

# Yardleys School

A Specialist Science, Mathematics & ICT College



## PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

### 2011 – 2013

Time to make your preferences.....

### Yr.9 Options Evening

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011 (6:00pm – 7:15pm)**



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE



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\* Selected students will be encouraged to study these courses to support them in their learning and future studies.

Students will study all of the core subjects plus three subjects chosen from the Optional Subjects.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS AND PUPILS**

At Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) all students have to study these core subjects:

**ENGLISH**

**MATHEMATICS**

**SCIENCE**

**ICT**

This ensures that all students have a balanced curriculum with the literacy, numeracy and generic ICT skills required for Further Education and the World of Work.

For Parents or Carers, this is a really important time for your son or daughter. They now need to think carefully about the subjects they might want to study for the next two years. In some subjects, students sit modular examinations throughout the course. At the end of Year 11, there are also final examinations in many subjects.

By working together, we can make sure that your son or daughter leaves school with the best possible qualifications.

As Parents or Carers, your support and encouragement will be vital over the next two years.

**We are holding an information evening about the subjects on offer at Key Stage 4 -**

### **Subject Information Evening for Year 9 Students and Parents/Carers**

This will take place on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011 in the Main Hall. Please come along between 6.00pm and 7.15pm. There will be a short presentation at 6.20pm by Mr. Pohl (Deputy Headteacher). Subject staff will be available to give information and advice to you.

<p><b>If you need any further help or information please contact: Mr Pohl on 0121 464 6821</b></p>
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# MAKING YOUR PREFERENCES - SOME ADVICE

- Remember - you have to study English, Mathematics, Science and ICT.
- You will be able to choose **3** optional subjects to study.
- No one subject is any more important than the others! What is important is the grade you achieve.

**Choose the subjects you:**

**1. LIKE**

**2. ARE INTERESTED IN**

**3. THINK YOU WILL DO WELL IN**

- **Do not** choose a subject just because your friend has chosen it - you may not be placed in the same group!

## **REMEMBER**

- The qualifications you achieve at 16 are yours for life! You can use them at any time in your life to get onto a further education course.
- Every grade at examination level is of value. There are lots of different levels of courses to study from 16 onwards. There are college courses to suit everyone (please feel free to discuss post 16 courses with representatives from our local Colleges and Universities, who will be in attendance during the Subject Information Evening).

# THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

When you are reading the information about the different subjects, think about what will suit you.

- Some subjects have lots of coursework - this helps you to gain marks towards your final grade **BUT** you have to do extra work at home.
- Some subjects require more reading and writing than others.
- Some subjects are more practical than others.
- Some subjects like Dance, Drama and Music will require you to work with others in groups and even perform to the group.
- Some subjects may require special skills, for example Sport.

**If you need advice - speak to the teacher who teaches you in Year 9.**

**There are several subjects on offer that you did not study in Year 9.  
If you need more advice see these Staff:**

**Ms Burge for: Art and Design**

**Mr Wright for: Business Studies**

**Mr Prever for: Citizenship**

**Ms Burge for: Child Development**

**Ms Handford for: ESOL**

**Ms Butler for: Geography**

**Ms Batchelor: Hospitality & Catering**

**Ms Chambers for: Health & Social Care**

**Dr Al Daffaee for: Additional ICT**

**Ms Stevens for: Media Studies**

**Ms Wright for: Performing Arts**

**Mr Johnson for: Prince's Trust**

**Ms Cuniappen for: French / Spanish**

**Mr Holtom for: Sport**

**Mr Evans for: Study Plus**

**Mr Cook for: Study Support**

**Mr Bate for: Travel and Tourism**

**Ms Knowles for: Triple Science**

**Ms Price for: Careers / Post 16 advice**

# Option Subjects

Many of these subjects will be new to you and some are an extension of the core subject (Additional ICT and Sport, for example). Students will choose 3 optional subjects to study in addition to the core subjects. The timetable allocation to each option subject is 3 hours per week.

These subjects will help you to access the wide range of courses on offer in colleges when you leave school.

# Student Timetable

All students will have a timetable made up of 25 one hour lessons -

Subject	Weekly Time Allocation (hours)
English	4
Mathematics	3
Core Science	5
Core ICT	2
PE/Sport	2
Option 1	3
Option 2	3
Option 3	3

# CORE SUBJECTS

(All students will study these)

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Core Science
- Core ICT (National First Award)



# English Language and Literature



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: 2

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **Double Award**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

### **English Language:**

Examination: **40%**      Controlled Assessment: **60%**

### **English Literature:**

Examination: **75%**      Controlled Assessment: **25%**

## *Course Description*

English Language and Literature is a combined GCSE course leading to the award of two GCSE grades. Students have four lessons of English per week.

Students will complete a combination of both examinations and controlled assessments staggered over the two year course. Controlled assessments are completed under supervision in school, and have replaced the traditional coursework element of the GCSE. Controlled assessments are not tiered - all students attempt the same task set by the exam board, however examination entry is tiered: Foundation and Higher papers.

### **English Literature**

Unit 1: 'Understanding Prose'- Examination: 1hr 45 minutes: 50%

Unit 2: 'Understanding Poetry' - Examination: 1hr 45min: 25%

Unit 3: 'Shakespeare and Contemporary Drama' - Controlled assessment 25%

### **English Language**

Unit 1: 'English Today' - Controlled Assessment: 20%

Unit 2: 'The Writer's Voice' - Examination: 1hr 45 min: 40%

Unit 3: 'The Spoken Language' - Controlled Assessment 30%

## *Benefits*

English is a core subject and therefore compulsory for students to study; many college courses require students to achieve a C grade in English Language as standard entry criteria.



# Mathematics



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: 2

Examination Board: **Edexcel & CCEA**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award GCSE (Double Award for Early Entry Students)**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **100%**

## ***Course Description***

All students study *GCSE Mathematics*  
The *GCSE* is: *Mathematics 2MB01 (Modular)*

Examination: Unit 1 = 30% (Probability, Statistics and Basic Algebra)  
Unit 2 = 30% (Number, Algebra and Geometry)  
Unit 3 = 40% (Number 2, Algebra 2 and Geometry 2)

There are 2 levels of entry for *Mathematics GCSE*: Foundation - Grades G to C  
Higher - Grades D to A\*

### **Additional maths**

Many successful students finish their *GCSE Mathematics* early (by the end of year 10) and go onto study "Additional Mathematics". This follows the first year of "A level" and is a brilliant stepping stone for those wishing to study Mathematics or related subjects at a higher level.

Content consists of: Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics  
There are two Terminal papers : Graded A\* - E

## ***Benefits***

- Examination groupings for *GCSE* are based on Module Examination results throughout the year and on Teacher Assessment.
- Mathematics at *GCSE* builds on the achievements at KS3.
- *GCSE Mathematics* prepares students for A levels and Applied Subjects at College.
- Mathematics *GCSE* is an essential requirement for University entry and most careers.



# Core Science



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: 2

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **Double Award**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Year 10		Year 11
Examination: <b>75%</b>	Controlled Assessment: <b>25%</b>	<i>See below (dependent on course)</i>

## *Course Description*

It is expected that all students will gain at least two separate GCSE qualifications in Science.

In Year 10 most students will follow a core Science GCSE (EDEXCEL 360) which emphasises how Science is important to everyday life. 75% of the assessment is based on external modular examinations taken in November, March and June. 25% of the marks will be awarded for activities which will be internally assessed by Science teachers.

Some students will choose a vocational route and study BTEC Applied Science (100% portfolio assessment).

Some students will choose to study for three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics by opting for **Triple Science** from the option groups. They will study an extension course in addition to the Core and Additional Science courses.

In year 11 students will be able to choose between:

- Edexcel GCSE in Additional Science (75% examination, 25% internal assessment)
- Edexcel BTEC qualification in Applied Science (100% portfolio assessment)
- OCR 21<sup>st</sup> Century Additional Applied Science (50% coursework, 50% examination)

More information on year 11 options will be available during the Year 10 course.

Go to <http://360science.edexcel.org.uk/home> to find out more about the 360science.

## *Benefits*

Students need to study Science in order to understand the world around them, to be able to use modern scientific applications and technology and to be an informed citizen so they are able to make important decisions about their own health and other scientific issues which affect their everyday lives.



# Core ICT



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **National First Award in ICT** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Broadly equivalent to 1 GCSE** (if *NOT* taking *Additional ICT as an Option*)

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## ***Course Description***

This is a continuation of work from year 9 ICT and can lead to a National First Award.

This course has been developed to recognise learners skills, knowledge and understanding of Information and Communication Technology functions, environments and operations.

The learners carry out a range of tasks that have been designed to recognise their achievements in a modern, practical way that is relevant to the workplace.

They are vocationally-related qualifications that provide valuable opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain underpinning knowledge and understanding which will support entry into work or progression to further studies through Further Education or Higher Education. The OCR Nationals are attractive, practically-based qualifications intended to stimulate and interest candidates.

All units are centre-assessed and externally moderated by OCR. There are no timetabled exams for this qualification; candidates may complete units at a time that suits the centre. The full award and units from this qualification are graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction.

### Units of work to be completed -

- ICT skills for business
- Design and produce multimedia products
- Creating computer graphics

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

ICT skills are generic and can be applied throughout all areas of life, hence the projects covered within Core ICT will be beneficial to all students.

# OPTION SUBJECTS

(Three subjects will be studied from this list)

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Citizenship
- English as an Additional Language (ESOL)\*
- French
- Geography
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Hospitality and Catering
- Additional ICT (National First Certificate)
- Media Studies
- Performing Arts
- Prince's Trust\*
- Product Design
- Religious Education
- Triple Science
- Spanish
- Sport
- Study Plus\*
- Study Support\*
- Travel and Tourism

\* Selected students will be encouraged to study these courses to support them in their learning and future studies.



# Art and Design



Qualification Type: **BTEC (Extended Certificate)** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **30 credits and broadly equivalent to 2 GCSE's**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## ***Course Description***

BTEC Art and Design is a vocational subject and develops the skills needed to work in a creative industry. The BTEC Extended Certificate is assessed completely through coursework tasks/projects - There is no examination.

To gain a BTEC Extended Certificate students complete 3 core units and 1 or 2 optional units (dependant on credit value).

### **Core Units**

To gain a BTEC First Diploma the following units would be completed -

- Contextual References in Art & Design
- 2D & 3D Visual Communication

In these units students learn how to look at the work of different artists and reflect this in their own assignments. 2D and 3D pieces of artwork are produced.

Students are expected to carry out independent research and are encouraged to attend extra-curricular Art club sessions.

### **Optional Units**

For a BTEC Extended Certificate two of these optional units need to be completed -

- Textiles Brief
- Fashion Design Brief
- 3D Design Brief
- Building an Art & Design Portfolio

In these units students will work with a variety of techniques, materials and processes.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

Example careers: Artist, web page designer, book illustrator, art therapist, stage set designer, commercial artist, art administrator, graphic designer, interior designer, teacher, fashion designer, textile designer, animator, computer game designer, photographer, crafts person.

I chose to do Art and Design because I like working with different kinds of materials such as plastic, paint, crayons, card, bubble wrap and fabrics. I like this subject because I learn new things every lesson and each lesson is different. When I have finished one piece of work I can go back and make it better. My favourite piece of work was where we all helped to make a massive collage of an urban image!

STUDENT VOICE – Afsana (Year 11)



# Business Studies



Qualification Type: **BTEC (Extended Certificate)** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **30 credits and broadly equivalent to 2 GCSE's**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## *Course Description*

This course will introduce students to the skills, knowledge and understanding they will need to work in the modern business environment or to set up their own business in the future. It will help develop personal skills, career planning, communication, working with others and problem solving.

Students will study the following units:

**Business Purposes (5 Credits):** The aim of this unit is to enable learners to understand the nature of business organisations and the business environment in which they operate.

**Business Organisations (5 Credits):** The aim of this unit is to enable learners to understand the aims and objectives of business organisations and how they are organised into functional areas to meet their business aims and objectives.

**Business Online (10 Credits):** The aim of this unit is to enable learners to develop an understanding of the reasons why business is conducted online, considering the benefits, drawbacks and the effects on society. The unit also gives students the opportunity to create a website for a business need.

**Promoting and Branding in Retail Business (10 Credits):** The aim of this unit is to enable learners to have an awareness of the different sectors and channels used in retail today, and understand the importance of branding and promotion to retail business.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

This course will allow students to study a Level 3 Business qualification at college. It may also assist students wishing to start their own business in the future!

Business is interesting and you get to understand more about local and global businesses. I also now understand more of the business related discussed on TV.

STUDENT VOICE – Ismail (Year 10)



# Child Development



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: 2

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Examination: **40%** Controlled Assessment: **60%**

## *Course Description*

This course is primarily about Child Development with some Child Care.

Unit titles include:

- Family and parenting
- Preparation for pregnancy and birth
- Physical development
- Nutrition and health
- Intellectual, social and emotional development
- Community support

The coursework includes three short tasks and a Child Study. Students must be able to access a child between new born and 5 years for their study (perhaps a younger brother or sister or cousin etc).

There is one written examination based on the unit titles listed above.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

This subject is suitable for students who wish to work with young children in a variety of early years settings, such as playgroups, nurseries, infant schools, child minding and paediatric nursing.

I really enjoy Child Development. I picked it as an option because I wanted to learn about children. I also linked my work experience at a nursery to doing my coursework which was really helpful. I have also enjoyed learning all about pregnancy and how babies grow in the womb.

STUDENT VOICE - Sophia (Year 10)



# Citizenship



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Full GCSE**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **60%** Controlled Assessment: **40%**

## **Course Description**

This course is about 'Active Citizenship'. It seeks to help students make sense of the legal, political, economic and social aspects of their lives, to encourage them to take an interest in such matters.

The full course encourages students to take an interest in their world, from local community through to world affairs. It looks at:

- Rights and responsibilities
- The economy and welfare systems
- Identity and community in the United Kingdom
- The United Kingdom political system: Democracy and voting
- The United Kingdom's relationship with Europe, the commonwealth and the United Nations
- The United Kingdom legal and justice system

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This course is welcomed by colleges and employers as an indication of a young person's commitment to their neighbourhood and larger society. This subject would be of value to students considering further study or a career in areas such as law, business, the police, social work or even a career in politics.

Citizenship helps you to know what is going on in the news and in the world. It gives you a chance to voice your opinions and make decisions.

STUDENT VOICE - (Past student)



# English as an Additional Language (ESOL)



Qualification Type: **ESOL** Qualification Level: **Entry level to Level 2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **46 SCAAT points for level 2, 25 points for Level 1**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Examination: **100%** (Examinations in speaking and listening, reading and writing)

## *Course Description*

This course is for students whose first language is not English. It focuses on the functional aspects of English in real contexts, with practical application in the real world. It improves students' all-round skills in English and can help them to achieve better results in their other subjects too.

The course is flexible which means that students can be assessed when they are ready, gaining certification as units are completed. It can be studied from Entry Level right up to Level 2 and students are assessed at the start of the course to see which level best suits them.

ESOL qualifications are recognised by colleges as evidence of good communication skills in English.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

- Students choosing this course must have English as an additional language.
- ESOL is a good way of supplementing other courses students are studying as it improves general English language skills.
- ESOL is also excellent for those students who are keen to learn more about how the English language actually works.
- ESOL enables students to apply their language skills to a wide range of contexts both inside and outside school.
- Doing ESOL alongside other subjects helps students to prepare for college by ensuring they have the language skills they need to access further education.

ESOL has helped me develop my English but it has really helped me to improve in my other subjects too. I've also learnt things I never knew about English, things I think everyone needs to know!

STUDENT VOICE - (Yr10 student)



# French



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **AQA**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **40%**      Controlled Assessment: **60%**  
*(Listening and Reading)*      *(Speaking and Writing)*

## ***Course Description***

The topic areas students will study are: healthy lifestyles, holidays/leisure, home/environment, and work/education. The examination in Listening and Reading will take place at the end of the course in the summer of Year 11. The controlled assessments Speaking and Writing will take place throughout Year 10 and 11 at the end of each unit of work.

### **Did you know.....?**

- **The UK trades with over 200 countries worldwide.**
- **129 million people speak French worldwide.**
- **French is the official language for more than 20 countries, including Luxembourg, Haiti and over 15 African countries.**

### **Why choose a language?**

This qualification will allow language skills to be applied in a variety of contexts, such as travelling abroad, working for international businesses and broadening horizons. With the Olympics taking place in London during 2012, languages are more important today than they have ever been before. This means that there is not necessarily a need to go abroad to be able to use another language.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

For some college and university courses, students are required to hold a qualification in a foreign language. The course links well with other curriculum areas such as Travel & Tourism and Business Studies. The ability to speak another language will impress colleges and future employers.

A language is a very good thing to have a qualification in, as when you apply for colleges and universities you will be classed higher than other candidates, so there is more of a chance of you getting into the college/university that you want to join. I believe that languages are important as it opens up different opportunities not only in England but in other countries.

STUDENT VOICE - Mathew (Past student)



# Geography



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel (B)**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **75%**

Controlled Assessment: **25%**

*(‘Learning’ - 50%, ‘Decision Making’ - 25%)*

## ***Course Description***

The course gives a new look and breathes fresh life into geography. The examined content is broken down into 2 units:

1. **Dynamic Planet;** covering aspects of physical geography such as volcanoes and earthquakes, water world, climate change, oceans on the edge and battle for the biosphere.
2. **People and Planet;** covers aspects of human geography and our interactions with the environment and each other, such as population dynamics, making a living, development dilemmas, living spaces and consuming resources.

Each of these units has a one-hour exam worth 25% of the overall grade each.

The Decision Making Exam is based on pre-released booklet about a specific topic which students will receive months before the actual exam. This allows for an in depth study of the resources, which will include maps, diagrams, articles and speeches for them to analyse. This one-hour exam is based on the materials in the pre-release booklet.

The fourth unit is a controlled assessment, which is based on research that students have carried out and they will then do an extended project on this research.

Geography provides lots of opportunities for trips and fieldwork.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This is an academic subject and will suit anyone who has enjoyed geography in years 7-9. It is beneficial for anyone wanting to go on and do A-levels in academic subjects. It will give you a range of excellent skills, such as analysis and decision making which are favoured by colleges and universities. A GCSE in geography will enable you to take a range of different subjects at A-level and Degree level and lead to a wide range of careers.

Geography is a great subject as it offers loads of interesting facts and information about the world we live in. Not only are the class lessons good but the wide variety of field trips offered to use are extremely fun!

STUDENT VOICE - (Past student)



# Health & Social Care



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Double Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **40%** Controlled Assessment: **60%**

## ***Course Description***

This course is worth two GCSE's and is vocationally based. Many of the learning tasks are based around real life situations.

The course is divided into 4 units:

- 1. Health Social Care and Early Years Provision**  
This is a controlled assessment which requires individual research and is worth 30%
- 2. Understanding Personal Development and Relationships**  
This is assessed by a written examination and is worth 20%
- 3. Promoting Health and Well Being**  
This unit requires students to put together a plan to improve the health and well being of a named individual. This is worth 30%
- 4. Safeguarding and Protecting Individuals**  
This unit is assessed by a written examination and is worth 20%

Many of the skills and concepts taught will equip students to manage real life situations. Past students have said that the course is 'enjoyable and interesting'.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This course is suitable for any student who wishes to follow a career in Healthcare, Social Care or Early Years provision.

Students will be able to progress to Level 3 courses in Health and Social Care either at a sixth form or local college.

I chose to do Health and Social Care because...

- I wanted to know more about keeping a healthy lifestyle
- I am thinking about working with young children.

I really enjoy it because we do different activities and it is quite interesting too. You should definitely pick Health and Social because you would enjoy doing all the different things that are given to us.

STUDENT VOICE - Kiran (Year 10)



# History



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **75%** Controlled Assessment: **25%**

## ***Course Description***

**Students will study the following topics -**

**International Relations:** This examines how after the end of the First World War, people were unable to stop the Second World War from happening. Students will learn about The Peace Treaties, The League of Nations and How the Second World War started

**Germany 1918-45:** This examines and investigates Hitler's rise to power and what it was like to live in Nazi Germany.

*The above topics are examined at the end of Year 10 and are worth 45% of the final mark.*

**How far did British society change 1939-1975?** This examines what life was like for people in Britain, looking at groups like children, women and people who moved to Britain.

*This topic is examined at the end of Year 11 and is worth 30% of the final mark.*

**Coursework component (makes up the other 25% of the final mark) -**

**How equal was the USA between 1939 and 1970?** This looks at the Civil Rights movement as well as Hispanic Americans, women and Native Americans.

Possible trips under consideration for 2011 are: Imperial War Museum North and the International Slavery Museum.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

History is a good choice for anyone interested in Law, Media, Medicine, Business, Sociology or Economics.

I chose History because I was interested in the subject and I found that the teachers are really supportive.

STUDENT VOICE - Asif (Year 11)

History is a good subject to do because it is interesting to find out how much the world has changed. It's important to know about this.

STUDENT VOICE - Ahmed (Year 11)



# Hospitality & Catering



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **WJEC**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Examination: **40%** Controlled Assessment: **60%**

## *Course Description*

A course in Hospitality and Catering provides an opportunity for students to develop their knowledge and practical skills in a vocational context.

Students will study units of work based on nutrition and menu planning, food production, technological developments and the catering industry.

Practical capability is an important part of the course and students will be expected to participate in all the practical activities set. Students will have the opportunity during the course to participate in customer service.

Areas of study include:

- The industry - food and drink
- Job roles and employment opportunities
- Health, safety and hygiene
- Food preparation and cooking
- Nutrition and menu planning
- Costing and portion control
- Communication and record keeping
- Environmental considerations

Assessment is based on two controlled practical tasks, one in Year 10 and the other in Year 11 with a written examination paper at the end of the course.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

This course is ideal for those students who enjoy practical food preparation and want to further their skills and for those who wish to work in the Hospitality and Catering industry. It also provides a good foundation for those who wish to progress to both academic and vocationally based hospitality and catering courses at local colleges.

I chose to do Hospitality and Catering as an option because I really enjoy doing practical work. I am interested in working in Catering when I leave school so I thought this would be a good way to find out more.  
I really enjoy it because we do different things in lessons - it's not all writing and I learn better by doing things myself. This is my favourite lesson in school!

STUDENT VOICE - Darvinder (Year 10)



## Additional ICT



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **National First Certificate in ICT** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Broadly equivalent to 3 GCSE's**

### ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

### ***Course Description***

This is a continuation of work from year 9 ICT and is in addition to the 2 lessons of core ICT. Students have the opportunity to attain a National Award qualification.

This course has been developed to recognise learners skills, knowledge and understanding of Information and Communication Technology functions, environments and operations.

The learners carry out a range of tasks that have been designed to recognise their achievements in a modern, practical way that is relevant to the workplace.

They are vocationally-related qualifications that provide valuable opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain underpinning knowledge and understanding which will support entry into work or progression to further studies through Further Education or Higher Education. The OCR Nationals are attractive, practically-based qualifications intended to stimulate and interest candidates.

All units are centre-assessed and externally moderated by OCR. There are no timetabled exams for this qualification; candidates may complete units at a time that suits the centre. The full award and units from this qualification are graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction.

#### **Units of work to be completed (in addition to those mentioned within Core ICT) -**

- Databases - design and use
- Spreadsheets - design and use
- Webpage creation
- Creating sound using ICT
- Creating video
- Creating animation for the WWW

### ***Suitability and Benefits***

ICT skills are generic and can be applied throughout all areas of life, hence the projects covered within Core ICT will be beneficial to all students.



# Media Studies



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Examination: **60%** Controlled Assessment: **40%**

## *Course Description*

Contemporary society is media - saturated. We are surrounded by media texts that range from advertising billboards to Walt Disney films to the latest CD. In Media Studies students will learn about the way that the media is constructed and the way in which the media communicates its message to a potential audience.

In Media Studies, students get the opportunity to look at various types of media and how they affect different audiences. Students will study a range of media including film, TV, radio, magazines, newspapers and the internet.

As part of the coursework, students will have the opportunity to construct their own media productions such as designing adverts, or creating a own magazine cover and also the chance to produce a film poster.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

This course is suited to those who have good English and ICT skills.

Media Studies is relevant for a wide range of careers as the mass media plays an increasingly important part of everyone's lives.

Media Studies is great if you are interested in television, films, magazines, radio and the internet. I have just finished designing a film poster for my own movie and am enjoying learning about different types of media and how they affect us. If you choose this option, I guarantee you will enjoy it.

STUDENT VOICE - Jordan (Year 11)



# Performing Arts



Qualification Type: **BTEC (Extended Certificate)** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **30 credits and broadly equivalent to 2 GCSE's**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## Course Description

Students will have the opportunity to follow one discipline in Performing Arts or choose to take units from two or all three genres. There will be opportunities to perform in front of different audiences; historically, students have performed their work in front of our local primary schools. Trips to different theatres across Birmingham will be offered.

The following table outlines the units.

- Dance:**
- Understanding Dance-** this will give students an overview of different dance styles, how to choreograph dance and set dance within its historical context.
  - Performing Dance-** this unit is about improving and developing performance skills. Students perform in at least two different styles of dance.
  - Exploring Urban dance styles-** students investigate choreograph and perform different forms of street and popular dance.
- Music:**
- Understanding Music -** this will give students an overview of different musical styles.
  - Exploring computer systems used by Musicians-** finding out and having a go at how musicians use ICT to create and perform music.
  - Solo Musical Performance -** developing music performance skills.
- Drama:**
- Understanding Drama-** this gives students an overview of different drama styles, the process of putting on a drama performance and set drama within its historical context.
  - Devising Plays-** students will have an opportunity of creating their own plays.
  - Performing Scripted Plays-** this unit develops acting skills.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

This course is particularly suited to students who -

- enjoy participating in one or all of the Performing Arts areas.
- enjoy Creating, Performing and Appreciating the Arts.
- are self-motivated, can co-operate with others, self disciplined and are willing to take responsibility for their own learning.
- are wishing to pursue a career in the Performing Arts industry.

This course will allow students to build their confidence and self esteem. It will also help to develop generic skills in team building, time management, self reflection and organisation.

In the Drama optional Units, I have a lot of freedom to choose what I want to do for my assignment. In Dance, I have performed in front of a Primary School and in the Music optional Units; I wrote and performed my own music. The course has given me the confidence to speak up in front of people and the unit where I had to create my own performance has really helped my organisation and confidence talking to adults.

STUDENT VOICE - Hafsha (Year 10)



# Prince's Trust



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **BTEC**      Qualification Level: **1**

Examination Board: **ASDAN**

Qualification Weighting: **Level 1 Certificate**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## *Course Description*

The Princes Trust is a subject that requires students to complete a series of projects (working on the School allotment or helping the local community, for example).

The aim is to develop confidence, self esteem and improve life skills. The challenges are extremely wide and varied. Projects can be completed both in and out of school.

The programme encourages students to demonstrate:

- Personal and Interpersonal skills
- Team skills
- Citizenship
- Community Awareness
- Community based projects
- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
- Preparation for world of work

When the course is completed, students are awarded a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate to recognise their achievement.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

This course is suited to those students who may find studying three optional Level 2 qualifications in KS4 too challenging. This is a vocational course which suits those who prefer portfolio based assessment rather than traditional examinations.



# Design and Technology (Product Design)



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **WJEC**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **40%** Controlled Assessment: **60%**

## ***Course Description***

A course in Product Design allows for students to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems in a wide range of contexts relating to their personal interests. Product Design involves combining skills, knowledge and understanding in order to be able to make good quality products.

The units covered include:

- Developing, planning and communicating ideas
- Product Analysis
- Sustainability
- Professional designers
- Manufacturing processes
- Materials and components
- Tools, equipment and making
- ICT, CAD, CAM
- Systems and processes

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This course is suitable for any student who enjoys designing and making products in wood, metals, plastics and card. The specification builds on the Programmes of Study for Design and Technology at Key Stage 3.

Career choices could include becoming a Product Designer, Teacher, Architect or Engineer.



# Religious Education



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **OCR**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **100%**

## ***Course Description***

The Religious Education *GCSE* is interesting, challenging and fun!

We are a high achieving department where the majority of students have attained a high grade to date.

This course is broken down into **four** manageable units which each represent **25%** of the final *GCSE* grade. Two are completed and examined in Y10 and two are completed and examined in Y11.

**Y10** **Islam-** 5 Pillars of faith; festivals; Hajj; Sunni and Shi'ah Islam.  
**Judaism-** The synagogue; worship; religious dress; food laws; Holy writings; birth, marriage and funeral rites.

**Y11** **Islam-** The mosque; forms of worship; birth, marriage and death rituals; the Qur'an and Hadith.  
**Christianity-** Through the study of Mark's Gospel focusing on the life of Jesus, miracles, exorcisms, death and resurrection.

Personal opinions and beliefs always count in Religious Education and make up half of the examination mark on the *GCSE* examination papers.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This is a great qualification for any job that involves working with people i.e. doctor, teacher, shop worker or solicitor. R.E. helps students to understand people and allows the formulation of personal beliefs and opinions. It is also beneficial for those students who are planning to go on to study *A/AS* levels at college.

This course is 100% examination and does not include any coursework; but for those who are prepared to work hard and are interested in religion, this is a 'must have' qualification!

In my opinion R.E. is a good option to take. You can learn about different religions, it is very interesting and easy if you work hard.

STUDENT VOICE - Anisa (Year 10)

R.E. is a good subject to pick as you get to share your personal opinions with others in the class.

STUDENT VOICE - Maira (Year 10)



# Triple Science



Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: 2

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **Triple Award (up to 3 separate GCSE's)**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **75%** Controlled Assessment: **25%**

## ***Course Description***

Some students may wish to follow a course which will lead to three separate GCSEs in Science ie. Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

This will require choosing the 'Triple Science' option and will mean that students will study Science for eight periods per week during years 10 and 11.

Students will study Core Science, Additional Science and Extension Units as shown in the table below:

Core Science	Additional Science	Extension Units	
Unit B1	Unit B2	Unit B3	<b>GCSE Biology</b>
Unit C1	Unit C2	Unit C3	<b>GCSE Chemistry</b>
Unit P1	Unit P2	Unit P3	<b>GCSE Physics</b>

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This option is particularly suitable for those students who know that they want to study two or three Science subjects at Advanced Level.

Students interested in careers such as Medicine, Dentistry, Research Scientist, Pharmacist, Space Physicist and many other scientific careers will benefit from following the Triple Science course.



# Spanish



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **GCSE** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **AQA**

Qualification Weighting: **Single Award**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Examination: **40%**      Controlled Assessment: **60%**  
(*Listening and Reading*)      (*Speaking and Writing*)

## ***Course Description***

The topic areas students will study are: healthy lifestyles, holidays/leisure, home/environment, and work/education. The examination in Listening and Reading will take place at the end of the course in the summer of Year 11. The controlled assessments Speaking and Writing will take place throughout Year 10 and 11 at the end of each unit of work.

Did you know.....?

- The UK trades with over 200 countries worldwide.
- 300 million people speak Spanish worldwide.
- Spanish is the official language for more than 20 countries, including several countries in South America.

## **Why choose a language?**

This qualification will allow language skills to be applied in a variety of contexts, such as travelling abroad, working for international businesses and broadening horizons. With the Olympics taking place in London during 2012, languages are more important today than they have ever been before. This means that there is not necessarily a need to go abroad to be able to use another language.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

For some college and university courses, students are required to hold a qualification in a foreign language. The course links well with other curriculum areas such as Travel & Tourism and Business Studies. The ability to speak another language will impress colleges and future employers.

A language is a very good thing to have a qualification in, as when you apply for colleges and universities you will be classed higher than other candidates, so there is more of a chance of you getting into the college/university that you want to join. I believe that languages are important as it opens up different opportunities not only in England but in other countries.

STUDENT VOICE - Mathew (Past student)



# Sport



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **BTEC (Extended Certificate)** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **30 credits and broadly equivalent to 2 GCSE's**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## *Course Description*

For the Extended Certificate, students will follow four units. **Some** students may be able to attain the full Diploma by following eight units, worth 60 Credits (broadly equivalent to 4 GCSE's).

### **Units:**

1. Practical Sport- Improving ability to play a sport and referee/umpire different sports.
2. Anatomy and Physiology for Sport- To understand how the body works when playing sport.
3. Injury in Sport- Risk assessment and first aid.
4. Planning and Leading Sports Activities- Becoming a coach.
5. Fitness testing and training - Becoming a Fitness Instructor
6. Development of Personal Fitness - How to improve personal fitness in order to improve performance.
7. Technical Skills and tactical Awareness for sport - To understand how techniques and tactics can affect sports performance.
8. Effects of Exercise on the Body Systems - To understand what changes occur in the body whilst taking part in physical activity.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

### **Students must -**

- enjoy participating in Sporting Activities.
- be organised and bring your kit to school.
- be self-motivated, be able co-operate with others, be self disciplined and be willing to take responsibility for your own learning.
- be professional and responsible at all times.

This year I have started BTEC Sport and, as each lesson goes by, I am more confident with my decision to do this subject as one of my options. The practical lessons are great fun and so are the theory ones, where you learn loads of sport theory and how the body works when playing sport.

STUDENT VOICE - (Past student)



# Study Plus



Qualification Type: **Support for English & Maths GCSE**

## ***Examination / Coursework Breakdown***

Lessons are designed to support students in both their examinations and coursework assignments where appropriate.

## ***Course Description***

Most sixth forms, colleges and jobs now require students to have at least a grade C in Maths and English in order to meet the entry requirements.

This course is a series of lessons designed to support students in achieving a C grade or higher in their Maths and English GCSE's.

In addition to a carefully planned programme of lessons, students will be given regular opportunities to discuss and choose topics that they find difficult.

Lessons will not just repeat work that has been covered in English and Maths classes but will reintroduce and revise topics in a different way to ensure they are understood. For example there will be regular debates to help develop persuasive writing skills in English. Some Maths topics will be covered by looking at how they are used in everyday life such as running a business.

There will be regular online lessons, quizzes and homework tasks using the schools VLE and websites such as 'I am learning'.

Students will be given many past papers both in class and for homework. There will be extensive exam practice with a mock exam in both Maths and English every half term.

## ***Suitability and Benefits***

This course is suitable for anyone who would like extra lessons to help them achieve a C grade or better in both Maths & English GCSE.



## Study Support



Science



Maths &  
Computing

Qualification Type: **Functional Skills** Qualification Level: **Entry level to Level 2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **Certificate**

### *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Controlled Assessment: **100%**

### *Course Description*

"Functional skills are designed to equip learners with the skills to operate confidently, effectively and independently in education, work and every day life." Edexcel.

At Yardleys School, Functional Skills is a course designed for students who need a more intensive programme of study in Maths, English and ICT. The qualification can be achieved from Entry Level 1 to a maximum level of Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE level). Each level has three controlled assessments. The controlled assessments can be tailored to meet the needs of the student and their level of achievement.

**Functional Skills English** at Entry Levels 1, 2 & 3, aims to ensure that each student is able to communicate effectively and develop skills in: speaking, listening and communication, reading and writing.

Each component (reading, writing, and speaking & listening) must be passed at each chosen level in order to achieve the award for Functional Skills English

**Functional skills in Mathematics** offers students the opportunities to develop their skills in three areas: representing, analysing and interpreting.

The assessment can be taken as soon as the learner is ready and can be personalised to the learner's chosen area of study/ options.

Each component (representing, analysing, and interpreting) must be passed at each chosen level in order to achieve the award for Functional Skills Maths.

**Functional Skills in ICT** at Entry Levels 1, 2 & 3, aims to ensure that each individual is: confident and capable when using ICT systems and tools, able to find and select information and able to develop, present and communicate information in both life and work.

### *Suitability and Benefits*

Entry onto the course is by selection and is not open to all students. Once complete the qualification is recognised by Colleges and is integrated in many vocational qualifications.



# Travel & Tourism



Qualification Type: **BTEC (Extended Certificate)** Qualification Level: **2**

Examination Board: **Edexcel**

Qualification Weighting: **30 credits and broadly equivalent to 2 GCSE's**

## *Examination / Coursework Breakdown*

Coursework / Portfolio: **100%**

## *Course Description*

This course will introduce students to the workings of the Travel industry. The last 10 years have seen a massive increase in the amount of travel for both leisure and business purposes. Travel and Tourism related businesses employ more people than any other sector from accommodation to food, travel agents to airlines.

There are 6 units to study over the 2 years all worth 1/6 of the final grade. It will take roughly 1 term to complete each unit. This course is 100% coursework, there are no exams. Students will be able to present their work in different ways from written reports, tables of information, posters, movies, presentations to role plays.

Students will learn about the workings of the Travel sector, investigate what makes good customer service and practice developing their skills communicating with people, understanding the good and bad impacts that travel and tourists have around the world. They will also look at Worldwide and UK Holiday destinations, exploring why people are attracted to them and learn how the whole process of booking holidays.

## *Suitability and Benefits*

Students must be self motivated and be able to meet strict coursework deadlines. They should also be confident in working independently, carrying out research and communicating in front of an audience.

This course is particularly suited to those who -

- are interesting in a career in Travel and Tourism after leaving school.
- are preparing to go on and study at College or to start work in a customer service based job.

I'm going to college to carry on at Level 3 as I want to work in Travel, either at an airport or a travel agent. My favourite part has been learning how to deal with customers and being calm.

STUDENT VOICE - Tanjina (Year 11)

# **Preferences Form (2011)**

## YEAR 9 PREFERENCES FORM 2011

PUPIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COMPUTER ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 FORM \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE SURE THIS FORM IS SIGNED BY THE STUDENT AND THE PARENT BELOW

All students will study 3 subjects from the list of subjects below. Students are also required to choose a reserve subject (R - is a reserve subject choice).

### OPTION SUBJECTS (3 lessons a week in both Yr10 and Yr11)

Indicate your preferences (1, 2, 3 and R) from the list of available subjects below

SUBJECT	PREFERENCE (1,2,3,R)
ART & DESIGN (BTEC)	
BUSINESS STUDIES (BTEC)	
CHILD DEVELOPMENT (GCSE)	
CITIZENSHIP (GCSE)	
ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (E501)*	
FRENCH (GCSE)	
GEOGRAPHY (GCSE)	
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (GCSE)	
HISTORY (GCSE)	
HOSPITALITY & CATERING (GCSE)	
ADDITIONAL ICT (BTEC)	
MEDIA STUDIES (GCSE)	
PERFORMING ARTS (BTEC)	
PRINCE'S TRUST (CERTIFICATE)*	
PRODUCT DESIGN (GCSE)	
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (GCSE)	
TRIPLE SCIENCE (GCSE)	
SPANISH (GCSE)	
SPORT (BTEC)	
STUDY PLUS*	
STUDY SUPPORT (CERTIFICATE)*	
TRAVEL & TOURISM (BTEC)	

\*Selected students will be encouraged to study these courses to support them in their learning and future studies.

STUDENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/CARER SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Please hand the completed form to your form tutor by Monday 31st January