



# ORMISTON SIX VILLAGES ACADEMY

## Key Stage 4 Options 2024-2026



Your guide to choosing the best  
subject options

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Dear Parents and Carers

At Six Villages, students make their options choices in Year 9, so that they are ready to start their Key Stage 4 courses in Year 10.

This means that your child has two years to maximise their performance in their examinable subjects. This options booklet is here to help you get a better understanding of what lies in store and the process of choosing Key Stage 4 subjects.

There are a number of things students should consider when making these choices. It might be that they have a good idea of what they want to study further, or what kind of job they want to do. If so, this should be mentioned when discussing plans with our staff, so that we can tailor our advice accordingly. Above all, the decisions should be made in each student's best interest, balancing those subjects that are going to provide a wide range of opportunities further down the line of education and employment, with those that your child most enjoys and has a particular ability in. Decisions should certainly not be made because of what friends are doing or as a result of guessing who might be teaching the course for the next three years.

Please read through this booklet carefully with your son/daughter and help him/her to make the right choices, as it is very difficult to make changes once Year 10 gets underway. Remember that their Form Tutor, Director of Learning and teachers are all here to help. Together with you, we all want to ensure that studies in Years 10 and 11 are enjoyable and successful.

Yours faithfully



Paul Slaughter  
**Principal**



# How to use this booklet

Studying a range of subjects at GCSE is useful to allow you to have a wider range of options for later study at college and career choices. This booklet is designed to help you in making decisions that are right for you.

There is some important information at the front few pages to help you, including:

- the national picture
- what to consider when choosing your options
- the Options timeline
- looking towards your future career starts now
- where you can get careers guidance
- where to get further advice

Pages 11-31 are details about every subjects on offer. Please look at how subjects are assessed, this should roughly match your strengths when selecting a subject

All options will be submitted via Microsoft Forms. You can submit your application at any time after careful consideration. Please ensure that your application is submitted by the Easter Holidays.

All information regarding the options process are on the Academy's option hub.

[Ormiston Six Villages Academy - Options process](#)

# What to consider when choosing your options

## **You must**

- Choose either triple science, geography, history, computer science, French or Spanish.
- Consider whether you want to study the full English Bachelorette (see page 7 for further information).

## **You should:**

- choose subjects you are interested in, that you enjoy and will be good at
- keep a broad range in your choices.
- research any future careers and requirements before choosing.

## **You should not:**

- choose a subject because you think it might be 'easy' – very few are when you study them for examination!
- choose a subject because your friend is – you may end up in different groups.

# The Options Timeline 2023

Date	Event	Detail
Nov + Dec 2023	Early Options Poll	Teachers will speak to students directly about the GCSE/vocational courses available in their subject. Early survey is sent out to students via Microsoft Forms.
19th Feb 2024	Options Assembly	Full options process is explained to students. An opportunity for Mr. Case and Mr. Kidd to answer any questions.
22nd Feb 2024	Online Information Evening	An opportunity to ask any questions relating to options which have not been addressed elsewhere. Options process is open; students can begin to select their options.
Feb/ March 2024	Yr.9 Tutor Activities and Class Discussions	Students will have the opportunity to discuss their choices directly with their class teachers and tutor.
28th March 2024	Deadline for Student choices	Deadline for option choices, no changes can be made past this point.
Summer Term	Student Interviews + Allocation	Mr. Case and Mr. Kidd to speak with students whose choices may not be running or for whom there are clashes.  Option choices released to students in Summer 2.

# The National Picture

You will know the changes to GCSE courses, how students' successes are measured and government changes to the examination processes. Our options process and KS4 courses are designed to ensure that all of our students are ready to compete in the national and global education and job market when they leave Six Villages.

Here is a summary of the key points to consider and how they affect our Year 9s:

## The English Baccalaureate

This is not an individual qualification but the name given to a group of GCSE qualifications. To achieve the English Baccalaureate students must achieve grades 9 – 5 in: English, English Literature, Maths, Computer Science, Combined or Triple Science, a modern foreign language and either History or Geography. The majority of students in Year 10 next year will study the subjects required to gain the English Baccalaureate.

All students considering university, even as a possibility, take this pathway.



## Assessment by terminal exam

In the majority (not all) of subjects, coursework and controlled assessment have been reduced/phased out. Therefore, in subjects with no coursework, students will be assessed solely on their performance in the final exams at the end of Year 11. This requires long term memory recall and in order to prepare our students for this, we will begin to use exam style questions and assessments from the first term of the GCSE foundation year so that by the time they reach the final exams students have the skills and knowledge to succeed with this method of assessment.

## Number grades

All GCSE exams will be awarded using number grades, where 9 is the highest grade and 1 is the lowest. In Vocational qualifications, a Level 2 pass is equivalent to a GCSE grade 4. These courses will use four Level 2 (GCSE equivalent) pass grades: Distinction\*, Distinction, Merit and Pass. Some vocational qualifications also have the options of a level 1 pass if a student does not reach the level 2 pass.



## Development of the Whole Child

Whilst we focus on academic progress, we recognise the importance of extra curricular activities. There is a wide range of opportunities on offer and we expect all students to participate in something of their liking. We have planned a number of opportunities that will help students develop their social and problem solving skills and to become global citizens.

These opportunities include:

- The Duke of Edinburgh award
- A wide range of sporting events, literacy (Burnet News Club), numeracy (Maths challenges) STEM club, Space 180 and leadership roles
- International visits: specific departments will offer students the chance to travel abroad to enhance their understanding of the topics they will study.
- Work experience provision: we are working closely with external providers to be able to offer work experience opportunities across the first 2 years of study.

## Careers Guidance

It is important for students to consider their path for the future when choosing their examination subjects. Some students may have a definite career in mind, others may just be at the beginning stages of considering likes/dislikes. Our curriculum offer enables students to follow a balanced and wide curriculum and students can choose to specialise later when they enter further education. We support students on this journey and advise you on how to research, what post 16 qualifications will be needed and how to apply for them. Students can access careers guidance in the following ways:

- Our PSHE lessons are designed to guide you through the entire application process from how to write a CV to preparing for interviews.
- Visit our Learning Resource Centre. It has a careers section containing a wide range of information about different jobs and careers.
- Meetings with Mr Marsh, our Careers Lead, to arrange appointments with careers advisors to talk about particular careers and the best pathway towards them.
- Using a range of online resources which allows students to identify their preferred careers and then research the careers it suggests in more depth. There will also be links to further education and students can search what colleges offer the course required to move forward.



Your **TUTOR** knows you well so talk to him/her about what courses you would be good at. You could also ask about some of the new courses and what they involve.

Your **SUBJECT TEACHERS** will be able to tell you how you are doing in their subject and whether you should consider taking it to examination. You can talk to them during lessons, and during the **Parents' Consultation evening**.

Look at the **Head of Department** subject videos on the school website, **and contact them**. They can tell you all you need to know about the subjects and what you will be learning. Ask every questions that comes to your mind, **do not hold**

Make sure you discuss your option choices fully with your **PARENTS AND CARERS**.

Make sure you attend the **Yr9 Options Information Evening**.

Use the school website to review videos in Post –16 sections and do online research for careers.

Your **DIRECTOR OF LEARNING, Mr Kidd** will always be happy to help. He will be available for any advice that you may require, so please do contact him.

Mr Marsh, **Careers Co-Ordinator**. Do ask him questions, he will be happy to help.

**Where students  
can get  
further advice**

# Duke of Edinburgh Award

In year 10, all students have the opportunity to apply for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award, application is included within the options process via Microsoft Forms; see below for more information. Please see page 31 for more information.

## What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

The DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving millions of 14 - 24 year olds the opportunity to be the very best that they can be. There are three levels of the Award programme, Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Award has 4 sections, each of which must be completed to successfully to gain the Award.

BRONZE AWARD			
VOLUNTEERING	PHYSICAL	SKILLS	EXPEDITION
3 months	3 months	3 months	2 days 1 night
Plus a further 3 months in either the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.			

SILVER AWARD			
VOLUNTEERING	PHYSICAL	SKILLS	EXPEDITION
6 months	6 or 3 months	6 or 3 months	3 days 2 nights
Physical and Skills sections: one section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months.			
If you didn't do BRONZE, you must do a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.			

GOLD AWARD				
VOLUNTEERING	PHYSICAL	SKILLS	EXPEDITION	RESIDENTIAL
12 months	12 or 6 months	12 or 6 months	4 days 3 nights	5 days 4 nights
Physical and Skills sections: one section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months.				
If you didn't do SILVER, you must do a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.				

# Option Subjects

Please note Option subjects are studied in addition to the **five compulsory subjects** - English, Maths, Double Science, Core PE, PSHE

The following pages detail course overviews of the option subjects, what students will study and how they will be assessed.

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- Health & Fitness
- History
- Hospitality & Catering
- Media Studies
- Music
- PE (GCSE)
- Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
- Photography
- Spanish
- Art, Textiles and Fashion
- Travel and Tourism
- Triple Science

# Art

## Course Overview

The Art and Design GCSE course has been designed to create excitement and passion for the subject. We encourage an adventurous and enquiring approach to art and design over the course of Year 10 and 11. There will be many ways for students to develop, refine, record and present their ideas. This may take the form of painting, drawing, print design, photography and sculpture where student's will be encouraged to experiment and review their artwork.

Students will develop their skills using different drawing and painting techniques and they will learn to use work using new media and processes such as watercolour pencils, acrylic paint, stencil printing, clay and paper pulp to create sculptures. The possibilities for personal expression are endless.

## What will you study?

GCSE Art & Design involves students developing a Personal Portfolio of artwork, this is made up of two major projects. The first project is focussed on Artists and Craftspeople who are inspired by nature and organic forms. Students will produce their own visual investigation into this theme and will design and create their own sculptures. Students will then begin a second project, which is adapted each year and previously we have based this projects on Cubism, Pop Art and Portraiture.

## How will you be ASSESSED?

In Art students produce a **portfolio of work**, which is worth **60% of their final grade**. The portfolio is made up of the art projects worked on in class, covering the exam boards four assessment objectives.

The assessment objectives focus on students contextual understanding, the refinement and use of media, drawing and recording skills, and presenting final intentions.

In the Spring term of year 11 students are set an **externally set task by the exam board which is worth the final 40% of their grade**. This is another art project and students produce a final piece for this project in a 10 hour exam.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Levels, BTEC and Foundation Diplomas specialising in Fine Art, 3D design, graphic design and illustration, art design and Media, Fashion Textiles/Retail, Photography and History of Art.

**Careers include:** Architecture, interior design, fashion (all areas), jewellery design, stage and set design, media, advertising and publishing, illustrator/graphic designer

**Art**

Mrs N Gavin

[ngn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk](mailto:ngn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk)

# Business Studies

## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides pupils with the skills and knowledge needed to work in the world of Business and Enterprise. It will appeal to pupils who wish to gain the skills and experience in making practical business decisions whether starting a company or improving the business model.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Pupils will study a number of business concepts and analyse scenarios. They will then apply their knowledge to a business and justify the positive and negative outcomes of their choices. They will study the following:

Topics offered will include:

- Entrepreneurs and being entrepreneurial
- Legal Structures
- Financial Aims
- Organisational Structures
- Production Methods
- Customer Service
- Internal and external assessment and influences, challenges of growth
- Business research
- Resources
- Recruitment
- Funding and finance
- Business planning

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

**40%** of this course is **examined by an externally assessed exam**. **60%** is **project based** where pupils examine a business scenario and work on a project for 21 hour in their lessons.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

This course can lead to a number of business qualifications whether at BTEC, vocational, or A level and then to degree.

**Careers include:** Accounting, financial, legal, or for creating a new business or develop a business.

<b>Business</b> Mr D Munt	<b><a href="mailto:mnn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk">mnn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk</a></b>
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# Computer Science GCSE

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Digital skills are crucial in almost every role, and even if you don't need them day-to-day, you'll probably need them to get the job in the first place! 90% of jobs in the UK today require digital skills, and this number is only set to grow. So, it's vital to build up your digital skills to ensure you have the best head start when entering the world of work. Computer Science GCSE gives you a lot more than just basic digital skills; the goal is to find ways to apply computers to real-life situations. The course involves a lot of theory and design to try to help solve real-life problems.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Computer Science GCSE course is a mixture of theory and practical program development. Below we've highlighted the areas you'll study if you decide to take the course; fundamentals of algorithms, programming, fundamentals of data representation, computer systems, computer networks, cyber security, ethics, software development and programming.

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The Computer Science GCSE is split into two exams. The first exam tends to look at the first part of the syllabus (algorithms, programming, data representation and systems. The second exam looks at the second part of the syllabus (computer networks, cyber security, ethics and programming).

Each exam counts as 50% of your overall grade, and there are 80 marks available in each.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

This course can lead to a higher qualification in computing and digital medias.

**Careers include:** App development, analyst, game designer, games developer, IT sales professional, IT trainer, machine learning engineer, software engineer, web designer, UX designer.

<b>Computer Science</b> Ms Williamson	<b><a href="mailto:mwn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk">mwn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk</a></b>
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# Design

## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed for students who enjoy both the planning and making processes of creating three dimensional and graphic products. Students will have the opportunity to use technology (including cad cam), equipment such as the laser cutter and more traditional workshop skills and tools during this course.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The course will include a range of practical and written elements, including proposals, research, designing, planning, making and evaluating. There will be both an externally assessed exam element and an internally assessed project as part of the course. Topics offered will include:

- Starting the design process
- Researching a target audience
- Computer aided design
- 2D and 3D hand drawing skills
- Modelling techniques in range of materials
- Producing a commercially viable product

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

- **2 HOUR EXAM (50% OF FINAL GRADE)**
- **Non-exam assessment (NEA) (50% OF FINAL GRADE)**  
Your designed products could be in CAD, textiles, jewellery, wood, paper & board and metal.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A Levels or Level 3 courses in Graphics, Product Design, 3D Design, Design and Technology, Art and Design, Engineering.

**Careers include:** artist, designer, architecture, stage prop design and creation, graphic designer, furniture designer or maker, jewellery designer and maker and many more creative options.

# Drama

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Students learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. They gain the confidence to pursue their own ideas, reflect and refine their efforts. Drama offers a multi-discipline qualification with the opportunity to perform, learn production skills and discover more about careers in the performing arts sector.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students learn the skills to devise their own performance work, explore texts practically and can choose to work on a range of disciplines. Students will take part in live performances while developing their knowledge of the industry and reviewing professional work.

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of their chosen discipline skills areas with specific reference to:

- Researching plays, performances and the work of theatre practitioners.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of their own and other performances.
- Record the process from workshop/rehearsal to performance.

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Assessment focuses on preparation for further study and work in Theatre.

### Component 1—Understanding Drama 40%

A written exam of 1 hour and 45 minutes where you demonstrate understanding of subject language, the study of a set play and a review of a live theatre production.

### Component 2—Devising Drama 40%

Devising your own performance work, analysis and evaluation of work both practically and within a written log.

### Component 3—Texts in practice 20%

Performance of two extracts from a play which is then seen by a visiting examiner.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Level Theatre Studies; BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma Performing Arts (Acting);

<b>Drama</b> Ms E Molineaux-Inglis	<b>emx@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk</b>
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## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed to prepare pupils in the 4 language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. It prepares pupils to communicate effectively in French covering pronunciation, building vocabulary and applying grammatical structures. You will learn general conversation skills and how to deal with events that you could meet when travelling in a French speaking country.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will build your French to communicate around the following themes:

- How to talk about yourself and family
- The use of technology
- Your free time activities
- Customs and culture in French speaking countries
- Talking about where you live (your home, town and region)
- Social issues including life styles
- The environment
- Travel and tourism—out and about in a French speaking country
- Your school and studies
- Your future plans and the World of work

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE is equally weighted in all **four** skills (25% each one). The **speaking** exam involves describing a picture and a follow on discussion giving your views, a short role-play and general conversation. The **listening** and **reading** exams will involve picking out information you hear or read. The **written** exam contains a piece of written work, an extended piece and a translation.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A French GCSE could be followed by A-Level French.

**Careers** : A knowledge of a language can be useful in any employment where contact is needed: Hotels, tourism, business and enterprise, marketing, teaching, as a company representative. A language skill can be an important addition to other career paths as well as for travel and social reasons.

# Geography

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Geography looks at how and why the world is changing. It helps you understand the decisions made concerning use and management of the environment, and see why people's views towards this are different. It tackles big issues - environmental responsibility, and our global dependence on other countries and their people.

Geography encourages you to develop a range of transferable skills, for example organisation, analysis of graphs, data, maps, and diagrams, research, interpreting information and making informed decisions.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The world in which we live is constantly changing and could change more in the next fifty years than ever before. Geography is the study of places, landscapes and environments. It looks at the way our world is changed by humans and natural events, and the consequential effects, such as increased world population, natural hazards across the world and the effect of them on people living there. The course will focus on locational knowledge, and develop competence in maps, fieldwork and skills. It will include an element of statistical and numerical analysis and will have a balance between UK and world place knowledge in addition to physical and human geography.

### FIELDWORK

Students have to undertake fieldwork as part of exam board conditions. This will take place in Year 10 and will focus on Physical Environments and an Urban Study.

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

GCSE Geography is currently assessed **100% by externally assessed examination**. The course we currently follow has **three written exam papers**.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Level Geography; Some colleges offer a language as part of Leisure and Tourism or Business courses.

**Careers include:** Town and transport planning; chartered Surveying, land and water management, sustainability, environmental projects, tourism, conservation, housing and social welfare, map making, tour guide, volcanologist, marine researcher, explorer.

# History

## COURSE OVERVIEW

History is a highly respected academic discipline, which enables its scholars to think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, make informed decisions and develop perspective and judgement.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The history course aims to build knowledge across a range of time periods and geographical areas. The course focuses on some very different time periods and requires students to use a range of different historical skills.

History students look at The People's Health, c.1250 to present, investigating key events such as the Black Death and key public health reforms. Students will then explore the lives of the Elizabethans, investigating what England was like for the Queen and the people. Historians will also take part in a site study of Portchester Castle, exploring how the site has changed over time and been used by different in time periods. As well, students will explore The Making of America, 1789–1900. This period study follows the unfolding narrative of the making of America from the inauguration of the first president in 1789 to the end of the nineteenth century when the USA was set to become the world's dominant power. The final topic, Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945, enables learners to understand the impact of the Nazi dictatorship on people's lives both within Germany and across occupied Europe. It explores the interplay of political, economic, social, racial, and cultural forces at work in these societies.

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

GCSE History is currently assessed **100% by externally assessed examination**. The course we currently follow has **three written exam papers**.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Level and degree courses in History, Law, Sociology, Politics and Classics, and BTEC courses in Applied Law and Museum Studies.

**Careers include:** Librarian, Archaeologist, Archivist, Broadcast journalist, Civil Service, Editorial assistant, Information officer, Politician, Journalist, Lawyer, Researcher (TV or academic), museum worker, script editor.

# V-Cert Health and Fitness

## COURSE OVERVIEW

### V-Cert Health and Fitness (NCFE)

Aim to enable you to understand the physiology of your body and how this can be adapted and improved to lead healthy and physically fit everyday lives, or to train to be the most efficient athlete possible. The course will provide you with the knowledge and understanding of what makes up the anatomy of your body, how to create effective training programs and how to consider and improve the general wellbeing of an individual through the use of exercise.



**'No Practical level of performance required'**

*Fortnightly Plan - 4 Theory lessons, 1 Practical*

### Content 40% Unit 1 - (Exam)

Title: Introduction to body systems and principles of training

Assessment - written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Content 60% Unit 2 - Synoptic Project (Coursework)

Title: Preparing and Planning for Health and Fitness

Assessment - Internal synoptic project which will be completed over 22 hours of supervised time, with 2 hours of planning and research. This will require student to create a training program for a selected client.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY

- Body systems
- Components of fitness
- Short and long term effect on exercise
- Principles of training
- Training methods
- Training programs for clients



## COURSE PROGRESSION

Level 3 courses in Physical Education, Sport Science, Sports Fitness management, Personal Trainer, Sports Therapy and Physiotherapy.

Careers: Employment could lead to learners starting a career in the health and fitness industry.



### Key difference between GCSE PE and V-Cert Health and Fitness

**GCSE PE - Covers broader theoretical topics and includes practical assessment**

**V-Cert - Designed to focus on the knowledge of anatomy and physical training**

# Hospitality & Catering

## COURSE OVERVIEW

According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth largest industry and accounts for around 10% of the total workforce. Since 2010, over 25% of all new jobs have been within the hospitality and catering sector with the majority of new roles falling within the 18-24 age groups. The ability to plan, prepare and present food is an essential skill within the hospitality and catering industry. The WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering equips you with theoretical knowledge about the industry as well as enabling you to develop practical skills in planning, preparing and cooking a variety of dishes.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

### Unit 1: Hospitality and catering industry:

You will focus on learning about different types of providers, legislation, food safety and the roles and responsibilities within the sector.

### Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action:

You will develop practical skills for planning, preparing, cooking and presenting nutritional dishes to meet specific client's needs. Students will learn about key areas of this subject, including:

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Level 1/2 in Hospitality and Catering is externally and internally assessed.

### Unit 1 The Hospitality and catering industry (40%):

Is assessed through a **written examination** which is 90 minutes in length.

**Unit 2 Hospitality and catering in action (60%):** is assessed through a Non-examination assessment task (NEA) which will be completed under controlled conditions, marked by your teacher. 9 hours of allocated assessment. Plan prepare and cook 2 dishes.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

Apprenticeships; Professional Cookery courses; Hospitality qualifications.

**Careers include:** Catering industry; Hospitality.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

The course encourages students to:

- Broaden their musical experience and interests; develop knowledge, understanding, communication skills, imagination and foster creativity.
- Develop performing skills, individually and in groups, to communicate musically with fluency and control. This can be on a musical instrument, and/or using Music Technology.
- Improve composing skills if this is their preference. Recognise links between performing, composing, and appraising, and see how this informs the development of music.
- Develop an awareness of a variety of instruments, styles and approaches to performing and composing.
- Develop as effective and independent learners with enquiring minds that reflect upon and evaluate their own and others' music.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

**You will..**

- Learn how to rehearse effectively including running dress and technical rehearsals.
- Critically evaluate your own work and others' work to develop the knowledge and skills to improve your own performances.
- Learn about different styles of Music.

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

There will be several practical coursework tasks undertaken during Year 10 and 11. These will account for **60%** of the qualification grade.

Towards the end of Year 11 there will be a **listening** examination, where your understanding of different styles of music will be tested.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

Students who achieve at least a level 6 will be well prepared to undertake A level Music. The course will also give sufficient knowledge for students to progress to a Level 3 BTEC Music course, or Music Technology VCERT Level 3.

**Careers include:** Producer, Composer, Songwriter, Performer, Teacher, Roadie, Studio Technician

# Media Studies

## COURSE OVERVIEW

From television to newspapers, radio, social media and podcasts – the Media plays a big part in our lives. It can alter our perceptions, grow our understanding and inform how we see the world. Unfortunately, with the rise of fake news, clickbait and misinformation, it can be challenging to know what's what; that's where media studies comes in! But what does the GCSE course involve? Read on to find out...

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

During the Media Studies GCSE, you'll look at four key areas; media language (forms and choice of language, theories of narrative, and codes and conventions of language), media representation, media industries and media audiences. You'll also study all of the following media forms:

- television
- film
- radio
- newspapers
- magazines
- advertising and marketing
- online, social and participatory media
- video games
- music video

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Media Studies GCSE is assessed by two written exams and one Non-Examination Assessment (NEA). Each exam lasts 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth 35% of your final grade, and the NEA makes up the final 30%.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

Media Studies GCSE could be the start of a fantastic career within the media industry, whether you're turning your talents to film or social media. Below we've listed a whole range of jobs that you might want to research further, having completed (and enjoyed) the GCSE.

Advertising media buyer, Broadcast journalist. Copywriter, Editorial Assistant, Media researcher, photographer, PR consultant, Presenter, Social media manager, Television/Film producer, Web content manager, Writer.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

### GCSE PE (AQA)

GCSE PE aim to enable you to understand the benefits of living a complete healthy and active lifestyle (physically, mentally and socially). The course will cover physiology, psychology and sociology in order to improve an understanding of how we train and compete in physical activity and sport, how sport can impact individuals and how we prepare or behave within sport to maintain our well-being.



***'Student are required to perform 1 or more sporting activities outside of school.'***  
***Fortnightly Plan - 4 Theory lessons, 1 Practical***

### Content 70% Theory assessment (Exams)

Paper 1. The human body and movement in physical activity.

Assessment - written paper: 1 hour 15 minutes

Paper 2. – Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport.

Assessment - written Paper: 1 hour 15 minutes

### Content 30% Performance.

Assessment - 3 different sports, in depth of one sport for a coursework assessment.  
*Students will need to be performing 1 or more sporting activities outside of school.*

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

**You will..**

In GCSE PE you will learn about the following topics.

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical Training
- Use of data
- Sports Psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Health, fitness and wellbeing

**Careers could include:**

Sports Scientist, Sports Psychologist, Sports Analyst, PE Teacher, Physiotherapist.

**Key difference between GCSE PE and V-Cert**

**Health and Fitness**

***GCSE PE - Covers broader theoretical topics and includes practical***

## COURSE PROGRESSION

Level 3 courses in Physical Education, Sport Science, Sports Coaching, Personal Trainer and Physiotherapy.



# Philosophy, Religion and Ethics

## COURSE OVERVIEW

The course encourages students to develop strong critical thinking skills and to be able to consider all factors relating to a topic or problem before forming a reasoned opinion. Students are encouraged to become increasingly aware of current events and any debate surrounding them. In order to develop a greater sense of awareness and understanding, students spend time looking in depth at people from different belief systems and how this impacts the way in which they live and interact with others. Skills of debate, investigation, research and persuasive writing are all developed by students who take this course.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

### You will..

- research and discuss ideas about evolution, climate change, animal rights, euthanasia and abortion and how these vary depending on a person's culture or background.
- learn about relationships and families, exploring how families function and what modern views of the family entail.
- investigate crime and punishment, why we have it and the underlying philosophies behind it.
- You will study peace and conflict, the philosophy of war and how views on war, conflict and reconciliation may change from place to place depending on culture and religion
- All students carry out in-depth studies into the beliefs and practices of Christians and Muslims

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The course is taught in 3 Components. Component 1 and 2 are assessed internally with timed coursework tasks completed individually on computers. These two components add up to 60% of your final grade. Component 3 is assessed by an external exam which is worth 40% of your final mark.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Level and degree courses in Philosophy, Theology, History, Law, Sociology,

**Philosophy and Ethics**  
Mr C Marsh

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# Photography

## Course Overview

The Photography GCSE course has been designed to create excitement, inspiration and a development of photographic skills. We encourage and teach a technical approach to photography whilst taking inspiration from photographers from around the world. There will be many ways for students to develop, refine, record and present their ideas. This may take the form of photography, mood boards, portfolio work, photoshop editing, written analysis of photographers work, and elements of recording through drawing and mind maps.

Students will develop their photography skills using different techniques such as aperture, shutter speed, depth of field, manual and auto focus as photo shop techniques such as levels, brightness and contrast, saturation and curves. The possibilities for personal expression are endless.

## What will you study?

GCSE Photography involves students developing a Personal Portfolio of artwork, this is made up of different projects. In year 10 we start with a toolkit project, learning essential photography skill, we then move on to the natural world and finish the year with a project around identity. In year 11 students work on a final project of Urban landscapes before starting their externally set task. The externally set task is another photography project where the themes are set by the exam board.

## How will you be ASSESSED?

In Photography students produce a **portfolio of work**, which is worth **60% of their final grade**, this is made up from the projects in year 10 and 11 and covers the exam boards four assessment objectives. The assessment objectives focus on students contextual understanding, the refinement of photographs, photography skills, and presenting final photographic intentions. In the Spring term of year 11 students are set a **externally set task by the exam board which is worth the final 40% of their grade**.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Levels, BTEC and Foundation Diplomas specialising in Art, Photography, graphic design and illustration, Art design and Media, Fashion Textiles/Retail and social media and marketing.

**Careers include:** **Photographer**, magazine editing, marketing assistant, fashion photography, stage and set design, media, advertising and publishing, illustrator/graphic designer

## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed to prepare pupils in the 4 language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. It prepares pupils to communicate effectively in Spanish covering pronunciation, building vocabulary and applying grammatical structures. You will learn general conversation skills and how to deal with events that you could meet when travelling in a Spanish speaking country.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will build your Spanish to communicate around the following themes:

- How to talk about yourself and family
- The use of technology
- Your free time activities
- Customs and culture in Spanish speaking countries
- Talking about where you live (your home, town and region)
- Social issues including life styles
- The environment
- Travel and tourism—out and about in a Spanish speaking country
- Your school and studies
- Your future plans and the World of work

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE is equally weighted in all **four** skills (**25% each**). The **speaking** exam involves describing a picture and a follow on discussion giving your views, a short role-play and general conversation. The **listening** and **reading** exams will involve picking out information you hear or read. The **written exam** contains a piece of written work, an extended piece and a translation.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A Spanish GCSE could be followed by A-Level Spanish.

**Careers:** A knowledge of a language can be useful in any employment where contact is needed: Hotels, tourism, business and enterprise, marketing, teaching, as a company representative. A language skill can be an important addition to other career paths as well as for travel and social reasons.

# Art, Textiles and Fashion

## Course Overview

The Textile and Fashion GCSE course has been designed to create excitement, experimentation with materials and passion for the subject. We encourage an adventurous and enquiring approach to Fashion and Textiles throughout the course of Year 10 and 11. There will be many ways for students to develop, refine, record and present their ideas. This may take the form of painting, drawing, printing, photography and more specifically creating work using fabrics and materials.

Students will develop their skills using different textile techniques and they will learn to create samples and outcomes using new media and processes such as sewing machines, applique, stencil printing, needle felting and embellishing, fabric manipulation, fashion and clothing construction. The possibilities for personal expression are endless.

## What will you study?

GCSE Textiles and Fashion involves students developing a Personal Portfolio of artwork, this is made up of two major projects. The first project is focussed on textile artists and designers who are inspired by The Seaside and Sea life. Students will produce their own visual investigation into this theme and will design and create their own fashion item. Students will then begin a second project, which is adapted each year and previously we have based this projects on landscapes and flowers and Art Nouveau.

## How will you be ASSESSED?

In Art students produce a **portfolio of work**, which is worth **60% of their final grade**.

The portfolio is made up of the projects worked on in class, covering the exam boards four assessment objectives. The assessment objectives focus on students contextual understanding, the refinement and use of media, drawing and recording skills, and presenting final intentions.

In the Spring term of year 11 students are set a **externally set task by the exam board which is worth the final 40% of their grade**. This is another Textiles project and students produce a final piece for this project in a 10 hour exam.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Levels, BTEC and Foundation Diplomas specialising in Fine Art, 3D design, graphic design and illustration, art design and Media, Fashion Textiles/Retail, Photography and History of Art.

**Careers include:** Architecture, interior design, fashion (all areas), jewellery design, stage and set design, media, advertising and publishing, illustrator/graphic designer.

**Art, Fashion and Textiles**  
**Mrs Gavin**

**[ngn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk](mailto:ngn@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk)**

# Travel and Tourism

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Tourism operates in many different contexts, from local bed and breakfasts, to national parks, from large multinational companies to small specialist transport operators and includes the private, public and voluntary sectors.

This qualification aims to provide learners with an understanding of the principles of the travel and tourism industry and allow them to explore the various avenues of work within this industry. It allows learners to gain transferable skills that can be applied to the workplace or further study.

This course allows students to gain an understanding of the travel and tourism industry and to prepare learners to progress to further study. Students can develop the skills necessary to work within the travel and tourism industry

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will get to investigate many parts of the Travel and Tourism sector including:

- Customer experience
- The business of tourism
- Developing UK tourist destinations

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The course is taught in 4 Units. Unit 1 is assessed by an **external exam** which is worth **12.5%** of your final mark. Units 2, 3 and 4 are assessed by building up a **portfolio of evidence (coursework)** and contributes **87.5%** of the final grade.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

Level 3 courses in Travel and Tourism, Tourist Guiding, Business and Environmental Conservation. Learners could also progress to GCE qualifications such as Business, Travel and Tourism, Geography and Sociology.

**Careers:** Employment could lead to learners starting a career in a junior role in a tourism organisation such as trainee tourist guide or conservation assistant or apprenticeships such as a Visitor Services Assistant. Alternatively, learners would be able to seek a more senior role such as a Museum Curator, Marketing and Brand Manager or Events Co-ordinator.

# Triple Science

## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed to further develop the subject knowledge of those students who already have an enjoyment of, or keen interest in the Sciences. It provides learner with the opportunity to study the core subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, but in much greater depth, through additional theory and practical based lessons.

The increased depth of scientific knowledge and understanding achieved through studying the separate Sciences also provides a fantastic foundation for bridging the gap between GCSE and post-16 courses, opening doors into many A-level and vocational qualifications.

## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

All Combined content and additional content that includes the following :

**Biology** - Culturing microorganisms, Monoclonal antibodies, DNA structure and protein synthesis, Gene expression and mutation, Cloning. The brain and the eye, Temperature regulation, water control and the kidneys

**Chemistry** - Transition metals, Additional quantitative chemistry, Fuel cells and batteries, Organic chemistry reactions, Further chemical analysis (very practical based)

**Physics** - Space, Static electricity, Nuclear fission and fusion, Moments, Pressure, Light

## HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Assessment will include **six externally assessed written exams** (each 1hr 45 mins exams) , for 100 marks in both Foundation and Higher tiers

Each science subject has two papers: Biology paper 1 and Biology paper 2;

Chemistry paper 1 and Chemistry paper 2 : Physics paper 1 and Physics paper 2.

Each paper contribute to a final grade in EACH science, giving you three separate grades in in Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

## COURSE PROGRESSION

All A-level Science courses, in addition to **any** vocational course

**Careers include:** The scope is huge, - Doctor, nurse, vet, engineer, lab technician, forensic scientist, archaeologist, pilot, electrician, Game developer and many more.

# Duke of Edinburgh's Award



*"The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has helped countless young people on their sometimes difficult path to adulthood."*

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

For the past seven decades, the charity has inspired and transformed the lives of millions of young people from all walks of life. From volunteering to physical activities, life skills to expeditions, achieving a DofE Award is a passport to a brighter future, valued by employers and universities

The DofE Award is all about going the extra mile – gaining new skills, pushing yourself physically, helping others and exploring new territories. At the same time, students will gather friendships, experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

All students are offered the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme in Year 10.



**Duke of Edinburgh's Award**  
Mr L O'Connor

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