



Options Booklet

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Option Choices

The following booklet will outline the study choices available to you in Key Stage 4 for your continued studies at Don Valley Academy.

- All students are required to study a minimum of 8 subjects
- All students study History or Geography
- Many students will study a language, French or Spanish
- At Key Stage 4, all students study the following compulsory core subjects:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • English Language | • History or Geography |
| • English Literature | • Core PE |
| • Mathematics | • Ethics, Philosophy and Citizenship (EPC) |
| • Science | |

- Students can have 2 guided free choices beyond these subjects from the approved qualifications list.

Many BTEC's and some GCSE's have been withdrawn from the list of recognised qualifications in order to ensure the qualifications are both academically challenging and meet with standard expectations across all Level 2 qualifications.

- All students are expected to achieve expected progress from the exams that they take.

It is now very important for you to think carefully about your strengths, skills and possible career plans. At Don Valley Academy we are committed to providing a balanced curriculum for all our students.





Which route should I take?

What you need to ask yourself now is:

- What do I want to do after Year 11?
- What subjects do I really like?
- What skills do I need to succeed at the subjects I want?
- What skills do I have and which subjects will improve them even more?
- What do I need to find out about the courses?

If I have any questions?

Please speak to Mrs McMahan during break time and lunch time or email:
McMahonN@donvalleyacademy.org.uk

Key Questions

Why have I got this booklet?

This booklet is to help you plan for the next steps in your education at Don Valley Academy. It contains information, guidance and advice about how you can maximise your potential and help you to make the right decisions for your future.

Can I choose whichever subjects I want?

Not exactly - you **MUST** study English, Maths, Science, History or Geography, EPC and Core PE. You then have the opportunity to choose from different options to focus on subject areas you have a particular skill or interest in.

Are some subjects more useful than others?

Not necessarily. The essential subjects are in the core. All aspects of life, particularly employment, are changing rapidly. It is best to study as broad a range of subjects as you can; developing employability skills is what matters most.

It is also important that you get the best grades you are capable of because these grades will be needed by employers, further education and universities.

Will I get my first choices?

We hope so, but sometimes it is impossible to ensure every student gains every one of their first choices; either because there may be too few or too many people interested in that subject. When making your choices you should make sure that your reserve choices really are subjects you are interested in and would like to study.

You will have time to think about your choices carefully to make sure that you are certain about your decisions. Use this time to speak to as many people as possible.

Do

- Find out as much as you can about each course for example, what will you be learning about? How will you be assessed? What will the skills you learn be useful for?
- Try to choose subjects that you are good at and enjoy, as these are the ones you are most likely to excel in.
- Make the final decision YOURSELF. You will be studying the subjects you choose throughout Key Stage 4; it is YOUR future you are considering.
- Get as much advice as possible. If you don't know something, just ask.
- Talk to your parents/carers, form tutor, subject teachers, careers advisors and senior staff.

Don't

- Think you are expected to know what you want to do later in life; the curriculum is designed to allow you to keep as many open doors as possible.
- Choose a course because your friend is choosing it; you still might find yourself in different groups.
- Choose the course because you like the teacher you have now; you will probably have a different teacher in the next year.
- Rush to complete your choices. Places are not allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. All choices are guided and may require further discussion with you or your parents/carers.





Options Process

Date	What will happen
<p>Week commencing Monday 3rd February 2025</p>	<p>Options Information Assembly Students will attend Options Assembly.</p>
<p>Thursday 13th February 2025 3.30pm - 6.30pm</p>	<p>Year 9 Parents' Evening Parents and students will have the opportunity to find out further details of subjects and explore the progress they're making. Mrs Green, Careers Advisor, will be available for advice during this evening. A Microsoft link to Options Choice Form to be emailed to parents to choose Options.</p>
<p>Monday 24th February 2025</p>	<p>External Providers in school to deliver careers advice</p>
<p>Wednesday 26th February 2025</p>	<p>Taster Sessions Students to experience taster sessions in Open Basket subjects and subject advice from their teachers.</p>
<p>Friday 7th March 2025</p>	<p>Options Choices Deadline Option forms must be completed by this date.</p>
<p>June/July 2025</p>	<p>Options choices confirmed to students and parents via email.</p>





Art & Design

Subject Leader for the course:

Miss Treble

What is the course I will be following?

GCSE Art and Design - Fine Art

This course will allow students to learn:

Students will develop skills and knowledge that will enable them to generate and make creative and personalised responses to a range of given starting points. Students will also learn how to research and analyse to gain contextual understanding and inspiration for their meaningful outcomes.

Examples of some of the materials and skills that students can expect to explore include:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Mixed Media
- Digital Media
- Large scale outcomes

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

To access an A level / Level 3 Vocational Art courses/ Apprenticeships.

Related careers range from art therapist, fashion designer, fine artist, graphic designer, illustrator, print maker and art teacher, game designer, architect and product designer, marketing.

How is the course assessed?

- **60% Portfolio (Coursework)** to include a sketchbook of development work based on a personalised starting point, leading to a final outcome which will be completed during their mock examination.
- **40% Externally Set Assignment** to include a sketchbook of development work based on a given starting point from a selection provided by the exam board to a final outcome which will be completed during a 10-hour exam.

Each of these components is assessed using the following objectives and weightings:

- A01 (25%) - Develop contextual understanding and research to inform your practice. A02 (25%) - Refine and explore appropriate mediums and processes.
- A03 (25%) - Record through high quality drawings, paintings, photographs and annotations.
- A04 (25%) - Present a meaningful and high-quality final outcome.



Students will develop their awareness of:

Colour, composition, line, form, scale, tone, structure, texture, surface, shape, contrast, creativity and perspective to allow them to produce high quality outcomes and development. Students will understand the requirements of the course and assessment objectives to allow them the best opportunity to succeed. They will become critical, creative thinkers and problem solvers which are desirable qualities for students to develop.

All the above will be taught through theme-based projects. Examples of themes:

Human Form: Students will begin on this project that has been developed to allow students to experiment with and explore a range of materials and develop skills such as colour mixing and the grid method that can then be applied in future projects.

They will learn how to create successful outcomes which will allow them to evidence work that links to the requirements of each given assessment criteria including researching and analysing the work of a range of artists.

Personal Project: Now that students have developed all the tools that will be required to succeed, they will then select a chosen starting point which is personalised. Within this they will complete components linking to their starting points such as tonal studies, colour studies, photographs, artist research pages, copies and personalised responses along with development work in a range of materials. Students will reflect on their most successful outcomes from previous projects and apply these to this project.

Art & Design

Subject Leader for the course:

Miss Treble

What is the course I will be following?

GCSE Art and Design - Photography

This course will allow students to learn:

Students will develop skills and knowledge that will enable them to generate and make creative and personalised responses to a range of given starting points. Students will also learn how to research and analyse to gain contextual understanding and inspiration for their meaningful outcomes.

Examples of some of the materials and skills that students can expect to explore include:

- Digital editing using Photoshop
- Physical editing techniques
- Staging and composition
- Camera settings such as macro and shutter speed
- A range of non-digital photography processes such as polaroid, and cyanotype

How is the course assessed?

- **60% Portfolio (Coursework)** to include a digital portfolio of development work based on a personalised starting point, leading to a final outcome which will be completed during their mock examination.
- **40% Externally Set Assignment** to include a digital portfolio of development work based on a given starting point from a selection provided by the exam board to a final outcome which will be completed during a 10-hour exam.

Each of these components is assessed using the following objectives and weightings:

- A01 (25%) - Develop contextual understanding and research to inform your practice. A02 (25%) - Refine and explore appropriate mediums and processes.
- A03 (25%) - Record through high quality photographs and annotations.
- A04 (25%) - Present a meaningful and high-quality final outcome.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

To access an A level / Level 3 Vocational Art, design, and photography courses/ Apprenticeships.

Related careers range from

commercial photographer, fashion photographer, graphic designer, game designer, marketing, producer, filmmaker, creative director, web designer, digital media.



Students will develop their awareness of:

Composition, line, lighting, contrast, exposure, depth of field, colour, settings and editing tools and techniques. Creativity and perspective to allow them to produce high quality outcomes and development. Students will understand the requirements of the course and assessment objectives to allow them the best opportunity to succeed. They will become critical, creative thinkers and problem solvers which are desirable qualities for students to develop.

All the above will be taught through a range of workshops linking to a range of themes and processes to allow students a rich source of. Some of the key workshops and themes that students will explore are;

Still Life: Students will explore the work of a range of artists who explore this subject within their practice. They will learn how to apply key photography terminology to effectively research and analyse. They will apply staging and compositional techniques along with learning how to use photoshop correctly.

Formal Elements: Students will complete technique workshops such as macro, kaleidoscope, photoshop, polaroid and light drawings, alongside this there will be a focus on staging and how to create high quality outcomes.

Personal Project: Now that students have developed all the tools that will be required to succeed, they will then select a chosen starting point which is personalised. Within this they will complete components linking to their starting points such as contact sheets, edited outcomes, Artist research pages and responses. Students will reflect on their most successful outcomes from previous projects and apply these to this project.

Creative iMedia

This course will allow students to learn:

The course consists of 3 units which will be completed throughout the 2 year course.

Creative iMedia allows you to gain knowledge in a number of key areas in the ICT/Media field. You Study R094 (mandatory unit) and 1 optional unit plus 1 exam.

- **R093 (Exam 40%) Creative iMedia in the media industry**
In this unit you will learn about the sectors, products and job roles that form the media industry. You will learn the legal and ethical issues considered and the processes used to plan and create digital media products.
- **R094 (CW 30%) Visual identity and digital graphics**
In this unit you will learn how to develop visual identities for clients. You will also learn to apply the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics which incorporate your visual identity to engage a target audience.
- **R097 (CW 30%) Digital Multimedia Product**
Interactive digital media products are found across the media industry, in games, website and apps. In this unit you will learn to design and create interactive digital media products for chosen platforms. You will learn to select, edit and re-purpose multimedia content of different kinds and create the structure and interactive elements necessary for an effective user experience.

Students will develop their awareness of:

Using a variety of different software packages and develop useful skills:

- Using packages including the Adobe Suite (Photoshop, Animate, Dreamweaver – HTML code is an option), Gaming software, Microsoft Office including PowerPoint, Word, Excel and Edge and more. This is useful in the real world.
- Planning, developing and creating products to meet the requirements from an assignment brief.
- Project planning which models real life scenarios, plus you will learn to manage your own time efficiently.

Subject Leader for the course:

Mr Land

What is the course I will be following?

**Cambridge National
in Creative Media**

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

To access further education qualifications such as the Cambridge Technicals – IT Level 3 or Digital Media Level 3 (both OCR) or you could consider moving into AS or A Level Computer Science.

Career Opportunities in ICT or Computing

Graphic Designer, Games Designer, Web Developer, Animator or Film Director are some career opportunities.

How is the course assessed?

60% of the qualification is assessed through coursework which is set and marked by your teacher.

40% of the qualification is an external exam – 1hr 30mins.

Computer Science

Subject Leader for the course:

Mr Land

What is the course I will be following?

GCSE in Computer Science

This course will allow students to learn:

This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work and how they're used, and to develop computer programming and problem-solving skills. You'll also do some fascinating in-depth research and practical work. For example, some of the current investigations look at JavaScript, encryption and assembly language programming. GCSE Computing also counts towards the eBacc.

There's a career for everyone, create your own future and ideas. Develop great problem solving skills brilliant career opportunities in the ICT and Computing field. This course is designed to give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on 'behind the screens'.

How is the course assessed?

Component 1 Exam 50% – Computer Systems

- You will learn about the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. You also look at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

Component 2 – CW 50% - Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

- You will develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators. You will undertake a programming task which allows you to develop your skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language.

Two examinations:

- Paper 1 (50% - 80 marks)
- Paper 2 (50% - 80 marks)

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

If you take a GCSE in Computing you could go on to study the subject at A Level, take go on to take a L2/3 apprenticeship in ICT or go to university. The increasing importance of information technologies means there'll be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field.

Career Opportunities in Computing

Software Engineer, Games Developer
Cyber Security, IT Technician are some career opportunities.

Engineering Design

Subject Leader for the course:

Mr Hudson

What is the course I will be following?

Cambridge National in Engineering Design Level 1/2

This course will allow students to learn:

- About the different design strategies and the stages that are involved in iterative design.
- To develop knowledge of the types of drawing used in engineering to communicate designs.
- To enhance their confidence and capabilities by using computer aided design (CAD), 2D and 3D software, to produce accurate and detailed drawings and models that visually communicate their designs.
- How designers can quickly create and test models to develop a working prototype of a design. They will develop their modelling skills to produce a high-quality model that will be able to simulate their design prototype.
- The techniques used to evaluate design ideas and outcomes.

Students will develop their awareness of:

- Completing research to inform engineering design
- Ideas
- Solving problems by exploring different engineering design options
- Finding imaginative solutions through creative thinking.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

To access A Levels in Design Technology, Level 3 courses in Engineering, T Levels in Design and Development in Engineering and Manufacturing or an Apprenticeship.

Career Opportunities in Engineering

Aerospace, Architect, Electrical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Designer.

How is the course assessed?

40% - 1 written externally set exam
60% - 2 units of controlled assessment including research, design, modelling and evaluation.



Enterprise & Marketing

This course will allow students to learn:

The course is designed to encourage an investigative approach to some real-world questions. Skills used include: data analysis and interpretation, group work, individual research, planning and report writing. Enthusiasm about the world of business and real-world entrepreneurs is key to success. It gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

This course is suitable for anyone with a genuine interest in business and enterprise. Everything around us is shaped by the world of business, whether it is a local shop to a global brand. This course is especially suited to those who are interested in how ideas become a business, how to start a business, how to promote and market a business and how to run and finance a business.

How is the course assessed?

There are 3 units, 2 coursework units plus one exam.

- **R067 Exam 40%) Enterprise and marketing concepts**

You will learn how market research gives the entrepreneur an insight into the wants and needs of its customers, so that products and services can be developed to satisfy them

- **R068 (CW 30%) Design a business proposal**

You will learn how to develop market research tools and use these to complete your market research. You will use your research findings to decide who your customers will be, create a design mix and produce your product design ideas

- **R069 (CW 30%) Market and pitch a business proposal**

You will learn how to design a brand which will make your product stand out in the market, before creating a promotional campaign to get your brand noticed by customers.

Subject Leader for the course:

Mr Land

What is the course I will be following?

Cambridge National in Enterprise & Marketing

What will I study and how is this course organised?

Enterprise is all about how to work as an entrepreneur and begin a new, successful business idea from nothing. It offers you the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the world of business and enterprise through investigation of a range of business organisations and concepts. It is relevant to the world you live in and to your future.

Students examine a range of real-life enterprises as well as planning and implementing their own entrepreneurial ideas.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

Enterprise enables students to understand more about the business world and prepare them to make informed decisions about further study and career pathways.

Students can go on to study A Level or Level 3 Business Studies. The knowledge and skills gained from Enterprise support students' entry into employment or other training in specific aspects of business.

Ethics & Philosophy (RE)

Subject Leader for the course:

Miss E Williamson

What is the course I will be following?

AQA Religious Studies

This course will allow students to learn:

This course allows you to develop knowledge of the wider world and current issues which arise in society. Not only will you develop your content knowledge, this course allows you develop skills which are useful in all areas and future pathways. You will develop your written work considering a wide range of opinions and sources, you will be able to support opinions with reasoning and examples. You will practice debate and collaboration skills. It will also enable you to develop empathy, while understanding a wide range of opinions different to your own. This course is suitable for students who have an enthusiasm for current and ethical issues and who wish to have a better and wider understanding of the world.

How is the course assessed?

The course is fully examined. You will sit two papers.

Paper 1 - Beliefs and Practices.

This will focus on two religions, Christianity, and Islam. You will complete two sections for each religion. Section 1 focuses on the beliefs of the religions studied and section 2 the practices. In this paper you are expected to answer 4 extended 12-mark questions, which you respond to any given statement about the religions.

Paper 2- Ethical Studies.

This paper will be focused on four themes of moral issues which would cover, Marriage and Relationships, Crime and Punishment, War and Peace and Religion and Life (Medical Ethics). You will cover a series of shorter questions combined with longer 12-mark style questions, in which you respond to any given statement on each of the themes.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

Ethics and Philosophy is widely appreciated by prospective further education institutions and employers due to the skills and knowledge it provides. It supports careers in areas such as Law, Teaching, Social Work and Police force.

Securing grades in this GCSE will allow you to lead onto Level 3 qualifications such as History, English, Law and Social Science.



Students will develop their awareness of:

- **Religion and Life:** This topic is designed to explore the ethical issues which arise in medicine. You will develop arguments for and against these ideas and come to your own conclusion. This topic will cover ideas such as abortion, euthanasia, IVF, and cloning.
- **Marriage and Relationships:** This topic is designed to explore the different relationships. You will cover marriage and the ceremony, divorce, cohabitation, and same-sex relationships.
- **Crime and Punishment:** This topic is designed to explore the ethics raised in crime and punishments given. You will develop arguments for and against the forms of punishments for criminals and reach your own conclusion. You will cover, prison, corporal punishment, capital punishment and reconciliation.
- **War and Peace:** This topic is designed to explore the ethics raised through war and conflict. You will develop arguments for and against the idea of war and reach your own justified opinion. You will cover things such as Pacifism, reasons to go to war, arguments against war and terrorism.
- **Religion- Christianity:** You will study the beliefs this religion has and how they put them into practice. You will cover things such as Nature of God, Eucharist, Heaven and Hell and Miracles.
- **Religion- Islam:** You will study the beliefs this religion has and how they put them into practice. You will cover thing such as the nature of Allah, the 5 pillars of Islam and Islamic festivals.

Health & Social Care

Subject Leader for the course:

Mrs Masters

What is the course I will be following?

**BTEC Tech Award (2022)
Level 1/2 in Health and Social Care**

This course will allow students to learn:

This course is designed for students who have keen interest in working in the health and social care sector. In recent years, there has been an increase in demand for jobs in health and social care. This course has three components, one exam and two pieces of coursework. The course is theory based but a number of practical learning tasks make the course relate to the health and social job sectors as much as possible.

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development (coursework)

- Learners will explore different aspects of growth and development and the factors that can affect this across the life stages. They will explore the different events that can impact on individuals' physical, intellectual, emotional, and social (PIES) development and how individuals cope with and are supported through changes caused by life events.

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values (coursework)

- Learners will explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of service users. They will also study the skills, attributes and values required when giving care.

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing (examination)

- Learners will explore the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and person-centred approaches to make recommendations to improve an individual's health and wellbeing.

How is the course assessed?

40% Externally Assessed Examination

60% Internally Assessed Coursework

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

Go to College or a Sixth Form and study a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the health or social care sector.

This qualification can be the start of your career path into health and social care; there are a number of professions based around these. Health care professions include doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, and health care assistants. Social care professions include care assistants, occupational therapists, counsellors, and administrators.

Students will develop their awareness of:

- The key skills that prove your aptitude in health and social care such as; interpreting data to assess an individual's health to design a plan to improve their health and wellbeing.
- The knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as human growth and development, health and social care services and factors affecting people's health and wellbeing.

Hospitality & Catering

Subject Leader for the course:

Mr Hudson

What is the course I will be following?

Level 1/2 in Hospitality and Catering

This course will allow students to learn:

- About the hospitality and catering industry, the types of hospitality and catering providers and about working in the industry.
- About health and safety, and food safety in hospitality and catering, as well as food related causes of ill health.
- About the importance of nutrition and how cooking methods can impact on nutritional value.
- How to plan nutritious menus as well as factors which affect menu planning. You will learn the skills and techniques needed to prepare, cook and present dishes as well as learning how to review your work effectively.

How is the course assessed?

Unit 1 will be assessed through an exam, which is worth 40% of your qualification.

In **Unit 2** you will complete an assignment where you will plan and prepare a menu in response to a brief.

This will be worth 60% of your qualification and will take 12 hours.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

This is a level 2 course that counts towards entry into Post 16 level 3 courses and further education.

Careers in the Hospitality and Catering industry:

Retail and superstore employment, chef, product development, dietician, hospital catering, food production factory, hotel or restaurant manager, environmental health officer, food journalism.

Students will:

- Prepare, cook and present dishes.
- Understand the importance of nutrition and how to plan nutritious menus.
- Develop confidence and self-discipline.



Music

Subject Leader for the course:

Miss Bellas

What is the course I will be following?

BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice

This course will allow students to learn:

- The music industry.
- Different genres and styles of music through practical workshops and listening.
- How to use resources and skills to create to create music.
- How to improve performance techniques.

How is the course assessed?

Component 1

Exploring Music Products and Styles (Internal)

Learners will explore the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigate the key features of different musical styles.

Component 2

Music Skills Development

Performing/Composing (internal)

Learners will have the opportunity to develop two musical disciplines through engagement in practical tasks, while documenting their progress and planning for further improvement.

Component 3

Responding to a Music Brief (External)

Learners will be given the opportunity to develop and present music in response to a given music brief.

Students will develop:

- Performance skills
- Research skills
- Analysing and evaluating skills
- Listening Skills

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

Students may go on to study music at A level or BTEC level 3 as well as apprenticeships and traineeships.

Career opportunities within the music

industry can include: performer, music journalist, publishing, concert promoter, management as well as many other performance and no performance roles.



Performing Arts

Subject Leader for the course:

Miss Newton

What is the course I will be following?

**BTEC Tech Award
in Performing Arts -
Acting Pathway**

What will I study?

This course will allow you to develop your understanding of the different roles required to create a performance and develop your own skills as a performer or designer. You will watch live and recorded performances and create your own performances as well as using scripts from existing plays.

There is the option to specialise in design - Make up/Hair/Costume and props/Lighting/Set/Sound or you can opt for a combination of both practical and design options.

The course is organised into 3 components, 1 exam/controlled assessment and 2 coursework:

Component 1:

Exploring the Performing Arts (Coursework)

- Learn about different practitioners and performing styles.
- Watch live and recorded performances.
- Develop an understanding of different rehearsal techniques.
- Understand the relationship between the performer and the audience.
- Create a research log.
- Take part in workshops and create a report to show your learning based on a theme set by the exam board.

Component 2 (Coursework)

- Develop performing/design skills and review your progress throughout the rehearsal process.
- Perform a piece from an existing play based on a theme set by the exam board. This can be a solo piece or in groups.
- There is the option to specialise in design and create and realise a design for a performer in your class. This can be Make Up/Hair/Costume and Props/Lighting/Set.

Component 3 (External Assessment)

- You will be given a brief and you will create your own performance in groups of 3 to 7.
- You will review your progress at different stages in the rehearsal process.
- There is the option to specialise as a designer in Make-up/Hair/Costume and Props/Lighting/Set for a performer in one of the groups.

How is the course assessed?

40% Exam

60% Coursework



Students will develop their awareness of:

The skills that are learnt through studying Performing Arts are invaluable for later in life. For example, being able to speak and present ideas confidently, problem solving, planning, collaboration, analysis, and leadership. As a creative subject with a focus on application, there is no written exam. All components, including the externally assessed component, are assessed through flexible set tasks, designed to give you as much freedom as possible in how you respond, allowing you to work to your own strengths and interests, and to focus on the area of the performing arts sector that most excites and appeals to you.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

In a world where the need for leaders, influencers and thinkers is imminent and growing, a qualification in Performing Arts can provide a good foundation for the future. Performing Arts can be a good basis for a career not only theatre, but in other sectors such as advertising, therapy, management, social work, law, events planning, education, and many others.

The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will provide an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress to post-16.

Performing Arts

Subject Leader for the course:

Miss Newton

What is the course I will be following?

**BTEC Tech Award
in Performing Arts -
Dance Pathway**

What will I study?

This course will allow you to develop your understanding of the different roles required to create a performance and develop your own skills as a dancer. You will watch live and recorded performances and create your own performances as well as using dances from existing dance performances.

The course gives learners the opportunity to develop dance sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

- Development of key skills that prove your aptitude in Dance such as reproducing repertoire,
- responding to stimuli, development of ideas, rehearsal,
- performance personal management, communication,
- attitudes in the sector such as roles, responsibilities, performance disciplines and styles.

The course is organised into 3 components, 1 exam/controlled assessment and 2 coursework:

Component 1:

Exploring the Performing Arts (Coursework)

- Learn about different practitioners/ choreographers and performing styles.
- Watch live and recorded dance performances.
- Develop an understanding of different dance techniques.
- Understand the relationship between the performer and the audience.
- Create a research log.
- Take part in workshops and create a report to show your learning based on a theme set by the exam board.

Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in Dance (Coursework)

- Develop performing skills and review your progress throughout the rehearsal process.
- Perform a dance piece from an existing show based on a theme set by the exam board. This can be a solo piece or in groups.

Component 3: Responding to a Brief (Exam)

- You will be given a brief and you will create your own dance performance in groups of 3 to 7.
- You will review your progress at different stages in the rehearsal process.

How is the course assessed?

40% Exam

60% Coursework



Students will develop their awareness of:

The skills that are learnt through studying the Dance pathway in Performing Arts are invaluable for later in life. For example, being able to express yourself effectively, present ideas confidently, problem solving, planning, collaboration, analysis, and leadership. As a creative subject with a focus on application, there is no written exam. All components, including the externally assessed component, are assessed through flexible set tasks, designed to give you as much freedom as possible in how you respond, allowing you to work to your own strengths and interests, and to focus on the area of the performing arts sector that most excites and appeals to you. You will learn about dance through realistic tasks and activities. This will give you the skills you need to be successful in the dance sector.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will provide an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress to post-16.

Sport

This course will allow students to learn:

This course is designed for students who want to gain sport-specific applied knowledge and skills through a variety of contexts by exploring the different types and providers of sport and physical activity and the equipment and technology available for participation. It also explores the different types of participants and their needs in order to gain an understanding of how to increase participation for others in sport and physical activity and will further develop their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology. Students will undertake practical sessions to develop skills in planning and delivering sports activity sessions to participants. This course has **three** components, **one** exam and **two** pieces of coursework. The course is theory based but a number of practical learning tasks make the course relate to the sporting job sectors as much as possible.

Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity (coursework)

- Learners will explore the different types and provision of sport and physical activity available for different types of participants, barriers to participation and ways to overcome these barriers to increase participation in sport and physical activity. They will also research equipment and technological advances in a chosen sport or physical activity and how to prepare our bodies for participation in sport and physical activity.

Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance (coursework)

- Learners will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on performance, take part in practical sport, explore the role of officials in sport and learn to apply methods and sporting drills to improve other participants' sporting performance.

Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity (examination)

- Learners will be introduced to and develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and the different types of fitness for performance in sport and physical activity. They will also develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing.

How is the course assessed?

40% Externally Assessed Examination

60% Internally Assessed Coursework



Students will develop their awareness of:

- Different types of provision of sport and physical activity for different types of participants.
- Different equipment and technology required for participants to use when taking part in sport and physical activity.
- Planning to lead physical activities to participants.
- Different components of fitness and how they are used in a range of physical activities.
- Their own skills and abilities in a range of sports and be able to apply rules in an official capacity.
- How to improve participants sporting techniques.
- The different fitness tests, the importance of fitness testing and how to conduct these tests accurately.
- The different methods of training and linking specifically to components of fitness.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

Go to College or a Sixth Form and study a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as BTEC National in Sport (2016) or a BTEC National in Sport and Exercise Science (2016), which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the Sport Sciences or teaching sectors.

This qualification can be the start of your career path around Sport, there are a number of professions based around Sport. These include PE teacher, Sports Coach, Fitness Instructor, Physiotherapist, Sport Journalist, Sport Nutritionist.

Triple Science

This course will allow students to learn:

You will learn content in line with combined science, but with the advantage of being exposed to additional content including 7 more required practicals (28 total) and additional scientific content including 'microbiology, food security, the kidneys, eye and brain, alcohols & other organic compounds, nanotechnology, nuclear fission & fusion and space physics.

You will also strengthen your mathematical skills, as science is often reliant on a strong grasp of key mathematical concepts.

How can I use this course when I leave the academy?

This course will provide an especially strong basis for A level sciences, BTEC sciences and engineering apprenticeships. Science qualifications are essential for those who wish to pursue a career in a medical field, such as nursing, midwifery, or dentistry. If you wish to enter the field of engineering, sciences too are essential for you, with many local providers of apprenticeships for companies such as Siemens & HETA becoming more and more competitive to join.

The course will also equip you with a wide understanding of the world around you, of how people develop and change opinions and theories over time and how to problem solve. You will gain a huge array of transferrable skills by studying separate sciences.

Subject Leader for the course:

Mrs Howse

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE Biology,
Chemistry and Physics**

Students will develop their awareness of:

- How scientific advances change rapidly over time
- How questioning existing theories is crucial in promoting advances in technology & medicine.
- The importance of critical thinking and application of knowledge
- The importance of handling and manipulating data
- Their own bodies, the world around them and the universe beyond that
- The vast depth of opportunity afforded to them by studying sciences, just a taste of the next level, be it A levels, apprenticeships or BTEC science courses.

How is the course assessed?

Each of the 3 science is assessed separately.

You will sit two 1 hour 45-minute papers for Biology, Chemistry & Physics respectively worth 50% each.



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