



KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM INFORMATION BOOKLET

"I HAVE COME IN ORDER THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE LIFE – LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS."

JOHN 10:10



THE CURRICULUM FOR KEY STAGE 4

FROM 2025



(ELECTRONIC VERSION - PROVIDE LINK)

This information booklet will support Year 9 students in their next educational step as they prepare and make choices for their GCSE years (Key Stage 4). This booklet contains information about each Key Stage 4 course delivered and will therefore act as an important reference guide over the next couple of years. There is further curriculum information on our school website under the tab Curriculum Information. Here you can select each individual subject and find Curriculum Intents, which include the sequencing of topics in Year 10 and Year 11.

(<https://becketonline.co.uk>)

Central to our Key Stage 4 design is providing all students with a curriculum that continues to be broad, balanced, knowledge-rich and ambitious. We want to provide all students with the opportunity to study subjects which they enjoy and facilitate their aspirations for the future. This broad range of subjects is designed to ensure that doors are not closed off to students in terms of future progression.

Alongside this, our curriculum structure still enables the best possible chance of achieving the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) for those who wish to continue to study a language. This is a recognised measure of success at the age of 16. The EBacc recognises where students have secured a Grade 5 or higher across a core of academic subjects including English, Maths, Sciences, Computing, Geography, History and Modern Languages (French and German).

THE IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGES (FRENCH AND GERMAN)

While studying a language is not compulsory, we highly recommend that students consider taking a language as one of their options.

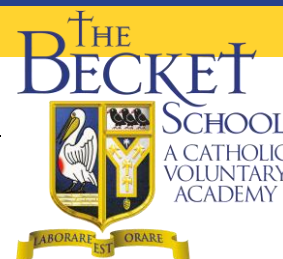
- **Part of the EBacc:** Languages contribute to achieving the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), which is highly valued by universities and employers. The EBacc provides students with a strong academic foundation and keeps future opportunities open.
- **Boosts Employability:** Employers highly value language skills, especially in global industries such as business, law, and technology.
- **Supports Career and Academic Success:** Universities and employers regard language qualifications as a mark of academic excellence.
- **Enhances Cognitive and Communication Skills:** Language learning improves memory, problem-solving, and critical thinking abilities.

We encourage you to explore the benefits of language study and discuss this option with your child.



THE CORE CURRICULUM

The core GCSE Curriculum consists of Religious Studies, English Language, English Literature, Maths, and Science. In addition to this all students have lessons in Core Physical Education and Personal Development, but these are not examined.



CORE SUBJECTS

All students will study **ALL SUBJECTS** from this list.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Religious Studies | GCSE (Level 2) qualification | Page 8 |
| English Language | GCSE (Level 2) qualification | Page 9 |
| English Literature | GCSE (Level 2) qualification | Page 10 |
| Maths | GCSE (Level 2) qualification | Page 11 |
| Science | GCSE (Level 2) qualification | Pages 12-14 |
| Personal Development | Non-exam (core) | Page 15 |
| Physical Education | Non-exam (core) | Page 16 |

OPTION CHOICES

Alongside the core subjects, students also study 3 additional GCSE subjects during Key Stage 4. One of these additional GCSEs (Geography or History) has already been chosen by students at the end of Year 8, supporting the building of core knowledge and skills in Humanities. Descriptions of these GCSE courses are on pages 18 and 19 of this booklet.

There are now 2 remaining GCSE options for students to choose in Year 9 from the following list.

- French
- German
- Art
- Drama
- Music
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Food and Nutrition
- PE

We also offer Childcare and Information Technology to selected students by invitation only. These courses are a BTEC and are equivalent to a GCSE.

All the above courses are described on pages 22 – 32 of this booklet.

Teachers will advise students on which options are most suitable for them and there will be the opportunity for discussions between parents, students and teachers at the Year 9 face-to-face parents evening on Thursday, 24th April 2025. On the following pages there is an outline of the Year 9 option choice process.

NEXT STEPS

Please read through the enclosed materials with your child to ensure they understand clearly what each course involves.

Please contact relevant Leaders of Learning to ask questions and use the Parents' Evening on **Thursday, 24th April 2025** to discuss your son/daughter's choices.

Support and guide your child by:

- Asking them what they enjoy and what they are good at.
- Encouraging them not to choose subjects just because their friends are doing it or because they really like the teacher.
- Encouraging them to listen to their teachers and consider carefully the school's recommendations.

WHO TO CONTACT

For procedural/general options queries, please contact Mrs Shenton (s.shenton@becketonline.co.uk).

For subject-specific queries, please contact the relevant Leader of Learning:

| Subject | Staff | Contact |
|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Art | Miss Dunstall | r.dunstall@becketonline.co.uk |
| Childcare | Ms King | j.king@becketonline.co.uk |
| Computer Science | Mr Muldoon | j.muldoon@becketonline.co.uk |
| Design Technology | Mr Fowler | r.fowler@becketonline.co.uk |
| Drama | Mr Lund | i.lund@becketonline.co.uk |
| English | Mr Carberry | j.carberry@becketonline.co.uk |
| Food and Nutrition | Mrs Harding | r.harding@becketonline.co.uk |
| French | Mrs Simpson | l.simpson@becketonline.co.uk |
| Geography | Mr Hall | g.hall@becketonline.co.uk |
| German | Mrs Simpson | l.simpson@becketonline.co.uk |
| History | Mr Corden-Mistry | j.corden-mistry@becketonline.co.uk |
| Information Technology | Mr Ward | h.ward@becketonline.co.uk |
| Maths | Miss Birley | b.birley@becketonline.co.uk |
| Music | Miss Jackson | m.jackson@becketonline.co.uk |
| PE | Mr Marlow | d.marlow@becketonline.co.uk |
| Personal Development | Mrs Harrison-Scott | l.scott@becketonline.co.uk |
| RE | Mrs L Ryder | l.ryder@becketonline.co.uk |
| Science | Mr Lindley | j.lindley@becketonline.co.uk |

YEAR 9 OPTION CHOICE - THE PROCESS



KEY STAGE 4 INFORMATION ASSEMBLY TO YEAR 9 STUDENTS AND DISTRIBUTION OF KEY STAGE 4 INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE HOME TO PARENTS

FRIDAY, 21st MARCH 2025



RECORDED PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS ON KEY STAGE 4 INFORMATION

FRIDAY, 21st MARCH 2025



ADVICE AND GUIDANCE TO STUDENTS IN LESSONS / FURTHER ASSEMBLIES

MONDAY, 24th MARCH 2025 – FRIDAY, 4TH APRIL 2025



GENERAL OPTION FORM (GOOGLE FORM) EMAILED TO PARENTS

TUESDAY, 22nd APRIL 2025



YEAR 9 FACE-TO-FACE PARENTS EVENING TO DISCUSS PROGRESS AND YEAR 9 GENERAL OPTIONS

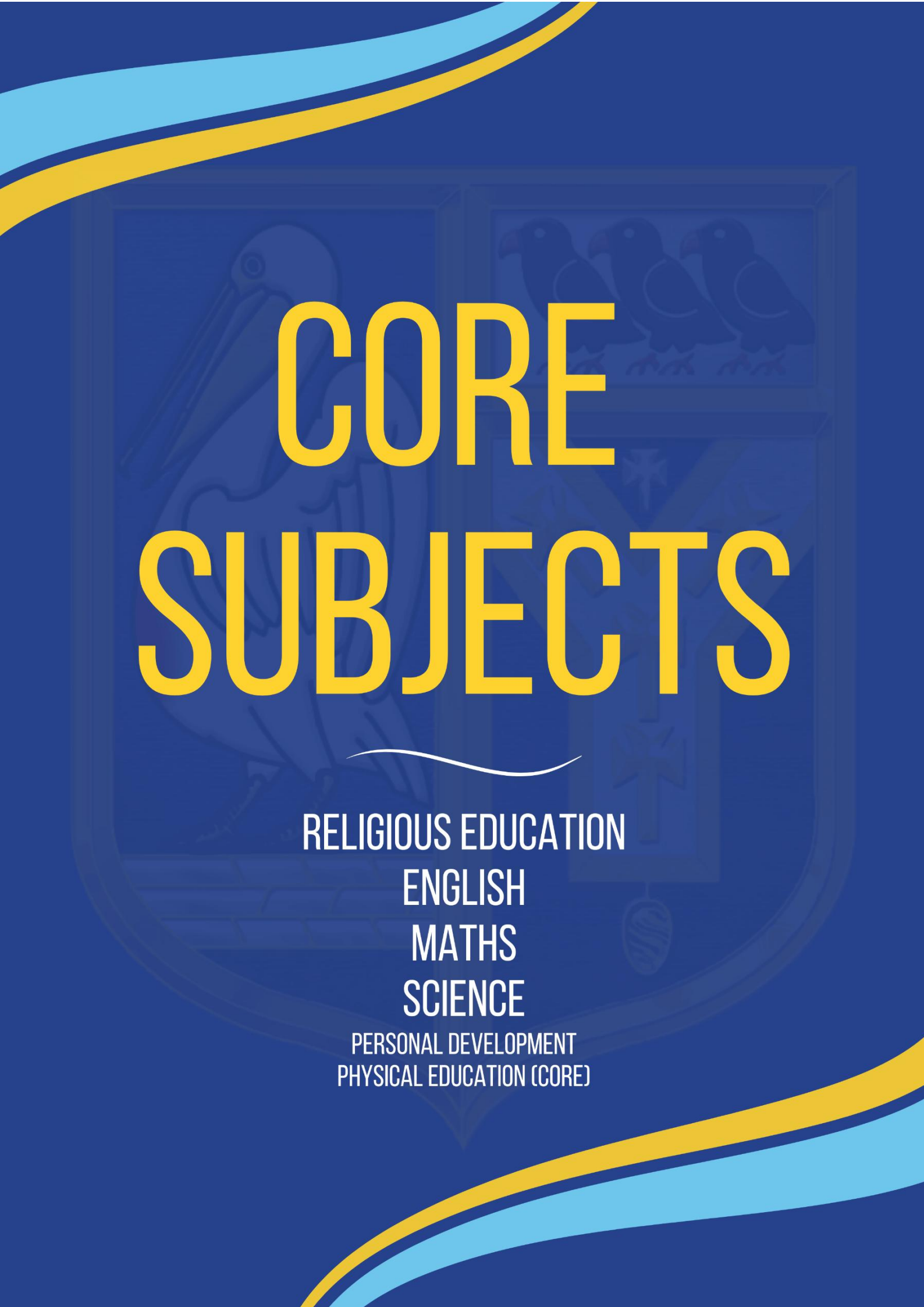
THURSDAY, 24th APRIL 2025



DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF OPTION CHOICE VIA GOOGLE FORM

FRIDAY, 25th APRIL 2025

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHANGES OF CHOICE WILL NOT NORMALLY BE POSSIBLE.



CORE SUBJECTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ENGLISH

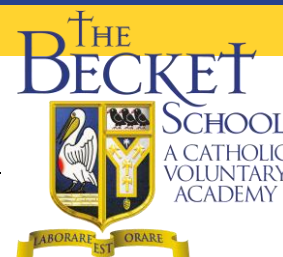
MATHS

SCIENCE

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (CORE)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** EDUQAS (ROUTE B)

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Religious Education is the “core of the curriculum” in a Catholic school (Pope St John Paul II) and provides the opportunity to learn about our Catholic faith and the rich traditions of the Church. The aim of the Religious Education department is to develop theologically literate students who can engage in a fully informed critique of all knowledge. The study of Religious Education challenges you to investigate some of life’s most important questions such as “Where do we come from?”, “Where are we going?” and “What matters?”

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

The course is delivered through a variety of lesson activities and learning and teaching styles. There will be the opportunity for individual study, creative learning, reading, quizzing and meaningful discussions. Students will be studying the following exam papers from the Eduqas GCSE 1-9 Religious Studies Route B:

| Foundational Catholic Theology | | Applied Catholic Theology | | Study of a World Religion |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Origins and Meaning | Good and Evil | Life and Death | Sin and Forgiveness | Judaism |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beliefs on Creation The Bible, Forms of Expression in Painting Forms of Expression in symbolism Practices – Catholic Social Teaching, CAFOD, SVP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good, Evil and Suffering Trinity Incarnation Jesus and Moral Authority Sculpture and Statuary Popular Devotions and Practices in Catholic Communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Death and the Afterlife Eschatology The Magisterium Artefacts Music and the Funeral Rite Prayer within Catholic Communities in Britain and elsewhere. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime and Punishment Redemption Church Buildings Sacraments Mission and Evangelisation in Britain and elsewhere. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nature of God Messiah Covenant Life on Earth The Afterlife Worship in Britain and Elsewhere The Synagogue and Daily Life Rituals Festivals. |

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You can expect Religious Education to give you confidence and powers of self-expression, the ability to express your opinion and listen to others, as well as having an open mind. You will need to write extended answers and respond to evaluation questions. Religious Education gives you important skills in debating and decision-making.

ASSESSMENT

All students will follow the Eduqas GCSE in Religious Studies with three external examinations taken at the end of Year 11. This GCSE course is 100% exam based.

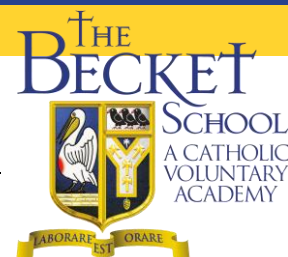
WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

You could move on to an A level in Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics and New Testament Studies. The skills acquired in this subject are transferable to a number of other courses and in particular those that lead to careers with people.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

A qualification in Religious Education is of value in any career especially law, the civil service, and education.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

All students do GCSE English Language. The course will develop

- Speaking and listening skills
- The ability to write well in a variety of styles
- Understanding of texts, both fiction and non-fiction.

You will be asked to use a range of writing styles such as creative writing and persuasive writing. You will also be asked to give your opinions on ideas raised within your reading.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will read a number of literary fiction and non-fiction texts. You will explore texts, analysing how writers use a range of devices to create particular effects. You will also analyse the ways in which writers present thoughts, feelings and ideas in different texts. You will complete one individual speaking and listening task.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need to have an ability to express ideas clearly in both reading and writing and be able to support viewpoints with evidence. Enjoying fiction and non-fiction whilst being able to think about how writers are presenting their ideas is very useful, as is the ability to analyse texts and think about bias. You will explore how people vary their use of language and structure to suit the purpose and audience of their writing.

ASSESSMENT

Students will sit two examinations, both of which test reading and writing skills and contribute to the final grade.

| Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing | Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives |
|--|---|
| Written exam, 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of the English Language GCSE | Written exam, 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of the English Language GCSE |
| Section A: Reading <i>One literature fiction text</i> | Section A: Reading <i>One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text</i> |
| Section B: Writing <i>One piece of descriptive or narrative writing</i> | Section B: Writing <i>One piece of writing that represents a viewpoint</i> |

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Students' speaking and listening skills are tested through an extended individual presentation which they deliver to an audience. This assessment is marked by class teachers and moderated by AQA. This task does not contribute to the GCSE grade but is recorded as a separate award on students' English Language exam certificate.

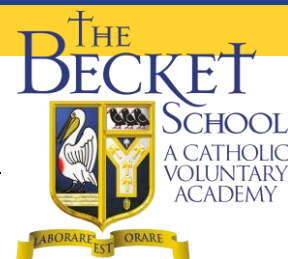
WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

A wide range of subjects at A Level but particularly English Language, English Literature, Drama, History, Media Studies and some Modern Foreign Language courses.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Communicating effectively in both the spoken and written form are regarded as essential in most professions, as is reading critically. English Language is particularly important for careers such as Law, Journalism, Media and charity work.

ENGLISH LITERATURE



LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

All students do GCSE English Literature. The course is designed to develop skills in interpretation and language analysis and to introduce pupils to literature that is both historical and contemporary. Students will study a range of texts including poetry, prose and drama.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will study a range of texts through reading, discussion, role play and group work. You will also explore texts in context and consider how this affects meaning and the reception of texts at that time as well as today. You will discuss characters and themes in texts, whilst also comparing the ways writers present thoughts, feelings and ideas in different texts. You will learn how to analyse and compare unseen poems.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need to have an ability to express ideas clearly in both reading and writing and be able to support viewpoints with evidence. Enjoying fiction whilst being able to think about how writers are presenting their ideas is very useful, as is the ability to analyse texts and think about themes and ideas. You will analyse how authors use language and structure to create meaning.

ASSESSMENT

Students will sit two examinations, both of which test reading and writing skills and contribute to the final grade.

| Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19 th -century novel | Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry |
|---|---|
| Written exam, 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of the English Literature GCSE | Written exam, 2 hours 15 minutes 60% of the English Literature GCSE |
| Section A: Shakespeare <i>One extended response on a set section of the play studied (Merchant of Venice or Macbeth); reference to the whole play is required.</i> | Section A: Modern texts <i>One extended response on An Inspector Calls</i> |
| Section B: the 19 th -century novel <i>One extended response on a set section of the novel studied (Frankenstein or A Christmas Carol); reference to the whole novel is required.</i> | Section B: Poetry <i>One comparative essay on a set poem and one other poem from the Worlds and Lives anthology.</i> |
| | Section C: Unseen poetry <i>One response to an unseen poem and one response comparing this with a second unseen poem</i> |

WIDER READING

To support their study, students should read a range of literature from a variety of contexts.

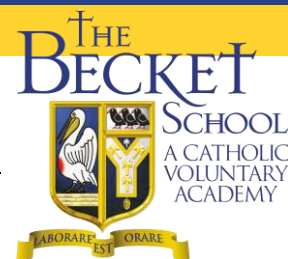
WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

A wide range of subjects at A Level but particularly English Language, English Literature, Drama, History, Politics, Media Studies and some Modern Foreign Language courses.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Communicating effectively in both the spoken and written form are regarded as essential in most professions, as is reading critically. English is particularly important for careers such as Law, Journalism, Media and charity work.

MATHEMATICS



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** OCR

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Everybody needs mathematics! It is part of the core curriculum and a skill for life. Mathematics is highly regarded and teaches the transferable skills necessary for further study in a range of subjects. Whatever career, job or course you go on to follow, mathematics will be needed in some shape or form. Indeed, for some courses or jobs a basic grasp of mathematics is an essential requirement, and you will not get far without being able to measure, count, calculate and solve problems.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

Mathematics covers a wide variety of topics and is taught in a variety of ways. There are five main areas of mathematics: number work, shape and space, algebra, proportion and data handling. You will use ICT to help with some areas and will learn how the different areas fit together. Problem solving is now an important part of the maths syllabus and you will be taught how to breakdown and solve a problem that combines lots of areas of maths. You will complete individual work, work in pairs and investigational tasks as you learn basic skills and how to apply them. You will need to be prepared to learn both facts and formulae to be ready for the exam.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need to be confident with numerical work both with and without a calculator, and you will be able to improve these skills through practice. You will also need to be able to present your working in a clear and logical way, working quickly but accurately. The skill of understanding and applying standard methods to solve problems will be essential.

ASSESSMENT

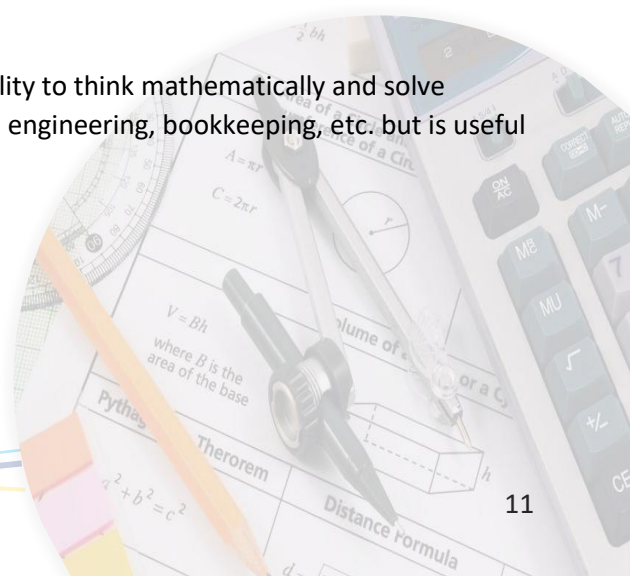
Assessment is currently by final examination. There will be three papers for each level (foundation or higher), two to be completed with a calculator and one without. Each paper is equally weighted, and any topic may appear in any paper. There is no coursework. You will regularly be given targets to aim for and will be told at which level you are working. Topics are tested regularly in years 9, 10 and 11 so that you can monitor the progress you are making.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

As well as leading on to AS/A2 courses in Mathematics and Further Mathematics and Core Maths, you will also need a good standard of mathematics to study other subjects at A-Level, including Psychology and Physics. Maths GCSE also supports a range of other courses that involve pure maths or statistics, such as Geography, Sociology, Business Studies, Sports Science, etc. A grade 4 in GCSE maths can enable you to enter some vocational courses at college at a higher level.

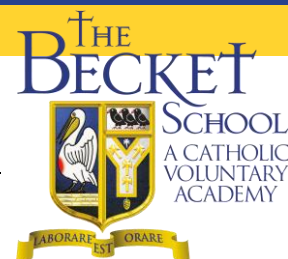
WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Most careers require a good level of mathematical knowledge or the ability to think mathematically and solve problems. Mathematics opens the door to careers such as accountancy, engineering, bookkeeping, etc. but is useful for many more.



SCIENCE

LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: AQA

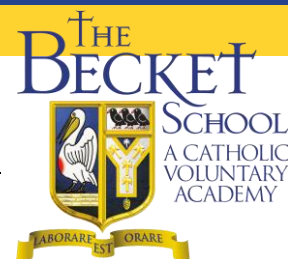


In Science there are two pathways at Key Stage 4.

Year 9 provides a firm grounding in the fundamentals in preparation for GCSE science. There will then be a guided choice of pathways in Year 10.

| Pathway 1 (Combined Science – Double Award = 2 GCSEs) | Pathway 2 (Separate Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics = 3 GCSEs) |
|--|--|
| <p>The majority of learners will follow a Combined Science pathway, culminating in two GCSEs in Science, which are a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics content. Combined Science allows learners more time to consolidate their understanding and to build the required skills, which we hope will enable them to achieve higher grades. We expect a number of students taking combined science to be accessing the highest GCSE grades. This pathway provides a good progression to A levels in the Sciences at The Becket School as currently a significant proportion of students who are studying A level sciences are students who took Combined Science.</p> | <p>A group of selected students will follow the Separate Science pathway, culminating in three GCSEs, one each in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It offers the full range of grades from 9 to 1. All three GCSEs require a good understanding of the fundamental ideas in science. All three GCSEs contain a blend of science for citizenship, application of science and scientific theories. This pathway is also a good progression to A levels in the Sciences at The Becket School.</p> <p>Students will be chosen for this course based upon their teachers' assessment of their suitability. This will not be based purely upon students who are aiming for the highest grades but will also take into account attitude to learning in Science. The Separate Science pathway requires a real commitment to independent study because of the demands of taking three GCSEs in the time normally allocated to two.</p> |

SCIENCE - COMBINED



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Science shapes the world in which we live, helps us to understand it and encourages a spirit of enquiry. This course emphasises scientific literacy – the ability to understand science in the world around us. It will enable students to recognise the impact of science, form opinions and understand key points in media reports.

The fundamentals of this content commence in Year 9, with some students progressing to the Separate Science pathway in Year 10.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will be studying the following modules:

| Biology | Chemistry | Physics |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cell Biology• Organisation• Bioenergetics• Infection & Response• Homeostasis & Response• Inheritance, Variation & Evolution• Ecology | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table• Bonding, Structure & the Properties of Matter• Quantitative Chemistry• Chemical Changes• Energy Changes• The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change• Organic Chemistry• Chemical Analysis• Chemistry of the Atmosphere• Using Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forces• Waves• Magnetism & Electromagnetism• Energy• Electricity• Particle Model of Matter• Atomic Structure |

These modules will be delivered through a variety of lesson activities, including practical work (some of which are Required practicals and will be assessed), group work, discussion and use of ICT.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

- A willingness to ask questions about science
- Research skills
- Organisational skills
- A confident approach to practical work

ASSESSMENT

There are six examinations in the summer of Year 11: two for Biology, two for Chemistry and two for Physics. Each exam will last 1 hour and 15 minutes and is worth 70 marks. There is a multiple-choice component on each paper. The Required Practical element taught during lesson time will also be assessed in the exams.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

This course could lead directly to academic study in Biology, Chemistry or Physics A Level, Science T levels, BTEC Science or an apprenticeship.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

A huge number of careers require knowledge of science e.g. medical secretary, medical technician, laboratory technician, dental nurse, science journalism, teaching etc. Further study at A Level may allow progression to study medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry – the list is endless.

SCIENCE - SEPARATE

LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

This course offers students the opportunity to study for three GCSEs in the time normally allocated to two. It is a fast paced, intensive course, of higher demand for students. However, by starting the foundations of GCSE in Year 9 we hope to make this option available to more students.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will study all the units in the Combined Science pathway along with some extra content in some of the units. In Physics there will be an additional topic on Space Physics. You will be studying the following modules:

| Biology | Chemistry | Physics |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cell Biology• Organisation• Bioenergetics• Infection & Response• Homeostasis & Response• Inheritance, Variation & Evolution• Ecology | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table• Bonding, Structure & the Properties of Matter• Quantitative Chemistry• Chemical Changes• Energy Changes• The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change• Organic Chemistry• Chemical Analysis• Chemistry of the Atmosphere• Using Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forces• Waves• Magnetism & Electromagnetism• Energy• Electricity• Particle Model of Matter• Atomic Structure• Space Physics |

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

In addition to the skills listed for Combined Science, you need to be able to work independently and effectively, be highly motivated, be well organised and be able to focus in lessons as the workload of 3 GCSEs is being covered in the time allocation of just 2 GCSEs.

ASSESSMENT

There are six examinations in the summer of Year 11: two for Biology, two for Chemistry and two for Physics. Each exam will last 1 hour and 45 minutes and is worth 100 marks. There is a multiple-choice component on each paper. The Required Practical elements taught during lesson time will also be assessed on the exams.

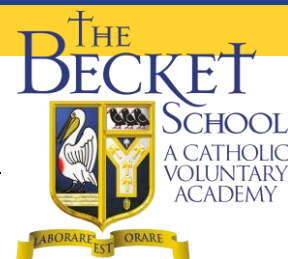
WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

This course could lead directly to academic study in Biology, Chemistry or Physics A Level, Science T levels, BTEC Science or an apprenticeship.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

A huge number of careers require knowledge of science e.g. medical secretary, medical technician, laboratory technician, dental nurse, science journalism, teaching etc. Further study at A Level may allow progression to study medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry or nuclear physics.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



LEVEL: CORE

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

The aim of the Personal Development programme at The Becket School is to enable and encourage all of our students to acquire the skills, understanding and key knowledge they need to thrive as individuals in all aspects of their lives and to become active and responsible citizens who can contribute to our society. At the centre of all that we do as a faith community is the understanding that each human person is made in the image and likeness of God. Our curriculum is underpinned by the Catholic ethos and Mission of the school, and these are the catalyst for the school's principal role of teaching our students to grow and flourish so they may live life in all its fullness and serve as valued contributors to our society.

"I have come so that they may have life, life in all its fullness" John 10:10

In John's Gospel, Jesus expresses that the aim of life is a life of fullness (human flourishing). In order to ensure you are equipped to live life to the full, to reach your full potential and flourish into your ultimate purpose, we have created a Personal Development programme, which will encompass Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education and Relationship and Sex Education (RSE).

Personal Development lessons will deal with real-life issues that affect all of us, our families and communities. This will all be done with a full understanding of our faith character and our lessons, in particular our Relationships and Sex Education, will be presented in accordance with the Church's moral teaching.

The Personal Development programme will cover four key stands:

- Relationships and Sex Education
- Physical and Emotional Well-being
- Identity and Community
- Risk and Safety
- Planning for the Future

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

To get the most out of your Personal Development lessons it is important that you listen, engage, get involved in class discussions and follow the 'ground rules' that will be established in your Personal Development classroom. There will be opportunities to ask questions (both publicly and privately if you prefer) and your teacher will support you through the programme.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION - CORE



LEVEL: CORE

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will be developing skills, knowledge and understanding through practical activities. You will be expected to experience a range of roles e.g. as official, coach, team leader, team member. You will practise and improve your performances. You should be able to apply your skills more effectively, using your increased knowledge and understanding of more advanced strategies and tactics.

You will participate in a variety of activities including invasion games, net games, striking/fielding games, athletics, dance and fitness activities. You will also have the option of becoming a sports leader by choosing to do a Level 2 Sports leadership course in Year 10.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

Physical skills; safety awareness; working with others; planning and evaluating; communication and listening skills; organisation.



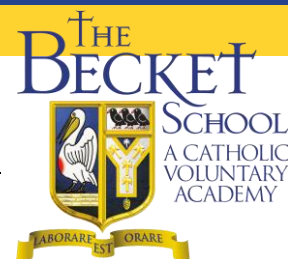


HUMANITIES OPTION

CHOSEN AT THE END OF YEAR 8

GEOGRAPHY
HISTORY

GEOGRAPHY



LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

The power of water to create varied and fantastic landscapes – from coasts to mountain valleys, the creative and destructive power of volcanoes and earthquakes, the beauty of the world, the wonderful diversity of our peoples. There is so much to celebrate and wonder about on our planet and so many issues about the ways in which we use it. We all need a greater awareness of the environment and the need for a sustainable use of the world's resources. Geography is one of the most varied and valuable courses that you can study at GCSE level. In a world that is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before, Geography has never been more relevant than it is today. Your role in that change will be increasingly important. Geography explains those changes and will provide you with an understanding that will help prepare you for future change.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

The emphasis is on student-centred learning to expand your Geographical knowledge and develop your practical and analytical skills, values, problem solving and decision-making abilities. You will also be involved in fieldwork trips outside the classroom and work with an interesting and large variety of resources.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

- An interest in the many fascinating and varied landscapes and many issues faced by the people of the world.
- The ability to support your ideas – in writing, in debate or in both.
- Evaluative thinking skills – you will be often asked to make a judgement backed up by evidence on a certain issue or topic.
- The ability to work under your own steam outside the classroom.

ASSESSMENT

- **Living with the Physical Environment** – 1 hour 30 minute exam with a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions. You will be tested on content from natural hazards, climate change, river and coastal environments and ecosystems.
- **Challenges in the Human Environment** – 1 hour 30 minute exam with a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions. You will be tested on content from urban and population issues, economic development and resource management.
- **Geographical Applications:** Issue evaluation – a resource booklet is given out 12 weeks before the exam and students work through the resources. Students will then complete a decision-making style exam using the booklet. Students will go on 2 fieldtrips. They will be asked questions in the exam about things they would have done on the day e.g. risk assessments and collecting data. This is a 1 hour and 15 minute exam.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

Success at GCSE can lead to A level Geography leading to university or vocational courses. Additionally, Geography also has links with many other subjects in the curriculum including all the Sciences, History, Economics, Politics, Business Studies, Sociology, Modern Languages and others.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

When it comes to careers, Geography is just about the most flexible subject, and amongst the most well respected qualifications. It is one of the nine 'facilitating' subjects that are regarded by the UK's top universities as being the most flexible for university entry. Geography related careers include environmental management, planning for urban and rural areas, cartography, jobs in Geographical Information Systems, teaching, geology. Geography at A Level can be very advantageous when applying for Law. Among other possibilities are journalism and the media, management and accountancy.

HISTORY

LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Through studying History, students gain an understanding not only of the past, but also of the world in which we live today. The study of History helps students develop important skills, such as evaluating evidence and constructing an argument supported with evidence.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

History is taught using a wide variety of teaching and learning activities. This is a broad-based course, and students will study the following:

- **Thematic Study - Migrants in Britain 800-present with a case study on Notting Hill 1948-70.**
Students will explore the continuity and changes in reasons why people have migrated to Britain. Students will also study the experiences of migrants in Britain and understand how migration has shaped modern Britain. A part of this topic is to focus in on migration from the West Indies to Notting Hill post-WW2. Students will explore how migration impacted the area and the challenges migrants faced in settling into post-war Britain.
- **British Depth Study - Anglo-Saxon and Norman England 1060-88**
Students look at Anglo-Saxon life and the impact of the Norman invasion from 1066. They consider how the Normans changed life in Britain looking at topics such as castles, the Feudal System and the Domesday Book.
- **Period Study – The American West 1835-1895**
Students look at the society and culture of the Native Americans and investigate how groups crossing their land (gold miners, Mormons, cowboys, farmers) disrupted this. They look at why these groups went West and the conflict between the different groups.
- **Modern Depth Study - Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39**
Students look at the impact of the First World War on Germany and study how this led to the rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany. Students consider themes such as how Hitler was able to come to power, what life was like in Nazi Germany, for all sections of society, including the Jews.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

An interest in History is important, during this course you will be studying very different topics. Being able to communicate your ideas clearly, both verbally and in writing is also important and a skill you will develop over the course of the GCSE. GCSE questions will assess a number of different skills; your ability to be able to analyse sources, explain the causes of events and make your own judgements. All of these skills are developed and strengthened on the course, but good levels of literacy will be required.

ASSESSMENT

All students sit the same examinations.

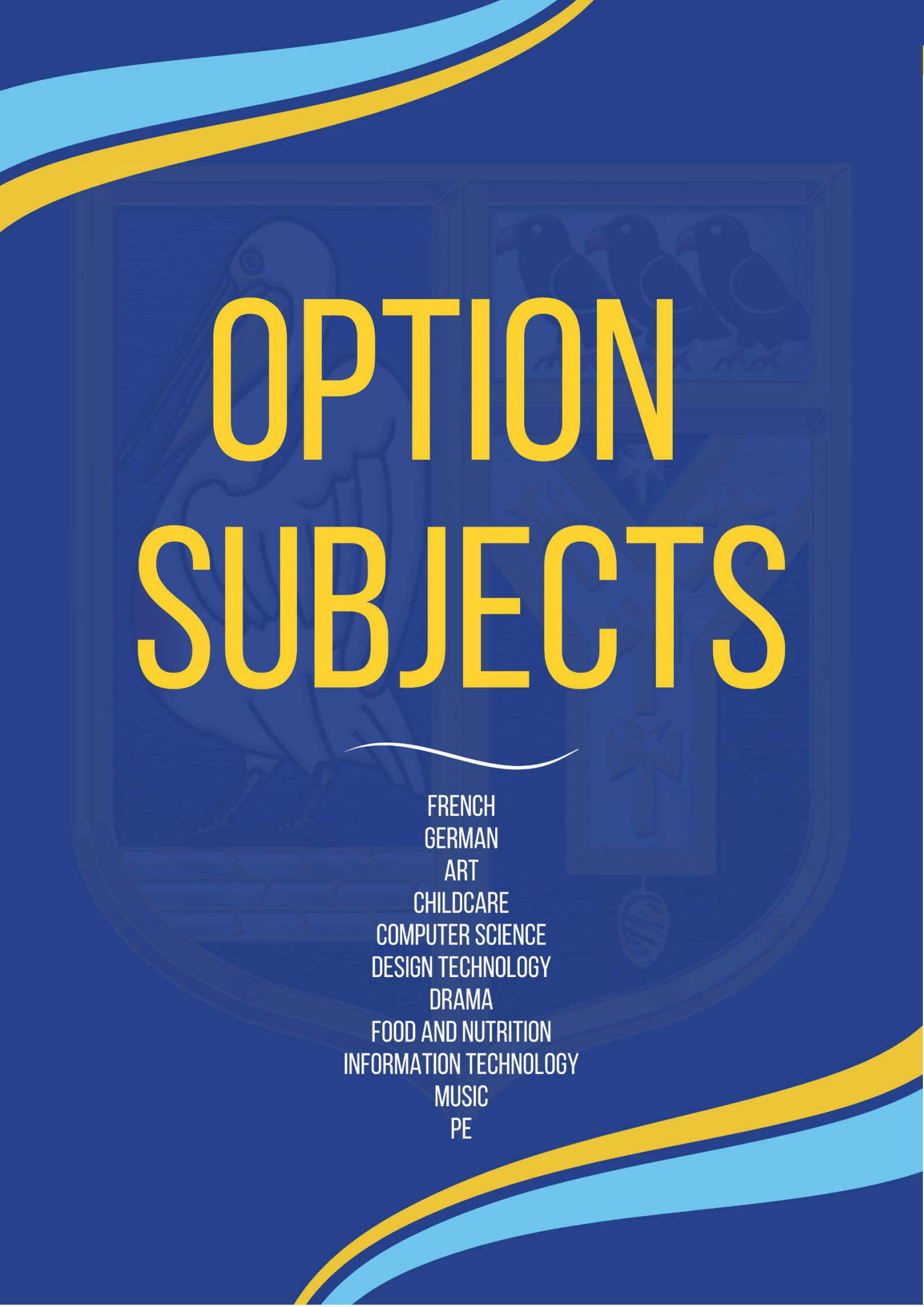
- Paper 1 – 30% - Migrants in Britain 800-present with a case study on Notting Hill 1948-70
- Paper 2 – 40% - American West 1835-95 and Anglo-Saxon and Norman England 1060-88
- Paper 3 – 30% - Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

Success in History could lead to the study of a wide range of A levels, including History, English Language and Literature and Politics. The skills you develop will also help for vocational courses, especially those that focus on communication.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

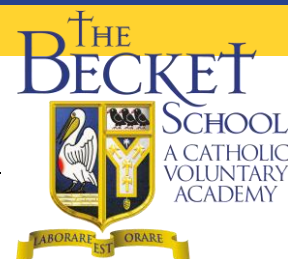
Obviously, History provides students with the knowledge and skills for careers related to the past, such as museum work. However, it also develops skills that provide a basis for a wide variety of careers, such as law and journalism, as well as being good preparation for further education.



OPTION SUBJECTS

FRENCH
GERMAN
ART
CHILDCARE
COMPUTER SCIENCE
DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
DRAMA
FOOD AND NUTRITION
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
MUSIC
PE

FRENCH



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

You will learn to understand a lot more French across all 4 skills – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing - but there are many other reasons for taking this GCSE course. If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE French is an excellent choice for you! You will be able to share your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak French. You will learn about the countries where French is spoken and get a lot more out of a trip there. You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for. You will learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of future careers, such as being able to communicate clearly, being confident about speaking in public, using problem-solving strategies, etc. You will create greater opportunities for yourself to work abroad, or for companies in the UK with international links. Many employers look for people who speak a foreign language.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will be developing your skills through our carefully constructed parallel texts which teach you key language knowledge and vocabulary in context. We have a strong focus on speaking French accurately with a good accent and on careful translation.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You already know a lot of the vocabulary and grammar you'll need for GCSE. You will build on what you have learnt in Years 7 and 8. You will extend your knowledge with a new focus on themes such as future plans and healthy living. Good organisation is important. A good memory is useful but don't worry if you forget words – you will have access to dictionaries, except in the exams themselves. Willingness to speak French and try out new words and phrases is vital. Knowing what words mean is important too and so you will need to spend some time at home learning vocabulary and consolidating work done in lessons. Your success will depend partly on the accuracy of your language.

ASSESSMENT

All four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will be assessed equally via exams at the end of the course, preparing you for using your French either at A- Level or later in the world of work.

WILL I BE ABLE TO VISIT FRANCE AS PART OF THE COURSE?

We hope to be able to offer a visit to France for our Year 10 students as part of their Key Stage 4 course and we are exploring new links for a possible exchange with a school in France. We will inform you of the details nearer the time.

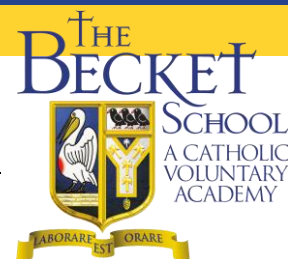
WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

French GCSE can lead to A-Level and to vocational courses or university and there are strong links to many courses such as Engineering, Law, Business Studies, Psychology, Medical Sciences, European Studies, Leisure and Tourism.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Languages are useful in many careers, in particular, business, interpreting, law and travel and tourism. Learning French can provide experiences such as working for L'Oréal in England or Ireland, EDF (the energy company), Bugatti, Michelin or Christian Dior. The list is endless!

GERMAN



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Employers are currently desperate for German speakers as Germany is the world's largest exporter. The German government is keen to support links with the UK and offers many opportunities to live and work abroad and the ability to communicate in other languages is essential for this. German is spoken in several places in the world, including Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and parts of northern Italy. Indeed, German is the most commonly spoken language in the EU. Learning German will not only give you the ability to communicate in a foreign language but will also help you to improve your overall communication skills which are needed for the world of work. In addition to this, language learning gives you a wider perspective and outlook of the world, allowing you opportunities of foreign travel and work in a foreign country. The German-speaking world is a fantastic mix of language, culture, people and food.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will be developing your skills through our carefully constructed parallel texts which teach you key language knowledge and vocabulary in context. We have a strong focus on speaking German accurately with a good accent and on careful translation.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

Good organisation is important, and a good memory is useful. An ability to recognise patterns and similarities in language is helpful. It also helps if you are a confident communicator.

ASSESSMENT

All four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will be assessed equally via exams at the end of the course, preparing you for using your German either at A Level or later in the world of work.

WILL I BE ABLE TO VISIT FRANCE AS PART OF THE COURSE?

We hope to once again be able to offer a study visit to Berlin in October of Year 11 which enables you to practise your language in real life situations and to gain a deeper understanding of the emergence of post-war Germany and how it has become the successful country it is today. The visit is extremely rewarding and leaves a long-lasting impression. We also hope to be able to offer a German Exchange. Exchanges are an ideal chance for you to experience first-hand what it is like to live in Germany and to speak in German with your host family. Speaking German in the country where it is a native language helps to inform your opinions on a range of topics which are useful for your assessments at GCSE and beyond.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

German GCSE can lead to A-Level and to vocational courses or university and there are strong links to many courses such as Engineering, Law, Business Studies, Psychology, Medical Sciences, European Studies, Leisure and Tourism.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Languages are useful in many careers, in particular, business, interpreting, law and travel and tourism. Learning German can provide experiences such as working for Siemens, BMW, Adidas, E. ON (the energy company) or making chocolate high up in the Austrian and Swiss Alps! The list is endless!

LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

- You enjoy Art and are interested in being creative and experimenting with materials and ideas.
- Designing and creating is exciting. We live in a visual world where many things are influenced by various types of design, from advertising and web design to cars and trainers, fashion and homes. Studying Art is a way of beginning to understand the amazing world we see around us.
- When studying Art, you will develop a range of skills such as decision-making, resourcefulness, creativity and you will be taught to investigate, analyse, experiment and to work independently, all of which are important skills you will need in other areas of your life.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will research the work of other artists, plan ideas for projects and aim to develop your own individual style. You will be using a variety of 2D and 3D materials and techniques such as drawing, painting, 3D construction and printing. You will experiment with them to find out what you are good at and to improve your skills.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

- A good imagination and the ability to see the world differently to the next person.
- Good observational skills and the ability to notice detail.
- Good organisation and the ability to see a task through to completion.
- A willingness to work hard!

ASSESSMENT

You will complete two main coursework projects, which are assessed in four main areas: collecting relevant information, experimenting with materials, developing imaginative ideas, and producing a final piece. Coursework counts for 60% of the final mark. For the final examination, you will be given a choice of themes and will have 10 weeks to plan your exam piece and to practise techniques. The exam takes place over 10 hours (2 school days) during which time you produce a final outcome. You can have teacher help during the research and planning but not during the exam. This counts for 40% of the final mark.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

You could go on to take A level Art and Design or a vocational qualification in Art or any other design-related subject.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Becket students who have taken A level Art have gone on to study degree courses in Architecture, Fashion Design, Textile Design, Primary teaching, Occupational Therapy, Theatre Design, Graphic Design, Product Design, Photography, in fact anything that is design-oriented and requires a creative approach.



CHILDCARE (VOCATIONAL)

LEVEL: BTECH LEVEL 2

BOARD:

EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

COURSE REQUIREMENT

This course is by invitation only and will be identified as an option choice on those students' Key Stage 4 option form.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Choose this subject if you enjoy caring for children and are considering a career that involves working with children under 8 years of age e.g. in a nursery or in a primary school setting.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

The course will introduce you to the basic skills and knowledge for looking after children in an educational setting.

- Introduction to working with children aged 0 – 5
- Growth and Development of Children 0 –5 years
- Learning through play
- Sharing learning experiences with children, especially in daycare settings
- Growth and development of young children
- How to Support children to play and the role of the adult
- Safeguarding young children
- Inclusive Practice

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need to

- be organised, patient and enjoy working with children.
- enjoy project work and portfolio building.
- be creative and enthusiastic in completing work which is based within real life contexts.
- Be good at explaining how social, economic and environmental factors can affect children.

ASSESSMENT

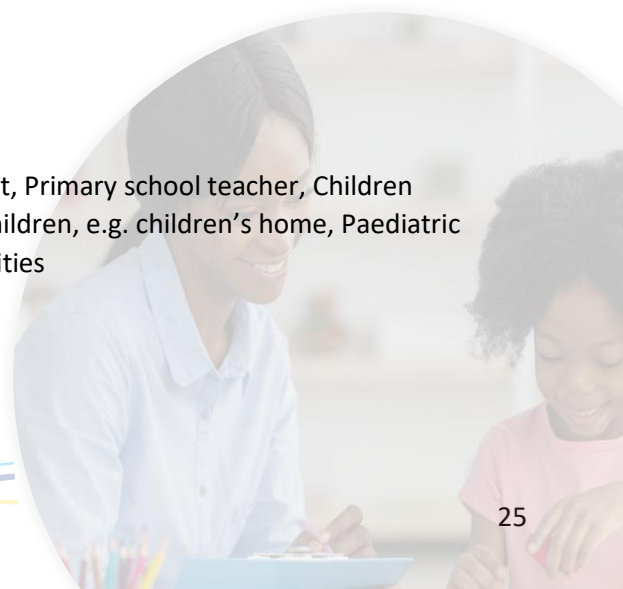
Students will be asked to complete and pass two assignments during the course which will be graded from Level 1 pass (equivalent to a 2 at GCSE) to Level 2 Distinction (equivalent to an 8 at GCSE). The evidence will be gathered using a range of methods, including observation, recording, and through the production of written assignments. There is one external assessment which has a range of different question types including multiple-choice, short answer and extended answer questions.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

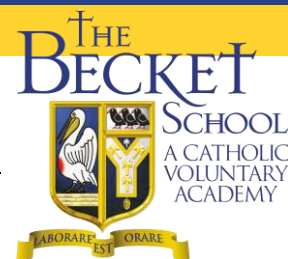
- NNEB Nursery Nurse
- BTEC Level 3 course e.g. Childcare and Education
- Level 2 Diploma course

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

Opportunities include Nursery Nurse training, Nanny, Classroom Assistant, Primary school teacher, Children therapist, social worker, Youth support worker, working and caring for children, e.g. children's home, Paediatric Nurse, auxiliary nurse, Family Support Worker and many other opportunities



COMPUTER SCIENCE



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

COURSE REQUIREMENT

It is recommended that students are working at a minimum of S9 level in Maths to access this course.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

- If you use a PC and find yourself thinking 'What is going on inside the computer when I press this?'
- If you are the kind of person who takes things apart to find out 'how they work'.
- If you have used software and thought 'I think I could make something better'.
- If you enjoy working hard to solve a problem.
- If you are willing to take up programming at home as a hobby.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

Topic 1: Computational thinking – Understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work; ability to follow, amend and write algorithms; ability to construct truth tables.

Topic 2: Data – Understanding of binary, data representation, data storage and compression.

Topic 3: Computers - Understanding of hardware and software components of computer systems and characteristics of programming languages.

Topic 4: Networks – Understanding of computer networks and network security.

Topic 5: Issues and impact - Awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, and the impact of computing on individuals, society, and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.

Topic 6: Problem Solving with programming - Understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work in relation to creating programs. Understanding how to decompose and analyse problems. ability to read, write, refine, and evaluate programs.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need to be able to solve problems independently and in groups. You will develop skills in designing algorithms and computer programming. You will also be able to evaluate the effectiveness and success of your solutions, as well as other peoples, and the impact computer systems can have on society.

ASSESSMENT

- **Paper 1** – Principles of Computer Science. 1 hour 30 minutes exam (50%)
- **Paper 2** – Application of Computational Thinking (Programming). 2 hours practical onscreen exam (50%)

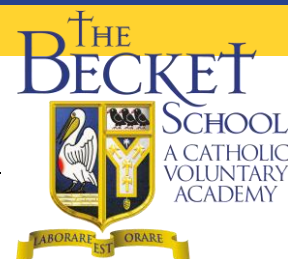
WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

The course is perfect for students wishing to study A Level Computer Science at the Becket School or similar courses at other institutions and for students looking to work in the computer industry in some capacity.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

If you take a GCSE in Computer Science and then go on to study at A Level or university, you will have an advantage over fellow students who are picking up the subject at these higher levels. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field. This course is also excellent preparation of you want to study or work in areas that rely on skills you will develop, especially where they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Design Technology is useful to anyone considering a career working with others. You will develop invaluable skills in finding problems and producing creative solutions to resolve them. If you have enjoyed making and modelling products during Key Stage 3 then this course will not only be rewarding for you but will also enable you to develop and improve many of your designing and making skills. So many careers require flair, creativity and the ability to problem solve, and these are skills which we focus on in DT alongside hands-on practical skills. More importantly, you will be able to engineer products and models of your own choice using our large selection of engineering-based machines and equipment.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

The GCSE specification gives students a deeper understanding of design manufacturing and production techniques used both in the classroom and industry. In year 10 small design and make activities will be completed to complement the theory knowledge the students require for their written exam. In year 11 students focus on a design task set by the exam board.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You can expect Design Technology to provide you with skills in developing thoughts, teamwork, problem solving, planning, sequencing and construction. If you have an enthusiasm and interest in these areas, then this subject is for you. A good range of practical skills is always useful. You will be expected to do some theory and folder work for coursework and most of this will be done during lessons. It is all about being creative, experimenting with new ideas and modelling them to produce an actual product.

ASSESSMENT

50% of the GCSE will consist of one main “research, design, make and evaluate” coursework folder project. This unit will contain research, 2D and 3D modelling, your practical skills (final product) and evaluation. The other 50% of the course will be completed in one exam paper taken at the end of year 11.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

A level – ‘Product Design’ and BTEC qualifications. The skills acquired in this subject are transferable to a number of other courses in particular Physics and Maths.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

The wide skills gained from studying this subject can lead to courses in Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, manufacturing, product design, architecture, construction and art and design.



DRAMA

LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: OCR

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Drama is an exciting, energising and challenging subject, which will enrich you on both a personal and academic level. Watching and being part of live performances, going through something together as a group and sharing the intense moments of happiness and nervousness is how we might describe the most precious moments of our lives and yet this is precisely what you go through when putting on a play or being on a Drama course. You will gain skills of creativity, interpretation and teamwork and consideration of wider social issues will enrich you as an individual.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

You will be exploring how to produce effective and imaginative theatre in a very practical way with workshops centred on performing, devising, directing, exploring different stage settings and designing innovative work. You will be developing your understanding of how to use texts and rehearsal techniques to bring performances alive.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need self-discipline, perseverance, the confidence to know that getting it wrong is fine and part of the process of producing something creative. A willingness to go outside your comfort zone is desirable as well as having social skills to work with a wide range of students. You will develop your creative, performance and analytical skills through listening, watching and participating in performance. Your social, teamwork and decision-making skills will be improved because of the group work and individual tasks, and you will have the chance to develop these further.

ASSESSMENT

There is a written exam for the subject worth 40% of the final mark and is divided into two sections. In Section A, you will be questioned as Director about a text we will have studied on the course through a series of practical workshops that will give you a thorough appreciation of transferring a text from the page to the stage. The questions will centre on how drama is developed and performed through a series of short and medium answers. For Section B, students will review one of the amazing pieces of theatre we see during the course, analysing the theatrical elements used and the effect on the audience.

There is also a coursework element:

- Unit 1: Presenting and Performing Texts – This unit is about starting you on your journey to becoming a professional actor and learning how to transfer a play from the page to the stage. We will explore a number of different texts providing you with experience of a range of styles and genres and helping you to extend range as an actor. You will be introduced to important key acting skills, examine how to hone them over time and will learn about the specific demands that acting makes on the body and mind. (30%)
- Unit 2: Devising Drama – In this unit you will develop an experience of the devising process, creating your own piece of Theatre using stimulus material – an image, poem, extract etc. We will introduce you to a range of theatre Practitioners stretching understanding of the way in which theatre can be used/formed for a variety of audiences. You will gain an understanding of how your piece is informed by, and speaks to the society you live in. (30%)

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

A Level Drama, here at the Becket School.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

What job does not involve working in a group of people solving problems? What jobs do not value confident people with high levels of interpersonal and communication skills? Creativity and imagination are vital in all employment.

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: AQA

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

If you are interested in food and cookery, then this is the subject for you.

You will learn new and exciting practical skills and learn the theory behind the subject. Food is essential to life and we now have a greater choice than ever before of what to eat. It is important to know what you are putting into your body and the effect it is going to have. This course will help you in your daily life, make you more aware as a consumer, increase your understanding of food, and could provide you with a challenging and fulfilling career within a variety of different employment sectors. The subject allows you to be creative, and it will enrich and complement your other studies.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

Lessons will involve a significant amount of practical work. You will start by focussing on learning the core practical skills and techniques that you will need for both your controlled assessment and your written examination. You will then move on to learn more about the science behind food, as well as core theoretical knowledge such as nutrition, health and food safety.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

Enthusiasm and an interest in the subject.

A good range of practical skills are useful, together with a willingness to try out new things.

It's all about being creative, experimenting with new ideas and really pushing yourself to succeed.

ASSESSMENT

Year 11 will focus on the two Controlled Assessment tasks where you demonstrate your practical cooking skills and scientific knowledge. Year 11 will also revisit the theory work in preparation for the examination.

50% of the GCSE is credited to two pieces of controlled assessment.

1. **Food science experiment task (worth 15% of the GCSE).**
2. **Food preparation task (worth 35% of the GCSE).**

The remaining 50% of the qualification is credited to a written examination in Year 11.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition.

The knowledge and skills acquired in this subject are also transferable to a number of different courses including Physical Education, Chemistry, Biology and Geography.

There are numerous courses available at college and university offering a varied focus depending on your specialism.

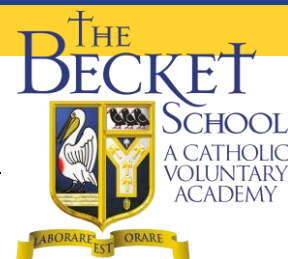
WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

The food industry is one of the fastest growing employment sectors, with excellent career prospects.

There is a huge demand for people to work in the food industry at all levels, and the subject would provide you with a varied and exciting career.

Hospitality and catering, food technology, recipe development, journalism, marketing, food photography, quality control, nutrition, dietetics and environmental health are just some of the areas that you could work in.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (VOCATIONAL)



LEVEL: BTECH LEVEL 2

BOARD: WJEC

COURSE REQUIREMENT

This course is by invitation only and will be identified as an option choice on those students' Key Stage 4 option form.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Are you passionate about technology? Do you like solving problems? Are you curious about all things digital, and want to learn some fantastic new skills? If so, it's time to uncover your potential – find out more about this exciting qualification today!

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

The qualification is made up of 2 units:

- **Unit 1: ICT in Society**
Explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software in society
Investigate how information technology is used in a range of contexts, including business and organisations, education and homes
- **Unit 2: ICT in Context**
Gain a working knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, automated documents and images
Learn to apply your knowledge and understanding to solve problems in vocational settings

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

- Communication
- Coping with rapid changes in technology
- Critical thinking Designing, programming, testing and evaluating software systems
- Learning independently
- Numeracy and data handling
- Problem solving
- Research Taking on responsibility
- Time management.

ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through a mixture of exams and controlled assessments.

- **Unit 1** will be assessed through an exam which is worth **40%** of your qualification. The exam will last 1 hour and 20 minutes, it will be made up of short and extended response questions.
- **Unit 2** will be assessed with project work (no exam) which is worth **60%** of your qualification. As part of this assessment, you will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

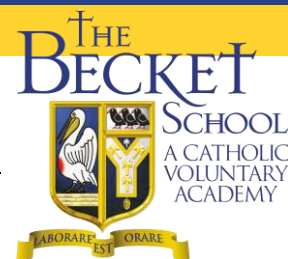
WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

The ICT industry offers a wide range of exciting opportunities which include:

- Data analyst
- Digital content producer
- Systems engineer
- Web marketing manager.



MUSIC



LEVEL: GCSE **BOARD:** OCR J536

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Music is often associated with developing intelligence! GCSE Music encourages you to be creative and broadens your background knowledge of different styles of music from a variety of genres and periods in time. You develop confidence as you perform on your instrument or voice, and you learn to co-operate with others in ensemble performances. The study of Music also shows to future employers that you have been committed over a long period to developing a skill.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

Lessons will be made up of both practical elements, where you work on your individual and ensemble performing and composing, and theoretical elements, where we will look at different genres of music such as film and pop music, as well as rhythms from around the world. You will also have the opportunity to use the PCs to develop your use of music technology and recording skills.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

You will need to be able to sing or play an instrument. You will need the ability to work on your own and to cooperate with others. As part of their homework, all students who study GCSE Music are expected to attend at least one extra-curricular group at school relevant to their ability, in order to develop work with other musicians. You will use your imagination and creativity as your compositions develop. In addition, you will also develop your research and analytical skills.

ASSESSMENT

GCSE Music is an academic course where performance and composition work count for 60% of the final mark and the historical listening and appraising examination counts for 40% of the final marks. The areas of study are:

- Integrated task – composition and solo performance: 30% of the marks
- Practical portfolio – composition and ensemble performance: 30% of the marks
- Listening and Appraising Music: 40% of the marks

All work is recorded in school prior to the examination, but the composition and performance assignment is moderated externally. The Listening examination is assessed by an examiner.

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

A level Music, Music Technology, Performing Arts and BTEC Performing Arts. Many musicians also study languages or are keen scientists as the skills are transferable.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

It tells a prospective employer that you are creative, dedicated, and able to work in a group and on your own. It demonstrates that you are self-disciplined, well organised and that you have good listening and communication skills. A-level music students often go on to study medicine, law and science-related courses, as well as working in performing, the media, the entertainment and leisure industries, sound recording, music therapy, local music services, arts administration, instrumental tuition and education.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

LEVEL: GCSE BOARD: OCR

WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Do you like sport? Do you like learning new sports? Would you like to be rewarded for playing the sports you enjoy? Would you like to study sport? If you have answered yes to these questions, then you will enjoy GCSE Physical Education. This course will help you to develop your confidence, self-esteem and a sense of team spirit. The qualification can lead to further study of Physical Education or Leisure and Recreation or to a career within the sport and leisure industry.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING IN LESSONS?

In this course you will improve your knowledge and performance in a range of practical activities and will have the chance to learn about the principles and practices which lead to good performance. You will have a combination of theory lessons and practical lessons.

You will study three components:

- **Physical Factors affecting performance:** – how the body functions during physical activity; how the body adapts due to training and diet; training principles and training plans to optimise results; data collection, evaluation and analysis.
- **Socio-cultural Issues and Sports Psychology:** – sports psychology theories and concepts; socio-cultural influences on participation and performance; sports impact on society; social groups engagement patterns; promotion of participation; commercialisation including sponsorship and the media; ethical issues.
- **Performance within Physical Education:** - Part 1: Performance of sport from the approved lists, one individual sport, one team sport and a third sport from either list; Part 2: Analysis of a physical performance.

WHAT SKILLS WILL HELP ME DO WELL IN THIS SUBJECT?

As you are assessed in **THREE** sports, it is **highly recommended** that you are participating in at least one sport at a competitive level outside of your normal school PE. You should also have an obvious interest and involvement in other sports on the approved list. You need good organisation and communication skills, the ability to work well with others in different roles, a good level of practical ability and the motivation to practise and improve. All students who study GCSE PE will have to attend at least one after-school practice per week to help improve practical performance.

ASSESSMENT

The exam covers the full range of grades from 9 - 1.

Component 1 Physical Factors Affecting Performance

Component 2 Socio-cultural Issues and Sports Psychology

Component 3 Performance within Physical Education

Practical Performance in three activities equally weighted at 20 marks each

Analysing and Evaluating Performance 20 marks

| Marks | Duration | Weighting |
|-------|----------|-----------|
| 60 | 1 hour | 30% |
| 60 | 1 hour | 30% |
| 80 | NEA | 40% |

WHAT POST-16 COURSES COULD THIS LEAD TO?

A level in Sport and Physical Education, NVQ in Leisure and Recreation and a range of BTEC National qualifications.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SUBJECT OFFER?

There are many opportunities in the sports and leisure industry i.e. professional, coach, manager, physio, sports management, health and fitness specialist, sports psychologist etc. as well as PE teaching.

THE BECKET



SCHOOL
A CATHOLIC
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