

Bradfield School



Options 2015 - 2017

Name:



Options 2015 – 2017

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A SPECIALIST STE³M SCHOOL ~ WHERE PEOPLE THRIVE



KIRK EDGE ROAD ~ WORRALL ~ SHEFFIELD S35 0AE

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February 2015

Dear Student

Welcome to the 2015 Options Booklet. This is an exciting time in any young person's life, when he or she is given some choice for the first time about which subjects they will study. There is advice elsewhere in this booklet about some of the points you should consider when making these choices, and I am sure that you will read it carefully. I would like to explain something about what is happening in the world of education in England, and what the choices you make now might mean for you later in life.

Firstly, Bradfield School's ambition is for all of its students to achieve to the maximum of their potential. This means that we would expect 75% of you to be able to go on to study A-Levels when you finish Year 11. We know that some of you will not want to, but you will have the choice if you do. The only optional subject that you must have taken at GCSE in order to take it at A-Level is a language.

Secondly we know that many of you will choose to go on to study at university. Competition for places, especially at the best universities, is very high. Universities therefore have to find some way of deciding who should be offered a place. One way they will do this is to expect that applicants have at least GCSE Grade C or better in MFL, and you should consider very carefully before deciding not to continue with a language – this applies even if at the moment you think you will not go to university later. You should be aware that some already require at least a GCSE in MFL for any of their courses.

Thirdly the Government has introduced an overall certificate called the English Baccalaureate – referred to as E-Bacc. This is awarded to students who add a language, and either History or Geography to their core subjects. At the moment it seems unlikely that universities will insist on you having this award for entry, but they may well use it to decide between two otherwise equally well qualified applicants for a course, and you therefore should also seriously consider doing one of these two humanities.

Despite all of this it is still your choice, and whilst it is in your best interests to consider very carefully all of the advice given, ultimately you will decide. For this reason the school has not made the study of these subjects compulsory.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Conway
Headteacher

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February 2015

Dear Parent


I write this letter to accompany the Options Booklet produced to help your daughter/son through the process of selecting their own individual set of subjects for Years 10 and 11. The booklet explains the subject choices that are available to them and the way in which the school organises the selection process. It also contains details of the careers advice, information and guidance provided by the school throughout Key Stage 4.

An outline of the timings of the various stages in the process is also included. I would urge that both parents and students take note of the different activities and deadlines. In particular, the deadline for the returns of options forms into school is Friday 27th February.

All students have recently worked with a professional to review and discuss their Individual Learning Plan which will help them to focus upon their option choices. This is in addition to the input they have already had relating to researching careers and assessing their skills. They have also been encouraged to explore Job Families that match these skills.

We hope the booklet will help and inform but we do understand that you may need clarification or wish to seek further advice. As such please do not hesitate to contact school if you or your daughter/son has any concerns about the decisions to be made.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Beaumont
Assistant Headteacher

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February 2015

Dear Student

This booklet is intended to help you to understand the courses you will be studying from September in Key Stage 4. It is also to help you to make certain choices of subjects which you will study alongside the core curriculum. We are able to offer you three options this year and will be showing you how to make your choices in an options assembly, as well as at the options evening.

It is very difficult to predict what the future holds and it is important to continue an education which will offer you a wide variety of knowledge and skills and the flexibility to cope with life in a rapidly changing world. All schools now offer a core curriculum to Key Stage 4 students to ensure that this variety is experienced by students. There is also the opportunity at Bradfield for you to have an element of choice in relation to the subjects you study. You will need to consider a range of factors before making your choices. Remember, once you have chosen, it will be very difficult to change.

Although the academic curriculum is a very important part of the school experience, there are other opportunities and support which we offer to you in order to prepare for your future. In your PSHE lessons you will be given advice and guidance over your future careers. You will also be invited to a personal careers interview with our careers adviser to help plan for the future.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Beaumont
Assistant Headteacher

CAREER MATTERS

If you have a career in mind, check the qualifications required, you can find this out from the Careers Library in school. You can also use computer programmes such as Kudos and U- explore or websites such as www.ucasprogress.com and <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk> . There is also information about degree courses, other higher education courses, 'A' level courses, Apprenticeships , colleges of further education and careers from Audiology to Zoo Keeping.

At the moment, few of you will have definite career ideas and your choices of subjects should reflect a spread in order to leave open a wide range of career possibilities. However, when you are thinking about careers in the future you may find it helpful to know that:

- employers place considerable emphasis on literacy and numeracy
- employers look for people who are flexible in their approach to work. There is little job security these days, so it helps if you are interested in a wide range of activities rather than one particular job
- a lot of employers emphasise the importance of the right personal qualities – enthusiasm, perseverance, punctuality, the ability to work with others, the ability to work on your own initiative, etc. Most employers say that these personal qualities are decisive factors when they are appointing staff

It is therefore important that all students:

- whatever your ability, do your very best to reach as high a standard as you can in your school subjects over the next two years, especially in English and Mathematics
- develop those personal and social qualities referred to above
- approach the next two years at school with interest, confidence and enthusiasm
- take advantage of the advice and practice that is given during Years 10 and 11 to prepare yourself for life after school, for example the writing of letters of application, learning about the world of work, visiting local colleges, firms etc
- become familiar with the range of information available in the Careers Library

WHO CAN HELP ME WITH MY CHOICES?

There are lots of people who can help you with the decisions you need to make. Your aim at the end of this process is to have chosen a curriculum that includes a variety of subjects. You may opt for a mix of vocational and traditional subjects. Look at subjects that you will enjoy and have the potential to do well in. If you have strong career interests at this stage you will need to research what subjects you will need to enter that career. If you haven't considered careers yet, you will need to make choices that do not limit your career choices later on.

Subject Teachers

Once you have read through this booklet you could talk to the teachers of the subjects you are interested in. Questions you could ask about each subject:

- What topics will the subject cover?
- Will I need to do a lot of reading and writing?
- How much homework will there be?
- What skills will the subject help me to develop?
- Will there be an exam, assessed course work or both?
- How much does each element contribute to the final GCSE awarded?

Citizenship/PSHE Teacher

Your Citizenship/PSHE teacher can help you to find useful sources of information on courses and careers. The Careers Library (in the LRC) holds the following materials:

- How to Choose Your GCSEs - a guide on what to consider when choosing
- Job File - a book with information on all jobs
- Kudos - a computer program that matches your interests to careers

Sheffield Futures

Careers Advisers can help you make important decisions about your future. Some of the choices you make in Year 9 can have an effect on the courses you are able to apply for when you are 16. For some careers you may need to study specific subjects. All students and their parents will be invited to a personal careers interview during Year 10/11 to discuss and consider post-16 options.

How can you get help from **Sheffield Futures**?

- You can see a Careers Adviser from Sheffield Futures at the Year 9 Options Choice Parents Evening
- You can visit Careers Adviser in school, careers office in the library.
- You can telephone for advice:
0800 100900 National Careers Service

Alternatively you could log on to:

www.sheffieldfutures.org.uk

www.ucasprogress.com

Form Tutor/Citizenship Teacher/Head of House

Whatever you choose to do, the sort of person you are and the skills you have can be as important as the qualifications you will need. Your teachers will be helping you to work through your choices. Reviewing your Individual Learning Plan can help you describe what you wish to achieve in Year 10 and beyond.

Your Parents/Carers

Your parents can be a great help at this time. Who better to discuss your likes and dislikes with?

TIERING IN GCSE EXAMINATIONS

Introduction

Some subjects are examined through two tiers of entry and others through a single tier of entry.

Why is tiering used in some GCSE examinations?

In some subjects it is possible to set questions that are accessible and challenging to students across the whole ability range. These subjects are the ones which have only one tier of entry. In other subjects, however, tiering is used to provide students with the opportunity to show what they know, understand and can do by presenting them with question papers that are targeted at a band of attainment.

For example, in English, where it would be difficult to find unseen reading material for a written examination that is suitable for a grade G student and would also stretch grade A* students, two tiers of entry are available. Where there are different tiers of entry, the written question papers for each tier will:

- be at an appropriate level of difficulty for the range of grades available at that tier
- prompt the more able to respond at a greater depth
- provide opportunities for the less able to show what they know
- use appropriate language

Does tiering affect the arrangements for grouping students within subjects at Bradfield?

This will vary from subject to subject. Some subjects will group students by ability from the beginning of Year 10 and some will teach mixed ability groups throughout the course. In other subjects, students may be regrouped towards or at the end of Year 10.

How is the tier of entry for a student decided?

Students will be entered for the tier that will give them the best opportunity to show their ability. The teachers will know their students' work very well by the time final decisions have to be made, which will be in January/February of Year 11.

It should be noted that a student who does not achieve the minimum grade for any tier of entry will be ungraded. It is essential therefore, that care is taken when entering students for the tier that is most suitable for their level of capability.

Parents are kept informed of their son's or daughter's progress in the usual way through reports, parents' evenings, termly student profiles and the everyday assessment of work.

THE OPTIONS POOL

In addition to the choices within the core, students also have the opportunity of taking three optional subjects. You will receive a lot of help in making decisions about these choices from people like your form tutor, the Careers Advisor, your Head of House, your subject teachers and your parents. Prior to making your option choices you have already completed an Individual Learning Plan which should have helped you to focus your preferred/necessary option choices. The calendar tells you a little more about the process, which we hope will help you to make sensible choices.

Please note that although we try to ensure that everyone can do the subjects of their choice, we do sometimes have to ask a small number of students to study an alternative choice because:-

- students choose subjects in many different combinations and we have limited resources
- some courses have limited capacity, because of sizes of rooms, health and safety regulations, facilities needed, staff available, etc.
- it will only be possible to offer subjects if the total number of students opting for a course is sufficient to make it economically viable
- it may be that the demands of the course are beyond the ability of the student
- student choices are too limited to allow a range of Post 16 opportunities
- a student has particular educational needs which we can support through the use of an external provider or through a support course to assist with the core curriculum

Additional information to be considered when making your option choices

Within Bradfield School, to ensure breadth and balance, all students are required to study English, Mathematics, Science, Citizenship (including work related and Careers Education), Religious Education and PSHE.

As a school we fully support the general concern about the study of languages. In our globalised world the ability to converse in an additional language enhances an individual's opportunities for employment and travel. National Curriculum levels in Modern Foreign Language (MFL) are generally lower than other subjects, and this should not be used as a reason to "drop" languages.

The changes in policy since the last election suggest that a balance of the subject areas below is in the interests of all students, in particular those who wish to continue on to University courses at the best institutions:

- a Modern Foreign Language
- a Humanities subject
- a practical/skills based subject

For some students this may not be fully appropriate e.g. some may wish to study a second Language whilst others may have a preference for practical based subjects. In whatever you decide, it is important to choose:

- the subjects you enjoy
- the subjects you are good at
- the subjects you need for the future

Please note that it is not possible to take an A-Level in a Modern Foreign Language unless you have studied it at GCSE. All other non-core subjects **can** be taken at A-Level without GCSE in the subject.

TYPES OF COURSE ON OFFER

The courses you will take lead to examinations at the end of Year 11. In most subjects the examination you will take is the GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education).

There are some courses in the options subjects' list that are called Applied GCSE subjects. These courses encourage students to develop a broad understanding of the industry or business they represent and they have the same value and grades as other GCSEs.

Subjects you are not allowed to take:

- You cannot choose two different Design and Technology subjects
- You cannot choose Dance and PE
- You cannot choose Drama and Dance

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

YEAR 9 OPTIONS PROCESS 2015

January	Students start work on Individual Learning Plans within PSHE
Monday 9 th February	Extended assembly for Year 9 re: the Option process and making their Option Choices Options booklet issued to students
Thursday 12 th February	Key Stage 4 Options Parents' Evening
Friday 13 th February	Sheffield Futures Guidance available in school
Friday 27 th February	Final day for return of Option Choice Forms to Student Reception
March	<i>Confirmation of option choices to parents</i>

CORE SUBJECTS

CORE SUBJECTS

The following subjects are ones which everyone will study. On the pages which follow you can find out more about each subject. We have developed these core subjects to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum. This means that, if you work hard, you will be in a good position to gain a positive and balanced experience which will help to qualify you for your future.

BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY and PHYSICS

CITIZENSHIP

ENGLISH LANGUAGE and ENGLISH LITERATURE

MATHEMATICS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

--- BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS ---

Gateway Science Suite

Examination Board

OCR

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr A Johnson
All other science teachers

What Will I Learn To Do?

Gateway Science Suite aims to develop Scientific Literacy. It offers students the opportunity to develop skills that they need to play a full part in a society where Science and Technology are so important. This course is started in Year 9.

What skills do I need?

You should already have the scientific skills that you need after your Key Stage 3 study of Science. You will also need to take an interest in current affairs.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Students will have mock exams at key points over the course.

All students study Triple Science. Assessment is by terminal examination and coursework. There are two terminal examinations which make up 75% of the assessment. The remaining 25% is coursework and is internally assessed.

The assessment for the course is tiered. You will be assessed at either Foundation Level (grade C – G) or Higher Level (grade A* - D). The exam tier to be taken will be decided in Year 11.

What qualifications can I gain?

Students will gain GCSEs in Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

What is next for me after this course?

The course is suitable for progression to A Level.
You could also study a vocational Science option post 16.

What area of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

During the course, you will be able to use data logging equipment, simulation software and do internet based research. Your coursework involves the research of an area of science. This will definitely require web based research.

--- CITIZENSHIP STUDIES ---

Examination Board

Edexcel

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs C Pipes

Others: Mrs Carter, Miss Jones, Mr Miskell, Miss Gratton and Miss Hiley.

What Will I Learn To Do?

The subject enables you to engage with topical issues and contribute to debates on a wide range of challenges facing society. It will also teach you key citizenship concepts including justice, democracy, rights and responsibilities, identities and diversity. As well as this, you will develop skills of enquiry and communication in order to take a critical approach to issues and make informed judgements. By learning this, you should have the skills and confidence to take action with others to address a local citizenship issue.

What skills do I need?

A willingness to look at information carefully; to express your ideas verbally and on paper; to get involved.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

There are two units:

Unit One: is worth 40% of the short course GCSE. It is a written exam paper which is externally marked. It is an untiered one hour paper.

Unit Two: is worth 60% of the short course GCSE and is an internally assessed unit. You are required to investigate and take action relating to an issue, usually as part of a group. You are then required to write up your coursework individually under controlled conditions.

What qualifications can I gain?

A GCSE (short course).

What is next for me after this course?

As a GCSE subject, Citizenship is valued by employers and further education establishments in the same way that other GCSEs are valued.

In addition, the knowledge and skills acquired will be useful for further studies (eg A Level) and beyond, in a wide range of subjects including Citizenship studies, Politics, Business and Law.

Information about how you take action in relation to a Citizenship issue will also be a valuable addition to your Curriculum Vitae. By following the course it is hoped that you will understand your responsibilities and rights as a citizen better.

Is there anything else I need to know?

It is likely that you will need to be able to work cooperatively as part of a group to complete the practical element of the controlled assessment task (Unit Two).

You will also need good research, organisational and literacy skills.

Communication skills, in order to contribute to formal class discussions are also a valuable skill in this subject.

--- ENGLISH ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr P Darragh
Subject Teachers: Mrs H Hawkins (2nd in Department), Ms R Connor, Ms T Snailum, Mrs L Moss, Ms L Young, Mrs G Perkins, Mrs Birks, Miss Leyland

What Will I Learn To Do?

During the course:
You will build on skills learned in lower school. You will develop the ability to write for different audiences and purposes, and also develop close reading skills, extending vocabulary. You will gain confidence in speaking and listening tasks. You will develop a deeper understanding of plays, poetry and novels.

About the course:
Homework will be set regularly. Often, it will involve practising examination style responses. It may also involve reading Literature texts. There may also be the opportunity to see a live theatre performance.

There will be plenty of opportunity for group work and discussion during the course as well as individual study.
ICT will be used where appropriate.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

English Language

The qualification is assessed entirely through terminal examination. Marks are awarded as follows:

- 50% for Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing
- 50% for Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

English Literature

The qualification is assessed entirely through terminal examination. Marks are awarded as follows:

- 40% for Shakespeare and The 19th-century Novel
- 60% for Modern texts and poetry

There are no tiers of entry and students will be awarded a grade of 1-9.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSEs in English Language and English Literature

What is next for me after this course?

There are a whole range of courses available in both 6th forms and colleges, which continue the study of the subjects. AS and A2 in English Language, English Literature and Combined Language and Literature are popular choices in Sixth Forms and Further Education Colleges.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Some students, with limited literacy skills, may be unable to cope with some of the demands of the course. Entry Level Certification is an alternative on offer but we always give every student the opportunity to try GCSE.

--- MATHEMATICS ---

Examination Board

Currently undecided due to on-going national changes but probably AQA.

Who can I ask about this course?

Director of Mathematics: Mr J Osborne

What will I learn to do?

The Mathematics course covers the Mathematics National Curriculum at Key Stage 4. It provides opportunities for you to develop your skills in six areas of Mathematics: number; algebra; ratio, proportion & rates of change; Geometry & measures; probability; statistics. You will be expected to apply your knowledge, understanding and skills in solving problems of increasing complexity in a range of real and abstract contexts.

The course involves individual and group work, practical activities, investigations, mental and oral activities, problem solving, calculator work and using computers.

What skills do I need?

The ability to break down problems into smaller tasks and use the appropriate mathematical methods to arrive at a solution.

How will the course be assessed and tiered?

The assessment pattern is differentiated to enable students to show their ability in the subject. There are two overlapping tiers of entry which are graded using the new 9-1 system (the old system is included for clarity):

Old Grades	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*	
New Foundation	1	2	3	4	5				
New Higher				4	5	6	7	8	9

The course is linear and is assessed by a single examination comprising 2 calculator and 1 non-calculator components taken on different days.

There is no controlled assessment element for GCSE Mathematics.

Due to recent changes to government legislation, all students will not be entered for the examination until the June of Year 11.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades 9 - 1

For a small number of students who experience difficulty with Mathematics and for whom a GCSE grade may not be achievable, we will be using AQA Entry Level certification.

What is next for me after this course?

A GCSE in Mathematics is required for the vast majority post 16 courses, apprenticeships and employment. Many A Level courses want grade 5 or better. All courses at any UK University require a grade 5 in Mathematics, while scientific and engineering degree courses usually specify 'A' Level Mathematics qualifications too.

Students who don't achieve a 5 or better will be required to continue studying GCSE mathematics until they are 18.

Depending on the post-16 institution you attend you may have to take a Core Maths qualification alongside your chosen subjects.

Is there anything else I need to know?

We make provision for students to purchase revision materials at a heavily discounted price. A lot of targeted support will take place in Year 11. Pupils who are experiencing difficulties can talk to their teacher or to Mr Osborne at any time.

What area of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

We will use on-line packages such as Mymaths which pupils can access from home, with homework being set from it. We make use of Mathswatch CD ROM's and the full range of resources on the internet for revision.

--- PHYSICAL EDUCATION CORE ---

Examination Board

No examination

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr A Mitchell

Others: Mrs L Smith, Mr S Thompson, Mrs S Lofthouse, Mrs A Bull

What Will I Learn To Do?

The core Physical Education programme will be delivered in line with the range and content of the National Curriculum. The aim will be to develop physical awareness, develop and apply physical skills to a wide variety of activities and promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

Examples of areas of study across Key Stage 4 could be:

Outwitting Opponents:

Basketball	Dodgeball	Street Hockey
Badminton	Football	Softball
Cricket	Hockey	Table-tennis
Tennis	Volleyball	

Accurate Replication:

Trampolining	Cheerleading	Gymnastics
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Performing at Maximum Levels:

Athletics	Cross-Country
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Exercising Safely and Effectively:

Aerobics	Fitness	Self-Defence
Boxercise	Zumba	

Exploring and Communicating Ideas:

Dance

Identifying and Solving Problems:

Orienteering	Rock Climbing
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What skills do I need?

Some practical physical ability in PE activities and an endeavour to improve. The course can easily be completed by students of all abilities and pupils will be given leadership or officiating roles if they are unable to participate practically.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Assessment is done continually on a lesson-to-lesson basis. Currently pupils are given an attitude to learning grade for their involvement.

What qualifications can I gain?

There is a possibility of gaining the Level 1 Sports Leaders Award

What is next for me after this course?

Leisure/recreation, sports related activities. Healthy lifestyle and physical awareness.

RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Examination Board

EDEXCEL

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs J Seed
Subject Teachers: Mr R Kay, Mrs S Hattersley

What will I learn to do?

Study religion within the context of society today.
Form opinions on a variety of religious and moral issues.
Investigate and analyse a range of religious and non-religious viewpoints.

What skills do I need?

An open and enquiring mind
An interest in the media
Good levels of literacy
The ability to evaluate and analyse differing opinions and be able to construct a balanced argument.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Two external examination papers (A* - G) for full course GCSE
All papers to be sat in Year 11
There is no coursework element.

What qualifications can I gain?

A GCSE in Religious Studies

What is next for me after this course?

AS/A Level Philosophy and Ethics
Training for careers in all disciplines, but especially those dealing with people. It is also a popular A Level for those considering Medicine or Law.

Is there anything else I need to know?

You do not need to be religious to follow this course - it caters for students of any religious persuasion or none.

What area of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

Research/Investigative skills
Analysis of the media
Word processing

OPTIONS POOL

OPTIONS POOL

This option block allows students to choose a further three subjects.

Students can choose from the following subjects:

Alternative Vocational Curriculum (selected students only)

Applied Engineering - Single Award

Applied Engineering - Double Award*

Art and Design

Art & Design - Textiles

Business Studies

Computing

Dance

Design Technology - Food With Graphics

Design Technology - Resistant Materials & Graphics

Drama

French

Geography

Health and Social Care - Single Award

Health and Social Care - Double Award*

History

Music

Physical Education GCSE

Spanish

Courses marked with a * will take up two of the three option choices

-- ALTERNATIVE VOCATIONAL CURRICULUM --

This is a curriculum option which is only available to a small group of students who we feel would benefit from this alternative learn experience. Before students choose this option they should talk to Ms Geoghegan or Mrs E Barber to see whether this is appropriate for them. There will be even more choice of placements from the start of next year.

Examination Board: Variable depending upon course chosen

Who can I ask about this course? Mrs Barber, Ms Geoghegan

What Will I Learn To Do? This will involve students attending a vocational placement for one day per week. Students must be prepared to make their own way to and from their placement.

Courses available	Entry Level Courses	Level 1 -2 Courses
	Engineering	Beauty Therapy & Hairdressing
	Sport	Business Retail and Administration
	Learning through Angling	Catering
	Endeavour- Outdoor activities	Child Care
	Animal Care	Construction
	Horticulture	Engineering
	In touch care	Horticulture
	KMP (Digital Media)	Sport and Leisure
	Music	Motor Vehicle
	Catering	Animal Care
	Childcare	Music
	Construction	
	Motor Vehicle	
	Recycle (Cycle mechanics and Riding skills)	
	Greenwatch Project(Ranger service)	
	Dance	
	A Mind Apart (Performing Arts)	

What skills do I need? This course is designed for the students who find the school curriculum too challenging or feel that it is inappropriate for them.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered? Assessment is through attendance and the development of a portfolio.

What qualifications can I gain? NVQ Entry Level
 NVQ Level 1
 ASDAN (Foundation Learning Qualification)
 BTEC
 Diplomas

What is next for me after this course? Possibilities of following above as vocational qualifications/employment apprenticeship/trainee etc.

Is there anything else I need to know? Students may opt for this, but the school will make the final decision about who would benefit from this opportunity.

Please be aware that this option cuts across other option subjects, and students may be required to catch up any missed work independently during the day or at home.

--- APPLIED ENGINEERING ---

Single Award

Examination Board:

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr P Johansson and Mr D Grant

What Will I Learn To Do?

Engineering is about how we change, modify and use materials and systems to improve our world. Sheffield is a great engineering city and there are many career opportunities for students entering the industry. Modern Engineering sectors, in Sheffield include Electronics and Telecommunications, Aerospace, Textiles, Printing, Mechanical, Civil, Chemical and Biological and many more.

Often Engineering is thought of as a male subject. This is untrue; many of the world's top Engineers are female. Engineering is suitable for boys and girls and you can follow an engineering career directly from school or from 6th form college or from University.

This course will provide you with the foundation for an interesting, highly paid and rewarding career that could take you all over the world. Did you know that the average salary for a professional engineer is £55,000?!

The course involves students in exciting and useful skills and many technical processes. These include CAD/CAM manufacturing, Problem Solving, Electronics, Robotics, Pneumatic systems, Computer Control Programming and working with machines and tools for precision manufacture.

The course develops high levels of skill in design and technical graphics using Computer Aided Design software and traditional drawing instruments. As a great deal of modern engineering is ICT based, this course will be taught primarily from an ICT suite with the latest industry standard CAD and CAM software, Virtual Reality testing and manufacturing software.

The course is linked closely to industry and there will be some opportunities to visit some industries to see cutting edge technologies in action.

What skills do I need?

The course builds on skills developed in Key Stage 3 Technology but it can get very technical and complex. It is important that you have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in engineering and a willingness to explore new ideas.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

In Year 11 you will complete a precision manufacturing project which involves manufacturing a product to specific tolerances. You will also undertake a design portfolio which demonstrates a wide range of technical graphics skills.

What qualifications can I gain?

A GCSE Engineering qualification

--- APPLIED ENGINEERING ---

Double Award*

Examination Board:

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr P Johansson and Mr D Grant

What Will I Learn To Do?

Engineering is about how we change, modify and use materials and systems to improve our world. Sheffield is a great engineering city and there are many career opportunities for students entering the industry. Modern Engineering sectors, in Sheffield include Electronics and Telecommunications, Aerospace, Textiles, Printing, Mechanical, Civil, Chemical and Biological and many more.

Often Engineering is thought of as a male subject. This is untrue; many of the world's top Engineers are female. Engineering is suitable for boys and girls and you can follow an engineering career directly from school or from 6th form college or from University.

This course will provide you with the foundation for an interesting, highly paid and rewarding career that could take you all over the world. Did you know that the average salary for a professional engineer is £55,000!

The course involves students in exciting and useful skills and many technical processes. These include CAD/CAM manufacturing, Problem Solving, Electronics, Robotics, Pneumatic systems, Computer Control Programming and working with machines and tools for precision manufacture.

The course develops high levels of skill in design and technical graphics using Computer Aided Design software and traditional drawing instruments. As a great deal of modern engineering is ICT based, this course will be taught primarily from an ICT suite with the latest industry standard CAD and CAM software, Virtual Reality testing and manufacturing software.

The course is linked closely to industry and there will be many opportunities to visit local and national industries to see cutting edge technologies in action. Current visits include Jaguar Cars, Newburgh Engineering, Symmetry Medical Engineering, Tata Steels, Davy Markham Engineering.

During the first term of Year 10 the engineering group will be involved in National Engineering Competitions such as F1 in Schools, 4x4 in Schools, Toyota Solar Car Challenge, Lego Robotics and many others.

What skills do I need?

The course builds on skills developed in Key Stage 3 Technology but it can get very technical and complex so it is suitable for middle and upper band students. It is important that you have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in engineering and a willingness to explore new ideas.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

In Year 11 you will complete a precision manufacturing project which involves manufacturing a complex product to very specific tolerances. You will also undertake a design portfolio which demonstrates a wide range of technical graphics skills.

**What qualifications
can I gain?**

A GCSE Engineering qualification equivalent to 2 GCSEs (Double Award)

**What is next for me
after this course?**

The course will provide an excellent basis for a modern apprenticeship, a Level 3 Engineering Diploma, BTEC engineering courses at Sheffield College or it will complement A Level courses on route to an Engineering Degree, HNC or HND at University.

--- ART & DESIGN ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs S Drabble
Subject Teachers: Ms C White, Mrs N Eyre

What Will I Learn To Do?

You will complete a wide range of activities which include making and investigating ideas and developing a deeper understanding of Art, Craft and Design. You will work in a variety of materials and media, completing art projects based within different Art disciplines such as; drawing, painting, collage, mixed media, printmaking, sculpture, graphic design, three dimensional design and digital manipulation. You will examine the work of other artists, craftspeople and designers and use their work to inspire your own. You will develop your own art skills, creativity and extend your knowledge and understanding of the Art world.

What skills do I need?

Investigation/experimentation/strong basic art skills (such as drawing, colour work, sketching, painting, presentation techniques).
Creativity, imagination and a genuine interest in Art & Design.
To be able to independently research different topics, artists and themes.
Time management/working **to deadlines**.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

The scheme of assessment consists of two components:

- Coursework: 60% - A submission of your best work selected from the 3 projects completed within Year 10 & Year 11
- Controlled Test: 40% - One assignment set by the exam board, to be completed within ten hours of supervised time.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

'A' Level Art and Design/Photography/Product design/Textiles or college based art BTEC/National Diploma courses.

Is there anything else I need to know?

At the end of the course you will produce an exhibition of all your individual practical art work which has developed from your studies of contemporary and historical art sources, discussion and evaluation.

You need a lot of commitment for this subject to successfully complete this GCSE. You will have to do as much work in your own time as you do in school. Lunchtime and afterschool clubs run every week to help you.

--- ART AND DESIGN (TEXTILES) ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs S Drabble
Subject Teachers: Ms C White, Mrs N Eyre

What Will I Learn To Do?

You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of textile media, techniques and processes, including both traditional and new technologies. You will complete a range of activities which explore colour, pattern and texture. You will develop a deeper understanding of art textiles through investigating and exploring textile practices such as; fabric printing, embellishing, batik, image transfer, fabric construction, stitching (hand and machine), felting and fabric manipulation.

You will create art work that makes appropriate use of colour, line, shape, texture, pattern, harmony, contrast and/or repetition.

You will examine the work of other artists, craftspeople and designers and use their work to inspire your own. You will potentially create the following pieces;

Printed and/or dyed materials

Domestic textiles

Constructed and/or applied textiles

Constructed and/or stitched and/or embellished textiles

Fashion and/or costume

What skills do I need?

Investigation/experimentation/ basic art skills (such as drawing, colour work, sketching, painting, presentation techniques).

Creativity, imagination and a genuine interest in Art & Design Textiles.

To be able to **independently** research different topics, artists and themes.

Time management/working to deadlines.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

The scheme of assessment consists of two components:

- Coursework: 60% - a submission of your best work selected from the different projects completed within Year 10 and 11
- Controlled Test: 40% - one assignment set by the exam board, to be completed within ten hours of supervised time.

What qualifications can I gain?

Full GCSE

What is next for me after this course?

'A' Level Art and Design/Textiles /Fashion Design or college based art BTEC/National Diploma courses.

Is there anything else I need to know?

At the end of the course you will produce an exhibition of all your individual practical art work which has developed from your studies of contemporary and historical art sources, discussion and evaluation.

You need a lot of commitment for this subject to successfully complete this GCSE. You will have to do as much work in your own time as you do in school. Lunchtime and afterschool clubs run every week to help you.

--- BUSINESS STUDIES ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr C Myhill
Business Studies teacher: Mrs E Lees

What Will I Learn To Do?

The world of business is exciting and challenging. This course will provide you with a range of business-related skills in the following five business areas, related to Setting up a Business and Growing a Business:

Business Organisation – *legal structure of the business, business planning, business aims and objectives, location and expansion*

Marketing – *market research, marketing strategies, pricing and promotions, international trade*

Finance and Accounting – *sources of finance, profit and loss, cash flow, balance sheets, interpreting financial data to make decisions*

People in Business – *recruiting, retaining and motivating staff, employment rights and legislation, staffing structures*

Operations Management – *production methods, technology, customer service, challenges of a growing business, quality assurance*

You will learn the theory associated with each of the business areas and you will then apply your knowledge in a range of real-life situations. You will be expected to apply your learning in familiar and new contexts and to combine skills from each of the areas being studied to provide the best solution for an organisation. You will study real businesses and review the impact of their business decisions on their performance and success.

What skills do I need?

You need to be competent in literacy and numeracy to cope with this course. Tasks will include extended calculations (eg. in accounting) and extended writing (eg. explaining marketing strategies, writing letters and reports on behalf of a company).

You will also need to use a range of ICT software, for research and presentation purposes.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Entry is single tier – every student sits the same examination. However, the course we deliver is aimed at Higher Level students. This course is assessed in three parts throughout Year 10 and Year 11:

- Unit 1 - Setting up a Business
a 1 hour examination which contributes 40% towards the final grade
- Unit 2 - Growing a Business
a 1 hour examination which contributes 35% towards the final grade
- Unit 3 - Investigating Businesses
a controlled assessment (equivalent to coursework) involving preparation, planning and research based on material provided by the exam board, followed by a final 3 hour timed task. This contributes 25% towards the final

grade.

In all of the examinations, the quality of written material is specifically assessed, including: use of suitable structure and style; spelling, grammar and punctuation accurate so that meaning is clear.

**What qualifications
can I gain?**

GCSE in Business Studies

**What is next for me
after this course?**

Business Studies/Law/Accounting/Economics courses at 6th Form or at College.
Direct entry to employment in business/administration.

**Is there anything else
I need to know?**

As part of the course, you will be encouraged to take part in Young Enterprise activities (find out more at www.young-enterprise.org.uk).
You will also be able to meet and talk to adults working in business and industry. It would be helpful, but not essential, if you have previously been involved in an enterprise project such as BiG Challenge.

--- COMPUTING---

Examination Board

OCR

**Who can I ask about
this course?**

Mr C Myhill

**What Will I Learn
To Do?**

This course gives students a real, in depth understanding of how computer technology works. It offers an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many students find absorbing.

Through this qualification students will:

- Develop an understanding of the current and emerging technologies and how they work
- Look at the use of algorithms in computer programs
- Become independent and discerning users 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.

The course is assessed through three units of work:

Unit A451: Computer systems and programming (40%)

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer systems and is assessed through a 90 minute exam.

Unit A452: Practical investigation (30%)

An investigative computing task, chosen from a list provided by OCR, which assesses the following: research, technical understanding, analysis of problem, historical perspective, use of technical writing skills, and recommendations/evaluation. This is assessed within school through a Controlled Assessment.

Unit A453: Programming Project (30%)

Students will undertake a practical task where they will be assessed in their ability to:

- Understand standard programming techniques
- Be able to design a coded solution to a problem including the ability to:
 - develop suitable algorithms
 - design suitable input and output formats
 - identify suitable variables and structures
 - identify test procedures.
- Create a coded solution fully annotating the developed code to explain its function
- Test their solution:
 - to show functionality
 - to show how it matches the design criteria
 - identifying successes and any limitations.

What skills do I need?

The course develops on the skills learnt in Key Stage 3.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Unit A451 is assessed through a terminal examination, while the other two units are centre-assessed and externally moderated by OCR.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE Computing

What is next for me after this course?

You could study a Level 3 ICT or Computing course at college/sixth form. But if you decide not to take the subject further; you will have learnt skills which you will be able to use in other subjects.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills which can be transferred to further learning and everyday life.

--- DANCE ---

Examination Board:

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr A Mitchell

Others: Mrs A Bull, Mrs L Smith, Mrs S Lofthouse, and Mr S Thompson

What Will I Learn To Do?

This GCSE offers you many exciting opportunities to develop your interest in dance as a performer, choreographer and critic. During the course you will become better at:

- Performing with good technique and developing a wider movement vocabulary
- Performing with expression, musicality, confidence and choreographic intent
- Assessing your own performances and those of others
- Thinking more creatively and composing more interesting dances
- Understanding dance more artistically
- Understanding links with other cultures and art forms

You will also have:

- developed an interest in the world of dance
- learnt about safe practice in dance
- improved your fitness and wellbeing
- developed many personal skills for example - leadership, co-operation, self-awareness, communication, organisation and decision making

What skills do I need?

Commitment and motivation.

An ability to participate in all practical sessions.

A willingness to develop current skills and knowledge through both practical and theory lessons.

This subject is offered for those students who have a keen interest in the World of Dance, and who may wish to pursue this area in post 16 education. It is anticipated that they will already be taking part in some form of extra-curricular dance either within or out of school and that this would continue throughout the course.

There is also an expectation that students following the GCSE course will take part in a variety of performances over the course of the two years, in order to develop their skills and to share their work.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

- 40% performance skills
- 40% composition skills
- 20% final written examination

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

Studying Dance at AS and A2 Level or other Level 3 qualification in Performing Arts. This could then lead on to one of many courses available within Higher Education.

In the longer term a variety of careers including working within the dance industry as a performer, choreographer, director, dance notator/recorder; in dance development as a teacher, instructor, coach or in the fitness/leisure industry.

However, dance also helps to develop a number of transferable skills such as communication, commitment, organisation and teamwork, which are highly sought after by employers in all areas of work.

Is there anything else I need to know?

It is an advantage if pupils do take some dance lessons out of school in order to further develop their performance skills; however, this is not essential.

You cannot take GCSE Dance and GCSE PE.

You cannot take GCSE Dance and GCSE Drama

What areas of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

Analysis of own and professional performance using digital camera/camcorder and DVD; sound equipment; word processing.

--- DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY ---

FOOD WITH GRAPHICS

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area & Course Leader: Mr P Johansson
Others: Ms C Hall & Ms S McGoldrick

What Will I Learn To Do?

Design and Technology is an opportunity to design, make and develop a wide range of products using food, graphic materials and possibly textiles. You will learn new skills and techniques for the accurate processing of these materials into products. The course focuses on commercial food products and how they are designed, developed and manufactured.

Graphics is a core element of the Design and Technology course and you will develop your skills through producing exploratory design sketches, packaging, instructional guides, menus, recipe books, party packs, hobby kits, advertising and more.

What skills do I need?

The course develops on the skills learnt in Key Stage 3 and it is suitable for all abilities.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Controlled Assessment

In Year 11 you will produce a design and make project using Food and Graphics, this will be assessed and will account for 60% of your GCSE qualification.

There will be an end of course examination that accounts for the remaining 40%. The examination is single tier.

What qualifications can I gain?

A GCSE in Product Design (AQA)

What is next for me after this course?

The course will provide a very good foundation for A Level Design and Technology courses or BTEC courses in catering, manufacturing and design. It will provide a basis for a career in the food, hospitality and hotel industry also design, manufacturing or engineering. This course will link in well with the newly proposed Food Engineering Degree at Sheffield Hallam University.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The course can provide an inroad into an apprenticeship or further training within the catering industry. It will provide a range of food processing life-skills which will be very valuable when you leave home in the future.

--- DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY ---

RESISTANT MATERIALS & GRAPHICS

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area & Course Leader: Mr P Johansson
Others: Miss S McGoldrick, Mrs N Eyre

What Will I Learn To Do?

Design and Technology is an opportunity to design, make and develop a wide range of products in a range of resistant materials such as timber, plastics, metals, electronics and possibly textiles. You will learn new skills and techniques for the accurate processing of these materials into products. The course focuses on commercial products and how they are designed and made. It will develop skills using advanced technology such as CAD and CAM as well as traditional designing and making activities.

Graphics is a core element of the Product Design course and you will develop skills in concept design sketching, technical graphical presentation, model making, packaging, instructional guides and advertising.

What skills do I need?

The course develops on the skills learnt in Key Stage 3 and it is suitable for all abilities.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Controlled Assessment

In Year 11 you will produce a design and make project in the material of your choice, this will be assessed and will account for 60% of your GCSE qualification.

There will be an end of course examination that accounts for the remaining 40%. The examination is single tier.

What qualifications can I gain?

A GCSE in Product Design (AQA)

What is next for me after this course?

The course will provide a very good foundation for A Level Design and Technology courses or BTEC courses in manufacturing and design. It will provide a basis for a career in industry, manufacturing or engineering. The course can provide an inroad into an apprenticeship or a trade. It will provide a range of craft skills useful to developing and maintaining your own home in the future.

Is there anything else I need to know?

There are a considerable number of highly paid engineering career vacancies within the UK and the government has identified that there is a growing skills shortage. This course could be the start of an interesting and rewarding career based in design, manufacturing or engineering.

The course also includes a visit to Wentworth Pewter, where decorative tankards and souvenirs are made, and to Symmetry Medical where metal replacement bone joints are manufactured.

--- DRAMA ---

Examination Board

OCR

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Miss L Andrews

Drama Teacher: Mr T Markham

What will I learn to do?

You will learn to develop your creativity, confidence, character and performance skills, as well as your ability to appreciate and evaluate the work of others, work as part of a group and improve concentration and self-esteem.

Drama does this by enabling students to communicate with others and work on devising scenes and plays. It is mainly a practically based subject which promotes a theoretical and practical response to Play scripts and improvised scenes. This then develops knowledge and understanding of practical theatre skills necessary for performance presentation to an audience. The skills developed within the subject will also prepare for the workplace both in team work and leadership skills.

Requirements outside normal lessons:

Regular theatre trips and other relevant visits when appropriate; regular completion of homework tasks and some written documentary response in Year 11; rehearsing and performing scenes to an audience.

What skills do I need?

You will learn all necessary skills as the course develops but you will need to be enthusiastic, keen to learn and willing to be fully involved in group work.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Assessment

60% of your mark will be internally marked by your Drama teacher over two units. This will be done within the lessons, which begins at the end of Y10 into Year 11. They will be some written coursework.

Devised work:

The remaining 40% will be to devise your own piece of Drama as part of a group to perform to an external examiner. This is also done in Year 11. There is opportunity to follow the director or designing route as well as performing.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

Performing Arts, A Level Drama and Theatre Studies, Drama can be taken in collaboration with many subjects, in particular with other Art forms such as Music. It also would help gain success with subjects such as languages and courses that focus on 'People Skills'. On the whole Drama can fit with just about any subject, it develops confidence, leadership, problem solving and the ability to work as a team, all skills which can be transferred into any employment.

Is there anything else I need to know?

We make frequent visits to the Theatre; we perform within school and the community. Actors and specialists come into school and perform workshops with the students. There is also opportunity to gain skills and knowledge with technical performance using lighting and sound.

--- FRENCH GCSE ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Ms M Tiernan
Subject Teachers: All MFL Staff

What Will I Learn To Do?

You will learn to communicate with people all over the world and find out how people live in French speaking countries. The 4 themes we explore are:

- Lifestyle
- Leisure
- Home and Environment
- Work and Education

You will develop a wide range of language learning skills which will help you to learn other languages in the future and enjoy life wherever you may be.

What skills do I need?

You will need to:

- listen and participate in lessons, pair work and group work
- learn to work independently
- learn words and phrases accurately.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Skill	Assessed by...	Weighting
Speaking	Controlled assessment (marked by the teacher)	30%
Writing	Controlled assessment (marked by the exam board)	30%
Listening	Exam (Foundation/Higher tiers)	20%
Reading	Exam (Foundation/Higher tiers)	20%

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

Languages set you free – to travel, to meet people and to have exciting new experiences.

Languages open the door to all kinds of jobs and better prospects, particularly business, tourism, law and international careers.

You will be able to study AS, A2 and vocational courses or learn other languages more easily.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The more French you learn the bigger and better your world becomes. We want you to gain a sense of the excitement of the world we live in and to give you the skills to know it personally. French is spoken extensively throughout the world as a first or second language which may provide many work opportunities to those who speak it.

We will offer you the chance to visit France during your course to use your French in real situations.

Some universities expect students to have a C grade in at least one Modern Language at GCSE to study certain courses.

--- GEOGRAPHY ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs G Bott

Subject Teachers:

- Miss E Hudson
- Mrs C Fletcher
- Miss J Hiley

What Will I Learn To Do?

Geography addresses many global issues; Global Tourism, Changing Urban Environments, Population Change, Restless Earth, Ice Environments and Coastal Environments. You will learn about all of these things in modern Geography – things that affect ALL of us!

The skills you acquire through the course will help you to become an enquiring, analytical and interesting individual; a person who bothers to think independently!

What skills do I need?

- Enthusiasm
- An enquiring mind... Geographers always want to know more
- An interest in life beyond Bradfield and Sheffield
- Extended writing skills

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

You will be assessed through both controlled assessment (25%) and two exams in Year 11 (both worth 37.5% each).

Exams are set at Higher and Foundation Tier.

The course we will be running is the AQA Syllabus A.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

Geography GCSE is obviously an excellent basis for AS and A Level Geography (though not always essential) and is a very useful basis for other business, economics and environmental courses.

The skills you will develop through a qualification in Geography are perfect preparation for other non related career areas such as law, journalism and medicine. These careers require individuals who can think for themselves and apply a wide range of skills. The ability to develop a balanced argument and critically analyse information is crucial in these jobs... this is what Geography will prepare you for.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Our students are expected to work hard - we set high standards. Homework is set on a regular basis. The course is suitable for boys and girls of all abilities.

--- GCSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ---

Single Award

Examination Board

Edexcel

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs C Pipes
You could also ask Miss L Wetton

What Will I Learn To Do?

You will study 2 units through work in school and where possible involving outside agencies.

Unit one: *Understanding Personal Development and Relationships*

This helps you understand how people grow and develop, as well as the personal relationships people have during their lives. You will look at how people grow and develop from birth, right through to later adulthood and factors that affect this. This knowledge will help you understand others and maybe help you understand yourself.

Unit two: *Exploring Health, Social Care and Early Years provision*

This unit is based on an investigation into the needs of one person and how health, social care and early year's organisations meet those needs. You will select the person you study and conduct all the research yourself.

What skills do I need?

To complete the assessed portfolios you need to be good at organising yourself and working independently. You will need basic literacy and numeracy skills and an interest in human development. You will need to have good research skills including finding out information from primary sources. You should be willing to participate in discussion about issues and topics related to both units.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

This course consists of 1 written examination (unit one) and 1 portfolio (unit two). The external exam is not tiered and the course is designed for the full range of grades i.e. A* - G.

Due to recent government directives, all assessment and exam can only be taken once and need to be sat or submitted at the end of the course. However, the bulk of work for unit 1 will be covered in Year 10 and unit 2 in Year 11.

Unit one is worth 40% of the GCSE (exam)

Unit two is worth 60% of the GCSE (controlled assessment)

What qualifications can I gain?

Single award GCSE Health and Social Care.

What is next for me after this course?

This course is ideal for progression to more detailed study of health, social care and early years or other related courses. This could be an A Level course, BTEC National qualification or apprenticeship.

As it is a GCSE course it is valued by employers and further education establishments in the same way as other GCSE subjects.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The single award takes up one option choice. Students will spend 3 lessons per week working in this subject.

What areas of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

The course would require you to use and apply many ICT skills, including using the internet to research and Microsoft Word to produce portfolio work.

--- GCSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ---

Double Award - 2 GCSEs

Examination Board

Edexcel

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs C Pipes
You could also ask Miss L Wetton

What Will I Learn To Do?

You will study 4 units through work in school and where possible involving outside agencies.

Unit one: *Understanding Personal Development and Relationships*

This helps you understand how people grow and develop, as well as the personal relationships people have during their lives. You will look at how people grow and develop from birth, right through to later adulthood and factors that affect this. This knowledge will help you understand others and maybe help you understand yourself.

Unit two: *Exploring Health, Social Care and Early Years provision*

This unit is based on an investigation into the needs of one person and how health, social care and early years organisations meet those needs. You will select the person you study and conduct all the research yourself.

Unit three: *Promoting Health and Well-being*

This unit focuses on what it means to be healthy, the factors that affect health and wellbeing and how health is measured. You will apply your knowledge by designing a health plans to improve an individuals health and well-being.

Unit Four: *Health, Social Care and Early Years in Practice*

This unit combines all the things you have studied in the previous units. The aim is for you to develop an in-depth understanding of the core principles needed to work with other practitioners and service users.

What skills do I need?

To complete the assessed portfolios you need to be good at organising yourself and working independently. You will need basic literacy and numeracy skills and an interest in human development. You will need to have good research skills including finding out information from primary sources. You should be willing to participate in discussion about issues and topics related to all four units.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

This course consists of 2 written examinations (units one and four) and 2 portfolios (units two and three).

The external exams are not tiered and the course is designed for the full range of grades i.e. A* - G.

Due to recent government directives, all assessments and exams can now only be taken once and need to be sat or submitted at the end of the course.

Unit one: is worth 20% of the double GCSE (exam)

Unit two: is worth 30% of the double GCSE (controlled assessment)

Unit three: is worth 30% of the double GCSE (controlled assessment)

Unit four: is worth 20% of the double GCSE (exam)

What qualifications

Double award GCSE Health and Social Care (two GCSEs)

can I gain?

**What is next for me
after this course?**

This course is ideal for progression to more detailed study of Health, Social Care and Early Years or other related courses. This could be an A Level course, a BTEC National qualification or apprenticeship.

As it is a GCSE course it is valued by employers and further education establishments in the same way as other GCSE subjects.

**Is there anything else
I need to know?**

As this is a double GCSE, it will take up 2 option choices. Students will spend 6 lessons per week working in this subject.

**What areas of ICT will be
used/developed through the
subject?**

The course would require you to use and apply many ICT skills, including using the internet to research and Microsoft Word to produce portfolio work.

--- HISTORY ---

Examination Board

OCR

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr D Hickman
Others: Miss R Ross Mr N Kelly

What will I learn to do?

Our new Modern World course includes many of the key issues that face us all during this century. We cover human rights issues in the USA & the lessons we can learn from topics such as the 1920's gangster period, Vietnam war, Nazi Germany, the Cold War and protest groups like the Suffragettes who demanded votes for women.

We will teach you to think critically about evidence, debate and analyse issues from different perspectives and learn empathy - a skill that is unique to History and will be of vital importance in the future. Our 20th Century course is designed for 21st Century thinking! 'Study the past if you would define the future' (Confucius).

Gain knowledge through trips; we have 6, including a new one to Berlin.

What skills do I need?

Enthusiasm, a free thinking and critical mind... historians always question before they believe anything! An interest in people, different points of view and cultures and good organisational, research and communication skills.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

75% of the assessment takes the form of two end of course written examinations (not tiered) & the remaining 25% takes the form of Controlled assessment.

We support you in getting good marks by giving you a few end of unit exam style tests in Year 10 and Year 11. This helps you to become familiar with the demands of the real exam and should mean that, if you work consistently hard, that you should achieve a very good final grade. We show you how to get full marks on each type of questions in a very student friendly way. Our experience shows that this helps students to gain really high marks in final examinations.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

History is incredibly useful to so many careers; law, business, marketing, journalism, media and broadcasting, international diplomacy, social work and psychology to name a few.

Communication and independent research are a key part of History, which are essential skills for any job interview and career in the professional world. History is often about problem solving and understanding people – which are key attributes for those considering a career in medicine, nursing, social work and the armed forces.

The unique focus that History places upon empathy and understanding events from different perspectives is of huge importance in the 21st Century, as our world becomes increasingly divided and threatened by global warming, racial hatred, international warmongering & increasingly sophisticated methods of media brainwashing and disinformation.

Historians separate fact from opinion, challenging unhealthy stereotypes & policies that may prove to be misguided, as well as developing and communicating the solutions needed for the future well being and survival of all nationalities, races and species that live on the planet.

--- MUSIC ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr R Whale

What Will I Learn To Do?

In GCSE Music you will extend and develop your skills in the following areas:

- Composing music
- Performing music
- Listening to music
- Appraising and appreciating music

Composition

You will learn composition techniques, working within a variety of styles and cultures including Pop, Jazz, Dance, Latin American, African and Classical. Much of the work will be undertaken using computers and very accessible composition software. This will enable you to create multi-track pieces and highly presentable and printable scores (written music with all parts displayed clearly).

Performance

You will have the opportunity to develop performance skills within solo and group projects. You will record several performances during the year.

Listening and Appraising

Over the two years you will develop aural (listening) skills through a number of activities, often linked with composition and performance work. You will learn specifically about the key elements of music and will develop your knowledge of these through the exploration of the three *Strands*. These are as follows:

- Classical Music
- Popular Music
- World Music

What skills do I need?

The following skills are by no means a course requirement. There will be extra help for those students who do not possess all the levels of skill suggested in this list:

- Basic keyboard skills including some knowledge of note positions
- ICT skills, including the ability to use Cubase software (all Key Stage 3 students use this software and the Year 9s use it extensively from term 2 onwards)
- Some ability to read music (note values - crotchets, quavers etc, and note placements on the staff - five lines)
- Ability to perform on an instrument or voice. Students who do not have individual instrumental lessons are encouraged to do so.

Continued...

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

The Assessment Units

The course is divided into 4 Units.

Unit	Title & Description	%
1	Listening and Appraising (externally assessed) This is a 1 hour written exam that involves listening to a number of musical excerpts and answering questions. Many of the questions require students to aurally identify the ways in which the musical elements have been used. This examination will be held in May/June 2017.	20
2	Composing & Appraising (externally assessed) Students submit one composition (musical score & recording) and a written appraisal of the finished piece.	20
3	Performing Music (internally assessed) Students submit two performances – one solo & one ensemble(group)	40
4	Composing Music (internally assessed) Submission of one composition (musical score & recording) that has been produced in controlled assessment conditions.	20

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

This is a recognised GCSE course and, as such, will count towards achieving the number of GCSEs as specified by any further education establishments or employers.

If you wish to further your music studies, the following options are open to you within Sheffield:

- A Level Music - available at Bradfield School, All Saints, Birkdale, High Storrs, King Egberts, King Edwards, Sheffield Academies, and Tapton.
- A Level Music Technology - available at High Storrs, Sheffield Academies, & Tapton
- BTEC National Diplomas - available at Rotherham College, Sheffield College (including a Popular Music course)

Is there anything else I need to know?

Students wishing to create a music composition workstation using their own PC should see Mr Whale for technical help and advice.

What area of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

ICT skills, including the ability to use Cubase software (all Key Stage 3 students use this software and the Year 9s use it extensively from term 2 onwards).

--- PHYSICAL EDUCATION GCSE ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr A Mitchell

Others: Mrs L Smith, Mr S Thompson, Mrs S Lofthouse and Mrs A Bull

What Will I Learn To Do?

The GCSE PE is made up of two main components, the theory aspect supported by the practical. You will spend 50% of the course covering high level theoretical topics that include anatomy and physiology, components of fitness, the roles of the active participant, individual differences of an active participant and methods of training. You will be taught these in theory lessons in preparation for a written exam at the end of Year 11.

Within practical lessons, you will learn about how to be effective in a range of roles in sport. At the end of the course you will need to submit marks for 4 activities. Within GCSE PE you will follow a series of activities that will be chosen by your teacher and then covered in a greater depth than core PE. The aim of this is to increase your proficiency in that activity. You will learn advanced skills that will need to be performed in pressurised competitive situations. The activities could include a variety of games, dance, athletics, outdoor activities and trampolining. If you opt for GCSE PE your work in Core PE lessons will also be assessed to GCSE standards. Finally you will learn how to analyse and improve the sporting technique of other students and athletes.

What skills do I need?

- A commitment to learn about the theoretical aspects of the course.
- A desire to improve as a physical performer
- A range of advanced physical skills.
- An appreciation that sport is more than performing.
- Commitment and motivation to be involved in all aspects of sport at Bradfield.

You are expected to be demonstrating an interest in sport through an involvement in at least two school extra-curricular clubs or teams. Alternatively, there is an expectation that you are actively involved in sport, at a club level, outside of school.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

- 40% final examination on the theory aspects of the course.
- 10% written analysis of performance assessment.
- 50% practically assessed activities.
- The course is not tiered.

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE A* - G on Long Course GCSE

What is next for me after this course?

Studying Sports Studies or PE at AS and A2 Level or other Level 3 qualification in sport.

In the longer term a variety of careers including working in Sports Development; Leisure Management; Coaching/Education; Sports Psychology and Sport Science.

Is there anything else I need to know?

It is possible to submit Practical Assessments for activities that are in the examination board specification, but not taught in lesson time. In the past,

What areas of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

students have been assessed in Swimming, Ice Hockey, Skiing, Tae Kwando, Horse Riding and Cycling.

Analysis using digital camera/camcorder; use of analysis software; word processing; fitness testing.

--- SPANISH ---

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Ms M Tiernan
Subject Teachers: All MFL Staff

What Will I Learn To Do?

You will learn to communicate with people all over the world and find out how people live in Spanish speaking countries. The 4 themes we explore are:

- Lifestyle
- Leisure
- Home and Environment
- Work and Education

You will develop a wide range of language learning skills which will help you to learn other languages in the future and enjoy life wherever you may be.

What skills do I need?

You will need to:

- listen and participate in lessons, pair work and group work
- learn to work independently
- learn words and phrases accurately.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Skill	Assessed by...	Weighting
Speaking	Controlled assessment (marked by the teacher)	30%
Writing	Controlled assessment (marked by the exam board)	30%
Listening	Exam (Foundation/Higher tiers)	20%
Reading	Exam (Foundation/Higher tiers)	20%

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades A* - G

What is next for me after this course?

Languages set you free – to travel, to meet people and to have exciting new experiences.

Languages open the door to all kinds of jobs and better prospects, particularly business, tourism, law and international careers.

You will be able to study AS, A2 and vocational courses or learn other languages.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The more Spanish you learn the bigger and better your world becomes. We want you to gain a sense of the excitement of the world we live in and to give you the skills to know it personally. Spanish is spoken extensively throughout South America, a rapidly expanding trade area, which could provide exciting work opportunities.

We will offer you the chance to visit Spain during your course and to use your Spanish in real situations. Some universities expect students to have a C grade in at least one Modern Language at GCSE to study certain courses.