

IMPORTANT DATES IN THE OPTIONS PROCESS

Tuesday 22nd February: Options process begins

During this time, the following information will be made available to students and parents

- Options Process Introduction
- Options booklet
- Subject videos

In addition, options subjects that currently teach Year 8 will devote some lesson time to giving an explanation and/or demonstration of their subject at GCSE level.

Thursday 11th March: Year 8 PTCE

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening will be held online this year. As well as making appointments with your child's individual subject teachers, you will also have the opportunity to make an appointment with a subject leads if, for example, you have questions about options subjects that are not currently studied at KS3. To allow sufficient time for this, the PTCE will be extended to start at 13:00 and run to 19:00. Further details will be emailed to all Year 8 parents.

Friday 12th March: Options preferences form can be returned

The time period for returning options preferences forms has been extended this year to allow for further communication and discussion with your child's form tutor or individual subject teachers to allow for follow up questions.

Friday 26th March: Deadline for completed forms to be returned

The choices system is not done on a first come first served bases. All preferences submitted before this deadline will be considered equally. Options preferences submitted after this deadline may not be possible as the allocations process will have already been started.

February 2021

Dear Year 8 Student,

Year 9 Course Applications

You have reached a crossroads in your education. After nearly 8 years of schooling, you are on the brink of choosing the subjects you will study for GCSE and these exams will have a big impact on your future. It goes without saying therefore, that it is extremely important that you make carefully considered decisions.

When it comes to choosing courses for Key Stage 4, you should look for:

The subjects you are good at or think you will be good at

The subjects that you will enjoy

The subjects that may help you to follow a particular career path (if you have one)

In producing this booklet, we have endeavoured to provide a wide range of options to suit the skills and interests of as many of you as possible. We want you to be able to study a balanced range of subjects - however, there are some restrictions on the combination of subjects that you can choose, and these are explained below. You will work with your Tutor and Director of Learning so that you are able to make fully informed choices that will lead you to success in the summer of 2024.

For each subject we have summarised what you will learn about, how you will learn and how you will be tested. We have also highlighted the **abilities and interests** that we think would help you succeed in each subject. For each we have indicated where that subject may be needed in order to pursue a particular career path.

It is very important that you read all this information carefully before you make any choices. Do not for example choose a subject where one of the abilities is to be confident about performing in front of others if you hate being on stage! Subjects such as PDC, core Philosophy & Religion and core Physical Education are compulsory for all students regardless of which option pathway you choose.

It is possible that we may not be able to allocate you your first four preferences in the order you state them, so your application will need to include more than four in total. Sometimes two subjects you want to study must be put on at the same time and some subjects are often oversubscribed. If a subject is oversubscribed, your attitude to learning in that subject and your likely outcome compared to your target (the progress you will make) might affect whether you are allocated a place on a course - your ability will not.

This term there will also be opportunities to find out more about each GCSE subject, especially those that are new to you. Finally, the choices system is not done on a first come first serve basis, so you don't have to rush the process. We want you to take time to think about your future carefully and for you to talk with your tutor and teachers.

Good luck!

Mr J Dennett
Headteacher

Mrs Carly Smythe
Director of Learning Year 8

THE LARKMEAD KS4 CURRICULUM 2021-2024

DETAILS OF COURSES

CORE SUBJECTS

All students will have to study these subjects.

- GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
- GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE
- GCSE MATHEMATICS
- GCSE SCIENCE (Combined Science or Triple Science)
- CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (non-examined)
- CORE PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION (non-examined)
- PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CURRICULUM* (non-examined)

*PDC is a dedicated session each week covering Careers Education and Guidance, Citizenship and PSHE

GCSE OPTION CHOICES

You will be asked to indicate at least four option subjects and include at least two further preferences that you would be happy to study. There are two option preference forms that you can use for this, depending on your choice between the two routes described below.

Progress Route

Please realise that, in line with national education policy, the vast majority of students are expected to study a core combination of subjects including English, Maths, Science and one other subject chosen from History, Geography, Computer Science, Triple Science or a Language. We therefore require you to choose your preferences from the three columns below.

Column 1 These subjects are compulsory (you must do these)	Column 2 Choose either Triple Science or Combined Science plus another subject	Column 3 You will study 3 further subjects from the subject list but will be asked for 5 preferences
English Language English Literature Mathematics	Triple Science	See list of subjects overleaf including any subject not chosen in column 2
	Combined Science Plus one of: French Geography History Spanish	

EBacc Route

In addition to this requirement on the subjects you pick, a proportion of students will choose to follow a suite of subjects known collectively as The English Baccalaureate (EBacc). This is not a qualification by itself; it is a collection of subjects that, according to the government, "keep young people's options open for further study and future careers". It comprises English, Maths, Science, a Modern Foreign Language, and either History or Geography. The government's ambition is to see at 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.

To follow the suite of subjects known collectively as the EBacc, your preferences will need to include a Modern Foreign Language and either History or Geography.

Alternative Curriculum

For a small number of students, a traditional academic programme may not meet their needs. If this is the case, the curriculum may be adapted. This may include the opportunity to replace an option choice with an alternative programme of Supported Learning. Please speak to the SENCO to discuss this further.

List of Optional Subjects

- GCSE ART AND DESIGN
- GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES
- GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE
- CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL CREATIVE i-MEDIA*
- GCSE DANCE
- GCSE DRAMA
- GCSE FILM STUDIES
- GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION
- GCSE FRENCH
- GCSE GEOGRAPHY
- GCSE HISTORY
- GCSE MUSIC
- GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY
- GCSE PRODUCT DESIGN - ELECTRONICS AND MECHANISMS
- GCSE PRODUCT DESIGN – GRAPHIC PRODUCTS
- GCSE PRODUCT DESIGN - RESISTANT MATERIALS
- GCSE PRODUCT DESIGN – TEXTILE DESIGN
- GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES
- GCSE SOCIOLOGY
- GCSE SPANISH
- GCSE SPORTS STUDIES
- GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE**

*Cambridge National Creative i-Media is equivalent to a GCSE in both size and rigour.

**GCSE Triple Science counts as one option subject in addition to the core Science allocation.

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

- Read through this booklet carefully with your Parents/Carers
- Be completely honest about your abilities - neither over-estimating nor under-estimating them
- Talk to your tutor and current teachers about your thoughts and ask for their opinions
- Talk to the teacher of the subject you are interested in and ask if they think it would suit you
- Talk to other students who are already taking these courses - find out what they like and don't like about them. In other words, don't choose subjects just because they're new - find out about them
- Remember that the course must be the best one for **YOU** - never choose options because your friends are doing them or because you like the teacher!

CORE SUBJECTS

All students will study these subjects

English Language

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- That I enjoy performing/speaking in front of others
- That I enjoy working with others.

Why will I enjoy English Language? You will enjoy:

- Developing an individual creative and communicative writing style
- Reading a wide range of texts (stories, biography, non-fiction, news, 1st hand accounts) and developing your own opinion
- Using your talk in a variety of ways to explore issues

What will I learn in English Language?

You will learn how to use your writing to suit many situations. You will learn how an author creates a piece of writing and how this affects different readers. You will learn to talk persuasively presenting your ideas and being interviewed.

How will I Learn?

You will be expected to undertake a range of tasks in lessons; on your own, in groups or in pairs. You will use discussion, drama, ICT, written work and speaking and listening tasks. You will; read a variety of literature and experiment with creative writing. You will develop your vocabulary and learn to write in an analytical style.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

- 100% Exam
- Paper 1: reading - one literature fiction text; writing - to describe or narrate
- Paper 2: reading - two non-fiction texts; writing - to present a particular viewpoint
- Speaking and Listening non-exam assessment - as its own discrete subject—Pass Merit or Distinction

How can I find out more?

See Mrs Cave, Ms Power or your English teacher.

You could also visit <http://www.edugas.co.uk/>

English Literature

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- That I enjoy performing/speaking in front of others
- That I enjoy working with others

Why will I enjoy English Literature? You will enjoy:

- Reading a wide range of texts, from stories to plays to poems, and developing your own opinion
- Learning about the world around us through stories
- Practical and creative activities to explore the texts

What will I learn in English Literature?

You will learn to respond in essay form to several texts - some modern and some literary heritage poetry, modern drama, modern poetry and Shakespeare. You will learn to analyse literature, the social and historical contexts it was written in and the author's ideas.

How will I learn?

You will be expected to undertake a range of tasks in lessons; on your own, in groups or in pairs. You will use discussion, drama, ICT, written work and speaking and listening tasks. You will; read a variety of literature and study it in depth and detail. This will build your confidence to different approaches and a range of interpretations with literature.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Paper 1: Shakespeare and Poetry Anthology

Paper 2: Modern Texts, 19th Century Novel, unseen poetry

What can literature help me do in the future?

English literature provides an academic grounding in analysis and independent reading - useful for all career pathways.

How can I find out more?

See Mrs Cave, Ms Power or your English teacher.

You could also visit <http://www.edugas.co.uk/>

Mathematics

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to use numbers and spot patterns
- The ability to think logically and generalise
- The ability to write clearly and explain myself

Why will I enjoy Maths? You will enjoy:

Building on the Maths that you have learnt so far—everything you have studied already is in the Maths GCSE. From Year 9 and up through Year 10 and Year 11 you will get to grips with increasingly interesting and complex Maths. You will be able to solve problems that are wonderfully abstract, as well as problems that are crucial for everyday life. This is an important GCSE and one that will support you through your adult life.

What will I learn in Maths?

As well as building on the familiar topics from years 7 and 8, you will learn about many new topic areas, such as trigonometry and histograms.

Your teacher will guide you through the following broad topic areas:

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

How is Maths taught?

There are 7 lessons a fortnight in Year 9 and you will be placed into sets determined by your mathematical skills. The pace of work will be specially tailored to your needs.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

You will take three written papers and there is no coursework. Paper 1 is a non-calculator paper and a calculator is allowed for papers 2 and 3. All three papers are 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

There are two 'tiers' of entry and the grades available are:

Foundation: 1 to 5

Higher: 4 to 9

A decision on which tier you will be entered for will not be taken until Year 11.

How can I find out more about Maths?

Talk to Mrs Freethy or your Maths teacher.

For a view of the course, look at <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>

This is a Core Subject

Combined Science

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to use data and evidence
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- That I enjoy carrying out experiments and research
- That I enjoy solving problems

Why will I enjoy Science? You will enjoy:

The fact that it is very relevant to your life, we use science every day. Science will make you think and will make you wonder "why?" You will get to solve many problems in many different ways.

What will I learn in Science?

The Science specification is very up to date. It aims to address current and sometimes controversial questions and topics in Science. You will find out about why medical drugs take 12 years to get from the lab to the shop shelf, why elements react the way they do and how to keep your house energy efficient.

You will also learn how Scientists carry out experiments and how data is handled in the real world; examples would include how fertility doctors work to ensure that couples can have a baby.

How will I learn?

Science staff use a variety of activities to explain concepts these might include experiments, ICT for research and simulations, discussion, debate, poster making, creative writing, videos and mind mapping. You will carry out a number of experiments throughout the two years which will help to reinforce the theory work that you do in class.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Science will be mainly assessed by examinations in each of the 3 areas of Science, you will also have the opportunity to carry out practical work and build up a bank of practical skills which will help you in the future, whether this is because you are doing some DIY, cooking or looking after a pet animal! It is important that you have good attendance so that you do not miss the required practical lessons - you will be asked questions about your practical work in the exams.

If I take science what can I do in the future?

If you wish to continue with A-levels in Science, you would need to study science at GCSE. Most careers that students opt for will always include some science knowledge and skills. Science will form part of many further courses such as beauty therapy, hairdressing, pharmacy or engineering.

How can I find out more?

Speak to Mrs Hussey or your Science teacher.

This is a Core Subject

Physical Education

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- A positive approach to all activities.
- To see difficulties as challenges that can be overcome
- The desire to always work to your best ability

Why will I enjoy Physical Education? You will enjoy:

During Key Stage 4 the emphasis will change greatly from what you have experienced at Key Stage 3. This course is designed to allow you to continue to develop the skills learnt in previous years, but to also develop new skills in relation to leading a Healthy, Active Lifestyle, leadership and lifelong participation in exercise. A greater element of choice will be given to the activities you participate in including short tennis, table tennis, aerobics, ultimate Frisbee, handball, volleyball along with the more traditional team games of hockey, netball, football and rugby.

All students will be expected to take on leadership roles throughout the Key Stage and this will be particularly important during the "Sport Education" area of the course. In this aspect of the course students take full responsibility for their PE lessons. This includes checking kit, taking registers, organising equipment, leading warm-ups and cool-downs, taking skill sessions and officiating. This will be done as a team activity and the success of the team depends greatly on YOU.

How is Physical Education taught?

There will be 2 lessons each week, covering the sports and principles outlined above. Students will also take part in an inter Year Group competition over a range of activities. All students will take part in a fitness module during the year.

How will I learn?

There will be an emphasis towards taking on different roles within the activities as well as participating in game situations. Lessons will be less about the development of specific skills of each activity and more about developing other aspects such as evaluating and improving and developing mental skills for a **healthy active life**.

How can I find out more about Physical Education?

Talk to Mr M Hiorns, Mrs V Roper or your PE teacher.

This is a Core Subject

GCSE OPTION SUBJECTS

**Most students will end up studying
four of these subjects**

Art and Design

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

The course is suitable for students who are:

- Keen to develop their visual skills
- Creative, imaginative and enthusiastic
- Able to sustain an investigation and be independent
- Curious and resourceful

Why will I enjoy Art and Design?

If you enjoy making things and expressing yourself in a creative way, then Art and Design could be for you! You will need to think for yourself, as there are no right or wrong answers in Art and this sort of creative thinking and problem solving is an important skill that employers recognise.

What will I learn in Art and Design?

You will learn about Artists, cultures and ways of thinking. You will learn how to explore and analyse your own work and that of others. You will learn how to review and refine work and develop a range of media and experimental techniques. You will learn how to develop ideas from a starting point and create a personal and informed response creatively and effectively.

Year 9: You will learn the skills for GCSE. You will complete two themed projects and an artist based research unit. You will be exploring media and techniques and learning about presentation of your work.

Year 10: Unit 1- SURFACES theme including a culture-based project.
Unit 2 OR 'OPEN & CLOSED'

Year 11: Unit 2 - mock exam unit of coursework / actual GCSE exam

How will I learn?

- Through completing drawing and developmental research on themes to create personal responses
- Through experiments with a range of media, techniques and processes
- By investigating the work of artists/crafts people and designers and through writing about art
- By being willing to go to see Art first-hand in local galleries and museums

How will I get my marks at GCSE?

The GCSE covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments. You will develop confidence with different media in order to explore your strengths and preferences. The main aim of the course is to develop your visual language skills and for you to build a comprehensive portfolio of work to progress to further courses or employment. You have to practice your skills at home as well as in school as Art takes time!

All students will have to submit evidence of using drawing to support the development process in both Component 1 and Component 2.

Component 1: PORTFOLIO WORK

This is a controlled assessment which consists of 2 in depth projects. It is set by the centre and runs throughout the whole of year 10 and up to the end of January in Year 11.

It is worth **60% of the total marks**. A response to all the assessment objectives is required. Work is marked by the centre and moderated by edexcel.

Component 2: EXTERNALLY-SET TASK

This is an external assessment set by Edexcel requires your own response to a set theme. This is a project that allows you to have a preparatory period which leads them to a supervised sustained focus which is 10 hours long. The 10 hours is split over two days and is the time used to create a final and personal response. Question papers are issued to students from 1st February in the year of the exam. A response to all assessment objectives is required. It is worth **40% of the total marks**. Work is marked by the centre and moderated by Edexcel.

If I take Art and Design, what can I do in the future?

GCSE Art and Design can lead you to many career options. You could stay on to A level and then continue to Foundation and degree level. Employers value creative thinking and problem solving – creating is the most active of all the higher thinking skills.

Career options in Art and Design include interior design, advertising, fashion and textiles, theatre design, teaching, floristry, illustration, digital animation, ceramics, jewellery, web design, make up, gallery technician, community Arts, education...

How can I find out more about Art and Design?

Speak to one of your Art teachers – Ms A Phillips (Head of Department), Miss Hunter or Mrs Green.

Visit the exam board website at <http://www.aqa.org/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about Art and Design

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
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9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Business Studies

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to use numbers
- The ability to be creative and imaginative

Why will I enjoy Business? You will enjoy:

This course is both active and enjoyable. You need to be good at communicating and explaining your ideas, and not afraid of learning new things and working with numbers to solve business problems. You will learn how to be a creative thinker and how to make decisions. What's more, you will also learn about the world of business through research and investigations.

What will I learn in Business?

While studying the two units of this course you are likely to learn a lot of new things. You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity and turn that into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money well. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

How will I Learn?

You will have five lessons over a two-week timetable.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Theme 1: Investigating small business Theme 2: Building a business

The papers will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

The paper will include questions that target mathematics at a minimum of Key Stage 3 level. Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts given in the paper.

Calculators may be used in the examination.

How will I do well?

Business is a subject, which needs a wide range of skills from a successful candidate. You need to be willing to put in a lot of effort to master this subject. There are a lot of new concepts to grasp. This subject is rewarding as you discover how real businesses work. It is of interest and useful to all students irrespective of intended career.

If I take Business what can I do in the future?

No matter which route you follow Business can help you prepare for further and higher education. It prepares you for AS/A2 Levels as well as BTEC and NVQ courses in many different subjects. You will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of team. Even if you do not want to go on to study Business further you will have benefited from studying a GCSE Business course because many jobs you do, will involve working for a business. However, a GCSE Business course could lead to work in a business-related profession such as accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry.

How can I find out more?

Ask Mr Butler or visit <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/business-gcse/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about Business Studies

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Computer Science

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain ideas clearly
- The ability to use numbers
- The ability to learn new concepts
- The ability to interpret ideas and implement them with code

Why will I enjoy Computer Science? You will enjoy:

- Understanding and applying the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- Analysing problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Understanding the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- Understanding the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society Applying mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

What will I learn in Computer Science?

- Develop your understanding of current and emerging technologies and how they work
- Look at the use of algorithms in computer programs
- Become an independent and discerning user of IT
- Acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts
- Develop computer programs to solve problems
- Evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs/ solutions and the impact of computer technology in society

How will I Learn?

The GCSE in Computer Science is assessed through two examinations of 1Hr and 30Mins and developing practical programming skills which is a requirement of the course.

How will I get marks in Computer Science GCSE?

- Component 1- Computer Systems
- Component 2 - Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

This is assessed by written papers, which has a mixture of short and long answer questions, some of which require you to write program code.

How will I do well?

You will need to spend time learning new programming languages as well as building your theoretical knowledge.

If I take Computer Science what can I do in the future?

It can also lead on to an A Level in Computer Science, followed by a degree where you will use your skills or develop new skills in your chosen subject, which could be technical or creative.

These qualifications provide a route between education and employment (or further study/training leading to employment). They are directly relevant to the needs of employers.

How can I find out more?

Ask Mr Butler or visit <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/>

Please note that if Computer Science and Creative i-Media cannot both be run (due to numbers or staffing), students who have put either as a preference will be contacted to discuss their options.

Please include your preference order as extra information on your options form if you are interested in either of the two.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Computer Science

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
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Pros	Cons
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9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Creative i-Media

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain ideas clearly
- The ability to think creatively
- The ability to learn new concepts, applying them to a brief
- The ability to interpret ideas and implement them with code

Why will I enjoy Creative i-Media? You will enjoy:

This is a course for students interested in using computers creatively with a focus on the media industries of gaming, the internet, film and television as well as print media. This qualification will develop your applied knowledge and practical skills in the creative use of information technologies.

It is broken down into four main themes:

- Project initiation, planning and review.
- Collecting, manipulating/processing and storing data.
- Creatively developing meaningful information for clients.
- Awareness of the importance of legal, moral, ethical and security factors.

What will I learn in Creative i-Media?

The qualification structure, including the range of units available, allows students the freedom to explore the areas of creative media that interest them, as well as providing good opportunities to enhance your learning in a range of curriculum areas. This qualification is 120 Guided Learning Hours and is equivalent to a GCSE in both size and rigour.

How will I Learn?

You will have five lessons per fortnight where you will create a portfolio of evidence as well as learning theory in the Pre-Production Skills unit. Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia is media sector focused, including film, television, web development, gaming and animation, and has IT at its heart. It provides you with knowledge in a number of key areas, from pre-production skills to digital animation, and has a motivating, hands-on approach to both teaching and learning.

How will I get marks in Creative i-Media?

You must cover:

- R081: Pre-production skills (Assessed as a 1hr 15min written examination set and marked by OCR)
- R082: Creating digital graphics (Assessed as a 10 hour non-examined assessment)

...plus a further two units from:

- R083: Creating 2D and 3D digital characters
- R084: Storytelling with a comic strip
- R085: Creating a multipage website
- R086: Creating a digital animation
- R087: Creating interactive multimedia products
- R088: Creating a digital sound sequence
- R089: Creating a digital video sequence
- R090: Digital photography
- R091: Designing a game concept
- R092: Developing digital games

How can I find out more?

Ask Mr Butler, or visit <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/creative-imedia-level-1-2-award-certificate-j807-j817/qualification-at-a-glance/>

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[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

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10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Dance

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- Creativity, positivity and resilience
- The ability to reflect, problem solve and analyse
- Commitment to building your confidence to perform
- Enjoyment experimenting with different styles of dance
- A sense of fun

Why will I enjoy Dance? You will enjoy:

You will have the opportunity to learn and perform set dance pieces, create your own choreography and learn to critically appreciate your own performance work and professional dance works that are presented in a range of dance styles from Ballet to Hip Hop and from samba to contemporary.

What will I learn in Dance?

Dance is about exploring the world around you through different dance styles and genres. It gives you the opportunity to

- Explore working creatively on your own and in groups,
- Develop as a choreographer and performer, improving your dance performance skills and techniques,
- Evaluate your own and other's work.
- Study professional works and the elements of performance
- Learn about how history and culture have influenced different dance styles and how they are used in our society now and in the past.
- Learn about nutrition, injury prevention and care and safe dance practice.

How will I learn?

In Year 9 you will explore different dance styles including Capoeira, contemporary, samba and hip hop and methods of choreography including improvisation and developing ideas.

You will have the opportunity to improve your skills as a dancer and choreographer through workshop style lessons with your teachers as well as with professional dancers and by attending performances.

You will have the opportunity to explore dance in a theatre setting as well as dance in other settings through studying dance made for camera and creating your own dance for camera using media and technology. The course is 60% practical and 40% written.

All exam work is assessed in year 11, therefore you have ample opportunity to develop and refine your practical and theoretical skills and knowledge in preparation for your final exams.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Component 1: 40% Written exam [1 ½ hours]: Where you will answer questions on selected professional dance pieces, performance and choreography skills.

Component 2: Part 1: 30%

Performance: Solo Set Dance Practical Examination Solo Performance - 1-1½ minutes. You will learn and perform two very short set dance motifs from the exam board. You are marked on your technical skills including accuracy in performance.

Performance: In a duo/trio created by your teacher in collaboration with students.

Component 2 Part 2: 30%

Choreography: you will create your own dance (solo or group) based on a choice of themes/stimuli. You will explore different approaches to choreography and are marked on how well you show your chosen theme through action, space, dynamics, relationships and choreographic devices.

How can I find out more?

Speak to Mrs Speake or Miss Lewis or visit the AQA Website at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about Dance

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
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[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Drama

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to be creative and imaginative.
- Enjoyment performing and speaking in front of others
- Enjoyment working with others.
- The ability to write clearly and evaluate my work

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to be creative and imaginative.
- That I enjoy performing and speaking in front of others.
- That I enjoy collaborating and developing ideas.
- The ability to write clearly and evaluate my work
- Interest in theatre design

Why will I enjoy Drama? You will enjoy:

- It is an energetic practical course that explores different drama skills, genre and time periods
- You will be able to work practically through Devising and Scripted performances, creating your own theatre company
- You will have the opportunity to work imaginatively and creatively in group settings, discussing, experimenting and analysing the diverse world we live in.
- You can explore, develop and communicate ideas around different themes, events and social issues
- You will have the opportunity to develop your design skills through experimentation
- You will have the opportunity to work with different practitioners and visit the theatre.

What will I learn?

- You will learn how to take your performance skills to the next level through character, improvisation, devised thematic work, physical theatre and theatre in education
- You will learn how to analyse and evaluate performances, your own & others developing transferable skills in evaluation and analysis
- You will learn how to create and devise different styles of drama performances
- You will explore the influence of different theatre practitioners and their techniques
- You will learn how to direct, present and develop self-confidence
- You will learn about theatre design lighting and set/costume design
- You will learn to be a theatre critic

How will I learn?

In year 9 you will learn through practical experimentation; role play, improvisation, practical workshops, team building, Drama games. You will hone a range of performance skills that you have developed in year 7 and 8 to a confident standard.

In year 10 and 11 you will research a variety of exciting themes, topics and practitioners applying your social and historical understanding to create dynamic pieces of Drama. We will explore a range of stimuli and interesting scripts, creating polished performances to a standard suitable for a paying audience.

You will participate in workshops, master classes and visit the theatre to see live performances to develop your understanding of professional performance standards

There is a written exam at the end the course which requires you to discuss what you have learnt about the development of your performance skills, the scripts you have studied and Live Theatre.

You will also be asked to keep a diary/log of your rehearsal process in preparation for you written exam.

How will I get my marks at GCSE?

Component 1 40% Devised piece from a stimulus with supporting portfolio

Component 2 20 % performance of a text

Component 3 - 40% Written Paper. This focuses on the study of a scripted play that you have work-shopped and Live Theatre.

If I do Drama what can I do in the future?

This course is excellent in helping you learn to present yourself with confidence, developing your communication skills. This will help you with job interviews, team skills and role play when training. Creativity, problem solving are key skills in Drama and are central to all areas of employment.

It would be desirable to have GCSE Drama to take A' level courses, such as Theatre studies or Performing Arts. Key employment areas that drama supports are the police force, law, public sector jobs, politics, teaching, therapy, history, psychology, social work and creative industries as well as careers in the performance sector, such as directing, producing, costume, lighting, set design, television and journalism - there are many more.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Drama

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Film Studies

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself.
- Enjoyment of English and analysis
- The ability to be creative and imaginative.
- Enjoyment of performing and speaking to others.
- Enjoyment of working with others.

Why will I enjoy Film Studies? You will enjoy:

- Investigating different elements of film production, processes, aims, styles, structure and industry.
- Being creative e.g. planning, shooting and editing moving image work
- Using technology to produce Film - developing camera technique and editing using software.
- You will enjoy analysing Film if you really enjoy English. Literature

What will I learn in Film Studies?

You will learn about the influence of film in society, film form, contexts and the developments in film history. This means you get to study a range of films spanning many genres, production conditions, and styles. The films studied will introduce you to international, historical and sometimes unconventional examples. You will learn about different genres and how different types of films attract and affect audiences and how they represent groups of people or ideas. You will also learn how to analyse films, how different types of films are put together and how to make your own.

Areas of study include Key developments in film and technology, US independent film, Global film (some non-English language) and Contemporary UK film.

How will I learn?

You will be set many written and oral tasks, some of which will be prepared in class and some of which will be prepared at home. Some of your work will be done on the computer. You will use a variety of media including video and websites. You will have the chance to design different short film products. You will gain valuable skills critically analysing moving media, exploring theory and critical writing about films and considering directorial intention. You will also prepare for two terminal exams with some set film texts.

How will I get marks at GCSE? The exam board is EDUQAS.

Coursework - 30%: one individual production piece in response to an annually changing brief given by the exam board. You will be expected to plan, shoot and edit a moving media product, and provide a detailed written evaluation of the work.

Exam - 70%: Two exams, a range of question types, exploring analysis of set texts. Assessment includes understanding of key concepts and use of subject specific theory and terminology as well as the ability to apply specialist texts, including film criticism, to set films.

If I take Film Studies what can I do in the future:

You could take studies further in Film or Media or find apprenticeships in the world of media.

You might develop skills and enter career paths in advertising, journalism, TV and film production, marketing and many other Media industries.

You could use skills to promote your own interests or business ideas.

How can I find out more?

See Mrs Godliman

10 Questions to ask yourself about Film Studies

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2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
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Food Preparation and Nutrition

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- Good organisation to plan practicals and manage time effectively to complete tasks to a deadline.
- The ability to be creative and imaginative to design and present dishes.
- The ability to write clearly and explain myself.
- To be practical and good with your hands.

Why will I enjoy Food Preparation and Nutrition? You will enjoy:

- Developing your knowledge of food preparation and nutrition.
- Extending your practical cooking skills by creating dishes and experimenting with food ingredients to learn more about their characteristics.
- Developing transferable skills such as teamwork, time management and communication. Learning about British and international culinary traditions, food security and food safety.

What will I learn in Food Preparation and Nutrition?

Food Preparation and Nutrition will equip you with the knowledge, understanding, skills and encouragement you need to cook. It will give you the ability to apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. You will be able to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways and develop vital life skills so that you can feed yourself and others affordably and nutritiously. As part of the course, you will learn about the following topics:

Food, nutrition and health, Food science, Food safety, Food choice and Food provenance

You will also develop twelve food preparation skills: General practical skills, knife skills, preparing fruit and vegetables, use of the cooker, use of equipment, cooking methods, prepare, combine and shape, sauce making, tenderise and marinade, dough, raising agents and setting mixtures.

How will I learn?

You will cover a mixture of practical and theory throughout the course. This will provide you with the skills and knowledge to succeed in both the NEA and written exam. The course involves both working independently and as part of a team. This is a practical course and you will be required to purchase ingredients for the practical lessons (financial support is available). Students have practical lessons once a week for the majority of the course.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Food investigation task (NEA) - (15%).

This is part of the non-examined assessment (NEA). For this task you will investigate and gain an understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Example task: "Investigate which ingredients are best for bread making."

Food preparation task (NEA) - (35%).

This is part of the non-examined assessment (NEA). For this task you will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a three hour practical exam, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Example task: "Plan, prepare, cook and present a range of dishes using a variety of skills, from the Mediterranean culinary tradition."

Written exam (50%):

The first part of the exam paper is multiple choice questions worth 20 marks. The second part of the exam paper consists of 5 questions each with a number of sub questions worth 80 marks.

If I take Food Preparation and Nutrition what can I do in the future?

The food industry and healthcare sector are vast and dynamic, with worldwide opportunities for employment. Studying Food Preparation and Nutrition at GCSE can lead to careers in the following areas: Food preparation (e.g. bakery, butchery, head chef, sous chef, pastry chef etc.), healthcare (e.g. nutritionist, dietician, sports nutritionist etc.), health and safety, marketing, new product development, packaging, PR (Public Relations), production operations, research, sales, supply chain and logistics, and technical and quality.

How can I find out more?

Speak to Miss Hewitt or Mr Stevens

10 Questions to ask yourself about Food Preparation and Nutrition

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French

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability and ambition to communicate in French in speech and writing
- The ability to be an independent learner
- The ability to persevere

Why will I enjoy French? You will enjoy French:

- "...because learning a language is good fun" (Beth, Year 10)
- "...because it helps you to communicate and gain confidence" (Katherine, Year 10)
- "...because we talk a lot in the foreign language" (Alice, Year 10)

What will I learn in French?

You will learn to communicate in French on a range of topics, many of which you will have met already at KS3 e.g. music, film, sport, technology in everyday life and holidays.

You will develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where French is spoken.

How is French taught?

- You will have 5 lessons per fortnight.
- You will study one topic per term.
- French is taught creatively, using up-to-date material and using a range of media.
- The lessons and homework have a good balance of different activities.

How will I learn?

- You will be encouraged to use French as the normal means of communication in the classroom.
- You will practise all four skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing) each week in a variety of ways.
- Take part in any residential trips organised by the Faculty.

How will I get my marks at GCSE?

All exams are completed at the end of Year 11; each exam is 25% of the total marks awarded.

Exam 1 - Listening comprehension.

Exam 2 - Speaking- role play card, photo card discussion, conversation on topics studied.

Exam 3 - Reading comprehension plus translation of a passage into English.

Exam 4 - Writing- a variety of tasks, e.g. lists, messages, essay, translation of a passage into French.

If I take French, what can I do in the future?

The possibilities are endless, as language skills go beyond language learning and turn into a variety of skills needed in many careers.

Languages add a flavour of uniqueness to your CV

You can work both abroad and in Britain in companies such as Peugeot, if you wish to continue using your French.

How can I find out more about French?

Talk to your languages teacher or to Mr Quelch, Head of Modern Languages

Visit the exam board website at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about French

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[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Geography

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself.
- The ability to use numbers.
- The ability to be creative and imaginative.

Why will I enjoy Geography?

It is **vital**; in Geography we study a range of topics that affect humans and the natural environment.

It is **important**; some of the most important issues that are facing humans are studied at GCSE Geography, such as Global Warming, Flooding and Migration.

It is **practical**; you will investigate what is happening, how it affects people and the environment, and how we can solve the problems.

It is **relevant**; in Geography we look at problems at local, national and global scales, trying to understand how it affects our lives.

What will I learn in Geography?

There are two main taught units in Geography:

- Living with the physical environment: Here we study different aspects of the environment, looking at how the environment impacts on us, and how we are changing the environment. Topics include Challenges of natural hazards, Physical landscape in the UK, The living world.
- Challenges in the Human environment: In this unit we focus on the challenges facing our growing human population, from a local to an international level. Topics include Urban challenges, The changing economic world, The challenges of resource management.

We also look at Geographical Application where you will research different fieldwork techniques and you will use various sources to overcome a set challenge. Topics include: Issue evaluation and Fieldwork.

How will I Learn?

- Through being active: in Geography you will use group work, role plays and practical demonstrations to learn key concepts and ideas.
- Through a wide range of resources: DVD's, ICT, fieldwork, games, role plays, research.
- Through thinking: you will be encouraged to solve problems and think for yourself, forming your own opinions on key issues.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

GCSE Geography is examined in 3 units.

Unit 1 - Living with the Physical Environment (35% of final exam) - A written paper answering questions based on graphs, pictures and diagrams that relate to what we have studied. You will also have to answer short questions based on case studies and examples that we have studied in lessons.

Unit 2 - Challenges in the Human environment (35% of final exam) - A written paper answering questions based on graphs, pictures and diagrams that relate to what we have studied. You will also have to answer short questions based on case studies and examples that we have studied in lessons.

Unit 3 - Geographical examination (30% of final exam) - This is a one hour exam which is based on a source about a Geographical issue and fieldwork assessment.

If I take Geography what can I do in the future

Geography opens a wide range of doors beyond GCSE. It links to other subjects, as well as the skills used make it attractive in further education and to employers.

How can I find out more?

Talk to your Geography teacher.

The Royal Geographical Society (<https://www.rgs.org/>) can also show where Geography could take you.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Geography

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History

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain your ideas.
- The ability to analyze sources and reach judgments.
- The ability to work out why things happened in History.

Why will I enjoy History at Larkmead?

History is about people and events that have shaped our lives today. It's also a very useful subject to study - employers recognise that people with a GCSE History qualification have developed high-level skills which can be applied to all sorts of situations. They know that you can:

- Understand how people tick, what motivates them and what they think and feel
- Gather and read different kinds of information
- Analyse maps, graphs and other diagrams
- Communicate clearly and express yourself orally and on paper

"How can you understand the present and the future unless you have a good understanding of the past?"

What will I learn about?

GCSE History at Larkmead follows the new Edexcel syllabus. The key areas of study will be:

- Medicine in Britain, c.1250 to present day. In this thematic study, you will learn about how medical knowledge and understanding has changed throughout history. You will also complete a case study on a historical site - the trenches of the Western Front in WWI and their impact on the development of medicine.
- Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39. In this modern depth study, you will learn about the formation of Germany's first democracy and the reasons for its failure. You will examine the reasons why, and how a totalitarian state is created.
- Superpower relations and the Cold War. In this period study, you will learn about the emergence of the two 20th century superpower and the ideological battle between them.
- Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c.1060-88. In this depth study, you will learn how the Normans conquered and then secured their power in England, before examining their lasting impact on English society.

Why should I take History?

- How else can you make sense of the present without a good understanding of the past?
- How else can you understand why places look like they do?
- How are you going to change the world if you haven't looked at how it got in the state it's in already?
- How are you going to participate in the system if you don't know how it works?

How will I learn?

We will use lots of different teaching methods, so whatever your learning styles you will enjoy the subject:

- Resources - Film - ICT - Internet - Music - a variety of textbooks
- Activities - Group Work - Independent investigation

How can I find out more about History?

Talk to your History teacher

Check out the Historical Association website <https://www.history.org.uk/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about History

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Music

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to play or start learning an **instrument**, to **sing/rap/beat box** or to **DJ/computer sequence**
- Enjoyment performing (instrument or vocal), composing and listening to different styles of music
- Working in groups and performing with others

Why will I enjoy Music?

The music course includes performing and listening to many styles of music, for example pop. Music gives you the opportunity to share your musical skills in the classroom and build on your creativity, independence and confidence. You will enjoy:

- Performing on your instrument or using your voice
- Being creative by composing different styles of music
- Listening to a wide variety of music styles (see below for the list)

What will I learn?

There are 5 lessons per fortnight taught in a mixed ability group. You will start Year 9 Music learning performing skills with AOS5: Conventions of Popular Music (Rock n Roll, Rock Anthems, Pop Ballad and solo artists of the present day). You will be taught composition, listening and performing through class activities in different styles including:

Film Music and Music for Video Games: music written specifically for film, western classical tradition and soundtracks for a video game

Conventions of Pop Music: study Rock'n'roll, Rock Anthems, Pop Ballad and solo artists of the present day

The Concerto Through Time: study the Concerto, from the Baroque period through to the Romantic period

Rhythms of the World: explore the traditional rhythmic drumming roots from four geographical regions of the world: India and Punjab, Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East, Africa and Central and South America

How will I learn?

You will learn by completing different tasks on your own, in groups and as a whole class including composing, listening and performing. You will not be expected to perform in assemblies unless you wish to do so. All coursework is completed during lessons.

How will I get my marks at GCSE?

The course follows the OCR specification and includes coursework (composing and performing, worth 60% and all completed during lesson time) and a listening exam (worth the remaining 40%).

If I take Music, what can I do in the future?

You may want to study music for the love of it, or to pursue a career as a singer, instrumentalist, DJ, beat boxer, rapper, or composer, but the possibilities don't stop there. Whatever your interest, there are jobs in teaching or music therapy, production, promotion, management, as well as performance. Music is looked upon very favourably by employers and further/higher education because it shows a diversity of skills including teamwork; planning, organisation and confidence.

How can I find out more about Music?

Speak to your Music teacher, Mrs McAuley.

Visit the OCR website at <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/music-j536-from-2016/>

Speak to current GCSE music students.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Music

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10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Photography

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

Photography is about being creative

- ...being passionate, observing and capturing the world
- ...learning to look beyond the obvious
- ...discussing and analysing
- ...being proactive, exploring the light
- ...researching artists

Why will I enjoy in Photography?

This is not about 'selfies', snaps or photos! Are you interested in the 'art' of photography? Are you passionate about taking photographs, exploring what and how you can communicate your art through the use of your camera? Then this course could be for you!

- Photography is an Art. It helps us to see the 'moment', observe the environment around us.
- Learning to look 'photographically' is key, capturing images that communicate our story, our view of the world, appreciate light and develop a sense of time.
- This is a subject for those who are passionate about creating photographs, discovering the technique of the camera as well as exploring the aesthetics of composition through different media.
- It is about developing analytical skills when looking at your work to continually improve
- If you enjoy getting up early to catch the light or go out at dusk, spend free time taking photographs and editing then this could be for you.

What will I learn?

- You will learn the language of photography.
- You will learn to express your ideas and intentions, creating outcomes that are confident and thought provoking.
- You will explore the technical aspects of the camera, the exposure triangle, aperture, shutter speed, ISO.
- You will learn about the rules of composition, exploring the formal elements of visual language; line, form, colour, tone, pattern, texture.
- You will explore different area(s) of light and lens-based media, including Portraiture, Landscape photography, Still Life photography, Documentary photography, Narrative photography and Fine Art photography.
- You will also learn how to digitally edit and refine your work.

How will I learn?

Initially Year 9 is a skill-based year, learning the formal elements, the importance of composition and the technical elements of the camera and how to draw upon all these skills to create meaningful images.

You will need to be self-motivated and enjoy going out in all weathers to capture the image you want.

You will need to demonstrate independence and be keen to refine your work.

In Year 10, through exploration of different genres and techniques of the camera, and as you grow more confident in your use of the camera, you will respond to themes, issues or concepts, working to a design brief. You will create a portfolio of different projects evidencing your developing skill.

How will I get my marks at GCSE?

Component 1: Portfolio of Work 60%

This is a candidate portfolio selected from work undertaken during the course of study.

Component 2: Externally Set Task 40%

You will have limited preparation time for this piece of work. Candidates create their final outcomes under exam conditions, using what they have produced in their preparation time.

If I take Photography, what can I do in the future?

GCSE Photography can lead you to many career options. Employers value creative thinking and problem solving - creating is the most active of all the higher thinking skills.

Career paths include photographing fashion, fine art, forensics, industry, nature, sports and people in the public eye. There are medical photographers, photographic illustrators, teachers, picture editors, researchers and filmmakers. This list is huge.

If you wish to take your studies beyond A Level, possible degree options include Animation, Creative and editorial photography, Digital media, Film and television, Graphics with photography and Visual communication.

How can I find out more about Art and Design?

Speak to Ms A Phillips or Mrs Green to find out more.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Photography

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Product Design: Electronics and Mechanisms

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- Being practical and good with my hands

Why will I enjoy Systems and Control? You will enjoy:

- Designing and making products
- Producing high quality practical work
- Being both creative and technical including PCB manufacture

What will I learn in Electronics and Mechanisms?

You will cover a range of Core content including New and Emerging Technologies, Energy, Smart Materials, Material Categories and Properties. In addition to this you will explore specialist theory relevant to the chosen option. In total this core content will contribute 20% and the specialist theory will contribute 30%. Together these theory topics will be combined in a written examination worth 50% of your GCSE. During Year 10 you will be able to design and make products, with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities learning the skills required to produce a final design and make product and portfolio throughout Year 11. This product and portfolio will contribute the remaining 50% of your GCSE.

How will I learn?

There will be a number of set design tasks that will allow you to experience the different materials and electronic components that can be used in this area of product design. At the end of Year 10 a choice of contextual challenges will be provided by the exam board which you will select from to form the basis of your assessed product and portfolio.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Product and Portfolio - 50% of final GCSE

Written Examination - 50% of final GCSE

If I take Electronics and Mechanisms what can I do in the future:

This course will lead onto further educational opportunities starting with an A-Level Product Design Course at Larkmead Sixth Form. Future opportunities this course could provide include higher education, university courses and apprenticeships as well as a variety of careers including:

Clothing/textile technologist, Colour technologist, Exhibition designer,
Furniture designer, Industrial/product designer, Interior and spatial designer,
Automotive engineer, Graphic designer, Materials engineer, Product manager
Production designer, Careers in theatre, television and film

How can I find out more?

Speak to Mr Stevens or Mr Nicholls

You can also look at the exam board website <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/>

Although you cannot opt to study two Product Design options in KS4, if you are interested in more than one, please include your preference order as extra information on your options form.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Electronics and Mechanisms

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Product Design: Graphic Products

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- That I am practical and good with my hands

Why will I enjoy Graphic Products? You will enjoy:

- Designing and making products
- Producing high quality practical work
- Being both creative and technical including the using of computer aided design and manufacture

What will I learn in Graphic Products?

You will cover a range of Core content including New and Emerging Technologies, Energy, Smart Materials, Material Categories and Properties. In addition to this you will explore specialist theory relevant to the chosen option. In total this core content will contribute 20% and the specialist theory will contribute 30%. Together these theory topics will be combined in a written examination worth 50% of your GCSE. During Year 10 you will be able to design and make products, with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities learning the skills required to produce a final design and make product and portfolio throughout Year 11. This product and portfolio will contribute the remaining 50% of your GCSE.

How will I learn?

There will be a number of set design tasks that will allow you to experience the different materials and techniques that can be used in this area of product design. At the end of Year 10 a choice of contextual challenges will be provided by the exam board which you will select from to form the basis of your assessed product and portfolio.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Product and Portfolio - 50% of final GCSE

Written Examination - 50% of final GCSE

If I take Graphic products what can I do in the future:

This course will lead onto further educational opportunities starting with an A-Level Product Design Course at Larkmead Sixth Form. Future opportunities this course could provide include higher education, university courses and apprenticeships as well as a variety of careers including:

Clothing/textile technologist, Colour technologist, Exhibition designer,
Furniture designer, Industrial/product designer, Interior and spatial designer,
Automotive engineer, Graphic designer, Materials engineer, Product manager
Production designer, Careers in theatre, television and film

How can I find out more?

Speak to Mr Stevens, Mr Nicholls or Miss Mtoka

You can also look at the exam board website <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/>

Although you cannot opt to study two Product Design options in KS4, if you are interested in more than one, please include your preference order as extra information on your options form.

Please note that Product Design (Graphic Products) and Product Design (Textile Design) may be combined as a GCSE and be taught as Product Design (Textile & Packaging Design)

10 Questions to ask yourself about Graphic Products

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Product Design: Resistant Materials

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- That I am practical and good with my hands

Why will I enjoy Resistant Materials? You will enjoy:

- Designing and making products
- Producing high quality practical work
- Being both creative and technical

What will I learn in Resistant Materials?

You will cover a range of Core content including New and Emerging Technologies, Energy, Smart Materials, Material Categories and Properties. In addition to this you will explore specialist theory relevant to the chosen option. In total this core content will contribute 20% and the specialist theory will contribute 30%. Together these theory topics will be combined in a written examination worth 50% of your GCSE. During Year 10 you will be able to design and make products, with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities learning the skills required to produce a final design and make product and portfolio throughout Year 11. This product and portfolio will contribute the remaining 50% of your GCSE.

How will I learn?

There will be a number of set design tasks that will allow you to experience the different materials and techniques that can be used in this area of product design. At the end of Year 10 a choice of contextual challenges will be provided by the exam board which you will select from to form the basis of your assessed product and portfolio.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Product and Portfolio - 50% of final GCSE

Written Examination - 50% of final GCSE

If I take Resistant Materials what can I do in the future:

This course will lead onto further educational opportunities starting with an A-Level Product Design Course at Larkmead Sixth Form. Future opportunities this course could provide include higher education, university courses and apprenticeships as well as a variety of careers including:

Clothing/textile technologist, Colour technologist, Exhibition designer,
Furniture designer, Industrial/product designer, Interior and spatial designer,
Automotive engineer, Graphic designer, Materials engineer, Product manager
Production designer, Careers in theatre, television and film

How can I find out more?

Speak to Mr Stevens, Mr Nicholls or Miss Mtoka

You can also look at the exam board website <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/>

Although you cannot opt to study two Product Design options in KS4, if you are interested in more than one, please include your preference order as extra information on your options form.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Resistant Materials

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Product Design: Textile Design

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself.
- The ability to be creative and imaginative.
- I am practical and good with my hands

Why will I enjoy Textile Design? You will enjoy:

- Designing and making textile products
- Producing high quality practical work
- Being both creative and technical

What will I learn in Textile Design?

You will cover a range of Core content including New and Emerging Technologies, Energy, Smart Materials, Material Categories and Properties. In addition to this you will explore specialist theory relevant to the chosen option. In total this core content will contribute 20% and the specialist theory will contribute 30%. Together these theory topics will be combined in a written examination worth 50% of your GCSE. During Year 10 you will be able to design and make products, with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities learning the skills required to produce a final design and make product and portfolio throughout Year 11. This product and portfolio will contribute the remaining 50% of your GCSE.

How will I learn?

There will be a number of set design tasks that will allow you to experience the different materials and techniques that can be used in this area of product design. At the end of Year 10 a choice of contextual challenges will be provided by the exam board which you will select from to form the basis of your assessed product and portfolio.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

Product and Portfolio - 50% of final GCSE

Written Examination - 50% of final GCSE

If I take Textiles what can I do in the future:

This course will lead onto further educational opportunities starting with an A-Level Product Design Course at Larkmead Sixth Form. Future opportunities this course could provide include higher education, university courses and apprenticeships as well as a variety of careers including:

Clothing/textile technologist, Colour technologist, Exhibition designer,
Furniture designer, Industrial/product designer, Interior and spatial designer,
Automotive engineer, Graphic designer, Materials engineer, Product manager
Production designer, Careers in theatre, television and film

How can I find out more?

Speak to Mr H Stevens, Miss Hewitt, Mr Nicholls or Miss Mtoka

You can also look at the exam board website <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/>

Although you cannot opt to study two Product Design options in KS4, if you are interested in more than one, please include your preference order as extra information on your options form.

Please note that Product Design (Graphic Products) and Product Design (Textile Design) may be combined as a GCSE and be taught as Product Design (Textile & Packaging Design)

10 Questions to ask yourself about Textile Design

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Religious Studies

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to think about the bigger picture
- The ability to make up your own mind about things
- The ability to argue your view persuasively

Why will I enjoy in Religious Studies?

Across the GCSE we study a range of interesting and engaging topics. Some will get you practising your best debate skills, others will have you thinking about the biggest ideas of all time. We build on the ideas and skills that we have learned in Philosophy and Religion (P&R) in Years 7 and 8, but for the GCSE we learn a brand new range of exciting topics and ideas.

What will I learn in Religious Studies?

The GCSE course is called Religious Studies but is the same as the P&R that you have studied already. The course is split into two sections:

The first section is *Philosophy and Ethics* where we will look at questions such as "Should we ever go to war?" "Should same-sex marriage be legalised everywhere?" "Does God exist?" "Where do we get our morals from?" and "Should religion be taught in schools?" We will learn important philosophical skills such as evaluation and argumentation.

The second section is the study of the *Beliefs and Practices* of two major world religions (currently Christianity and Islam). We will explore what they believe and importantly why they believe it, considering what impact it will have on their lives. This section will give us plenty of opportunities to have guest speakers and to go on some school trips to different places of worship.

How will I learn?

You will be learning two things: what different people believe, and how to argue your own viewpoint. The course is really well designed to make sure that you learn lots of interesting and exciting ideas in a really engaging way. This will mean visits from guest speakers as well as trips to places of worship. We make use of different resources such as textbooks and the online resources that we have developed for use in and out of school, and of course there will be plenty of opportunities for debates and discussions.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

There is no coursework, so all of your marks at GCSE will come from two exams (one on each section explained above). There are only ever three types of questions: 3 mark questions, 6 mark questions and a 15 mark questions. This will give you plenty of opportunity to get good marks by showing off your subject knowledge and your ability to argue a point of view - something at which you will be well practiced come the exams.

If I take Religious Studies what can I do in the future?

Anything. As a subject the key skill of being able to understand people's views and make up your own mind about your view is a skill that is used in almost any job. If you can master this skill, then you will have a guaranteed selling point to your future employer. In terms of education beyond GCSE this would set you up well for further study at school (such as A levels in Religious Studies, Sociology, Politics or Philosophy), college, apprenticeships or university.

How can I find out more?

If you want to find out anything more you can speak to Mr McKavanagh, who teaches his lessons in N2. You can also check out what we will be studying by logging on to the OCR exam board website at <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/religious-studies-j625-j125-from-2016/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about Religious Studies

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
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9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Sociology

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly and explain myself
- The ability to use numbers
- The ability to be creative and imaginative

Why will I enjoy Sociology? You will enjoy:

Sociology is the study of groups in society. Society does not operate in a random way, and whether you get good GCSEs or a good job is not just about how intelligent you are but depends on the family you were born into, the place you live, whether you are male or female, whether you are black or white and even the wealth of your grandparents. GCSE Sociology studies big factors that influence the lives of people: family, education, crime and money. We also examine research carefully.

If you are the type of person who does not take things for granted and enjoys asking questions about the world in which we live, then you will enjoy Sociology.

What will I learn in Sociology?

You will learn about how to research different topics and issues in society, what methods work best to get the right information and what makes a scientific study stronger or weaker.

You will also look into some key areas of sociological research, looking at how your gender, upbringing and a whole range of other factors affects who you are and the choices you make.

How will I learn?

As this is a new subject for you there will be a lot of new vocabulary to learn and in a sense a new way of thinking. There will be lots of notes, discussion, some reading, and you do need to write essays so you will practise them in class. We will also tackle live social issues in class by looking at what the media has to say and engaging in whole class debates to hone essential skills of argument and judgement.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

The GCSE is 100% exam-based, so all of your marks will be awarded according to how well you do in your exams. There are a mixture of questions requiring 1, 2, 3, 4 and 12 mark answers.

If I take Sociology what can I do in the future

Sociology is a good subject to have for most jobs involving people, such as a journalism, social work, policing, education, nursing or local government. You can stay on in the Sixth Form and do Sociology as an A level or you can use it as a qualification to get you into training for a variety of public sector careers. It shows employers that you understand about how the system works. However, Sociology is not just about a qualification, you will learn vital skills for life such as recognising the impact of powerful institutions such as the media, education and the law, which will shape your world-view as an adult.

How can I find out more?

To find out more about the course come and see Mr McKavanagh and Mr Beer (based in N1 and N2)

10 Questions to ask yourself about Sociology

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Spanish

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability and ambition to communicate in Spanish in speech and writing
- The ability to be an independent learner
- The ability to persevere

Why will I enjoy Spanish?

- "...because Spanish lessons are fun and interesting" (Millie, Year 10)
- "...because there are a lot of opportunities to participate in lessons" (Nicole, Year 10)
- "...because learning another language helps you learn more about your own" (Katherine, Year 10)

What will I learn in Spanish?

You will learn to communicate in Spanish on a range of topics, many of which you will have met already at KS3 e.g. music, cinema, sport, technology in everyday life and holidays.

You will develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.

How is Spanish taught?

- You will have 5 lessons per fortnight.
- You will study one topic per term.
- Spanish is taught creatively, using up-to-date material and a range of media.
- The lessons and homework have a good balance of different activities.

How will I learn?

- You will be encouraged to use Spanish as the normal means of communication in lessons.
- You will practise all four skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing) each week in a variety of ways.
- Take part in any residential trips organized by the Faculty.

How will I get my marks at GCSE?

All exams are completed at the end of Year 11; each exam is 25% of the total marks awarded.

Exam 1 - Listening comprehension.

Exam 2 - Speaking- role-play card, photo card discussion, conversation on topics studied.

Exam 3 - Reading comprehension plus translation of a passage into English.

Exam 4 - Writing- a variety of tasks, e.g. lists, messages, essay, translation of a passage into Spanish.

If I take Spanish, what can I do in the future?

The possibilities are endless, as language skills go beyond language learning and turn into a variety of skills needed in many careers.

Languages add a flavour of uniqueness to your CV.

How can I find out more about Spanish?

Talk to your languages teacher or to Mr Quelch, Head of Modern Languages

Visit the exam board website at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/>

10 Questions to ask yourself about Spanish

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
------	------
9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Sports Studies

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- The ability to write clearly, explaining and describing topics covered
- Enjoyment of physical activity
- Motivation to work hard to develop my skills
- Commitment to regular attend a sports club, either within or outside of school

Why will I enjoy Sports Studies?

If you want to learn the theory that underpins physical activity and sport, then this course is for you. You will enjoy learning this theory alongside developing your physical skills in team games and individual sports.

What will I learn?

- You will learn about physiology and how that affects performance in physical activity.
- You will learn how to analyse movement and the different components of physical training.
- You will study sports psychology and how the mind learns (a new topic on the GCSE exam course).
- We will also look at how sport and physical activity are affected by our society and why and how we maintain our health fitness and well being

You will undertake a practical assessment in 3 different sports from the accredited list (see the AQA web site listed below). One must be a team game, one must be an individual sport and the third can be from either group.

How will I learn?

Most time will be spent learning work for the written paper. The three practical assessments will take place in Years 9 and 10. Homework can take the form of a written piece of work or attendance at a sports session. Please be aware that written work is now 70% of the course.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

There are 2 written exams. These are worth 60% of the final grade.

- Paper 1: Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training and use of data.
- Paper 2: Sports psychology socio-cultural influences, health, fitness and well-being and the use of data.

Both written exam papers have a combination of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and long essay style questions.

You are also assessed in your practical performance over the 2 year course and will have to complete a written piece of coursework which analyses your performance within one of your practical assessments. Your practical performance is 30% of the final grade and the written course work is worth the final 10% of the qualification.

If I take PE what can I do in the future?

If you are thinking about taking PE at A level or a further qualification at university then you should take this subject. As it is a subject that encompasses a wide range of other subjects it is also good to take for those who still are undecided on their future pathway.

How can I find out more?

Please see your PE teacher or Mr Hiorns (Head of department) for further information

Visit the AQA exam board website at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education>

10 Questions to ask yourself about Sports Studies

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
3. What learning opportunities are there in this course and do these appeal to me?
4. How is the subject examined and does this suit me?
[Written, performance based, practical, controlled assessment, etc.]
5. Do I need to perform in front of others and, if so, am I confident I can do this?
6. Have I watched the Larkmead options video about this subject?
7. Is there anything about the course I am unclear about?
[List any questions you have below and, for each, think where you can find the answer]
8. Try to find a current Year 10 or 11 student studying this course and ask them about it.
[List their thoughts as pros and cons below.]

Pros	Cons
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9. See the subject teacher. Do they think the course would be good for me?
10. Considering all of my answers to the questions above, does this subject interest me?
[Think about why and why not. Try to give yourself detailed reasons.]

Triple Science

What abilities will help me succeed in this subject?

- An enthusiasm for Science and a willingness to learn
- The ability to use data and evidence
- The ability to be creative and imaginative
- An enjoyment carrying out experiments

Why will I enjoy Triple Science? You will enjoy:

If you have enjoyed Science at KS3 you will enjoy Triple Science even more. If Science is your favourite subject, you will get the opportunity to study it in greater depth and spend lots of time learning about something that you are interested in. Every day there is a science story in the news and Triple Science gives you the opportunity to discuss these developments with your teachers.

What will I learn in Science?

The Science specification is very up to date. It aims to address current and sometimes controversial questions and topics in Science. You will find out about why medical drugs take 12 years to go through trials, why some chemicals react more violently than others and how to make your house as energy efficient as possible.

You will also learn how Scientists carry out experiments and how data is handled in the real world, examples would include how fertility doctors ensure that couples can have a baby.

There are extra topics in the Science specification that you would not study in Combined Science, these include "The brain and eye" in Biology, "Flame tests and titrations" in Chemistry and "Space" in Physics.

How will I learn?

Having three teachers means that you will have so many styles of teaching. Science staff use a variety of activities to explain concepts which might include problem solving, experiments, ICT for research and simulations, discussion, debate, poster making, creative writing, videos and mind mapping.

How will I get marks at GCSE?

You will have exams at the end of Year 11. There will be exams in each Science area. To support you in this, the faculty will run revision and intervention sessions throughout Year 11 to ensure you regularly revisit work throughout the course. You will carry out practical investigations which will allow you to develop your practical skills.

If I take Science, what can I do in the future?

Absolutely anything!! If you wish to continue with A-levels in Science you do not need to do Triple Science but, if you do opt for it, you will find you have an excellent grounding for all topics covered. Most careers that students choose will always include some Science knowledge and skills.

How can I find out more?

Speak to your science teacher or Mrs Hussey, the Head of the Science Faculty.

10 Questions to ask yourself about Triple Science

1. What will I learn about and does it sound interesting?
2. What abilities would help me to be successful in this course and to what extent do I have them?
[I'm very good at them, I'm reasonable at them but need to try hard, I find them very hard, etc.]
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