

Holly Hall Academy



HOLLY HALL

KS4 Course Planner



2018-2021

OPTIONS PROCESS

We have great pleasure in welcoming you to the next exciting stage in your learning journey at The Holly Hall Academy. From Year 9 a degree of subject choice is open to all students and our 2018 Options Information Booklet will provide you with all the information you need to make the choices that are right for you.

We take great care in selecting the most appropriate combination of subjects to ensure we offer you:

✓ A broad and balanced curriculum

Providing you with access to a full range of courses and nationally recognised qualifications.

✓ Recognition of the importance of core subjects

Success in English, Mathematics and Science will provide a solid foundation for progression onto higher level courses and future careers.

✓ Flexibility and choice

We believe you deserve a curriculum that is motivating, challenging and prepares you effectively for further learning, employment and adult life.

✓ Opportunities for progression

We aim to provide you with coherent learning programmes that enable you to progress to further learning at age 16 and beyond.

High quality guidance and support

This is essential to ensure your interests, needs and aspirations are met.

✓ Maximising chances of success

By effectively using prior attainment data and national progress data we aim to ensure you are supported to reach your potential. We can provide a clear indication of the likely progress you will make on particular courses and make firm recommendations to you and your parents or carers to support you to choose the right course for you.

We would encourage you to take as much time as you can to find out everything you need to know about the choices you are about to make.

Introduction

The time has arrived to start making some decisions about the next three years at The Holly Hall Academy and the courses you would like to study. You are required to take certain subjects (core curriculum) but this is your opportunity to choose other subjects that interest you and will be useful in your future.

The following information will allow you to make informed decisions. Remember to follow the instructions carefully and take your time, asking as many questions and seeking as much advice as you need in order to ensure the choices you make are the right ones for you.

The Government have made some significant changes to the way in which your GCSEs are structured and as a result, you will study 3 optional subjects over 3 years and 1 optional subject over 2 years, starting in Year 9. The subjects you can choose from have been placed in 4 'Blocks' and you will need to select one subject from each of the blocks. Curriculum Leaders have provided an outline of their subjects to help you understand what is involved in each course and answer some of your questions. We will also provide you with lots of additional opportunities to find out more about the courses on offer over the next few weeks.

The choices you make for Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11) will help you to achieve your future aspirations so consider the following points carefully:

Is it your decision?

Do not be tempted to make decisions based on the subjects your friends take in the hope that you will be in the same classes. A member of staff will arrange a meeting with each student in Year 8 along with their parents. Students will make choices based on the guidance that they receive and on the pathway that has been identified for them.

Have you asked others for advice and considered carefully what they say?

There are lots of people available for you to speak to, including your teachers, your parents, older siblings, your form tutor, Mrs Turton (Careers AIG and Aspirations Advisor) and older students in years 9, 10 and 11.

Have you thought about the subjects you are taking currently?

What do you enjoy about them? What do you think you are good at? Where are your strengths and weaknesses? It is important however that you don't make a decision about a subject based on how you feel about your class teacher as it is likely you will have a different teacher in years 9, 10 and 11.

What qualifications will I achieve?

GCSEs

Most courses will lead to a qualification at GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) level. GCSE is graded on a nine point number scale from 9-1 (9 being the highest grade and 1 being the lowest). The school will keep parents informed about changes to the GCSEs as and when they take place.

BTECs and BTEC TECH Awards

BTECs are vocational courses which lead to a GCSE equivalent. BTECs offer excellent progression paths onto college and Level 3 Courses and due to the nature of the assignments, suit some students' learning style far better than GCSEs. In addition all BTECs have a compulsory examined component.

Last year the government changed the style of BTECs and introduced the new TECH Award allowing the student access to the full 9-1 achievement. These will replace all BTECs over the next few years.

Grades attainable for BTECs are Level 2 Distinction* (8/9), Distinction (8), Merit (7/6), Pass (5/4) and Level 1 Pass (2/1)

Grades attainable for TECH Awards are Level 2 Distinction* (8/9), Distinction (8), Merit (7/6), Pass (5/4) and Level 1 Distinction (3), Merit (2) and Pass (1)

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English Language

Exam Board and Specification Edexcel English Language

Main Course Content

This course allows students to study English Language in the written and spoken form. Students complete a variety of tasks that enable them to explore and examine the effects of English Language within texts and communication. The texts will range from the 19th to the 21st century covering various genres and types. These texts will include literature and extended literary non-fiction, and other writings such as essays, reviews and journalism (both online and print).

Students will also be required to take a GCSE in English Literature.

Assessment Methods

Examination (100%)

Students will sit two separate examinations:

Examination 1: Fiction and imaginative writing. 40% weighting, out of 64 marks,
(1 hour and 45 minutes).

Section A - Reading: questions on an unseen, 19th century fiction extract

Section B - Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. Tasks linked to the theme in the reading extract.

Examination 2: Non-fiction and transactional writing. 60% weighting, out of 96 marks,
(2 hours).

Section A - Reading: questions on two thematically linked, unseen non-fiction extracts.

Section B - Writing: choice of two writing tasks. Linked by a theme in reading extracts.

Both papers are un-tiered.

Recommended Resources

REVISE Edexcel GCSE (9-1) English Language Guided Revision Workbook

ISBN: 9781292213729

Additional Support

Revision sessions are available during term time. Sessions during holidays are also arranged at the discretion of the teaching staff.

Further Study/Career Pathways

GCSE English Language qualifications are often an essential requirement for Post 16 education, apprenticeships and the majority of school leaver jobs.

English Literature

Exam Board and Specification Edexcel English Literature

Main Course Content

This course allows students to study English Literature at an in-depth level, developing their knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. Students will be expected to read widely for pleasure across a range of text genres (prose, poetry and drama), developing an understanding of how literature is both rich and influential.

This course is both challenging and enjoyable. Students will **not** have access to the texts they study in their examinations; a need for an in-depth understanding/knowledge of their texts is a necessity to succeed.

Students will also be required to take a GCSE in English Language.

Assessment Methods

Examination (100%)

Examination 1: Shakespeare and post-1914 Literature. 50% weighting out of 80 marks, (1 hour and 45 minutes).

Section A: Shakespeare, two-part question, with an extract. Second task about how themes are reflected here and explored elsewhere in the play.

Section B: Post -1914 British play or novel: ONE essay question.

Examination 2: Study of 19th century novel and a poetry collection from the Pearson Poetry Anthology. 50% weighting.

(2 hours and 15 minutes).

Section A: 19th-century novel two part question, first part based on extract. Second part is an essay question exploring the whole text.

Section B: One question comparing a named poem from the anthology with another. Second part, ONE question comparing two UNSEEN contemporary poems.

Both papers are un-tiered.

Recommended Resources

Students will study the following texts; Jekyll and Hyde, Macbeth, An Inspector Calls and Conflict poetry

Students will have access to texts during their lessons; however they are not allowed to leave the classroom. We recommend that students purchase their own copy of the texts to help aid with revision outside of the classroom. If you wish to purchase any texts, Amazon or Waterstones are popular stores that might hold copies.

Additional Support

Revision sessions are available during term time. Sessions during holidays are also arranged at the discretion of the teaching staff.

Further Study/Career Pathways

GCSE English Literature qualifications are often an essential requirement for Post 16 education, apprenticeships and the majority of school leaver jobs.

Mathematics

Exam Board and Specification: Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Mathematics

Main course content

The aims and objectives of the Mathematics course offered are to:

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

Assessment Methods

- Students will sit three equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation or Higher tier. The first paper will be a non-calculator paper and the other two will allow the use of a calculator.

Recommended Resources

- A scientific calculator (Casio fx-83) is recommended for GCSE mathematics lessons.
- A revision guide (sold by the Academy for £2.50).

Additional Support

Students can access online lessons via www.MyMaths.co.uk and video tutorials are also available on the Academy's VLE.

Further Study/Career Pathways

GCSE Mathematics prepares students for further study of mathematics at AS and A level.

GCSE Mathematics is a requirement for progression to a wide range of post 16 courses. Students are expected to continue with their study of GCSE Mathematics after the age of 16 if they do not achieve the required level at GCSE.

Combined Science Trilogy

Exam Board and Specification: AQA Combined Science: Trilogy (9-1)

Main Course Content

This course covers the three areas of Physics, Biology and Chemistry.

The Physics course consists of: Forces, Energy, Waves, Electricity, Magnetism and Electromagnetism, Particle Model of Matter and Atomic Structure.

The Biology course consists of: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Ecology, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution.

The Chemistry course consists of: Atomic structure, Bonding, Structures and the properties of matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, The Rate and Extent of chemical change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry and the Atmosphere and Using Resources.

All students studying this course will have the opportunity to gain 2 Science GCSE qualifications through the Combined Science : Trilogy Pathway.

More able students will be encouraged to extend their learning in the subject by selecting separate sciences. This will lead to students achieving a separate GCSE in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Assessment Methods

Examination (100%)

There will be two examinations for each of the three subject areas.

Each examination will be 1 hour 15 minutes.

Additional Support

Students are strongly encouraged to purchase a revision guide available through the Science Department at a cost of £5.00 each.

Further Study/Career Pathways

Many employers and colleges prefer students to have qualifications in Science as it demonstrates that the students have an understanding of the world around them.

Core PE

Main course content:

All students will take part in core PE which will develop their physical competence in a range of activities. Students will also improve their knowledge and understanding of the rules within the activities studied. There is no examination.

Examples of activities offered:

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| * Football | * Basketball | * Volleyball |
| * Netball | * Fitness | * Cricket |
| * Badminton | * Handball | * Rounders |

French/Spanish

Exam Board and Specification: AQA GCSE (9-1)

Main course content

Students study a course over three years on three key theme areas: Identity and culture, Local, national, international and global areas of interest and Current and future study and employment. These topics apply across four main skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

Assessment Methods

Examination

Listening examination (Higher - 45 mins / Foundation - 35 mins)

25% of total qualification

Speaking examination

25% of total qualification

Reading examination (Higher - 1 hour / Foundation - 45 mins)

25% of total qualification

Writing examination (Higher - 1 hour 15 mins / Foundation - 1 hour)

25% of total qualification

Additional Support

GCSE Bitesize website

www.bbc.co.uk/languages

www.duolingo.com

Further Study/Career Pathways

There is a natural progression to A Level French, Spanish or other Modern Foreign Languages.

Careers: Teaching, Teaching abroad, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality / Hotel management, Translation and any careers based abroad.

Geography

Exam Board and Specification: AQA GCSE Geography (9-1)

Main course content

Over three years students study topics split into three themes:

Section 1: Living with the physical environment

In this section study will focus on the challenge of natural hazards including volcanoes, earthquakes and tropical storms. Weather and climate change is also a focus, followed by physical landscapes of the UK including coasts and rivers. Finally, the living world which includes ecosystems such as tropical rainforests and hot deserts or cold environments.

Section 2: Challenges in the human environment

This section covers population, urban growth, the changing economic world and global development. Resource management including the global distribution of food, water and energy and in particular detail the demand for food resources globally are also a focus.

Section 3: Geographical applications and skills

This section involves the undertaking two different fieldwork tasks that will be assessed in the final examinations at the end of Year 11. Pre-released material is received 12 weeks prior to the examination which will be studied in lesson time.

Assessment Methods – By examination (including two compulsory fieldwork visits)

Paper 1 – Living with the physical environment (35%) – 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 2 – Challenges in the human environment (35%) – 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 3 – Geographical applications (30%) – 1 hour 15 minutes

Additional Support

Revision guides are made available to students to support exam preparation.

Details of the specification can be obtained from the following website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/specification-at-a-glance>

Further Study/Career Pathways

GCE A Level courses in Geography, Environmental Studies or Geology.

Geography works well alongside A Level subjects such as Sociology, Law, Mathematics, Citizenship, and Environmental Science.

Geography can be useful in many careers such as: Leisure, Tourism, Travel, Business, Finance, Television, Journalism, Retail management, Geology, Telecommunications, Social work, Law, Meteorology, Landscape architecture, Regeneration, Environmental research and Exploration.

History

Exam Board and Specification: AQA GCSE History (9-1)

Main Course Content

Paper 1 – Germany 1890-1945 and Conflict and Tension 1918-1939

Paper 2 – Health and the People c.1000-present day with Norman England c.1066-1100

Assessment Methods

The assessment is two external examinations at the end of Year 11, both of which are 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Recommended Resources

All recommended textbooks and resources are supplied for students. Details of the specification <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/gcse/history-8145>

Additional Support

Revision Guides are created and supplied to all GCSE History students in preparation for the examinations.

Further Study/Career Pathways

Careers for people with History qualifications include:

Teacher	Doctor	Shop/Hotel manager
Lecturer	Lawyer	Financial and business
Journalist	Cashier	Entrepreneurs
Politician	Public services	Museum Curator
Customer service clerk	Armed forces	TV Presenter
Researcher (TV, etc.)	Tour guides	Writer
Community support worker	Librarian	Managing Director
Office manager		
Account executive		

Separate Sciences

Exam Board and Specification: AQA Biology, Chemistry and Physics (9-1)

Main Course Content

By selecting this course as an option an additional 2 hours will be given to Science in years 9 and 10 (7 hours total) and 3 hours in year 11 (8 hours total). This additional time allocation will allow students to achieve 3 separate GCSE qualifications; Physics, Biology and Chemistry.

The Physics course consists of: Forces, Energy, Waves, Electricity, Magnetism and Electromagnetism, Particle Model of Matter and Atomic Structure.

The Biology course consists of: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Ecology, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution.

The Chemistry course consists of: Atomic structure, Bonding, Structures and the properties of matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, The Rate and Extent of chemical change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry and the Atmosphere and Using Resources.

Due to the demanding nature of this course we recommend that it is selected by our more able students.

Assessment Methods

Examination (100%)

There will be two examinations for each of the three subject areas.

Each examination will be 1 hour 45 minutes.

Additional Support

Students are strongly encouraged to purchase revision guides available through the Science Department at a cost of £5.00 each.

Additional information about the separate science qualifications can be found at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>

Further Study/Career Pathways

This course would suit students who wish to pursue a career in Medicine, Veterinary Science, Radiography, Forensics, Space Exploration and Pharmaceuticals.

Child Development

Exam Board and Specification: OCR Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development level 1/2

Main Course Content

All students will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.

Students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices.

Students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. Students will research, plan and carry out activities with children and make observations of their development.

Assessment Methods

50% Examination.

Health and well-being for Child Development

50% Controlled Assessment:

Split into 2 units worth 25% each

- Understanding the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years
- Understanding the development of a child from birth to five years

Recommended Resources

Specifications and example assessment materials can be found on the website:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-education-and-skills/cambridge-nationals-child-development-level-1-2-j818/>

Additional Support

Access to observe a child under 5 would be beneficial to the controlled assessment tasks. This could be a younger sibling, relative, friend of the family.

Further Study/Career Pathways

Cambridge Nationals provide a strong progression to Further Education.

College courses include: Childcare, health and social care, early years education – both BTEC and level 1/2

This is an ideal course for anyone considering a job in early years' childcare, nursery teaching, nursing, social working.

Art & Design - Photography

Exam Board and Specification OCR GCSE in Art & Design (9-1) – Photography

Main Course Content

The photography course allows students to not only master the technical skills of how to take good images but also encourages them to use the medium of photography, to explore ideas and themes that they are interested in. Students will look at the work of contemporary and historical photographers and will develop a deeper contextual understanding of photography. All students produce a personal portfolio of work that contributes to a major exhibition of work and CD Portfolio.

Assessment Methods

Coursework (Portfolio) (60%)

Students must create a portfolio consisting of work that is their personal response to a theme. Students will explore contemporary and historical photography.

Examination (Externally set task) (40%)

Students are given the assignment eight weeks before the exam and will be marked on the work they undertake leading up to the examination and their finished piece, which will be produced in 10 hours (Usually two five hour days) of focused work, under exam conditions.

Recommended Resources

The following software packages: Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements

Suitable reference books include: Art Today, 20th Century Art, Photography of the 20th Century and Photography Now.

Useful websites

Careers in Art & Design www.gettingtodesign.org

Careers in Art & Design www.creative-choices.co.uk

Design Museum www.designmuseum.org

Tate Gallery www.tate.org.uk

Art 2 Day www.art2day.co.uk

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/220463-specification-accredited-gcse-art-and-design-j170-j176.pdf>

Additional Support

Individual support is provided at all stages in the development of individual projects.

Further Study/Career Pathways

Stourbridge and Dudley both have new Art Schools which offer a range of Post 16 courses. Leading to a wide range of career opportunities in the creative industries, such as advertising, fashion photography, education, product advertising, animation and event photography.

Sports Studies

Exam Board and Specification OCR - Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies, level 2

Main Course Content

This course combines playing and officiating in both team and individual sports, planning and delivering sports sessions for others whilst developing an understanding for new technology and media in sport.

Given the practical nature of both the course content and the practical assessment it is recommended that you have an active interest in sport and physical activity, in addition to be willing to develop your both your practical and leadership skills as well as the written coursework.

The course is made up of **four** units, each worth **25%** of students' overall grade.

- **Unit 1 (R051) – Contemporary Issues in Sport – 1 hour written examination**
In this unit, students will explore a range of topical and contemporary issues in sport, relating to participation levels and barriers, the promotion of values and ethical behaviour through sport. They will also investigate the role of high profile sporting events and national governing bodies in advancing sports' attempts to positively impact upon society.
- **Unit 2 (R052) – Developing Sports Skills**
This unit will enable learners to use skills, techniques and tactics ideas in both an individual and a team sporting activity. They will also develop their understanding of the rules to allow them to act in several different officiating roles. Following this they will also consider a range of practice methods in order to improve practical performance.
- **Unit 3 (R053) – Sports Leadership**
This unit will enable learners to develop some of the knowledge, understanding and practical skills required to be an effective sports leader. Learners will then plan, deliver and review safe and effective sporting activity sessions that they have lead themselves. These sessions will be delivered to their peers as well as younger students and they will then need to evaluate the effectiveness of these sessions in order to improve further.
- **Unit 4 (R054) – Sport and the Media**
This unit will enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of the relationship between sport and the media, as well as their ability to evaluate and interpret the different ways in which sports items are represented by the media.

Assessment Methods

Examination (25%) - One hour written examination.

Controlled Assessment (75%) - All other units are internally assessed assignments which may include written tasks, presentations, practical demonstrations or interviews.

Additional Support

There are a wide range of resources available through the PE area on the Academy VLE. Individual advice and support is also provided by the PE team.

Further Study/Career Pathways

Linked careers include: Sports Coaching, Sports Coaching Science, PE Teacher, Sports Massage, Physiotherapy, NVQ's and Diploma's in Personal Training and Leisure Management, Apprenticeships, A-level PE level 3, Cambridge Technical in Sport level 2 & 3.

Sociology

Exam Board and Specification: AQA GCSE Sociology (9-1)

Main Course Content

Students develop a knowledge and understanding of social issues within British society by studying the following units.

- The sociological approach
- Social structures, social processes and social issues
- Families
- Education
- Crime and deviance
- Social stratification
- Sociological research methods

Assessment Methods

Examination (100%)

There are two one hour and 45 minute examinations at the end of the course.

Recommended Resources

Students have access to the following textbooks:

- Sociology GCSE for AQA (Collins).
- AQA GCSE 9-1 Sociology (Collins).
- AQA GCSE 9-1 Sociology (Hodder Education).

Additional Support

A revision guide is provided for all students to support exam preparation. Individual support is available at key stages of the course.

Further Study/Career Pathways

A level and degree level study.

Related careers include Community Worker, Journalist, Probation Officer, Public Sector Administrator, Social Worker, Housing Manager, Lecturer, Police Force and Social Researcher.

Hospitality and Catering

Exam Board and Specification: WJEC Level 1/2 Award: Hospitality and Catering

Main Course Content

This qualification is intended for learners who are interested in food preparation in a commercial catering environment and wish to develop skills and knowledge that will prepare them for further study and employment within this sector. It will particularly appeal to learners who are looking for a course that is practical in nature. The Award in Hospitality and Catering will give learners the opportunity to develop an understanding of:

- Practical food preparation skills and techniques
- Presentation
- Health, safety and hygiene
- Time planning
- Nutrition
- Dietary needs
- Environmental considerations
- Menu planning
- The hospitality and catering industry

Assessment Methods

Internal Assessment – Controlled Assessment (60%)

Hospitality and catering in action

Externally Assessed Examination (40%) 1 hour 30 minutes.

The Hospitality and Catering industry

Recommended Resources

It is advisable for students to have access to a wide range of recipe books.

Specification and Sample assessment materials can be viewed on the website:

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/qualification-resources.html?subject=hospitalityAndCateringSpecA&level=Level12AwardNQF>

Additional Support

Parents should encourage students to cook regularly at home, in order to consolidate their skill base and ability to work independently.

Parents must support their child throughout this course in providing ingredients for practical sessions each week.

Further Study/Career Pathways

There is a natural progression into a level 3 diploma in Food Science and Nutrition. The food industry is vast and this qualification to lead into areas such as Health Promotion, Nutrition & Diet, Chef, Food Production, Food Teacher, Environmental Health, Food Science and Microbiology, Product Design, Retail, Food Researcher.

Creative iMedia

Exam Board and Specification OCR Technical Award in Creative iMedia

Main Course Content

This course brings media and technology together, whilst facilitating practical and engaging methods of teaching and assessment.

The course is made up of **four** units, each worth 25% of students' overall grade.

- **Unit 1 (R082) – Creating Digital Graphics**

In this unit, students explore the world of digital graphics; from their properties to their purpose. Students must produce their own A3 graphic based on a given scenario.

- **Unit 2 (R087) – Creating Interactive Multimedia Products**

This unit will enable learners to understand the basics of interactive multimedia products for the creative and digital media sector. They will learn where and why interactive multimedia is used and what features are needed for a given purpose.

- **Unit 3 (R081) – Pre-Production Skills – 1 hour 15 minute written examination**

This unit will enable learners to understand pre-production skills used in the creative and digital media sector. It will develop their understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques that form part of the planning and creation process.

- **Unit 4 (R089) – Creating a digital video sequence**

The unit will enable learners to understand where digital video is used in the media industry such as television, film, web applications or computer gaming. They will be able to plan create and edit a digital video sequence.

Assessment Methods

Examination (25%)

Unit two is assessed by a one hour and fifteen minute externally assessed examination at the end of the course.

Controlled Assessment (75%)

Other units are completed during lessons under controlled conditions. They are internally assessed and externally moderated by the exam board.

Recommended Resources

More information about this course can be found on the OCR website (www.ocr.org.uk). The Creative iMedia course can be found from their homepage by navigating to Cambridge Nationals under Qualifications.

Additional Support

Extracurricular support sessions are available at lunchtime and at the end of the Academy day.

Further Study/Career Pathways

A level ICT and Computing courses are offered by local further education colleges.

Possible careers include Web Design, Computer Games and Software Development, Network Engineer and Systems Analyst.

Art & Design – 3D Design

Exam Board and Specification OCR GCSE in Art & Design (9-1) – 3D Design

Main Course Content

3D Design is ideal for students who are interested in the ways in which products are designed for the public. The course enables students to generate creative and original work from a range of set design problems. Ideas can be realised in three dimensions using a wide range of materials and processes.

Assessment Methods

Coursework (Portfolio) (60%)

Students must create coursework projects throughout the course that explore Product Design and Interior Design.

Examination (Externally set task) (40%)

Students are given the assignment eight weeks before the exam and will be marked on the work they undertake leading up to the examination and their finished piece, which will be produced in 10 hours (Usually two five hour days) of focused work, under exam conditions.

Recommended Resources

The following software packages: Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements

Suitable reference books include: Graphic Design Pocket Essential, 20th Century Design and The Graphic Design Cookbook.

Useful websites

Careers in Art & Design www.gettingtodesign.org

Careers in Art & Design www.creative-choices.co.uk

Design Museum www.designmuseum.org

Tate Gallery www.tate.org.uk

Art 2 Day www.art2day.co.uk

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/220463-specification-accredited-gcse-art-and-design-j170-j176.pdf>

Additional Support

Individual support is provided at all stages in the development of individual projects. Each student will receive a copy of the course handbook and will have access to an extensive range of resources and help sheets. All students are encouraged to attend additional sessions at the end of every Academy day.

Further Study/Career Pathways

Stourbridge and Dudley both have new Art Schools which offer a range of Post 16 courses. Leading to a wide range of career opportunities in the creative industries, such as advertising, product design, artist, education, graphic design and fashion.

Art & Design – Art

Exam Board and Specification OCR GCSE in Art & Design (9-1) – Art

Main Course Content

Art and Design allows students to experiment and explore a wide range of materials and processes to create their own work. Students are encouraged to generate their own ideas from a starting point then to develop them in a variety of ways. Students will look at the work of contemporary and historical artists and designers and will use this information to create new work. All students produce a personal portfolio of work that contributes to a major exhibition of work and CD Portfolio.

Assessment Methods

Coursework (Portfolio) (60%)

Students must create coursework projects throughout the course that explore contemporary and historical art.

Examination (Externally set task) (40%)

Students are given the assignment eight weeks before the exam and will be marked on the work they undertake leading up to the examination and their finished piece, which will be produced in 10 hours (Usually two five hour days) of focused work, under exam conditions.

Recommended Resources

The following software packages: Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements

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Further Study/Career Pathways

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Music

Exam Board and Specification: OCR GCSE Music (9-1)

Main course content

During the course, you will study three primary musical disciplines, performing, composing and listening. You will have the opportunity of using several multimedia platforms to create studio quality music.

Performing: Music Performance is one of the key disciplines for any musician. During your GCSE you will produce both a solo and ensemble performance on any instrument of your choice, including your voice.

Composing Music: There is nothing better than creating music of any style, form or genre. During your GCSE you will compose two pieces of music, one which is your own choice and the other chosen by the OCR examination board.

Listening and Appraising: Finally, we develop the skill of appraising during the GCSE course. By appraising we mean listening to and understanding music through four new areas of study.

Skills: It is strongly advised that you need to have a love of music, already play an instrument and be confident enough to perform with the entire class. These skills aside, you will also develop teamwork, instrumental, creativity, working to deadlines and technology skills.

Assessment Methods

Examination (40%)

This is a one hour and thirty minute listening and appraising exam at the end of course.

Controlled Assessment (60%)

Two performances and two compositions completed throughout the course conducted under controlled conditions.

Recommended Resources

OCR link: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-music-j536-from-2016/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/music/>

Additional Support

GCSE students have access to the Music room at break time, lunch time and at the end of the Academy day, where they can rehearse performances or discover areas of Music Theory.

Further Study/Career Pathways

A Level/ BTEC in Music or Music Technology

Employment opportunities include: Sound Engineering, Live Performance, Stage Crew, creating music for video games and television, Song Writing, Retail and Music Journalism.

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