

# YEAR 9 | YOUR OPTIONS GUIDED CHOICES



## WHICH IS THE RIGHT DOOR FOR YOU?



**SOUTH WIRRAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
A Visual & Performing Arts, Maths & Computing College

RAISING ACHIEVEMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY

# The Core Subjects

The core are the compulsory subjects everyone must do.

- Maths
- English Language & Literature
- Science (combined Science)

- Ethics & Philosophy
- Core PE

} No qualification\*

# Entitlement Subjects:

In addition to the compulsory subjects, students will select **4 further subjects**.

In Year 10 pupils are expected to choose to study (at least) one of the following subjects from their four choices:

French

Geography

History

Separate Science

Computing

The overriding advice is that all students should retain a wide range of subjects and not limit their opportunities before 16 and having at least one of the above EBACC subjects as part of their choice ensures a strong foundation

# Options Booklet



## BTEC LEVEL 1/2 - HOSPITALITY & CATERING

### What will I learn on this course?

**Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry**  
Learners apply their learning by considering all aspects of the vocational sector. They should acquire knowledge of all aspects of the industry and be able to propose new hospitality and catering provision for specific locations. Learners will be able to use their learning of different types of establishment and job roles to determine the front of house and kitchen operations in relation to the proposed hospitality and catering provision will operate efficiently legally and financially whilst meeting the needs of their potential market. This unit provides a broad introduction to the vocational sector in a way that is purposeful and develops a range of transferable skills.

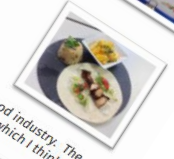
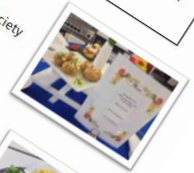
**Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action**  
Learners apply their learning to safely prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. They will draw on their learning of different types of provision and kitchen and front of house operations in Unit 1, as well as personal safety in their preparations. The content is relevant not only to employees within food production, but also those with a responsibility for food safety in the industry, nutritionists and managers and owners. This extends the learners' appreciation of the whole vocational area beyond the kitchen environment.

### Aims of the Course:

- Gives an awareness of the catering/hospitality industry
- Encourages organisation skills
- Develops a knowledge of nutrition and the relationship between diet and health
- Acknowledges the importance of cost effectiveness when menu planning
- Provides opportunities to work individually and as part of a team
- Develops creativity and interest in food preparation, presentation and service.

### Grades:

The course is graded at Distinction to Pass. The Level 1/2 Catering and Hospitality Course? Learners with first-hand experience of the Catering Industry. We cook a good range of dishes, from pastas to soups to sauces. I want to do as a career. I now think I may go into the food industry. The good training in organisational skills and time management, which I think also



... 40% of the final grade.  
... by the exam board in which the candidate has to  
... present and evaluate two dishes to suit the brief.  
... 60% of the final grade.  
... of chef whites that they must take bring to lesson when they are completing a practical.  
... al every week for which they will need to bring a container to take their product home. As part  
... ent of the course, students will be required to source and purchase their own ingredients. We are  
... ing this course available to all irrespective of financial circumstance and there is funding available to  
... could like to discuss ways the school can help your child access these resources please do not hesitate

# Options Booklet

The options booklet provides you with key information on all the subjects we offer you at Key Stage 4 in Year 10 and Year 11.

This information is being sent home to families and it is important that you go home and discuss the subjects you are interested in.

# Registration of Interest

This is not your options form!

Place your full name and tutor group on the form

Complete the form electronically - this has been emailed home and will be on your Google Classroom tutor group page. You are only required to submit the form once so please think carefully before you submit.

Make sure you think about your top four choices (but think of a couple more you may choose if you cannot do your top four) The deadline to complete this is Friday 7th February.

(1)

# Year 9 Options - Registration of Interests 2024

Please note - this is not the final options form. This information will be used to create the final option block.

dha@southwirral.wirral.sch.uk [Switch accounts](#)

Not shared

\* Indicates required question

Student First Name \*

Your answer

Student Surname \*

Your answer

Please indicate your FIRST choice subject \*

Choose

Please indicate your SECOND choice subject \*

Choose

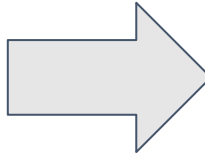
Please indicate your THIRD choice subject \*

Choose

Please indicate your FOURTH choice subject \*

Choose

Career Aspirations - What career do you want to go into when you leave school? \*

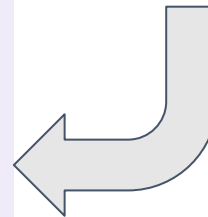


Registration \*

- 9PWA (tutors ALI/DJG)
- 9RJS (tutor SDR)
- 9ELB
- 9ANE
- 9JCB
- 9JBU
- 9CHT (tutor SST)
- 9ATA

Options - Important Information

All students are required to study Science GCSE. This is either combined or separate. Students who opt for separate complete this as 1 option choice alongside 3 others. Combined Science would allow students to select 4 GCSE subjects. All students will have 2 Games (Sports) lessons over the two week timetable.



Any additional comments

Your answer

Submit

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.



# FILM STUDIES

DISCLAIMER: IT IS NOT JUST WATCHING FILMS!





# What is Film Studies?

Film studies is an exciting new subject which focuses on **watching, analysing** and **creating** film!

Students study a **variety of films** and **analyse** their **techniques**, representations and **cultural** influences.

We will learn about the **history of film making** and the **history of Hollywood**.

Students will learn to **analyse** texts, develop their ability to **visualise** stories, and learn the **technical skills** to turn ideas into films.

## How is it assessed?

**This is an essay writing subject.**

**It is similar to English- instead of analysis texts, we analyse and write about films.**

**Exam 1: Hollywood Film (1 hour 30) (35%)**

You will write a number of essays about Ferris Bueller, Rebel Without a Cause and Whiplash.

**Exam 2: (1 hour 30) (35%)**

TSOTSI, District 9 and Attack the Block

**NEA: Script Writing or Film Making (30%)**

# This Course Would Suit You If...

## **This course would suit you if ...**

- ENJOY ENGLISH!
- Enjoy extended writing!
- Are interested in film and culture
- Have an enquiring mind and enjoy a
- Enjoy the opportunity to undertake individual research
- Are committed to hard work and creativity over an extended period of time
- You have strong analytical and written skills
- Want to be a filmmaker or work in the film industry

## How can I use this course after Year 11 / in the future?

We advise students wishing to take A Level Film or Cambridge Technicals in Digital Media to have studied Film GCSE. Film Studies:-

- Helps you **develop practical and creative skills** which help in all creative professions such as acting, design, film, TV, set design, writing, marketing, and business
- Teaches **project management skills** such as planning, execution, and team work required in industries such as engineering, **STEM** and any media industries
- Helps you to understand audiences and production processes, so it's useful in marketing professions, advertising, business
- Teaches written enquiry skills which fit jobs which find out information – **Journalism, researcher, market research, and teaching or lecturing.**
- Requires extended, **logical, reasoned, analytical debate** in writing which is essential for other subjects such as English, Sociology, Psychology, History, Geography, Science
- Teaches **ICT skills**, information handling, communicating ideas, flexibility, teamwork, problem solving and evaluating solutions – skills regarded as essential in Industry, the Public Services and in research and development teams in Science and Engineering.

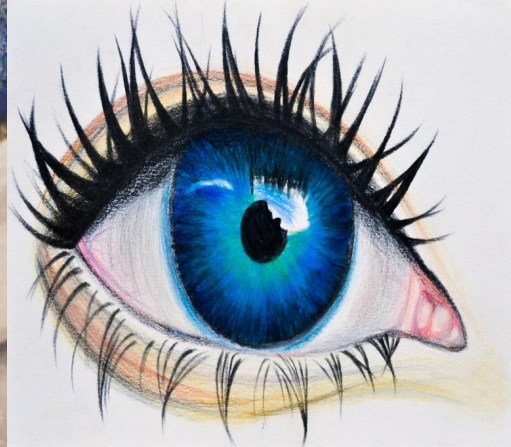


**Performance**

**Faculty**

# Art





# FINE Art

3 Projects over the course of 2 years.

1. **Botanicals** (plants, fruits and flowers)
2. **Distorted Portraiture** (selfies and portraits of others)
3. **Exam project of your own choice** (this year we have themes of Cars, Waterfalls, Cakes, Cathedrals, Graffiti and Animals)

You will explore lots of media (watercolour and acrylic paint, pencil, pen, collage, photography, printmaking, sculpture, fashion design) plus an Oil painting workshop and trips and visits.



# Dance



# Dance

3 units over the course of 2 years.

1. **Performance** (Assessing your practical dance skills)
2. **Choreography** (Assessing your creativity and design skills)
3. **Appreciation** (Assessing your analytical skills)

You will explore lots of dance styles and learn about many dance practitioners plus lots of trips and visits.



# Drama



# Drama

3 units over the course of 2 years.

1. **Performing** (Assessing your practical drama skills)
2. **Devising** (Assessing your creativity and design skills)
3. **Response** (Assessing your analytical skills)

You will explore lots of drama styles and learn about many drama practitioners plus lots of trips and visits.

# Music







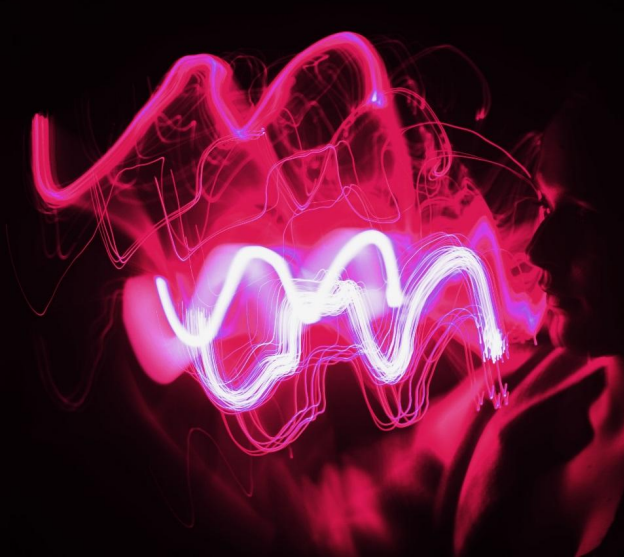
# Music

3 units over the course of 2 years:

1. **Performing** (Assessing your practical Music skills - this can be on any instrument of your choice, including voice)
2. **Composition** Writing your own songs using music technology)
3. **Understanding** (Assessing your analytical skills - a listening exam paper)

You will explore lots of music styles and learn about many music practitioners plus lots of trips and visits.

# Photography



# DIGITAL Photography

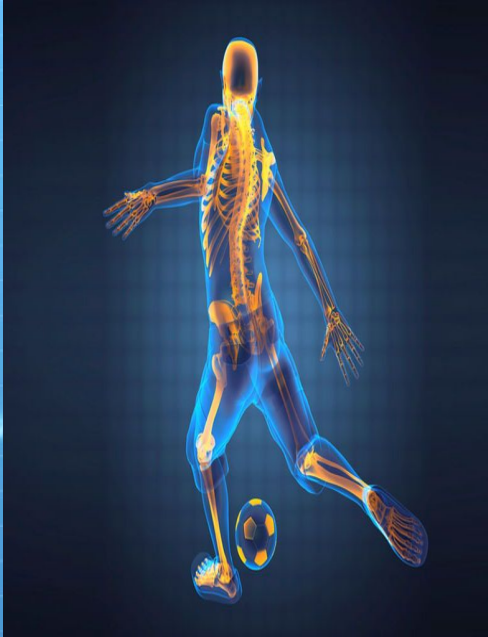
3 Projects over the course of 2 years.

1. **Experimental Light** (torches, fairy lights, sunlight, lighting kit)
2. **Beyond Reality** (focussing on Surrealism through juxtaposition)
3. **Exam project of your own choice** (this year we have themes of Fragments, Black and white, Places and spaces and Portraits)

You will explore lots of new digital and photography techniques (layering, exposure, Bokeh, long exposure and macro photography)

# Sports Science





# Sports SCIENCE

3 Projects over the course of 2 years.

1. **Applying Principles of Training** (Analysing how fitness levels affect skill performance)
2. **The Body's Response to physical activity** (Using technology to track and measure fitness levels)
3. **Reducing Risks of Sports Injuries** (Analysing different stretch and warm up/down programmes)

You will explore lots of different sporting activities inc. Dance, Boxing, Ice Hockey, Fitness, and apply the learning of Sports Science to them.

This is not like your PE lessons, all practical sessions link to Science, coaching and training skills.

# Technology Faculty

**Hospitality and Catering (*Food Technology*)**

**Design and Technology**

**Health & Social Care**

**Computer Science**

**iMedia**

**Business Studies**

**Travel & Tourism**





# HOSPITALITY AND CATERING



# Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering

You will be taught all about the Hospitality and Catering industry. In **Year 10** you will gain a wealth of knowledge on practical skills with one practical a week. In **Year 11** you will put this knowledge to the test in completing your practical cookery exam and written exam.



## TASKS

1. Propose two nutritional dishes for a Café.
2. Plan for the production of two dishes that could be included on the menu.
3. Prepare, cook and present the two dishes that the apprentice will prepare and cook in a 3 hour practical exam in school.
4. Theory about the Hospitality Industry – 1hr 20min exam at the end of Yr11.

**60%**

- 1 Piece of Coursework (16 pages).
- 1 Practical exam = Cook a main course and dessert of your choice in 3 hours.

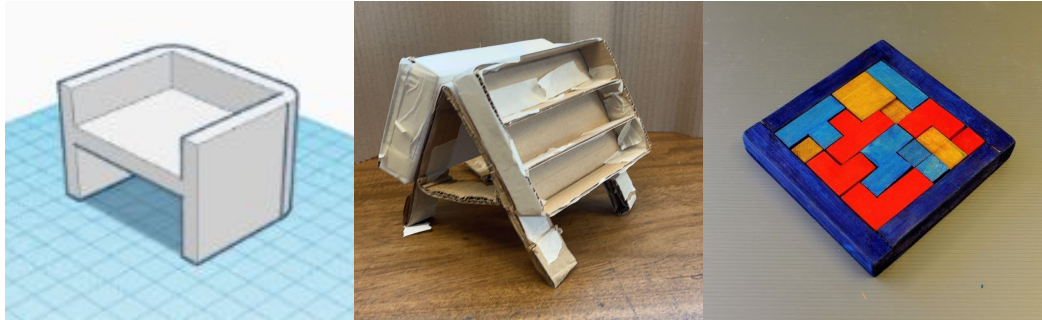
**40%**

- 1 Theory Exam – 1hr 20 all about the hospitality industry.

# Design & Technology



# GCSE Design Technology - Timbers, Plastics, Metals



**GCSE Assessment**  
**50% Written Exam**  
**50% Coursework**

## **Year 10:**

### **3 practical lessons per fortnight**

You will learn to use a vacuum former, laser cutter, line bender and 3D printer to make a variety of projects which include:

Storage tray, Bookend, Bottle opener, Concrete lettering, Slot toys and an IKEA product redesign.

### **2 theory lessons per fortnight**

These lessons focus on designing and making principles, and cover topics which explore every aspect of a product's lifecycle from raw materials, manufacturing, use, through to disposal/recycling.

## **Year 11:**

The coursework project begins in June of year 10 and runs up to the February half-term in year 11. You must design and make a product in response to a set context e.g. educational toys.

Pick this option if you enjoy making practical, useful products, finding out how things work and how things in the world around you are made.

# GCSE Design Technology - Textiles



**GCSE Assessment**  
**50% Written Exam**  
**50% Coursework**

## **Year 10:**

### **3 practical lessons per fortnight**

You will learn to use a sewing machine, cnc cutter, 3D printer, heat press and screen printer to make a variety of projects including bags, shoes, upcycled garments and an IKEA product redesign.

### **2 theory lessons per fortnight**

These lessons focus on designing and making principles, and cover topics which explore every aspect of a product's lifecycle from raw materials, manufacturing, use, through to disposal/recycling.

## **Year 11:**

The coursework project begins in June of year 10 and runs up to the February half-term in year 11. You must design and make a product in response to a set context e.g. educational toys.

Pick this option if you enjoy making practical, useful products, finding out how things work and how things in the world around you are made.

# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE





During this course you will learn about:

- the life stages and key characteristics in the physical, intellectual, emotional and social (PIES) development classifications and the different factors that can affect an individual's growth and development
- different life events and how individuals can adapt or be supported through changes caused by life events
- the barriers and obstacles an individual may encounter and how these can be overcome
- health and Social Care Values
- the skills, attributes and values required to give care and how these benefit the individual.

**PSA (60%) - 6 hours, exam condition, in classroom. Can take notes  
Exam (40%)**

**Components 1 and 2 are non-exam internal assessments set by Pearson, marked by your teacher and externally moderated by Pearson, they are worth 30% each and will be completed in approximately 6 hours of supervised assessment.**

**Component 3 is the Exam worth 40% sat at the end of year 11**

# COMPUTING

Data Structures & Algorithms

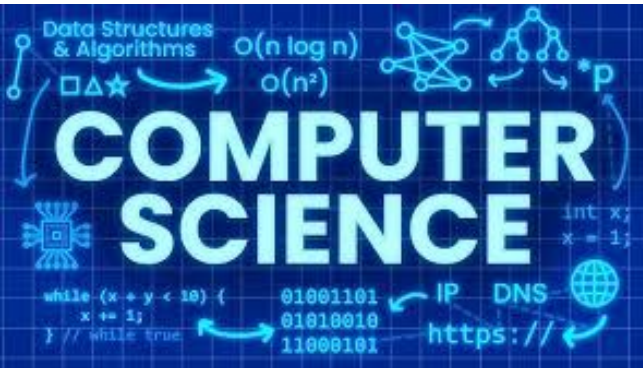
$O(n \log n)$

$O(n^2)$

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

```
int x;  
x = 1;  
  
while (x + y < 10) {  
  x ++ 1;  
  // while true  
}
```

IP DNS  
https://



$\sum_{h=0}^{n-1} (2h+2)$

$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0}$

$x+y+2p+2$

$x=0$

$0 \ 10 \ 1 \ 0$

$10 \ 1 \ 0$

$0 \ 10 \ 1 \ 0$





# GCSE Computer Science

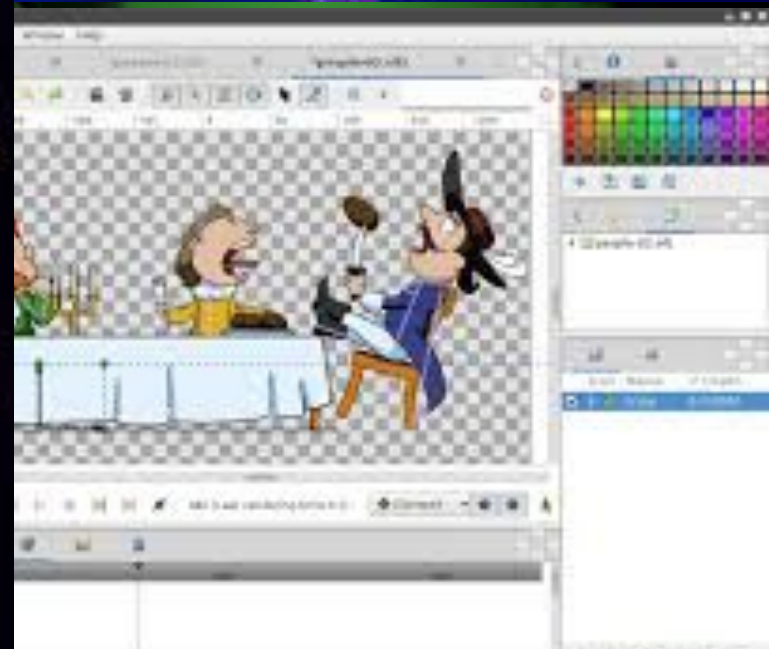


- 100% Exam Based at the end of Yr 11.
- Two exams - 1 hour 30 minutes
- You will be tested on:
  - Memory & storage
  - Inside a computer
  - Networks
  - Software
  - Security
  - Ethics
  - Algorithms
  - Programming
- Practical Programming will be tested in the exam

Do you:

- Enjoy programming in Python?
- Not give up when errors occur on Python?
- Enjoy challenging yourself in Python?
- Like to learn about the inside of a computer, networks, algorithms and computer legislation etc?
- Prefer exams over coursework?

# CREATIVE iMEDIA



# Creative iMedia

This is an exciting course offered to students who share an interest in the world of Digital Media and recognise its importance in the modern world of work. The course embraces many aspects of IT but students focus on the creative aspects of the newly involving media industry.

The course is split into three units of work:

**One externally assessed (Exam 40%)**

**and two Non Examined Assessment**

**(NEA) units. (60%)**

A Visual & Performing Arts, Maths & Computing College



## One Exam

- Creative iMedia in the media industry

## Two of the following NEA

### Units

- Visual identity and digital graphics (NEA)
- Animation with audio (NEA)
- Digital games
- Visual imaging

# GCSE BUSINESS



# GCSE Business

You will complete 2 units over 2 years. These will be external units.

## Why choose GCSE Business?

The course is an excellent introduction into the world of business. It is designed to give you a sound understanding of both small start-ups and larger businesses in the context of both UK and international markets.

### Content

#### **Paper 1:**

Look at local and national business contexts and will develop an understanding of how these contexts impact business behaviour and decisions. Concentrating on small businesses or those operating in a single UK location.

#### **Paper 2:**

Focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources.



**100% Exam Only**

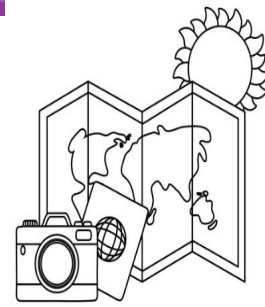
**2 Exams at the end  
of Year 11**

**Regular fortnightly  
tests**

# TRAVEL & TOURISM



# BTEC Tech Award – Travel & Tourism



If you have ever wondered about the world we live in, dreamt about countries in far flung places and thought about how you can travel the world, Travel and Tourism is the option for you. With the travel industry being one of the fastest growing in modern Britain, an understanding of the concept of travel and tourism, the economic benefits and the impact on local and international communities is vital.

## **A Travel & Tourism student will:**

- Work independently in class on writing assignments
- Meet regular deadlines
- Revise for tests when preparing for the exam
- Be prepared to come back at lunchtimes to catch up with work missed or to improve their work

**2 PSAs (60%) - 6 hours, exam condition, in classroom. Can take notes into PSAs  
Exam (40%)**

**Components 1 and 2 are non-exam internal assessments set by Pearson, marked by your teacher and externally moderated by Pearson, they are with 30% each and will be completed in approximately 6 hours of supervised assessment.**

# Humanities Subjects

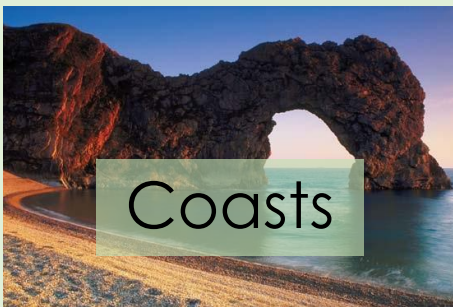
Studying humanities subjects like History, Geography, MFL, RE, and Sociology helps you understand people, cultures and the world around you, giving you the tools to navigate life with empathy and insight. These skills not only make you more employable but also enrich your perspective, empowering you to build a better future for yourself and others.



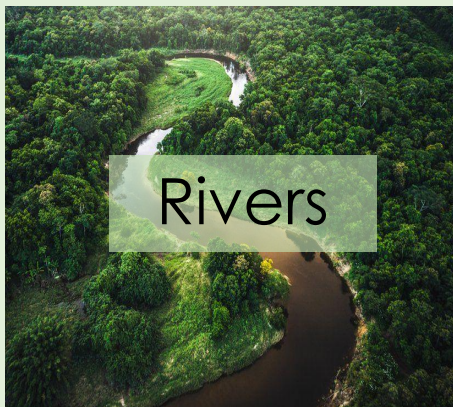
**How would my timetable and learning experience change without this subject?**







Coasts



Rivers



Weather  
hazards



Ecosystems



Cities

# GCSE GEOGRAPHY



Urban  
fieldwork



Resources



Development



UK  
Challenges



Coasts  
fieldwork

# Why choose GCSE Geography?

Geography is for everybody! Geography includes topics that fit into both science and humanities. It can help you learn about the world around you and make sense of the 'why' things happen. You'll learn about places you never even knew existed, and even find out a few things you didn't know about your local area. It is the constantly changing study of the future of the planet and can lead to a diverse range of careers such as:

- Environmental planning
- Teaching
- Engineering
- Hazard risk management
- Social care
- Politics



- Links to lots of other subjects – ideal for a wide range of careers
- Range of skills e.g. scientific skills, justification, data analysis and presentation, research
- Variety – lots of scope to find your own area of interest
- Fieldwork – build practical skills during investigations at the coast and in an urban area
- Relevance – lots of links to current events; helps to understand the world around you



# GCSE French



## What is GCSE French?

- Builds on what you learned in KS3.
- Covers exciting topics like The Environment and Influential People.
- Develops key skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
- Opportunity to visit France (details to follow).

## Why Choose French?

- People who speak another language earn more.
- Improves communication skills.
- Lowers the risk of illnesses like dementia.
- Opens up many career opportunities.



# GCSE German



***GCSE German is exclusively available to students who opted to take mini-option German this year. You can pick German in addition to, or instead of French.***

## **What is GCSE German?**

- We follow the same course as in French - the same topics and ideas are covered in both languages

## **Why Choose German?**

- All of the reasons from the previous slide also apply to German
- In addition, there is targeted investment in German in the UK to increase the number of speakers, because German is incredibly important to the UK economy

## **What about two languages?**

- Set yourself apart from the rest of the UK! Less than 10% of the UK population are in the fortunate position of having two MFL GCSEs, you would be a unique proposition to employers!



# Who should study MFL?

- Enjoy learning about other cultures and want to travel.
- Are open-minded and ready for a challenge.
- Might want to live or work abroad.
- Have opinions about the world or want to keep their career options open.
- Need a language for careers like translator, teacher, doctor, lawyer, or marketing.

# GCSE Religious Studies

At GCSE we study two different religions – **Judaism and Christianity**

For each of the religions we look at their **core beliefs** and how these are **put into action** in their everyday lives. You will have some background in this from your lessons in year 8.

The other sections are **philosophy and ethics** units, as you have studied in year 9.

They cover issues like:

The Problem of Evil

Does God exist?  
environment?

What happens when we die?

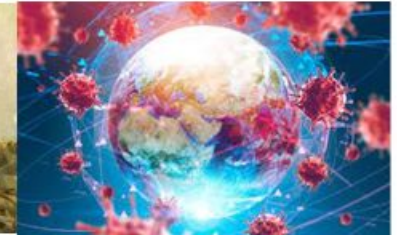
How should we treat others?

How should we treat the

Family life in Judaism

No coursework – just two exams 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

# GCSE History: Overview



Year  
10

## Weimar and Nazi Germany

How did a powerful country like Germany come to be ruled by Adolf Hitler?

What shaped America into the nation it is today?

## Medicine Through Time

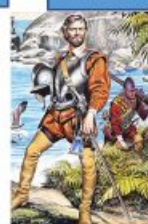
How did we treat the people through time, and what influenced this?

Why is this known as our courtiers "Golden Age?"

Year  
11

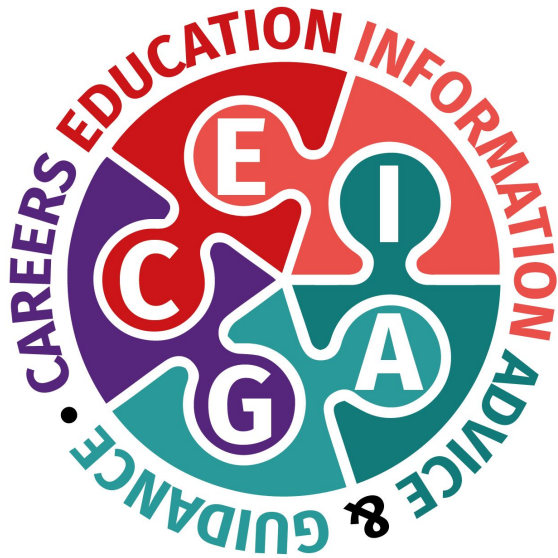
## The American West

## Elizabethan England





# Careers in History



**SOUTH WIRRAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
A Visual & Performing Arts, Maths & Computing College

<p><b>What careers can I do in this subject?</b></p>	<p>You can go into teaching and other forms of education like university lecturing. Careers in Law are also possible, as well as libraries, archives museums and fields like archeology and paleontology.</p>
<p><b>How do I achieve this?</b></p>	<p>You need to study history at both GCSE and A Level to begin your road to a career in history!</p>
<p><b>What qualifications will I need?</b></p>	<p>Aside from obviously great GCSE and A Level history grades, strong grades in English at GCSE, and other subjects involving extended writing.</p>
<p><b>What LORIC principles will I need to do this?</b></p>	<p>Resilience - history can be tough, but very rewarding. Organisation - a lot of writing needs a lot of organisation! Initiative being a historian is like being a detective - solve those mysteries!</p>



# Next Steps The guided choices process consists of three key elements:

**Wednesday 22nd January** Year 9 Assembly to introduce the options process

The options booklet will be issued giving details of courses on offer and choices available alongside a letter for parents/carers

Link sent to parents/carers with a registration of interests form which must be completed to support with the creation of the final option blocks.

**Friday 7th February** Deadline for submission of registration of interests form to aid in the creation of option blocks.

**Friday 14th February** Final Options Blocks form will be distributed to parents/students in electronic form.

**Friday 28th February** Deadline for return of options form.

# FINAL TIPS.....

**New courses:** Don't choose something just because it is new. Speak with teachers and find out about it - subjects will be exploring taster lessons for you to find out more!

**Current courses you know:** A subject is not always the same as it is in Year 9. Find out about the course and make sure you know what you are selecting to study

**Disappointment:** Don't worry if you can't do your perfect set of options. We can't guarantee students can. If you do well in your GCSEs and want to select a course at A level that you didn't do at GCSE, you still can.

# WHAT SHOULD YOU DO....

Take the booklet home today and read through with parents/carers

Complete the registration of interest form once you have done this. (It will be sent via parentmail and will be on your Google Classroom pages)

The deadline is Friday 7th February so take time to register the right subjects for you!

Talk with teachers!