



The Queen Elizabeth Academy

# Options 2022

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Spring 2022



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# Message from the Principal



**Neil Harding**

I am delighted to introduce you to TQEA's options booklet for 2022. We hope that you will find important information about the courses that we offer for study in years 10 and 11.

I am proud that we offer a broad and balanced curriculum at TQEA. It is a curriculum which allows students to take options which are both varied and exciting and which will help support them as they progress towards their careers. The decisions that Year 9 will be taking now, with the support of parents and teachers, are crucial and I urge you to take time to consider your subject choices carefully. Please study this booklet and talk to staff at school to ensure that you have all the information you need.

At TQEA students achieve well and we aim to ensure that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to compete with any students across the country. GCSEs and other level 2 courses are a vital indicator for young people to progress successfully to college courses, university degrees, employment and work based training. Therefore, it is important that you choose options which match your interests and career aspirations. You will notice in the booklet that we offer a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, core PE and PSHE. We have guided two thirds of students to study French; this allows them to thrive and progress academically, competing against students across the country. We have also maintained subjects to make a broad offer, such as Music, Drama, Engineering, Sociology and Business Studies.

With all of these options on offer, it often helps to talk to other students who are already doing these subjects, to find out more about what they are like to study. Please remember that you will be choosing options for the remainder of your time at TQEA and, therefore, it is vital that you choose subjects which are right for you for the next two years and beyond. With students now required to stay in education or work based training until the age of 18 there is no doubt that these qualifications will support the next stage of your journey. Whatever subjects you decide to do you will find that the learning at TQEA will ensure that you progress as an individual, achieve excellent results and make a positive contribution to the wider community. Our dedicated staff are always here to help and provide further guidance should you require it.

**"We see education as the route for a "life well lived"**





# TQEA's Curriculum

All TQEA students, whatever the challenge or barriers they face, will succeed to compete on a national and global scale in their chosen fields and will contribute positively to society.

## Our Curriculum Intent:

1. is **ambitious** and enjoyable through knowledge and skills developed throughout their time at TQEA.
2. is **knowledge rich**, ensuring access to a wide, global cultural capital – thus maximising lifetime opportunities.
3. is **inclusive, nurturing and tailored towards the needs of the individual**.
4. is focused on developing the very best **oracy, literacy, numeracy and digital skills** – enabling access to the widest learning and the very best careers possible to ensure we develop global citizens.
5. is **enriching**, ensuring all experience a rich variety of **cultural, artistic and sporting activities**.
6. is **broad** in terms of coverage and (at least) encompassing the breadth of the 2014 English National Curriculum.
7. celebrates **academic success** and the **uniqueness of our local setting** in terms of localised knowledge and skills.
8. develops **character, personal pride and the highest moral standards**.
9. celebrates **diversity, challenges injustice, promotes equality** and encourages the creation of a better world.
10. is delivered by **well-qualified, forward-thinking, skilled, passionate professionals**.

## GCSE Subjects.

All students will study the 'Core' Subjects: English Language and English Literature; Maths; Religious Studies; Science; PSHE; Core PE. Students will then all study 4 Options subjects.

All students have to choose either History or Geography (but can do both). Some students are directed to study French (but all students can choose French).

That leaves 2 (or 3 for some students) 'Free Choice' Options to choose from. You will find a page devoted to each option, including the core subjects. Whilst TQEA is proud of the breadth of options, due to unforeseen issues, some options may not be able to run. As a result, not all students may get all of their preferred options choices, making it important that they provide a reserve. The process to choose options is explained at the back of this booklet.

[Link to our curriculum section on our website](#)

# HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and help keep options for young people open:

- **English Language and English Literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**  
**Combined Science or 3 single Sciences from**  
**Biology, Chemistry, Physics and**  
**Computer Science**
- **History or Geography**
- **A language**  
**Ancient or modern**

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right  
- it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language,  
that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to  
young people.

## WHAT IS THE EBACC?

### EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.



**The research found that students  
studying EBacc subjects for  
GCSE , were more likely to stay in  
education after 16.**

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,  
August 2017

## LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure that we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

**"Having language skills under your belt will make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."**

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton.

**The Russell Group has named Languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.**

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

**"Young people skilled in the Languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."**

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce (academic achievement)

## WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

**Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.**

Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



## Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly - they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.





# Art

## Introduction

Students with an interest and talent in Art have a good chance of success on the GCSE course, provided they work hard. During the course, different themes and projects are introduced which are intended to help students develop their drawing, painting, printing, 3D, research and design skills. Students will be taught new skills and techniques, as well as being encouraged to improve those they already know and have developed at Key Stage 3. Students will begin to develop a good idea of what their strengths are and with support, will become more independent in their approach to projects.

## Key Topics

- Observational drawings and recordings
- Artist research/development/influence
- Encouragement of personal creativity
- Media Exploration
- Design & outcomes

## How will I be assessed?

- The course is made up of 2 components. The Personal Portfolio is worth 60% of the total grade and the Externally Set Assignment is worth 40%.
- The four Assessment Objectives are based around artists, drawings, media, design and outcomes.

## Linked Subjects

- Mathematics
- Design Technology
- English Literature
- History
- Engineering
- Media

## Possible careers

- Fine Artist
- Art Director
- Designer (Interior, Architect etc.)
- Art/Gallery Curator
- Animator

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Eduqas**

**GCSE Fine Art**

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs Bennett**

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# Business Studies

## Introduction

Whether you are interested in owning a business, managing a business, or working for a business, this subject is for you. Be sure to impress any employer or investor by gaining a knowledge of how businesses are run and how they should be managed. Students are encouraged to consider the practical application of business and economic concepts. The GCSE Business specification caters for all abilities. It is tested by a range of question styles, ranging from multiple choice and short answer questions to then analysing case studies and writing essay style answers.

## How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 - Influences of operations and HRM on business activity — 1hr 45 Exam
- Paper 2 - Influences of marketing and finance on business activity — 1hr 45 Exam

## Key Topics

- Business in the real world
- Influences on business
- Marketing
- Production and procurement
- Finance
- People in business
- Operations Management
- Business Law

## Linked Subjects

- ♦ Statistics
- ♦ English
- ♦ Maths
- ♦ Sociology
- ♦ Computing

## Possible careers

- Banking
- Marketing/Advertising Executive
- Retail Management
- Accountancy
- Personnel
- Self Employed business

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**GCSE Business Studies**  
**8132**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mr Stewart**  
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# Computer Science

## Introduction

Computer Science is as much a skillset as a subject. Students learn abstraction and decomposition skills through their programming in Python. Skills that would apply to Mathematics and Engineering disciplines. Students study the intricacies of how computers work and share information through the constantly changing role they play in society. We develop and analyse different problem solving methods and apply them to programming problems to solve real world situations.

## How will I be assessed?

**Two examination papers, equally weighted, both of 80 marks:**

- Computer Systems
- Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

**Students will also be expected to complete a large programming project of around 10 + lesson.**

## Key Topics

System architecture  
Memory and Storage  
Computer Networks  
Systems software  
Morals and Ethics  
Algorithms  
Programming fundamentals  
Producing robust programs  
Boolean logic  
Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

## Linked Subjects

- Mathematics
- Information Technology
- Engineering
- Science
- Media Studies
- Engineering

## Possible careers

- Software and App development
- Computer games authoring
- Information Security Analyst
- Computer Hardware Engineer
- Web development

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: OCR**  
**GCSE Computer Science**  
**J277**

**Curriculum Leader: Mr C Rowlett**

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# Drama (BTEC in Performing Arts)

## Introduction

Drama is a form of expression which is about much more than just acting. Throughout the course students develop the skills of observation, communication, collaboration, analysis, leadership and empathy skills - which are invaluable in later life. For example, being able to speak and present confidently in front of people and the skill of planning and collaboration to meet tight deadlines. The course demands energy, enthusiasm and the ability to work sensitively with others. Students must have a commitment to extra-curricular involvement in order to get the best out of the subject. Students are required to be self-reflective learners as they progress through the course. The course also involves the analysis and evaluation of a range of theatre productions.

## How will I be assessed?

1. **Exploring the Performing Arts:** (Internal Assessment - PowerPoint presentation).
2. **Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts:** (Internal Assessment).
3. **Responding to a Brief:** Learners will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to contribute to a workshop performance as either a performer or designer in response to a given brief or stimulus (External Assessment).

## Key Topics

- Performance of plays
- Analysing and evaluating performance work
- Theatre styles and practitioners
- Stage craft and management
- Study of plays
- Improvisation, script writing and directing

## Linked Subjects

- English Literature
- Music
- History
- Politics
- Art

## Possible careers

- Fine Artist
- Art Director
- Designer (Interior, Architect etc.)
- Art/Gallery Curator
- Animator

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Pearson BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts**

**Curriculum Leader: Miss Kiteley**

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# Engineering

## Introduction

Do you ever look around your home and think of handy products that could improve people's lives or get inspired by the amazing feats of engineering all around you? Are you creative, and want to start building the skills you need for a successful career in the industry? If so, it's time to uncover your potential and study Engineering as an option. The course is a mixture of theory and practical. While students get to design a product, there is a significant proportion focused on learning theory and applying it in contexts.

## How will I be assessed?

1. Unit 1 will involve producing a manufacturing product, which will be worth 40% of the qualification. 20 hours.
2. Unit 2 will also be assessed through project work and will be worth 20% of the qualification. Here you will apply your problem-solving skills to answer a brief and produce a solution. 10 hours.
3. Unit 3 will involve a single exam, which is worth 40% of your qualification. The exam will last 1 hour and 30 minutes.

## Possible careers

- Aerospace engineer
- Biomedical engineer
- Civil/structural engineer
- Computer engineer
- Electrical/electronic engineer
- Environmental engineer
- Marine engineer
- Mechanical engineer
- Product engineer

## Key Topics

- Manufacturing engineering products
- Problem solving
- Designing engineering products
- Solving engineering problems

## Linked Subjects

- STEM (at KS3)
- Science
- Maths
- Statistics
- Computing
- Art

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: WJEC/Eduqas  
Level 1/2 Engineering  
(TBC)**

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs  
Trewin**

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# English Language

## Introduction

English is invaluable for your future no matter what you are aiming for. A good command of the spoken and written word will help you every day – and benefit all your other GCSEs too. Whatever you end up doing, English is a must have subject for college, university, work and life. English will help you work independently, creatively, think critically and communicate your ideas with confidence. English at TQEA is structured with a high degree of academic rigour but the content is engaging and fun.

## How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1– 50% (20th century text: 40 marks reading; 40 marks writing)**

**Paper 2– 50% (21st century and 19th century texts: 40 marks reading; 40 marks writing)**

**Both exams are 1 hour and 45 mins in length**

## Key Topics

- Critical reading and comprehension of fiction and non-fiction texts
- Analysis, synthesis, evaluation and comparison
- Different modes of writing
- Producing clear and coherent texts and writing for impact
- Spoken Language

## Linked Subjects

- English Literature
- History
- Media
- RE
- Sociology

## Possible careers

- Journalism
- Accounting
- Publishing
- Law
- Marketing
- Teacher

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**GCSE English Language**  
**8700**

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs Badham**

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# English Literature

## Introduction

English Literature is the perfect partner to English Language. The skills of both subjects overlap and interweave: studying one benefits the other. English Literature will allow students to read a range of established literary texts in the English canon, spanning three centuries, allowing students to be critical in their analysis. By the end of the GCSE, students will have a grasp of some of the most important texts of English Literature and will be able to confidently comment on their significance and their importance. They will be able to recognise that whilst a text had a particular purpose, audience and context, a text can also resonate to today (Macbeth reflected in Donald Trump or austerity reflected in 'An Inspector Calls').

## How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1: 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol' (1 hour and 30 mins, 40%);**

**Paper 2: 'An Inspector Calls', Power and Conflict poetry comparison and Unseen Poetry (2 hours and 15 mins, 60%)**

## Key Topics

- Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'
- Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'
- Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls'
- A collection of poetry, ranging from the 18th century to the contemporary, focused on 'Power and Conflict'
- 'Unseen' poetry

## Linked Subjects

- English Language
- History
- RE
- Sociology
- Drama
- Media

## Possible careers

- Journalism
- Accounting
- Publishing
- Law
- Marketing

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**GCSE English Literature**  
**8702 Curriculum Leader:**  
**Mrs Badham**

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# French

## Introduction

French is very important for present and future careers. If students enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE French is an excellent choice. Students will be adding an international dimension to their choice of Key Stage 4 subjects, which is something many universities and future employers look for. French does not rely solely on writing but also relies on speaking, listening and reading skills. Students will be able to use revision apps, such as Memrise, to engage their learning of vocabulary. Above all, being able to speak French is fun!

## How will I be assessed?

- **French is available at Higher or Foundation tiers.**
- The course is broken into skills which are examined separately. It is broken down into assessed units focusing on Writing 25%; Speaking 25%; Reading comprehension 25%; Listening comprehension 25%.

## Key Topics

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international, and global, areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

## Linked Subjects

- Geography
- English Language
- History
- Computer Science

## Possible careers

- Researchers
- Teachers
- Holiday reps
- Interpreters/translators
- Scientists
- Businesses
- International lawyers

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**GCSE French 8658**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mrs N Harris**

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# Geography

## Introduction

The world in which we live in, is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before. Geography explains why, and helps to prepare you for those changes. Geography tackles, investigates and searches for answers, developing knowledge and understanding for big issues and challenges like environmental responsibility; our global interdependence and place in the World; cultural understanding and tolerance. The transferable skills which Geography fosters are an asset in the complex world of employment today. Geography is about the future and encourages flexible thinking and provides a firm basis for life-long learning. You will be able to see the world that you live in, question and answer why it is like this and what the future holds.

## How will I be assessed?

- Geography is a linear course, which means that students will be assessed at the end of Year 11. There are 3 units in which students are assessed.
- Unit 01 – Living in the UK – 30%; Unit 02 – The World around Us 30% ; Unit 03 – Geographical Skills – 40%

## Key Topics

- Ever changing rivers and coasts
- Growing UK cities
- The future of energy
- World cities
- Developing World Countries
- Climate change and the threats to the planet

## Linked Subjects

- Science
- English
- Maths
- Sociology
- History

## Possible careers

- Discover new places: Travel Agent, Tourism Officer, Media Researcher.
- Enjoy being in the outdoors: Coastal Manager, Geologist, Civil Engineer, Surveyor, police force.
- Interested in people: Planner, Social Worker, Market Researcher, Diplomat.

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: OCR A J383**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mr Brown**

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# History

## Introduction

History is the study of the past and how it affects the present. The GCSE History course allows students to study in depth periods of History which have had a lasting impact on the way our society is today. The topics are varied, and give students the opportunity to use a variety of sources to understand the causes and consequences of some of the most important moments in our past. History helps students to develop skills in research, analysis, evaluation and precise communication. Even better, it's full of amazing stories!

## How will I be assessed?

Two exams, both containing two papers, equally weighted, each paper has 40 marks plus four SPAG with questions ranging from 4-16 marks. Questions range from source or interpretation questions to essay style questions, testing knowledge and analysis skills.

• **Exam 1** : Germany and Conflict & Tension;  
**Exam 2**: Health and the People and Elizabeth.

## Key Topics

- Germany, 1890—1945, Democracy and Dictatorship
- Conflict & Tension, 1918-1939
- Britain : Health and the People c1000-present
- Elizabethan England c1568-1603.

## Linked Subjects

- English Literature
- Geography
- Media Studies
- Sociology
- RE
- Art

## Possible careers

- Archaeologist
- Genealogist
- Media Research
- Accountant
- Museum Curator
- Law-Solicitor, Barrister
- Politics

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**GCSE History 8145**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mrs Woodberry**

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# Hospitality and Catering

## Introduction

Food studies allows students to develop a knowledge of foods including their functional and chemical characteristics as well as a sound knowledge of their nutritional properties and the impact of this on health and well being. The subject encourages students to explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) and to understand the socio-economic and environmental factors around sourcing, preparing and cooking food. The knowledge base of the course is underpinned by a range of practical activities and skill sessions. The course includes study of the Hospitality and Catering industry and possible careers within it.

## How will I be assessed?

- One written exam counting 40% of the grade containing a range of types and lengths of questions
- One non-exam assessment completed in school including a practical exam session

## Key Topics

- Healthy eating, diet and nutrition
- Types of foods and food commodities
- Cooking and preparation methods
- Traditional British and foreign foods
- The hospitality and catering industry
- Practical food preparation, cooking and presentation skills.

## Linked Subjects

- Sports Science
- Sociology
- Religious Studies
- Geography
- Science

## Possible careers

- Food scientist
- Dietician
- Product development
- The hospitality and catering industry
- Environmental health

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: WJEC**  
**Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering 601/7703/2**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mrs D Johnson**

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# Maths

## Introduction

Mathematics is not just as a collection of skills; but a way of thinking. We aim to inspire our pupils to appreciate the beauty of Mathematics and use its logic skilfully across all areas of the school curriculum and life. GCSE Mathematics is a subject that every student has to study, with the importance of the subject never being more prominent. Almost every profession uses mathematics in some form on a daily basis.

## How will I be assessed?

- GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a Higher tier (grades 4 – 9).
- Students must take three question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series. Each paper is 90 minutes in length regardless of tier. There is no coursework component to the course.

## Key Topics

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

## Linked Subjects

- Statistics
- Science
- Art
- Computer Science
- Engineering

## Possible careers

- Architect
- Risk Management
- Accountant
- Engineer
- Computer Game Designer

## Qualification Details

Exam Board: AQA  
GCSE Mathematics 8300  
Curriculum Leader: Mr Wiles

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# Media Studies

## Introduction

In Media Studies, students analyse and think critically about the way we communicate information and ideas. Media forms are major sources of modern culture and entertainment, making up much of our cultural diets. What we see in the cinema, broadcasting (television and radio), advertising, photography and the press, help us form ideas about the world around us, and in Media Studies we explore how and why the media do this and the impact this has on audiences. Students will also have the opportunity to be creative and imaginative as they design and produce their own media based material such as films, magazines and websites. Media Studies is a fascinating and thought-provoking subject, ideal for students who enjoy learning brand new skills, using technology and being creative.

## How will I be assessed?

- **Paper 1**—Television and Promoting Media (35%)
- **Paper 2**— Music and News (35%)
- **Non-examination Assessment**— Designing your own website/magazine/music video (30%).

## Possible careers

- Journalism
- TV/Film production
- Engineering
- Video/ audio editing
- Graphic design
- Podcaster

## Key Topics

- Film and Television Industries
- Music Videos and Magazines
- News and Advertising
- Video Games and Social Media
- Analysing media language and representation
- Practical application (creating own media forms)
- Understanding media contexts
- Media theories

## Linked Subjects

- Computing
- English
- History
- Art and Design
- Business Studies

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: OCR**  
**GCSE Media Studies J200**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mrs Craig**

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# Music

## Introduction

This option is for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by studying and developing their musical skills and techniques, and by responding to a music industry brief as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification enables learners to develop their skills, such as using musical elements, music creation, performance and music production, using realistic vocational contexts, and their personal skills, such as self-development, responding to a brief, planning and time management through a practical and skills-based approach to learning and assessment. It's a fun-packed course!

## How will I be assessed?

1. Exploring Music Products and Styles: internal assessment (30%)
2. Music Skills Development: internal assessment (30%)
3. Responding to a Music Brief: external synoptic (40% of the course)

## Key Topics

1. Musical styles
2. Musical elements, stylistic features and characteristics (music theory)
3. Music industry products
4. Music realisation techniques
5. Professional skills for the music industry
6. Planning and communicating music skills development
7. Features of a music brief
8. Refining musical skills for a musical product

## Linked Subjects

- Media
- English
- Geography
- Art
- Maths

## Possible careers

- Professional Musician
- Sound Engineer
- Music Producer
- Music Teacher
- Music Therapist

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Pearson BTEC  
Tech Award Level 1/2  
Music Practice  
Curriculum Leader: Mrs  
Deeley**

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# PE (GCSE)

## Introduction

The GCSE encourages students to contextualise theory and to develop and apply their knowledge, understanding and quality of performances in practical assessments. The content reflects today's global world – students will engage with key issues and themes relating to contemporary global influences on physical education and sport. The blend of scientific and social knowledge positions students to access a range of qualifications. Develops a holistic understanding of physical education – stimulating content is at the heart of this engaging qualification. Students will receive a well-rounded and full introduction to the world of PE, sport and sport science through the combination of physical performance and academic challenges. Please note: the course is theory based and does not involve participating in sports, other than for the personal exercise unit.

## How will I be assessed?

- **2 written exams (60% of the course in total)**
- **1 internally assessed comment unit (30%)**
- **1 personal exercise programme (10%)**

## Key Topics

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data
- Health, fitness and wellbeing
- Sport psychology
- Socio-cultural influences

## Linked Subjects

- Science (Human body)
- Media (Media and sponsorship)
- Food (Diet and Nutrition)
- Geography (Culture and Influences)
- ICT– Media and sports analysis

## Possible careers

- Sports management
- Sports coaching
- Personal trainer
- Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- Movement Analysis

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Pearson**  
**GCSE PE**

**Curriculum Leader: Miss K Wilson**

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# PE (BTEC)

## Introduction

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Sport is for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through vocational contexts by exploring the different types and providers of sport and physical activity and the equipment and technology available for participation as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. They will also explore the different types of participant and their needs in order to gain an understanding of how to increase participation for others in sport and physical activity and further develop their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology. Learners will undertake practical sessions to develop skills in planning and delivering sports activity sessions to participants. Please note: the course is theory based and does not involve participating in sport, other than the core PE lessons.

## How will I be assessed?

- 75% Controlled Assessment units completed
- 25% Online theory exam

## Possible careers

- Sports management
- Sports coaching
- Personal trainer
- Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- Movement Analysis

## Key Topics

- Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity
- Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance
- Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity

## Linked Subjects

- Science (Human body)
- Media (Media and sponsorship)
- Food (Diet and Nutrition)
- Geography (Culture and Influences)
- ICT– Media and sports analysis

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Pearson**  
**BTEC Tech Award in Sport**  
**Curriculum Leader: Miss K Wilson**

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# PSHE

## Introduction

PSHE is where you will be asked to think deeper about the choices you make, your aspirations for life, the sort of citizen you should be and the community you live in. Throughout the study you will have access to knowledge on the statutory content including mental health, relationships and sex education, physical health, careers, managing finances, citizenship including British values and many personal skills which you will take with you to enable you to be successful in any future endeavor.

## How will I be assessed?

As there are no formal exams in PSHE, instead, assessment happens throughout the year through a combination of speaking and listening tasks, questioning and extended written tasks. The purpose of these assessments is to ensure all students fully understand the concepts and how to use the strategies we provide them with to be successful in life.

## Possible careers

In PSHE you will learn skills and gain knowledge that can be transferred to any career or environment you choose to follow.

## Key Topics

- Active Citizenship
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Mental health
- Health Education
- Economic Literacy
- Careers Guidance
- Growing and changing
- Personal safety
- Bullying and discrimination.
- Media and digital literacy.

## Linked Subjects

- Science
- English
- History
- Media
- Physical Education
- Food
- Drama

## Qualification Details

**There is no formal qualification attached to this subject.**

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs S Knight**

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# Religious Studies

## Introduction

Religious Studies is an important subject to study in 21st Century Britain. Not only is it increasingly important to have a clear understanding of various world faiths, the study of Christianity is taught explicitly as it is embedded within our culture and shapes our society today. Religious beliefs and teachings are only 50% of the GCSE. Philosophy and Ethics is a key component of the GCSE, with pupils looking at questions such as “Are all humans equal”, “Is it ever right to end a life?”, “Is marriage still relevant today?” and “What do I think about life after death?”. It is these questions that give opportunities to show critical thinking, develop reasoning and evaluation skills. It is these skills which employers look for in prospective candidates.

## How will I be assessed?

Two papers are worth 25% of the course total and are 1 hour each: Hinduism and Christianity. The third paper, worth 50% of your GCSE grade, is 2 hours long and reviews the Philosophy and Ethics part of the course, including Human Rights, Relationships, Good and Evil and Life and Death.

## Possible careers

- Careers in law
- Police work
- Working for the government
- Teaching
- Social work

## Key Topics

- Relationships
- Life and Death
- Good and Evil
- Human Rights
- Christianity
- Hinduism

## Linked Subjects

- History
- English
- Sociology
- Geography
- Citizenship
- Art

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Eduqas**  
**GCSE Religious Studies**  
**C120P2**

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs Patel**

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# Combined Science Trilogy

## Introduction

Students study the content of GCSE Science, which helps them to make sense of the Science they come across in everyday life. They come to appreciate what Science can tell them about themselves, the environment and the Universe. Students achieve two GCSE grades, with scores from each Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) combined to define an overall double grade. Their overall grades are determined through linear assessment at the end of their Year 11 studies. Practical skills are assessed through written assessment, incorporated into each of their individual Year 11 examinations.

## How will I be assessed?

AQA Trilogy GCSE (9–1) consists of six externally examined papers. These are available at foundation tier and higher tier.

Each paper is 1 hour and fifteen minutes in duration and consists of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.

## Possible careers

- Engineer
- Sports Science
- Doctor
- Veterinary surgeon
- Pharmacist

## Key Topics

- Forces and energy
- Waves and Electricity
- Atomic structure and states of matter
- Obtaining and using resources
- Types of chemical reactions
- Plant structures and their functions
- Human Biology
- Ecology

## Linked Subjects

- Mathematics
- English
- Geography
- RE
- PE

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: AQA  
8464 (Trilogy)**

**Curriculum Leader: Miss K Rowan**

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# Science Triple

## Introduction

Students who study Separate Science achieve a GCSE in each of the **three** Sciences. GCSE Science helps students to make sense of the world and universe around them, and explain the Science they come across in everyday life. Students come to appreciate what Science can tell them about themselves, the environment and the universe. Students achieve three separate GCSE grades; one in Biology, another in Chemistry and a third in Physics. Their overall grade for each Science GCSE is calculated through linear examinations. Practical skills are assessed through written assessment, incorporated into each of their individual Year 11 examinations.

## How will I be assessed?

Each of the sciences consist of 2 externally-examined papers. Each paper is 1hour 45 minutes long and consists of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. These are available at foundation tier and higher tier. The content of the course includes twenty one core practicals.

## Key Topics

- Forces and energy
- Waves and Electricity
- Atomic structure and states of matter
- Obtaining and using resources
- Types of chemical reactions
- Plant structures and their functions
- Human Biology
- Ecology

## Linked Subjects

- Mathematics
- English
- Geography
- RE
- PE

## Possible careers

Engineer  
Sports Science  
Doctor  
Veterinary surgeon  
Pharmacist

## Qualification Details

Exam Board: AQA  
GCSE Biology 8461, GCSE  
Chemistry 8462, GCSE  
Physics 8463 Curriculum  
Leader: Miss K Rowan  
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# Sociology

## Introduction

Sociology holds up a mirror to society and explains how society is formed and shaped. While psychology analyses the individual, it is important to recognise that Sociology is different in that it is the study of human social relationships and institutions. The subject matter is diverse, from crime and religion, to the family and social class. We look at the different approaches to view society, and how these have been shaped by historical sociologists. There is a range of analysis of data required, as well as an appreciation of research methods, culminating in detailed and evaluative written answers. Sociology is an exciting subject that explains important matters in our lives, our communities and the world.

## How will I be assessed?

Two papers, equally weighted, both of 100 marks with questions ranging from some multiple choice and low order questions to then 4 essay style questions worth 12 marks.

**Paper 1:** Families and Education; **Paper 2:** Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification

## Key Topics

- The Sociological Approaches
- Families
- Education
- Crime and Deviance
- Social Stratification
- Sociological Research Methods

## Linked Subjects

English Language  
History  
Religion  
Geography  
RE  
Statistics

## Possible careers

- Market research
- Guidance services
- Public Relations
- Lawyer
- HR Representative
- Teacher

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board:** AQA  
**GCSE Sociology 8192**  
**Curriculum Leader:** Mr Armishaw

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# Statistics

## Introduction

Communication, opinion, analysis and enjoyment. Students will now be offered the opportunity to complete a high-quality GCSE in Statistics. With the new curriculum studying statistics in more depth, the students will cover a large section of the course through the normal mathematics lessons but allows the flexibility to delve a little deeper.

## How will I be assessed?

Two externally assessed papers. Both papers contain multiple choice, short answer and a statistical enquiry cycle question.

• It is available at foundation and higher tiers, making it suitable for students of all abilities and ensuring they're assessed appropriately.

## Key Topics

- How to collect, summarise and represent unbiased data
- The skills necessary to read, analyse and interpret data/various diagrams and statistical statements
- To develop your ability to reason and discuss results
- How to predict what will happen in the future by making forecasts based on statistical results and considering the probability of something happening.

## Linked Subjects

- Mathematics
- Science
- Engineering
- Sociology
- Geography
- Economics

## Possible careers

- Forensic statistician
- Sports analyst
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Entrepreneur
- Meteorologist

## Qualification Details

**Exam Board: Edexcel**  
**GCSE Statistics 1STO**  
**Curriculum Leader: Mr Singh**

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# Careers Advice

Although you are only in Year 9, you need to seriously think about your possible career paths after you leave TQEA. You don't have to know exactly which job you want to do but you should consider which qualifications you may want to study when you leave TQEA as some require specific GCSE grades. Popular destinations include: [North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College](#); [King Edward VI College](#); [Higham Lane Sixth Form](#); [St Thomas More Catholic School Sixth Form](#); [North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College](#); and [Etone 6th form](#).

Consider which subjects will give you the most options for your destination after TQEA. If you want to go to university, consider which subjects will give you the best chance to attend a top [university](#). Use the useful links page on the school website for more [advice](#).

Students in Year 8 have Careers Guidance meetings and next year (when you are in Y10) you will also have one-to-one interviews with our Careers Guidance Officer.

During the same week as Year 9 Options Evening, TQEA is running a Careers Week (7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> March) for all students.

You should also consider the Careers lessons you've had in PSHE and make sure to use TQEA's online careers [programme](#) to help guide you towards career choices.

For more information and guidance please email Mr Webb: [m.webb@tqea.org.uk](mailto:m.webb@tqea.org.uk)





# The Choosing Process

All students in Year 9 will receive an email on the evening of Options Evening (Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March). This will send them to a link 'SIMS Options Online'.

If the email is on the system then parents will also have access to view the process. It will look like the image below.

Students choose either History or Geography. For some, they are automatically directed to study French. Students then choose their other option choices. Students must choose a reserve option in case their preferred options are not possible

## Humanities

You have chosen 1 of 1 courses from this list

**Please note this is an example from a previous year**

Geog GCSE Full Course

This course is also available in Free Options x3

His GCSE Full Course

This course is also available in Free Options x3

## Free Options x3

You have chosen 3 of 3 courses and 1 of 1 reserves from this list

Ancient History General Reserve  
This course is also available in Humanities

Computer Science GCSE Full Course Reserve

Engineering GCSE Full Course Reserve

French GCSE Full Course Reserve

Media Stud GCSE Full Course Reserve

Sports Science General Reserve

Art GCSE Full Course Reserve

Digital Literacy GCSE Full Course Reserve

Spanish GCSE Full Course Reserve

Geog GCSE Full Course Reserve  
You have selected this course in Humanities

Music GCSE Full Course Reserve

Statistics GCSE Full Course Reserve

Bus St. GCSE Full Course Reserve

Drama GCSE Full Course Reserve

Food GCSE Full Course Reserve

His GCSE Full Course Reserve  
This course is also available in Humanities

Sociology GCSE Full Course Reserve

## My Choices in Order of Preference

(Total Choices: 4)

To change your order of preference select a choice and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

1 Geog GCSE Full Course Humanities

2 Engineering GCSE Full Course Free Options x3

3 Sports Science General Free Options x3

4 Computer Science GCSE Full Course Free Options x3

## My Reserves in Order of Preference

(Total Reserves: 1)

To change your order of preference select a reserve and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

1 Bus St. GCSE Full Course Free Options x3

## Student Comments

These are the options that I would like but I would really like to do business as well as the other choices please could you try and get me my choices thank you Chester :)





# Students' Testimony

Do not choose subjects based on your favourite teacher as teachers change!

Think about your career path and what you want to do after TQEA

Speak to us older student – we'll tell you the truth about the subject at GCSE!

Choose subjects you enjoy. My reserve option is now my favourite subject; I'm doing it at A-Level





For further information contact:

Mr R. Armishaw (Assistant Principal)  
[r.armishaw@tqea.org.uk](mailto:r.armishaw@tqea.org.uk)

Principal: Mr N Harding