



Key Stage 4 Curriculum

2023-2025

The Netherhall School

KS4 CURRICULUM 2023 - 2025

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KS4 OPTIONS PROCESS AT A GLANCE

1. All students will do a core of GCSEs in English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science. *(see pages 3, 8-11)*
2. Most students will do 4 other specialist subjects. *(see pages 12-28)*
3. Most students will choose a Language. *(see pages 4 and 24)*
4. Most students will do Geography, History or Computer Science. *(see pages 4, 14, 21 and 23)*
5. Some students will be given lessons to support their study and progress in other subjects.. These will take the place of one or more of their 4 specialist subjects. *(see pages 4 and 7)*
6. All students will be able to propose the remainder of their 4 specialist subjects, *we are unable to guarantee that these choices are met.* *(see pages 12-28)*
7. Advice and guidance will be given to students and parents.

Making Choices

Do

- Prepare carefully for your guidance discussions with form tutor.
- Take into account prior levels of achievement.
- Think about individual interests and abilities.
- Consider how choices now may affect future education and career opportunities.
- Find out about the content of each subject.
- Listen carefully to advice about which subjects or types of course you are most likely to succeed in.
- Be realistic about courses and subjects which suit you.
- Ask if you are unsure.

Don't

- Choose a course because your friend is choosing it (you will probably find yourself in different groups anyway).
- Leave completing the request form until the last two or three days. Allow enough time to find out more information and to ask questions.
- Make plans in isolation. Consult as many people as possible, especially those in school with spe-

INTRODUCTION

This booklet sets out information about Key Stage 4 subjects and courses available from September 2021. For both the compulsory core subjects and the specialised courses, staff will be very happy to provide further information and guidance.

Our highest priority is to guide students onto courses where they can succeed. Students will need a strong commitment across all courses and, whatever combination of subjects is followed, will need to pay particularly close attention to progress in the core subjects, English, Mathematics and Science. Currently, students planning to study A Levels require higher grades in seven subjects. We aim to guide students as closely as possible to the courses where we think they can be most successful. This guidance will be based upon a variety of indicators including

- **Prior attainment: KS3 assessments and KS2 SATs**
- **Teacher recommendations and reports**
- **Attitude, behaviour and homework record**

While maximising academic and examination performance is clearly enormously significant, it is also important for students to develop other skills and attributes which will be needed for a successful working life after school and/or college/university. The school is therefore committed to developing in

KEY DATES

all students the positive attitudes, social and emotional skills required for both employment and further study

24 January	Introductory Assembly
1 February	New subject Assembly
10 February	Curriculum Guidance and Parents Information Evening
25 January - 11 February	Form time activities
1-4 February	drop-in sessions for new subjects
7 March	Deadline for return of KS4 subject request forms
March-June	Processing of requests: further discussion, feedback and interviews as needed

KEY FEATURES OF THE NEW REFORMED GCSEs

GCSEs remain the standard academic qualification taken by 16 year olds. They are subject based in traditional disciplines and since 2015 have been substantially re-structured and reformed. The key features are as follows:

New grading scale using numbers 9 – 1 with 9 – 5 being the higher grades.

Assessment mainly by examination with little or no controlled assessment or coursework.

New, updated and, in some respects, more demanding content requirements.

Courses designed to cover two years and no longer divided into modules.

Students to take exams in one period at the end of the two year course.

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
U	U

GOOD PASS (D/E)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

November (Year 12) retakes only available in English and Mathematics.

↑				
Level 3	AS & A Levels / BTEC National Diplomas / International Baccalaureate / NVQ Level			
↑				
Level 2	GCSEs Grades 9 - 5	BTEC L2 First Award	L2 Cambridge National Certificates	City & Guilds Level 2 Awards
↑				
Level 1	GCSEs Grades 4 - 1	BTEC L1	L1 Cambridge National Certificates	City & Guilds
↑				
Entry level	Entry qualifications including Certificates of Achievement and Vocational Awards			

Core Curriculum

In terms of GCSE examination courses, the Core Curriculum for all students includes

English Language; English Literature; Mathematics; Science

This will lead to a total of five or six GCSEs depending upon whether a student takes Double Award

Year 10 Curriculum Requests for September 2023

You will receive an online copy of the form on page 5 : this form should be returned to Form Tutors by Monday 6th March

One subject should be selected from each of Blocks A B C and D

One reserve choice should be selected from each of Blocks A B C and D

All students should include at least one of the following: Geography, History, Computer Science, French, German

Additional Support

Where appropriate, students will be invited to join one of the following groups: this will be discussed during individual guidance interviews

EAL Support

(replaces one option subject)

Innovate

(replaces entire curriculum)

Guided choices

Where there are two subjects from the same curriculum area, only one may be taken.

This particularly applies in the following areas:

Economics	Physical Education GCSE	Graphics	
Business Studies	Sports Studies OCR Cam-	Product Design	

Because of the nature of certain subjects, we apply particular criteria for people wishing to take them:

- **Computer Science – students should have an anticipated grade of 5 in Maths**
- **Economics – students should have an anticipated grade of 5 in Maths**
- **Music – students must be able to play an instrument or be able to sing, and be prepared to compose and perform in both. Please see Mrs Snow for further guidance.**

Languages

We expect a majority of students to continue with a Language in KS4:

- **In groups where both French and German are currently studied, we expect most students to continue with at least one of the languages.**
- **In groups where only French is currently studied, we expect some students to continue with the language.**

Whilst the majority of courses are mutually agreed, it is, however, occasionally necessary for the school to decline certain requests or combinations.

As in previous years, we expect most courses to run, but, if any particular subject does not attract enough students, we may have to cancel it and use reserve subjects.

Year 10 Curriculum Requests for September 2023

Please return the online version of this form **Tuesday 7th March**

One subject should be selected from each of Blocks A B C and D

One reserve choice MUST be selected from each of Blocks A B C and D, duplication of choices should

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Drama	Music	French
French	ICT CNAT	Economics	Design technology
Religious Studies	Food & Nutrition	Business Studies	Art
Media Studies (CNAT)	PE GCSE	German	History
Geography	History	Design Technology	Computer Studies
History	Geography	History	Health and Social
PE GCSE	Religious studies	Food and Nutrition	Business Studies
By invitation	By invitation	By invitation	By invitation
	EAL		
All students must include at least one of the following: Geography, History, Computer Science, French, German			

Securing future success: Attainment 8

Further changes have taken place with respect to how student attainment is measured within and beyond schools. From 2015 examination success has been measured across a wider range of subjects: a new measure, known as Attainment 8, has been introduced to recognise achievement more broadly than the previous emphasis upon five examination grades. It will now be even more important than ever for students to be as successful as possible over a range of subjects. All grades will be important and there will be a particularly strong emphasis upon making the **best possible individual progress at all levels**: the cumulative effect of converting any grade, to the next one up will be highly significant.

Alongside maximising achievement across a wider range of subjects, there will continue to be a very powerful emphasis upon the core subjects English and Mathematics. Students who do not achieve one of the higher grades in English or Mathematics will be expected to retake either or both courses during the following two years. While progress and attainment will be measured across eight subjects, this

Attainment 8

- **English & Mathematics** (double weighted)
- **Three further English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects**
- **The other subjects** (further EBacc subjects, other academic or Arts subjects or Vocational qualification)

The English Baccalaureate

will not prevent students doing nine or ten examination courses.

Several years ago the government introduced a new measure of academic achievement. Those students suited to the most academic mix of subjects are now measured against a range of subjects in what is known as the “English Baccalaureate” or “EBacc”.

The English Baccalaureate is not a new qualification in itself but measures student achievement of

English Geography or History	Mathematics A Language	Science: 2 GCSEs (which may include Computer Science)
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higher GCSE grades (9 - 5) across a core of specified academic subjects.

The government believes schools should offer a broad range of academic subjects through to Year 11 and introduced the English Baccalaureate to promote this aspiration. Netherhall has always offered such a range of subjects for which results remain above the national average. The five subject areas included in the English Baccalaureate are, however, appropriate for many but by no means all students and we will continue to offer several different pathways in order to cater for different aptitudes and levels of ability. While many students will be able to achieve higher grades in all five subject areas, many will not: we expect most Netherhall students to follow an EBacc mix of subjects. Other pathways with a different mix of GCSEs or with a greater emphasis upon applied or vocational learning will continue to be more suitable for many students.

Alternative Options

The Netherhall school offers a number of adapted curriculum programmes that may be suited to some students. These will be by invitation and will be discussed carefully with those students who are affected. The provision includes:

Innovate curriculum

The Netherhall school and Oakes College is committed to providing a truly comprehensive education provision: offering a wide range of options and pathways whilst ensuring a broad and balanced curriculum offer for all, enabling all students to progress onto the next stage of their education pathways. The innovate Curriculum is aimed at students who are wishing to pursue a more vocational pathway, with enhanced work related learning experiences, smaller scale projects and allocated time to experience vocational courses, alongside the three core subjects and 2 additional option subjects (chosen from a bespoke range).

On the innovate pathway, students will complete GCSE qualifications in English, Maths and science, in smaller than average class sizes, with additional opportunities to take a range of accredited Level 1 and entry level qualifications during the course. In addition to core subjects, students will have opportunities to opt to experience targeted vocational workshops such as, health and beauty, hospitality and public services. Students will also experience PE and Citcom lessons as well as chose from 4 option choices.

Within the Innovate curriculum, students will be taught in vertical groupings based upon ability rather than chronological age. This will support enhanced progress.

This option is 'by invitation' only, and students on this route have already started studying it. The Selection of students to be invited has been given careful consideration, which key staff members meeting with students and parents during this term. Should you wish to enquire about this opportunity proactively please contact Karim Marsaoui. kmarsaoui@netherhallschool.org

EAL Support

This is for students who do not have English as a first language. Specialist support is provided, teaching them the academic English which will allow them to access the rest of their curriculum. Students work towards an iGCSE in English as a second language by the end of the course. *Contact: Ms J Kirby*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Why this Subject?

The ability to read critically and write accurately and creatively permeates almost every job you could imagine. The ability to communicate ideas effectively through speech is also an essential skill to enable you to be successful in your life and the career path you choose. English Language GCSE will help prepare all of these skills to enable you to succeed in whichever profession you choose.

How will you be assessed?

There will be two exams and one speaking and listening presentation for GCSE English Language.

The first exam requires you to read and answer questions on a short piece of prose fiction. The second part of the exam will require you to produce a short piece of creative writing. This exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

The second exam is 2 hours long. The first hour will require you to read and respond to two unseen non-fiction texts. One will be from the 19th Century, the other will be from the 21st Century. The second part of the exam will require you to produce two pieces of extended non-fiction writing.

The speaking and listening requirement will be conducted in-class. This is a formal presentation.

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

Being able to demonstrate good reading and writing skills will position you well for almost all post-16 courses. English Language GCSE prepares you to read and respond to texts critically and with insight.

Qualification: GCSE English Language

Awarding body: Eduqas

What will you study?

In English language, you will develop your writing skills by developing several pieces of non-fiction, transactional writing. This might include letters, speeches or texts for leaflets. You will also develop your skills of imaginative writing as you prepare for the creative writing element of the exam.

Your reading skills will also be developed as you explore a range of unseen texts. Some of these will be non-fiction texts that you will read from both the 19th Century and the 21st Century. You will learn how to draw comparisons between texts which are thematically linked. You will also learn how to respond critically to prose fiction texts.

As part of the English Language course, you are also required to prepare and deliver a formal presentation to your class. This will enable you



For further information or clarification please contact Mrs Powell

cpowell@netherhallschool.org

ENGLISH LITERATURE



Qualification: GCSE

Awarding body: Eduqas

What will you study?

In English Literature, you will read a play by William Shakespeare, as well as prose and poetry by modern and pre-twentieth century authors. You will be assessed through final written examinations in both subjects at the end of Year 11.

There will be a mix of whole-class reading of a text as well as some opportunities to discuss extracts in more detail either as part of a small group, or individually.

For the exams, you will be required to have read and revised the texts so that you will be able to comment on them without having them in front of you. Don't worry – by the time you get to the end of the course, you will have had a chance to revise them in lots of detail.

Why this Subject?

English Literature teaches you how to think critically and analyse the world around you. By studying English Literature, you will extend and develop your reading ability as well as exploring how texts fit into different social and

How will you be assessed?

You will have two different exams for GCSE English Literature.

The first will last two hours and will cover the Shakespeare play and the anthology of poetry that you will have studied. This exam will last two hours.

The second exam will last two and a half hours and will cover the 20th Century prose or drama text you will have studied as well as the 19th Century prose text. The final question on the exam will require you to compare two poems that you have never seen before.

POST 16

Studying English Literature at GCSE puts you in a really good position for lots of courses post-16. The skills of analysis and close-reading that you will learn will enable you to pursue courses that require detailed analysis and observations of texts.

For further information or clarification please contact Mrs Powell

cpowell@netherhallschool.org

MATHEMATICS

“I enjoyed the Codes and Ciphers lesson which introduced the Enigma machine as it was challenging to crack the code”.

“I thought it was a good trip, well organised and very interesting learning about the secrecy surrounding Bletchley Park.

Also I enjoyed seeing the room with the Bombe



in”

“I was invited to attend a series of **Maths Masterclasses** which ran for 5 weeks from September to October. My favourite session was when we did origami because we got to make interesting 3D shapes like cubes and 3D stars.

Then I was invited to visit the **Royal Institution in London** as a follow up to the classes. I really enjoyed it and I learnt a lot about spherical filming and modelling the melting of the ice caps at the poles.

How will you be assessed?

You are assessed by three exams

Paper 1 – 1 hour 30 mins exam
(80 marks and non-calculator)

Paper 2 – 1 hour 30 mins exam
(80 marks and calculator)

Paper 3 – 1 hour 30 mins exam
(80 marks and calculator)

Regular homeworks, end of topic skills checks and exams set throughout the course will help

Qualification: GCSE MATHEMATICS

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

- **Number**
- **Algebra**
- **Ratio and proportion**
- **Geometry**
- **Probability and Statistics**

What skills does studying mathematics develop?

- **Critical thinking**
- **Problem solving**
- **Analytical thinking**
- **Quantitative reasoning**
- **Ability to manipulate precise and intricate ideas**
- **Construct logical arguments**
- **Communication**
- **Time management**
- **Teamwork**
- **Independence**

POST 16

Mathematics is a powerful tool with many applications. Advanced mathematical training can lead to many career opportunities, including business, finance, medicine, engineering and basic sciences. At the same time, mathematics is a self-contained subject that is worth studying

For further information or clarification please contact Mr Woods

cwoods@netherhallschool.org

SCIENCE



Qualification: GCSE (Separate Sciences or Combined Science)

What will you study?

Biology

- Cell Biology
- Organisation
- Infection and Response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and Response
- Inheritance Variation and Evolution
- Ecology

Chemistry

- Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter
- Quantitative Chemistry
- Chemical Changes
- Energy Changes
- Rate and Extent of Chemical Changes
- Organic Chemistry
- Chemical Analysis
- Chemistry of the Atmosphere
- Using Resources

Physics

- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle Model of Matter
- Atomic Structure
- Waves

POST 16

A-Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics Qualifications Offered

GCSE Separate and Combined Science route students are welcome subject to entry requirements being met. These can be found on the Netherhall Sixth Form Website.

Trips and Opportunities include:

Babraham Institute
Addenbrooke's Hospital

Why this Subject?

The Science phenomena and skills you learn about today could help you shape the world of tomorrow.

The ability to continually question the status quo, interpret a wide range of data, and evaluate the world around us are just some of the reasons why Science has a pivotal role for any type of fu-

How will you be assessed?

This will vary depending on the route taken.

GCSE Combined Science (Double GCSE Award)

(Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

(Examined in Year 11)

Six 1 hour and 15 minute papers in total
Higher or Foundation Tier Offered

GCSE Separate Sciences (Triple GCSE Award)

(Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

(Examined in Year 11)

Six 1 hour and 45 minute papers in total
Higher Tier Only

There is no coursework with either qualification. Students complete required practical activities and skills during their Science lessons, as-

For further information or clarification please contact Mr Suddick

ART



Art GCSE allows you to make your own personal statement, at the same time showing how to appreciate and understand the origins of the creative ideas.

We live in a visual world, forever changing in appearance. We are surrounded by art and design every minute of the day, through advertising, television, fashion, design, life-

Why this Subject?

The Netherhall art course allows every student to find a personal style and direction to visually express their ideas and thoughts. You develop the skills to think outside the box, improve skills based with knowledge of graphic design, fine art, digital art, photography, printing, painting, drawing, design, sculpture and fashion.

You will analyse and experiment using art, to build your imaginative powers, understanding of the language of art. There is no revision for art exams; you

How will you be assessed?

Pearson Edexcel GCSE(9-1) Art & Design course is two units:

Coursework: 60%. Submitted Dec 2020.

Exam 40%.

Your Art GCSE will start as a foundation course. In three months you will take part in tutor lead workshops that will introduce you to a full range of materials, methods and approaches. This will give you the confidence to explore and develop skills in digital, 2D and 3D forms. You are marked on your collection of research, your recording skills, understanding and analysis of your work and the work of artists. Your personal ideas, use of media and the final outcome. Through your sketchpad you visually present all your artwork, which is assessed monthly so you can clearly see your progress and your attainment at GCSE.

A01: Explore ideas. A02: Handling skills & materials

Qualification: GCSE (9-1) Art and Design
Awarding body: Pearson Edexcel

What will you study?

The GCSE follows a theme-based structure, which leads to final pieces where you have the freedom to select the style, media and interpretation.

Currently in Year 9 you are working on the theme 'Street Art' where you will present final pieces that convey your personal interpretation and creative power inspired by street art.

In Year 10 you work with a range of media through a foundation course of workshops, studying: observational drawing, digital imaging, sculpture, design, painting and printing. You will be encouraged to be personal and experimental when exploring ideas, to allow you to successfully find your personal direction for a final piece. From January you will embark on your creative journey to explore and discover ways of working through studying artists and observing the world we live in to create a final piece for the year 10 exam in June.

In Year 11 the theme continues with the chance to further develop your technical skills and refine your personal direction, looking at artists and using your imagination and creative skills to visually present an exciting and original final piece.

In January of year 11 you will start a new theme for the exam unit 2, where you will produce a final piece as a 10 hour exam following 3 months of preparation.

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

ART is all around you and therefore influential in all careers. A world with out ART would be simply dull.

ARTIST. Animator. Window Dresser. Art Historian. Illustrator. Fashion Designer. Ceramicist. Card Maker. Web Designer. Interior or Graphic. Marketing. Calligrapher. Printer. Fashion Designer. Make-up Artist. Illustrator. Photographer. Art curator. Magazine Publication. TV. Teacher. Theatre Set.

For further information or clarification please contact Mrs J Williams

BUSINESS STUDIES

“I chose to study GCSE Business Studies at GCSE because I am interested in starting my own business one day.”

“Business Studies gives me the skills that employers are looking for, so I think that I will be able to compete well in the job market after University.”

“Business is everywhere. Most jobs, from a photographer to an engineer, will still need to understand how to handle finance and how to



Why this Subject?

This subject tends to be popular with students who want to either learn more about how to run their own business one day or who want to learn management skills so that these can be combined with other areas of study.

How will you be assessed?

The course is assessed by two terminal examinations that take place at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Influences of operations and HRM on business activity

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

- 90 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

- 90 marks

Qualification: GCSE Business Studies 8132

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

- **Management and Leadership**
- **Finance**
- **Human Resources**
- **Marketing**
- **Operations Management**

Students will follow two examinations.

There is no controlled assessment of coursework.

Students will typically be taught using “flipped learning”.

This is a method whereby students will take notes and prepare for the lesson as a part of their homework. Activities, mini-projects and real-world case studies will then be completed during the lessons.

In this way the students will be working on

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

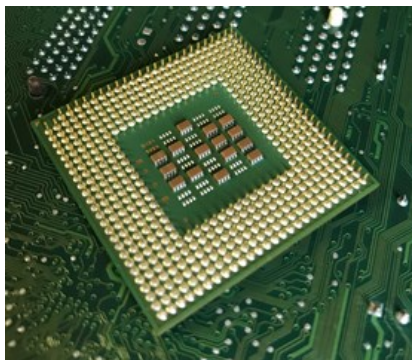
- **Business Studies is a popular choice at post 16, and at University, because the skills taught are relevant to virtually any setting where trading or commerce is involved.**
- **Students who have been trained in Business Studies typically have the kinds of transferable skills that employers seek.**

For further information or clarification please contact Mr Fraser

COMPUTER SCIENCE

It is a really interesting challenge. Really useful as more of us are using computers. Tiffany (Year 11)

Computer Science is an amazing subject to take if you're interested in computer games or the inner-workings of your phone. Thom (Year 11)



Why this Subject?

The course will suit you if you want an interesting way to develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day to day life. This is an academic GCSE, part of the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and suitable for those students with a real en-

How will you be assessed?

Exams

Two written exams taken in the summer of year 11.

One exam on the Computer System.

One exam on Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming.

Exams are 1 hour 30 mins and marked out of 80.

Practical Programming

Students will be given the opportunity to undertake programming tasks during the course

For further information or clarification please contact Miss Pascoe

Qualification: Computer Science (9-1) - J277

Awarding body: OCR

What will you study?

- ◆ Knowledge about computer systems on which the examination will be based.
- ◆ Planning and writing algorithms
- ◆ Programming techniques,
- ◆ Computational logic,
- ◆ Translators and facilities of computing languages and data representation.
- ◆ Design a coded solution to a problem. Python will be the main programming code.
- ◆ Teaching will be a mix of practical programming and theory.

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

- Engineering
- Financial
- Science and Medicine
- Gaming



CNAT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A new and exciting course that will inspire and equip you with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the IT sector.



Why this Subject?

The course will suit you if you want an interesting way to develop a range of skills to help you succeed not only in the workplace but in other subjects too.

These skills include:

- Analytical skills
- Creative thinking
- Digital presentation
- Problem solving
- Research and planning

How will you be assessed?

Exam: IT in the digital world (90 minutes)

Centre assessed task 1:

Data manipulation using spreadsheets
(10-12 hours)

Centre assessed task 2:

Using augmented reality to present information
(10-12 hours)

Centre assessed tasks are set by OCR.

For further information or clarification please contact Miss Pascoe

Qualification: IT Level 1/2—J836

Awarding body: OCR

What will you study?

- The key principles and concepts used when creating IT products.
- How to create complex spreadsheet Solutions to meet given requirements.
- Creating spreadsheets for given 'real world' problems
- How augmented reality can be used to present information.
- Creating an augmented reality model prototype which will be tested and reviewed.
- Lots of practical tasks

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

- Progression to A Levels
- Progression to Cambridge Technical in Information Technology
- Apprenticeships
- IT is constantly evolving and new jobs are developing all the time—you could work for tech giants or create your own prod-



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

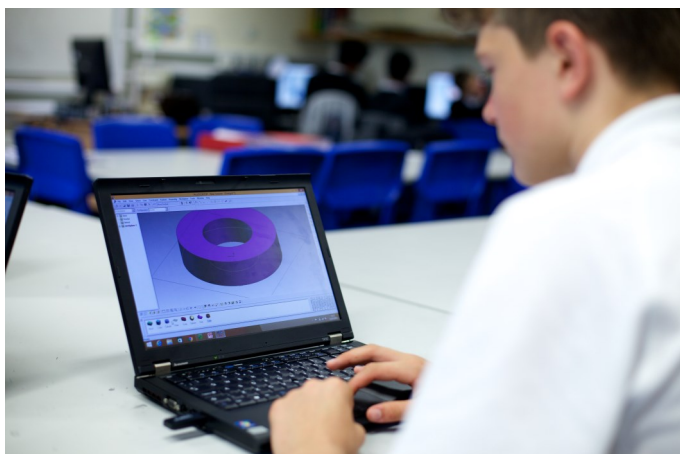


Why this Subject?

By studying Design & Technology, you'll be able to build up your creativity, problem solving, planning, and evaluation skills. Students who take this course would also like to learn more about how design is carried out in the 'real world' through a variety of written tasks.

How will you be assessed?

- 50% controlled assessment (design and make project)
- 50% theoretical content assessed in a two hour exam



Qualification: GCSE Design & Technology
Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

The course involves a controlled assessment project (NEA) that is centered around researching, designing and making a product influenced by a provided context. This project can take one of the following design routes: Graphics, Product Design or Textiles. This will then become your chosen specialism, primarily throughout year 11.

The other part of the GCSE is centered around learning and applying a range of knowledge and skills to a written exam. Theory work will focus on core understanding which covers a broad range of Design and Technology knowledge, including your more specialist strand which will either focus on Graphics, Product Design or Textiles.

The first year will be about learning key skills throughout a variety of projects and the second will be completing your final project (NEA), in addition to the consolidation of theory content

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

- Graphic designer
- Games designer
- Interior designer
- Architect

For further information or clarification please contact Miss Hayes.

DRAMA



Why this Subject?

Students in GCSE Drama are amongst the most expressive, creative and energetic pupils in the school. You will be willing to perform in a variety of different forms and reflect on your work in thoughtful and often insightful artistic ways. GCSE Drama offers all pupils the opportunity to engage in a subject that requires imagination

How will you be assessed?

Component One (30%): Devising. Students will create a piece of original drama, exploring 1-3 stimuli. You will perform this piece of drama and evaluate its effectiveness and reflect on the development process in a portfolio of evidence. This is an internally assessed component.

Component Two (30%) Performance from text. Students explore a published play in workshop sessions, before leading the rehearsal and preparation of 2 chosen extracts in performance. This live performance is assessed by an external visiting examiner.

Component Three (40%) Theatre makers in practice. This written examination requires pupils to complete two sections – one that

For further information or clarification please contact Mr L Parry

Qualification: GCSE

Awarding body: EDEXCEL

What will you study?

Year 10:

An initial Skills Audit, here you respond to and perform a number of short scripts and extracts from published plays.

You will also participate in a 'Dress rehearsal' of Component One and Two during the year. This will familiarise you with the process and evidence required for examination assessment.

Year 11:

Component One is completed by December – a 10 minute original performance is created by you and a written reflection submitted for marking.

Component Two: Examined in February to March of your second year by a visiting examiner. You will perform in a group piece and also perform a monologue or duologue from a play.

Component Three: during the Summer exams you will sit a short examination that requires you to discuss a play you have performed since March as a performer, director and designer.



POST 16

**A Level Drama / Performance Diploma
Drama School applications**

ECONOMICS

“Economics fits well with my GCSE courses in the English Baccalaureate.”

“I chose Economics because I want to learn more about how the world actually works.”

“Economics GCSE is a new course for me and I want to push myself and also learn topics that I have never seen before.”

“Economics can be seriously good for your

Why this Subject?

This subject tends to be popular with academically able students who want to either learn more about markets and trading or who want to learn more about the systems that influence all of our lives in terms of the distribution of wealth.

Economics is one of the most well regarded subjects in the curriculum. It is challenging and yet it is also very rewarding.

Students who successfully complete this course

How will you be assessed?

The course is assessed by two terminal examinations that take place at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: How markets work

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

For further information or clarification please contact Mr Fraser

Qualification: GCSE Economics 8136

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

Economic foundations

- Resource allocation
- How prices are determined
- Production, costs, revenue and profit
- Competitive and concentrated markets
- Market failure

How the economy works:

- Introduction to the national economy
- Government objectives
- How the government manages the economy
- International trade and the global economy
- The role of money and financial markets

Students will follow two examinations.

There is no controlled assessment of coursework.

Students will typically be taught using “flipped learning”.

This is a method whereby students will take notes and prepare for the lesson as a part of their home-work. Activities, mini-projects and real-world case studies will then be completed during the lessons. In this way the students will be working on something, and having support given to them by the teacher, with an emphasis on making progress and on personalised learning.

Some students, especially after key assessment points, will be completing different tasks compared to others at certain times of the year. Each student will have their own personal topics to revise and

POST 16

- Economics is a popular choice at post 16, and at University, because the skills taught relate to all aspects of life and to how systems are in place that influence our choices as well as the distribution of wealth.
- Economics is academically very well

GCSE FOOD AND NUTRITION

I chose to take this subject for GCSE because I love doing practical work and I want to have more practice at creating my own dishes. I enjoy carrying out experiments with food to see what happens to them. (Daisy)

I enjoy baking and would like to learn how to extend my skills further. I find cooking a good way to express myself and my ideas. (Tilly)

This course will help me to learn about different foods and how they work. This will enable me to try new practical ideas and give me life skills for

Why this Subject?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is aimed at students who have a keen interest in food, in learning and using a range of practical skills to produce a range of dishes. Students should be keen to learn and understand where food comes from, how it works and also its nutritional prop-

How will you be assessed?

Component 1:

Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition

Externally assessed examination – 1 hour 45 mins

50% of the total course.

Component 2:

Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action

Internally assessed assignments

50% of the total course.

Assignment 1 – The Food Investigation (8 hours)

An investigation relating to the scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food.

Assignment 2 – Food Preparation (12 hours)

For further information or clarification please contact Mrs J Underwood

Qualification: GCSE

Awarding body: Eduqas

What will you study?

The main areas of study are:

Food commodities – demonstrating planning, preparation and cooking techniques when using a range of different foods.

Principles of nutrition – understand the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food and the nutritional content of foods and drinks.

Diet and good health – the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.

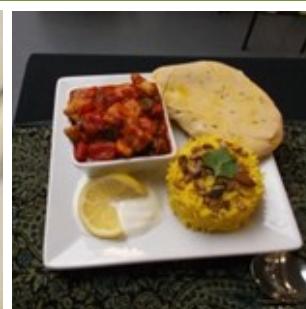
The science of food – focusing on the functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.

Where food comes from – understanding the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production, diet and health choices.

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

- Chef
- Food product development
- Sports nutritionist
- Dietician



GEOGRAPHY



All students studying GCSE. Geography will have the opportunity to go on a variety of trips. There will be two compulsory fieldtrips to locations such as The Norfolk coast and an optional foreign trip.

Why this Subject?

Geography is a useful, exciting and relevant subject. You will learn about processes and events that affect real people in Cambridge, the UK and the world - Geography is all around us.

It helps you to be aware of your surroundings and other people's viewpoints. It will help you to make important decisions in life.

Geography students have high levels of skills that employers look for - the ability to research,

How will you be assessed?

You are assessed by three exams

Paper 1 – 1 hour 30 mins exam
(88 marks and worth 35% of GCSE)

Paper 2 – 1 hour 30 mins exam
(88 marks and worth 35% of GCSE))

Paper 3 - 1 hour 15 mins exam
(76 marks and worth 30% of GCSE)

Regular homework, end of unit tests and exams

For further information or clarification please contact Mr J. Hill

Qualification: GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

You will study a variety of Physical, Human and Environmental Geography along with learning how to use and apply a variety of geographical and numerical skills.

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment

- **Challenges of Natural Hazards (Including tectonic hazards, weather hazards and climate change)**
- **Physical landscapes in the UK (Including coasts and glacial landscapes)**
- **Living World (Ecosystems – including tropical rainforests and cold environments)**

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment

- **Urban Issues and Challenges (Including urbanisation)**
- **Changing Economic World (Including the development gap)**
- **Resource Management (Including food, water and energy)**

Paper 3: Geographical Applications

- **Synoptic Issue Evaluation questions**

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

SO MANY CAREER OPTIONS!

Here are some ideas:

Town Planner
Chartered surveyor
Police Officer
Weather forecaster
Conservationist
Researcher/ Analyst

National Park Ranger
Estate Agent
Travel Agent
Teacher
Cartographer

BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

I chose this subject as I am considering a career in a Health related area. As this subject was not available at KS3, I thought it would be a good idea to learn something new. (Student A)



I am interested in learning about people and how they develop over time and react to life events. I am not sure what I want to do as a career but I think that this subject could help me with my future choices. (Student B)

When I leave school I would like a career that involves working in the community. Health and Social Care will equip me with skills and

Why this Subject?

This course is for students who are interested in learning about people and how they develop and looking at a range of factors which can influence this.

Students should be keen to learn through a vocational context, considering how professionals from Health, Social Care and Early Years also have an impact on the development of the indi-

How will you be assessed?

The course is made up of three components:

Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development.

This is an internally assessed assignment and is completed in approx. 6 hours

Component 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values

This is an internally assessed assignment and is completed in approx. 6 hours

Component 3 – Health and Wellbeing

This is a 2 hour externally assessed task

Tasks for Components 1 and 2 are set by the exam board

Qualification: BTEC Tech Award

Awarding body: Pearson

What will you study?

Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development

- You will study how people grow and develop over the course of their life from infancy to later adulthood, this includes PIES development and the different factors that can affect this. You will also look at how major life events and how individuals adapt to these changes.

Component 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values

- This component will give you an understanding of different health and social care services and will help you to understand the range of skills, attributes and values that are common across the sector.

Component 3 – Health and Wellbeing

- You will explore the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on a person's health and wellbeing. You will learn to interpret physiological and lifestyle indicators and what they mean for a person's state of health. You will learn how to use this information is used to recommend appropriate actions for improving a person's health and wellbeing and also consider the

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

- Health care professions e.g. nursing, physiotherapy, midwifery, care assistants
- Social care professions e.g. youth worker, social worker, counsellor, carer in a residential home
- Early years e.g. play leader, teaching assistant

For further information or clarification please contact Mrs Underwood

HISTORY

Past Students Comments:

“History was fun and interesting” SK

“Lessons were well taught” CB

“Lessons were interesting” CW

“I learnt lots of skills about arguing that

have helped

me in my A level studies” JT



Why this Subject?

History is an interesting and relevant subject that gives an understanding of how our world of the 21st century has come to be as it is. Through studying History pupils develop a wide range of skills: the ability to assess evidence; to evaluate arguments; to express their own ideas clearly and to understand how people and societies changed over time. These are valuable skills in themselves and relevant to many different ca-

How will you be assessed?

Assessment in this new GCSE will be by two examinations at the end of year 11. The exams are each 2 hours long.

Paper 1 “Understanding the Modern World” (50%) In this exam pupils will answer a mixture of knowledge and source based questions on Germany in Section A and International relations in Section B.

Paper 2 “Shaping the Nation” (50%)

In this exam pupils will answer a mixture of knowledge and source based questions on Change in Medicine in Section A and the

For further information or clarification please contact Mr Polyhronopoulos
dpolyhronopoulos@netherhallschool.org

Qualification: GCSE

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

The course uses a wide variety of teaching methods: group work, role-play and discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions. You will study the new AQA History GCSE. The first two areas of study are based around the theme “Understanding the Modern World”

- **Germany, 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship.**
- **International History: Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-1972**

The second two areas of study are based around the theme “Shaping the Nation” where pupils focus more on long term causes of change in Britain.

- **Britain: health and the people c.1340-1990**
- **A British depth study: Norman England, 1066-c1100**

Throughout the course pupils will be set a variety of tasks designed to develop the skills

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

History is good subject to study if you are considering any career. It is however particularly relevant for careers in:

Law, Journalism, Publishing / Marketing, Politics, Advertising, Teaching, Research / Analysis, Archaeology, Museum Work and Media work.

Languages: French and German

Quotes from Year 10 students:

“We learn languages in a fun and positive way”

“Language lessons are more interactive than other lessons”

“A language is a great skill to have”

“The teachers are approachable and everyone is

Why this Subject?

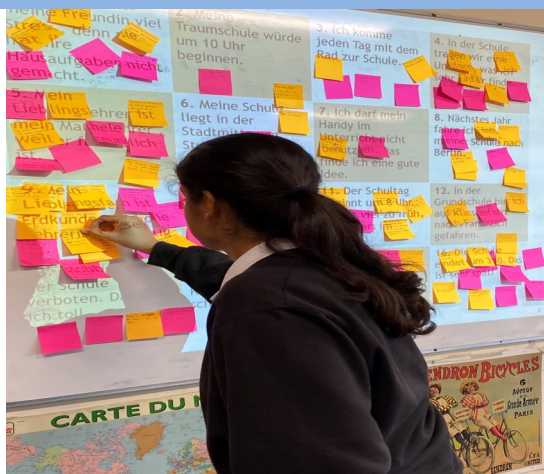
Learning a language is a fantastic way of extending your learning and understanding different cultures. It is also a great means of keeping breadth in your learning at GCSE.

Pupils develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills; all of which carry equal value at GCSE. They engage in topics relevant to their own lives as well as what is happening in the world today.

“Knowledge of languages is the doorway to wisdom.”

How will you be assessed?

- **Pupils will have 4 exams with equal weighting.**
- **The 4 skills are listening – speaking – reading – writing.**
- **All exams are at the end of the course, from memory.**
- **The speaking exam will be with the class teacher after Easter in Year 11.**
- **The listening, reading, writing exams will be in May/June.**
- **The course is topic-based but emphasises all 4 skills.**



Qualification: GCSE

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

Topics:

- **Family and friends**
- **Local area**
- **School life**
- **Entertainment**
- **Work**
- **Holidays**

Underlying these topics is the essential skill of communication in the form of listening – speaking – reading – writing. This is an excellent preparation for future work in any area.

In class we have a mixture of class teaching, interactive and independent work.

The emphasis is on skills practice and developing detailed, developed and complex pieces of work building on previous learning.

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

Languages offer great and varied opportunities post 16, not just for continuing with French or German at A level but having the possibility of starting a new language at university (with the potential for spending a year abroad), or working and travelling abroad

For further information or clarification please contact Mrs Pagoni

kpagoni@netherhallschool.org

Cambridge National in Creative iMedia



CNAT Creative iMedia will inspire and equip you with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the digital media sector and the wider industry.

It is a vocational qualification and contains

Why this Subject?

The course will suit you if you want an interesting way to develop a range of skills to help you succeed not only in the workplace but in other subjects too.

These skills include:

- Analytical skills
- Creative thinking
- Digital presentation
- Problem solving
- Research and planning

How will you be assessed?

Exam: Creative iMedia in the media industry(90 minutes)

Centre assessed task 1:

Visual identity and digital graphics
(10-12 hours)

Centre assessed task 2: (10-12 hours)

This will be chosen from one of the following:

- Characters and comics
- Animation and audio
- Interactive digital media
- Visual imaging

Qualification: Cambridge National in Creative iMedia

Awarding body: OCR

What will you study?

You will study creative and practical theory over two year course

- How media products get their meaning across, create impact and appeal to a range of people
- How to create original digital graphics for specific audiences
- Designing and creating original characters and comics
- How to plan and create animations with audio
- Creating, testing and making playable digital games

Facilities

Netherhall has a multi-camera TV studio and a complete green screen area for special effects filming.

We use industry standard software including Final Cut Pro X, Xcode, Logic Pro X and the Adobe Creative Suite package (Photoshop,

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

- A Levels, CTEC in Creative Media
- Media-based apprenticeships
- Employment such as a games developer, comic book writer, graphic designer
- University

For further information or clarification please contact Miss Samuels

MUSIC



Qualification: GCSE Music

Awarding body: OCR

What will you study?

There are 5 areas of study:

- **Area of study 1: My music**
- **Area of study 2: The concert through time**
- **Area of study 3: Rhythms of the world**
- **Area of study 4: Film music**



Why this Subject?

Do you:

Enjoy singing or playing an instrument?

Composing Music?

Listening to various styles of Music?

If you have answered yes to the above

How will you be assessed?

1. Integrated portfolio (30%) Non-exam assessment:

Performance on student's chosen instrument/voice

Composition to a brief set by the student.

2. Practical Component (30%) Non-exam assessment:

Ensemble performance

Composition in response to an OCR brief

3. Listening and appraising (40%) Exam:

A written paper, with CD

Aural recognition and context

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

Some of the post 16 courses available are:

- **A level Music Technology**
- A Level Music**
- B Tech Music**
- B Tech Performing Arts**
- Diploma in Musical Theatre**
- Diploma in Music**
- Degree in Music**
- Degree in Music Technology**

For further information or clarification please contact Mrs Snow

PE GCSE

Why this Subject?

Is this subject for me? If you have a positive response to the following statements a PE course could be for you.

- I enjoy physical activity and sports and take part regularly.
- I am keen to learn about a whole range of different topics surrounding sports, health, fitness and exercise.
- I enjoy learning about the human body and I am interested in developing my knowledge of the anatomy and physiology.

How will you be assessed?

GCSE

- The theory element of the course constitutes 60% of the overall GCSE and is assessed via two external examinations.
- The practical performance element of the course is internally assessed and externally moderated. Students have to perform in 3 sports (2 team and 1 individual or vice versa); demonstrating a wide range of core and advanced skills, tactics and strategies in competitive situations. Each sport is scored out of 20, each with an overall weighting of 10%.

The full specification and other teaching resources can be found at www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-physical-education-j587-from-2016/

Post 16

A-Level PE, Btec Sport Level 3.

Careers:

PE Teacher, Sports Coach, Physiotherapist, Sports Scientist, Sports Analyst, Sports Journalist, Armed Forces, Nutritionist, Sports Event Management, Pro-

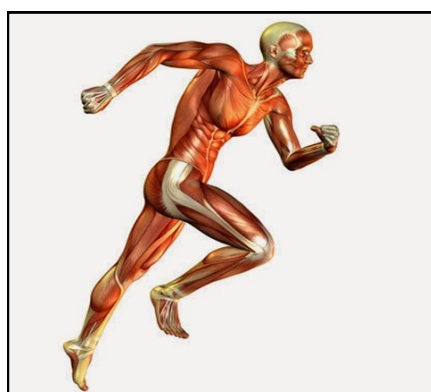
Qualification: Physical Education 9-1/Level 2 First Award in Sport

What will you study?

GCSE:

Pupils in years 10 and 11 follow the OCR 9-1 (J587) specification. Students have 3 classroom based theory lessons and 2 practical based lessons on a fortnight cycle.

- * Topic areas covered include;
- * Applied anatomy & physiology
- * Physical training
- * Socio-cultural influences
- * Sport psychology
- * Health, Fitness & well-being.

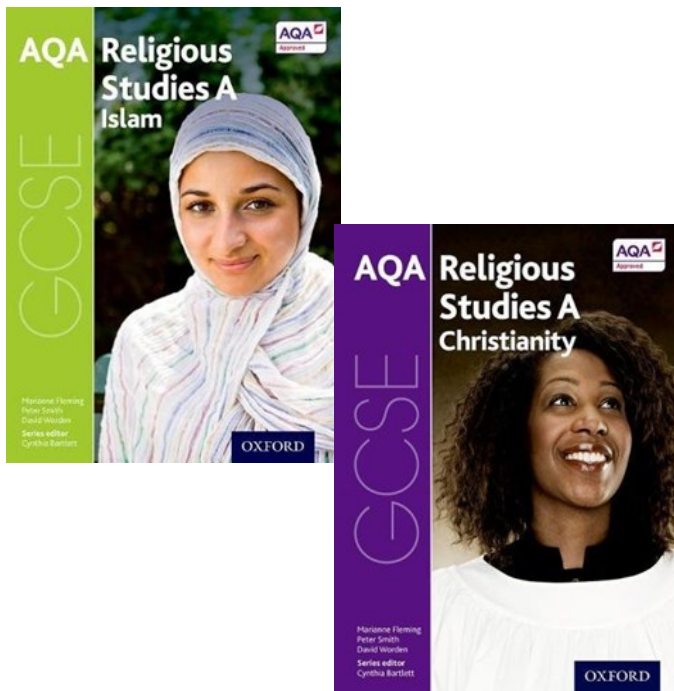


'I have really enjoyed all aspects of the GCSE PE course, I specifically liked learning about the Sport Psychology topic. Next

year I want to study A-Level Psychology and A-Level PE. In the future I hope to be a Sports Psychologist and work with professional athletes.' GCSE

For further information or clarification please contact Mr Schofield

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES



Why this Subject?

Religion, Philosophy & Ethics is primarily about the ultimate questions of life and understanding the diversity of people's cultures and beliefs in

How will you be assessed?

This specification is taken over two years.

This is a linear qualification. In order to achieve the award, students must complete two exam papers at the end of the year. There is no course work required.

You will study the following faiths:

• Christianity

• Islam

You will discover lots about the faiths as a whole but also how followers of these faiths think and feel about issues like contraception, marriage, war and capital punishment.

For further information or clarification please contact Mr K Abbas

Qualification: GCSE Religious Studies

Awarding body: AQA

What will you study?

Component 1: Study of religions, beliefs, teachings and practices

Christian and Muslim beliefs, teachings, practices, sources of authority and forms of expression in relation to four topics:

- Key beliefs
- Wisdom and authority
- Worship
- Duties and festivals

Component 2: Themes

A study of the four themes below in relation to Christianity and Islam:

- Relationships and families
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Religion, crime and punishment
- Religion, human rights and social justice

You do not have to have religious beliefs to do well in Religion, Philosophy & Ethics. You will need to study what religious people say but you

POST 16

Opportunities and Careers

GCSE Religious Studies is held in high regard by the uniformed services as it covers ethical issues. It reaches you about different aspects of human life; politics, science, literature, art, law and economics all of which religion shapes.

Also it can lead to a place on the A Level