2 | Bonding, <br> structure and <br> the properties of <br> matter | 6.2 | Electricity |

Year 11


## Core Subject - Science

How is it assessed?

All pupils will sit 6 papers ( 2 in each discipline)
All papers are 1 hr 15 mins
Each paper is weighted $16.7 \%$ of overall combined grade
Final grade is cumulative over the 6 papers


## Core Subject - Science



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## Core Subject - Spanish

## What You Will Study

The course is built around three themes:

- Identity and Culture
- Local, National and Global Areas of Interest
- Current and Future Study and Employment



## Assessment

- Four equally weighted examinations in Year 11 (Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing)
- AQA offer two tiers of entry: Foundation (Grades 1-5) and Higher (Grade 5-9)


## Core Subject - Spanish

## Career Pathways

- Translation and Interpreting
- Education
- Finance

- Tourism
- Government, Charity and International Developments
- Journalism


## Support from School

- Tutors - one-to-ones next week in registration time.
- Teachers - subject teachers $=$ experts!
- Careers - Eyes on the Prize; Unifrog account; careers guidance; trips and visiting speakers


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## Reference to Sixth Form

## Attendance

Give percentage attendance for the previous year and the current academic year to date. If attendance is below the national average please comment.

Punctuality: Link this to the percentage of 'lates' over the current academic year to date:
Good 5\%
Acceptable 5-12\%
Concern 12\%+
Behaviour: This should relate to behaviour during Years 10 and 11. If the student has been excluded at all, their behaviour must be poor. If 'concerned' please provide further details in the comment box together with any behaviour difficulties and the support strategies that have been used.

Commitment to learning: This refers to attitude to study throughout their time at the school.
Relationships with students: An average student can work co-operatively with fellow students.

Relationships with staff: An average student can work co-operatively with teachers.


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## Next Steps

- Form - sent out today for you to make your choices on
- These must be completed by Friday $10^{\text {th }}$ February

Following this:

- Discussions with tutors
- Career discussions (if requested)
- Confirmation of choices - May 2023



[^0]:    *In Year 11, our core offer increases to 6 lessons a week as students attend an additional lesson 3.10-4.00 in English, Maths and Science.

