



Woking High School
Inspire, Challenge, Achieve

Options Information 2023



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Dear Student,

Following assemblies, careers interviews, taster sessions and additional information provided in lessons, it is now time for you to make choices to complete your pathway to GCSE. Now is the time to focus on your aspirations and future goals and make decisions that will help you to achieve these aims. The idea of making decisions that will impact on your future can be extremely daunting. We understand this and have put together a programme of information, advice and guidance to help you make the most informed decisions possible. This booklet includes information that will support you in making your choices. You should use it to understand what different subjects have to offer and to see how each fits in with your future aspirations.

I would urge you to take your time during this process and ultimately choose your courses for all of the right reasons. It is natural to feel a little overwhelmed by having to make this decision, but take time to speak to staff, make an appointment to see Mrs Jarman, log on to unifrog or do some research online. Ask your subject staff and speak to current GCSE students to find out what the courses are actually like. I have also arranged for Innervate to meet with you, so they can answer questions that you have regarding post-16 education and training.

Once you have spoken to teachers and have discussed the subjects with your parents/carers you will need to use SIMS Online to register your choices. There is no rush to do this right now. You need to make considered choices based on things that you are interested in, subjects that you do well at and subjects that might give you a balance of terminal exams and NEA work to complete throughout the course. These are your choices and the package has to be right for you as there is no opportunity for changing or dropping options later on in the course. It is important though that you do meet the deadline for midday on Thursday 30th March 2023; you can go back in and change it as many times as you like up to this point, but after then it will be locked.

Please remember that we will do our very best to accommodate your first choices, but there might be occasions where we do not run all the courses offered in this booklet, or where we simply cannot timetable something to that extent and some subjects do have a limit on numbers due to health and safety limitations. So, you must consider your choice of reserve subject and the subject preference order very carefully as these may be called upon in a few cases.

If you have any further questions or worries, then speak to staff before completing the online process. I wish you all the best in realising your future aspirations.



Mrs M Abbs-Rowe

Assistant Headteacher

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Our Key Stage Four Curriculum is broad and balanced, meaning that students will continue to study a range of subjects. The curriculum is designed to prepare them for their post-16 education and to promote a deep interest in learning. Outside the examination classes, there is a compulsory programme of PSHCE and A2B lessons which include careers education, work related learning and discussion-based activities relating to moral and ethical issues. Our approach to the Key Stage Four Curriculum is highly personalised, as we want to ensure every student has an offer that best meets their needs, interests and their post-16 aspirations. High quality Careers Advice, Information and Guidance build upon work covered in Years 7, 8 and 9 to ensure students are supported in their option choices. We also look forward to working closely with parents/carers to provide guidance and advice in the months leading up to the start of Year 10 and beyond. Please note that we regularly review our curriculum offer to ensure we are providing the best possible model for our students. As a result, though correct at the time of writing, the curriculum model identified in this booklet may be subject to change. Confirmation of any curriculum changes will be made before the start of the academic year 2023/24.

Woking High School operates a two-week timetable consisting of 50 one-hour lessons.

The Core Subjects:

English [8 lessons per cycle]- see pgs. 11 and 12

All students study GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Maths [8 lessons per cycle] - see pg. 13

All students study GCSE Mathematics.

Science - [10 lessons per cycle] see pgs. 14 and 15

All students study GCSE Science. Students will either follow the Trilogy qualification (equivalent to two GCSEs) or will be offered the opportunity to study all three science disciplines - Biology, Chemistry and Physics - as separate GCSEs. Those students who follow the Triple Science route will be allocated 12 hours of curriculum time per cycle.

A2B / PSHCE /Careers Guidance [minimum of 1 lesson per cycle]

This lesson delivers aspects of our curriculum that are vital to students' personal development and well-being. Students are encouraged to think critically and debate moral and political questions and to reflect on their place in British society. Lessons related to Careers Education and Personal Finance will promote sensible day-to-day management of money and budgeting. The PSHCE content delivered within these lessons equips students with an understanding of personal risk and will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed lifestyle decisions.

Option Courses

Students select four option subjects that they wish to study. Each option subject is allocated five hours of curriculum time per two-week cycle.

Students have to choose **one** subject from Column One and three choices from Column Two, along with two reserves.

We highly recommend that students who aspire to apply to university in the future choose one language **AND** one of GCSE History or Geography, to qualify for the full English Baccalaureate (English, Maths, Science, one Language as well as either History or Geography).

There is an expectation that Year 9 dual linguists do chose a language at Key Stage 4.

Terms used in this booklet

Component/unit: A small section of learning covering specific syllabus content of the content. This could be in preparation for an internal/external assessment or just as a vehicle to cover the required course content

English Baccalaureate: To qualify for the full English Baccalaureate students, need to gain qualifications in: English, Maths, Science, one Language as well as either History or Geography. It is considered to be a suite of subjects for academic excellence.

External Assessment: These are examinations that are set by the Examining Body. The exam dates and times of these are outside of our control and have to be completed on specific dates and times. A timetable will be published and shared with you in advance. If your son/daughter is absent on that day, a medical note must be provided as there will not be another opportunity for them to sit this examination.

Internal Assessment: Examinations set by Woking High School staff. The exam times and dates are set by us and the exam timetable is published and shared with students. If your son/daughter is absent on that day, a medical note must be provided and there may be another opportunity for them to sit this examination.

Linear: The course is a two-year journey through both Year 10 and 11. Each unit builds on the previous and the examination/assessment is at the end of the course.

Moderation: This is a way of checking that Non-Examined Assessments (which are marked by teachers in each school) are marked to an agreed standard. This means that marking of Non-Examined Assessment is standardised across all schools in England and Wales.

Non-Examined Assessment: (NEA – Coursework) This is an assessment which is completed in class. They have to be completed under controlled conditions which means that students are only allowed to have a certain amount of time to complete them and they are generally carried out under examination conditions. The work is marked by teachers, but then moderated by the Examining Body (see moderation above). See individual Subject Option pages for more information.

Options: The term used for the choices made in Year 9 for study in Year 10 and 11. They are not optional and students are expected to select the four as specified on page 6 and then will study core subjects alongside these.

Oversubscribed: For some subjects there are limited places due to equipment; staff availability or health and safety regulations; these subjects include Computing, Design Technology, Food Preparation and Nutrition and Hospitality and Catering. If too many students select these subjects, we will speak to the students to explain the situation and also look at the reserve subject allocations in order to reassign subject choices.

SEND Pathway: A subject choice which takes a slightly different format to the usual curriculum followed by the majority of students in the year group. It will apply to a few specific students, who will be made aware of the pathways open to them by individual contact from Mrs Abbs-Rowe or from the SEND or VI teams.

Specification: Also known as syllabus. Each subject has a specification written by the Examining Body. This details the knowledge, skills and understanding that students are expected to obtain and develop over the two years.

Tiers: Some subjects have examination tiers. This means that students can be entered for Higher Tier (usually GCSE grades 9-4) or Foundation Tier (usually GCSE grades 5-1). Some subjects have only one tier which allows students to gain GCSE grades 9-1. Tiers are selected by teachers according to each individual student's ability and performance over the two years.

The Different Qualifications Explained

There is a wide variety of qualifications available to students and it is important that you and your child understand the difference between the qualifications so that they are able to make informed decisions about which style of learning is best for them.

Nationally recognised qualifications are classified as either Level 1 or Level 2 qualifications at Key Stage 4. Level 3 courses are studied post 16.

1. Level 2 qualifications are equivalent to GCSE grades 9-5
2. Level 1 qualifications are equivalent to GCSE grades 4-1

Qualification Type	Description
GCSE	This stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education. Most, but not all, GCSEs are based on a final examination to test what students understand, know and can do. Very few GCSEs have a Non-Examined Assessment element. The Non-Examined Assessment has to be completed during lesson time in school under conditions which are taught at school. Awards are graded 9 (highest) to 1 (lowest).
Level 1/2 Technical Award	These are a mixture of vocational and theoretical qualifications. These are designed to support learners who want to learn about vocational sectors and the potential it can offer them for their careers or future studies. They inspire students to develop real world skills to prepare them for their future. There is a larger practical element to these courses.

*Point to note:

Students will need a minimum Grade 4 in both English and Maths to access most A level courses and to avoid having to resit the subjects again with their post-16 provider.

Parents/carers or students wanting to discuss the Options process or possible choices in more detail are encouraged to contact Miss Mercer on 01483 888 445 or AMercer@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk to arrange a meeting with Mrs Abbs-Rowe during the weeks beginning 13th and 20th March.

Options Selection: Overview of Groups

One from this column.	Three plus Two reserves from this column.
Selection 1	Selection 2
French Geography History Latin Spanish	Art and Design Astronomy Business Child Development (Technical Award) Computer Science Design and Technology Drama Food Preparation and Nutrition French Geography History Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award) Latin Media Studies Music Physical Education Religious Studies Spanish

Please be aware that there are some subjects which cannot be chosen in conjunction. These are:

- GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition and Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award).

Please Note:

Please remember that we will do our very best to accommodate your first choices, but there might be cases where we do not run all the courses offered in this booklet due to insufficient numbers or conversely, some courses may be over-subscribed so we will use reserve subjects to allocate options.

It is therefore very important that the order that you give to your choices and reserve subjects is considered carefully and that reserve subjects are ones that you would be happy to study at KS4.

The Application Process

The Options process starts on Monday March 6th 2023 with the Options presentation shared with students in assembly. An email will be sent to students to invite them to options online by midday Tuesday 7th March.

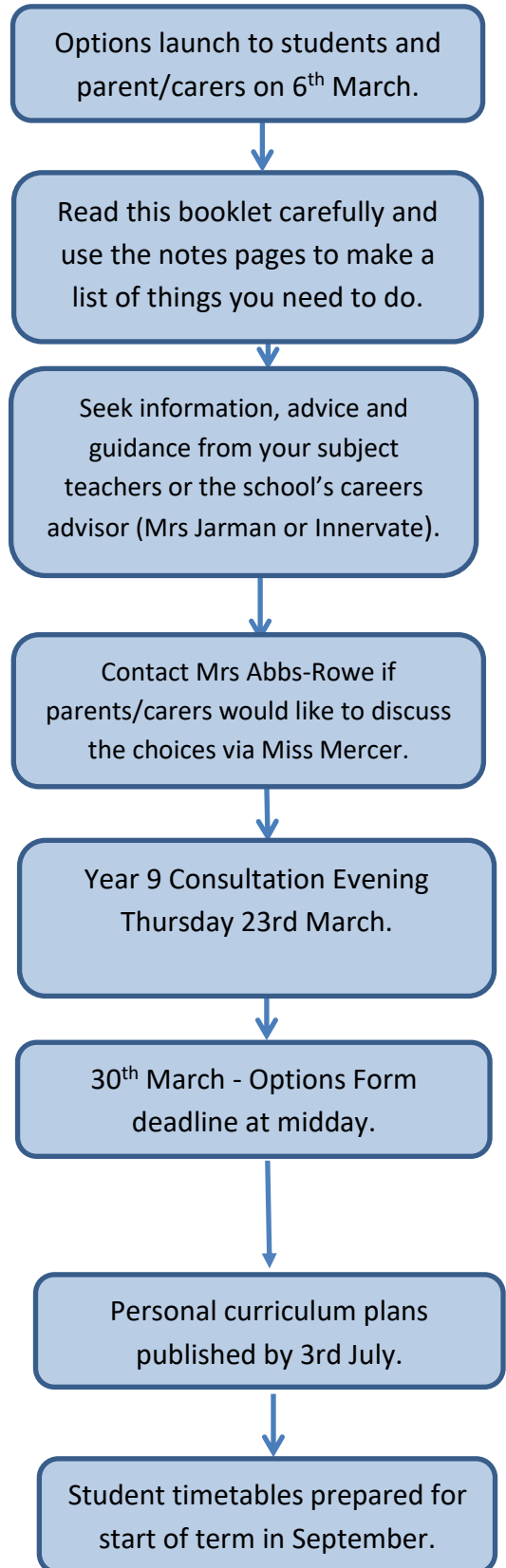
.....
This booklet will give you an overview of the range of courses you can choose from.

.....
To help you make informed choices, you will receive detailed information, advice and guidance.

.....
Parents and students will be able to book a meeting with Mrs Abbs-Rowe weeks beginning 13th March and 20th March during the day or after school. Mrs Abbs-Rowe will also have appointments at the Year 9 Consultation Evening, which can be booked on School Cloud.

.....
Complete the online Application Form, following the instructions, and **SUBMIT it on or before midday on 30th March 2023.**

.....
Each student will receive a Personal Curriculum Plan by 3rd July, showing the courses they have been allocated.



Careers information, Advice and Guidance

Woking High School provides high quality Careers information, Advice and Guidance to students in every year group. The school collaborates with Innervate Careers Services to ensure students have up-to-date details regarding Post -16 education and are inspired to make the right decisions for them.

Making choices about education and training can be a challenge, so students will receive support to help them choose well. Receiving careers guidance from a range of people, including their tutors, subject teachers, Mrs Jarman, the careers coordinator, and other specialist staff, will help students to think through their ideas and weigh up different options. Mrs Jarman can be contacted directly on CJarman@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk. Innervate will be available at the Year 9 Consultation Evening on 23rd March; appointments can be booked directly with Claire Milne via School Cloud.

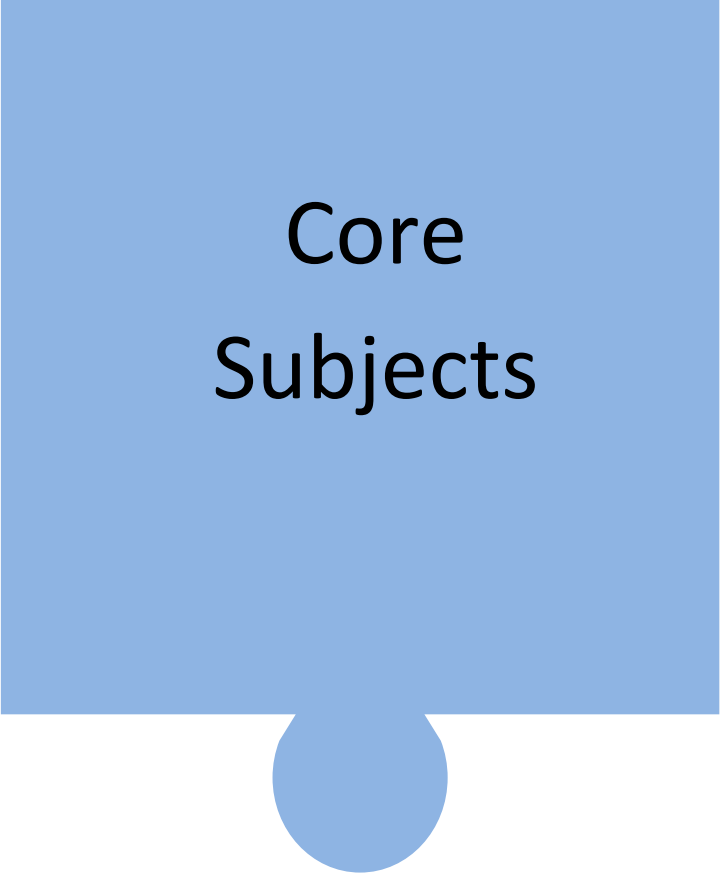
All Year 9 students have received career guidance lessons delivered by qualified career advisers from Innervate Career Services through PSHCE, tutor time and Aspire to Be Days. Some students have been involved in small group work sessions with the Innervate team too. These lessons have been designed to help with the decision-making process and explore how subjects relate to career pathways.

The following websites are useful places to start researching future options for further education, employment and training:

The National Careers Service –
<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>
www.icould.com or
www.startprofile.com or
www.apprenticeships.org.uk or
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>

We also have some useful brochures available to help students understand how subjects link with careers; these can be found on the Woking High School website under the Careers Guidance and Inspiration / Linking Careers with Subjects tabs.

Local colleges and Sixth Form providers have interactive materials and course guides on their websites, which are also a very useful resource to look at local post 16 provision.



Core Subjects

GCSE English Language

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
English	www.ocr.org.uk	J351B
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Linear Exam	kpaton@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

This course offers a skills-based approach to the study of English. It gives students the opportunity to improve and then demonstrate their functional competence, ability to investigate, analyse and use language creatively.

Assessment

Students will be assessed in two Language examination papers:

Unit 1 - Communicating Information and Ideas 50% (2-hour exam)

Students will respond to a 19th Century non-fiction text and a non-fiction text from either the 20th or 21st Century. The exam papers will test students' comprehension skills and their ability to compare and analyse texts. Students will also complete a writing task that may be thematically linked to the original source material.

Unit 2 - Exploring Effects and Impact 50% (2-hour exam)

Students will respond to two texts from either the 20th or 21st Century. Questions will examine comprehension and the ability to synthesise information, compare and analyse text. They will also complete a piece of creative writing.

Spoken Language - Separately Endorsed

The students will complete a speaking task that will not form part of their GCSE qualification, but will be acknowledged separately on their final certificate and is compulsory.

Successful students are...

Those who can demonstrate skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing necessary to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately.

Progression

Students can study A-Level English Language, Literature or a combined A-Level qualification. The analytical skills required for GCSE English are excellent preparation for subjects such as Sociology, Psychology and Law. The study of English benefits a broad range of careers especially Journalism, Publishing, Law, Media and Teaching.

GCSE English Literature

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
English	www.ocr.org.uk	J352
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Linear Exam	kpaton@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

This course gives students the opportunity to explore a range of English literature. The texts are globally important and influential texts, past and present. All students will study a modern prose or drama text, a 19th Century text, a Shakespeare play and a selection of poetry from the Romantic period up to the present day. The selection of texts will cover culturally significant work from the English literary heritage.

Assessment

Unit 1 - Modern and Literary Heritage texts (50%) - 2 hour exam.

Students will answer two questions on 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell. The first question will deal with an extract from our selected text, comparing it with an unseen text; the second question will ask them to explore the text beyond the extract. Students will answer one question on 'The strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' by Robert Lewis Stevenson. All questions are closed book.

Unit 2 - Poetry and Shakespeare (50%) - 2 hour exam.

Students will respond to a poem from their anthology and compare it with an unseen poem. They will then answer a related question on a different poem from the Anthology. Students answer a question on the Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. All questions are closed book.

Successful students are...

Successful students are those who read widely, enjoy writing and are ready to ask questions of texts. Students will need to be able to explain their opinions about texts, supporting with evidence that they explore and link to relevant contexts. The closed book nature of the Literature exams means students need to revise independently from the start of the course to be able to successfully quote from memory.

Progression

Students can go on to study A-Level English Language, English Literature or a combined A-Level. The analytical skills required for GCSE Literature are excellent preparation for subjects such as Sociology, Psychology and Law. The study of Literature benefits a broad range of careers, especially Journalism, Publishing, Law, Media and Teaching.

GCSE Mathematics

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Mathematics	www.edexcel.com	1MA1
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
Higher (Grades 9-4) Foundation (Grades 5-1)	100% Linear Exam	pheller@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

GCSE Mathematics aims to develop students' problem-solving skills and confidence in working with number. Throughout the course students are encouraged to apply their maths skills to everyday problems and scenarios.

Assessment

There are three papers, each one is 1 ½ hours long.

The three papers cover:

Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change, Geometry and Measures, Probability, and Statistics.

A calculator is allowed for Papers **Two** and **Three**, but **not** for Paper **One**.

Successful students are...

Students who are keen to develop their mathematical skills from KS3 and have an interest in problem solving and logical thinking.

Progression

GCSE Mathematics can lead directly onto A-Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics. It is a useful subject for many other academic courses, in particular the three Sciences, Geography, Economics, Psychology and other degree level work, such as teaching.

Other Maths Qualifications:

Able Mathematicians may be given the opportunity to study GCSE Statistics and sit the exam in Year 10. The most able Mathematicians will be also offered the opportunity to study Further Maths, or similar qualification. This is for students who are expected to achieve a Grade 7, 8 or 9.

GCSE Trilogy (Double award) Science

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Science	www.aqa.org.uk	8464 - Trilogy
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
Higher (Grades 9-4) Foundation (Grades 5-1)	100% Linear Exam	lpollard@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The Trilogy Science qualification has been designed to inspire and challenge students of all abilities and aspirations. The syllabus includes Biology, Chemistry and Physics content and each subject is taught by a specialist teacher. Students will receive an overall grade for Trilogy Science which will be of the format 1-1 through to 9-9; this overall grade has the value of two GCSE grades. A grade 5-4, for example, is worth 2 GCSE grades at the lower end of a Grade 5. Trilogy Science should not be seen as second best to separate Sciences. The higher content is as academically rigorous, there is just less of it.

Assessment

Trilogy Science GCSE is terminally assessed through linear exams. There are six papers: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas.

Each written exam is available at Foundation or Higher tier. Students must sit the same tier for all 6 exams. Each exam is 1 hour 15 minutes long and worth 70 marks. Each paper will contribute 16.7% of the final mark awarded. It will include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response style questions. Students participate in specific practical tasks during the course in order to answer questions in the final exams, where they are questioned about what they have learned from those particular activities.

Successful students are...

Those who have a genuine curiosity about the world around them. They often also have a logical approach to problem-solving. To succeed in Science at GCSE level, a conscientious approach is required throughout the course and a commitment to regular and frequent retrieval practice of the many areas of the syllabus.

Progression

This course provides students with the skills, knowledge and understanding needed in order to progress to A-Level and other Level 3 Science-based courses such as BTEC or National Diplomas.

Triple GCSE Sciences

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Science	www.aqa.org.uk	8461, 8462, 8463
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
Higher (Grades 9-4) Foundation (Grades 5-1)	100% Linear Exam	lpollard@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The Science Department offers the opportunity for able and enthusiastic scientists to study each of the three Science disciplines – Biology, Chemistry and Physics – as separate GCSE qualifications. The content of each course allows students to develop a highly detailed knowledge and deeper understanding of the scientific concepts. Students who study Triple Science are allocated 12 hours of curriculum time as opposed to the 10 given to study of the Trilogy GCSE course. Each subject is taught by a specialist teacher.

Assessment

Each of the 3 GCSEs is assessed through linear exams. There are 2 papers for each subject (a total of 6 papers). Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each written exam is available at Foundation or Higher tier and a student must sit the same tier for both exams in each subject. Each exam will be 1 hour 45 minutes long and worth 100 marks. Each paper will contribute 50% of the mark for that particular Science GCSE. It will include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response style questions. Students participate in specific practical tasks during the course in order to answer questions in the final exams, where they are questioned about what they have learned from those particular activities.

Successful students are...

Those who have a genuine curiosity about the world around them. They often also have a logical approach to problem-solving. Students studying Triple Science also need to be able to cope with the greater depth of subject knowledge required by the syllabus. Triple science students are expected to be highly self-motivated individuals prepared to commit to the extra study required to master the additional content.

Progression

By studying three GCSE Science subjects students will be well prepared should they wish to take A-Level Science. It would also provide an excellent base for Science based courses at University such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary, forensic or research Science.

Core
Subjects

Other English
Baccalaureate
subjects

GCSE Modern Languages

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Languages	www.aqa.org.uk	8658 (French) and 8698 (Spanish)
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
ALL exams at the Higher tier <i>or</i> ALL exams at Foundation tier	100% Linear Exams 25% Listening Exam, 25% Speaking Exam, 25% Reading Exam, 25% Writing Exam	mturner@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

Students are able to choose GCSEs in French and/or Spanish. It is highly recommended that all students who are considering applying to university in the future include a modern foreign language in their option choices.

Our GCSE French and Spanish courses follow a common programme of study. Through exploring three themes: identity and culture; local, national, international and global areas of interest; current and future study and employment, students build on what they have learnt at KS3, learning to understand, speak, read and write the language at a more advanced level. They also learn to translate from English into the target language and from the target language into English. Finally, they gain an insight into the culture, food and way of life in other countries.

Assessment

At the end of each term, students will complete assessments in Speaking, Writing, Listening and Reading. Students will take four different exams in the summer of their final year, assessing the following four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each exam counts for 25% of their final mark.

Successful students are...

Those who have gained a Grade 4 or above in their Year 9 report and who have enjoyed studying French or Spanish in Years 7, 8 and 9. Being interested in speaking the language, being inquisitive and being open to cultural differences are essential to success when studying a foreign language. Students need to be prepared to speak the language when choosing the course.

Progression

Students who take GCSE Languages can go on to study A-Level Languages and other linked courses e.g. Business Studies, Sales and Marketing, Law, Media Studies or Journalism.

Please note that if you are a dual Linguist currently studying Latin with either Spanish or French there is an expectation that you will follow at least one of these through to GCSE.

GCSE Latin

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Languages	www.eduqas.co.uk	C990PA
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Linear Exam	clawson@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

Latin is one of the world's oldest languages. It is the basis for many modern European languages and complements their study. It is very highly regarded by universities. Research shows that students who learn Latin develop enhanced literacy and earn more money than others over the course of their careers.

Latin students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the language, its grammar and vocabulary. Students also study a selection of poetry and history in Latin. At present this includes a study of the life and death of the emperor Nero.

Assessment

This course is assessed by written exam. There are three written exams, each lasting between 1 hour and 1 ½ hours. One of the exams focuses on Language, two on Literature.

Successful students are ...

Those who have thrived in their study of Latin during Years 7, 8 and 9. Students who have an interest in culture and ancient history. Students who are able to think clearly and logically, as well as those who have an interest in the historical foundations of several modern languages.

Progression

Latin is one of the most academically challenging and respected subjects. It will particularly benefit those who want to go on to study Classics, Law, History, Anthropology, Medicine and other traditional subjects at university.

Please note that if you are a dual Linguist currently studying Latin with either Spanish or French there is an expectation that you will follow at least one of these through to GCSE.

GCSE Geography

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Geography	www.aqa.org.uk	8035
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Linear Exam	ldixon@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

Geography is a subject that bridges the sciences and the arts. This course gives students the opportunity to study the patterns and processes of the Earth's physical and human environments. Students will travel the world from the classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom, newly emerging economies (NEEs) and low-income countries (LICs). Topics of study include natural hazards, including climate change, ecosystems, UK landforms, urban issues, economic development and resource management.

Students will also develop a variety of geographical and technical skills, including how to interpret, analyse and evaluate different types of information/data and use Geographical Information Systems.

Assessment

The course is assessed through two 1 hour 30-minute exams and one 1 hour 15-minute exam.

Exam 1 - Living with the physical environment (written examination – 35%).

Exam 2 - Challenges in the human environment (written examination – 35%).

Exam 3 - Geographical applications (written examination – 30%).

Successful students are...

Students who have an interest in the world around them and who are socially and environmentally aware. You should enjoy learning about how the world is shaped and how people interact with the environment.

Progression

GCSE Geography can lead directly onto A-Level Geography, Geology, Environmental Studies and Sociology courses, as well as complementing most other academic courses. GCSE Geography covers a broad range of topics suitable for several further education courses and is considered a 'facilitating subject' by the Russell Group of universities.

GCSE History

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
History	www.aqa.org.uk	8145
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Linear Exam	mattjones@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

GCSE History enables students to develop a secure understanding of chronology, knowledge and understanding of history on different scales and contexts, apply historical concepts and processes and engage with the nature of evidence and interpretation. The course highlights the importance of learning from history; not being bound by our past, but learning from it. The specification enables students to study different aspects of the past, so they can engage with key issues such as conflict, understand what drives change and how the past influences the present.

This qualification is linear, meaning that students sit two exams at the end of the course.

Paper 1: *'Understanding the modern world'* helps students to understand key developments and events in modern world history.

Paper 2: *'Shaping the nation'* enables students to understand key developments and events in the history of Britain.

The GCSE History content comprises the following elements:

- one period study – **USA 1920-1970: Opportunity and inequality;**
- one thematic study – **Conflict and tension in Asia: 1950-1975;**
- one wider world depth study – **Health and the people: c.1000 to the present day;**
- one British depth study including the historic environment – **Elizabethan England: c.1568-1603.**

In each topic, students will engage with a variety of perspectives, such as political, social and economic, and investigate the contributions of key individuals and groups.

Assessment

Students' learning is assessed through two, equally weighted, written examinations. Both exams are 2 hours.

Successful students are...

Those who have an interest in History and people and who constantly questioning what they see. An ability to substantiate and support arguments with evidence in written work is essential.

Progression

Students can go on to study A-Level History, Economics, Law and Sociology, as well as related advanced level courses and degrees.

The diagram consists of three interlocking puzzle pieces arranged vertically. The top piece is light gray and contains the text 'Core Subjects'. The middle piece is dark gray and contains the text 'Other English Baccalaureate subjects'. The bottom piece is light gray and contains the text 'Other Subjects'. Each piece has a semi-circular protrusion on its top edge and a semi-circular indentation on its bottom edge, allowing them to fit together.

Core
Subjects

Other English
Baccalaureate
subjects

Other
Subjects

GCSE Art and Design

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Art and Design	www.eduqas.co.uk	C650U20-1
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	60% Portfolio 40% Examination	Talighieri@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

On this course, students work to develop their knowledge and understanding of Art and Design. Students will experiment with a wide range of materials, processes and techniques to learn how to critically evaluate their own work and that of other artists and art movements.

During the GCSE, students will study social, cultural, political and historical backgrounds of a number of subjects in relation to their chosen theme. The students then use techniques such as digital photography, relief and Intaglio printing alongside their knowledge to create independent creative final outcomes.

In Year 10, students build their confidence and craft by exploring a wide range of artistic media to make informed choices about their creative preferences. This will be recorded in their first unit under the title of 'Surroundings'. The project can be explored with varying visual and written stimuli to begin their creative journey. A second unit will begin towards the end of Year 10 and will run into Year 11. In Year 11, students continue the final major project, concluding in a 5-hour practice exam in December. In January, students will begin the other 40% part of their grade - the examination task. This consists of 15 different title choices, concluding in a 10-hour practical exam taking place in April.

Assessment

Students are assessed on the portfolio of work (2 units) that they create during the course. This is worth 60% of their final grade. In Year 11, students sit an extended 10-hour practical exam. Students will work in controlled conditions to create pieces of art that reflect a theme set by the exam board.

Successful students are...

Those who have a passion for the visual arts and enjoy the opportunity to experiment with different media, including new and emerging technologies. Those who are prepared and able to work on their pieces outside of school hours.

Progression

On successful completion, students can progress to A-Level Art and Design courses or specialise in related disciplines such as Fine Art, Photography, Graphic Design, Textiles, Architecture, Fashion, Printmaking, Painting, Advertising, Interior Design, Web & Mobile App Design and Product Design. Art and Design would also benefit students who wish to go onto creative vocational courses such as Painting and Decorating, Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy.

GCSE Astronomy

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Science	www.qualifications.pearson.com	1AS0
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
Grades 9-1	100% Linear Exam	CAshton@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The Astronomy course has been developed to build on our natural fascination with the night sky and our continued exploration of the universe. Astronomy is constantly in the media in both fact and film which makes this course all the more engaging and relevant to students. The course builds on the astronomy covered in the KS3 Science curriculum and it includes several observational tasks which are accessible using the naked eye or school telescopes.

Students will learn how to interpret the night sky, details about our solar system and space missions, how to use different kinds of telescopes and astronomical equipment and study the nature of the universe and the potential for the existence of life elsewhere. This is a wide-reaching course which bridges the gap between the humanities and sciences by including the study of astronomy through the wider context of ancient history, geography and differing cultural interpretations.

Assessment:

Astronomy is terminally assessed through linear exams. There are two papers: Naked-eye Astronomy and Telescopic Astronomy. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes long and worth 100 marks. Each paper will contribute 50% of the final mark awarded. Students participate in specific practical tasks during the course in order to answer questions in the exams.

Successful students are...

Those who have a genuine curiosity about space and the universe around them. They often also have a logical approach to problem-solving. To succeed in Astronomy at GCSE level, a conscientious approach is required throughout the course and a commitment to regular and frequent retrieval practice of the many areas of the specification.

Progression:

This Astronomy GCSE course provides students with the skills, knowledge and understanding needed in order to progress to A-Level and other Level 3 Science-based courses, in particular Astrophysics.

GCSE Business

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Business	www.aqa.org.uk	8132
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Examination	byoung@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

GCSE Business will allow students to consider the practical application of business concepts and will give them the opportunity to explore real business issues and how businesses work.

Paper 1: Influences of operations and Human Resource Management on business activity

- Business in the real world,
- Influences on business,
- Business operations,
- Human resources.

Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance on business activity

- Business in the real world,
- Influences on business,
- Marketing,
- Finance.

Assessment:

Two written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes each.

Both 90 marks.

Both 50 % of GCSE.

Successful students are...

Those who are highly analytical and able to problem solve in multiple situations. They must be interested in finding out how businesses work. Those with a good level of literacy flourish in this subject.

Progression:

GCSE Business can lead to students studying A-Level Business Studies or Economics at college then university.

Child Development

Cambridge National – Technical Award

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Child Development	www.ocr.org.uk	J809
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT(Distinction*-Pass)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	40% Examination 60% NEA	ldavidson@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The OCR National Certificate in Child Development is designed to give students an opportunity to extend and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding of the development and care of children from conception to the age of five years. It promotes an understanding of the social, emotional, physical and intellectual development of the child which is inter-linked through the study of the family, community and the responsibilities of parenthood. Topics studied are as follows:

- Health and Well-being for Child Development:
 - Reproduction, parental responsibilities, antenatal care, birth, postnatal care, child safety and illness.
- Creating a safe environment and understanding the nutritional needs of children from birth to 5 years:
 - Equipment, nutrition and safety in a childcare setting
- Understanding the development norms of a child from 1 to 5 years:
 - Development norms, play and a research task.

Assessment

Three units - One Exam - 40% - external.

Two Non-Examined Assessment tasks, externally moderated – 30% each.

Successful students are...

Those who have an interest in studying the physical, emotional and intellectual development of children and those committed to completing NEA work over an extended period of time.

Progression

The specification provides a suitable basis for further study at Post-16, offering progression on to both academic and vocational courses, including Home Economics, Health and Social Care, National Diplomas, Certificates in Health Studies, Care and CACHE Courses, Psychology, Sociology and Biology.

GCSE Computer Science

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Computing	www.ocr.org.uk	J277
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Examination	nlawton@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The qualification will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established through the Computer Science elements of the Years 7 to 9 curriculum.

Unit 1 - Computer systems (50%).

This component will introduce learners to the Central Processing Unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software.

The question paper will also have one extended response question; this question will allow students to develop a sustained line of reasoning.

Unit 2 - Content of Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (50%).

This component incorporates and builds on the knowledge and understanding gained in Component 01, encouraging learners to apply this knowledge and understanding using computational thinking.

Section A is worth 50 marks and assesses students' knowledge and understanding of concepts of Computer Science. Students then apply these to problems in computational terms, where they may use an algorithmic approach. Section B is worth 30 marks and assesses practical programming and the ability to write, test and refine programs.

Assessment

Unit 1 and 2 are assessed by written exams, both 1 hour 30 minutes long.

Successful students are...

Those with an interest in computer programming, problem-solving and a high-level competence and of expertise in ICT, Maths and Science. These may be taken into consideration if the course is oversubscribed.

Progression

Students can progress onto A-Level Computing or a related apprenticeship to include software engineering, website and app design, cyber security analyst or network management.

GCSE Design and Technology

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Design and Technology	www.aqa.org.uk	8552
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	50% Examination 50% NEA	jswanepoel@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

This course is designed to encourage students to develop a broad view of design and technology, developing their capacity to design, make products and appreciating the complex relationship between design, materials, manufacture and the end user.

This course is divided into two sections: core and a focus upon a selected material. The core content gives students a real-world understanding of how to take products to market and build a successful business. It covers aspects of new and emerging technologies, ethics and environmental impact, plus a broad overview of materials and tools used in design. The materials section of the course will enable students to demonstrate a greater depth of knowledge related to our chosen specialism of 'Timbers'.

Assessment

The written exam (2 hours long) is divided into three sections. Section A assesses the core technical principles. Section B focuses on specialist technical principles and section C focuses on designing and making principles.

The NEA task is a project-based assessment, the title of which will be released in June of Year 10. It will follow the Investigate, Design, Make and Evaluate design process. This task will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

Successful students are...

Those who want to develop their ability to understand how modern industry helps to develop the world around us. It also allows students to show practical problem-solving, which is seen by employers as an essential life skill. Motivation and independence are key skills to succeed in DT alongside those who are committed to completing NEA work over an extended period of time.

Progression

Students can progress onto A-level to become a specialist in their chosen field. Along with routes into sound engineering, graphic design, industrial design, civil engineering, architecture, software engineering and fashion design.

GCSE Drama

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Drama	www.aqa.org.uk	8261
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	30% Devising log 30% Performance 40% Written examination	kwilson@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

Drama is an exciting subject, examining issues and experiences through a range of stimuli e.g. music, poetry or play texts. Students develop techniques and strategies for communicating with an audience through varying theatrical styles. GCSE Drama combines both performance work and academic study.

‘Explore drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention. Students will create, perform and respond to drama informed by their theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre’.
(AQA GCSE Drama Specification)

Assessment

Component 1: Understanding Drama - Students will develop knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, study a set play (‘Blood Brothers’), and evaluate a live theatre performance (inspired by a theatre visit) in preparation for a written examination at the end of the course, constituting 40% of the final grade.

Component 2: Devising Drama - Students will develop ideas in response to a range of stimuli in order to create a devised performance for assessment, worth 10% of the final grade. Each student will also be assessed on the completion of a Devising Log, documenting the creation and development of their ideas, as well as analysis and evaluation of their own work; this constitutes 30% of the final grade.

Component 3: Texts in Practice – Students will be assessed on the performance of two extracts from one play. The performance will be assessed by an external examiner and is worth 20% of the final grade.

Successful students are...

Reflective, analytical, determined and enjoy problem-solving and performing. Those students interested in developing their empathy, communication and articulation skills are particularly well suited to the demands of Drama and who are committed to rehearse on a regular basis after school hours.

Progression:

GCSE Drama is a good stepping stone to a career in theatre, media, radio, the leisure industry, sales and marketing, drama therapy and public relations work.

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Food and Nutrition	www.eduqas.co.uk	C560UAO-1
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	50% Examination 50% NEA (15% + 35%)	nhussain@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition course equips students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

Year 10 will be used to develop subject specific skills and to gain further knowledge of food commodities and the nutritional properties of food. A proportion of the course will involve studying the scientific aspects of food and the factors that influence changes during the application of heat and cooking processes.

Further aspects of the course look at developing an understanding of the links between diet and good health and the properties of foods. Students will also explore a range of ingredients and foods linked to both British and international cuisine.

Assessment

One final exam and two Non-Examined Assessments (15% + 35%) both of which take place in Year 11.

Successful students are.....

Students who like experimenting with food and new cooking methods. Students who have an interest in food, health and nutrition along with the benefits of a good diet. Those who can make links between food, Science, PE and Geography and how one influences the other.

Progression

A-level related courses, as well as apprenticeships and professional training within the Hospitality and Catering industry. It is also a good base for anyone thinking about working within the fields of medicine or health care, physiotherapy, retail, beauty, personal fitness, travel and tourism.

Note: Students are required to provide their own ingredients for practical lessons. Students will need ingredients for up to three dishes per cycle. In addition, students will need ingredients for up to six dishes for their NEA work and any practice tasks.

Please note that you cannot select both GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition and Hospitality and Catering.

Hospitality and Catering - Technical Award

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Food and Nutrition	www.wjec.co.uk	603/7022/1
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT(Distinction*-Pass)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry.	40% Written exam paper 60% Practical	nhussain@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering has been designed to support students in schools who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study.

The Technical Award in Hospitality and Catering will give students the opportunity to develop an understanding of:

- practical food preparation skills and techniques;
- meal and menu planning;
- cooking methods and recipes;
- commercial practice;
- job roles in the catering sector;
- food hygiene and safety.

Assessment

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry (externally assessed) 90-minute exam paper

Areas to be tested: Roles and jobs within the Catering industry; how Hospitality and Catering provision operates; Health and Safety and how food can make you ill.

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action (internally assessed)

The purpose of the unit is for students to safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes, which respond to a brief. In this unit, students will also have the opportunity to develop food preparation and cooking skills, as well as demonstrating, organisation, time management, planning and communication.

Successful students are ...

Those who find that practical work aids their learning of theory. It will also have direct appeal to anyone who wishes to go into an area related to the food and catering industry post-16.

Progression

Students could move straight into employment in hospitality and catering industry ranging from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists working for supermarket chains. Level 3 qualifications.

Please note that you cannot select both GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition and Hospitality and Catering.

GCSE Media Studies

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SYLLABUS NUMBER
Media Studies	https://www.eduqas.co.uk	C680QS
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	70% Examination 30% NEA	jmcallen@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

GCSE Media Studies is a contemporary and interactive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, analytical, research and communication skills through exploring a range of media forms and perspectives.

Assessment

Component 1

- **Exploring the Media:** Written exam; 1 hour 30 minutes; 40%
- Range of forms; products set by Eduqas:
 - Section A: Exploring Media Language and Representations (45 marks)
 - Section B: Exploring Media Industries and Audiences (35 marks)

Component 2

- **Understanding Media Forms and Products:** Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes; 30%
- In depth study of three forms; products set by Eduqas:
 - Section A: Television; Sitcom (30 marks)
 - Section B: Music; music videos and online media (30 marks)

Non-Exam Assessment: "Creating a media product". Students produce a statement of intent and an independent media product in response to a choice of briefs set by Eduqas.

- 60 marks.
- 30% of GCSE.

Successful students are...

Those who have an interest in studying media products in depth, who are creative and technically minded and who are willing to research and analyse media text independently.

Progression

Students are able to go on to study higher level media courses at college and at degree level. Media Studies also supports students' studies in English, Business Studies, ICT and Art.

GCSE Music

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SYLLABUS NUMBER
Music	www.edexcel.com	1MU0
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	40% Examination 60% NEA	nturner@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

This course is designed to encourage students to enjoy and appreciate music through listening, composing and performing.

COMPONENT 1 – Performing Music

Students are required to record a solo and an ensemble performance. Performances may be sung or played on any instrument and in a style of their choice. Preparation for this assessment is ongoing throughout the course.

COMPONENT 2 – Composing Music

Students are required to produce two pieces of original music. Help will be given to use our computers to realise and record ideas. Recent students have created pop songs, African drumming pieces and instrumental pieces written for their own instruments.

COMPONENT 3 – Listening to Music

Students study a variety of different musical genres: Instrumental Music 1700 – 1820, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen, and Fusions.

Assessment

Students will complete four non-examined assessments - two performances, two compositions. Component 3 is assessed via a 1 hour 45-minute exam, in which students respond to music that is played to them.

Successful students are...

Those who enjoy listening to and playing music. Students must have some musical ability and be able to either sing well or play a musical instrument to Grade 3. Those who are willing to create musical ideas in their own time.

Progression

Students who study GCSE Music can go on to A-Level Music courses or study technical music production at college - but only if they attain a Grade 5 or higher in their chosen instrument.

GCSE Physical Education

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SYLLABUS NUMBER
Physical Education	www.aqa.org.uk	8582
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	60% Examination 40% Practical Assessment	pcostard@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

Studying GCSE PE will enable students to enjoy and understand the benefits of living a healthy and active lifestyle. They will acquire the skills to make informed choices about their own physical development, whilst getting involved in physical activities that meet their needs. They also learn how to analyse and evaluate performance, making effective plans for improvement.

Assessment

There are two papers of 1 hour 15 minutes each and they will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended answer questions.

Paper 1 – The Human body and the movement in physical activity and sport – 30%

Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Movement Analysis, Physical Training and Use of Data.

Paper 2 – Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport – 30%

Sports Psychology, Socio-cultural Influences, Health, Fitness and Well-being, and Use of Data.

Practical Assessment – students will be assessed in three activities as a performer (1 team activity, 1 individual activity and a third within a team **or** as an individual). Students will also complete analysis and evaluation of performance in one activity which is worth 40% of the final grade.

Successful students are...

Students who enjoy participating in sports. Students need to be physically fit and able to perform well in a range of different activities. They must attend at least one extra curricular sports club in school on a regular basis.

Progression

Students who take GCSE PE can go on to study various other sports related courses e.g. A-level PE, Sports Therapy, Sports Leadership.

GCSE Religious Studies

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SYLLABUS NUMBER
Religious Education	www.aqa.org.uk	8062 (Syllabus A)
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (9-1)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Examination	byoung@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk

The GCSE in Religious Studies provides all students with the opportunity to explore current issues that challenge human society and extends their understanding of the world around them in local, national and global contexts.

Students will have opportunities to:

- Reflect upon moral and philosophical questions;
- Enter into vigorous debate with other students;
- Develop their interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion and current affairs and relate it to the wider world;
- Reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their learning;
- Develop an understanding of non-religious beliefs;
- Explore dialogue between religions and secular organisations.

Assessment

Two written exams, each 1 hour 45 minutes long.

Paper One: Covers the study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices.

Paper Two: Based on thematic studies of religious, philosophical and ethical issues.

Successful students are...

Those who have an interest in current, sometimes controversial, affairs and unanswerable questions. Those who look beyond their own point-of-view. Those who enjoy engaging in healthy debate.

Progression

Students can go onto study A-Level Religious Studies, Philosophy and Sociology. It would also benefit students wishing to study Health and Social Care, Law or enter a career in Journalism.

Next steps:

Make a list of what else you need to find out or questions that you need to ask of subject staff at the consultation evening, in lessons or via email.

Things to help:

- Each subject information page has the email address of the subject lead; please email them directly if you have specific subject questions.
- The options presentation and this booklet will be available on the school website from 7th March 2023.
- If you have problems logging into SIMS Options online, then email ITSupport@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk.
- Refer to the options online videos, in Class Charts, for help with submitting your option choices.
- Please see or email either Mrs Abbs-Rowe or Mr Turner if there are any other queries.
mabbsrowe@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk or
nturner@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk
- Look out for notices in the Student Bulletin for careers drop in sessions to help you make your choices.

Decisions:

Use this page to help you plan the order of your choices. Mark on here the decisions that you make so that you have a reminder of what you have entered. Please keep this safe or take a photograph for your records.

Options Selection:

One from this column. Selection 1 – Preference subject	Three plus Two reserves from this column. Consider carefully the order of these choices.
French Geography History Latin Spanish	Art and Design Astronomy Business Child Development (Technical Award) Computer Science Design and Technology Drama Food Preparation and Nutrition French Geography History Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award) Latin Media Studies Music Physical Education Religious Studies Spanish

*Deadline is 30th March 2023 at midday.

Please Note:

Please remember that we will do our very best to accommodate your first choices, but there might be cases where we do not run all the courses offered in this booklet due to insufficient numbers, conversely some courses may be over subscribed so we will use reserve subjects to allocate choices.

It is therefore very important that the order that you give to your choices and reserve subjects are considered carefully and that they are subjects that you would be happy to study at KS4.

