



LONG CLOSE SCHOOL

**GCSE BOOKLET
FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS
AND PARENTS
2016-2017**



What is GCSE English Language all about?

The GCSE English course covers a wide range of skills: writing, reading, speaking and listening. Whilst studying English you will improve the fluency and accuracy of your own written expression. You will read a variety of texts learning to distinguish between fact and opinion; to follow an argument; to select material appropriate to purpose and to appreciate writers' use of language. You will develop your ability in speaking and listening so that you can communicate clearly for different purposes and to different audiences.

How does it follow on from what I have learnt before?

Much of what you will do in your GCSE English course will develop from the work you have done at Key Stage 3.

Why do I have to take GCSE English Language?

English is a compulsory subject for GCSE because it develops a lot of the basic skills you will need to use in a variety of ways throughout your life. You will use many of the skills you develop in GCSE English in the other subjects you are studying – for example expressing your ideas fluently and accurately in GCSE History and Geography. Most college and 6th form courses require GCSE English as an entry requirement as do many jobs and careers.

English Language Specification

Unit 1- Fiction and Imaginative Writing (40% of overall GCSE)

Overview of content

- Study selections from a range of prose fiction.
- Develop skills to analyse and evaluate 19th-century fiction extracts.
- Develop imaginative writing skills to engage the reader.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

Overview of assessment: 1 hour 45 minute examination at the end of Year 11

- Section A – Reading: questions on an unseen 19th-century fiction extract.
- Section B – Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.

Unit 2 – Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing (60% of overall GCSE)

Overview of content

- Study a range of 20th- and 21st-century non-fiction texts (including literary non-fiction).
- Develop skills to analyse, evaluate and compare non-fiction extracts.
- Develop transactional writing skills for a variety of forms, purposes and audiences.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

Overview of assessment: 2 hour examination at the end of Year 11

- Section A – Reading: questions on two thematically linked, unseen non-fiction extracts.
- Section B – Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extracts.

Speaking and Listening – endorsement

Although the 'Speaking and Listening' component will not directly affect your overall grade, you will be awarded a Speaking and Listening endorsement on your GCSE certificate in recognition of these crucial skills. There will be opportunities throughout the year to perform before an audience and to develop speaking and listening skills. There will be three formal speaking and listening assessments in class that will contribute directly to the GCSE Speaking and Listening endorsement.

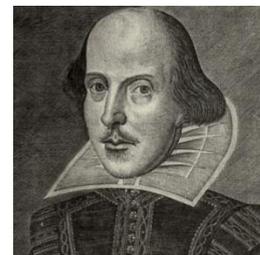
What other skills might I develop?

You will develop a wide range of spoken and written communication skills as well as improving your ability to work with others, to analyse and solve problems and to take charge of your own learning. You should also be able to develop your ICT capabilities.

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from 9 - 1.

English Literature GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
Edexcel Specification Code: 1ET0
Teacher: Ms Cutler



What is GCSE English Literature all about?

In your GCSE Literature course you will study pre and post 1914 poetry, prose and drama. You will learn how to respond to texts critically, sensitively and in detail and develop an awareness of their social, historical and cultural contexts.

How does it follow on from what I have learnt before?

You will already have gained much experience of reading and responding to literature in your English lessons so far. This will be of help to you in GCSE English Literature.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you would like to explore literature further and learn more about the ways in which authors achieve their effects.

English Literature Specification

Unit 1 – Shakespeare and Post-1914 Literature (50% of overall GCSE)

Overview of content

- Study a **Shakespeare play (Macbeth)** and a **post-1914 British play ('An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley)**.
- Develop skills to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.
- Develop skills to maintain a critical style and informed personal response.

Overview of assessment: 1 hour 45 minute examination at the end of Year 11

- Section A – Shakespeare: a two-part question, with the first task focused on an extract of approximately 30 lines. The second task is focused on how a theme reflected in the extract is explored elsewhere in the play.
- Section B – Post-1914 British play or novel: ONE essay question.

Unit 2 – 19th-Century Novel and a Poetry since 1789 (50% of overall GCSE)

Overview of content

- Study a **19th-century novel** and a **poetry collection** from the Edexcel poetry anthology.
- Develop skills to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.
- Develop skills to maintain a critical style and informed personal response.
- Develop comparison skills.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – 19th-century novel: a two part question, with the first part focussed on an extract of approximately 400 words. The second part is an essay question exploring the whole text.
- Section B – Part 1: ONE question comparing a named poem from the Edexcel poetry anthology to another poem from that collection. Part 2: ONE question comparing two unseen contemporary poems.

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from 9 – 1.

What could I do next with my GCSE English Literature?

A good grade at GCSE will help you to move on to an AS, A level or vocational A level course or a job of your choice. If you enjoy GCSE English Literature, you might want to continue with this subject, or study a related one such as Languages or History

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature Course Plan

Year	Term					
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
10	English Language Unit 2: Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing	English Language Unit 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing	English Literature Unit 1: Post-1914 Literature – ‘An Inspector Calls’	English Literature Unit 2: 19th-Century Novel (either <i>Frankenstein</i> , <i>Jekyll and Hyde</i> or <i>A Christmas Carol</i>)		Revision of English Language units and exam practice
11	English Literature Unit 1: Shakespeare’s ‘Macbeth’		English Literature Unit 2: Poetry from the Edexcel poetry anthology	Revision	Revision	Examinations

Mathematics GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
 Edexcel Specification Code: 1MA1
 Teacher: Mr Brazier



Content domains

There are six content areas covered within the specification. The table below shows the content areas and their weighting across both tiers. The weightings reflect the size and demand of the content domains and take into account the ability range for each tier.

Weighting of marks

<u>Foundation tier</u>		<u>Higher tier</u>
Number	25%	15%
Algebra	20%	30%
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	25%	20%
Geometry and measures	15%	20%
Probability	15%	15%
Statistics		

A summary of the topics to be studied is shown further down the page. It is anticipated that students commence the course at the Higher Tier level although entry to each module will be based on the outcome of attainment in class and mock exams given. The most successful maths students are the ones who work consistently throughout the course. Prep and personal study is an important part of the subject and an extensive prep is scheduled for each week which students may prefer to break down into smaller chunks. Students are advised to revise regularly.

Topics studied. Please note that there is no choice in the exams so students are advised to try their best to master all of the topics listed in order to achieve the highest grade possible.

Unit	Title
<u>1</u>	<u>a</u> Calculations, checking and rounding
	<u>b</u> Indices, roots, reciprocals and hierarchy of operations
	<u>c</u> Factors, multiples, primes, standard form and surds
<u>2</u>	<u>a</u> Algebra: the basics, setting up, rearranging and solving equations
	<u>b</u> Sequences
<u>3</u>	<u>a</u> Averages and range
	<u>b</u> Representing and interpreting data and scatter graphs
<u>4</u>	<u>a</u> Fractions and percentages
	<u>b</u> Ratio and proportion
<u>5</u>	<u>a</u> Polygons, angles and parallel lines
	<u>b</u> Pythagoras' Theorem and trigonometry
<u>6</u>	<u>a</u> Graphs: the basics and real-life graphs
	<u>b</u> Linear graphs and coordinate geometry
	<u>c</u> Quadratic, cubic and other graphs
<u>7</u>	<u>a</u> Perimeter, area and circles
	<u>b</u> 3D forms and volume, cylinders, cones and spheres

	<u>c</u>	Accuracy and bounds
<u>8</u>	<u>a</u>	Transformations
	<u>b</u>	Constructions, loci and bearings
<u>9</u>	<u>a</u>	Solving quadratic and simultaneous equations
	<u>b</u>	Inequalities
<u>10</u>		Probability
<u>11</u>		Multiplicative reasoning
<u>12</u>		Similarity and congruence in 2D and 3D
<u>13</u>	<u>a</u>	Graphs of trigonometric functions
	<u>b</u>	Further trigonometry
<u>14</u>	<u>a</u>	Collecting data
	<u>b</u>	Cumulative frequency, box plots and histograms
<u>15</u>		Quadratics, expanding more than two brackets, sketching graphs, graphs of circles, cubes and quadratics
<u>16</u>	<u>a</u>	Circle theorems
	<u>b</u>	Circle geometry
<u>17</u>		Changing the subject of formulae (more complex), algebraic fractions, solving equations arising from algebraic fractions, rationalising surds, proof
<u>18</u>		Vectors and geometric proof
<u>19</u>	<u>a</u>	Reciprocal and exponential graphs; Gradient and area under graphs
	<u>b</u>	Direct and inverse proportion

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from 9 - 1.

Additional Science GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
Edexcel Course Number: 2SA01
Teacher: Mr Sargeant



Unit B2: The components of life *Unit code: 5BI2F/5BI2

Externally assessed 25% of the total GCSE - taken in June 2017

Overview of content

This unit is split into three compulsory topics:

- The building blocks of cells
- Organisms and energy
- Common systems

Overview of assessment

- This unit is assessed through a one hour, 60 marks, tiered written examination, containing six questions.
- The examination will contain a mixture of question styles, including objective questions, short answer questions and extended writing questions.

Unit C2: Discovering chemistry *Unit code: 5CH2F/5CH2

Externally assessed 25% of the total GCSE – taken in June 2017

Overview of content

This unit is split into six compulsory topics:

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Ionic compounds and analysis
- Covalent compounds and separation techniques
- Groups in the periodic table
- Chemical reactions
- Quantitative chemistry

Overview of assessment

- This unit is assessed through a one hour, 60 mark, tiered written examination, containing six questions.
- The examination will contain a mixture of question styles, including objective questions, short answer questions and extended writing questions

Unit P2: Physics for your future *Unit code: 5PH2F/5PH2H

Externally assessed 25% of the total GCSE - taken in June 2017

Overview of content

This unit is split into six compulsory topics:

- Static and current electricity
- Controlling and using electric current
- Motion and forces
- Momentum, energy, work and power
- Nuclear fission and nuclear fusion
- Advantages and disadvantages of using radioactive materials

Overview of assessment

- This unit is assessed through a one hour, 60 marks, tiered written examination, containing six questions.

- The examination will contain a mixture of question styles, including objective questions, short answer questions and extended writing questions.

Unit ASCA: Additional Science controlled assessment *Unit code: 5SA04

Externally assessed 25% of the total GCSE - taken in December 2016

Overview of content

- For this unit, students will complete one or more controlled assessment tasks related to Unit B2, C2 or P2 content.
- Each task consists of three parts. Part A is planning activity. Part B is an observation, collecting primary and secondary evidence. Part C consists of conclusions related to the primary and secondary evidence collected in Part B.

Overview of assessment

- This unit is internally assessed under controlled conditions.
- There will be three tasks available each year – one task from B2, one task from C2, and one task from P2.
- Each task has three parts - Part A: Planning, Part B: Observations and Part C: Conclusions.
- The total number of marks available for the three parts is 50.
- Students must attempt all three parts of a task.
- If they attempt all tasks, then the best marks from Part A, B and C will be submitted for the unit.

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from A*-G.

Religious Studies
Student/Parent Guide
Edexcel Course Number: 2RS01/2RS08
Teacher: Mr McCarthy



Is this the right subject for me?

Religious Studies is the right course for you because it is about you, your life and the issues you will face when you leave school and go into the multi-ethnic, multi-faith society which is the UK.

The course also has the following advantages for you.

- GCSE Religious Studies involves a lot of thinking and writing and shows you are aware of other people's beliefs and the nature of the society you live in.
- It helps you to think through some of the big issues of life about which adults argue all the time.
- It helps to remove the ignorance that causes prejudice, hatred and violence in our world (for example many wars are caused through misunderstandings about religion).
- It also gives you the opportunity to explore religious and moral beliefs in a safe and questioning environment so that you can become sure of your own beliefs and explain them clearly to others.

Religious Studies is not about making you 'religious', it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious and moral issues.

These are the topics we study:

Religion and Life:

BELIVING IN GOD

- Religious upbringing
- Religious experience
- The argument from design and belief in God
- The argument from causation and belief in God
- Scientific explanations of the world and agnosticism and atheism
- Unanswered prayers
- Evil and suffering
- How the media portrays religion

MATTERS OF LIFE AND DEATH

- Beliefs of life after death
- Different attitudes towards abortion
- Different attitudes towards euthanasia
- How the media portrays life after death

MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

- Changing attitudes to marriage and family life
- Attitudes towards sex outside marriage
- Attitudes towards divorce
- Why family life is so important
- Different attitudes to homosexuality
- Different attitudes to contraception

COMMUNITY COHESION

- How attitudes to the roles of men and women have changed
- Attitudes towards equal rights
- The UK as a multi-ethnic society

- Promoting community cohesion
- How to promote racial harmony
- The UK as a multi-faith society
- Issues raised living in a pluralist society
- How the media portrays community cohesion

Religion and Society:

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Bible as a basis for making moral decisions
- The authority of the Church for making moral decisions
- The role of the conscience when making moral decisions
- Using situation ethics as a guide to making moral decisions
- Human Rights
- The democratic and electoral process
- Christian teachings on moral duties and responsibilities
- Genetic Engineering
- Cloning

ENVIRONMENTAL AND MEDICAL ISSUES

- Global warming
- Forms of pollution and their solutions
- The scarcity of natural resources
- Stewardship
- Infertility
- Transplant surgery

PEACE AND CONFLICT

- The UN and world peace
- Promoting world peace
- Why wars occur
- The Just War Theory
- Different attitudes towards wars
- Bullying
- Conflicts within families
- Teachings on Forgiveness and reconciliation

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

- The needs for law and justice
- Theories of punishment
- Capital Punishment
- Drugs and alcohol – social and health problems

How will I be assessed?

There is now no coursework. For the full course, you will be assessed through two 1½ hour exams. Unit 1 and Unit 8 are now taken at the end of Year 11 (May/June 2017).

What can I do after I've completed the course?

The main advantage of GCSE Religious Studies is that it prepares you for life and gives you the skills you will need to make the decisions every adult faces.

However, it is also an excellent preparation for A Level Social Sciences (law, sociology, psychology etc) as well as A Level Religious Studies, History, English etc. In addition, many jobs appreciate the skills GCSE Religious Studies

will give you, for example medicine, the police, the armed forces and the caring professions (social work, nursing, probation service etc).

Overview

Unit	Mode of assessment	Weighting
Unit 1: 5RS01 Religion and Life Based on a Study of Christianity and at Least One Other Religion	100% examination	100%

Unit	Mode of assessment	Weighting
Unit 8: 5RS08 Religion and Society Based on a Study of Christianity and at Least One Other Religion	100% examination	100%

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from A*-G.



Geography GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
AQA Course Number: 9030
Teacher: Mr Powell

What is GCSE Geography all about?

- You live in the world – why not find out more about the challenges and opportunities it offers, and how to get involved?
- Discover how people are using different environments, both your own and those in other parts of the world
- Investigate issues of sustainability – will the Earth still be able to provide us with all the resources we take for granted now?
- How have different landscapes developed – what are the great natural forces involved?
- How do tourists affect the areas they visit – what are the benefits and challenges?
- What really causes ‘natural disasters’ like floods, earthquakes and volcanoes? How can people cope with them?

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that:

- is relevant to the world you live in, and to your future
- encourages you to discuss current affairs and issues
- focuses on the environment
- involves practical work outdoors
- is studied through investigation, not just listening and reading
- develops a full range of skills that will be useful in other subjects you study, and in employment

How does it follow on from what I have learned before?

You have already developed a range of relevant skills and knowledge from your study of Geography. These will be of great help in GCSE Geography. The GCSE course will take you further. It will introduce you to new skills and new places and new ideas. You will also be able to apply what you are learning and understand more about how people’s decisions shape the world we live in.

What about exams?

You will take both exams at the end of year 11 and hand in one item of controlled assessment. You will be given your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be graded from A* to G. The first paper tests the Physical geography unit, while the second paper focuses on Human geography. Both papers will include questions based around information you have learned on the course. There is a choice of questions, depending on which topics you have studied. Each question is broken down into a number of shorter parts. There will be a range of skills related questions in each exam. You may have to complete a graph or sketch, for example, or find and use information from maps and photographs

What about the controlled assessment?

You will do some fieldwork as part of your course, where you go out and put your skills and knowledge into practice. The information for this will not come from textbooks or videos, but will be an opportunity for you to investigate what is happening in the real world. You must write up a report of your investigation, including diagrams to present the information you have found out. This is marked by your teacher and the marks go towards your final exam result. You will have plenty of time to carry all this out, and it means that you won’t just be judged on how well you do on one day in the exam.

What other skills might I develop?

Geography is an ideal subject for developing a full range of skills. You will learn how to research information from a range of sources and present it in a variety of ways, both written and in diagrams. You can get experience of manipulating data, using statistics and ICT software such as databases, spreadsheets and graphics packages. Your fieldwork will help you to develop the skills of organising your own time, and working and co-operating with others. You will also learn to review your own work and progress. These 'transferable' skills will not just be useful in your study of Geography, but will help you make progress in many of your other subjects too, both at GCSE and beyond. They are also skills that are highly valued by employers, and will be useful in the world of work.

What could I do next with GCSE Geography?

A GCSE in Geography is a stepping stone to a whole range of future opportunities. The skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment. A good grade at GCSE will help you move on to any AS, A level or vocational A level course. If you enjoyed your Geography GCSE, you might want to continue with this subject, or study a related subject. Biology, Geology, Environmental Science, Government & Politics, Economics, Travel & Tourism and Leisure & Recreation all have close links with some of the material you studied for this GCSE. Alternatively, you may wish to consider a work-related course like a BTEC First or National Award. Employment opportunities where your geographical skills will be particularly valued include journalism and media, the law, engineering, business management, ICT, environmental management, teaching, economic planning, marketing, leisure, recreation and tourism.

Unit 1: Physical Geography	37.5% of the full GCSE
We shall focus on 4 of the 7 topics. In the Autumn and Spring terms we shall cover The Restless Earth and Rocks, Resources and Scenery from Section A and Water on the Land and The Coastal Zone from Section B.	
External examination	
Summary of Content:	
Section A	Section B
The Restless Earth	Water on the Land
Rocks, Resources and Scenery	Ice on the Land
Challenge of Weather and Climate	The Coastal Zone
Living World	
Style of Assessment: 1 hour 30 minute examination	
Candidates answer three questions, one from Section A and one from Section B plus free choice of one other.	

Unit 2: Human Geography	37.5% of the full GCSE
We shall focus on 4 of the 6 topics. In the Summer term of Year 9 we shall cover Population change. In the Autumn term of Year 10 we shall cover Changing Urban Environments and Tourism. In the Spring Term we shall cover Globalisation.	
External examination	
Summary of Content	
Section A	Section B
Population Change	The Development Gap
Changing Urban Environments	Globalisation

Changing Rural Environments Tourism

Style of Assessment: 1 hour 30 minute examination

Candidates answer three questions, one from Section A and one from Section B plus free choice of one other.

Unit 3: Local Fieldwork Investigation

25% of the full GCSE

Controlled Assessment will take place in the Spring and Summer Terms of Year 10 with any final work completed at the start of Year 11.

Local Fieldwork Investigation

Marked out of 60. Maximum word guidance of 2000. 6 hour write-up under direct supervision.

- **Task Setting:** Centres will select a task from a choice of 11 provided by AQA 2 years prior to submission.
- **Task Taking:** Candidates will work under the direct supervision of a teacher at all times, with the exception of research involving primary and/or secondary data collection.
- **Task Marking:** Centres will mark the candidates' work which will then be moderated by AQA.

All exams and the Controlled Assessment are taken/submitted in during the Summer of Year 11 (May/June 2017).

Spanish GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
Edexcel Course Number: 2SP01
Teacher: Mrs McCauley



Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that offers:

- a range of skills and a variety of activities with topics that include media, entertainment & youth culture, education, training & employment and social activities, fitness and health.
- a personalised, student-centred approach to study. The Edexcel GCSE lets you make key choices. In consultation with your teacher, you can choose the speaking and writing topics.
- potential for linking work to ICT - 'surfing the net', sending e-mails, using multi-media facilities and other practical ICT applications will be actively encouraged.

It will appeal to all types of students including those interested in travel, culture and people from different countries, as well as those who always have something to say!

How does it follow on from what I have learned before?

You have developed important language skills and knowledge at key stage 3 (Years 7-9). The GCSE course will build on this and introduce you to a wider range of language structures and vocabulary. You will learn to recognise these and to apply your new knowledge to different contexts.

What about exams?

You will take one paper in listening and one paper in reading. Speaking and writing will be carried out in class over the two years. Marks will be awarded positively and are mostly allocated for 'communication' in the foreign language. You will also need to provide some answers in English (Listening and Reading papers).

What about my results?

You will receive a grade from A*-G according to your performance across all papers. Results will be available on Thursday 24 August 2017.

Is there any controlled assessment?

Yes. You must submit two speaking tests conducted with the teacher and two writing pieces carried out in class. These can be done throughout Year 10 and 11. It offers you the opportunity to submit your best and most interesting pieces of work and rewards you for language progress made throughout key stage 4.

What other skills might I develop?

Learning a language will help you to develop skills that will be extremely useful to you. It can help you to develop key skills in Communication, Information and Communication Technology, Working with Others and Improving own Learning and Performance. It will also develop your confidence and ability to communicate with people from other countries and cultures.

What could I do next with a GCSE in a modern foreign language?

The MFL GCSE offers a progression route to further study of a foreign language at AS, A level or as an option within Vocational A levels, BTEC First or National awards. A GCSE confirms your ability to learn a foreign language and facilitates the learning of other languages. Employers are always asking for candidates with language skills and a GCSE in a modern foreign language will place you in a strong position for interesting employment with plenty of career opportunities. Examples of employment where language skills are particularly valued include journalism and media, law, engineering, business and marketing, ICT, sport

and leisure, travel and tourism, customer service, civil service (Immigration, Customs and Excise, Diplomatic Service) and teaching (UK and abroad).

Assessment

Unit 1 - Listening paper worth 20% of the final GCSE grade.

Externally assessed (it means you will take the Listening exam at the end of Year 11)

(Foundation level = 30 minutes or Higher level = 40 minutes).

Listening paper = Spanish recordings with a variety of question types.

Unit 2 - Speaking assessments worth 30% of the final GCSE grade (15% for each one).

Internally assessed under controlled conditions

Two controlled speaking assessments (it means two oral tasks) lasting 4-6 minutes each.

Unit 3 - Reading paper worth 20% of the final GCSE grade.

Externally assessed (as for the Listening exam, you will take the Reading paper at the end of Year 11)

(Foundation = 35 minutes or Higher level = 50 minutes).

Reading paper = Spanish texts including a range of settings and styles, both formal and informal (e.g. text messages, adverts, emails etc.) with a variety of question types.

Unit 4 - Written papers worth 30% of the final GCSE grade (15% each).

Internally assessed under controlled conditions

Two controlled writing assessments of approx. 200 words, lasting one hour each.

Please note that students choose to take Spanish or ICT as a GCSE option at the beginning of Year 10.

History GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
History A: The Making of the Modern World
Edexcel Course Number: 2HA01
Teacher: Mr Dunford



What is History GCSE all about?

History GCSE follows on naturally from the kind of work you have undertaken at Key Stage 3 (Year 9). Your course will involve the study of World and/ or European history starting in the late nineteenth century and ending in the 1990s. You will study four modern world topics. You will have the opportunity to examine some interesting and important historical source material and develop your own knowledge of historical issues.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that involves learning about and discussing the events that have shaped today's world. If you like learning about the modern world and putting forward a well-developed point of view, then you will enjoy History.

What about exams?

You will take three papers on different topics. These exam papers will ask you to answer questions and use your own knowledge of the topics you have studied. Several papers require you to examine source material in a variety of forms such as photographs, cartoons, advertisements and extracts from newspapers and speeches.

What about the coursework?

Coursework is worth 25% of the marks and will be based on modern British history.

What other skills might I develop?

As well as learning about History, the course will enable you to improve your skills in Communication, IT, Working with Others, Improving own Learning and Performance and Problem Solving. Studying History encourages you to produce well-reasoned arguments based on the evaluation of evidence.

What could I do next with GCSE History?

There are many things you can do with a GCSE in History. You could choose to continue with the study of History by taking AS History in the sixth form or at college or you could use your knowledge of history to support other AS courses such as English Literature or Art. A GCSE in History shows that you have a high level of literacy and that you are able to analyse complex information. These skills are highly valued by colleges and employers. Employment opportunities where skills gained through the study of history are particularly valued include journalism, media, law, teaching and human resources.

Syllabus

The syllabus is divided into four sections each worth 25% of the total mark. Pupils will be entered for these if they have reached the appropriate level. The exams and the Controlled Assessment are taken/handed in during the Summer of Year 11.

Pupils will study:

Unit 1: Peace and War – International Relations: The Era of the Cold War 1943-1991

- How did the Cold War Develop? 1943-56
- Three Cold War crises: Berlin, Cuba, Czechoslovakia. 1957-69

- Why did the Cold War end 1969-1991?

Unit 2: Germany 1918-1939

- The Weimar Republic 1918-1933
- Hitler and the rise of the Nazi Party 1918-1933
- Nazi Dictatorship 1933-1939
- Nazi's domestic policy 1933-1939

Unit 3: The Transformation of British Society 1951-1979

- British society and economy in the 1950s
- Education, work and labour relations 1960-1969
- Media, communication and leisure 1960-1979
- Reasons for social change 1960-1979

Unit 4: Controlled assessment – Vietnam 1950-1975

Skills in History:

A competent level of reading, writing and organisational skills is required to study History at GCSE level. Pupils will be required to revise a large volume of written information and select and apply this information to questions requiring a mixture of shorter answers and essays. Pupils will also have to study primary and secondary source material and answer questions based on this material.

Summary of Scheme Assessment

Part or component	Mode of assessment	Weighting	Weighting Length
Paper 1 (Peace and War: International Relations 1900-1991-written paper)	Year 11:External	25%	1 hour 15 minutes
Paper 2 (Germany 1918-1939- written paper)	Year 11:External	25%	1 hour 15 minutes
Paper 3(The transformation of British Society 1951-1979) -written paper)	Year 11: External	25%	1 hour 15 minutes
Paper 4 (written)	Year 10-11: Internal	25%	Controlled Assessment

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from A*-G.

Please note that students choose to take History or Art as a GCSE option at the beginning of Year 10.

ICT GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
Edexcel Course Number: 2IT01
Teacher: Mr McCarthy



Theory:

Unit 1: Living in a Digital World

Unit code: 5IT01

Externally assessed

Availability: Will be taken at the end of Year 11

40% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

In this unit students explore how digital technology impacts on the lives of individuals, organisations and society. They learn about current and emerging digital technologies and the issues raised by their use in a range of contexts (learning and earning, leisure, shopping and money management, health and wellbeing and on the move). They develop awareness of the risks that are inherent in using ICT and the features of safe, secure and responsible practice.

Topics Studied:

Topic 1. Personal digital devices

Topic 2. Connectivity

Topic 3. Operating online

Topic 4. Online goods and services

Topic 5. Online communities

Topic 6. Issues

Overview of assessment

- This unit is assessed through a 1 hour 30 minute examination paper set and marked by Edexcel.
- The total number of marks available for the examination paper is 80.

Assessment Objectives covered:

This unit addresses all three Assessment Objectives (AOs):

AO1: Recall, select and communicate their knowledge and understanding of ICT.

AO2: Apply knowledge, understanding and skills to produce ICT-based solutions.

AO3: Analyse, evaluate, make reasoned judgements and present conclusions.

Controlled Assessment:

Unit 2: Using Digital Tool

Unit code: 5IT02

Internally assessed

60% of the total GCSE

Overview of content:

This is a practical unit. Students broaden and enhance their ICT skills and capability. They work with a range of digital tools and techniques to produce effective ICT solutions in a range of contexts. They learn to reflect critically on their own and others' use of ICT and to adopt safe, secure and responsible practice.

Topics studied:

Topic 1. Research and information gathering

Topic 2. Modelling

Topic 3. Digital publishing

Topic 4. Evaluating outcomes

Topic 5. Working efficiently and safely

Overview of assessment:

- The unit is internally assessed under controlled conditions.
- Students must complete a controlled assessment task provided by Edexcel.
- Students must complete the task within 40 hours.
- Marking of the task is carried out by teachers and moderated by Edexcel against set assessment criteria.
- The total number of marks available for the controlled assessment task is 80.

Assessment Objectives covered:

This unit addresses all three Assessment Objectives (AOs):

AO1: Recall, select and communicate their knowledge and understanding of ICT.

AO2: Apply knowledge, understanding and skills to produce ICT-based solutions.

AO3: Analyse, evaluate, make reasoned judgements and present conclusions.

All exams and the Controlled Assessment are taken/submitted in during the Summer of Year 11 (May/June 2017).

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from A*-G.

Please note that students choose to take ICT or Spanish as a GCSE option at the beginning of Year 10.

Art & Design GCSE
Student/Parent Guide
Edexcel Course Number: 2FA01 Fine Art Endorsed
Teacher: Mr Larcombe



What is GCSE Art & Design all about?

It's about having an adventurous and enquiring approach to art and design and developing the skills to express it. You will develop an understanding of past and contemporary art and design and be able to produce a personal response embracing a range of ideas. The skills you will develop doing GCSE Art will be varied. Among them, you will develop a working knowledge of the materials, practices and technology of art and design. You will develop the skills to investigate, analyse and experiment using art, craft and design. You will develop your imaginative powers and the skills to express your ideas, feelings and meanings. You will also develop an understanding of the language and conventions of art and design and an understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and in society.

The specific skills pupils will develop will vary depending on the area of study they choose – but will be focused on those normally associated with fine art practice. For example, painting, photography, video, drawing, animation, sculpture, installation.

How does it follow on from what I have learned before?

The GCSE in Art & Design follows on from what you have been doing at Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9). The emphasis in this GCSE is on the process of developing both ideas and work. Central to this is the work journal – similar to a sketchbook. There is no formal requirement that you should have studied art and design before, but if you are interested in art, craft or design and if you have an aptitude for the subject – if you are creative – you may have the basic skills to succeed.

How is the course structured?

The GCSE in Art & Design contains two Papers – Unit 1 is Coursework and Unit 2 is the Externally Set Assignment – the timed test.

What about exams?

To complete your GCSE, you will have to take Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment. This will take the form of a broad theme – for example, it could be something like 'Journeys' or 'Time'. The Externally Set Paper will also contain some suggestions for possible starting points and directions or areas of study, to help you develop your response and to give you ideas regarding your research. You will then have eight weeks in which to prepare for the timed test. During this time, you should explore the theme in your work journal and in preparatory studies – you can discuss it with your teacher – and prepare your response in your chosen specialism. At the end of this period, you will sit a 10 hour timed examination, during which you will produce your final piece(s) of work. Your preparatory and developmental work, along with your final piece, will then be submitted for assessment.

What about coursework?

Your coursework, in your work journals and elsewhere, should include research, supporting studies and work showing the development of your ideas, leading to one or more outcomes – usually finished pieces of work. Your teacher will set you assignments and tasks.

What other skills might I develop?

In this course, you will cover the study of art, craft and design and acquire the ability to investigate, analyse and experiment. You will also develop practical skills to express ideas and use visual language. This course will therefore enable you to develop skills which will be

essential to you whatever you go on to do afterwards. The other skills you can develop during this course will be skills in communication, information technology, improving own learning and performance, working with others and problem solving.

What could I do next with a GCSE in Art & Design?

There are many things you can go on to do with a GCSE in art and design. If you are unsure about what to do next, the best thing to do is to speak to your art teacher who will know about the choices on offer. You could go on to take an AS or A level in Art & Design, or a Vocational A level in Art & Design or a related subject. If you know the area of art, craft or design you want to specialise in, you could study for a National Certificate or National Diploma in Art & Design. You may wish to do a GCSE in Art & Design for its own sake, perhaps to form the basis of a future interest. Or you might wish to go into a job where it is useful to have had experience of art, craft and design, or where you will need to use some of the skills developed during this course. These might include careers in such fields as advertising, marketing, design, architecture, publishing and the media. Whichever you choose, the study of Art can help you develop transferable skills which you can take into any career or job.

The Full Course GCSE is made up of Unit 1 (Coursework) and Unit 2 exam. These are taken/handed in during the Summer of Year 11 (May/June 2017).

Overview:

Unit	Component	Weighting	Method of assessment	Requirements
1	Personal portfolio in Art & Design. Internally set projects based on a variety of themes.	60%	Internally set Internally marked Externally moderated	Must include work journal Must show evidence of all assessment objectives
2	Externally Set Assignment	40%	Externally set Internally marked Externally moderated Eight weeks preparation time 10 hours timed test	Must show evidence of all assessment objectives Must include work journal

What about my results?

You will receive your results on Thursday 24 August 2017. These will be awarded from A*-G.

Please note that students choose to take Art or History as a GCSE option at the beginning of Year 10.