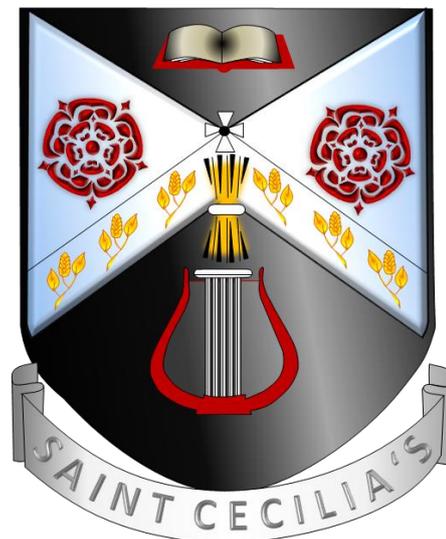


St Cecilia's RC High School



"Making the right moves"

Key Stage 4 Curriculum and Options

2015-2017

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February 2015

Dear Pupils (and Parents),

This is the time of year when schools traditionally hold what is described as an 'Options Evening'. The Government's original National Curriculum rightly insisted that young people study a, broad, balanced and relevant curriculum up until the age of sixteen. English and Maths are compulsory up to the age of 18 if a C grade has not been achieved by the end of Year 11. At St Cecilia's we fully support the principle of a broad and balanced curriculum, whilst applauding the fact that there is more flexibility with the curriculum than in previous years.

In the past, some pupils made poor choices, which seriously curtailed their future career options. Our broad and balanced core curriculum makes this increasingly less likely. Making choices is an important part of taking responsibility for ourselves. When we make choices about anything, we have to find out as much as possible, so that our decisions are as good as possible.

This booklet is designed to help you prepare to make important decisions about your future. Read the booklet carefully and discuss its contents at home and at school with your teachers.

All staff will give you as much support and advice as possible to help you make an informed choice. You will notice that some subjects are compulsory, but in other areas you are able to make a choice.

You will need to consider whether:

- You have done well in the subject in the past.
- You find the work interesting, easy to learn and enjoyable.

FAQ's

What are the choices?

During their first three years of secondary education (Years 7, 8 and 9) pupils at St Cecilia's are introduced to a wide range of subjects and skills which lay the foundation for the more detailed study which is necessary in order to prepare pupils for external examinations at the end of Year 11. Towards the end of Year 9 pupils are given the opportunity to choose, within certain compulsory groupings, the subjects they would wish to study at greater depth.

Why do pupils have to choose at such an early age?

Courses leading to external examinations (GCSE and Btec) usually take two years to complete, so they must be started at the beginning of Year 10.

Is the choice of subjects totally free?

No! Subject choice is made at such an early stage in the education process that it is necessary to ensure that the range of subjects chosen provides an acceptable curriculum which will leave open every possible avenue of progression beyond St Cecilia's at the end of Year 11.



Year 9 pupils' minds are rarely made up about their careers and it would be wrong to close off to them any avenues of progression, by making a narrow or unbalanced subject choice. Choices must be made within certain constraints and meet existing National Curriculum and school requirements.

Religious Education, English (Language and Literature), Mathematics, Science, ICT and Physical Education are compulsory for all pupils. These are known as the core subjects. PE and Computing are also offered as GCSE options.

Once the statutory requirements have been met, three more subjects can be chosen which will allow for a small degree of specialisation. Pupils will be encouraged to study a language as one of their optional choices.

A small number of pupils may choose only two options.

Within this system, most pupils will study nine subjects to examination level: English Language, English Literature and Science that is a dual award and therefore counts as two subjects. With the addition of RE, Mathematics, and three other subjects an excellent balance will have been achieved and all avenues of progression out of St Cecilia's will have been left open.

For some pupils a reduced number of examination courses are more suitable and we are able to offer a pathway that includes a combination of GCSE courses and work related learning. In the case of the latter, we are again hoping to offer a range of vocational courses at both Preston and Myerscough Colleges. These individual learning pathways can be tailored to the needs, interests and aspirations of individual students.

What are the changes to GCSE?

The current Year 9 pupils will be the first group to do the new style English and maths GCSEs. This means that in June 2017 they will be sitting the new exams. These exams as well as having no coursework/controlled assessment element will also be single tier. Foundation and Higher tiers have been phased out. The final grade they will get will be a number from 1-9, not a letter as we have now (A*-G). This change applies only to English and maths; other subjects will be phased in over the coming years. This means your son/daughter will leave school with a mixture of GCSE results: English Language, English Literature and maths will have a number as a result, the other subjects will be A*-G. A rough equivalence is shown below:

A*	A	B	C	D	E	FG	U
9 8	7	6 5 4	3	2	1	U	

As can be seen the equivalent of a C grade is a 4. A C grade is currently considered to be a "good" pass at GCSE. The government wants to change a "good" pass to a grade 5, which is currently a C/B. This current group of pupils and those who follow have had the bar raised considerably for them. Some of the content in the new style GCSE was previously in the AS syllabus; so you can appreciate there is a lot of work to be done over the next two years if success is to be assured.

Are there any other restrictions to the choice of subjects?

Yes! Subject teachers, taking account of assessments for example, may recommend that a particular course or combination of courses will be the most suitable for your son or daughter to follow.

What is the English Baccalaureate?

A recent development that may affect Option choices at Key Stage 4 is the English Baccalaureate. The Government believes that schools should offer pupils a broad range of academic subjects to age 16, and the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is not a new qualification in itself. It will recognise students' achievements across a core of selected academic subjects in getting good passes in rigorous GCSEs. The English Baccalaureate will cover achievement in English, Mathematics, sciences (including Computing), a language and a humanities subject (Geography or History). As a school we are measured on the number of pupils who have one of the EBacc subjects in their GCSE choice. It is for this reason that we ask all pupils to pick at least one subject from the "pink" list. See more details in the section below.

Progress and Attainment 8

Another new measurement the Government has introduced is Progress and Attainment 8. In short, the key measurement for schools from 2016 onwards will not be the number of pupils who get five GCSEs including English and Maths, but the number who do well in a group of eight subjects. The eight subjects must include English, Maths, two sciences (e.g. Double Award) plus one of the EBacc subjects these are: computer science, geography, history and modern foreign languages. For that reason pupils must pick at least one subject coloured pink in order for their set of GCSE results to "count" towards Progress 8.

Is help and advice available to pupils and parents?

Yes! Pupils in Year 9 are gradually being brought to an awareness of the need to make proper choices and time during PSE workshops and form tutorials have been devoted to this issue before final decisions need to be made. Teaching staff will be available to help with individual questions on Thursday 12th February from 4 pm onwards. Before this meeting the choices pattern from which you can choose will be made available to you. It would help if discussion about subject choices and possible future avenues of progression after Year 11 could also take place at home in order to back up the work being done at the school. You are invited to contact Mr Trickett, Mr Caulfield or Mrs Pye at school at any time to discuss any aspect of this process.

How important is regular attendance?

All courses demand a commitment of time and effort. The next few pages of this booklet include brief descriptions from subject teachers about their subjects. It must be stressed that all subjects at GCSE are demanding and that there are no easy options.

Consequently, regular attendance, punctuality, consistent application and homework completed promptly and carefully are essential. Schoolwork should take priority over such things as youth clubs, sport or part-time work. If homework is done as soon as possible after returning home, it is out of the way and your child can relax. Pupils in Year 10 and 11 have their work rigorously monitored. Pupils not achieving acceptable standards of work will be asked to explain why and given targets to improve. You, as parents, will be regularly informed as to your child's progress. Your support and encouragement will also have a vital part to play in your child's success.

We hope that all our pupils will do themselves justice by working with enthusiasm and determination in the next two years. It is very important that the final choice of subjects is a wise one. Throughout this booklet, we have tried to discuss all the different factors that should be considered. Some pupils already know which career they wish to follow and find that its requirements coincide with the subjects that they both enjoy the most and at which they are progressing very well. However, some will change their minds and many, currently, do not know which career they wish to follow. Therefore, it is extremely important that the choice of subjects is well balanced and broadly based, so 'leaving as many doors open as possible' and providing a good general education upon which so many careers and courses depend.

Course availability will be determined by pupil demand and teacher availability. We will of course advise parents if the situation arises where a course needs to be withdrawn.

Here's hoping you make all the right moves!

Mr G Caulfield

Assistant Headteacher

Mr N Taylor

Head of Year 9

TIMETABLE FOR DECISION MAKING**YEAR 10 AND 11 COURSES****2nd February 2015**Options Booklet out to
Parents/Pupils**12th February 2015**

Year 9 Options Evening

27th March 2015Final date for return of pupils'
course choices to school**SUMMER TERM 2015**

Pupils' course choices finalised

SEPTEMBER 2015

Start of Year 10 courses

APRIL 2016

Year 10 examinations

DECEMBER 2016Year 11 practice examinations
'mocks'**JANUARY 2017**

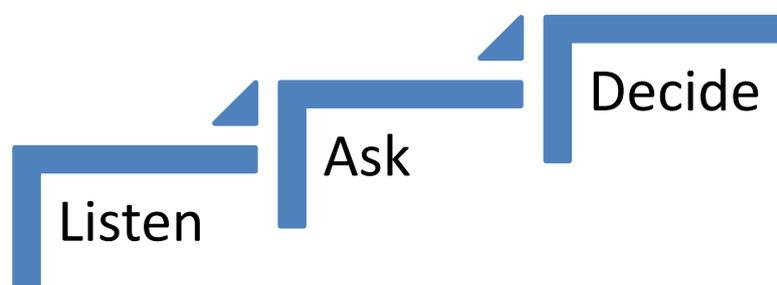
Exam entries completed

MAY/JUNE 2017

Final examinations

CHOOSING

Some tips on how to prepare you for the choice of subjects.



Remember that you are unique.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No one else is likely to have exactly the same abilities and interests as you.
<u>Do not choose a subject just because you like the teacher.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers change. Your favourite teacher may not be teaching you next year.
Listen to what your teachers tell you about what subjects will be like in year 10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you want to know more, ask questions. Your teachers are very pleased to help.
Ask advice from your parents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will want to be involved in your choice. Sit down with them and tell them what you would like to do.
Talk to pupils who are now in year 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They can tell you about their subjects and what you need to do in them.
Find out if there are particular qualifications you need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making the right moves takes time - so start now!

RELIGIOUS STUDIES**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: EDEXCEL****COURSE SUMMARY**

Most pupils will follow the Edexcel Course in Religious Studies at GCSE level. Pupils will study:

Religion & Life based on a study of Catholic Christianity plus one other unit

A study of the ways in which Christian beliefs and Biblical teaching, in particular the Roman Catholic tradition, are related to moral issues. Throughout the course pupils will be encouraged to develop an enquiring, critical and sympathetic approach to the study of the Roman Catholic faith. They will be helped to explore questions about the meaning and purpose of life, and to reflect on religious responses to moral issues.

NO COURSEWORK**EXAMINATION**

There is a written examination for each unit. There will be one tier of assessment in the examination paper. The full range of GCSE grades A* to G will be available on the single tier.

Examinations take place at the end of Year 11.

ENGLISH LITERATURE**LEVEL:** GCSE**BOARD:** WJEC CBAC Ltd. 60115246/1**SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT****Component 1: Shakespeare and Poetry**

Written examination: 2 hours 40% of qualification

Section A (20%) Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet; OR Macbeth; OR Othello; OR Much Ado About Nothing; OR Henry V; OR The Merchant of Venice

*One extract question and one essay question based on the reading of a Shakespeare text from the above prescribed list.**Learners are not permitted to take copies of the set texts into the examination.*

Section B (20%) Poetry from 1789 to the present day

Two questions based on poems from the WJEC Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison.

*Learners are not permitted to take a copy of the anthology into the examination.***Component 2: Post-1914 Prose/Drama, 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry**

Written examination: 2 hours and 30 minutes 60% of qualification

Section A (20%) Post-1914 Prose/Drama

Lord of the Flies (Golding); OR Anita and Me (Syal); OR Never Let Me Go (Ishiguro); OR The Woman in Black (Hill); OR Oranges are not the Only Fruit (Winterson); OR The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time (play script) (Stephens); OR A Taste of Honey (Delaney); OR An Inspector Calls (Priestley); OR The History Boys (Bennett); OR Blood Brothers (Russell)

*One source-based question on a post 1914 prose/drama text from the above-prescribed list**Learners are not permitted to take copies of the set texts into the examination.*

Section B (20%) 19th Century Prose

A Christmas Carol (Dickens); OR Silas Marner (Eliot); OR Pride and Prejudice (Austen); OR War of the Worlds (Wells); OR Jane Eyre (Brontë); OR The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde (Stevenson)

*One source-based question on a 19th century prose text from the above prescribed list**Learners are not permitted to take copies of the set texts into the examination.*

Section C (20%) Unseen Poetry from the 20th/21 Century

Two questions on unseen poems, one of which involves comparison.

This linear qualification will be available in the summer series each year. It will be awarded for the first time in summer 2017.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE**LEVEL:** GCSE**BOARD:** WJEC CBAC Ltd. 601/4505/5**SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT****Component 1: 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing**

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 40% of qualification

Section A (20%) — Reading

Understanding of one prose extract (about 60-100 lines) of literature from the 20th century assessed through a range of structured questions

Section B (20%) — Prose Writing

One creative writing task selected from a choice of four titles

Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction

Reading and Transactional/Persuasive Writing

Written examination: 2 hours 60% of qualification

Section A (30%) — Reading

Understanding of two extracts (about 900-1200 words in total) of high-quality non-fiction writing, one from the 19th century, the other from the 21st century, assessed through a range of structured questions

Section B (30%) — Writing

Two compulsory transactional/persuasive writing tasks

One presentation/speech, including responses to questions and feedback

Achievement in Spoken Language will be reported as part of the qualification, but it will not form part of the final mark and grade.

This linear qualification will be available in the summer and November series each year. It will be awarded for the first time in summer 2017.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY CATERING**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: Welsh Joint Education Committee****ASSESSMENT: Controlled assessment 60% Exam 40%****Controlled Assessment - 60%**

Catering skills related to food preparation and service

Practical task 1 - 20% - duration 15 hours (Year 10)

Practical Task 2 - 40% - duration 30 hours (Year 11)

Exam - 40%

1¼ hour written paper

Candidates are required to respond to short answer, structured and free response questions drawn from all the areas of study

Areas of study

- The catering industry
- Nutrition and meal planning
- Food production
- Technological developments

MATHEMATICS

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: EDEXCEL

COURSE SUMMARY

There are three assessment objectives:

- AO1: Recall and use knowledge of Mathematics 45-55%
- AO2: Select and apply mathematical methods in a range of contexts 25-35%
- AO3: Interpret and analyse problems and generate strategies to solve them 15-25%

ASSESSMENT

This is a linear course assessed by 3 written papers at the end of Year 11

Each paper will last 1 hour and 30 minutes

Each paper contains 80 marks

Paper 1 is non-calculator and papers 2 and 3 are calculator

Each paper contributes equally to their overall grade

There are two tiers of entry: Foundation tier (grades 1-5) and Higher tier (grades 4-9)

Below shows a guide to the exam content. Questions will be a mixture of styles from short single mark questions to multi-step problems

One paper is non-calculator, the other allows a calculator

Topic Area	Foundation Tier (%)	Higher Tier (%)
Number	25	15
Algebra	20	30
Ratio	25	20
Geometry	15	20
Probability	15	15

EQUIPMENT:

All pupils will need for their GCSE lessons and examination. (available from the Maths Dept £10 per pack)

- pen
- pencil
- rubber
- ruler
- protractor
- compass
- **Scientific calculators**

SCIENCE**LEVEL: GCSE**

There is a new Science specification which will begin in September 2015. All GCSE qualifications will be examined by a terminal exam. Currently we are unable to comment on the weighting of each exam. However we do envisage that the subject content will remain fairly similar to the following model:

COURSE SUMMARY

This two year course leads to a dual GCSE award. This means that most students, after examinations in their final year are awarded 2 GCSE grades in Science.

YEAR 10 - CORE SCIENCE

Students will study the first of the two Science GCSE's. The course is divided into three sections:

- Section 1 - Unit 5 - first half of Biology 1, Chemistry 1, Physics 1
- Section 2 - Unit 6 - second half of Biology 1, Chemistry 1, Physics 1
- Section 3 - Centre Assessed Unit (controlled assessment) which will assess investigative and practical skills.

ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

Students will study for the second Science GCSE and will follow the course detailed below:

ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

The course is divided into 3 sections:

- Section 1 - Unit 5 - first half of Biology 2, Chemistry 2, Physics 2
- Section 2 - Unit 6 - second half of Biology 2, Chemistry 2, Physics 2
- Section 3 - Centre assessed unit (controlled assessment)

SEPARATE SCIENCES**LEVEL:****GCSE**

This will be offered to 10A1 and continued to 11A1. This is due to the course having curriculum time for 2 GCSEs but material for 3 GCSEs needs to be taught. The pace for this class will be fast.

The course is for separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

All exams in final year of course. (Linear not modular)

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: EDEXCEL****CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT CRITERIA - 60%**

The coursework is made up of 2 elements, design and making

Designing:

This will include design folder work which follows product development from research to manufacture.

Making:

This supports the design folder work producing a final product using a variety of components and demonstrating various techniques

Examination (externally marked) (Terminal Examination (40%) -**1 paper only covering all grades**

Written paper (40%) single tier - 1½ hours (grades A* - G)

Written Papers:

Will test the knowledge and understanding of the designing and making of a product using the relevant materials and the electronic principles involved at the appropriate level for each course and tier.

The Coursework Project:

Is an integrated design and make activity which should result in a usable and useful electronic product (40 hours max.)

EQUIPMENT

Pupils will be expected to provide a technology apron for practical and a hard backed ring file for notes. A4 folders will be provided for a minimal deposit.

HISTORY

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

SYLLABUS: MODERN WORLD HISTORY

COURSE SUMMARY:

- This Modern World course covers aspects of history during the twentieth century.
- All of the course content is tested in two examinations that pupils will sit at the end of year 11.
- Good literacy skills are required to cope with the quantity of content that is tested at the end of year 11
- Pupils will be building on the knowledge and skills that have been developed throughout KS3.

Paper 1

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The causes of the First World War • The Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations • Hitler and the Causes of The Second World War 	<p>The examination will be taken at the end of Year 11</p> <p>(1 hr 45 mins)</p>	<p>Paper 1 is worth 37.5% of the final grade</p>
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Paper 2

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany 1919 – 1929 • Hitler's Germany 1929 – 1945 • The Vietnam War 1954 - 1975 	<p>The examination will be taken at the end of Year 11</p> <p>(1 hr 45 mins)</p>	<p>Paper 2 is worth 37.5% of the final grade</p>
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CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT

- Two tasks will be set each year by the Exam Board and will be on an aspect of British History during the First World War and the Second World War
- The assessment tasks will be completed in lessons during the autumn term of Year 11
- The Controlled Assessment is worth 25% of the final grade

MODERN LANGUAGES: FRENCH**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: Edexcel****COURSE SUMMARY**

If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE languages is an excellent choice for you. The course covers the skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing and builds on topics covered at KS3.

Listening – 20%

Pupils sit an exam at the end of Year 11 where they answer questions whilst listening to a recording of native speakers talking about topics that have been studied over the course.

Reading – 20%

Pupils sit an exam at the end of Year 11 where they must read a series of texts in the foreign language and answer questions in both English and the foreign language.

Controlled Assessments in writing and speaking

These assessments are taken in class time throughout Year 10 and 11.

Writing - two tasks worth **30%** of the final GCSE grade.

These are marked by the Examination Board.

Speaking - two recorded tasks worth **30%** of the final GCSE grade.

These are marked by the teacher.

Dictionaries

It is vital that students have a dictionary for use during this course. We recommend purchasing the 'Collins Easy Learning' Dictionary in the relevant language, which is available from all bookstores at a cost of approximately £8.

Pupils will also be required to purchase a revision guide costing approximately £3.

MODERN LANGUAGES: German**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: Edexcel****COURSE SUMMARY**

If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE languages is an excellent choice for you. The course covers the skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing and builds on topics covered at KS3.

Listening – 20%

Pupils sit an exam at the end of Year 11 where they answer questions whilst listening to a recording of native speakers talking about topics that have been studied over the course.

Reading – 20%

Pupils sit an exam at the end of Year 11 where they must read a series of texts in the foreign language and answer questions in both English and the foreign language.

Controlled Assessments in writing and speaking

These assessments are taken in class time throughout Year 10 and 11.

Writing - two tasks worth **30%** of the final GCSE grade.

These are marked by the Examination Board.

Speaking - two recorded tasks worth **30%** of the final GCSE grade.

These are marked by the teacher.

Dictionaries

It is vital that students have a dictionary for use during this course. We recommend purchasing the 'Collins Easy Learning' Dictionary in the relevant language, which is available from all bookstores at a cost of approximately £8.

Pupils will also be required to purchase a revision guide costing approximately £3.

ART AND DESIGN, 4201**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: AQA****COURSE SUMMARY**

This exciting course allows for the study of art and design in both breadth and depth. It provides a strong and appropriate foundation for further progression to art and design related courses such as, A level, BTEC and Creative and Media Diplomas. This course will enable students to explore a range of two and three dimensional approaches to their studies.

Students will use a wide variety of materials and methods to create diverse and individual work. They will use clay, modroc wire, plaster and papier mache in developing 3-D vessels, masks, Gargoyles and other sculptures. They may have the opportunity to design clocks, perfume packaging, mirrors or stained glass windows. As the course progresses pupils are encouraged to tailor their work in accordance with their own personal aspirations. They may develop skills by creating textile pieces of work, silk painting and batik. Expressive Paintings will be avenues for students to explore their own personal ideas, feelings and opinions on their world. Students will be expected to increasingly use self-study skills in order to express themselves through their work. Gaining an appreciation of other artists work will inspire and inform their work. Teachers will also expect them to develop the standard of their observational drawing and other skills.

Unit 1: Portfolio of Work (Coursework)**Coursework will carry 60% of the marks**

The course study will be broadly based from the following: Drawing and painting, graphics and three-dimensional studies. Students will be encouraged to see Art at first hand for themselves and as a class through the provision of trips to galleries

Unit 2: Externally set task (exam assessment)**The externally set task will carry 40% of the total marks**

The task will be set in January and pupils will be given several weeks in which to prepare and develop their own work in response to the exam paper's questions. This is followed by a ten-hour period of sustained focused study in which candidates are expected to make their own unaided work informed by their preparatory studies.

The coursework and the terminal examination work will be exhibited for moderation purposes.

Equipment

A4 Sketch Pad (cartridge paper); a **good** range of drawing pencils, coloured pencils, felt pens, ruler and rubber etc. The Art department usually sell various equipment to pupils at very good prices, at the start of Year 10.

MUSIC**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: EDEXCEL****COURSE SUMMARY****Coursework - Performance (30%)**

Pupils will perform one solo piece and one ensemble piece. This is internally assessed and recorded during the course.

Coursework - Composition (30%)

Pupils will compose two pieces of music from a choice of the areas of study. This is assessed internally.

Listening and Appraising Test - (40%)

An internal examination of 1 hour 30 minutes based on the areas of study covered over the course. This is assessed externally.

Course Requirements

Pupils need to be interested and enjoy music. As 30% of the total marks is for performing, pupils must be able to play an instrument or sing. If pupils are keyboard players, they must be able to use two hands.

* Since 2009 pupils have to study 12 set works, 3 from each area of study including two extended written questions. The pieces include classical music, world music, rock and blues music, songs from musicals and club music

PHYSICAL EDUCATION**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: EDEXCEL****COURSE SUMMARY**

- One full course specifications with four practical activities assessed
- Emphasis on practical skills, with 60% coursework
- Analysis of performance, designed to be integrated throughout the course
- Focus on factors affecting performance related to the physiology of exercise
- A visiting moderation assessment programme

• Activities include:

Football	Netball
Basketball	Hockey
Volleyball	Cricket
Rounders	Table Tennis
Badminton	Exercise activities

If pupils excel in other areas and attend a recognised club, external assessment can be arranged.

- Some additional extra-curricular sessions may be offered
- 40% theory including the areas of:
 - Exercise and training
 - Safety aspects and risk assessment in sport and physical activity
 - Applied anatomy and physiology

COURSEWORK

60% coursework, which includes:

- Assessment in four different activities from two activity groups
- Analysis of performance in one of the chosen activities

EXAMINATION

40% examination papers:

- 1 hour 30 minutes paper:
 - Part 1: multiple-choice questions
 - Part 2: short answer questions
 - Part 3: scenario questions

EQUIPMENT: One A4 ring binder and appropriate kit for each activity

GEOGRAPHY**LEVEL: GCSE****BOARD: AQA****COURSE SUMMARY**

The content of this GCSE focuses on current issues designed to inspire and motivate students to study GCSE Geography. It will inspire students to become global citizens by exploring their place in the world, their values and responsibilities to other people and to the environment.

Students will study units from the following:

Unit 1: Physical Geography (37.5%)

- Restless Earth
- Rocks, Resources and Scenery
- Challenge of weather and climate
- Living world
- Water on land
- Ice on land
- Coastal zone

Unit 2: Human Geography (37.5%)

- Population change
- Changing Urban Environments
- Changing Rural Environments
- The Development Gap
- Globalisation
- Tourism

Unit 3: Local Field Work Investigation (25%)**Examination:**

Unit 1.	1 hour 30 minute examination
Unit 2	1 hour 30 minute examination
Unit 3.	Coursework

All units must be completed. There are two assessment tiers: Higher A* - D; Foundation C – G.

Equipment

File for field study.



BTEC EXTENDED FIRST ENGINEERING**Level****LEVEL 2 BTEC EXTENDED FIRST CERTIFICATE****COURSE SUMMARY**

The students will study 3 different aspects of modern engineering. This will be delivered partly in theory and partly practical sessions.

Each unit of study will be assessed internally and a sample of work sent away for external moderation.

There is no end of course examination, although all students on the course will be assessed regularly during the 2 years.

The marking scheme is based on Pass, Merit and Distinction. Each student will have opportunities to excel to their highest possible grade.

A **pass** grade is equivalent of 1 Grade C GCSE

A **merit** grade is equivalent of 1 Grade B GCSE

A **distinction** is equivalent of 1 Grade A GCSE

Students will be expected to provide a Technology apron for practical sessions and a hard backed ring file for coursework notes.

BTEC FIRST IN SPORT

LEVEL**LEVEL 2 BTEC FIRST AWARD IN SPORT**

This is a vocational course; there is **NO** final exam for this subject, but there is an external exam for Unit 1. This is an online test and can be repeated.

The BTEC in sport is designed to offer students a wide variety of sporting experiences, giving candidates the opportunity to complete assignments based on the world of sport.

This course is not a practical sport based subject. It is coursework based with some practical sections.

Unit	Core units
1	Fitness for sport and exercise
2	Practical sports performance
Unit	Specialist units
6	Leading sporting activities
5	Training for personal fitness

This option will be offered over one option block plus core PE lessons to make up the course requirement time.

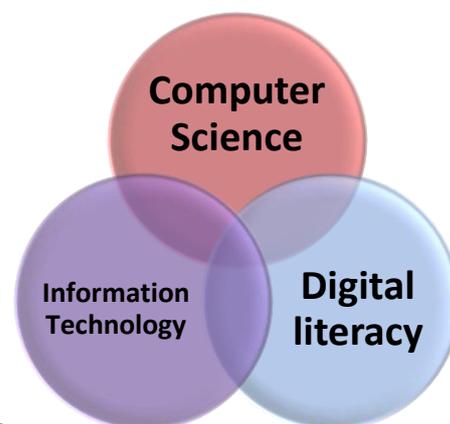
If you have any further queries about this course please do not hesitate to contact Mr Taylor or look on the website at edexcel.org.uk and go to BTEC first in sport.

Computing

Computers are a part of everyday life and technology is essential to our lives. Almost every task or activity that you carry out involves computers and technology. Therefore, understanding how computers work and being able to use them creatively gives you the power to affect the world around you in positive ways. This is why we study **Computing**.

Computing looks at:

- How computers work
- How computer systems work
- The designing and building of your own programs
- Problem solving and applying your own knowledge and Information Technology tools to solve a range of tasks.
- Being able to combine a range of technologies together to produce digital artefacts (products) and have the ability to evaluate them.



Computing will bring new and exciting challenges. It will make you look at a computer and how it works in different ways. It will give pupils a chance to explore their digital skills and see the subject in a new light.

GCSE Computing

At Key Stage 4 all pupils will study Computing. They will complete a series of projects aimed at testing pupils in all areas of Computing. Pupils will produce a range of documents that are used in the world of business such as spreadsheets, advertising documents, databases etc. They will also look at more niche areas of Computing such as programming and coding.

Assessment:

Pupils will complete 2 assessments:

- Controlled Assessment
- Written exam

Controlled Assessment

The Controlled Assessment will be completed in class under supervision. The tasks will be set by the exam board and pupils will have to complete the tasks on their own using the skills they have developed in Key Stage 3 and use the new skills they will be introduced to in Key Stage 4.

Written Exam

The written exam is sat at the end of Year 11 and is not done on computer. The exam usually tests pupils on how computers have changed and benefitted society. It will test pupils understanding of why computers are used and how they work. To help prepare for the exam theory will be delivered in class and Revision aids will be available for pupils to purchase.

Alternative Curriculum

For a small number of pupils the full range of GCSEs may not be the most appropriate route to prepare them for the world of work. St Cecilia's, in partnership with Preston College offers alternative curriculum courses in: Hairdressing, Construction and Motor Vehicle Studies.

Pupils will be selected for these courses following consultation with parents, senior staff and of course, the pupils themselves. Places for these courses are very limited and will be restricted only to those pupils for whom the alternative curriculum is most appropriate.

Further information on alternative curriculum courses can be obtained from Mrs Pye, Assistant Headteacher.

Mr G Caulfield

Assistant Headteacher

KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS 2015- Final Choices Questionnaire

NAME - _____ FORM – _____

Based on your initial choices, these are the most popular locations for each subject. Most pupils will not have to change, but there may be a few who will have to choose again. Remember to choose at least one *PINK* subject.

Block A	Block B	Block C
PE	<i>History</i>	<i>Geography</i>
Art	Catering	<i>Computing</i>
Music	<i>German</i>	<i>French</i>
Electronics	<i>Geography</i>	Catering
<i>German</i>	Engineering	<i>History</i>

My Choice:

BLOCK A	
BLOCK B	
BLOCK C	

If there is a combination of subjects that you would like, but the blocks do not allow it, then please show it here:

A _____ B _____ C _____

Your answers will help us to organise the Options system in school. Please think carefully before you fill in the form. Please get your parents to sign below that they have seen your choices.

Thank you

Mr. Caulfield

Signed:----- (pupil)

Signed:----- (parent)

