

English National Curriculum

Key Stage 4

Programme Information Book

and Options Choices

2015-2017

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# About Key Stage 4

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**K**ey Stage 4 is the time when you make important decisions about the path to take for your future career and it is very important to make the right ones.

You will study the Key Stage 4 curriculum for two years, Year 10 and Year 11 and take GCSE or IGCSE examinations at the end of Year 11.

The curriculum is made up of two components; core subjects and optional subjects.

## **Core Subjects**

The core subjects of the English National Curriculum ensure that you have a balanced and diverse educational base. They are English Language, Spanish Language, Mathematics, Core Science, Physical Education, and Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE).

## **Option Subjects**

The Option courses of the National Curriculum are arranged into five groups and you must study five subjects, one from each group. The purpose of this booklet is to describe each of these Option Subjects so that you have a good basis for making the choices of which Options you want.

Think about the types of courses you would like to study at A-level and perhaps about which university you would like to go to. This will help you narrow down the selection until you have five that best fit your needs.

Read through this booklet carefully and discuss your options with your parents and teachers. Do some research on the subjects and the type of courses or employment you would like in the future. Remember that by not choosing a subject you may be closing a door for the future. On the other hand, a good choice of general arts, sciences or social studies subjects is likely to keep open many doors for you.

Here are a couple of websites that could help you make these important decisions.

<http://www.connexions-direct.com/index.cfm?go=Careers>

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

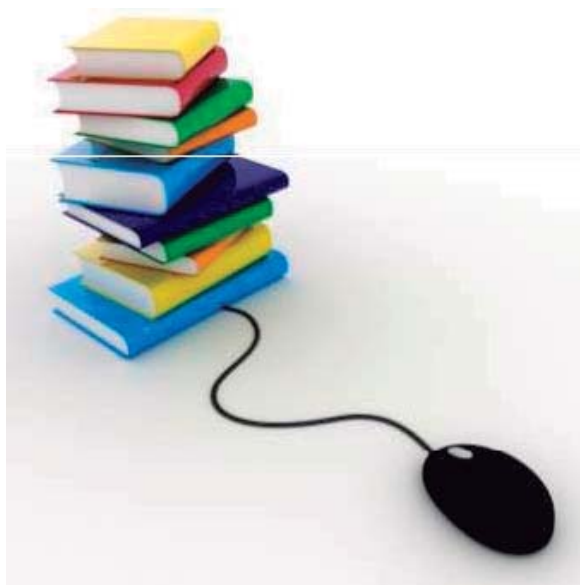
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# KS4 Curriculum Outline

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For a number of Y9 students the way forward into Y10 has been thought about for quite a while; for others it is something that seems to have come rushing towards them. All students are starting to ask questions and seek advice from both teachers and family. It is usually the case that answers and advice give the student the information and reassurance that was needed. Sometimes the questions that need to be asked are not obvious and sometimes the answers given tend to raise more questions than were asked to start with! So this can be both a confusing and an exciting time. This booklet has been put together in order to try and anticipate questions and to provide information about the subjects that make up Y10 and Y11, both compulsory and optional.



As in the Key Stage 3 timetable there are 35 lessons in the week. There is no unsupervised study time. The lessons spent on each subject per week will be as follows:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Periods(50 min) per week</i>
Mathematics	5
English Language	4
Core Science	4
Spanish	4
Physical Education	2
PSHE	1
Option 1	3
Option 2	3
Option 3	3
Option 4	3
Option 5	3

## What subjects are in the option blocks?

The subjects which are put together into the five Option Blocks are decided upon only after the students have made their choices, so that we can accommodate the majority of subject-combinations that students want. Two subjects in the same block cannot be studied since they are taught at the same time in the timetable. We try to satisfy every student's combination of subject choices before we decide which blocks to put them in.

We would like every Option described in this booklet to run but an option may only run if we have sufficient numbers of students wanting it. The minimum number will depend on the subject, and we therefore cannot promise to run all subjects.

# IGCSE English Language (Edexcel 4EA0)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

A full range of different styles of writing will be taught and formally examined; students will be expected to respond imaginatively, discursively and in other distinct styles such as in diary form or script writing. Oral work is linked to discussions of the topics which are introduced.

## **Writing Styles**

Advertisement  
Analysis  
Argument  
Brochure  
Descriptive  
Dialogue  
Diary  
Discursive  
Guide  
Informative  
Instructional  
Interview  
Journal  
Letter (Formal and Informal)  
Magazine Article  
Narrative  
Newspaper Article  
Persuasive  
Play Script  
Radio Programme  
Report  
Speech  
Summary  
Talk  
Telephone Conversation  
Transcript

## **RESOURCES**

IGCSE English Language textbook  
In-house anthology of literary and non-literary texts

## **Suggested Reading**

Local and national newspapers  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor  
*Nineteen Eighty Four* by George Orwell  
*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

## **ASSESSMENT**

Students will take:

**Paper 1** – Reading and writing (70%)

**AND**

**Paper 2** - Reading and writing (30%)

## **WHY IS THIS SUBJECT COMPULSORY?**

English is vital to you being able to access most of the other subjects in the curriculum. It is also the most widely spoken language in the world and therefore a good command of the language is vital to your everyday life.

# IGCSE English Literature (Edexcel 4ET0/01)

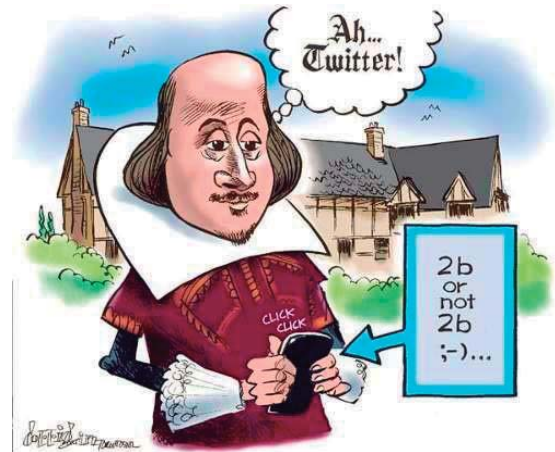
## COURSE OUTLINE

A full range of genres is examined – the novel, short stories, poetry and drama. Students are expected to produce extended essays concentrating on the examination of style, characterisation and theme and the relationship between all three.

**ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS** The English Literature syllabus is assessed by two closed book examinations (70% & 30%) requiring students to have a detailed knowledge of at least three different texts covering the range of **Prose, Poetry and Drama**. The examination papers will contain one passage-based question and two essay questions on each text. Students will answer three questions, one on each of the texts studied

## RESOURCES

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck  
*An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley  
*The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde



*The English Teacher* by R.K. Narayan  
*A View from the Bridge* by Arthur Miller  
Edexcel Poetry Anthology

## WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?

The English Department feel this course is best suited to students at Laude San Pedro International College who enjoy reading, allowing them the opportunity for detailed study of the texts in the classroom. Literature provides students with key analytical skills.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?

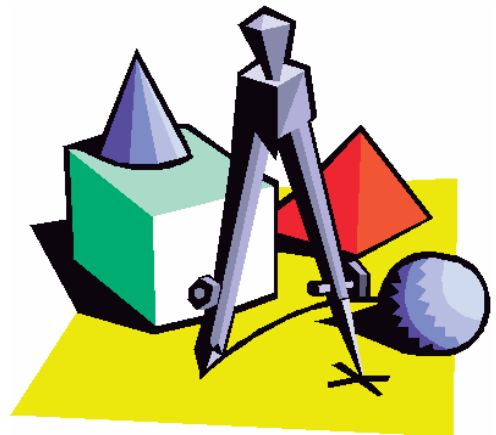
### Suggested Reading

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell  
*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee  
*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding  
*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen  
*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte

# IGCSE Mathematics (Edexcel 4MA0)

## COURSE OUTLINE

The Mathematics course is designed to enable to students to



- Develop their knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts and techniques.
- Acquire a foundation of mathematical skills for further study in the subject or related areas.
- Enjoy using and applying mathematical techniques and concepts, and become confident to use mathematics to solve problems.
- Appreciate the importance of mathematics in society, employment and study.

The course covers the broad areas of Number, Algebra, Geometry and Statistics.

### **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

Students take Edexcel IGCSE Specification A. All students are entered for Higher Tier, which is aimed at grades in the range A\*-D, but has a 'safety net' grade of E for those who narrowly miss the grade D.

The course is assessed through 2 two-hour long papers (3H and 4H). Each paper is 50% of the total IGCSE marks, and there is no coursework. There is a common syllabus for the papers, and calculators may be used in both.

### **RESOURCES**

The course is comprehensively covered in two official Edexcel textbooks, which will be issued at appropriate times during the course. Students will also continue to use MyiMaths, which can be specifically filtered to display only those topics that are on the Edexcel syllabus.

### **WHY IS THIS SUBJECT COMPULSORY?**

Mathematical thinking is important for all members of a modern society as a habit of mind for its use in the workplace, business and finance, and for personal decision-making. Mathematics is fundamental to national prosperity in providing tools for understanding science, engineering, technology and economics. Mathematics equips pupils with uniquely powerful ways to describe, analyse and change the world.

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Mathematics is a practical subject, and the best way to get better at it is by doing it. Students should therefore make sure that they get down to work in class, put the necessary time into homework tasks and revise for tests by doing practice questions.

## **GCSE Science A (AQA 4405)**

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

This is a new single award 'Core' Science course that incorporates a wide range of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics to prepare you with the foundations needed for vocational studies in Science. In this course you will study:

#### **UNIT 1 - Biology**

Keeping healthy, Nerves and Hormones, Drugs & Medicine, Inter-dependence and Adaptation, Energy, Biomass and Food Chains, Waste and Decay, Genetic Variation and its control



## **UNIT 2 – Chemistry**

Fundamental ideas in chemistry, Limestone and building materials, Metals and their uses, Crude oils and fuels, Other useful substances from crude oil, Plant oils and their uses, Changes in the Earth and the atmosphere

## **UNIT 3 – Physics**

Energy transfers, Energy and efficiency, usefulness of electrical appliances, generating electricity, use of waves for communication and as evidence for the expanding universe. You will also acquire the necessary skills to enable you to:

- Design a comprehensive scientific investigation
- Assess risks and safety requirements
- Make observations and accurate measurements

### **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

75% of your GCSE grade will be based on examinations that will cover the 3 units outlined above. Each paper is 1 hour long and assesses your ability to remember facts, read and interpret graphs or tables, apply knowledge and write about practical investigations that you have performed in lessons.

The remaining 25% of your grade is based on an Investigative Skills Assessment (ISA) carried out in Year 11 that tests your knowledge of practical and investigative skills.

### **RESOURCES**

All students will have specialist science teachers. Science lessons will involve theory, discussions, practical work, videos and group work. The work will build on the topics and techniques you studied during KS3.

Students in Year 10 will be given a Science textbook covering all the themes studied in Year 10 and 11 as well as a revision guide. In Year 11 they will also be given practice exam papers in all three Units and practice 'Controlled Assessments' to prepare for the coursework element of the GCSE.

### **WHY IS THIS SUBJECT COMPULSORY?**

Science is a core subject for all students as it is a fundamental part of everyday life. This means that everyone studies Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The scientific skills developed in practical work and assessments offer important tools and transferable skills that are needed in all walks of life. A good GCSE grade is essential for many careers including nursing, engineering, pharmacy, art preservation, environmental work, veterinary science, forensic science, astronautics and archaeology.

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

It is best to enter this subject with an open and enquiring mind. Science is very important and a highly valued subject. To do your very best, you should

- Read around the subject
- Produce your very best work at all times
- Revise well for internal tests and the examinations
- Have an inquiring and analytical mind to produce the best written coursework possible.
- Try hard to participate in all areas of the subject.

Remember, Science put simply is the study of man, environment and life to which you are just a part!



# GCSE Additional Science (AQA 4408)

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

This is a single award Additional Science course that incorporates a wide range of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics to prepare you with the foundations needed for further studies in Science. In this course you will study some of the components below:

### **UNIT 1 – Biology 2**

Cells, tissues and organs, Enzymes, Respiration, Organisms, Environment, Inheritance and Speciation

### **UNIT 2 – CHEMISTRY 2**

Structure and Bonding, Chemistry Calculations, Rates of Reactions and Electrolysis

### **UNIT 3 – PHYSICS 2**

Motion, Forces, Energy, Electricity and Radioactivity

You will also develop and enhance the skills to:

- Design a comprehensive scientific investigation
- Assess risks and safety requirements
- Make observations and accurate measurements
- Communication in Science

### **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

75% of your GCSE grade will be based on examinations that will cover the following units studied over years 10 & 11:

- Unit 1: Biology 2
- Unit 2: Chemistry 2
- Unit 3: Physics 2

Each paper is 1 hour long and assesses your ability to remember facts, read and



interpret graphs or tables, apply knowledge and write about practical investigations that you have performed in lessons. The remaining 25% of your grade is based on a controlled practical assessment (Unit 4) which involves; practical work and analysis of data.

### **RESOURCES**

All students will have specialist science teachers. Science lessons will involve theory, discussions, practical work, videos and group work. The work will build on the topics and techniques you studied during KS3. Students in Year 10 will be given a Science textbook covering all the themes studied in Year 10 and 11 as well as a revision guide. In Year 11 they will also be given practice exam papers in all three Units and practice 'Controlled Assessments' to prepare for the coursework element of the GCSE.

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

It is best to enter this subject with an open and enquiring mind. Science is very important and a highly valued subject. To do your very best, you should

- Read around the subject
- Produce your very best work at all times
- Revise well for internal tests and the examinations
- Have an inquiring and analytical mind to produce the best written coursework possible.
- Ensure you are organised for every lesson.

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# IGCSE SPANISH (Edexcel 4SP0)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**Y**ou will be working on the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing through a number of topics:

- **Home and Abroad** (Life in the town and life in the country; weather and climate, travel and transport; holidays)
- **Education and Employment** (Childhood; school; work; future career plans.)
- **House, Home and Daily Routine** (Types of home; self, family and friends; helping around the house; food and drink.)
- **The Modern World** (Environmental issues; the media; information and communication technology.)
- **Social Activities, Fitness and Health** (Special occasions; hobbies and interests; sport and fitness; shopping; money; health issues and injuries.)

## **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

You will be studying the Edexcel IGCSE 4SP0 Spanish course.

There are three examination papers:

**Paper 1:** 4SP0/01 Listening 40 mins

**Paper 2:** Reading and Writing 4SP0/02  
1 h 30 mins

**Paper 3:** Speaking 4SP0/02 10 mins

You will be required to prepare one topic for the Speaking test which will be conducted by a Spanish teacher. This test will take place one month before the May examinations.

## **RESOURCES**

You will be issued with your own textbook to help you study

independently, to help you revise and to do your homework.

Edexcel GCSE Spanish, Pearson Education

You will also have access to educational websites for independent study and learning support.

## **WHY IS THIS SUBJECT COMPULSORY?**

Spanish is a core subject because it will help you take an active part in the everyday life of the country, close to the people, immersed in their culture. You live the life of the locals, speaking, reading, listening to native speakers every day, you have clear opportunities of taking the learning experience a step further. If you speak Spanish, you can communicate with almost 500 million people worldwide! Think how many more employment options that gives you! More and more companies value employees with a knowledge of Spanish, a language giving access to one of the fastest-growing markets in the world.

## **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Learning a foreign language takes a lot of practice, however we are fortunate to have a lot of resources to help you progress, so in order to boost your performance in Spanish next year you are strongly advised to read some graded readings, watch original version films, listen to radio podcasts, talk to native language people, chat or exchange emails with web-pals or go on interactive fun-based webs.

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# ESTUDIOS ESPAÑOLES (not for GCSE)

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**Lengua, Ciencias Sociales, Matemáticas,  
Física-Química, Cultura Clásica**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

Los alumnos que en los cursos 7, 8 y 9 hayan cursado las asignaturas de Lengua y Sociales, continuarán con ellas en los cursos 10 y 11, para poder conseguir la homologación.

**En Lengua, Ciencias Sociales, Matemáticas, Física-Química** se seguirá el temario de 3º y 4º de Enseñanza Secundaria Obligatoria (ESO) que marca la Junta de Andalucía.

**Matemáticas, Física-Química** es una combinación de asignaturas en español como complemento para aquellos alumnos que quieran hacer Bachillerato español y/o ir a una universidad española en el futuro.

Todos los estudiantes que elijan la opción de **Matemáticas, Física y Química**, tendrán 3 clases a la semana, en las que trabajarán contenidos del temario español que no están incluidos en el temario inglés.

Los estudiantes que quieren hacer una carrera universitaria de Ciencias trabajarán Ciencias en español (Matemáticas, Física-Química), ampliando el temario inglés y traduciendo terminología.

## **RESOURCES**

Lengua Castellana y Literatura, 3 y 4 ESO, Santillana, Proyecto la Casa del Saber Geografía 3 ESO, Santillana, Proyecto la Casa del Saber.

Historia 4 ES , Santillana, Proyecto la Casa del Saber.

Matemáticas, 3 ESO, SM, Esfera

## **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

Los alumnos que cursan **Lengua y Ciencias Sociales**, además de hacer sus IGCSEs, si consiguen aprobar al final del curso 11, cuatro IGCSEs más Lengua y Ciencias Sociales obtendrán la convalidación del **título de Graduado en ESO** tal y como lo obtiene un alumno que ha cursado sus estudios en un centro español

**ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS** Para facilitar el estudio al alumno se realizará un examen de cada unidad. Al final de curso se realizará un examen global para afianzar los conocimientos trabajados a lo largo del curso

## **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Para conocer e interpretar la cultura española en todos sus ámbitos y para desarrollar la capacidad crítica y analítica del alumno.

# IGCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

## (Edexcel 4BS0/01)



### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

- **Business Activity and the Changing Environment** – examines the objectives of businesses, the changing environment and the criteria for judging success. The focus is on the importance of having clear business objectives and how the business environment provides opportunities for, and imposes constraints upon, the pursuit of those objectives.
- **Human Resources** – looks at people in organisations focusing on their roles, relationships and management in business.
- **Accounting and Finance** – explores the use of accounting and financial information as an aid to decision making.
- **Marketing** – focuses on identifying and satisfying customer needs in a changing and competitive international environment.
- **Production** – examines the way organisations use and manage resources to produce goods and services.

### **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

- It is relevant to the world of work and employers value the qualification
- You will gain valuable skills for education and employment
- When you leave school and wish to get a job, you will understand more about the way a business works
- If you choose not to become an employee, you will perhaps have the skills and knowledge to start your own business

### **RESOURCES:**

- Edexcel International GCSE Business Studies textbook (Pearson)
- Access to a computer and internet

### **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

100% examination. The assessment of this qualification is through a two-hour examination paper, set and marked by Edexcel. The exam requires students to:

- relate their learning to real business examples.
- be aware of current issues which affect businesses, their operation and success, and how they adapt to change.
- focus on current business practice.
- understand the importance of seeing business issues and situations through different perspectives.

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

- Students should start to watch and read the news in order to take an interest in current business affairs.
- It's advantageous to be studying IGCSE First Language English and IGCSE Higher Maths, but not essential. 2nd Language pupils must be prepared to read additional business related texts to enhance their skills in English.

# IGCSE Information and Communication Technology (Edexcel 4IT0)



## **COURSE OUTLINE**

Our International IGCSE in ICT aims to encourage the exploration and study of ICT in a variety of contexts: home, community, business, industry, recreation and education. In any given situation, students will be given the opportunity to acquire competence, ability and critical skills through the implementation, use and evaluation of a range of ICT systems.

## **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

A written examination paper 1: 30 hours.  
A practical examination paper 3 hours.

## **RESOURCES**

Fully equipped Computer Laboratory with 20 computers. Windows XP, Office 2007.

## **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

The study of ICT provides an insight into the significance and relevance of computers, applications and communications in the work environment and everyday life. ICT is used in areas as diverse as manufacturing, education and medicine and ICT skills are valued in virtually all areas of business and society. This syllabus offers opportunities to develop ideas on sustainable development and environmental issues, health and safety, and the international dimension of ICT use.

## **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

In order to do well in ICT, it is not enough to know how to use a computer.


The skill is in analysing, designing and implementing a solution by following a set of logical instructions to achieve your goal.



# IGCSE in Art and Design: Fine Art (Edexcel 4FA0)



## **COURSE OUTLINE**

The Edexcel International GCSE in Art and Design enables you to develop:

-  Creative and imaginative skills and the practical skills for communicating and expressing

-  Ideas, feelings and meanings in art, craft and design
-  Investigative, analytical, experimental and interpretive capabilities, aesthetic understanding and critical skills

- understanding of codes and conventions of art, craft and design and awareness of the Contexts in which they operate
- Knowledge and understanding of art, craft and design in contemporary society and in other times and cultures.

### ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS

One external examination and preparatory studies  
10 hours examination time  
Examination set and marked by Edexcel  
This paper will be identical for all the endorsed titles. It represents the summative assessment of learning that has occurred during the International GCSE course.

### RESOURCES

CD-ROMs, Seurat-Signac, Neo-impressionism, The Prado Museum, Carmen Thyssen Museum and CAC Museum Malaga. Variety of Art books

### WHY I SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?

An Art and Design course should encourage personal expression, imagination, sensitivity, conceptual thinking, powers of observation, an analytical ability and practical attitudes. It is a form of communication and a means of expressing ideas and feelings.

### WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?

Visiting Galleries and Museums and drawing whenever it is possible are good ways to start, but taking and being observant of your environment will be very beneficial. Look at building architecture and landscapes whenever you can and study the shapes and form of objects will also help.

## IGCSE FRENCH (Edexcel 4FR0)

### COURSE OUTLINE:

The content of the French IGCSE will build on what you know already but in more depth. The five Topic Areas and their content include:

- **Home and Abroad** (Life in the town and life in the country; weather and climate, travel and transport; holidays)
- **Education and Employment** (Childhood; school; work; future career plans.)
- **House, Home and Daily Routine** (Types of home; self, family and friends; helping around the house; food and drink.)
- **The Modern World** (Environmental issues; the media; information and communication technology.)
- **Social Activities, Fitness and Health** (Special occasions; hobbies



and interests; sport and fitness; shopping; money; health issues and injuries.)

### ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS

You will study the Edexcel IGCSE 4365 French course and will be assessed by two examinations:

**Paper 1:** Listening (30 minutes, 33.3% of your grade.)

**Paper 2:** Reading and Writing (1½ hours, 66.6% of your grade)

**Paper 3:** Speaking 10 mins  
You will be required to prepare one topic for the Speaking test which will be conducted by a French teacher. This test will take place one month before the May examinations

### **RESOURCES**

You will use the *Metro 4* textbooks and a range of other language worksheets which will help you to develop your skills. There will be opportunities to use IT and the internet.

Metro 4 (Green) ISBN 0-435-38104-0  
Metro 4 (Red) ISBN 0-435-38027-3

### **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS**

**SUBJECT?** Although you are going to study one language to IG-CSE, why not do two? If you are good at languages, you should seriously consider taking French as well as Spanish for IGCSE. Languages are extremely popular with many employers, showing that you have good communication skills and have developed your abilities in more general

skills, such as memorizing, analysis and working things out for yourself.

Skills in languages can lead you into many interesting jobs, such as translating, police interpreting, teaching, working in the European Parliament and working in the travel and tourism industry. Languages are also valued by university admissions tutors for courses such as law and business.

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Learning a foreign language takes a lot of practice, however we are fortunate to have a lot of resources to help you progress, so in order to boost your performance in French next year you are strongly advised to read some graded readings, watch original version films, listen to radio podcasts, talk to native language people, chat or exchange emails with web-pals or go on interactive fun-based webs.

# GCSE GERMAN (Edexcel 0525)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**Y**ou will be working on the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing through a number of topics:

- Everyday Activities (Home Life, School Routine, Eating & Drinking)
- Personal and Social Life (Self, Family & Personal Relationships, Holidays & Special Occasions.)
- The World Around Us (Home Town & Local Area, Natural & Made Environment, People, Places & Customs.)
- The World of Work (Continuing Education, Careers & Employment.)
- The International World (Tourism at Home & Abroad, Life in other Countries & Communities, World Events & Issues.)

## **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

**Paper 1:** Listening (30 minutes, 33.3% of your grade)

**Paper 2:** Reading and Writing (1½ hours, 66.6% of your grade)

**Paper 3:** Speaking 10 mins  
You will be required to prepare one topic for the Speaking test which will be conducted by a German teacher. This test will take place one month before the May examination

## **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Learning a foreign language takes a lot of practice, however we are fortunate to have a lot of resources to help you progress, so in order to boost your performance in German next year you are strongly advised to read some graded readings, watch original version



films, listen to radio podcasts, talk to native language people, chat or exchange emails with web-pals or go on interactive fun-based webs.

**WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?** In addition to learning the core skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing the language, this specification:

- 1- develops language skills in a variety of contexts
- 2- allows students to maximise achievement through the flexible, unitised structure
- 3- offers choice of contexts and purposes in writing and speaking.





# GCSE GEOGRAPHY SYLLABUS B (AQA 9035)



## COURSE OUTLINE

**W**hat will you study?  
GCSE Geography builds upon the ideas and themes covered during the KS3 course. This is a new syllabus first examined in 2014, re-written to provide candidates with an overall view of world issues in the early part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It also provides a sound foundation for those candidates who might continue their studies to a higher level.

- **You will learn to:**
- Interpret maps, diagrams, graphs, satellite images and photographs.
- Find things out for yourselves using primary and secondary data.
- Handle a wide variety of data confidently and be able to communicate your findings clearly in reports, decision making exercises and fieldwork projects.

## ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS

The course is assessed in three units: -  
Unit 1 is a written examination paper of 1 hour and 30 minutes, making up 37.5% of the overall mark and is on the study of Urban Environments and Coastal Environments.  
Unit 2 is the same format as Unit 1, but questions are set on either Natural Hazards or Extreme Environments, and either Globalisation or Global Tourism.  
Unit 3 comprises two controlled classroom assessments of 2 and 4 hours, the former based on the study of either Energy or Water Supply, the latter on a practical fieldwork investigation

linked to a study from Unit 1 or 2. Unit 3 is worth 25% of the overall mark. Both Unit 1 and 2 can be entered at Foundation or Higher level.

## RESOURCES

The New Wider World by D Waugh.  
AQA Geography B by Lamb, Payne and Rutter.

## WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?

**GEOGRAPHY** - The study of the earth and its peoples  
**EDUCATES** you about the world you live in  
**ORGANISES** information logically  
**GIVES** you a wide range of skills  
**REAL WORLD** problems and examples are studied  
**ATTITUDES** and **VALUES** are an important element  
**PLACES** and **PERSPECTIVES**  
**HUMAN IMPACT** on the planet  
**YOU'RE** nowhere without it!

***"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future" - Michael Palin***

***"Geography prepares for the world of work - geographers, with their skills of analysis are highly employable!"***

## WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?

Make enquiries. Ask your geography teacher and present Year 10 students what they think. Start taking an active interest in the news on television and newspapers. Why not check out Geography Matters Video on You Tube.

# IGCSE HISTORY

## (Edexcel 4HI0)

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### **COURSE OUTLINE**

Studying history helps you to understand more about the world we live in.

As well as being fascinating in itself, History IGCSE is also a very useful qualification to have. It shows potential employers that you are:

- an independent thinker
- open-minded
- self-disciplined
- able to pick out the key points in a text

You will learn how to evaluate and analyse sources and how to apply your own knowledge to decide what is true and what is propaganda.

History also helps you to develop the skills to look beyond the headlines, to be able to ask questions confidently and express your own opinion. You will learn about the origins of some modern political and social problems. It will help you begin to understand why people behaved as they did.

### **ASSESSMENT**

You will sit 2 exams at the end of year 11.



### **Paper 1**

1. Development of dictatorship: Germany, 1918-45
2. A world divided: Superpower relations, 1945-62

Students answer two questions, one on each of the depth studies they have studied. There are 50 marks available in total. The examination time is 1 hour and 30 minutes.

### **Paper 2**

1. Historical investigation: The fall of communism in Europe, 1979-91
2. Breadth study in change: Changes in Medicine 1845-1945

Students answer two questions, one question on their historical investigation and one question on their breadth study in change. There are 50 marks available in total. The examination time is 1 hour and 30 minutes.

# GCSE LEISURE & TOURISM (AQA 484)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**G**CSE Leisure and Tourism will encourage you to be inspired, moved and changed by studying a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course and gain an insight into related sectors such as business, retail and distribution, and hospitality and catering.

## **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

1 hour written exam – 60 marks – 40% of the total marks - mostly short and some longer questions.

1. Why people use leisure and tourism facilities
2. Different types of leisure and tourism organisations and facilities
3. The UK's rapidly changing leisure and tourism industry
4. Leisure and tourism organisations as businesses
5. The range of employment opportunities in the leisure and tourism industry

**Controlled Assessment** – 80 marks – 60% of the total marks.

A choice of one of three tasks.

## **WHAT WOULD I GAIN FROM IT?**

- Know and understand about leisure and tourism activities and provision in the UK and abroad;
- Gain skills in applying your knowledge to real world situations, including in



planning and carrying out investigations;

- Learn to analyse and evaluate evidence and sources, to make reasoned judgements and to draw conclusions.

## **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

In addition to helping students acquire subject knowledge, this specification:

- Allows less exam-orientated students the opportunity to succeed.
- Addresses business and sustainability issues in the world of travel, tourism and leisure.
- Is relevant and of interest to many young people.
- Engages students in a growing industry in Europe that has many employment opportunities.

# GCSE MUSIC (Edexcel 2MU01)

## COURSE OUTLINE

There are three areas of study:  
**T** **Performing** GCSE Music is a very practical course and you will spend a lot of time developing skills on your chosen instrument or singing. The course is very flexible so you choose anything from classical piano to a rock band!

**Composing** Writing your own music is another important part of GCSE Music. You can choose what you compose. Projects include writing a Blues, mixing a Club Dance Track, writing music for a film and composing a piece inspired by music from another country

**Listening** You will listen to and learn about many different styles of music including pop, rock, club dance, classical and world music.

## ASSESSMENT

**Performing (30%)** You will give 2 performances on your choice of instrument – keyboard, guitar, drums, etc or you can sing. Your performances are recorded and marked by your teacher.

**Composing (30%)** You will compose two pieces of music in contrasting styles. Your compositions are recorded and marked by your teacher.

**Listening and Analysing (40%)** The final exam consists of listening to music and answering questions about what you hear.

## RESOURCES

- Own instrument/voice
- School keyboards/guitars/drums
- Recording equipment
- Music technology programmes including EJay and Garageband



You will be given 4 CDs during the course to help with listening activities

## YOU SHOULD PICK MUSIC IF...

- You love listening to and talking about music
- You enjoy playing an instrument or singing
- You are interested in learning about different styles of music
- You enjoy working in a creative and practical way

## WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?

- Continue to develop skills playing an instrument or singing
- Listen to a wider variety of music—pop, dance techno, classical, music from different countries

Check out the GCSE Music website for more information at

**[www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/music](http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/music)**

# GCSE DRAMA (AQA 4240)

## **COURSE OUTLINE and ASSESSMENT**

Unit 1 – 42401

Written Paper – 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks – 40%

The written paper comprises three sections:  
A – Practical work completed during the course

B – Study and performance of a scripted play

C – Study of a live theatre production seen

Candidates must answer Question 1 from Section A and choose one further question from either Section B or Section C.

The written paper assesses Assessment Objectives 1 and 3, with relative weightings of 20% and 20% respectively.

Externally set and marked.

Unit 2 – 42402

Practical Work 120 marks – 60%

Candidates are required to present practical work for two controlled assessment options, each with a weighting of 30% (60 marks each).

Controlled assessment options:

1 Devised Thematic Work

2 Acting

3 Improvisation

4 Theatre in Education

5 Physical Theatre

6 Set Design

7 Costume

8 Make-up

9 Properties

10 Masks

11 Puppets

12 Lighting

13 Sound

14 Stage Management

Internally marked and externally moderated.



## **RESOURCES**

There are many resources for this subject; they include Gould Mike – *The Complete GCSE Drama Course* (Folens, 2000); Kempe Andy – *The GCSE Drama Coursebook* (Stanley Thornes, 1997)

## **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

Whether you take this subject to examination standard or not, it is a great subject to do as it helps you to prepare for other subjects. Drama helps you to be able to speak to an audience and project yourself well. It also helps to improve your own self confidence. Drama is a great way of expressing yourself in different situations.

## **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Visit museums, theatres and drama performances when-ever you can. Take time to listen to and enjoy classical music. Try to draw or construct costumes or even get involved in the school plays and external clubs.

# GCSE DANCE (AQA 4230)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**GCSE Dance (4230) helps students develop technical and expressive skills as well as knowledge and understanding of dance through performance, choreography and critical appreciation of dance.**

The GCSE course is split into a series of 4 Units which explore both theory and practice allowing you to develop physical and performance skills alongside critical thinking and appreciation. The units are examined through a written paper and performance moderation.

### **UNIT 1: Critical Appreciation**

In this unit you will study a minimum of two prescribed professional works and will be assessed via a 1 hour written paper at the end of the course. The paper asks you to answer questions based on critical analysis and perceptive understanding of the professional works studied alongside your own performance and/or choreography.

### **UNIT 2: Set Dance**

You will perform a solo dance which is taught by the teacher and set by the AQA exam board. The style of the set dance is Contemporary and will enable you to develop your performance skills and knowledge of safe practice.

### **UNIT 3: PERFORMANCE IN A DUO/GROUP**

In this unit you will perform in a duo or group dance which relates to one of the professional dance works you have studied for Unit 1. The performance must last between 3 - 3.5 minutes and have three clear links with the chosen professional work. The dance can be choreographed in any dance style e.g. Street Dance.



### **UNIT 4: CHOREOGRAPHY**

(Controlled Assessment) – 60 marks = 40%

This unit is split into two sections allowing you to demonstrate your ability as a choreographer to work.

### **ASSESSMENT**

UNIT 1: Critical Appreciation (Externally Assessed)- 50 marks = 20%

UNIT 2: Set Dance (Externally Assessed) 30 marks = 20%

UNIT 3: PERFORMANCE IN A DUO/GROUP (Controlled Assessment) 30 marks = 20%

UNIT 4: CHOREOGRAPHY (Controlled Assessment) - 60 marks = 40%

Task 1: Solo Composition Task (15%)

Task 2: Choreography for Solo or Group (25%)

### **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

“Dance is vital, an activity both exhilarating and liberating to watch or do. The instinct to dance is fundamentally joyous and no matter how hard you try you can’t get away from that for long. It can also be a huge force for good, effectively drawing people together and levelling everyone through sheer hard work. It can speed up your heart rate, it can enliven your being, it can change your life”. Richard Alston CBE, Dance UK

# Graphic Design (Edexcel 4GD0)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

In the context of this endorsement, students are required to work in at least one of the following disciplines: advertising, illustration, packaging, typography and/or printmaking.

Graphic design is the communication of information and ideas by visual means. Often, work is realised in two-dimensional form, but carries the illusion of three dimensions, through manipulation of images and the formal elements. The critical elements for a graphic designer are the successful communication of a message through the organisation of words and images.

Students must be alert to the possibilities offered by a huge range of materials and processes within graphic design and of the important role of signs and symbols. In producing graphic solutions to defined problems, students must be able to balance aesthetic and commercial considerations.

Students must investigate specific areas of a problem, determine relevant sources of information and use these to research and further define the problem. Ideas should be developed using appropriate design methodology, recognising the constraints of moral, social, cultural, environmental and legal issues.

**ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS** One external examination and preparatory studies  
10 hours examination time

Examination set and marked by Edexcel This paper will be identical for all the endorsed titles. It represents the summative assessment of learning that has occurred during the International GCSE course.

## **WHY I SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

A Graphic Design course should encourage personal expression, imagination, sensitivity, conceptual thinking, powers of observation, an analytical ability and practical attitudes. It is a form of communication and a means of expressing ideas and feelings.

## **WHAT SHOULD I DO TO HELP MYSELF?**

Visiting Galleries and Museums and drawing whenever it is possible are good ways to start, but taking and being observant of your environment will be very beneficial. Look at building architecture and landscapes whenever you can and study the shapes and form of objects will also help.



# GCSE HOME ECONOMICS: FOOD & NUTRITION (AQA 4585)

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

This course aims to attract you to study Food and Nutrition by offering an interesting and stimulating programme of study. You will have the opportunity to prepare and cook a range of dishes most weeks.

The skills and knowledge acquired will be relevant and transferable to other settings, enhancing career opportunities and providing a satisfying course of study for all students who may not want to progress onto further study of this subject.

You will be expected to provide your own ingredients for practical lessons, together with a bib apron and a take home food container.

## **ASSESSMENT/EXAMINATIONS**

### **Written Paper (Unit 1)**

100 marks

40% of the total marks

6–8 compulsory questions with a combination of short answer, structured and free response questions. Some questions will include stimulus material.

### **Food and Nutrition in Practice (Unit 2) Controlled Assessment**

160 marks across the two tasks.

60% of the total marks:

45% Individual Investigation

15% Research Task



## **WHY SHOULD I PICK THIS SUBJECT?**

It enables you to demonstrate your creativity, with the making of a wide range of food products and dishes from around the world

This course will also be of interest to those interested in health, sports and fitness. Design and making skills are encouraged so as to prepare students for taking higher level courses or for entering the world of work.