



ORMISTON
SIX VILLAGES ACADEMY

Key Stage 4 Options 2026-2028



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 prior to the Easter holidays 2026.

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 2026

Date	Event	Detail
Jan 2026	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.
March 2026	Options Assembly	Full options process is explained to students. An opportunity for Mr. Case and Mr. McConville to answer any questions.
5th March 2026	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.
WB 9th March 2026	Yr.9 Tutor Activities and Class Discussions	Students will have the opportunity to discuss their choices directly with their class teachers and tutor.
27th March 2026	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 McConville 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, 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 McConville** 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 9 and 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.

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.



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 Technology
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- History
- Hospitality & Catering
- Media Studies
- Music
- PE (GCSE)
- Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
- Photography
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Triple Science

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.

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.

Business
Mr D Munt

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Computer Science GCSE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Digital skills are a gateway to almost every career path. While it is true that 90% of jobs in the UK require basic digital literacy, the **J277 Computer Science GCSE** moves you beyond basic use into technological mastery. The goal is to apply computers to real-life situations by developing "computational Thinking"—a way of breaking down complex problems into logical, solvable steps. In a world increasingly run by AI and automation, these are the skills that will provide a significant head start when entering the world of work.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The J277 course is a balanced mixture of theory and practical program development. Because computers run on logic, there is a strong mathematical element to the course focusing on how data is processed and stored. You will explore **Fundamentals of Algorithms, Programming** (using Python), and **Data Representation** including binary and hexadecimal math. The curriculum also covers **Computer Systems, Computer Networks & Cyber Security**, and the **Ethics & Software Development** impacts of technology on our society

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE is split into two equally weighted written exams taken at the end of Year 11. A defining feature of this course is that **both exams are non-calculator**, ensuring students truly understand the underlying logic of binary arithmetic and algorithm design. **Paper 1 (Computer Systems)** focuses on hardware, networks, and security, while **Paper 2 (Computational thinking, algorithms and programming)** focuses on the "logic" side of designing, writing, and correcting code. Each exam is worth 80 marks and counts for 50% of the overall grade

COURSE PROGRESSION

This course is the primary launchpad for A-Levels, T-Levels in Digital Production, and higher qualifications in digital media. Because of the high-level problem-solving and logical skills developed, this GCSE is highly respected by universities and employers in every sector. Career paths include software engineering, app development, game design, data analysis, machine learning, cyber security consultancy, IT sales, and forensic computer analysis.

Computer Science
Mr D O'Connor

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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 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?

GCSE Three-Dimensional Design involves students developing a Portfolio of work, this is made up of three mini projects and one sustained project. The mini projects are Angle poise lamps, Steam Punk Clock and a Garden Sculpture. In the Sustained project you will research how pattern has been used in Art and Interior decoration, looking at a range of sources. You will then develop your making skills using a variety of tools to enable you to design and make a side table, which has a patterned surface.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

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

The portfolio is made up of the mini 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 working with materials to produce a final piece

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 Design project, and students produce a final piece for this project in a 10-hour exam. In the D&T room.

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.

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 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?

- **Paper 1: Physical Geography:** Students will learn how coasts and rivers form and how they shape our landscape and communities. They will investigate the ecosystems, opportunities and challenges associated with hot deserts and rainforests. Students will also learn about the causes of tectonic and weather hazards and how communities manage these.
- **Paper 2: Human Geography:** Students learn about urbanisation in the UK and abroad, with case studies on Rio de Janeiro and Portsmouth. They look at globalisation the development gap between rich and poor countries. Students also investigate resource management and how this impacts peoples lives
- **Paper 3: Geographical skills:** Students will carry out fieldwork which will focus on Physical Environments and an Urban Study. They will then be examined on their findings. They are also examined on their understanding of key geographical skills. Students also have pre-released case study which is tackled in class. They then get a fresh copy of the study to use for analysis in the exam

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

GCSE Geography is currently assessed **100% by externally assessed examination.**

COURSE PROGRESSION

A-Level Geography; Some colleges offer a language as part of Leisure and Tourism or Business courses. There are a huge range of careers that use Geography including building, marine biologists, town-planner, architects, farmers. Click here to gain more of a view: [Jobs that use Geography, History and Religious Studies - Careers - BBC Bitesize](#)

Geography
Mr C Marsh

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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.

PAPER 1: Medicine in Britain—1250-Present day. Students look at change and continuity in medicine over the last 750 years. There is a particular focus on causes and treatment, public health, key individuals and surgery. Students also do a case study on WWI

PAPER 2: Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588. Students learn about Elizabeth and Elizabethan society during the first half of her reign. They learn about plots against her, exploration, wars with other countries and what it was like to live during this period.

The American West 1835-1895. This unit focuses on the settlement of the Wild West. Students learn about the early settlers, Native Americans losing their way of life, law and order, and religious groups.

PAPER 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939. In this unit, students learn how Germany recovered from WWI to become a flourishing democracy, only to turn to radical nationalism under Adolf Hitler.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

GCSE History is currently assessed **100% by externally assessed examination**.

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. For more information, click on this site: [Jobs that use Geography, History and Religious Studies - Careers - BBC Bitesize](#)

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.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course broadens pupils musical experience and interests; developing 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. 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.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will..

- Learn how to rehearse music effectively
- Critically evaluate your own work and others' work to develop the knowledge and skills to improve your own performances.
- Develop your composition skills, to enable you to create your own music.
- 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.

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. Paper 1 is worth 40% and Paper 2 is worth 30% 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.

Media Studies
Miss K Wickham

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COURSE OVERVIEW

- Students will be required to participate in at least one sport to a high standard outside of school

The course encourages students to:

- Understand how your body systems work in order to live a healthy and active lifestyle (physically, mentally and socially)
- Develop knowledge in a range of sports science, psychology and sociology topics
- Develop their sporting competence in multiple sports and analyse their strengths and weaknesses in their preferred sport

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

- Learn about the different physiological systems that make our body function effectively at rest and during exercise
- How you can optimise training for performance improvement
- Understand basic biomechanics of movement
- Understand how to psychologically prepare for sport and physical activity
- Understand the impact of sports participation on different social groups (gender, race, ethnicity, **disability etc.**)

How will you be ASSESSED?

Theory assessments totalling 60% of the course

- Paper 1 - The human body and movement in physical activity (36%)
- Paper 2 - Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport (24%)

Non-examined assessment totalling 40% of the course

- Sports assessment in 1 team, 1 individual and 1 team/individual (40%)
- Written coursework assignment analysing the strengths and weaknesses of their performance and how to improve

COURSE PROGRESSION

Level 3 courses in Physical Education, Sports Science and Sports Coaching

Careers include: Sports scientist, sports psychologist, sports nutritionist, sports therapist, PE teacher, sports coaching, sports marketing and management

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 2 Components. Component 1 focuses on Religious beliefs and practices in Christianity and Islam. Component 2 focuses on Themes in religious education with students studying Peace and Conflict, the Family, Life and Death, and Crime and Punishment. The course is assessed by 100% examination with 2 papers.

COURSE PROGRESSION

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

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

Philosophy and Ethics
Mr C Marsh

cmh@ormistonsixvilages.org.uk

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 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 independent project before starting their externally set task in January. 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

Sociology

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides pupils with the skills and knowledge needed to question the world around them. You will look at taken for granted assumptions and question whether they are actually true or not. It will appeal to pupils who enjoy discussion and debate and considering why we behave in the way that we do.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Pupils will study the processes that influence the way that humans behave and the influence of families and education on us. We will also study who has power in our society and who does not, who commits crime and how we can find out the truth about the world around us They will study the following:

Topics offered will include:

- How are we taught how to behave?
- Why is human behaviour different to that of animals?
- What is a family?
- Is marriage still important in 2025?
- Why do we have fewer children?
- Are families safe places?
- Are families useful?
- What's the point of education and school?
- Why are some children poorly behaved at school?
- What types of children are successful at school?
- What are the factors that make a child successful at school?
- How can we find out about human behaviour?

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

This course is **examined via 100% external exams**. Each student will sit **TWO examinations**. Exam 1 Understanding social processes is **1 hour 45 minutes**. Exam 2 Understanding social Structures is also **1 hour 45 minutes**.

COURSE PROGRESSION

This course can lead to a number of qualifications such as an A level and then to a degree

Careers include: Teaching, social worker, the prison service, counsellor, civil service, child and adolescent workers, politics and the law.

Sociology
Mr C Marsh

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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 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

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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

"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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