



Chislehurst School for Girls

YEAR 9

Options Booklet

2025-2026



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A photograph of two young women sitting on a wooden bench in a park. They are wearing light blue shirts and dark skirts, facing each other and talking. The background is filled with dense green trees and foliage, with sunlight filtering through the leaves. A dark blue horizontal bar is positioned above the text.

Section One

A MESSAGE FROM MRS FRENCH – HEADTEACHER

Dear Year 9,

The time has come for you to make your subject choices for GCSE study. For some of you, this will be an easy task and you will have known for a long time where your future is heading, and which subjects you need to choose to get you there. However, for others there will be a lot of soul searching and even research to see which subjects you need to take for future study and careers.

My best advice to you is to choose the subjects that you enjoy and hold onto a good breadth of subjects to keep your choices open, as you develop your career plans further up the school.

If you need help or advice, do not hesitate to speak with your Head of Year and class teachers, so that you may find out more about what the GCSE syllabus contains and the possible courses that they could take you to later in life. This is an exciting time in your educational careers and gathering information will make sure that you make good, well-informed decisions. Do talk with parents/carers too and read this booklet carefully, so that you find out all of the details.

I wish you every success in this process and look forward to seeing how they will lay the foundations for your future goals and career aspirations. Remain ambitious and expect great things for your futures.

Mrs M French
Headteacher



WHAT TO DO

First

- Read this booklet carefully,
- Talk to your parents and carers,
- Talk to your Form Tutor,
- Talk to the Subject Teachers,
- Talk to Guidance and Subject staff about careers,
- Think about what you might do in our Sixth Form, or at a college or apprenticeship of your choice
- Think about what you might do when you leave school,

Then

- You will only need to fill in the digital form you have been sent.
- The subjects you will be taking as from September will be confirmed during the Summer Term.
- If no preference is indicated on the form, the school will assign you to an appropriate course.



THE CURRICULUM

Core Subjects

You will all take the following subjects:

English
Mathematics
Science
Religious Studies
Core PE
PSHE

For other Subjects – Follow instructions on the pathway forms to select subject choices.

Criteria for allocating students when a subject is over-subscribed can be found on page 34.



THE BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We offer the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award as an extra-curricular opportunity in Year 10. We are delighted that it has become one of the most popular extra-curricular activities in the school, with more than half of the current Year 10 opting to take part. It is entirely optional, and students must apply towards the end of Year 9 once the Award has been launched with them.

The Bronze DofE Award is an internationally recognised award which is valued by universities and employers alike. It demonstrates a breadth of interests and activities, as well as promoting independent learning, teamwork, commitment, problem solving, and resilience. Many of our students also find that taking part in the DofE Award helps them to develop their confidence, discover new talents and strengths, build enduring friendships, and make memories that will last a lifetime.

Students complete four sections in order to achieve their award. Three of these are independently organised and undertaken by the students themselves: Skill, Physical and Volunteering. These can cover a huge range of different activities, which can be chosen to suit the student's own interests and talents. The fourth section is perhaps the most recognisable element of the DofE Award, and is the Expedition. Students plan a journey in groups of 5-7, then head out into the countryside, carrying their own equipment, setting up camp, cooking their own dinner, and having an adventure together.

Bronze DofE is a lot of extra hard work, but many of our students and their families say it's worth it. Bronze DofE is voluntary, non-competitive, and open to all Year 10 students across all option pathways. We look forward to sharing more about the Award with the students towards the end of Year 9, and hopefully welcoming them into our 2025-26 cohort!



CAREERS EDUCATION & GUIDANCE

Careers Education and Guidance refers to a range of activities provided by the school to help you make informed choices and transitions affecting your future education, training and employment.

Most aspects of school life, such as the curriculum, pastoral care and the guidance programme, extra-curricular activities and work experience, prepare you for adult life.

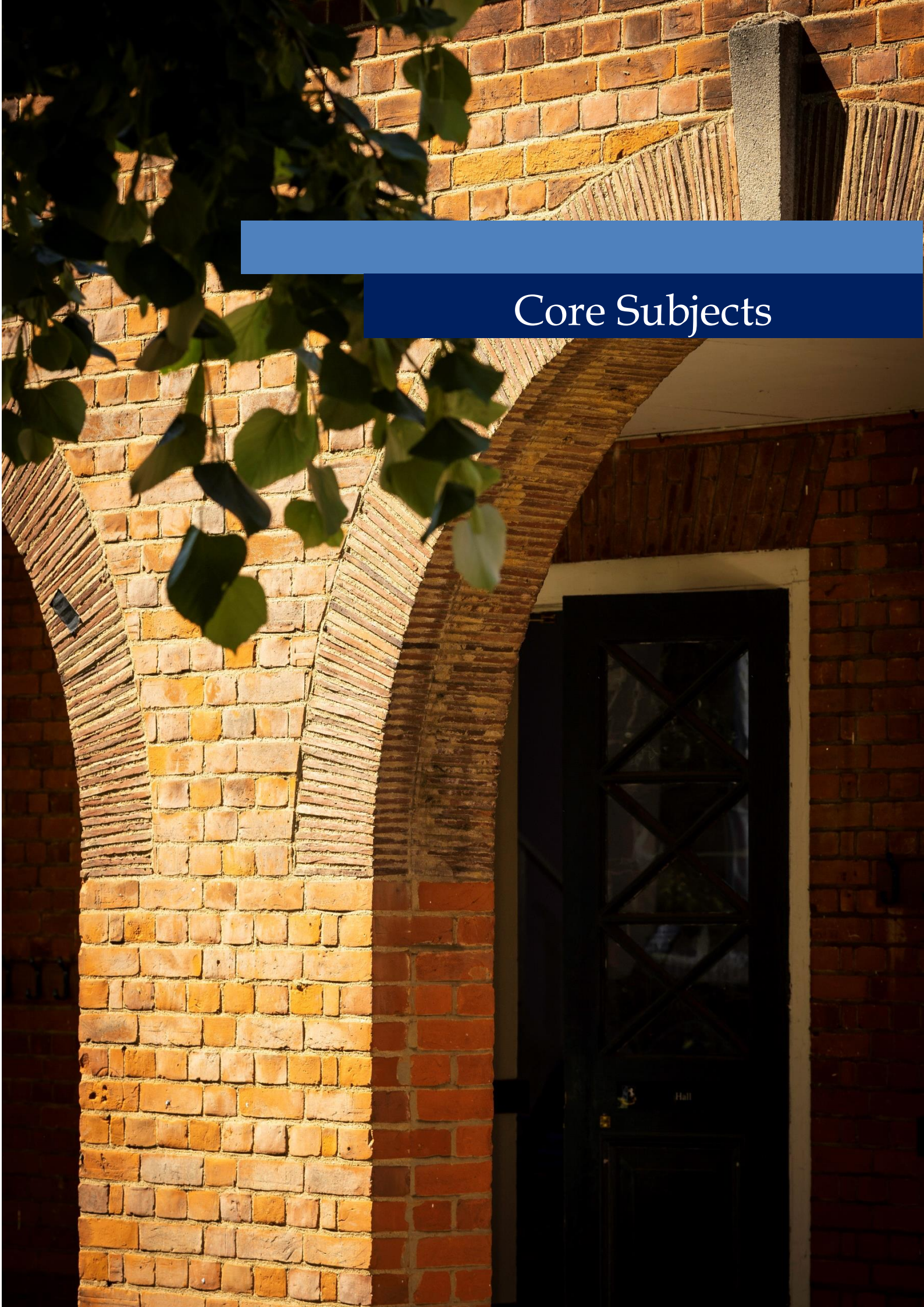
In Year 11 you will study job acquisition skills: how to write letters of application, CVs, and the different techniques to use at interviews. Most of these tasks will be computer-aided.

Finding Information:

Between Year 10 and Year 13 we will help you look into a range of careers and higher education resources. Our resources include:

- Which A-Levels, or other courses, or apprenticeships?
- Excel at Interviews - tactics for job and college applications;
- What can I do without a Degree?
- Writing CVs for every type of job;
- The Apprenticeship Guide;
- Jobfile - the essential careers handbook, containing over 2000 job titles with an A-Z of over 900 full job descriptions;
- University Guides;
- HEAP Guide to University Degree Course Offers;
- How to complete your UCAS application;
- Your Gap Year;
- UCAS Entry Requirements.
- UNIQ
- Sutton trust website



A photograph of a brick building with a series of arches. A dark door with a diamond-patterned glass insert is visible on the right. Green leaves are in the upper left corner. A blue banner with the text 'Core Subjects' is overlaid on the right side.

Core Subjects

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Board: AQA

What will I study?

You will undertake a wide variety of reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities.

Reading

You will be reading an exciting range of fiction and non-fiction texts. The course will assess your ability to interpret writers' ideas, to draw comparisons between texts and appreciate and analyse the effects created by the writers' language choices.

Writing

You will be given the opportunity to write for a variety of purposes and audiences, creating vivid descriptions, engaging stories and opinion pieces designed to inform or persuade.

How will I be assessed?

You are assessed in two examinations, entitled 'Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing' and 'Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives'. They are each worth 50% of the final mark. Both exams are divided into reading and writing sections. You are also awarded a grade for speaking and listening (pass, merit or distinction). Although this will not contribute towards your grade for English Language, it is a compulsory component.

Any specific equipment required:
An A4 ringbinder

How can I use this subject in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

A good grade at GCSE could lead to an A Level in English Language, Literature, Media Studies, Theatre Studies or any Humanities A level. These qualifications enable you to undertake a wide range of degree courses. Good literacy and communication skills are valued by all educational institutions and employers.



ENGLISH LITERATURE

Board: AQA

What will I study?

You will follow a course involving the close reading of drama, prose and poetry, including pre-20th Century texts.

Reading

You will be studying a challenging and exciting range of literary texts, from Shakespeare to modern literature. You will develop the skills of analysis and evaluation and you will be taught to consider the writing within its social and historical context.

Writing

You will develop the ability to communicate a sensitive, informed and well-structured response to all kinds of literature including plays, poetry and novels, employing a wide range of terminology.

How will I be assessed?

You will undertake two examinations in Year 11. You will be awarded 60% of your marks for an exam on modern literature and poetry. The other 40% of the marks will be for Shakespeare and a 19th century novel.

Any specific equipment required:

Copies of the following texts will be available to purchase through the school:

- An Inspector Calls- J.B. Priestley
- Romeo and Juliet- Shakespeare
- A nineteenth century novel- title tbc

How can I use this subject in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

A good grade at GCSE could lead to an A-Level in English Language, Literature, Media Studies or Theatre Studies. These qualifications enable you to undertake a wide range of degree courses. English Literature at A Level is particularly favoured by prestigious universities.



MATHEMATICS

Board: EDEXCEL

What will I study?

GCSE Mathematics is a continuation of what you have covered in Years 7, 8 and 9. There are two tiers of entry, so that you can work at the level appropriate to your ability. The tier that you will study will be determined by Teacher Assessment.

In the Foundation tier, the emphasis is on the use of Mathematics in everyday life and its application to everyday problems. The Higher tier introduces more abstract ideas and topics are further developed. Both courses contain **Number, Ratio and Proportion, Geometry, Algebra, Probability and Statistics.**

A scientific calculator is essential for both tiers of entry.

How will I be assessed?

This programme has a final assessment in June of Year 11, which is 100% of the final grade. This will consist of 2 calculator papers and 1 non-calculator paper. Each paper being one and a half hours long.

There are two tiers of entry - Foundation and Higher - and each tier leads to a restricted range of GCSE grades:

Tier	Grades
Higher	3 - 9
Foundation	1 - 5

It is important that you are entered in the correct tier. Candidates who fail to qualify for the minimum grade in a particular tier are not awarded a certificate, so nothing is gained by entry into too high a tier. The final decision about tiers of entry is taken in Year 11 after the mock examination. The tier of entry is not shown on the final certificate.

Any specific equipment required: Maths equipment such as, mathematical set (this includes a pair of compasses, a protractor, a ruler, pencil x 2, pens x 2, rubber and sharpener.

How can I use the Mathematics in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

You will need to achieve a Grade 7 or above at the higher tier and pass an algebra assessment, to study Mathematics at A Level.

Mathematics can be studied in the Sixth Form leading to either an AS in Mathematics (1 Year) or a full A Level (2 Years). There is also the opportunity to re-sit GCSE Mathematics in the Sixth Form for those who want to improve their grade. Students who fail to gain a 4-9 grade at GCSE are required to continue studying Mathematics in the Sixth Form.

Mathematics is a valuable qualification to have. It acts as a particularly useful supporting subject to many courses in the Sixth Form and degree level, but it is also a much sought-after qualification. Many employers see A Level Mathematics as a particularly important qualification and for some careers it is a necessity. Some of the careers that Mathematics is strongly related to include Accountancy, Engineering, Medicine, Teaching, Information Technology, Psychology, Law, Business, Architecture, Banking, and many, many more.

SCIENCE

Board: AQA

What will I study? – Combined Science (Trilogy)

This double award science course gives a broad and balanced science education covering a variety of topics in all three of the main branches of science: physics, chemistry and biology and at the same time provides a basis for the study of any of them at A-Level.



‘Double award’ means that the course will allow you to achieve two GCSEs in combined science. At the end of two Years of study you will be awarded a double grade (e.g.55)

‘Combined’ means that the course has been designed to give you an education which covers all the areas of Science, delivered by subject specialists and which makes you aware of the links between Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There is also an element of required practicals which are covered under each subject and form part of the written exams at the end of Year 11.

Assessments

The combined Science course leads to six externally assessed exams at the end of Year 11. All examinations can be taken at foundation **or** higher tier level. The tier of entry is decided with students considering classwork, homework, end of topic test results and performance in PPEs. Once decided the tier is the same for each subject – there is no mixing of tiers.

Students sit two exams in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics- each paper being 1 ¼ hours long.

Any specific equipment required: calculator, protractor, ruler.

How can I use Science in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

You can use your Science qualifications as a basis for studying A-Level Sciences in the Sixth Form provided you gain at least a grade 6 in the external examinations. A-Level Sciences can lead to many university courses, not only scientific ones.

These courses are also accepted as a sound basis for ALL careers with a scientific content. There is a shortage of female recruits to careers in Science, Technology and Engineering. The sciences are essential to careers in Medicine, Veterinary Science, Architecture, Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Pharmacy, Ophthalmics and research and development.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Board: AQA

Religious Studies develops a variety of skills which hold a great deal of value in today's global society, and a qualification in this subject is valued by employers and universities alike.

What will I study?

GCSE RS

The units of study begin in Year 10 and a final exam consisting of two papers will be taken in Year 11. The study is of two main religions, Christianity, and Islam. For paper one students will study Beliefs and Practices for Christianity and Islam. For paper two they will study 4 Thematic studies for those religions. Topics include, Relationships and Families, Religion and Life, Crime and Punishment and Human Rights and Social Justice. Students will be examined on 6 units in total.

How will I be assessed?

There are two papers which are sat at the end of Year 11.

Beliefs and Practices 50% - This paper asks questions which are specific to Christianity and Islam. The paper is 1 hour 45 minutes.

Themes 50%- This paper allows students to answer themed questions using a mixture of Christianity and Islam. This paper is 1 hour 45 minutes.

There is no course work.

How can I use Religious Studies in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Religious Studies is highly regarded by universities and employers as it proves that you can think, discuss and evaluate. It is an excellent preparation for any degree, but especially in a Humanities degree. However, employers feel that it particularly prepares students for the following careers: broadcasting; the film, video and interactive media sector; the education sector; the financial services sector, the legal sector; politics; the publishing sector; social care; the voluntary sector; social and pastoral care; community work; social work; and journalism.



HEALTH AND FITNESS LESSONS (CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

In Year 10, you will have compulsory Health and Fitness lessons every week. The activities selected will be geared to allow all students to improve knowledge and personal performance in the area they prefer. In addition to improving performance, students will develop their skills in officiating and coaching.

It is at this time you will be forming exercise habits for life. You will therefore be encouraged to get involved with the activities as much as possible during lesson time as well as during leisure time whether that be during extra-curricular activities at school or clubs outside of school.



You will be assessed with a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

PSHE: PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Through the PSHE Curriculum in Years 10 and 11, the sessions will reinforce the following over-reaching concepts:

1. Identity (their personal qualities, attitudes, skills, attributes and achievements and what influences these; understanding and maintaining boundaries around their personal privacy, including online).
2. Relationships (including different types and in different settings, including online).
3. A healthy (including physically, emotionally, and socially), balanced lifestyle (including within relationships, work-life, exercise, and rest, spending and saving and lifestyle choices).
4. Risk (identification, assessment and how to manage risk, rather than simply the avoidance of risk for self and others) and safety (including behaviour and strategies to employ in different settings, including online in an increasingly connected world).
5. Diversity and equality (in all its forms, with due regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010).
6. Rights (including the notion of universal human rights), responsibilities (including fairness and justice) and consent (in different contexts).
7. Change (as something to be managed) and resilience (the skills, strategies and 'inner resources' we can draw on when faced with challenging change or circumstance).
8. Power (how it is used and encountered in a variety of contexts including online; how it manifests through behaviours including bullying, persuasion, coercion and how it can be challenged or managed through negotiation and 'win-win' outcomes).
9. Career (including enterprise, employability, and economic understanding).

In Year 10, the Curriculum will focus on:

- FINANCE
- HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
- LIVING IN THE WORLD: E-SAFETY
- MENTAL AND PHYSICAL FIRST AID
- IDENTITY
- FUTURE SUCCESS





Guided Choice Subjects

A photograph of a brick building. In the foreground, there are green leaves and branches. The building features a brick archway and a dark door with a glass panel. The text "Guided Choice 1" is overlaid on a blue banner in the upper right.

Guided Choice 1

GUIDED CHOICE 1 – MFL: FRENCH OR SPANISH

Board: AQA

Why should I learn a foreign language?

In short – communication skills, travel opportunities, better job prospects

- **Improved communication skills** not just in French/Spanish, but also in English.
- **Gain cultural awareness and empathy** by broadening your horizons and world outlook
- **Boost confidence** in yourself and your abilities
- **Strengthen problem solving skills** by navigating tasks in another language
- **Sharpen your memory** through learning vocabulary
- **Stand out from the crowd** – learning another language looks great on your CV and is a very desirable skill in the job market
- **See the world** – continuing with languages allows for more opportunities to go abroad and meet people

What will I study?

You will study different topics withing three core themes. You will have a basis in most of these topics from KS3. Lessons will be based around the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing).

Themes:

1. People and lifestyle (identity and relationships, healthy living and lifestyle, education and work)
2. Popular culture (free-time activities, customs, traditions and celebrations, celebrity culture)
3. Communication and the world around us (travel and tourism, media and technology, the environment and where people live)

How will I be assessed?

Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing (25% each) are assessed by final examination at the end of Year 11. The speaking exam will be with your class teacher but will be externally marked. You can be entered at Foundation (Grades 1-5) or Higher (Grades 3-9) tier.

Any specific equipment required:

A memrise account (free to set up)

Optional – a French/Spanish dictionary

How can I use Languages in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

The skills you gain from learning another language will set you apart from the crowd. Giving up on languages too soon is a regret that many people have when they leave school and enter the world of work and find their ambitions restricted by the fact that they can only communicate in English. In an increasingly competitive global marketplace, the demand for languages is growing and has become a sought-after skill in many different sectors. With a GCSE in French or Spanish, you develop the skills needed to continue study at A Level. At CHSFG, we have the added advantage of much smaller classes, enabling you to really focus on your language learning, as well as getting the individual support or challenge you may need. At university level, it is possible to study languages on their own or as part of your degree with another subject (joint honours degree).

GUIDED CHOICE 1 - HISTORY

Board: AQA

What will I study?

A History GCSE will give you the opportunity to explore an exciting range of topics:

Britain: The Health and the People (25%)

You will study the fascinating history of medicine and health in Britain. From medieval treatments of drilling into people's skulls to let evil spirits escape and using leeches to get rid of 'excess blood', to the developments of X-rays, discovery of germs & establishment of the NHS.



Elizabethan England (25%)

You will explore the topic of Elizabethan England. From her unlikely rise to power (since her mother was executed for treason and she herself was a prisoner in the Tower of London for four Years), to her astonishing rule, including Renaissance religious extremism, the fire ships, rebellions, explorers & pirates of the Elizabethan period.

America 1920-73 (25%)

You will study the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of change, from the economic boom of the 1920s and mass production of motorcars (including the famous 'Tin Lizzie' Ford model), to the Wall Street Crash, and significant post-war activists such as Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks.

Conflict and Tension 1918-39 (25%)

Just a Year before the outbreak of World War Two, the British Prime Minister confidently declared that there would be "Peace in our time". This unit will look at the far from inevitable outbreak of WW2, examining what the key causes of this were, from a peace treaty to the rise of Hitler.

How will I be assessed?

Two exams at the end of Year 11 (each worth 50% of your final grade). Paper 1 consists of six questions on America 1920-73 & four questions on the causes of World War Two. Paper 2 consists of four questions on Medicine through time & four questions on Elizabethan England.

There is no coursework. However, you are told a guaranteed case study that will come up on your final exam. This will be a case study of a historical site, which you will also have the opportunity to visit (examples of previous case studies include Hardwick House, The Globe Theatre & the Spanish Armada).

Why should I choose History?

History is a popular, interesting and enjoyable subject at GCSE. The course not only develops your skills as a historian, helping you to understand why the modern world is the way it is. It also gives you the opportunity to develop transferable skills in communication, evaluation of evidence, analysis of causation, debating and presentation skills. For this reason History is highly valued by employers and universities. For example it is listed as a desirable subject by Russell Group Universities such as Oxford and Cambridge.

How can I use History in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

The skills you will develop by studying GCSE History can be applied to a huge variety of different careers. History is recognised as an excellent qualification for entry into a number of areas such as law, politics, the film industry, documentary creation, administration, medicine, nursing, teaching, banking, journalism, forensics, marketing and museum curatorship.

GUIDED CHOICE 1 - GEOGRAPHY

Board: Eduqas

What will I study?

The syllabus will provide a balanced coverage of physical, environmental and human aspects of the subject and will through the range of case studies, highlight the linkage which exists between them at a local, national and global level. This specification really focusses on issues and management, how real world problems can be solved- decision making is at the heart of this syllabus.

The **three units** of the syllabus are:

1. *Changing Places & Changing Economies*- Global cities of London and Mumbai; sustainable transport and living; rural issues in the UK; changing retail patterns including out of town shopping centres and the rise of online shopping; development issues including aid and trade, the impacts of globalisation in countries like India, Ghana and the UK, the role of TNCs and their impacts.
2. *Changing Environments*- there are 4 topics within this unit- Rivers, Coasts, Climate Change and Weather & Climate. Within each we explore processes, challenges faced by people through extreme events such as drought, flooding, hurricanes, the future challenge of climate change and how people have adapted to living in these environments.
3. *Environmental Challenge*- this unit brings together elements from the other two. We look at the concept of water security and the issues around this, where future wars over water could break out and how transnational boundaries over water are being managed; we then move on to desertification, looking at the Sahel region of the Sahara Desert and how communities are impacted by this problem and how it could be managed at both the local and international level; finally we explore three different ecosystems (tropical rainforests, semi -arid grasslands and sand dunes) and look at their structures, processes within them, how plants and animals are adapted to living there, the human pressures on these places and how they can be managed.

How will I be assessed?

Final examination papers:

- Paper 1: Structured questions from all three units, varying in length and using case study knowledge and applying this to other situations
- Paper 2: Decision Making Exercise- a problem solving task based on ideas from across all themes
- Paper 3- Applied Fieldwork and Geographical Skills

There is no coursework or controlled assessment, but the fieldwork will instead be assessed through Paper 3.

It is now required by the exam board that all students must undertake fieldwork in at least two contrasting locations.

We aim as a department to provide a variety of day trips in Year 10 and Year 11 to complete the compulsory elements of the course for Paper 3 across physical and human Geography. Students taking GCSE Geography will be expected to attend all fieldwork opportunities. We have previously visited a variety of locations including the River Darent, Whitstable, Canterbury, Sevenoaks and Bromley.

Fieldwork is an exciting opportunity to develop some of your practical skills, apply map skills in real world situations and to explore theory and themes learnt in class. There are many links with Maths, English and ICT through our teaching of this unit.

Any specific equipment required:

A calculator

A clipboard for fieldwork

The 2 days of fieldwork in Year 10 is essential for your daughter to her best- these are normally organised at minimal cost

Why should I choose Geography?

Geography is a well-regarded GCSE option subject which makes students more informed about the world in which they live. In addition, the subject develops skills such as:

- 1 practical skills associated with the observation and collection of data;
- 2 the ability to analyse and evaluate evidence and the ability to arrive at informed opinions;
- 3 communication skills, oral, written and graphical;
- 4 to develop an awareness of your own values concerning social, economic, environmental and political issues;
- 5 The use of ICT to produce a fieldwork investigation.

How can I use Geography in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Taking GCSE Geography will make you a better informed person. It will provide you with a knowledge which can be applied in travel and tourism, banking, local government work, administrative jobs, surveying and planning. You can also continue with your study of the subject at A-Level where Geography with its varied content is the ideal subject to combine with other Arts and Science subjects.



A photograph of a brick building. In the foreground, there are green leaves and branches. The building features a brick archway and a dark door with a glass panel. The text "Guided Choice 2" is overlaid on a blue background.

Guided Choice 2

GUIDED CHOICE 2 – BUSINESS

Board: Edexcel

Who should choose Business?

Business is subject that ranges from the use of social media to advertise your products with a funny YouTube video to calculating a company's profits. If you enjoy using sources in History you should be good at using case studies in Business. Companies that have been used as case studies in recent exams are Costa Coffee, Beats Headphone and McDonalds. If you enjoy Maths you will like the financial topics, there will be at least four financial questions in each exam paper so you need to be fairly confident with numbers.

What will I study?

Unit 1 - Investigating small business

Topics:

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business:

Unit 2 - Building a business

Topics:

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

How will I be assessed?

You will take two examinations, both are 1 hour and 45 minutes and each are worth 50% of the qualification. There are no tiers and both examinations will be taken at the end of Year 11.

How can I use Business in Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Whatever job you get when you are older you will work in a business, even a doctor or teacher needs to understand the taxes and pension they pay and how the people are organised in the business they work in. Business is a subject that links well with all careers and job roles. You can carry on your GCSE to A Level in Sixth Form, we use the same exam board, so you can build on your GCSE knowledge to help you achieve the best grade possible. Business is a subject that combines well with a range of subjects from PE and Photography to History and Geography. Many Business A Level students go on to study Business at university, but it can also support application for a range of subjects such as Event Management to Law.

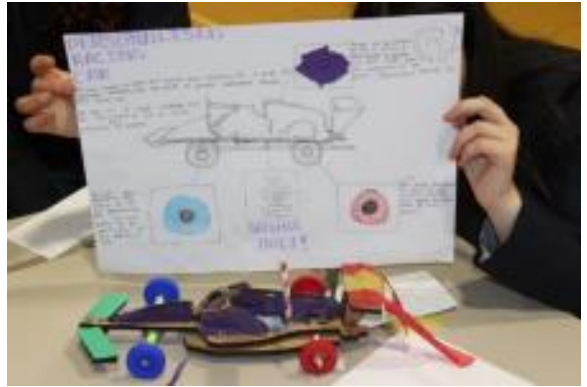
GUIDED CHOICE 2 – DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Board: AQA

Why should I choose Design and Technology?

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

GCSE Design and Technology allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.



Course content:

GCSE Design and Technology specification sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to undertake the iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating. The subject content has been split into three sections as follows:

Core Technical Principles

In order to make effective design choices students will need a breadth of core technical knowledge and understanding that consists of:

- new and emerging technologies
- energy generation and storage
- developments in new materials
- systems approach to designing
- mechanical devices
- materials and their working properties.

Specialist Technical Principles

In addition to the core technical principles, all students should develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the following specialist technical principles:

- selection of materials or components
- forces and stresses
- ecological and social footprint
- sources and origins
- using and working with materials
- stock forms, types and sizes
- scales of production
- specialist techniques and processes
- surface treatments and finishes.

Designing and Making Principles

Students should know and understand that all design and technology activities take place within a wide range of contexts.

They should also understand how the prototypes they develop in the NEA must satisfy wants or needs and be fit for their intended use. For example, the home, school, work or leisure.

They will need to demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of designing and making principles in relation to the following areas:

- investigation, primary and secondary data
- environmental, social and economic challenge
- the work of others
- design strategies
- communication of design ideas
- prototype development
- selection of materials and components
- tolerances
- material management
- specialist tools and equipment
- specialist techniques and processes

Assessment:

Paper 1 examines students' knowledge of the core technical principles, specialist technical principles and designing and making principles and is broken down as follows:

Section A: Core technical principles – 20 marks – A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.

Section B: Specialist Technical Principles – 30 marks – Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.

Section C: Designing and Making principles – 50 marks – A mixture of short answer and extended response questions.

Paper 1 is marked out of 100, making up 50% of GCSE Design and Technology.

NEA coursework assesses the practical application of the core technical principles, specialist technical principles and designing and making principles through the researching, designing, making, testing and evaluation of a prototype/product. Students produce a prototype and portfolio of evidence to go alongside this, in a digital format. This is also marked out of 100 and makes up the other 50% of the GCSE.

How can I use Design and Technology in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

In studying GCSE Design and Technology, you will have the option to study this at A Level, Design and Technology is seen as a versatile subject by colleges, universities and employers, as it showcases both academic and vocational rigour, but also allows direct pathways to University in many different subjects, as well as a wide range of Apprenticeship courses.

Career opportunities include Product Design, Graphic Design, Architecture, Engineering, Industrial Design, Animation, Set/Theatre Design, Fashion, Interior Design, Advertising, Marketing, Digital Media, Photography, Printmaking, Publishing, Construction etc.

GUIDED CHOICE 2 – FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Board: Eduqas

Why should I choose Food Preparation and Nutrition?

GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.



Course Content:

By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will:

- Be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health,
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, and diet and health choices
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Assessment:

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition. Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes. 50% of qualification

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action. Non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated. 50% of qualification

How can I use Food Preparation and Nutrition in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

This course provides a suitable foundation for the study of WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition, and other food-related courses at either AS or A-Level. In addition, this specification will enable learners to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways in the Food and Catering industry.

GUIDED CHOICE 2 – GEOGRAPHY

Board: Eduqas

What will I study?

The syllabus will provide a balanced coverage of physical, environmental and human aspects of the subject and will through the range of case studies, highlight the linkage which exists between them at a local, national and global level. This specification really focusses on issues and management, how real world problems can be solved- decision making is at the heart of this syllabus.

The **three units** of the syllabus are:

4. *Changing Places & Changing Economies*- Global cities of London and Mumbai; sustainable transport and living; rural issues in the UK; changing retail patterns including out of town shopping centres and the rise of online shopping; development issues including aid and trade, the impacts of globalisation in countries like India, Ghana and the UK, the role of TNCs and their impacts.
5. *Changing Environments*- there are 4 topics within this unit- Rivers, Coasts, Climate Change and Weather & Climate. Within each we explore processes, challenges faced by people through extreme events such as drought, flooding, hurricanes, the future challenge of climate change and how people have adapted to living in these environments.
6. *Environmental Challenge*- this unit brings together elements from the other two. We look at the concept of water security and the issues around this, where future wars over water could break out and how transnational boundaries over water are being managed; we then move on to desertification, looking at the Sahel region of the Sahara Desert and how communities are impacted by this problem and how it could be managed at both the local and international level; finally we explore three different ecosystems (tropical rainforests, semi -arid grasslands and sand dunes) and look at their structures, processes within them, how plants and animals are adapted to living there, the human pressures on these places and how they can be managed.

How will I be assessed?

Final examination papers:

- Paper 1: Structured questions from all three units, varying in length and using case study knowledge and applying this to other situations
- Paper 2: Decision Making Exercise- a problem solving task based on ideas from across all themes
- Paper 3- Applied Fieldwork and Geographical Skills

There is no coursework or controlled assessment, but the fieldwork will instead be assessed through Paper 3.

It is now required by the exam board that all students must undertake fieldwork in at least two contrasting locations.

We aim as a department to provide a variety of day trips in Year 10 and Year 11 to complete the compulsory elements of the course for Paper 3 across physical and human Geography. Students taking GCSE Geography will be expected to attend all fieldwork opportunities. We have previously visited a variety of locations including the River Darent, Whitstable, Canterbury, Sevenoaks and Bromley.

Fieldwork is an exciting opportunity to develop some of your practical skills, apply map skills in real world situations and to explore theory and themes learnt in class. There are many links with Maths, English and ICT through our teaching of this unit.

Any specific equipment required:

A calculator

A clipboard for fieldwork

The 2 days of fieldwork in Year 10 is essential for your daughter to her best- these are normally organised at minimal cost

Why should I choose Geography?

Geography is a well-regarded GCSE option subject which makes students more informed about the world in which they live. In addition, the subject develops skills such as:

- 1 practical skills associated with the observation and collection of data;
- 2 the ability to analyse and evaluate evidence and the ability to arrive at informed opinions;
- 3 communication skills, oral, written and graphical;
- 4 to develop an awareness of your own values concerning social, economic, environmental and political issues;
- 5 The use of ICT to produce a fieldwork investigation.

How can I use Geography in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Taking GCSE Geography will make you a better informed person. It will provide you with a knowledge which can be applied in travel and tourism, banking, local government work, administrative jobs, surveying and planning. You can also continue with your study of the subject at A-Level where Geography with its varied content is the ideal subject to combine with other Arts and Science subjects.



GUIDED CHOICE 2 - HISTORY

Board: AQA

What will I study?

A History GCSE will give you the opportunity to explore an exciting range of topics:

Britain: The Health and the People (25%)

You will study the fascinating history of medicine and health in Britain. From medieval treatments of drilling into people's skulls to let evil spirits escape and using leeches to get rid of 'excess blood', to the developments of X-rays, discovery of germs & establishment of the NHS.



Elizabethan England (25%)

You will explore the topic of Elizabethan England. From her unlikely rise to power (since her mother was executed for treason and she herself was a prisoner in the Tower of London for four Years), to her astonishing rule, including Renaissance religious extremism, the fire ships, rebellions, explorers & pirates of the Elizabethan period.

America 1920-73 (25%)

You will study the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of change, from the economic boom of the 1920s and mass production of motorcars (including the famous 'Tin Lizzie' Ford model, to the Wall Street Crash, and significant post-war activists such as Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks.

Conflict and Tension 1918-39 (25%)

Just a Year before the outbreak of World War Two, the British Prime Minister confidently declared that there would be "Peace in our time". This unit will look at the far from inevitable outbreak of WW2, examining what the key causes of this were, from a peace treaty to the rise of Hitler.

How will I be assessed?

Two exams at the end of Year 11 (each worth 50% of your final grade). Paper 1 consists of six questions on America 1920-73 & four questions on the causes of World War Two. Paper 2 consists of four questions on Medicine through time & four questions on Elizabethan England.

There is no coursework. However, you are told a guaranteed case study that will come up on your final exam. This will be a case study of a historical site, which you will also have the opportunity to visit (examples of previous case studies include Hardwick House, The Globe Theatre & the Spanish Armada).

Why should I choose History?

History is a popular, interesting and enjoyable subject at GCSE. The course not only develops your skills as a historian, helping you to understand why the modern world is the way it is. It also gives you the opportunity to develop transferable skills in communication, evaluation of evidence, analysis of causation, debating and presentation skills. For this reason History is highly valued by employers and universities. For example it is listed as a desirable subject by Russell Group Universities such as Oxford and Cambridge.

How can I use History in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

The skills you will develop by studying GCSE History can be applied to a huge variety of different careers. History is recognised as an excellent qualification for entry into a number of areas such as law, politics, the film industry, documentary creation, administration, medicine, nursing, teaching, banking, journalism, forensics, marketing and museum curatorship.

GUIDED CHOICE 2 – MEDIA STUDIES

Board: EDUQAS

Why should I choose Media Studies?

Media is about communication, particularly mass communication with lots of people. The media creates products that are designed to entertain and inform, created for lots of people to hear, watch or read, often at roughly the same time. Whenever you are watching television, streaming films, scrolling through social media or listening to a podcast, you are consuming media.

Course Content:

GCSE Media Studies engages students in the in depth study of media products in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework:

- media language
- media representation
- media industries
- media audiences.

Students are required to study media products from the following media forms:

- television
- film
- radio
- newspapers
- magazines
- advertising and marketing
- online, social and participatory media
- video games
- music videos

Assessment:

There will be two examinations, worth a combined total of 70%.

Students will complete an NEA, worth 30%

To complete the NEA, students must independently create a media product in response to a set brief.

How can I use Media Studies in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Studying the Media could be the first step to a career in journalism, the music industry, radio, film or television production. It could also lead you into the fields of advertising, marketing, promotions or publicity.



GUIDED CHOICE 2 – SOCIOLOGY

Board: EDUQAS

Who should choose Sociology?

Sociology is an exciting subject in which you will study society and the different groups of people living in society. It is closest to Humanities subjects, so if you enjoy Geography, History or Religious Studies, you should strongly consider choosing Sociology.

You should choose Sociology if you want to understand the world in which you live. Sociology is the study of behaviour and society, exploring how it works, why it works and how it could change. As a sociologist, you learn and explore social patterns, inequalities and develop an understanding of crime and deviance. Sociology is more than just textbook theory; it is a modern real-world subject that will change the way you look at the world.

What will I study?

Amongst other things, you will discover the answer to the following questions:

- How is behaviour affected by our social class, gender, age and race?
- Who has power in society, and who does not?
- How are we affected by the education system, mass media and religion?

Topics you will study include:

- An introduction to sociology
- The Sociology of the family
- The Sociology of education
- The Sociology of stratification and differentiation
- The Sociology of Crime and Deviance
- Research methods

How will I be assessed?

Our Exam board is Eduqas/ WJEC and students will be assessed by two 1 hour 45 minute examinations (50% each). There are no tiers in the examination and the grades range from 9-1. All examinations will be done at the end of Year 11.

Any specific equipment required:

- You will need a Lever Arch folder and a set of dividers for the first week of your lessons.



How can I use Sociology in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Sociology has a broad range of real-world applications in everyday life, ranging from application to current affairs and your own education, to personal development, social interaction and the environment, to name but a few. You will develop skills of analysis, evaluation and decision-making, which can be used in A Level Sociology as well as many other subjects. We have a long tradition of being very successful at A Level Sociology in our school, and previous students have gone on to study subjects such as Sociology, Psychology, Criminology, Social services, youth work, probationary work, Education and Forensic Anthropology.

GUIDED CHOICE 2 – TRIPLE SCIENCE

BOARD: AQA

What will I study? – Separate Sciences

Students who have shown a consistent level of high ability in science will be offered the opportunity to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate subjects. Full details of each subject are on the curriculum maps.



Taking the three separate subjects will enable the chosen students to gain an extra GCSE grade and will prepare them more thoroughly for any science subjects taken at A-Level.

Examinations

The Triple Science course leads to six externally assessed exams at the end of Year 11. All examinations can be taken at higher tier level.

Separate science: students sit two exams for each subject – each paper being 1 hour 45 minutes long to allow for the extra content learnt

Any specific equipment required: calculator, protractor, ruler.

How can I use Science in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

You can use your science qualifications as a basis for studying A-Level Sciences in the Sixth Form provided you gain at least a grade 6 in the external examinations. A-Level Sciences can lead to many university courses, not only scientific ones.

These courses are also accepted as a sound basis for ALL careers with a scientific content. There is a shortage of female recruits to careers in Science, Technology and Engineering. The sciences are essential to careers in Medicine, Veterinary Science, Architecture, Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Pharmacy, Ophthalmic and research and development.

A photograph of a brick building with a dark door and a blue banner. The image shows a close-up of a brick wall with a dark door featuring a diamond-patterned glass insert. A blue banner with the text "Guided Choice 3" is overlaid on the right side of the image. The brickwork is a mix of red and orange tones, and the door is dark with a light-colored frame. A small "Hall" sign is visible on the door. The background shows more of the brick wall and some foliage in the upper left corner.

Guided Choice 3

GUIDED CHOICE 3 – ART

Board: OCR

Why should I choose Art & Design?

Art & Design is an exciting subject which allows you to express your ideas visually, whilst using the world around you as inspiration. You will develop your existing knowledge and skills and learn new techniques which will enable you to mature as an artist.

Course content:

The Art & Design course is a broad subject which covers a range of artistic specialisms including drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, digital editing and the option of learning some textiles techniques. It therefore offers you the opportunity to work across a diverse range of media and develop skills in specific areas of choice (specialisms).

There are two separate components to the course: Component 1 - Coursework Portfolio, and Component 2 – Externally Set Task (exam), which are structured as two separate projects. You will work on a range of drawing, experimental and three-dimensional tasks which are all linked to a central theme for your coursework unit, whilst studying and taking inspiration from a range of artists. Independence of thought is essential, and you will be able to choose your own areas of investigation within the main theme where you are encouraged to apply your own imagination and ideas. For both components you will experiment with a wide range of media to broaden your skills, and work to your strengths in order to plan and make a final outcome of your choice. This could be a sculpture/ drawing/ mixed media piece/ painting/ installation/ garment/ poster for example.

Within the Art course you will have the opportunity to express your own creative ideas, thoughts and feelings. You will learn to use artists as well as your own observations and imagination as inspiration to plan and produce your own outcomes. Practical work will include experimenting and developing your skills through the following areas:

- Drawing & painting
- Three-dimensional studies (sculpture and low relief)
- Printmaking
- Mixed media
- Photography & digital editing

Optional: Textiles (fabric manipulation, dyeing and sewing)/ Graphic Design (layout)/ Animation (moving image)

During the course, where possible, there will also be visits to galleries and museums to help you develop inspiration for your work. The course provides opportunities to improve visual perception and understanding including the creative, imaginative and practical skills for working in the Art, Craft and Design industry.

Assessment:

Two components are submitted, each accompanied by relevant preliminary/supporting studies. The Coursework Portfolio accounts for 60% of the total marks. The theme of the current coursework portfolio unit is 'Evolve' and students have independence of topic choice within this theme. The Externally Set Task (exam) accounts for 40% of the total marks and is a practical exam which requires students to demonstrate their ability to respond to a given theme or brief. There is a 3-4 month period whereby students choose their theme and develop their ideas in their exam sketchbook, followed by a 10-hour examination whereby students finalise their ideas by making/ creating a final outcome.

Any specific equipment required:

1. A3 Sketchbook
2. Graded pencils
3. Rubber
4. Sharpener

Non-specific equipment but desirable:

1. Colour pencils
2. Fine liners
3. Metallic and white gel pens
4. Glue stick
5. watercolours
6. Acrylic paints
7. Paint brushes

How can I use Art & Design in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Art & Design at GCSE level provides a perfect foundation for the A-Level course and beyond, with A-Level Fine Art, A-Level Textiles and A-Level Photography offered at CHSFG. You will further develop your skills in visual research, exploration of ideas and the making of Art to a high level. After Sixth Form you can apply for a Foundation level course at University or opt for a Degree. Students from Chislehurst School for Girls have gone on to study Fine Art, Graphic Design, Fashion and Textile Design, Three-dimensional Design (ceramics, furniture etc.), Film studies, Landscape Architecture, Costume Design and many other courses at Degree level. Many of these qualifications can lead to rewarding careers in design studios, business and through freelance work



GUIDED CHOICE 3 – BUSINESS

Board: Edexcel

Who should choose Business?

Business is subject that ranges from the use of social media to advertise your products with a funny YouTube video to calculating a company's profits. If you enjoy using sources in History you should be good at using case studies in Business. Companies that have been used as case studies in recent exams are Costa Coffee, Beats Headphone and McDonalds. If you enjoy Maths you will like the financial topics, there will be at least four financial questions in each exam paper so you need to be fairly confident with numbers.

What will I study?

Unit 1 - Investigating small business

Topics:

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business:

Unit 2 - Building a business

Topics:

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

How will I be assessed?

You will take two examinations, both are 1 hour and 45 minutes and each are worth 50% of the qualification. There are no tiers and both examinations will be taken at the end of Year 11.

How can I use Business in Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Whatever job you get when you are older you will work in a business, even a doctor or teacher needs to understand the taxes and pension they pay and how the people are organised in the business they work in. Business is a subject that links well with all careers and job roles. You can carry on your GCSE to A Level in Sixth Form, we use the same exam board, so you can build on your GCSE knowledge to help you achieve the best grade possible. Business is a subject that combines well with a range of subjects from PE and Photography to History and Geography. Many Business A Level students go on to study Business at university, but it can also support application for a range of subjects such as Event Management to Law.

GUIDED CHOICE 3 – COMPUTER SCIENCE

Board: OCR

Why should I choose computing?

Computing is a robust academic subject that is increasingly relevant to everyone in the 21st Century and beyond. Understanding how a computer works and issues related to them, as well as developing the computational thinking skills to break down and resolve problems are essential life skills and to understanding human and machine intelligence. Every job uses computers, and they are now ubiquitous in our world. Many jobs of the future are not yet known but will involve computers of one sort or another. Boosting computer skills is essential for the 21st century.

This new course is designed to give students essential computing skills. Computational thinking has a greater emphasis and enables students to develop problem solving skills which apply to real-life situations. There is a new focus on cyber security enabling our students to learn how to protect themselves and others, online from many of the risks associated with the use of the Internet.

What will I study?

- Internal computer components
- Cyber security
- Memory and Data
- Effect of digital technology on society
- Programming
- Networking and the Internet
- Software development

Entry Requirements – Must currently be in Maths sets 1, 2 or 3.

How will I be assessed?

	Component 1: Computer systems	Component 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming	Practical programming experience
How is it assessed	Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes	Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes	Not formally assessed
How much is it worth	80 marks Worth 50%	80 marks Worth 50%	Not formally assessed
Other information	A mix of short answer, longer answer and extended response questions assessing a student's theoretical knowledge.	A mix of short answer and longer answer questions assessing a student's practical problem solving and computational thinking skills. Will also include practical programming tasks to write, test and refine programs	You will be provided with opportunities to design, develop and test computer programs to solve a range of problems without the pressure of it counting towards the GCSE.

Any specific equipment required: A computer at home and Idle coding environment installed

How can I use Computer Science in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career? Problem solving & Critical thinking are key academic skills applicable to all subjects. Some of you will want to continue with Computer Science at A level.

A level Computer Science in the Sixth Form looks at Five different paradigms to code and lots of theory building on GCSE topics and a few new ones. This leads to almost any profession for example, forensics, cybersecurity, data science, banking, visual effects, software development, engineering. Computer science gives a clear progression to some of the top universities in the country and highly academic courses particularly Engineering & Computer Science degrees

GUIDED CHOICE 3 – DRAMA

Board: EDUQAS

What will I study?

You will study a wide range of drama strategies and techniques throughout the course which will develop your ability to analyse texts and performance, develop your creativity and nurture your evaluative skills. You will create work as a whole class, in small groups and individually to explore characterisation, performance skills and different theatrical styles.

You will have numerous opportunities to create and perform characters for your class and invited audiences of parents and fellow students. You will also attend live performances and evaluate how the craft of theatre and drama creates meaning.

You will develop your understanding, appreciation, and use of a wide range of theatrical skills, and you will be able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of your drama work and find solutions to improve your skills. Through studying Drama, you will gain self-confidence, develop resilience, and come to rely on your strengths as a creative individual who can collaborate with others and interpret the complexities of the rapidly changing world.



How will I be assessed?

COMPONENT ONE Devised Practical Performance

Candidates will devise a practical performance based on a theme, linked with a practitioner or genre.

- Candidates may choose **either** acting or a theatre design skill
- Candidates will complete a written report of the practical work they completed in this unit and write an evaluation of their performance under formal supervision

COMPONENT TWO Performance from a Text

Candidates will be assessed on **either** their acting **or** a theatre design skill, in two scenes from a published play.

- Candidates to work in groups of between 2 to 5 members
- Externally assessed by a visiting examiner in March / April (Yr. 11)

COMPONENT THREE Written Examination

Candidates will sit a 1 hour 30 minute written examination.

- You will be assessed on their ability to analyse **one** set text as an actor, designer and director
- You will evaluate one live performance seen earlier in the Year
- Externally assessed in May (Yr 11)

Any specific equipment required:

How can I use Drama in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

A good grade at GCSE Drama will enable students to continue their studies into A-Level Theatre Studies. Beyond this, it can lead to the study of Drama, or Performing Arts, at degree level at university or at a specialist college. GCSE Drama is also highly valued for developing skills in creativity and communication in the sciences and humanities subject areas.

Employers in industry, services, finance, and law seek people with good communication skills and self-confidence, and this course will help you to develop in these crucial areas.



GUIDED CHOICE 3 - DANCE

Board: AQA

Who should choose Dance?

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity. It is an exciting subject for anyone who enjoys performing as a dancer and working creatively with others.



Dance GCSE is the perfect spring board to study the subject further at A-Level or to develop a career in the Performing Arts industry.

What will I study?

You will study a wide range of technical and performing skills in dance which will develop your creativity and performance ability. You will also look at various choreographic techniques and explore opportunities to work on solo, duet, small group and whole class projects, taking on the role of both choreographer and performer.

You will develop skills to assist you to critically analyse professional dance works which cover a range of styles including Ballet, urban, contemporary and dance from other cultures.

There will also be opportunities to perform in the annual School Production, assist with running extracurricular activities and clubs and take part in trips to theatres and join workshops with professional visiting dance artists.

Studying dance at GCSE will enable you to gain skills in organisation, leadership, confidence and communication and develop your creativity, performance and general health and wellbeing.

How will I be assessed?

Performance: Performance: 30% / Choreography: 30%

Theory: Written examination 40%

Any specific equipment:

Dance/PE kit

Dance shoes/foot thongs (optional)

Headphones

How can I use Dance in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

A good grade in Dance GCSE can lead onto developing your knowledge further by studying A Level Dance in the Sixth Form. This is a useful subject to combine with Drama, Theatre Studies and other Arts related subjects.

It is possible to follow a degree course in Dance at university or at a specialist college which will open up opportunities for teaching, choreographing and working within the performing arts industry.



GUIDED CHOICE 2 – MEDIA STUDIES

Board: EDUQAS

Why should I choose Media Studies?

Media is about communication, particularly mass communication with lots of people. The media creates products that are designed to entertain and inform, created for lots of people to hear, watch or read, often at roughly the same time. Whenever you are watching television, streaming films, scrolling through social media or listening to a podcast, you are consuming media.

Course Content:

GCSE Media Studies engages students in the in depth study of media products in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework:

- media language
- media representation
- media industries
- media audiences.

Students are required to study media products from the following media forms:

- television
- film
- radio
- newspapers
- magazines
- advertising and marketing
- online, social and participatory media
- video games
- music videos

Assessment:

There will be two examinations, worth a combined total of 70%.

Students will complete an NEA, worth 30%

To complete the NEA, students must independently create a media product in response to a set brief.

How can I use Media Studies in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Studying the Media could be the first step to a career in journalism, the music industry, radio, film or television production. It could also lead you into the fields of advertising, marketing, promotions or publicity.



GUIDED CHOICE 3 – MUSIC

Board: AQA

Why should I choose Music?

Studying music is an ideal way to introduce a creative, practical subject into your guided preferences. The majority of the course is of a practical nature involving Performing and Composing, which will be completed under teacher supervision. This accounts for 60% of your GCSE grade and is completed in lesson time.

Because of the practical nature of the subject, you need to be able to either play a musical instrument or sing to a reasonable standard. Keyboard skills are a necessity; you should be able to play simple music 2-handed (e.g. The Swan/A Thousand Years).

Instrumental lessons are not essential but are a distinct advantage. You need to be interested in Music generally and be prepared to try new styles and learn new skills. Regular practice on your main instrument or voice is required at GCSE Music and you should be able to read basic musical notation in both treble and bass clef confidently.

As a GCSE Music student, you will also be expected to participate in school musical activities and are required to join at least one of the lunch time music clubs. These are valuable additions which will enhance and develop your musical talents and abilities.

What will I study?

Three main areas:

A: **Listening: 40% of the total grade**

To listen to Music of all kinds from different periods of time.

- Western Classical tradition: 1650 to 1910
- Popular Music
- Traditional and fusion music
- Western Classical tradition: 1910 onwards.

You will develop an understanding of how music works, and why music from different time periods, areas of the world, and various styles and contexts sounds so different. You will also explore two pieces of music in detail.

You will be tested on this in the form of a listening examination and written paper at the end of the course.

B: **Composing: 30% of total grade**

You will extend the techniques you learnt in Years 7-9 and learn to compose music in different styles using different resources and software. These will include composing a piece of music using any influences from the areas of study covered. You will also be able to use 'Musescore' - a computer programme that allows you to notate your composition, using many different sounds and voices all at the same time. You will have a set amount of supervised time in which to complete the composition.

You will also compose and appraise a second composition to a set brief from AQA. This will also be linked to the areas of study. Again, you will have a set amount of supervised time in which to complete this composition.

C: **Performing: 30% of the total grade**

You will perform a portfolio of pieces on your main instrument or voice. These will be performed under exam conditions, recorded, and marked. You will practise a range of both solo and group performances.

How will I be assessed?

Component
Performing: 30% A portfolio of recorded performances, including both solo and group performances, lasting for a minimum of 4 minutes.
Composing: 30% You will be required to compose two pieces of music (combined 3 minutes at least)
Listening (examination): 40% A written paper lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes. This contains musical extracts that question you on the four areas of study, as well as questions which require in-depth knowledge of specific piece of music that we will study.

Any specific equipment required:

- Headphones which connect to a keyboard/computer.
- A keyboard to compose on at home would be a distinct advantage.
- Access to a Spotify account to access listening materials.
- Your own chosen performance instrument to practise on (where applicable)

How can I use Music in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

You can take A-Level Music in Sixth Form, where we look in more detail at a range of music, and compose and perform to a higher level.

If you are interested in any work in the community or in education, particularly primary school teaching and/or nursery education, a musical qualification will be warmly welcomed.

If you are especially interested in music, then you could take up a career in: -

- music publishing or sales
- music editing and copying
- recording and TV production
- music research and performance in television or radio
- working with children and adults as a teacher/leader
- working in theatres and dance
- performing as a soloist or member of a group or orchestra in a freelance or salaried capacity
- teaching either in a school or as a peripatetic teacher of an instrument



GUIDED CHOICE 3 – PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Board: AQA

Who should choose Physical Education?

At CHSFG our pupils take pride in studying AQA GCSE PE. Pupils who participate in sport both in and out of school and those who have an interest in further study of Physical Education are encouraged to complete the GCSE PE COURSE.

What will I study?

- The GCSE PE course aims to develop both a student's practical skill level and their interest in the world of sport and physical activity as a whole.
- Development of theoretical skills- developing ability to consider key sporting issues and provide evidence to support their point of view, as well as recall knowledge on key sports science topics such as anatomy and physiology and sports psychology.
- Development of sport specific skills (in 3 sports) both in isolation and competition as well as general fitness.
- Application of knowledge gained through experiences as an active participant/competitor in a number of sports.

How will I be assessed?

Theory components

Pupils will sit two written exams: Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport, applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training, use of data. Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport psychology, socio-cultural influences, health, fitness and well-being, use of data (**60% of GCSE**).

Practical components

Performance element:

Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity). For each of their activities, students will be assessed in skills in progressive drills (10 marks per activity) and in the full match/competition context (15 marks per activity). There may be the opportunity to take part in additional sports during the course e.g. cycling and/or rock climbing etc. for an additional fee.

Coursework element:

Students will be assessed on their analysis (15 marks) and evaluation (10 marks) of performance to bring about improvement in one activity area. (Assessed by teachers and moderated by AQA) (**40% of GCSE**).

Any specific equipment required:

- Full CHSFG PE kit
- Participation in a sports club outside of school would be a distinct advantage
- CGP AQA PE Revision book and flashcards

How can I use Physical Education in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Many of our students that have studied the course have gone to study A-Level Physical Education or BTEC Sport courses, with some continuing their study to university level to study Physical Education and Sports Science.



GUIDED CHOICE 3 – SOCIOLOGY

Board: EDUQAS

Who should choose Sociology?

Sociology is an exciting subject in which you will study society and the different groups of people living in society. It is closest to Humanities subjects, so if you enjoy Geography, History or Religious Studies, you should strongly consider choosing Sociology.

You should choose Sociology if you want to understand the world in which you live. Sociology is the study of behaviour and society, exploring how it works, why it works and how it could change. As a sociologist, you learn and explore social patterns, inequalities and develop an understanding of crime and deviance. Sociology is more than just textbook theory; it is a modern real-world subject that will change the way you look at the world.

What will I study?

Amongst other things, you will discover the answer to the following questions:

- How is behaviour affected by our social class, gender, age and race?
- Who has power in society, and who does not?
- How are we affected by the education system, mass media and religion?

Topics you will study include:

- An introduction to sociology
- The Sociology of the family
- The Sociology of education
- The Sociology of stratification and differentiation
- The Sociology of Crime and Deviance
- Research methods

How will I be assessed?

Our Exam board is Eduqas/ WJEC and students will be assessed by two 1 hour 45 minute examinations (50% each). There are no tiers in the examination and the grades range from 9-1. All examinations will be done at the end of Year 11.

Any specific equipment required:

- You will need a Lever Arch folder and a set of dividers for the first week of your lessons.



How can I use Sociology in the Sixth Form, further education or in my career?

Sociology has a broad range of real-world applications in everyday life, ranging from application to current affairs and your own education, to personal development, social interaction and the environment, to name but a few. You will develop skills of analysis, evaluation and decision-making, which can be used in A Level Sociology as well as many other subjects. We have a long tradition of being very successful at A Level Sociology in our school, and previous students have gone on to study subjects such as Sociology, Psychology, Criminology, Social services, youth work, probationary work, Education and Forensic Anthropology.

PROCEDURES ADOPTED IF A SUBJECT IS OVER-SUBSCRIBED

Criteria for over-subscribed subjects:

- The advice of teaching staff on potential and skills shown by students
- How many other first preferences subjects a student has been allocated
- The number of second or third preferences given to the student already

Where there is no prior performance data available in the preferred subject, attainment in subjects that require similar skill sets will be considered.

N.B. Subjects such as Music may have subject-specific criteria that are described in this booklet with the subject details.

CHISLEHURST SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

Throughout the next two Years of your studies, we shall be keeping you informed of the many and varied opportunities available in our Sixth Form.

The vast majority of our Year 11 students apply to join the flourishing and successful Sixth Form at CHSFG, where a wide variety of courses are on offer. All students take 3 subjects at A Level (This will be done over 2 Years). We offer a wide variety of A Level subjects all described in The Way Ahead booklet on our website.

The progression onto 16+ mirror your GCSE paths.

Sixth Form is also a time to acquire and develop useful additional skills such as taking on a leadership role on offer or completing the Extended Project Qualification.

Sixth Form Education provides the natural progression for your studies at Chislehurst School for Girls. It gives you the opportunity to lead by example, to attain academic excellence, experience new courses and develop existing interests. Tutors monitor your progress in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. You will also receive advice and encouragement in the preparation of applications for university, college or for a professional career.

If at any stage over the next two Years you would like to find out more about the opportunities offered in the Sixth Form, then please contact either your Form Tutor or Mrs Mc Cabe, Director of Studies for Year 11, and Ms Robinson for Sixth Form. However, a full programme of information, guidance and induction will start during Year 10 when you will be invited to our Sixth Form Opportunities Evening.



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