



Smestow Academy

# YEAR 9 PATHWAYS

# CONTENTS

1. GCSE English Language
2. GCSE English Literature
3. GCSE Mathematics
4. GCSE Science
5. GCSE History
6. GCSE Geography
7. GCSE French
8. GCSE Computer Science
9. GCSE Religious Studies
10. GCSE Art & Design
11. BTEC Sport
12. BTEC Music Practice
13. BTEC Business Enterprise
14. BTEC Health and Social Care
15. GCSE Psychology
16. BTEC Digital Information Technology

## GCSE English Language

Course Code: 8700

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

AQA

### Description:

English Language is one of the core compulsory subjects that every student must study at Key Stage 4 and it is a vital part of your well rounded education and an absolutely essential part of your next step towards further and higher education. It will help you to build and develop your reading, writing and verbal communication skills which are vital to ensure your success in this and every subject you study. You will enhance your skills in reading and writing for meaning and purpose and become even better at communicating in the written form. Skills which will help you not only in your everyday life but help you get onto the apprenticeship scheme of your choice or advance to the next level of education at A Level and Level 3 and beyond that at University too.

### What will I study?

You will study a range of Fiction and Non-Fiction writing as well as complete a wide study of different types of writing from narrative and description, to persuasive pieces. You will also complete a Spoken Language Assessment that assesses your skills in preparing and talking to an audience.

### Assessment

Assessment Objectives: The skills you need to demonstrate.

Two exam papers:

Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing – 1 Hr 45 minutes – 50% of your overall grade.

Paper 2 – Writer's viewpoints and Perspectives – 1 Hr 45 minutes – 50% of your overall grade.

Spoken Language Assessment – you require a Pass to access a Grade in English Language

### Careers

A Levels, BTEC Level 3, further and higher education – often a Key requirement for entry to university at Grade 5.

A Level English Literature, A Level English Language, A Level English Language and Literature. Useful to follow History, Law, Psychology, Sociology – and subjects were being able to read with meaning and write at a high level is important. Careers in Teaching, Law, Librarian, Journalism, Advertising, Media and many more.

# GCSE English Literature

Course Code: 8702

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

AQA

## Description:

Like English Language this is one of the Core Subjects you will study at Key Stage 4. It will equip you with great skills on being able to communicate as well as analyse writing from all sorts of eras. It encourages interpretation skills and gives you the opportunity to develop your own viewpoint about what a writer has intended to convey to their readers or audience.

## What will I study?

Macbeth by William Shakespeare  
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens  
An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley  
An AQA Anthology of Poetry: Power and Conflict  
Unseen Poetry

## Assessment

Two Exams Papers: Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel – 1 Hour 30 minutes. 40% of Final Grade.

Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry – 2 Hours 15 minutes. 60% of Final Grade.

## Careers

This GCSE opens to the doors to further and higher education at A Level and Level 3 and university level. It will help you to secure a place on an apprenticeship scheme too. You could think about any A Level in English, History, Law, Sociology and The Arts. At University level A Level English Literature is seen as a 'facilitating subject' so one that is favoured as an entry subject. You could choose a career in teaching, the Law, the Arts and any career path that needs a good level of communication skills maybe in advertising and the media.

# GCSE Mathematics

Course Code: 1MA1

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

Edexcel

## Description:

Mathematics is a creative and highly inter-connected discipline that has been developed over centuries, providing the solution to some of history's most intriguing problems. Mathematics is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment. A high-quality mathematics education therefore provides a foundation for understanding the world, the ability to reason mathematically, an appreciation of the beauty and power of mathematics, and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject.

## What will I study?

The course is broadly split into six strands:

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

There are two tiers of entry and the content is defined for each tier, with a substantial crossover. You will develop and consolidate connections across these mathematical strands. You will build on your learning from Key Stage 3 to further develop fluency, mathematical reasoning and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems. You will also apply your mathematical knowledge wherever relevant in other subjects and in financial contexts.

## Assessment

Three exam papers – 1 hour and 30 minutes each.

Paper 1 - non calculator paper

Paper 2 and 3 – calculator papers

The three papers are equally weighted. You will sit exams at either Higher Level (covering grades 4 -9) or Foundation Level (covering grades 1 -5)

Regular assessment of performance throughout the course will help to identify the correct entry level for each individual student.

## Careers

This qualification will prepare you for progression to further study of mathematics at A level, and also to the study of Core Mathematics. These Level 3 qualifications will prepare you for a variety of further progression routes. GCSE Mathematics is a requirement for progression to a wide range of courses at Level 3. You are expected to continue with your study of GCSE Mathematics after the age of 16 if you have not achieved the qualification at Key Stage 4.

The careers available are unlimited and include:

Accountancy, Banking, Investment manager, Financial advisor, Teaching, Engineering, Law, Market research, Data analyst, Statistician, Actuary, Air traffic control, Criminologist, Cyber intelligence, Software development

# GCSE Science

Course Code: 8464  
Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

AQA

## Description:

If you take combined Science you will be awarded two GCSEs. Combined Science is made up of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Being successful on this course allows progression to post – 16 courses.

In you study the Triple award you will gain a total of three GCSEs, one in each science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. You will learn more content than the double award. Studying the individual sciences is excellent preparation for further study at A level.

## What will I study?

You will study the following areas:

Biology: Cells, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution, Ecology.

Chemistry: Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table, Bonding, Structure and Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, Rates of Reaction, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere, Using Resources.

Physics: Forces, Energy, Waves, Electricity, Magnets and Electromagnets, Particle Model of Matter, Atomic Structure. Triple only – Space Physics.

## Assessment

All examinations are taken during the summer of Yr 11. There are six exams in total.

Combined Science exams are 1 hour 15 minutes long.

Triple Science exams are 1 hour 45 minutes long.

## Careers:

Science enables entry into a wide variety of career pathways including: Medic, Dentist, Vet, Immunologist, Radiologist, Biomedical Scientist, Sports Coach, Virologist, Epidemiologist, Robotics.

Degrees: Sciences are seen as very desirable qualifications and can often lead to access to nonscience degrees. Some of the degrees in science are; Medicine, Physiotherapy, Biochemistry, Applied Biology, Pure Chemistry, Veterinary Science, Genetics, Immunology.

# GCSE History

Course Code: 8145  
Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

EDUQAS

## Description:

It is interesting, because it is broad in its coverage and scope from plots against Kings and Queens in the Medieval Era to 20th century genocide and the Presidents of the United States.

It helps build your understanding of the world, other cultures and who you are.

It allows you to develop your skills of investigation and judgement, developing your written and oral communication.

## What will I study?

Component 1

- The Elizabethan Age, 1558-1603
- Germany in Transition, 1919-1939

Component 2

- The Development of the USA, 1929-2000
- Changes in Entertainment and Leisure in Britain, c.500 to the present day

## Assessment

**Component 1: Studies in Depth (50%)**

- Written examination: 2 hours (split into two papers of 1 hour duration each)

Component 2: Studies in Breadth (50%)

- Written examination: 2 hours (split into two papers, 45 minutes - Period St., & 1 hour 15 minutes - Thematic St.)

**Assessment Objectives: The skills you need to demonstrate**

- AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied.
- AO2: Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second-order historical concepts.
- AO3: Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied.

## Careers

- History can lead to careers in academia, research, the civil service, politics, journalism, consultancy, banking, business, PR, marketing, retail, teaching and accountancy.
- It is also a popular subject for those wishing to go on and study law, sociology and psychology due to the transferable skills it gives you, which can lead to the most varied career paths.
- You could also enjoy a career in heritage, museum work and conservation specific to your area of interest.

# GCSE Geography

Course Code: 8035

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

AQA

## Description:

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. Geography gives you a chance to get to grips with some of the big questions which affect our world, and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

Geography is very practical, with opportunities to learn new skills such as modern computer based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques.

## What will I study?

Component 1

- Challenges of the physical environment: Natural hazards, the living world and physical landscapes of the UK.

Component 2

- Challenges in the human environment: Urban issues and challenges, the changing economic world, and the challenge of resource management.

Component 3

- Geographical skills: Issue evaluation and fieldwork

## Assessment

Component 1

- Written examination: 1 hour 30 min., 88 marks including 3 marks for SPAG, 35% of GCSE

Component 2

- Written examination: 1 hour and 30 min., 88 marks including 3 marks for SPAG, 35% of GCSE

Component 3

- Written examination: 1 hour and 15 min., 76 marks including 6 marks for SPAG, 30% of GCSE

## Assessment Objectives: The skills you need to demonstrate

- AO1: Demonstrate knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales (15%).
- AO2: Demonstrate geographical understanding of concepts and how they are used in relation to places, environments and processes (25%).
- AO3: Apply knowledge and understanding to interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information and issues to make judgements (35%).
- AO4: Select, adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings (25%, including 5% used to respond to fieldwork data and context(s)).

## Careers

- A Geography degree enables you to embark on a career in a range of fields, including those in the education, commerce, industry, transport, tourism and public sectors.
- Future careers could include: town planning, environment consultancy, surveying, tourism, landscaping and conservation.
- You'll also have many transferable skills, attracting employers from the business, law and finance sectors.

# GCSE French

Course Code: 1FR0

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

AQA

## Description:

French has an enormous geographical distribution, and is spoken on every continent in the world. French is a Romance Language, like Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese. In this context Romance refers to the Romans. These several languages share a close history, structure, grammar etc. Learning one Romance language is a gateway into learning others. France has been at the forefront of many of the world's most important cultural movements and historical events.

## Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 1: Identity and Culture

- Unit 1: Me, my family and friends
- Unit 2: Technology in everyday life
- Unit 3: Free time activities
- Unit 4: Customs and Festivals in French-speaking countries / communities

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Unit 1: Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Unit 2: Social issues
- Unit 3: Global issues
- Unit 4: Travel and tourism

Theme 3: Current and Future Study and Employment

- Unit 1: My studies
- Unit 2: Life at school / college
- Unit 3: Education post-16
- Unit 4: Jobs, career choices and ambitions

## Assessment

Assessment Objectives: The skills you need to demonstrate

- AO1: Listening – understand and respond to different types of spoken language (25% Exam)
- AO2: Speaking – communicate and interact effectively in speech (25% Exam)
- AO3: Reading – understand and respond to different types of written language (25% Exam)
- AO4: Writing – communicate in writing (25% Exam)

## Careers

- Language skills can be used in almost any career, and particularly in businesses that trade internationally.
- Language skills are useful to a wide variety of employers and sectors, including: charity work, engineering, media, museums and libraries, public administration, teaching, tourism, transport and logistics.
- French is one of the six official languages of the United Nations and, alongside English, one of the two working languages of the UN in New York and Geneva. Those of you interested in a career in journalism, diplomacy and international relations will present a linguistic advantage by speaking French.

# GCSE Computer Science

OCR

Course Code: J277

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

## Description:

Problem solving is at the heart of Computer Science and this is an essential skill for life. This is an exciting technical course for those interested in computer programming, problem solving, mathematics and computer hardware. You will study the design, development and analysis of software and hardware used to solve problems in a variety of business, scientific and social contexts.

Computer science will enable you to develop your creative, analytical and critical thinking skills and apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science. You will have an understanding of the impact of digital technology to the individual and to wider society

## What will I study?

### Computer Systems

- Memory
- Storage
- Wired and wireless networks
- Network topologies, protocols and layers
- System security
- System software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental issues
- Systems architecture

### Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

- Algorithms
- Programming techniques
- Producing robust programs
- Computational logic
- Translators and facilities of languages
- Data representation

## Assessment

Two exams:

Computer systems - 50% of final grade

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming - 50% of the final grade

You will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s), either to a specification or to solve a problem (or problems), during your course of study. You may draw on some of the content in both components when engaged in Practical Programming.

## Careers

Success in GCSE Computer Science will prepare you for further study at post 16 and for employment or apprenticeships. Careers this subject can lead to include:

- Database administrator
- Games developer
- Information systems manager
- IT consultant
- Multimedia programmer
- Systems analyst
- Web designer
- Web developer

# GCSE Religious Studies

AQA

Course Code: 8062

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Exam

## Description:

You will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling you to develop your own attitudes towards issues.

You will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. Finally, you will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare you for further study.

## What will I study?

**Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices –**

- Christianity and Sikhism.

**Component 2: Thematic studies –**

- Theme A: Relationships and families.
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.
- Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice.

## Assessment

Component 1: Study of Religions (50%)

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 96 marks, plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)

Component 2: Thematic Studies (50%)

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 96 marks, plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)

Assessment Objectives: The skills you need to demonstrate

- AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs including: beliefs, practices and sources of authority, influence on individuals, communities and societies, and similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs.
- AO2: Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

## Careers

Jobs where Religious Studies would be useful include: Advice worker, Archivist, Charity fundraiser, Counsellor, Civil Service administrator, Community development worker, International aid development worker, Mediator, Newspaper journalist, Police officer and Youth worker.

- Religious Studies is a facilitating subject which means it develops skills in a range of areas that are useful to employers such as research, analysis and presentation skills, critical thinking skills and the ability to interpret information, formulate questions and solve problems, as well as writing skills, including the ability to construct a reasoned argument.
- Careers in the following areas are often open to people who have taken Religious Studies: national and local government, including the Civil Service and government agencies, nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), schools, colleges and universities (for teaching and research positions), as well as charities, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations.

# GCSE Art & Design

Course Code: J170  
Exam/Controlled Assessment: 40% Exam  
60% Controlled Assessment

OCR

## Description:

- Art encourages self-expression and creativity and can build confidence as well as a sense of individual identity.
- Creativity can also help with wellbeing and improving health and happiness. Art can be an outlet for releasing the pressures of studying as well as those of everyday life.
- Studying Art can also help to develop critical thinking and the ability to interpret the world around you.

## What will I study?

Component 1: Portfolio (60%)

You will produce a portfolio of practical work showing your personal response to a set starting point, brief, scenario or stimulus. The portfolio may be presented in appropriate formats for the specification title you are following and chosen area of study, including sketchbooks, digital presentations, mounted sheets, prototypes, animated work, scale models or illustrated written work. This component is marked out of 120.

Component 2: Externally set task (40%)

You will respond to one of five themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points and stimuli. You will research, plan and develop ideas for your response to the option you have chosen, which you must then realise within the ten-hour supervised time period. This component is marked out of 80.

## Assessment

Assessment Objectives: The skills you need to demonstrate.

- AO1 Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- AO2 Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- AO3 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- AO4 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

## Careers

- Careers where a qualification in Art is useful include: animation, interior and spatial designer, jewellery designer, multimedia programmer, museum/gallery curator, special effects technician and VFX artist.
- The study of Art can also lead to careers in art therapy, exhibition design, fine art, graphic design, illustration, printmaking and teaching.
- Employers also value the transferable skills you acquire, including: the ability to develop individual ideas, strong observational, research and analytical skills, creative problem solving, the ability to communicate ideas, visually, orally and in writing, as well as resilience and the ability to learn from criticism and be objective about your work.

# BTEC Tech Award in Sport

Course Code: RSP3  
Exam/Controlled Assessment: 33.3% Exam  
66.6 % Controlled Assessment

Pearson

## Description:

BTEC Sport is a vocational course that will develop the knowledge required to pursue a career in sport. You will also develop the skills for a range of sport-related pathways from sports coaching to gym management.

You will develop practical skills in your specialist areas. In addition, you will learn about the other factors that contribute to improving performance. BTEC Sport lessons are enjoyable and productive and delivered by experienced staff in a supportive and nurturing environment. Practical lessons are delivered to teach theoretical concepts and practical skills.

## What will I study?

### Components:

1. Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity
2. Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance
3. Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through realistic vocational contexts. Learners will have the opportunity to develop applied knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- investigating provisions for sport including equipment and facilities to enhance sport
- planning and delivery of sport drills and sessions
- fitness for sport including fitness testing and methodology.

## Assessment

Component 1 and 2 will be assessed via Controlled Assessment – work is completed in an allotted time frame during class and then internally assessed / externally verified. Component 3 is externally assessed.

- Use good grammar and spelling
- Be a good team player, as group investigations are prevalent within lessons.

Pupils need to be good at maths, science and English - an essential requirement for success in sociology.

## Careers

Careers Include: Community Sports Coach, Sports Development Officer, Elite Sports Coach, Physical Education Teacher, Strength and Conditioning Coach, Human Nutritionist, Personal Trainer, Sports Scientist, Performance Analyst, Adventure Sports Coach, Outdoor Activity Leader, Sports Therapist, Sports Marketing, Facilities Manager, Sport Entrepreneur, Elite Level Performer, Elite Level Officer.

Degrees are vast but can include:

Sport and Exercise Science, Sports Science and Physiology, Applied Sports Science, Sport Management, Sports Therapy, Physical and Sport Education, Physical Education and Youth Sport Coaching.

# BTEC Music Practice

Course Code: 603/7055/5

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 40% Exam | 60% Controlled Assessment

Pearson

## Description:

Music is what makes humans, human! As an industry, music covers and includes a phenomenal number of different jobs. This BTEC is successful as it appeals to a wide range of interests as some students have a passion in performing, others may prefer to learn how to become a composer/songwriter whereas some will want to focus on using computer software to sequence and mix a track.

You will need to develop Music Technology skills to help you produce your composition coursework. Music is considered one of the most employable subjects because of the range of skills covered, including self-management, communication, and presentation, which are vital to any future course of study.

The course has two internally assessed components and one externally assessed component (there is no written exam).

## What will I study?

Component 1: Exploring Music Products – 60 Marks

Through a series of workshops and practical tasks, you will create a portfolio exploring a variety of styles and genres of popular music (such as disco, punk, reggae, Motown, Britpop, RnB, Rock), world music, music for film and games, western classical styles and blues. Through these practical workshops, listening and theory elements will also be developed. The aim of this component is to capitalise on, nurture and encourage your own musical interests.

Component 2: Music Skills Development – 60 Marks

You will specialise in two different areas out of these three: Music Performance, Creating Original Music (song writing/composing) and Music Production (using computer software to produce music).

Component 3: Responding to a Commercial Music Brief – 60 Marks

This component will allow you to work to your strengths and interests and apply the skills that you have learned throughout your course in a practical way. You will focus on a particular area of the music industry that excites and appeals to you and respond to a commercial music brief as a composer, performer, or producer.

## Assessment

The course has two internally assessed components, and one that's externally assessed. The externally assessed unit is not a written exam paper but instead the assessment takes the form of a set task taken under supervised conditions, which is then sent away to be marked.

## Careers

The BTEC Tech Award is an introduction to vocational learning. The qualification gives learners the opportunity to build skills that show an aptitude for further learning, both in the sector and more widely. The approach to BTEC Tech Award is based on well-established BTEC assessment approaches that are proven to be successful in building skills and motivating learners to engage fully with challenging study. There is no limit to progression options as the skills acquired are applicable to a range of post-16 study options.

There is a vast spectrum of careers within the music industry but a snapshot includes performer, composer/song-writer, record producer, manager, music therapist, music journalist/blogger, live sound technician, promoter, concert manager, studio manager, radio presenter, music teacher, instrumental technician etc.

# BTEC Business Enterprise

Course Code: 8182

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 100% Examination

Pearson

## Description:

This qualification is designed for those of you who want an introduction to Business that includes a vocational and hands-on element. It has been developed to enthuse and inspire you about a career in business. The qualification will appeal to those of you who wish to either set up your own business, move into employment or progress onto further study. The business theory and practical skills are combined to create a fun and useful qualification.

The qualification will enable you to develop technical skills, such as market research skills, planning, promotional and financial skills using realistic work scenarios, and personal skills, (such as monitoring own performance, time management and problem solving) through a practical and skills based approach to learning and assessment.

## Description:

The Award will give you the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on the knowledge, understanding and skills required to research, plan, pitch and review an enterprise idea that includes:

- Development of key skills that prove aptitude in planning an enterprise activity, including market research, planning, carrying out financial transactions, communication and problem solving.
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, such as the features and characteristics of enterprises and entrepreneurs, and the internal and external factors that can affect the performance of an enterprise.
- Attitudes and ways of working that are considered most important for enterprise, including monitoring and reflecting on performance of an enterprise idea and own use of skills.

## Assessment

Units:

1 Exploring Enterprises: An Investigation into two existing local small to medium businesses. Coursework 30%

2 Planning for and Pitching an Enterprise: In this unit you will develop and pitch an idea for an SME. Coursework 30%

3 Promotion and Finance for Enterprise This unit aims to give you an insight into how businesses spend money before they make profit and the costs they incur. You will look at different promotional methods used by enterprises and factors that influence how enterprises identify and target their market. Final Exam 40%

## Careers

Study of the qualification as part of Key Stage 4 learning will help you to make more informed choices for further learning, either generally or in this sector.

Careers you may move on to:

- A Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects.
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, which prepares you to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the business sector.
- A range of technical routes designed to lead to direct employment or apprenticeships.

# BTEC Health & Social Care

Course Code: RCD3

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 40% Exam /  
60% Controlled Assessment

Pearson

## Description:

About 3 million people work in health and social care. Health care roles include doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives and healthcare assistants, while social care roles include care assistants, occupational therapists, counsellors and administrators. Together, they account for nearly one in ten of all paid jobs in the UK. Demand for both health and social care is likely to rise, so they will continue to play a key role in UK society and the demand for people to carry out these vital roles will increase. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will complement GCSE study through providing an opportunity for practical application alongside conceptual study. There are also strong opportunities for post-16 progression in this important sector.

## What will I study?

### Components:

1 Human Lifespan Development 36 1/2 Internal coursework

2 Health and Social Care Services and Values 36 1/2 Internal coursework

3 Health and Wellbeing 48 1/2 External Synoptic Exam

The three components focus on the assessment of knowledge, skills and practices. These are all essential to developing a basis for progression and, therefore, you need to achieve all components in order to achieve the qualification.

## Assessment

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment. Internal assessment for these components has been designed to relate to achievement of application of the conceptual underpinning for the sector through realistic tasks and activities.

There is one external assessment, Component 3; it provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification. Component 3 builds directly on Components 1 and 2, and enable learning to be brought together and related to a real-life situation.

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing will require you to apply performances skills and techniques in response to a brief and stimulus developing group performance workshop for a selected audience.

## Careers

Study of the qualification as part of your Key Stage 4 learning will help you to make more informed choices for further learning, either generally or in this sector. The choices that you can make post-16 will depend on your overall level of attainment.

Those of you who generally achieve at Level 2 across your Key Stage 4 learning might consider progression to:

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares you to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in aspects of health or social care

# GCSE Psychology

Course Code: RCB3

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 25% Exam /  
75% Controlled Assessment

Edexcel/  
Pearson

## Description:

Psychology – the science of mind and behaviour – allows students to gain a more thorough understanding of the world around them, the people they interact with and the way the human mind works.

It is a fascinating subject that has a lot of variety and can be a lot of fun. Students have the chance to carry out their own experiments on friends and family as well as having the opportunity to read and view widely to gain a more thorough understanding of the subject in the real world.

## What will I study?

Compulsory topics (first year):

- Human development
- Memory
- Psychological problems
- The brain and neuropsychology
- Social influence Compulsory topic (first and second year)
- Research methods – how to carry out psychological investigations of your own.

Then a choice of two (selected by your teacher) from:

- Criminal psychology
- The self-perception
- Sleep and dreaming
- Language, thoughts, and communication

## Assessment

Two written exam papers, at the end of Year 11

- Paper 1 – 1 hour 45 minutes 55% of the overall qualification 98 marks Range of questions including: multiple choice, short-open and longer-open responses.

- Paper 2 – 1 hour 20 minutes 45% of the overall qualification 79 marks

Range of questions including: multiple choice, short-open and longer-open responses. This paper will require the use of a calculator.

## Careers

This qualification is perfect preparation for A-Level Psychology. Many students who study Psychology progress onto a degree at university that uses Psychology, too. Some recent examples include: Psychology, Education Studies, Counselling and Mental Health Nursing, Forensic Psychology, Criminology. Careers using this subject include: teaching, policing, social work, nursing, midwifery, criminology, prison officers, counsellors, careers advisor, customer service roles, human resources... any job that requires effective communication with other people.

# BTEC Digital Information Technology

Pearson

Course Code: RIT3

Exam/Controlled Assessment: 60% Controlled Assessment  
40% Exam

## Description:

The digital sector is a major source of employment in the UK, with 1.46 million people working in digital companies and around 45,000 digital jobs advertised at any one time. Digital skills span all industries; almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy. The UK has positioned itself to be the 'digital capital of Europe' as it continues to invest billions every year in digital skills and commerce.

## What will I study?

1. Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques
2. Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data
3. Effective Digital Working Practices

## Assessment

Component 1 and 2 will be assessed via Controlled Assessment – work is completed in an allotted time frame during class and then internally assessed / externally verified. Component 3 is externally examined

## Careers

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in IT, which prepares you to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the digital sector.



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