



OLDFIELD SCHOOL

Year 9 Options Booklet 2018



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Dear Student,

You are about to start the most important stage of your education so far. At the end of Year 11, you will sit your GCSEs and these qualifications are the key to unlock so many of the amazing opportunities that will be available to you. Whilst the “core” subjects remain unchanged you will now get to make some very important choices about which subjects you would like to continue studying. The core subjects that you **must** take are:

English Language
English Literature
Mathematics
Science (Separate or Trilogy Sciences)
PE
PSHE

You will then be asked to choose two from the following four subjects:

French
Geography
History
Oldfield vocational programme
Spanish

Then you will be given a free choice to pick two further option subjects, as well as two reserve subjects (though of course you cannot repeat subjects already chosen). It is important that you choose a range of subjects that will match your interests and abilities, and, if you have thought about what you would like to do after your GCSEs, are suited to that. When you have made your choices, they will be reviewed to ensure that you have a suitable balance. When making your choices, you will need to consider whether they are giving you as many options as possible for the future. Many universities will want to see a range of subjects studied, and this includes the “English Baccalaureate” (or Ebacc) subjects.

We are here to help. Use this booklet as a basis for discussion with your tutor, Head of Year, subject teachers and myself. There will also be opportunities to discuss the options process during your tutorial sessions. Individual subject teachers will also talk to you about their subjects in lesson time and will be available at Year 9 Parents’ Evening.

Yours faithfully,



Mr P. Heuff
Deputy Headteacher

Oldfield School Core Curriculum

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Separate Sciences **or** Trilogy Science (Double Award)
- Physical Education (Core)
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

You **must** pick two of these five subjects:

- French
- Geography
- History
- Oldfield Health and Fitness Vocational Course
- Spanish

And then any **two** other subjects from the list below (assuming you haven't already picked them);

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Digital Applications
- Dance
- Drama
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French
- Geography
- History
- Media Studies
- Music
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Product Design
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Textiles

ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE

The curriculum provision on offer will enable you to obtain the English Baccalaureate providing you achieve at least a grade 5 in each of the following subjects:

- English (either Language or Literature)
- Mathematics
- Two sciences (either from Separate or Trilogy Sciences, or Computer Science)
- French or Spanish
- Geography or History

English Language (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: Eduqas

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Ms Malt or Mr Trowell

English Language is an exciting and essential course for all of your future studies. It helps you to communicate effectively, clearly and appropriately through writing and speaking – giving you skills and the confidence that you will need whatever your chosen career. The new English Language GCSE course has only one tier and all components are examined at the end of the course.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Component 1: (40%)

Section A Reading: Understanding one prose extract of literature from the 20th Century assessed through a number of structured questions.

Section B Prose Writing: One creative writing task selected from a choice of four titles.

Examination; 1 hour 45minutes

Component 2: (60%)

Section A Reading: Understanding two prose extracts of non-fiction from the 19th and 21st centuries; assessed through a number of structured questions.

Section B Writing: Two compulsory writing tasks. Examination; 2 hours.

Component 3: Unweighted

One presentation or speech and response to follow-up questions and feedback. This is reported as a part of the qualification but is not included in the final GCSE mark for English Language.

HOW WILL ENGLISH LANGUAGE HELP ME?

You will develop skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening which will help you in the real world as well as in your future career or higher / further education. This course enables you to access all other courses.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

English Language A Level is an exciting and interesting course in its own right which develops many of the skills and topics studied in this GCSE course. It is also an essential foundation for many other courses.

English Literature (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: Eduqas

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Ms Malt and Mr Trowell

English Literature is the study of a number of texts – plays, poetry and prose, which present you with interesting characters and their issues, covering a range of topics from love to murder. Interesting, engaging texts which enable you to develop the skills of evaluation and forming your own opinions and arguments.

The English Literature course is taught as a linked course with English Language.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Component 1 – Shakespeare and Poetry (40%)

Section A: This is based on the study of one play by Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, and will be assessed through one extract question and one essay based on the whole play.

Section B: Two questions based on poems from the poetry anthology; one of these will be a comparison.

Component 2 – Post 1914 Prose/Drama; 19th Century Prose; Unseen Poetry (60%)

Section A - Post 1914 Prose/Drama: One text will be studied and assessed through a source-based question.

Section B - 19th Century Prose: One text, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, will be studied and assessed through a source-based question.

Section C - Unseen Poetry: Having developed the skills of writing about poetry, you will answer two questions on poems you have not studied before; one of these will be a comparison.

All assessments include some marks for the quality of your writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar. Students will not have copies of these texts in the examinations.

HOW WILL ENGLISH LITERATURE HELP ME?

You will read and analyse a number of texts, developing skills in understanding how writers create meaning. During your reading and discussions you will learn how to analyse what is written and how it manipulates the reader. You will take part in discussions and gain confidence in sharing your opinions with others.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

You will be able to take this course as an A level course at Oldfield School, where the texts we study are more complex but also really interesting and thought-provoking. The skills you learn in GCSE English Literature will help you in other analytical subjects based on written texts.

Mathematics (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: Edexcel

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mr Brooke

The course builds on topics that you have studied at Key Stage 3 with an increased focus on applying mathematics in context, problem solving, reasoning and the functional elements of the subject.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course content is divided into six broad areas of mathematics:

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

The final award is covered by three equally weighted written examinations taken in the summer of Year 11.

Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) 1 hour and 30 minutes

Paper 2 (Calculator) 1 hour and 30 minutes

Paper 3 (Calculator) 1 hour and 30 minutes

The examination has two different levels of entry: Higher level and foundation level. Students will be entered for the level most appropriate to your aptitude and ability.

HOW WILL MATHEMATICS HELP ME?

The skills developed in this course will prepare you to function mathematically in the world. It will help you in other subjects such as Business Studies, Science and Technology.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students gaining a good grade at Higher Level Mathematics will be suitable candidates for taking A level Mathematics or Further Mathematics in Years 12 and 13 in Oldfield Sixth Form.

Separate Sciences (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Miss Prior

The most able science students from Year 9 will be offered the opportunity to study for the Separate Sciences GCSEs, in which you will receive three separate GCSEs for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The selection process will be based on students' assessment levels obtained throughout Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9. Students cannot choose to study one or two of the science subjects, you must study all three. The units of study are the same as the Trilogy Science Double Award, except that there is significantly more content and depth in each unit.

COURSE CONTENT

Biology has the following units: Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.

Chemistry has the following units: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

Physics has the following units: Forces, energy, waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, particle model of matter, atomic structure and space physics.

ASSESSMENT

Each science course will be examined by two papers: Each paper will assess knowledge and understanding from different topics. The questions will use clear language to assess students only on their scientific ability.

Duration: Both papers are 1 hour 45 minutes. Each is worth 50% of the grade and has 100 marks available.

Question types: Multiple choice, structured, closed, short answer and open response. Students following separate sciences will be expected to work at the higher tier level.

HOW WILL SEPARATE SCIENCES HELP ME?

Students will develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods, organise and present information clearly and use ICT. You will also develop practical skills and gain a greater understanding of how science works and its essential role in society.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Studying Separate Sciences GCSE will provide you with an excellent foundation for progression onto A level Sciences at Oldfield School.

Trilogy Science Double Award (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Miss Prior

The Trilogy Science course is the most suitable course for the majority of students, and studying Trilogy does not preclude any future A levels. Indeed, if you wished to study Medicine (or similar) at university, having the highest possible grades in Trilogy would be more beneficial than three lower grades in the separate sciences.

COURSE CONTENT

Biology has the following units: Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.

Chemistry has the following units: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure, and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

Physics has the following units: Forces, energy, waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, particle model of matter and atomic structure.

ASSESSMENT

There are six papers in total: Two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each will assess different topics.

Duration: All the papers are 1 hour 15 minutes.

Tiers: Foundation and higher.

Each paper is worth 16.7% of the grade and has 70 marks.

Question types: Multiple choice, structured, closed, short answer and open response.

There is a choice between two levels of entry for examinations: Foundation and higher. Students will be awarded two combined grades (e.g. 4-4, 8-8 etc.).

HOW WILL TRILOGY SCIENCE HELP ME?

Students will develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods, organise and present information clearly and use ICT. You will also gain a greater understanding of how Science works and its essential role in society.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

The Trilogy route is an excellent grounding to progress onto A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Physical Education (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: n/a

Qualification: n/a

Teacher Contact: Mrs Little

This subject is non-examined and gives you the chance to take part in a range of physical activities that will challenge you both physically and mentally. The lessons are focused around participation, enjoyment and a sense of competition giving students the opportunity to play sports they may not have experienced before.

COURSE CONTENT

During these lessons you will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of practical activities in the role of performer, coach and officials. You will also have the opportunity to apply to be part of the leadership programme and assist staff at local events both at junior and senior level.

HOW WILL PHYSICAL EDUCATION HELP ME?

By taking part in a range of physical activities you will be able to make decisions about how to lead a healthy active life when you leave school. You will understand the need for regular exercise and the benefits of leading an active lifestyle. You will improve your confidence and social skills by working in groups, managing and coaching your peers and working alongside staff assisting in the leadership programme.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

If you choose to apply for the leadership programme you could be working alongside staff in local schools, gaining experience which could lead to coaching and teaching.

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) (Core Curriculum)

Examination Board: n/a

Qualification: n/a

Teacher Contact: Miss Grimes

In this subject you have opportunities to show that you can take responsibility for your own learning and career choices by setting personal targets and planning to meet them. You will develop your ability to weigh up alternative courses of action for health and wellbeing, and learn strategies for managing independent living. You will clarify your views and opinions through discussions with peers and interaction with the subject matter in lessons delivered by teachers, the school nurse and visitors to the school.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The PSHE is delivered through timetabled lessons once a fortnight, and will cover the following topics over the two year period:

- employability and enterprise
- revision techniques and preparation for examinations
- relationships and sex education
- alcohol and drugs education
- body image and self esteem
- financial education
- crime and the criminal justice system
- the global community
- learning to learn
- practical healthy eating
- health and wellbeing

There is no formal assessment for PSHE but students will be expected to collate their work and manage their portfolio of evidence.

HOW WILL PSHE HELP ME?

In PSHE you will develop the self-awareness, confidence and skills you need for adult life, further learning and work. You will learn to understand and consider the consequences of your decisions and gain the knowledge and skills to seek advice on personal issues. You will become more aware of your place in the world as global citizens and how your actions in many areas are significant in an interdependent world.

Art and Design

Examination Board: Edexcel

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Capetti

This course will help you to develop your art skills so that you can produce work that you are really proud of. You will have a chance to express your own ideas and feelings and we will help you to do this in unusual and creative ways.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into two parts:

Unit One – Personal Portfolio

This work will be produced in your art lesson time and is worth 60% of the total marks.

Unit Two – Externally Set Assignment

The examination board will send us an examination paper that will contain a theme. You will work through a small project in order to arrive at a final outcome. This will be similar in format to the personal portfolio in that you will develop and explore ideas, try a range of different materials and then plan a final piece. The examination will last for ten hours and in this you will complete your final piece using materials of your own choice. Your ideas book will be marked with your final outcome.

The Externally Set Assignment is worth 40% of the total marks.

HOW WILL ART HELP ME?

Art education is all about learning to look at things in different ways. We will inspire you to do the same. The presentation and research skills that you learn in Art will help you in your other subjects as well. You will be able to use images and look at images in lots of different subjects with much greater knowledge and understanding.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Art GCSE is fun and exciting but it will be a valuable asset if you want to study A level Art or Photography with us in Oldfield Sixth Form.

Business Studies

Examination Board: Eduqas/WJEC

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Folland and Mrs Britton

If you enjoy watching TV programmes such as *The Apprentice*, *Dragon's Den* and *Be Your Own Boss*, GCSE Business Studies might appeal to you.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The content is presented in six clear and distinct topic areas:

- business activity
- influences on business
- business operations
- finance
- marketing
- human resources

The subject content will be assessed across two examination papers:

Component 1: Business Dynamics (62.5% of the qualification) is a 2 hour exam (100 marks)

Component 2: Business Considerations (37.5% of the qualification) is a 90 minute exam (60 marks)

Both papers are comprised of a combination of multiple-choice questions, calculation questions, short and extended answer style questions, data response and scenario-based questions.

HOW WILL BUSINESS STUDIES HELP ME?

You will develop a thorough understanding of topical and local business issues and will think about them in a critical manner, to build the skills of application, analysis and evaluation. It will empower you to develop as a commercially minded and enterprising individual. The course will also help you to develop a wide range of skills, enabling you to analyse information critically, to develop arguments, to make justified decisions and to prepare you for further study and career pathways.

You will be given opportunities to take part in business enrichment activities. Business Studies is a popular GCSE and – due to the diverse content – it complements a very wide range of other GCSE courses on offer, including technology, geography, computer science and media studies.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Business Studies GCSE is a good foundation for an A level course in business or economics at Oldfield Sixth Form, as well as college courses such as accountancy, law, tourism and economics.

Child Development

Examination Board: OCR

Qualification: OCR Cambridge National Level 2 Certificate

Teacher Contact: Mrs Clark

Have you got a young brother, sister or cousin? Did you watch *One Born Every Minute* without screaming? Are you considering becoming a midwife, teacher or nursery worker? Answer yes to all or some of the above and Child Development could be the course for you.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Child Development follows the OCR Cambridge National specification and is the equivalent to a GCSE qualification.

All students will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety. Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in PHSE and Biology.

The course includes talks from midwives and health visitors as well as bathing and changing a baby (doll) and making a meal for a toddler. You will also test drive prams, choose suitable outfits and toys and take a computerised 'real baby' home for the weekend.

Child Development is made up of 50% practical activities in class during Years 10 and 11 and a 1 hour 15 minute exam worth 50% of the qualification.

HOW WILL CHILD DEVELOPMENT HELP ME?

This course is an enjoyable course for those interested in children and will be beneficial to all students as it teaches key skills and knowledge of the fundamentals of child care and development. It can lead to A level studies and vocational courses or training.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

A Cambridge National in Child Development is a perfect foundation for the Cambridge Technical Health and Social Care course offered at Oldfield Sixth Form, or any course specializing in children, teaching, psychology or health.

Computer Science

Examination Board: OCR

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mr Eidman

GCSE Computer Science has been revised for teaching in September 2016. It is now regarded as one of the Science subjects alongside Biology, Chemistry and Physics with regard to EBacc qualifications.

Computing is a way of thinking. It is making the impossible possible. It is creating solutions to problems in everyday life.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The new specification is split into three components:

Component 01 – Computer Systems. 40% of the final total.

This focuses on computer systems and is similar in style to the previous GCSE course. It is an examined unit and makes up 40% of the assessment total. It is a written exam paper taking 90 minutes in duration. It focuses upon the main theoretical topics. These are networks, security, software and storage.

Component 02 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming. 40% of the final total.

This is a new written exam, focused on computational thinking and algorithms. Students will be tested on the elements of computational thinking and logic. You are principally assessed on your ability to write, correct and improve algorithms. This also takes 90 minutes and is a written paper.

Component 03 – Programming Project (non-exam assessment). 20% of the final total.

This component is the non-exam assessment where candidates will be challenged by a range of exciting and engaging tasks to apply the knowledge and skills you have learned. Computer programming is used to help analyse, design, test and evaluate a program written by the student to a pre-determined task.

HOW WILL COMPUTING HELP ME?

This course will provide a science-based qualification with a range of skills centred on effective computer use. It will support skills developed in mathematics, science and technology, and potentially open up further studies in the computer environment at A level and beyond.

Computer Science is a growth area in the UK jobs sector and there are many sector leading businesses in the South West area offering further employment and training opportunities for capable enthusiastic students.

Certificate in Digital Applications/Diploma in Digital Applications (CIDA/DIDA)

Examination Board: Edexcel Pearson

Qualification: CIDA/DIDA

Teacher Contact: Mr Eidman

This course is for you if you like using computers and can create a range of documents and multimedia products but do not want to be a computer programmer. It is an ICT based qualification which focusses upon your skill and understanding in using ICT as a method to produce meaningful resources.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

At level 2 the qualification is graded A*, A, B, C. The CIDA course is equivalent to one GCSE and the DIDA course is the equivalent of two GCSE grades.

CIDA has one mandatory unit plus one optional unit, whilst DIDA has two mandatory units and two optional units.

The core units consist of:

- developing web products
- coding for the web (diploma only)

The optional units consist of:

- creative multimedia
- game making
- artwork and imaging

You will take one optional unit for the single award, and two for the double award.

The core units are assessed through a practical examination, whilst the optional units are based upon a project following a specific brief.

The practical examination is a 2.5 hour computer based assessment in which you will have to meet the needs of a specific audience and purpose in your work. The practical work will cover a range of software skills, but notably web design, image editing, graphics and word based content.

Each of the optional units will be completed on its own mini website constructed by the student. The student will have to create this website as part of the project assessment as well as the actual unit content.

In each project there are five main areas to cover.

1. Design, 2. Edit and create, 3. Develop, 4. Present, 5. Review. Each element contributes marks to the units total which is a total of 33 marks per unit.

HOW WILL THIS COURSE HELP ME?

This course is suited to anyone who has a good set of ICT skills and can use a range of different software packages to create materials. Although there are some coding elements, it is predominantly about documents being made for a suitable audience and the output is the material which will be assessed. Photoshop, Microsoft Office, web design (Fireworks, Dreamweaver, the Adobe suite) are the main software applications which will be used and require a creative aspect to the work.

Dance

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Macnaughton

GCSE Dance follows the AQA syllabus and is the perfect course for students who love to create dances, perform and watch other people dance. Above all you will find that by studying dance you will improve your creative skills as well as your physical skills - that is what makes dance unique.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The GCSE Dance course has two components:

Component 1 Performance and Choreography

- Solo Performance: You will learn set phrases of movement from professional dance works and will develop these to perform a solo dance lasting between 1 minute and 1 minute 30 seconds.
- Performance in a Duo/Trio: You will perform in a group dance choreographed by yourself, your peers and your teacher. The marks for performance are combined and are worth 30% of your final mark.
- Choreography: You will create a solo or group dance based on a stimulus provided by the exam board. This is worth 30% of your final mark.

Component 2 Dance Appreciation

You will undertake a written exam paper at the end of the GCSE Dance course in which you will be assessed on your appreciation and critical analysis of your own work and professional dance work studied on DVD. The examination will last for 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth 40% of your final mark.

HOW WILL GCSE DANCE HELP ME?

Students studying GCSE Dance are able to develop practical dance skills such as alignment, flexibility, musicality and expression. It is also an excellent course for helping you to develop and enhance skills in team work, confidence, self-esteem, problem solving and obviously promoting fitness and wellbeing.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students who have undertaken GCSE Dance are equipped to study a range of courses at Key Stage 5, including A level Dance in Oldfield Sixth Form.

Drama

Examination Board: Eduqas

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Ms Bloomfield

If you enjoy working creatively and practically in groups, pairs and/or individually, or want to develop your knowledge and understanding of drama as well as your self-confidence as a performer and/or designer then you will enjoy this course. You will need to be able to work independently as well as with others and you will need to have time for after-school rehearsals.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The drama course covers many different aspects of acting, theatre crafts and performance.

Unit 1: Devised practical performance (40%). Internally assessed and externally moderated.

Students will participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by Eduqas. Students will need to produce a realisation of their piece of devised theatre, supporting evidence and an evaluation of the final performance or design.

Unit 2: Performance from a text (20%). Externally assessed by a visiting examiner in April/ May of Year 11.

Students will be assessed on their acting in a scene from a published play in small groups of between two and five members.

Unit 3: Written examination (40%). Written paper, 1 hour 30 minutes.

Students will be assessed on their ability to analyse one set text as an actor, designer and director and complete a live theatre review.

HOW WILL DRAMA HELP ME?

Drama develops skills for life – working as a team, time-management, self-confidence, problem solving, communication and performing to strangers or in unfamiliar situations are all important aspects of this course. Drama is a creative subject and works well with other subjects such as Art, English Literature, Music, Dance, Photography and Psychology.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

A level Theatre Studies follows on from this course and is based on the same central elements of performance, textual analysis and practical exploration.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Examination Board: Eduqas

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Miss C Evans

This exciting GCSE course will offer you the chance to develop your knowledge and extend your skills so you understand all about food. It will provide you with hands on experience of working with food.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into two parts:

Component 1: Examination

You will learn all about food commodities, principles of nutrition, diet and good health, the science of food and cooking and food preparation. You will then have an examination lasting 1 hour 45 minutes where you will be asked to answer questions based on stimulus material and then short and extended response questions. The examination is worth 50% of the total GCSE.

You will also have the chance to take your Level 2 Food Safety examination which is a professional qualification awarded by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

Component 2: Controlled assessment

The first task will consist of a practical food investigation, where students will investigate the working characteristics, function and chemical properties of ingredients. This is worth 15% of the total GCSE. The second task will test your practical cooking and food preparation skills. You will have to make a menu of three dishes. This is worth 35% of the total GCSE.

HOW WILL FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION HELP ME?

This course is full of exciting opportunities to be creative with food and learn new practical skills. It will teach you to prepare and cook dishes from cakes, tagines and curries, to portioning chicken and filleting fish. It will also provide you with practical life skills and knowledge of nutrition and health.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

A GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition is a good foundation for courses in Hospitality and Catering or Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition at Oldfield School in the Sixth Form.

French

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Newport

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. The course has a foundation tier (grades 1-5) and a higher tier (grades 4-9).

Paper 1: Listening (25%). Understanding different types of spoken language.

Paper 2: Speaking (25%). Communicating and interacting effectively in speech.

Paper 3: Reading (25%). Responding to different types of language.

Paper 4: Writing (25%). Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

HOW WILL THIS HELP ME?

French is spoken widely across Europe and the world and is currently the most popular foreign language to learn in this country. Being able to speak this wonderful language will allow you to travel and work all over the world, not just in France. Did you know that the second most popular language for international organisations such as charities, international companies, and world bodies such as the UN, is French? You will also be able to communicate with other nationalities anywhere in the world.

During the two years of the GCSE course you will learn how to speak French confidently by studying various topics including holidays, work, education and family relationships. You will build on what you have learnt already and develop your skills further in listening, reading and writing as well as speaking. You will also learn more about the culture and traditions in the French speaking world.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

French GCSE is a highly regarded element of the EBacc qualification. It is of course an essential grounding for studying A level French at Oldfield Sixth Form, and is highly valued by both universities and employers.

Geography

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mr Peacock

GCSE Geography is the course for students who are curious about the world outside the classroom.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

We learn about different places around the world and look at the opportunities and challenges they face. You will develop a broad understanding of the world and detailed knowledge of places in every continent.

Lessons involve a variety of activities including map skills, computer work, analysis, problem-solving, debate and hands-on fieldwork on sandy beaches – it is never dull! If you enjoy learning about new places and want to deepen your understanding of our world then GCSE Geography is for you.

Field trips

Students spend two days in the field. You will visit Clevedon to explore the sea defences and examine inequality. The second day is spent visiting Bristol looking at the regeneration of the city.

We study the AQA syllabus and the course is divided into three sections:

Unit 1 looks at the challenge of natural hazards; earthquakes and volcanoes, hurricanes and tornadoes, as well as climate change. We learn how people live with and manage life in a hazard zone. Unit 1 also studies the physical geography of the UK with a focus on rivers and coasts as well as ecosystems with a focus on rainforests and hot deserts.

Unit 2 looks at the challenges cities face in the 21st century; how can they become sustainable and cope with rapid growth? Unit 2 also looks at economic geography and how global trade has winners and losers. Lastly we look at the challenge of limited resources and how humans are coping with shortages of food, water and energy.

Unit 3 is a skills based paper. It involves fieldwork questions, where you explain the work you have done outside the classroom and an issue analysis question where you explain a current global issue, such as the migration crisis in Europe.

All exams include a variety of different question types: including multiple choice, short answers and longer answers and longer case study responses. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

HOW WILL GEOGRAPHY HELP ME?

Geography develops a wide range of knowledge and skills that are desirable to employers and universities. Employers value the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning research and report writing, working in a team, using new technologies and communication skills – and much more. Universities value the depth of understanding you will develop: Geography is a facilitating subject and is accepted by all universities for the majority of courses. People who study geography go on to a wide range of careers: from management to urban planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities or retail.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Geography GCSE is a useful foundation for A level Geography in Oldfield Sixth Form as well as supporting a range of other A level subjects from the sciences to other humanities subjects.

History

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mr Allen

GCSE History is a course for people with questions about why our world is the way it is. If you enjoy using evidence to find out what happened, constructing unassailable arguments and, above all, if you are interested in people and why they behave in certain ways, then history is the course for you.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into four parts, covering a wide range of periods and places.

Component 1, Section A: Period study. For this unit, we focus on Germany between 1890 and 1945, covering the efforts by Kaiser Wilhelm II to turn Germany into a great world power, the crushing effects of defeat in the First World War, the fragile democracy of the Weimar period and finally Hitler's rise to power and the devastating climax of the Second World War.

Component 1, Section B: Wider world depth study. Following on from the end of the Second World War, this unit looks at conflict and tension between East and West between 1945 and 1972. It focuses on the Cold War between the capitalist western allies and the communist bloc in the East, taking in spies, the Berlin Wall and the space race.

Component 2, Section A: Thematic study. This unit looks at migration and the people in Britain between the year 1000 and the present day. It will cover migration to and from Britain over a long period of time, providing an interesting contrast with the tighter focus of the other units, and will consider the impact of the movement of people into and out of this island.

Component 2, Section B: British depth study. We will focus on Norman England, 1066-1100. You might remember looking at William 'the Bastard' and the ways he controlled England in Year 7. Prepare for a more detailed examination of how the last successful invasion of this island changed things for the people here economically, religiously, socially, culturally and politically, with a focus on what is left behind in the historical environment. If you are interested in archaeology, you will enjoy this part of the course, which will include a trip to the site of a motte and bailey castle and monastery.

Components 1 and 2 will each be examined by a 1hour 45 minute exam worth 50% of the GCSE.

HOW WILL HISTORY HELP ME?

If done properly, the study of history will provide you with a huge variety of useful skills, such as constructing an argument, using evidence to support your point of view, seeing things from another person's perspective and writing clearly and effectively. This is why people with history qualifications are prized in many walks of life including law, journalism, politics and the media. You will also gain valuable knowledge about the world in which you live. GCSE History is a challenging course, but if you are determined and engaged, an extremely rewarding one.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Beyond the GCSE, there is a popular A level course at Oldfield Sixth Form.

Media Studies

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Ms Brewer and Ms Malt

Media Studies GCSE is the study of the media, whether that is film, television, magazines, newspapers, websites or posters. Through the study of a variety of texts you will learn about how the media influences us, how they are made and how they represent people or places in a variety of ways. During the course you will also have the opportunity to create your own media texts using industry standard computer programmes.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Examination: (70%) You will complete the majority of your Media GCSE through examination but this will be complete through two equally weighted exams. One will focus on exploring the media, media language and representation within feature films and in print-based advertisement. The second one will focus on media forms and products such as television programmes and music videos. Both exams will discuss how these media products are created and how audiences and viewers are affected by them.

Non-exam assessment: (30%) This is your opportunity to apply your knowledge of media language, forms and audiences to create your own product. This is a creative project where you research, plan, create and evaluate your own media text. Previously, students have used Photoshop and photography to make their own DVD sleeve for a film they have invented but this is subject to change as new briefs and tasks are sent to us by the exam board every year.

HOW WILL MEDIA STUDIES HELP ME?

You will analyse a number of media texts, learning how they use different techniques to create meaning. These analytical skills will help you in other subjects, such as English. They will also deepen your understanding of the importance and effect of the media in today's media saturated world. You will also develop your creative and artistic skills by producing your own media texts. We will train you to use quite complex computer software and so your ICT skills will be greatly improved.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

The course will provide you with a firm foundation of knowledge and skills should you wish to take Film or Media at A level. Furthermore, the analytical, creative and ICT skills you will learn will be transferable to a whole host of other subjects, from English to photography, that you may wish to pursue later in your education.

Music

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Ms Lobbett

GCSE Music is an exciting subject that gives you the opportunity to develop your musical skills on a practical level using a combination of traditional methods and up to date technology. If you enjoy music and want to continue to use your instrumental and/or vocal skills to make music in a creative way, this course is for you.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The music course is divided into three components:

Performing music (30%): Opportunities will be available throughout the course for you to perform by yourself as well as part of an ensemble; two of these performances will be submitted as part of your GCSE assessment.

Composing and appraising music (30%): You will compose two pieces of music, one in your own style and the other in response to a given brief. You will learn how to notate using Sibelius in the Mac suite whilst composing for your chosen instruments.

Appraising (40%): You will develop your knowledge about the elements of music and musical theory, whilst listening to and analysing a variety of music from the Western Classical Period through to current popular music. This aspect of the course is assessed in a 1 hour 30 minute exam.

HOW WILL MUSIC HELP ME?

The skills you will acquire in this course are numerous and varied. Music develops critical thinking, spatial reasoning and cognitive skills. It also helps develop communication skills and encourages creativity and expressiveness. Students who play music as part of a group develop strong team-working skills, self-discipline, self-esteem and the ability to listen to others. All of these skills will help you to develop as a person as well as improving your musical abilities. Music will also complement your other studies at GCSE as through Music GCSE you will build skills in analysis and presentation as well as creativity.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Music GCSE is a good foundation for A level Music in Oldfield Sixth Form. It can also lead onto other musical qualifications such as Music Technology or Performance Studies A level. The self-confidence you will gain and the skills mastered through such a rigorous qualification are well sought after in most further education courses and workplaces.

Oldfield Health and Fitness Vocational Course

Examination Board: NCFE

Qualification: Level 2 Certificate

Teacher Contact: Mr John

The Oldfield Health and Fitness Vocational programme has been tailored to support learners who may find following a purely academic route challenging. Students will be approached to pick this option to best support their achievement in Key Stage 4. Alongside extra literacy and numeracy support, students will also be working towards a 'Vocational Certificate' (or V Cert). These have the same level of rigour as GCSEs but often include project-based assessments. This provides some flexibility in delivery and allows students greater opportunities to use their creativity and imagination. V Certs meet the tough criteria set by both the DfE and Ofqual and are designed to give students a real alternative in their vocational study options for Key Stage 4.

V Cert qualifications can offer you a host of benefits such as:

- aid your individual engagement and achievement at school;
- provide you with the option to specialise within broader sectors;
- create hands-on practical learning opportunities;
- develop your skills and understanding of professional practice in a range of sectors.

We currently plan to offer V Cert Health and Fitness, and are exploring additional options.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

This qualification develops understanding of how fitness is beneficial and how a healthy balanced diet affects lifestyles. Students will learn and develop the skills needed to work in the fitness industry with a unique insight into personal training. Assignments focus on developing a fitness training program, training techniques and methods, the importance of diet and nutrition and the functions of the main body systems during exercise.

The assessment for the NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Health and Fitness consists of 2 types:

Internal assessment: Portfolio of evidence. This will be graded by Oldfield staff and externally moderated.

External assessment: 2 hour external assessment paper.

HOW WILL THE OLDFIELD VOCATIONAL COURSE HELP ME?

You will develop skills in preparing, planning and evaluating a health and fitness plan, carrying out fitness tests, team working, independent working and working to deadlines. You will also receive additional numeracy and literacy support.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress onto further Level 3 qualifications such as a Diploma in Exercise Health and Fitness Studies.

Photography

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Capetti

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into two parts:

Unit One – Personal portfolio

You will work on creating a portfolio that will allow you to explore ideas, materials and methods of photography. You will explore a multitude of locations to capture images based on your theme and you will look at the work of other photographers and say how this has influenced your own work. You will be expected to use the class time to explore the contextual understanding of photography and manipulate your images to the very best standard. You will have to work hard to take creative and interesting photographs outside of class that support your project. You will get the chance to explore all aspects of photography from the traditional to unconventional. This work is worth 60% of the total marks.

Unit Two – Externally set assignment

The examination board will send us an examination paper that will contain a theme. You will work through a small project in order to arrive at a final outcome. This will be similar in format to the personal portfolio in that you will develop and explore ideas, try a range of different materials and then plan a final piece. The examination will last for ten hours and in this you will complete your final piece that supports your theme. Your ideas book will be marked with your final outcome. The externally set assignment is worth 40% of the total marks.

HOW WILL PHOTOGRAPHY HELP ME?

Photographers use their cameras as tools of exploration, instruments for change. We will inspire you to do the same. The visual understanding and presentation skills that you learn in photography might help you in your other subjects as well. We think that you will be able to use images and look at images in lots of different subjects with much greater knowledge and understanding.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Photography GCSE is fun and exciting but it will be a valuable asset if you want to study A level Photography with us in Oldfield Sixth Form.

Physical Education

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Little

This course provides the opportunity to develop personal performance skills in PE to a high level. Theoretical work will be supported by practical aspects to increase knowledge and understanding. There will be a greater weighting towards the theory elements of the course, these components will be delivered through classroom and practical based approaches.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course is split into 3 sections. There is an increased emphasis on the theoretical content worth 60% of the qualification assessed through examination.

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport (30%)

What is assessed: Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training, use of data.

Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and wellbeing in physical activity and sport (30%)

What is assessed: Sports psychology, socio-cultural influences, health, fitness and wellbeing, use of data.

Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport (40%)

Practicals are now 30% of the qualification and must be three activities - one team activity, one individual activity and a free choice. In addition, performance analysis is worth 10% of the qualification.

HOW WILL PHYSICAL EDUCATION GCSE HELP ME?

The skills developed in this course may encourage you to do further qualifications within sport and PE. The sport and leisure industry is huge, and there are plenty of opportunities for you to work within an area you enjoy.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

A GCSE in PE is a good foundation for A level PE at Oldfield School. It can also serve as a good foundation for bio-mechanics or science related courses in further education.

Product Design

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Capetti

This exciting GCSE course will offer you the chance to explore the role of a professional designer working across a broad range of materials, tools and processes. As well as developing skills with wood, plastic and metal, you will be given the chance to build and use elements of CAD/CAM, electronics and graphics. As a product design student, you will develop an independent and practical approach to learning, enabling you to design and make innovative products using your creative skills.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into two parts:

Unit One – Controlled task. This makes up 50% of the final grade and consists of a design folder of work and a practical outcome, which you will develop from an initial brief set by the exam board.

Unit Two – Examination. The exam is 2 hours, at the end of Year 11 and consists of two parts: a design question based on a context supplied before the exam; and a section on the knowledge and understanding of product design gained throughout the course. This is worth 50% of the final grade.

HOW WILL PRODUCT DESIGN HELP ME?

A GCSE in product design will develop your creative and problem solving skills, as you work towards designing and making products to meet the needs of specific consumer groups. These are extremely beneficial skills in any work place and are highly desirable in both your future education and employment.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Product Design GCSE is a good foundation for an A level course in product design at Oldfield School in the Sixth Form, as well as college courses in construction, mechanics, plumbing and electronics. It could also form the basis of a career in architecture or engineering.

Religious Studies

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Miss Bird

Religious Studies GCSE is an inclusive subject. It is for people of any faith or religion and for people of no faith or religion at all. This course encourages students to play a role in multi-cultural Britain by developing a deep understanding of the beliefs, values and traditions of one or more religions. It also encourages students to question their own beliefs and challenge their ideas on what they think is right and wrong.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT: TWO 90 MINUTE EXAMINATIONS

The study of the religions of Christianity and Islam through which students will develop their knowledge of the key elements of these religions and their effects on individual or corporate moral behaviour attitudes, social practices and life-styles.

Module 1: Religious traditions

- Christianity: beliefs and teachings
- Christianity: beliefs and practices
- Islam: beliefs and teachings
- Islam: beliefs and practices

Module 2: Religious themes

- Religion and life
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Religion, crime and punishment
- Relationships and families

HOW WILL RELIGIOUS STUDIES HELP ME?

Religious studies helps students to:

- develop transferable knowledge, skills and attitudes;
- describe, apply and analyse issues that affect their daily lives, e.g., abortion, war, drug abuse, the death penalty;
- express their own points of view and listen to the views of others.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

It is a qualification that is valued by Oldfield Sixth Form, colleges and employers because of the transferable skills it develops. A student might also go on to study the subject, or related subjects, at A level. For certain subjects Religious Studies GCSE would be beneficial, e.g. leisure and tourism, health and social care.

Sociology

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mr Fenwick

Sociology GCSE allows you to analyse and assess the world around you from a variety of different perspectives. We investigate British society as well as exploring a range of issues across the globe. Sociology aims to equip you with a developed understanding of social changes and policies that are relevant to your life.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: The sociology of families and education

What is assessed:

- the sociology of families;
- the sociology of education;
- relevant areas of social theory and methodology.

How it is assessed:

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes;
- 100 marks;
- 50% of GCSE.

Paper 2: The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification

What is assessed:

- the sociology of crime and deviance;
- the sociology of social stratification;
- relevant areas of social theory and methodology.

How it is assessed:

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes;
- 100 marks;
- 50% of GCSE.

HOW WILL SOCIOLOGY HELP ME?

You will gain the ability to use evidence and to arrive at reasoned judgements based on evidence from a variety of sources. You will also develop your ability to critically evaluate media sources and political opinions. These are skills which will benefit you in a variety of subjects as well as within higher education and your future career.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Sociology A level links closely to the GCSE in terms of the assessed skills and subject content, and whilst it is not an essential subject required to study sociology at Oldfield Sixth Form it will closely support it. Students who take Sociology A level often also choose to study other essay based subjects such as history, psychology and English.

Spanish

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs Newport

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. The course has a foundation tier (grades 1-5) and a higher tier (grades 4-9).

Paper 1: Listening (25%). Understanding different types of spoken language.

Paper 2: Speaking (25%). Communicating and interacting effectively in speech.

Paper 3: Reading (25%). Responding to different types of language.

Paper 4: Writing (25%). Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

The course is most suitable for students who enjoy language and culture. Being able to speak this wonderful language will allow students to travel and work all over the world, not just in Spain. Geographically, a large number of countries that have Spanish as a dominant language include Spain, the United States, Venezuela, Argentina, Chile, Equatorial Guinea, the Philippines, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, Colombia, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Knowing Spanish opens the door for you to communicate with a third of a billion speakers worldwide!

HOW WILL THIS HELP ME?

Spanish is the third most commonly spoken language globally with more than 400 million speakers and it is the second most spoken native foreign language worldwide, after Mandarin. Being able to speak the language will allow students to communicate with other nationalities particularly in Spain, South America and even the USA. The Spanish language will also give students the key to a rich cultural heritage – literature, films, music and art.

Spain and the other Spanish speaking countries make up a vast Hispanic global economy so Spanish speakers are highly sought after by British employers. Being able to speak the language will put students in high demand when they look for a job in the future. Careers for which being a Spanish speaker would be an advantage include; medical assistants and doctors, bi-lingual receptionists and personal assistants, human resources managers, social workers, teachers and private tutors, border agency staff, journalists, civil servants, flight attendants to name but a few! Being able to offer Spanish as a skill will also open up many more opportunities.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Spanish GCSE is a highly regarded element of the EBacc qualification. It is of course an essential grounding for studying A level Spanish at Oldfield Sixth Form, and is highly valued by both universities and employers.

Design and Technology: Textiles

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

Teacher Contact: Miss M Evans

This course covers design and technology as a whole through the perspective of fashion design and textiles. It will appeal to you if you are interested in designing and making in textiles and have a keen interest in fashion and the design industry as a whole. You will explore a range of practical skills which allow you to use fashion and textiles in a creative and imaginative way. You will experiment with decorative and construction techniques to design and make your own quality products. You will gain an understanding of fashion trends, fabric construction and industrial design processes.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Year 10

During Year 10 you will produce a portfolio of practical work looking at fashion trends, the work of existing fashion designers and stores like Vivienne Westwood, Zara and Alexander McQueen, decorative and construction techniques and design skills. You will also learn about the workings of the design industry, including manufacturing processes, sustainability and properties of fibres and fabrics.

Year 11

Controlled Assessment:

During Year 11 you will complete your controlled assessment which forms 50% of your final grade. This is a design and make project, where you will work with a client to design and produce a final product. This could be any textiles product, from soft furnishings to clothing. You will produce a design folder of work and a practical outcome.

Examination:

The exam will be at the end of Year 11 and consists of two parts. The first section will be a short multiple choice section on all design and technology material areas. The second section will be on your chosen area, textiles. This is worth 50% of the final grade.

HOW WILL TEXTILES HELP ME?

Textiles GCSE will develop your creativity and problem solving skills, as you work towards designing and making products to meet the needs of specific consumer groups. These are extremely beneficial skills in any work place and are highly desirable in both your future education and employment.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

This course will prepare you with the understanding, creativity and practical skills needed to go on to study A level Textiles at Oldfield Sixth Form and then onto a degree or career in fashion or textile design.

Oldfield School Key Stage 4 Options

Core Curriculum	English Language*, English Literature*, Mathematics*, Science*, PE, PSHE, Work Experience	
Option		
A & B	French* Geography* History* Oldfield Health and Fitness Vocational Programme Spanish*	Choose TWO : A: B:
C & D	Free choice of two from: Art and Design Business Studies Child Development Computer Science* Digital Applications Dance Drama Food Preparation and Nutrition French* Geography* History* Media Studies Music Photography Physical Education Product Design Religious Studies Sociology Spanish* Textiles	Choose TWO : C: D: Choose TWO reserve options: Reserve: i)..... ii).....

Prohibited combinations

You cannot take the same subject twice, including duplicating choices from Options A and B in Options C, D and reserve options.

Please return to your tutor by 28th February 2018

Name (print):	Tutor Group:
Signed (student):	
Signed (Parent/Carer):	
Date:	

*Subjects marked in **bold** with an asterisk represent part of the English Baccalaureate; which is met where a student gains Level 2 passes in English, Maths, 2+Sciences, History or Geography and Spanish or French; this should be considered by students considering an academic route to university in the future.