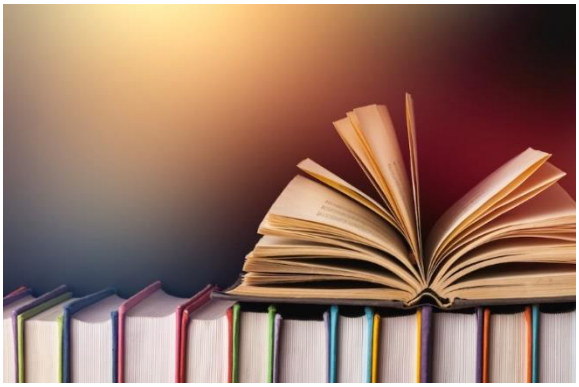
CORBY Technical School

Key Stage 4

SUBJECT BOOKLET 2023

English Language and English Literature -Two Separate GCSEs



Students will study the AQA GCSE specifications. These cover a range of fiction and non-fiction texts with the aim to make students: capable communicators, critical readers, and cogent writers, in various contexts. A spoken language study will be completed; you will create a speech on a topic of your choice. We study texts by modern and traditional writers with current themes such as: class, race, identity, and gender. Students will also be instructed on how to produce original texts and how to analyse writing in poetry, prose, and drama.

As a compulsory subject, students will have the opportunity to gain two GCSE qualifications: English Language and English Literature. Alongside mathematics these are seen by employers as the most important qualifications to obtain. Indeed, to go on to further study or apprenticeships, students need a Grade 4 pass in English and ideally English Literature too.

Students will develop a range of skills over the course which would include:

- discussing and sharing their own personal responses
- understanding and responding to a writer's influences and a text's purpose
- writing to have an impact on a reader.
- reading to infer, analyse and critique.
- reading a varied range of increasingly demanding texts
- evaluative and comparative skills
- understanding of the human condition over time

Remember: achieving in English will support you in achieving in all subjects since reading, writing, and communicating are needed for every subject you study!

Progression to KS5 – successful completion of these GCSEs will allow students to study a range of subjects at Key Stage 5 level including the A-Level English Literature and English Language courses that schools offer. However, a successful English GCSE candidate would also be able to access any KS5 course including media, drama, engineering, law, humanities, and sociology. Typically, most schools require a candidate to have obtained at least a Grade 5 in English.

Successful English GCSE candidates will find accessing all types of employment significantly easier with a good grade at English GCSE. Employers are particularly keen to see applications from students who have obtained maths and English GCSEs, often disregarding those that have failed to obtain a pass in these subjects. English specialist careers are wide ranging with many professions stemming from the study of English such as teaching, journalism, engineering, travel, law, advertising, politics, and public relations.

Mathematics

Mathematics is one of the core subjects in our curriculum, it is important across other subjects as well as in everyday life and employment.

Mathematics equips students with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand the world. These tools include: a competence with numbers; logical reasoning; problem solving skills and the ability to think in abstract ways.

Teaching in Key Stage 4 in mathematics will enable students to:

- **develop** fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts.
- **acquire**, select, and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems.
- **reason** mathematically, make deductions and draw conclusions.
- **comprehend**, interpret, and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.

Study will be across the six strands of mathematics:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion, and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

Progression:

- Students who achieve a high grade at GCSE will be well equipped to continue their study of Mathematics / Further Mathematics at A-level.
- GCSE Mathematics is an important qualification for all students as many college courses require students to have it. It is also highly valued by employers.
- A-level Mathematics is a required subject for many university courses, particularly engineering and science courses; it is well regarded by admissions tutors for any course.

Careers paths directly related to mathematics, accounting, auditor, banking and finance, financial advisor, operational researcher, software developer, air traffic control, engineering, insurance and pensions, science, and research.

Combined Science - (2 GCSEs)

Students will study topics from biology, chemistry and physics whilst increasing their skills sets. They will be required to complete practical investigations as an engaging way to explore science as a hands-on subject.

Science is a core subject and, as such, students will gain valuable skills that can be used both in further science studies as well as using these acquired transferable skills in other subject areas. Science will give students a broader understanding of many concepts of science and will allow them to have a better understanding of the world around them.

Students will develop a range of skills over the course which would include:

- investigative skills
- analysis and interpreting skills.
- evaluating both their own effectiveness and the validity of their findings
- research skills
- referencing
- application of theory to a situation
- numeracy skills
- literacy skills

Progression to Key Stage 5 – successful completion of this course will equip students with the skills required to undertake many courses at Key Stage 5 level. Successful GCSE students may be eligible to study A-Level Science courses or a Level 3 Applied Science qualification that many schools offer. It is worth noting, if the original intention is to pursue an Applied Science qualification Combined Science is the advised course however, if the intention is to study sciences as an A-Level, students are advised that they should consider the Separate Sciences GCSE option.

Careers – Careers using skills obtained within science are wide ranging, from those being closely linked to science and those requiring logic, methodology and analysis. Examples include medicine, dentistry, forensics, engineering, geology, astronomy, research, sports science, zoology, botany, palaeontology, medical physics, environmental science, conservation and many more.

PE (Core)

The PE department is committed to ensuring that all students leave school with the character and currency to succeed in all aspects of life and the PE curriculum supports our students to live a healthy, active lifestyle. The department aims to furnish students with transferable skills, an understanding of a healthy balanced lifestyle and a passion for lifelong participation in sport.

The department will continue to focus on the following core criteria throughout Key Stage 4:

- Head - knowledge of sports, developing students' understanding of coaching points, rules, and tactics.
- Hands - centred around the physical performance of individual skills and ability to transfer these skills into competitive situations.
- Heart - contribution to learning and the development of skills that can be easily transferred into other aspects of their education and life such as sportsmanship, teamwork, empathy, and resilience.

The core competencies that the Head, Heart, Hands curriculum develops supports the school's aim for our students to be the most employable in the local area. There are many skills that are developed in our curriculum that support students in their future success. Regular exercise has a positive impact on an individual's physical, mental, and social health and studies show that if a person takes part in regular physical activity before the age of 16, they are three times as likely to continue that habit in their adult life.

A large proportion of our key stage 4 curriculum encourages independence in being able to facilitate physical activity. Lessons will provide students with the skills to be able to book a sport facility outside of school and be able to organise equipment, teams, rules, length of time, etc.

Art: Fine Art

Students will practise a variety of art genre and art media over the course of two years which will provide experience and develop skills to provide a solid foundation for further study.

This is an optional course, taught over five or six lessons per fortnight. The GCSE comprises of one coursework unit and an exam unit. The exam board is OCR which allows a broad spectrum of mixed media as part of the student's portfolio. The exam unit is usually 4 months and concludes with a 10-hour exam.

Students will undergo a skills-based course using pencil, pen, paint, pastel and printmaking to establish individual strengths. A range of art genres will be looked at which will develop the skills and understanding of techniques that students will need to undertake the coursework unit.

Students will need to demonstrate the ability to accurately record observations of their chosen subject matter. They will study a selection of artists and craftspeople to aid progression. Students will then design a final piece, reflecting their observational studies combined with the artistic style of their choice.

Progression- successful completion of this course will allow students to study this subject at Key Stage 5. Successful GCSE candidates would also have access to A- Level Fine Art or A -level Photography. There are also a wide range of art courses that run nationally that could be the next step following a successful GCSE in this subject.

Careers – An Art GCSE could open up a range of careers that include animation, fashion design, graphic design, interior design, theatrical painting, photography, product design, web design, and textile design, museum and heritage.

Computer Science

This course is designed for those who have a strong and keen interest in computers and programming. A strong mathematics and science background will also help in this course.

Computer Science gives students a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Students will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology from their other subjects and elsewhere. However, this course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes,' including computer programming, which many students find absorbing.

Students are likely to complete a programming project which provides them with a scenario for which a piece of software is required. Students will fully analyse, design and implement this software and test it robustly.

During the course students learn about a wide range of computer theory including the fundamentals of computer systems – how computers work; computing hardware and software; computer data representation; computer communications; and the networking and programming of computers. These elements are the foundations of the overall course and will enable students to access the future skills required.

Progression - successful completion of this course will allow students to study this subject at Key Stage 5 level. Successful GCSE candidates would have access to A-Level Computer Science qualifications. There is also a range of college computing courses that are run nationally that could be the next step following a successful GCSE in this subject.

Careers – successful completion could potentially open up a range of careers that include games development, IT consultancy, systems analysis, systems development, engineering and database administration.

Creative iMedia

This course is designed for those who have a strong and keen interest in digital applications and the creative side of ICT.

Students will learn the key skills required to create digital products using industry standard tools such as Photoshop and website design software. In addition, students will have the opportunity to develop their video game design skills through entry into the BAFTA Young Game Designers competition.

In addition to practical digital skills, students will also gain a thorough understanding of pre-production techniques and how to effectively analyse requirements, design and create digital products that are suitable for a modern market.

The course applies to a large variety of digital applications and the tasks are designed to give students experience of multiple different digital applications to best prepare them for a career in the digital industries. Students will be given the opportunity to design and create videos, animations, websites, and video games.

Note – this course cannot be taken in conjunction with Media Studies as the two qualifications discount one another.

Progression - successful completion of this course will allow students to complete further study at Key Stage 5 level. Students could go on to study a Level 3 vocational course in a similar field or complete A-Level Media Studies. There is also a range of college computing courses that that focus on video games design for which this course would be an excellent steppingstone.

Careers – successful completion could potentially open up a range of careers that include games development, graphic designer, IT consultancy, audio engineer, video editor or web design.

Curriculum Plus

For some of our students it may be more appropriate for them to study a reduced timetable which focuses on the core subjects (Maths, English, Science) and gives them the opportunity to study fewer optional GCSE subjects with the aim of providing them with additional support.

These students will be offered the chance to study for more vocational qualifications which will provide them with skills for life and will follow the 'Curriculum Plus' pathway in Key Stage 4. As courses are selected and tailored to the current cohort it often enables development in key weaknesses in the core subjects and social communication and interaction skills, complementing the other qualifications that students select.

Curriculum Plus is delivered to ensure that students are empowered with the skills and knowledge that employers want, as well as developing crucial soft skills, self-confidence, self-awareness, and an understanding of how to be a successful independent learner.

Entry level functional skills in Maths, ICT and English. These qualifications are delivered to support learners undertaking vocational qualifications and core GCSE subjects.

Vocational qualifications provide young people with a real opportunity to gain an insight into the world of work and the skills and capabilities required by many companies. By completing vocational qualifications students can feel confident to pursue a career in the industry sector or progress onto further study.

Participation in this will be agreed between senior staff and parents to provide the most appropriate curriculum. Please do not select this option unless you have met with a member of the senior team, and we have agreed with you that it is the correct pathway.

Design & Technology

This course has been designed to encourage students to be able to design and make products with creativity and originality. Students will be asked to develop their ability to respond to contextual problems in inventive and creative ways by thoroughly refining their solutions. This can include commercially available products like furniture and lighting, but they need not limit themselves to these. Design and Technology allows students to import skills from several other subjects including English, media, science, maths, and art.

Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities as the course seeks to build upon the multimedia approach of Key Stage 3. Students will also gain knowledge of the following:

- core knowledge and understanding of design and technology.
- develop and use a range of transferable skills, including technical skills, art and design and product construction.
- develop an awareness and understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development.
- apply their knowledge and understanding of Design and Technology by using evaluation and problem-solving skills.
- develop as effective and independent learners.

This course will suit individuals who are creative and who are able to work independently; they will enjoy problem solving and investigating possible solutions to problems that are set.

Over the course students will develop a range of skills in designing and making, ensuring they have a broad range of skills and knowledge of working with different materials so that when they embark on further study, they have sufficient knowledge to make informed decisions.

Progression - successful completion of this course will allow students to study this subject at Key Stage 5 level. Successful GCSE candidates would have access to the range of A-Level design and technology courses available. There is also a range of apprenticeships that are run nationally that could be the next step following a successful GCSE in this subject.

Careers – successful completion could potentially open up a range of careers that include industrial design, advertising, product development, architecture, marketing, and other creative industries.

Drama

Students will study a wide range of dramatic styles, building skills and understanding how to become a successful performer. Students will also be introduced to technical aspects of drama including, lighting and sound design, stage management and costume design. Both elements of the course will allow for successful completion of coursework and exam elements.

Students will undertake two practical coursework pieces, one devised and one as text extracts. Students will tackle these from the view of the performer with the opportunity to approach from the technical side as well, with an accompanying portfolio which demonstrates and evaluates the development from their original concept to completed performance. Alongside this, students will be evaluating work both in terms of written texts and live performances which will be assessed in an external written exam.

There will be opportunities for students to visit live theatre performances during the course as well as take part in workshops with professional acting companies.

Drama is a valuable subject as it show potential employers a vast array of skills which are highly desirable to employers. The skills developed over the course of the GCSE include, but are not limited to:

- confidence.
- self-presentation.
- teamwork and collaboration.
- time management and organisational skills.
- self-awareness and self-discipline.
- an open mind and the ability to move beyond boundaries and experiment with different ideas.
- communication skills.
- analytical, critical and research skills.
- the ability to cope with criticism and learn from it.
- stamina.

Progression to Key Stage 5 – GCSE success will allow access to the A-Levels or Vocational (BTEC) courses in Drama, Theatre studies, Performing Arts or Expressive Arts and will strongly support further studies in English, Music, Dance, Art and Design.

Careers – Successful GCSE drama candidates will have access to a wide range of professions including, but not limited to the media, theatre, television, radio, the film industry, arts administration, drama therapy and education. In addition, GCSE Drama provides a large skill set which is transferable to many areas of Business and Public Relations and well as management and sales roles.

Engineering

This qualification, which is an introduction to engineering allows students to develop skills and understanding which will be of use generally and as part of a progressive career path leading to further technical or academic engineering qualifications.

The course is designed for students to gain core knowledge and understanding of the engineering industry and begin to understand the contribution that engineering makes to society and the economy as a whole.

Students will develop and use a range of transferable skills, including computer aided design (CAD) and technical skills, such as how to design and make engineered products. An awareness and understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development will also be instilled within students. Additionally, students will develop the following skills:

- an awareness and appreciation of commercial and industrial issues and emerging technologies in the context of engineering
- the ability to apply their knowledge and understanding of engineering by using evaluation and problem-solving skills.
- acquisition of skills to be effective and independent learners.

This course will suit individuals who like working with a high degree of accuracy, who want to know how things work and why. They should also be good at mathematics and physics as this is an entry requirement to study engineering at university.

Over the course students will continue to develop their skills in designing and making, ensuring they have a broad range of skills and knowledge of working with different materials.

Progression - successful completion of this course will allow students to study engineering at Key Stage 5 level. Successful candidates would have access to the range of A-Level Design and Technology courses available. There is also a range of apprenticeships that are run nationally that would be the next step following a successful qualification in this subject.

Careers – successful completion could potentially open up a range of careers that include design, engineering, product development, technology development and manufacturing.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- Food, nutrition, and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study or embark on an apprenticeship or full-time career in the catering or food industries.

Students are assessed on their theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition in a written exam that is worth 50% of the GCSE and includes 20 multiple choice questions (20 marks) and five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks). They will also complete 2 pieces of NEA coursework, one of which allows them to explore the science of food and the other is a more traditional piece of coursework that asks them to plan, cook and prepare 3 dishes in 3 hours.
The course will lead to students being able to:

- Demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical processes as well as the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes and diet and health choices.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking, and serving food.
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.
- Consider the influence of lifestyle and consumer choice when developing meals and recipes.
- Consider nutritional needs and food choices when selecting recipes.
- Develop the ability to review and make improvements to recipes.
- Manage the time and cost of recipes effectively.

Progression – Successful completion of this course could take students all over the world with an exciting career. This course could lead to a variety of level 3 qualifications in Food Technology or Hospitality and Catering.
Careers – This course would be suitable for someone wanting to go into a career as a nutritionist, food technologist, chef, caterer, or events manager.

Geography

Geography is the study of the world around us and our place within it. It is constantly changing and impacts upon our everyday life. It is the subject we experience every day without every truly knowing it.

Students will study about tectonic and climatic hazards including climate change. Globally students will learn about the creation, uses and future of rainforest and hot desert environments, while, from a UK perspective, students will learn about river and coastal landscapes.

Looking from a human geography viewpoint, students will examine why some countries are rich, while others remain poor despite global efforts to help, and what resources humans are in danger of using up and why.

It is hoped that students will have the opportunity to experience a number of case studies first hand, in the form of fieldtrips which will be arranged throughout the course. These should give students first-hand experience of geographical methods.

Geography, alongside History forms part of the English Baccalaureate and we expect that all students to take one (or both) of the subjects.

Students will develop a range of skills over the course of this GCSE which would include:

- communication skills
- an understanding of the wider world
- an ability to bring together and present a range of different points of view.
- the ability to solve problems.
- the ability to research and present findings following fieldwork.

As a result, this course requires students to have reasonable writing and evaluation skills.

Progression to Key Stage 5 - successful completion of this course will allow students to study a range of subjects at Key Stage 5 level. Obviously, GCSE success will allow access to A-Level Geography. However, a successful geography GCSE candidate would also have access to sociology, geology, elements of media and potentially journalism courses.

Careers – successful geography GCSE candidates will find accessing all types of employment significantly easier. Employers are particularly keen to see applications from students who have obtained a Geography GCSE as it shows a willingness to learn about and understand the world around them. Geography specialist careers are wide ranging including town planning, environmental stewardship, aid work, journalism, and teaching.

History

History is the study of the past and significant events that have taken place. It is a window for us to learn where we have come from, and to see the perils that lie ahead. It is a dynamic subject that we experience every day.

It is hoped that students will have the opportunity to experience the environment study in the Norman exam paper first hand, in the form of a trip, as well as one to Berlin connected to Paper 1. These should give students first-hand experience of both historical places and events.

Exam board: AQA
Assessment: 2 exams – No Coursework

Paper one: Understanding the Modern World

- Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship
- Conflict and Tension: Interwar Period 1918-1939

Paper two: Shaping the Nation

- Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day
- Norman England, c1066-c1100

History, alongside Geography forms part of the English Baccalaureate and we expect that all students to take one (or both) of the subjects.

Students will develop a range of skills over the course of this GCSE which would include:

- communication skills
- an understanding of the wider world
- an ability to bring together and present a range of different points of view.
- the ability to analyse sources and their usefulness
- evaluative and comparative skills.

Students who want to explore the depths of the world around them will enjoy taking GCSE History. Our modules have a range of focuses, with the German module focusing on the experiences of people (social history), to medicine through the years to present day with how it has developed. It is a challenging course, which will stretch you. However, we have big focus on literacy and developing students writing and analytical skills, so they are prepared for GCSE.

Progression to Key Stage 5 - Successful completion of this course will allow students to study a range of subjects at Key Stage 5 level including A-Level History, Politics, Classical Civilisation, Philosophy, Sociology, Media, and Film.

Careers – History is a highly desirable qualification as it will enable to you think critically, communicate clearly, analyse adeptly, and evaluate efficiently. These invaluable skills will open doors to careers such as jobs in the civil service, law, politics, journalism, heritage, archaeology, and teaching.

Media

Students will study a range of theories and skills that relate directly to the study of media. Students will develop evaluative skills and an aptitude for critical analysis. Similarly, they will study media in context through several areas including, journalism, television drama, film, music videos, and advertising. Students will also consider the influence of genre, narrative, representation, psychology, and sociology within the production of media.

There will be opportunities for students to visit media institutions, meet industry experts and discuss concepts with them.

Students will develop a range of skills over the course of this GCSE which would include:

- Understanding how the media shapes our culture and society.
- Evaluating media codes and messages based on experiences, skills, beliefs, and values.
- Communication and analytical skills through the study of various texts.
- Utilising a range of creative and practical skills through own productions and design work.
- The ability to use several industry standard design software such as Adobe Photoshop & Premiere

Note – this course cannot be combined with Creative iMedia as the two qualifications discount one another.

Progression to Key Stage 5 – successful completion of this course will allow students to study media at Key Stage 5 level. Successful GCSE candidates would have access to the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Creative Digital Media Production. This qualification offers an introduction to the study of creative digital media production. Students develop an understanding of the media industry through analysing media representations and pitching and producing media projects.

Careers – successful completion could potentially open up careers within the media. Similarly, qualifications in media are valued within several industries including advertising, television and radio production, filmmaking, journalism, politics, and public relations.

Music

Exam board: OCR

Develop communication and performance skills whilst expanding your understanding of music. You will learn to use Music Technology software to support your learning and can choose to specialise in music technology (instead of playing an instrument). You need to have a love of the subject and be seeking to develop your own musicianship outside of lesson time as this is an important factor at doing well in GCSE Music.

- **'My Music'** - You can perform and compose in any style of music, on any instrument. Your choice. <u>You can also make use of music technology as an alternative – using computers to record and create music.</u>
- **'The Concerto through Time'** - You will study a traditional style of music called 'The Concerto' and how it has developed from the Baroque era, through to later Classical and Romantic eras.
- **'Rhythms of the World'** - You will study a mixture of different world music styles including 'Indian, Punjab, Bhangra, Traditional Eastern Mediterranean and Middle Eastern music plus West African drumming and Central/South American style of Calypso and Samba.
- **'Film Music'** - You will study a range of different types of film Music plus video game music.
- **'Conventions of Pop'** - A history and development of pop music styles from the 1950's to the present day will be studied. Students will perform on a range of instruments in a variety of different 'pop' styles.

Assessment - All coursework will be internally assessed by your music teachers as part of your practical assessment. Your performances and compositions will be recorded, which will finally be moderated by OCR. The listening exam is externally assessed by the examiners.

Coursework – 60% (no lengthy written work)

Listening exam - 40%

Progression - GCSE Music is a good path towards BTEC Nationals in Music, A Level Music, Music Technology and Performing Arts courses.

Careers – Musical skills and knowledge would be an advantage in careers in retailing, leisure, tourism, media, presenting, journalism, sound engineering, entertainment, and the performing arts.

Separate Sciences (3 GCSEs)

Students will study topics from biology, chemistry and physics whilst increasing their skills sets. They will be required to complete practical investigations work as an engaging way to explore science as a hands-on subject.

The Separate Sciences cover the material from the Combined Science course, and then further expands on concepts and theories. This additional information and understanding helps to bridge knowledge between the current GCSEs and A Level in science, thus giving Separate Science students a distinct advantage over those studying Combined Science as they start their A-Level studies in the sciences.

Students will develop a range of skills over the course of this GCSE which would include:

- investigative skills
- analysis and interpreting skills.
- evaluating both their own effectiveness and the validity of their findings
- research skills
- referencing
- application of theory to a situation
- numeracy skills
- literacy skills

Progression to Key Stage 5 – successful completion of this course will equip students with the skills required to undertake many courses at Key Stage 5 level. Successful GCSE students may be eligible to study A-Level Science or a Level 3 Applied Science course that many schools offer. It is worth noting, if the original intention is to pursue a science subject at A-Level or further, students are advised that they should consider the Separate Sciences GCSE option.

Careers – Careers using skills obtained within science are wide ranging, from those being closely linked to science and those requiring logic, methodology and analysis. Examples include medicine, dentistry, forensics, engineering, geology, astronomy, research, sports science, zoology, botany, palaeontology, medical physics, environmental science, conservation and many more.

Sociology

Sociology is the study of the relationship between people and the society around them. It involves looking at people's behaviour, identities, and beliefs. It includes studying different social institutions like media, law, families, education, and the criminal justice system.

Sociology is an exciting subject that challenges students' experience with everyday life. It will enable them to understand why people become the way they are whilst also considering why people commit crime, why some people are richer than others and whether men and women are treated the same.

Studying Key Stage 4 Sociology will enable students to:

- develop an understanding of individuals, institutions and different groups that exist in different societies.
- analyse different sources of information and arguments and make judgements based on the evidence provided. This type of analysis equips students with transferable skills that they can use in their environment.

Course requirements:

This course requires students to have good writing skills and the ability to apply mathematics to a variety of different studies.

Progression to Key Stage 5 – Students who achieve a high grade at GCSE will have a basis of understanding to go on to study Psychology as well as Sociology at A Level, alternatively they could progress to a Level 3 qualification in Health and Social Care.

Careers - Careers leading on from GCSE Sociology can include health and social care, psychology, law, media studies, childcare, and teaching.

Spanish

The many cognitive benefits of learning languages are undeniable. People who speak more than one language have improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, the ability to multitask, and they have better listening skills, as well as displaying signs of greater creativity and flexibility. So, Spanish speakers are highly sought after by British employers as they recognise the breadth of skills that candidates will bring to their business. Also, as the second most widely spoken language in the world (in terms of native speakers), fluency in Spanish is much in demand, as it is a crucial language in the world of tourism, the hospitality sector and commerce.

Throughout this course students will be taught to develop their Spanish speaking ability and confidence; their ability to write high quality language; their reading and listening comprehension and translation skills. Additionally, throughout the course we provide regular opportunities for students to broaden their cultural awareness and develop as global citizens, providing them with a window into the wider Spanish speaking world, and reinforcing British values of tolerance and respect.

The course itself is taught through a series of themes:

- Theme 1 – Identity and Culture
- Theme 2 – Local area, holiday, and travel
- Theme 3 – School
- Theme 4 – Future aspirations, study, and work
- Theme 5 – International and global dimension

Progression - Successful Higher level GCSE candidates will be able to progress to A level Spanish. Some of our best universities may request the study of a language at GCSE as an entrance requirement for certain degrees and numerous degrees are offered with the study of a foreign language alongside. Additionally, there is often the opportunity to spend a year studying abroad under the ERASMUS scheme with a year in Madrid or Barcelona for example.

Careers – Successful completion could lead to a range of careers that include hospitality, travel and tourism, hotel management, business and enterprise, teaching, translation, interpreting, public relations, media and journalism, supply chain and logistics, engineering, international and/or litigation law, international sales/marketing/advertising/purchasing.

Sport Science

Sport is a high-profile and expanding industry in the UK, contributing over £20bn to the economy, sport now ranks within the top 15 sectors in the country and its wider economic benefits mean it plays a huge part in our society.

It is also widely recognised that regular participation in sport and physical activity is highly beneficial both to individuals and to society as a whole. With life expectancy on the increase, there will be continuing focus by government in collaboration with other bodies, to promote sport's benefits and encourage wider take up.

Elite sport has fully embraced sport science and considers every minute detail of an athlete's training programme, rest time, environment, and psychology in the pursuit of excellence.

The Cambridge Nationals in Sport Science offer students the opportunity to study key areas of sport science including anatomy and physiology linked to fitness, health, injury, and performance; the science of training and application of training principles; and psychology in sport and sports performance.

Progression - successful completion of this course will allow students to complete further study at Key Stage 5 level. Students could go on to study a Level 3 vocational course in a similar field or complete coaching qualifications in specific sports or personal training.

Careers – successful completion could potentially open up a range of careers that include personal training, sports development, physiotherapy and other opportunities in the sports and health industry.