



Consett Academy

Key Stage 4 Core Preference Booklet Year 8 2020

Dear Students

Up until now, the subjects you have followed have been chosen for you. This is now changing as you can choose to follow certain subjects at GCSE in Years 9, 10 and 11. Some subjects you select will be ones you have taken before but there is also an opportunity to follow new subjects.

Having the opportunity to choose the subjects that will make up your studies is an exciting one. It can also be daunting as it is important to make sure that your choices allow you to pursue interests and career aspirations in the future.

Each year we review our curriculum offer in order to be able to provide a range of options to suit all abilities, skills and interests. The courses recommended to you are designed to ensure that you can meet your full potential and pursue the career aspirations that you may have.

This booklet is part of the process to help you to find out more about the subjects on offer and to provide you with some guidance in selecting your choices.

Our aim is to support you in making these decisions, and there is the opportunity to meet with a member of senior staff within the Academy to discuss your options further should you require this.

Mrs R Somerville
Director of School

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The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

As students enter Key Stage 4, for the first time in their academic lives they get the opportunity to make choices about what they study. These choices can be intimidating as they will affect what students will do in the future. Success in courses will provide greater opportunities when they reach the end of the Key Stage to follow the courses and careers they aspire to. Consett Academy's Key Stage 4 curriculum ensures that -

- All students are offered courses that are tailored to their individual needs. This will ensure students have the best opportunity to achieve the highest grades at Key Stage 4.
- Students develop the skills required to be prepared for the world of work and further education.
- We provide clear progression routes into further education, modern apprenticeships and the working environment.

This booklet provides information on the wider Key Stage 4 curriculum and specific information on all courses offered.

Assessment Measures

Old GCSE	New GCSE	Vocational
A*	9	Distinction*
	8	
A	7	Distinction
	6	
B	5	Merit
	4	
C		Pass
D	3	Level 1 Distinction
E		
	2	Level 1 Merit
F		
	1	Level 1 Pass
G		
U	U	

To increase the level of challenge and to allow students to be measured more accurately, GCSEs are no longer measured against A*-G. Rather your child will receive a level between 9 and 1. You can see from the table to the left, the loose link between the 'old' grades and 'new' levels.

The grades and levels in grey show the national standard the Department for Education wish students to meet under the old grades and new levels.

As you can see:

- There is a new 'top level' called level 9 which will be equivalent to the very highest A* scores.
- The new national standard of a level 5 is above the old Grade C. Only students getting the 'top third' of the old grade C will get a Level 5. If a student gets a Level 5 in both English and Mathematics they will have achieved The Basics.
- There are less levels compared to grades below the old Grade C.

The Best 8 - Students will no longer be measured against whether they reach 5A*- C with English and Mathematics. The Best 8 measure shows how well students achieve in 8 specific subjects.

These are organised as follows -

Subject Number	Title	Subjects That Contribute
1 and 2	The Basics	GCSE Mathematics and either GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature
3, 4 and 5	The EBACC	Three GCSEs from; Biology, Physics, Combined Science (counts as two), Spanish, History, Geography, Computer Science
6, 7 and 8	The 3 Others	Any other high value GCSEs or Vocational Subjects

This means students **MUST** do GCSEs in English and Mathematics, Combined Sciences, **EITHER** a Humanities **OR** Foreign Language as well as three other vocational or GCSE courses.

Using the Best 8 students will be measured in two ways:

- Attainment 8 - The average grade they get across the Best 8 subjects
- Progress 8 - The average amount of progress since the start of Year 7 across the Best 8 subjects

As both of these are averages it is important that:

- Students do all the Best 8 subjects
- They choose the ones they are most likely to gain the highest grade in

The Basics - The core subjects of Mathematics and English are still vitally important, and students will be measured against whether they gain good grades in Mathematics and an English GCSE. This means they will need level 5 in both English and Mathematics GCSE to achieve the Basics. Level 5 is equivalent to an old top end C grade.

The English Baccalaureate (The EBACC) - It is expected that our most academic universities will require students to have gained the EBACC. To achieve the EBACC, students must get a 'good' grade or higher in all of the following -

- GCSE English
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science counts as two
- A Humanities GCSE - Geography or History
- A Foreign Language GCSE - Spanish

Students can achieve the Best 8 without fulfilling the requirements of the EBACC, as they can do **EITHER** a Humanities **OR** Foreign Language. For the EBACC they **MUST** do a Humanities **AND** a Foreign Language.

What other changes have there been?

- 1) Vocational Qualifications** - There have been major changes in these qualifications in the past few years to make them much more challenging and a true equivalent to GCSEs. Further changes to vocational courses are being introduced at the moment.

GCSEs	Vocational Courses
Most courses are assessed purely by examinations at the end of Year 11. For more practical subjects there has been an increase in the percentage assessed by examination at the end of Year 11.	• Larger proportion of controlled assessment.
	• Smaller proportion assessed by exam.

Our experience of vocational courses suggests they are challenging and unlike how they were a few years ago. It does seem they are more accessible than GCSEs for many students and therefore we recommend many students take one or more vocational courses.

How is the Key Stage 4 curriculum organised?

There is a compulsory element to the curriculum, which all students must study. The core subjects make up a large percentage of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum.

This compulsory core is made up of the following subjects:

- GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science
- Physical Education (Core – Non-Exam)
- Religious Studies (Core – Non-Exam)

What subjects are on offer?

Best 8 EBACC

You and your child must select at least ONE subject from the list below to qualify for the Best 8. Whereas Computing does count towards the Best 8 we would usually expect students to still do a Humanities, Computer Science OR Modern Foreign Language subject and we recommend many students do both a Humanities OR Computer Science AND a Modern Foreign Language.

- Spanish
- Geography
- History
- Computer Science

To qualify for the full EBACC, they need to select one foreign language (Spanish) and one Humanities subject (Geography or History).

Other GCSE or Vocational Subjects

You and your child must select their other subjects from the following list to bring their total preferences to four. Those students selecting a pathway of Technology, Food, Music or Physical Education will study that subject for the first term. At the end of the first term, a decision will be made on the most appropriate route of either GCSE or Vocational course within that pathway.

GCSE Psychology
GCSE Religious Studies

Art & Design Pathway
Technology Pathway
Food Pathway
Music Pathway
Physical Education Pathway

BTEC Award in Health and Social Care
BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production
BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise
BTEC Tech Award in Travel and Tourism
BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts - Dance

What should I think about when making my choice?

When making preferences consider the following things:

1. What are you good at?
2. What do you enjoy?
3. Will the subject lead on to the career and courses you wish to follow in the future?
4. DO NOT choose a subject because you like the teacher, someone else may teach you.
5. DO NOT choose a subject because your friends are. They are likely to be in a different class and it is your future that counts, not what your friends want to do.

What happens now?

- **Thursday 30th January 2020 - 3:30 – 6:30pm.** Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening. This evening is a traditional 'parents evening' where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teachers. It is very important that you attend this event as it will inform you of how your son/daughter is progressing at this important time in their schooling.
- **Monday 10th February** - Students and parents/carers will have the opportunity to meet with a member of staff from the Academy to discuss potential options.
- **Friday 14th February** - This will be the deadline for completing the online form or returning your paper preference Form to Student Reception. Whilst we do not offer a 'first come first served' system, a late return may mean you do not get your first choice of subjects.

The Compulsory Core Subjects

GCSE English Literature & English Language

Level: GCSE

Examination Board: Edexcel

Head of English: Mr P Creegan

What will I study?

All students will study separate GCSEs in English Language and English Literature.

Across the two courses, students will study:

- 19th century fiction texts including extracts and one full text
- 20th/21st century non-fiction texts
- One Shakespeare play
- One post-1914 British play or novel
- An anthology of poetry
- Transactional and imaginative writing

Why do the Course?

English is the language of life. In every course and career and, during every day of their lives, students need to use English; whether it is reading, writing or speaking and listening, the skills students acquire enable them to access all formal examinations whilst preparing students for life-long learning.

What skills will I develop?

- To read a wide range of texts fluently, critically and with good understanding; using knowledge gained to inform and improve their own writing.
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often.
- Appreciate the depth and power of English literary heritage.
- Write clearly and effectively, taking care over spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Use spoken and written Standard English effectively.
- Acquire and apply a wide range of vocabulary alongside knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions.

Assessment Method

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
English Language			
1	40%	Exam	Fiction & Imaginative Writing
2	60%	Exam	Non-Fiction & Transactional Writing
English Literature			
1	50%	Exam	Shakespeare & Post-1914 Literature
2	50%	Exam	19 th Century Novel & Poetry

Post 16 Opportunities

- English is required in most careers and courses, including entry into A-Level and university. It is widely recognised as an essential tool in all occupations and professions.

GCSE Mathematics

Level: GCSE (1-9)

Examination Board: Edexcel

Head of Maths: Mrs L Drenon

What will I study?

Throughout the GCSE course, you will study the following areas of mathematics:

- Numbers
- Algebra
- Statistics
- Shape and Space
- Ratio and Proportion

You will also develop your ability to solve mathematical problems some of which are based on real life situations in a logical way.

You will be expected to clearly communicate your solutions and justify your final answers.

Why do the Course?

Studying mathematics to GCSE level will develop your problem solving, logic and reasoning skills to give you the essential tools to be successful in your future education, work and life.

What skills will I develop?

The GCSE specifications in Mathematics should enable students to -

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.
- Students should be aware that mathematics can be used to develop models of real situations and that these models may be more or less effective depending on how the situation has been simplified and the assumptions that have been made.
- Students should also be able to recall, select and apply mathematical formulae.

Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
GCSE Mathematics			
1	33.3	Exam	Paper 1 Non-calculator
2	33.3	Exam	Paper 2 Calculator
3	33.3	Exam	Paper3 Calculator

Post 16 Opportunities

- A-Level Mathematics
- A-Level Further Mathematics

GCSE Combined Science (Dual Award)

Level: GCSE (9-1)

Examination Board: AQA

Head of Science: Mrs A Pettican

What will I study?

Within the Combined Science GCSE course, students will study all three specialisms, which include the following topics:

Biology

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

Physics

1. Energy
2. Electricity
3. Particle model of matter
4. Atomic structure
5. Forces
6. Waves
7. Magnetism and electromagnetism

Chemistry

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes
6. The rate and extent of chemical change
7. Organic chemistry
8. Chemical analysis
9. Chemistry of the atmosphere
10. Using resources
11. Magnetism and electromagnetism

Why do the Course?

GCSE Combined Science encourages students to develop their knowledge about the living, material and physical worlds and provides insight into, and experience of, how science works. It enables learners to engage with science and to understand the effects of science on society.

What skills will I develop?

During the course, students will complete a range of required practicals designed by AQA, which covers the following skills:

- To develop scientific thinking.
- Develop experimental skills and strategies.
- Analyse and evaluate.
- Acquire and apply their scientific vocabulary.
- To effectively use quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature.

Assessment Method

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
Combined Science			
1	16.7%	Written exam	Biology
2	16.7%	Written exam	Biology
1	16.7%	Written exam	Chemistry
2	16.7%	Written exam	Chemistry
1	16.7%	Written exam	Physics
2	16.7%	Written exam	Physics

Post 16 Opportunities

Science is required by many careers and courses including entry into A-Level and university. In a global market, Science provides the opportunity to demonstrate the combination of both practical abilities and theoretical understanding.

The EBACC Subjects

GCSE Modern Foreign Languages - Spanish

Level: GCSE

Examination Board: AQA

Learning Leader for MFL: Mr D McGladdery

What will I study?

The GCSE course contains the following themes -

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

Why do the Course?

Did you know, learning a language helps your memory, creativity, listening skills and self-confidence? By taking a language at GCSE you'll have amazing skills and a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do - so, it's quite a handy subject really. A language GCSE builds on what you have already learnt and you probably know more than you think. Language classes are still fun and interactive and you cover things at a slightly quicker pace, but this is good as you'll easily notice the improvements that you make in your foreign language. Plus by taking a language GCSE you don't just learn the language, you get to find out about other people, countries and cultures so it really is an interesting and varied subject.

What skills will I develop?

We will develop the four key skills of Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing but MFL also helps improve your memory and builds your confidence.

Assessment Method

Units
All examinations will be taken at the end of Year 11.
25% Reading exam
25% Listening exam
25% Speaking exam
25% Writing exam

Post 16 Opportunities

Many employers, sixth forms and universities will require you to have a Modern Foreign Language, so you can see just how important learning a language can be! Languages can be used in so many jobs and you can offer more if you have a Modern Foreign Language.

GCSE History

Level: GCSE (9-1)

Examination Board: Edexcel

Learning Leader for History: Mr L Jennings

What will I study?

- Modern World Depth study focused on the African-American civil rights movement and Vietnam conflict.
- World Depth Study focused on the American West and how it was settled into the country we know today.
- Thematic Study following a single topic (Medicine and the People) over the course of approximately 1,000 years.
- British Depth Study on Early Elizabethan England from 1558- 1588.

Why do the Course?

GCSE History is fascinating. You'll get to investigate some of the defining characters, events, features and developments in British, European and World History over the last 1,000 years. You'll develop a deeper understanding of the origins of the world around us, hone your analytical and debating skills and be allowed to think originally and creatively about the content we explore. If you like to figure things out for yourself, if you like to think originally and critically, and if you would like to develop your ability to work independently, then this is the course for you!

What skills will I develop?

You will develop a broad and deep understanding of elements of British, European and World History over the course of the last 1,000 years. In exploring this content, you will have the opportunity to develop complex analytical skills such as source evaluation, interpretation, forming judgements and creating original arguments. As well as developing your complex written skills, you will enhance your ability to work independently, collaboratively and to present your thoughts and arguments orally through rigorous debate, discussion and role play.

Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
History			
1	30	Exam	Medicine in Britain (1250- present)
2	20	Exam	Early Elizabethan England (1558- 88)
1	20	Exam	American West (1835- 95)
2	30	Exam	The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad

Post 16 Opportunities

History is an incredibly useful course giving you a wide range of skills which can be used within other subjects. It can lead to A-Levels or vocational qualifications and further degrees in such areas as: teaching, journalism, law, media, management, police and the caring professions.

GCSE Geography

Level: GCSE (9-1)

Examination Board: OCR

Head of Culture & Languages: Mrs J Yates

What will I study?

- Landscapes of the U.K.
- People of the U.K.
- UK Environmental Challenges
- Ecosystems of the Planet
- People of the Planet
- Environmental Threats to our Planet
- Geographical Skills
- Fieldwork assessment

Why do the Course?

Most students will find that there is a natural progression from Key Stage 3 to GCSE, ensuring that they recognise the course. If students have enjoyed geographical enquiry, how the world and the landscape around them is changing and asking questions around current geographical issues, then they will enjoy all aspects of this examination course.

What skills will I develop?

- Problem solving
- Investigating - including presenting data and arguments
- Map reading
- Numeracy and literacy

Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
Geography			
1	30%	Written Paper	Living in the U.K. Today
2	30%	Written Paper	The World Around Us
3	40%	Written Paper	Geographical Skills

Post 16 Opportunities

A GCSE in Geography gives you an academic qualification that universities and employers recognise and can lead into A-Level. It provides a passport to further study and jobs in town and transport planning, chartered surveying, land and water management, environmental consultancy, development, tourism, conservation, demography, housing and social welfare. Many geographers choose careers in information technology, administration and management, the financial sector and marketing.

GCSE Computer Science

Level: GCSE

Examination Board: OCR

Head of Technology and Vocational: Mr J Green

What will I study?

Component 01: Computer systems

Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and data representation.

Why do the Course?

Are you interested in how computers and technology works? How computing can make our lives easier and solve problems? Well Computing is for you! Computing looks practically at how to solve computational problems and the impact of computing.

What skills will I develop?

- Problem solving - looking at a problem and using tools to solve it.
- Abstraction – taking a problem and removing unnecessary detail
- Decomposition – breaking a large problem into smaller chunks so it can be solved.
- Computational thinking – thinking like a computer.
- Programming skills in Python. HTML, CSS assembly language

Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
Name of Subject / Course			
1	50	Exam	Computer systems
2	50	Exam	Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Post 16 Opportunities

Computer science and the problem solving and IT skills it develops can be useful in many different careers such as information technology and information management, engineering and manufacturing, construction, broadcast media and performing arts, management, journalism and publishing, and medical technology.

The Non-EBACC

GCSE Art & Design Pathway

Level: GCSE (9-1)

Examination Board: AQA

Learning Leader for Art: Mrs C Kester

What will I study?

By researching and developing ideas from starting points, you will create a portfolio of work by:

- Researching and being influenced by the work of artists, craftspeople and designers, past and present.
- Explaining individual ideas through annotations and drawings.
- Exploring a range of artists' materials and techniques, then applying them to your own work.
- Producing a range of outcomes showing the complete art and design process.

Initially students will experience a range of specialisms before being matched to the most appropriate for them. Specialisms include a broad Art and Design course, Fine Art, 3D and Art Textiles.

Why do the Course?

GCSE Art and Design is a broad, challenging course that develops the artistic skills and imagination of the individual. This provides a foundation in a range of art disciplines in two and three dimensions. It is appropriate for students who are planning a career in art, or for those who simply enjoy the challenge of the creative design process.

What skills will I develop?

Drawing skills are integral to this course. You will need to develop and practice a range of drawing skills to enable you to observe and record accurately. These include:

- Careful observational drawing
- Shading and rendering techniques
- Designing and annotating
- Image selection

You will also build skills in variety of art media, including clay, textiles, sculpture, print, photography and digital media.

Assessment Method

Component	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
Art and Design GCSE			
1	60%	Coursework Portfolio	A <u>Portfolio</u> of work produced over the course containing two projects demonstrating research, experimentation, design, observation, development and presentation skills.
2	40%	Examination	An <u>Externally Set Assignment</u> – Tasks set by the examiner. 10 weeks to research and develop ideas and prepare a final piece and 10 hours of practical time under exam conditions to produce an artwork in response to the set starting point.

Post 16 Opportunities

GCSE Art and Design is a strong foundation for further progression to Art and Design related courses such as A-Level Art and Design and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Possible career options include Animator, Architect, Computer Games Designer, Community Arts Worker, Fashion/Textile Designer, Film/Video Maker, Fine Artist, Furniture Designer, Graphic Designer, Photographer etc.

Technology Pathway

Level: GCSE/Vocational

Learning Leader for Technology: Mrs S Hammett

What will I study?

Typical topics covered within this route are -

- Core Technical Principles
- Engineered components
- Computer Aided Design and Manufacture
- Specialist Principles in a specific area of Design & Technology or Engineering.
- Designing and making principles



Why do the Course?

The Technology courses will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences in Technology and Engineering including Computer Aided Design, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

What skills will I develop?

In order to make effective design choices students will need a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding that consists of;

- New and emerging technologies
- Computer Aided Design
- Energy storage and generation
- Modern and smart materials
- Systems approach to designing
- Engineered products
- Mechanical devices
- Materials and their working properties

Post 16 Opportunities

Opportunities are vast in the design, manufacturing and engineering professions for students as there are hundreds of sectors that need highly skilled and innovative professionals.

This route is the ideal starting point for those students wishing to embark upon a possible career in Engineering, Product Design, Electrical or Electronic Engineering or any further study in a Design & Technology based course. As well as the hard edge technologies above, design is also in demand in fashion, entertainment, advertising, interior design, IT and architecture.

Food Pathway

Level: GCSE/Vocational

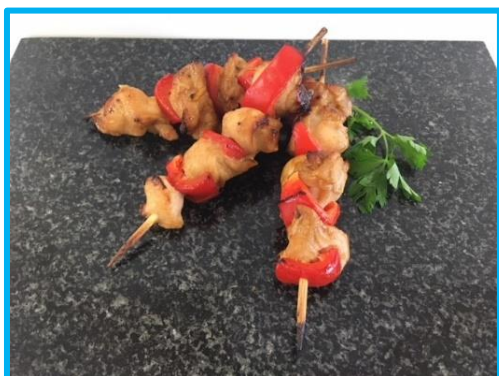
Examination Board: AQA/Eduqas

Learning Leader for Technology: Mrs S Hammett

What will I study?

Topics covered within this course are -

1. Food Nutrition and Health
2. Food Science
3. Food Safety
4. Food Choice
5. Food Provenance
6. The Hospitality and Catering industry
7. Different Diets
8. Presentation Techniques

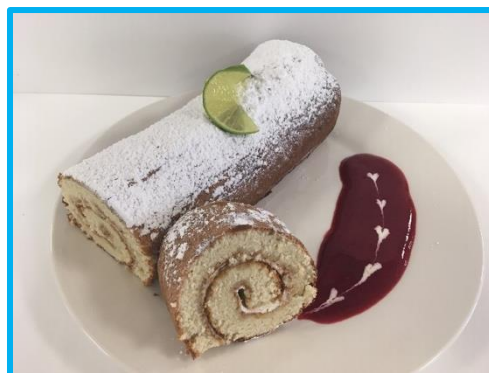


Why do the Course?

The Food courses are exciting courses that focus on both food and catering theory along with practical preparation, cooking and presentation skills. The courses ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food, safety, hospitality, working practices, provenance and the working characteristics of food ingredients. At the heart, these qualifications focus on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition and safe practices to cater for a wide range of people.

What skills will I develop?

There are many practical skill groups that are integrated into the courses. Students must know how and when these food preparation skills can be applied and combined to achieve specific outcomes. Alongside these practical skills students will learn how food can be prepared and cooked skilfully and safely to produce delicious and nutritious meals for different people, diets and situations.



Post 16 Opportunities

Upon completion of the course, students may embark on an apprenticeship, employment in the catering or food industries, or go on to further study. They will also be prepared for adult life by being able to competently cook a selection of healthy products for themselves and their family.

There will be times when students are asked to provide ingredients for their dishes. These dishes will always go home and can be eaten. If for any reason providing these ingredients is an issue then please contact us.

Music Pathway

Level: GCSE/Vocational

Examination Board: Eduqas/BTEC

Head of Sport, Art and Performance: Mrs L Crawford

What will I study?

Generic Topics

- Music History & Appreciation
- Music Performance
- Music Composition

Additional GCSE Content

- Music Theory
- Listening, Appraising and Analysis

Assessment Method

Following an assessment at the end of Term 1, students will be selected to follow either a Technical Award in Music Practise or Performing Arts: Musical Theatre (BTEC) pathway or Music (GCSE) pathway.

For students entering the Music (GCSE) pathway, assessment is linear and will be tested by 1 externally assessed written exam (40%), 2 compositions (30%) and 2 performances (30%) equivalent to ABRSM Grade 3 or above.

For students entering the Technical Award pathway, assessment is modular and will be assessed by 1 externally assessed synoptic unit (40%).

What are the pre-requisites?

To do both BTEC or GCSE Music, students will need a background in Music. They should already have at least Grade 3 or equivalent on their main instrument (including vocals) and preferably be receiving some sort of instrument/vocal tuition. Final decisions on whether a student meets these criteria will be made by the Academy and if in doubt please discuss this with our music teachers.

Why do the Course?

This course is for anyone who enjoys a high level of involvement in Music. Over the three years you will encounter many opportunities to develop your performing skills, as well as being introduced to new music through performance, composition and listening work.

What skills will I develop?

- Composing
- Listening & Evaluating
- Performing skills (as a soloist and as part of an ensemble)



What could this qualification lead to?

Whether you are pursuing a future in composition or song writing, music production, teaching, journalism or performance, BTEC and GCSE Music are both brilliant starting points.

These courses also lead into AS/A-Level Music or BTEC Level 3.

GCSE Psychology

Level: GCSE (9-1)

Examination Board: OCR

Head of Culture & Languages: Mrs J Yates

What will I study?

You will study eight units of work that investigate a range of topics discussing theories and studies into human behaviour. Within each of these topics you will study the research used to investigate each area and neuropsychology, which is the influence of the brain on behaviour.

- **Component 1** - This component introduces learners to the following topics:
 - Criminal Psychology
 - Development
 - Psychological Problems.
- **Component 2** - This component introduces learners to the following topics:
 - Social Influence
 - Memory
 - Sleep and Dreaming.

Why do the Course?

Psychology at GCSE is a challenging but interesting and stimulating course. It blends together a number of skills that transfer well outside of the classroom.

It is appropriate for anyone who has an enquiring mind and enjoys analysing human behaviour.

What skills will I develop?

The course provides opportunities to develop a range of key skills including:

- Essay and literacy skills
- Mathematical calculations
- Scientific investigation

It is also useful to develop responsible attitudes and develop understanding of human experiences.

The exam board is endorsed by the charity 'Time to Change' which challenges mental health stigma and discrimination and is a useful way for students to understand the practical application of Psychology.

Post 16 Opportunities

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	50	Examination	Component 1: Criminal Psychology, Development and Psychological Problems 1 hour 30
2	50	Examination	Component 2: Social Influence, Memory and Sleep and Dreaming 1 hour 30

The course is entirely exam based and has no coursework. The exam is comprised of small answer questions and an essay component.

Assessment Method

The course will provide a firm foundation for an A-Level course in Psychology but will also be useful for students intending to pursue careers in medical disciplines, business, social sciences, education, police, law, journalism and sports and leisure.

Physical Education, Health and Fitness Pathway

Level: GCSE/Vocational

Examination Board: AQA/NCFE

Head of Sport, Art and Performance: Mrs L Crawford

What will I study?

Generic Topics

- The Cardiovascular System
- The Musculo-Skeletal System
- The Respiratory System
- Health, Fitness and Training
- The Responses and Adaptations to Exercise
- The Energy Systems
- Nutrition and Diet

Additional GCSE Content

- Biomechanics
- Use of Data
- Sports Psychology
- Contemporary Issues in Sport

Assessment Method

Following an assessment at the end of Term 1, students will be selected to follow either a Health and Fitness (NCFE) Pathway or Sports (GCSE) Pathway.

For students entering the Sports Pathway, assessment is linear and will be tested by 2 externally assessed written exams (60%), assessment in 3 sports (30%) and a detailed Analysis and Evaluation project (10%).

For students entering the Health and Fitness Pathway, assessment is modular and will be assessed by 1 external exam (40%) and 2 Coursework Units (60%).

What are the pre-requisites?

An interest in health and fitness and/or an interest in sport. A good base level of personal fitness will also be required as many topics will involve physical activity.

Why do the Course?

Health and fitness are essential both to promote student success and lifelong wellbeing.

Learning about sport, health and fitness will enable students to maintain a high level of health throughout their lives. It also provides a gateway for students beyond Key Stage 4 and compliments their science studies.

What skills will I develop?

As health and fitness or sports professionals, students will employ the skills of problem solving, evaluation and analysis. They will develop leadership skills and in doing so will develop their interpersonal and communication skills

Students will also develop their theory knowledge of health, fitness, sport and performance and will apply it to real life, practical situations.



What could this qualification lead to?

Further study at Level 3 such as A-Level or BTEC Level 3

Apprenticeship in coaching, or the health and fitness industry

Higher Study at university in a range of disciplines such as Sport Science, Anatomy and Physiology, Physiotherapy, Sports Therapy or Nutrition

Careers in medicine, sport, health and fitness, sports development, teaching and coaching.

GCSE Religious Studies

Level: GCSE (9-1)

Examination Board: AQA

Head of Culture & Languages: Mrs J Yates

What will I study?

You will study several units of work that investigate a range of topics discussing both religious and contemporary issues.

- **Component 1; The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices from the following 2 religions:**
 - Christianity
 - Islam
- **Component 2;** Thematic Studies from 4 of the following:
 - Relationships and families.
 - Religion and life.
 - Religion, peace and conflict.
 - Religion, crime and punishment.
 - Religion, human rights and social justice

Why Do The Course?

You will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling you to develop your own attitudes towards religious and philosophical issues. You will have the chance to debate real life issues and matters that concern wider society. Studies in religion were some of the very first university courses ever to be offered when Oxford and Cambridge first opened, so the subject has a long academic track record.

What skills will I develop?

The course provides you with the opportunity to gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. You will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas and evaluate these, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare you for further study. The ability to think philosophically and critically is crucial to any career as when companies hit a barrier in their processes, they turn to the philosophers to problem solve and find solutions.

Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	50	Examination	Component 1: The study of religions 1 hour 45
2	50	Examination	Component 2: Thematic studies 1 hour 45

Post 16 Opportunities

The course will provide a firm foundation for an A-Level course in Religious Studies but will also be useful for students intending to pursue careers in medical disciplines, social sciences, education, police, law, human resources, policy making and many other careers.

Vocational Subjects

BTEC Award in Health and Social Care

Level: Level 2

Examination Board: Edexcel BTEC

Academy Lead for Vocational: Mr N Elsender

Why do the Course?

This course provides a vocationally related qualification in Health and Social Care. This is an area of work which gives many varied opportunities to make a difference to people's lives in a positive way and involves working with young children, the elderly and others who need to access care environments.

What skills will I develop?

The course provides opportunities to develop a range of key skills as well as a responsible attitude to work and the practical skills required within the Health and Social Care sector. It will develop communication and personal presentation skills that can be transferred to other subjects and professions. You will develop skills such as empathy and will learn about the ethics involved when working with other people, particularly vulnerable groups.

What will I study?

You will study three components of work that investigate a range of issues in the Health and Social industries. These can include issues such as development, health services and health and wellbeing. You will also look at health and social care practice such as nursing, early years provision and social work.

- **Component 1 - Human Lifespan Development-** In this component you study how people grow and develop over the course of their life, from infancy to old age.
- **Component 2 - Health and Social Care Services and Values-** This component will give you an understanding of health and social care services and will help you develop skills in applying care values which are common across the sector
- **Component 3 - Health and Wellbeing-** In this component, you look at the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on a person's health and wellbeing. You will then use this information to design a health plan.

Assessment Method

Unit	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	Coursework	Human Lifespan Development
2	Coursework	Health and Social Care Services and Values
3	Externally assessed task	Health and Wellbeing 3 hours

In order to be awarded a qualification, a learner must complete and achieve all three components with a Level 1 Pass or above and achieve the minimum number of points at a grade threshold

Post 16 Opportunities

Learners who generally achieve at Level 2 might consider progression to A-Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects or study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares students for entry to employment.

BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production

Level: Vocational Level 2

Examination Board: Edexcel

Academy Lead for Vocational: Mr N Elsander

What will I study?

If you enjoy using computer software creatively to create digital media for a given purpose, then this is the course for you. This is a 'hands on' course where students develop their knowledge and skills in the digital media sector. They will use different types of creative media software and will develop their skills in areas like:

- Image manipulation
- Creating digital graphics
- Video editing
- Animation creation
- Web design

Why do the Course?

Being able to use computers and software creatively is a valuable skill. Many businesses and organisations need people who can effectively combine creativity with digital knowhow and create different forms of digital media for marketing, advertising and promotional purposes.

What skills will I develop?

- Industry standard technical skills and techniques in digital media production
- Responding to a brief by producing a digital media product
- Reviewing and reflecting on the process and outcome

Assessment Method

Component	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30	Internal Controlled Assessment	Exploring media products
2	30	Internal Controlled Assessment	Developing digital media production skills
3	40	External Examination	Create a media product in response to a brief

Post 16 Opportunities

The BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production is an excellent qualification to give students the skills and experiences required to go on and pursue a qualification in an ICT related discipline at a higher level and/or pursue a career in the IT sector.

BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise

Level: Vocational Level 2

Examination Board: Edexcel

Academy Lead for Vocational: Mr N Elsender

What will I study?

Do you aspire to start your own business? Do you want to become a successful business person? If so, then this is the course for you. The course is structured so that students first study theoretical and practical Enterprise topics in a 'classwork' format. They then apply what they have learnt to their coursework which involves investigating different existing Business Enterprises and evaluating what makes them effective.

Topics studied includes:

- Enterprise **strategy** and **objectives**
- **Marketing** and **promoting** an enterprise
- **Financial** recording in an enterprise
- **Operating** an enterprise
- Considering the **needs of employees** in an enterprise
- The importance of **customer service**

Why do the Course?

The BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise is an excellent qualification to give students the skills and experiences required to go on and either start up their own business enterprise, be a valued employee in an existing enterprise or pursue a qualification in Business at a higher level.

What skills will I develop?

- An aptitude in planning and carrying out an enterprise activity.
- The knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills that can affect the performance of an enterprise.
- Attitudes and ways of working that are important for enterprise

Assessment Method

Component	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30	Internal Controlled Assessment	Exploring enterprises
2	30	Internal Controlled Assessment	Planning for and running an enterprise
3	40	External Examination	Promotion and finance for enterprise

Post 16 Opportunities

The course provides a recognised route to study Business at a higher level (A-Level or BTEC Level 3). It is also a qualification respected by potential employers because it gives students a clear understanding of how businesses operate and how to be an effective employee within them.

BTEC Tech Award in Travel and Tourism

Level: Vocational Level 2

Examination Board: Edexcel

Academy Lead for Vocational: Mr N Elsander

What will I study?

Learners will acquire knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by exploring the aims of different travel and tourism organisations, the features of tourist destinations, how organisations meet customer requirements, and the influences on global travel and tourism.

Topics studied includes:

- the travel and tourism sector and tourist destinations
- the type and purpose of different travel and tourism organisations
- the importance of travel and tourism to the UK
- different types of holidays and reasons for travel

Why do the Course?

The travel and tourism sector is the UK's third-largest employer, accounting for 9.5 per cent of total employment. Tourism is one of the fastest-growing sectors in the UK in employment terms, employing nearly 3 million people, and the value of tourism to the UK economy is approximately £121 billion (7.1 per cent) of UK GDP.

The outlook for the travel and tourism sector in 2017 remains robust and it will continue to be at the forefront of wealth and employment creation in the global economy.

What skills will I develop?



Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
Internally Assessed (portfolio) – 60%			
1	30%	Internal	Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations
2	30%	External	Influences on Global Travel and Tourism
3	40%	Internal Synoptic	Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism

Post 16 Opportunities

Once you have completed this course, you could progress on to the level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism, or on to the level 2 Diploma in Cabin Crew, or Aviation Environment.

BTEC Award in Performing Arts - Dance

Level: Level 1/2 (P/M/D)

Examination Board: Pearson

Head of Sport, Art and Performance: Mrs L Crawford

What will I study?

Component 1 - During Component 1 learners will develop their understanding of the performing arts by examining practitioners' work and the processes used to create performance.

Component 2 - During Component 2 learners will develop their performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of dance repertoire. In this component, you will develop performance skills and techniques. You will have the opportunity to specialise in a style of dance.

Component 3 - During Component 3 learners will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to create a workshop performance in response to a given brief and stimulus. You will choose one from a number of possible progression opportunities as the basis for your work. Responding to the opportunity will provide you with a clear focus for the unit.

Why do the Course?

Dance is a practically led course where students will have the chance explore existing repertoire in a range of different styles and use these skills during performances. This course is physically demanding and requires a lot of dedication. The dance components gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

What skills will I develop?

As choreographers, students employ the skills of problem solving and creativity and in directing others, they develop their interpersonal and communication skills.

Students will also develop their theory knowledge of performance skills and techniques as well as the analysis and evaluation of professional dance work.

Assessment Method

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
Internally Assessed (portfolio) – 60%			
1	30%	Internal	Exploring the Performing Arts
2	30%	Internal	Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts
Externally Assessed – Synoptic Assessment – 40%			
3	40%	External Synoptic	Performing to a Brief - The external assessment takes the form of a set task taken under supervised conditions that is marked and a grade awarded by Pearson.

Post 16 Opportunities

- 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 Performing Arts, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the performing arts or production arts areas.

Things to consider when selecting your preferences

- You make your preference choices by accessing the webpage below, where you will be asked to login to your child's area on the school VLE.

<http://www.consettacademy.org.uk/year8preferences>

- You must select ONE subject from the EBACC option which includes Computer Science, Spanish, Geography and History.
- In the Open options you will need to select a further THREE subjects.
- You will need to select ONE subject from the Reserve option.
- To do more than one EBACC subject, select ONE in the EBACC option and select the others from the Open options.

