



BLC Options booklet 2024-26

First Steps To Next Steps

bridgelearningcampus.org.uk

Year 9 Options

Year 9 pupils are embarking on the journey of selecting their GCSE and BTEC options for Year 10. This stage marks a significant milestone in your child's education, and we understand that it can be a somewhat anxious time for both students and parents alike. Therefore, we are committed to providing you with the necessary information and support to ensure that your child makes the best choices possible.

The curriculum we offer for Year 10 and 11 has been carefully designed to provide a comprehensive range of subjects that are not only compulsory (Core) but also highly relevant for college, apprenticeships, and the future world of work. This process allows our pupils to have some agency in choosing subjects that they feel passionate about and that align with their interests and aspirations.

What choice should you make?

To assist you and your child in this decision-making process, we have prepared this comprehensive booklet. This booklet not only provides information about each option subject but also includes insights from our teaching professionals, highlighting why we love our subjects and the benefits they offer your children. Additionally, you will find assessment criteria, which will be particularly helpful for subjects that your child may not have previously studied.

You should already have received your child's recent academic report via Arbor, which will prove useful in considering their strengths and areas for improvement.

We are committed to supporting your child's educational journey and believe that the Year 9 Options process is a crucial step in shaping their academic path. By working together, we can ensure that your child's choices reflect their aspirations, interests, and long-term goals. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to assisting both you and your child throughout this important decision-making process.

If you would like to do your own research of how GCSE courses link to future opportunities, please visit our **Careers Zone** on the school website, which can be accessed by [clicking here](#). This can really support you to understand courses and careers available.

We understand that you may have questions or queries that are not addressed in the booklet. Therefore, we encourage you to contact myself, Ms Wood or your child's tutor, and we will be more than happy to provide clarification or guidance to ensure that you and your child feel confident in making informed decisions.



Mr Pitt - Deputy Headteacher - dpitt@blc.school Tel 01173534472



Ms Wood - Head of Year 9 Ewood@blc.school Tel 01173534472

Our KS4 Curriculum offer

It includes all subjects that are compulsory - The Core Subjects.

All pupils will continue to study **English, Maths, Combined Science, Physical Education and PSHE** during Year 10 and 11.

Pupils must then select 3 Option subjects from choices below:

Option choice 1: one from here

History GCSE	Geography GCSE	Spanish GCSE
-----------------	-------------------	-----------------

Option choices 2 and 3: Select two courses from the list below

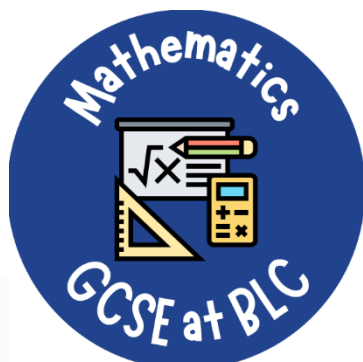
(a reserve must also be selected)

Spanish GCSE	History GCSE	Geography GCSE	Art (Fine art) GCSE	Art and Design Photography GCSE
Business and Enterprise NCFE VCert	Music RSL Rock School RSL L1/2	Music Technology RSL L1/2	Health and Fitness NCFE VCert	Triple Science GCSE
Art and design (Graphics) GCSE	Art and Design (Textiles) GCSE	Product Design GCSE	Religious studies GCSE	Hospitality & Catering WJEC L1/2

Timeline of Option process

Wednesday 7 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options assembly for Year 9 pupils
Thursday 22 nd February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 9 Parents Evening & Launch of Options process. Options booklet shared on the evening. Opportunities for parents and carers to speak to subject leaders
Term 4 weeks 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject information, advice and guidance in assemblies. Small group and 1-1 advice meetings Year 9 tutor time discussion opportunities.
Term 4 weeks 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 9 tutor time discussion opportunities.
Friday 8 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online options forms sent out. Year 9 Options open
Tuesday 16 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for submission of options.

After the deadline the options blocks will be put together with the aim on offering as many first-choice subjects as possible. In some cases there will be follow-up meetings with pupils to review their choices if their first choice is not available.



Mathematics (Core)

At BLC our GCSE Mathematics curriculum enables pupils to develop their confidence in numeracy, problem solving and reasoning – all incredibly important skills for future career choices. Pupils studying this course will explore the use of maths in their everyday lives and develop their ability to apply their skills to a wide variety of contexts. This course will ensure that

our pupils are confident problem solvers and will serve to support their next steps into further study, or the world of work.

GCSE Mathematics - Course overview

What will this course do for you as a pupil? What's in it for them?

- Number (percentages, decimals, fractions, real life money problems, standard form, surds...)
- Shape and Space (area, perimeter, volume, surface area, angles, transformations, Pythagoras' theorem, trigonometry...)
- Algebra (simplifying expressions, solving equations, expanding and factorising, drawing graphs...)
- Statistics (representing data, probability, averages....)

How is it assessed?

3 exams: 1hr 30 minutes each. 1 non-calculator, 2 calculator papers.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: A Levels: Mathematics or Further Mathematics or Level 3: Core Mathematics (for pupils who do not wish to study A level maths but wish to develop their mathematical, statistical and quantitative skills).

Career pathways: Some possible career opportunities include Accountant, Data analyst, Investment banker, Game designer, Engineer.

Faculty leader: Ms Eills Feills@bhc.school



English Language

(Core)

At Bridge Learning Campus, the English Curriculum will immerse all pupils in a range of opportunities which challenge, inspire and promote curiosity. We want all learners to be passionate, resilient and articulate. We want them to be equipped and engaged to live ambitiously, being proud of their local and wider communities.

GCSE English Language - Course overview

The English GCSE Curriculum will enable learners to gain confidence by exploring their immediate and wider world through varied forms of communication and reflecting on their learning. It's purposefully designed to inspire learners to be passionate and confident in thinking independently, empathetically and critically. As they move through the course, learners will be developing their skills to become literate and articulate as they approach unfamiliar concepts, knowledge and skills.

What does the course cover?

The AQA English Language course covers three main components: fiction, non-fiction and spoken language.

Both the fiction and non-fiction papers are split into two parts: reading and writing. The reading components test your ability to read, understand and analyse texts. The writing sections of the papers ask you to write a developed piece of creative writing.

You are also expected to prepare and deliver a speech as part of the Spoken Language Endorsement. This will be completed in school at the end of Year 10.

What will you learn?

English Language is a skills-based subject: you will learn how to communicate and interrogate the written and spoken texts that exist in everyday life all around you.

How is it assessed?

Two papers that are both 1 hour 45 minutes long, each paper constitutes 50% of the overall grade.

Paper 1 - Fiction: 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of overall grade)

- Section A (25%) tests *reading skills*. You will read one previously unseen text and respond to four questions that test different skills.
- Section B (25%) tests *writing skills*. You will be expected to respond to a creative written task which will be marked for content and accuracy.

Paper 2 – Non-Fiction: 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of overall grade)

- Section A (25%) tests *reading skills*. You will read two previously unseen non-fiction texts from the 19th and 20th/21st Century and respond to four questions that test different skills.
- Section B (25%) tests *writing skills*. You will be expected to respond to a non-fiction written task which will be marked for content and accuracy.

Spoken Language Endorsement – a mandatory part of the course which is awarded at Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Future opportunities

Any Further Education course requires you to have a good English grade - this could be a L1-3 vocational and technical qualifications, an apprenticeship or A Level courses. You could study A Level Language or Linguistics, and GCSE Language complements a range of other subjects such as History, Media, Journalism, Psychology, Sociology, Law... the list goes on! From here, you can take any of these subjects on to University and gain Bachelor of Arts, Masters or PhD degrees.

Career pathways

There are many careers which relate to English, including publishing, advertising, journalism and teaching - a good English grade leads to any career involving communication: running a business or being a PA or receptionist; leading a team or managing social media profiles; supporting others by working and leading in healthcare, social care or psychology; becoming a youth mentor; working in any business on the HR (Human Resources) team; you can work in the media or write yourself as a critic or journalist expressing opinions on any topic from sport to politics!

Faculty leaders: Bryony Phelps and Jodie Marchant
bphelps@blc.school jmarchant@blc.school



English Literature (Core)

At Bridge Learning Campus, the English Curriculum will immerse all pupils in a range of opportunities which challenge, inspire and promote curiosity. We want all learners to be passionate, resilient and articulate. We want them to be equipped and engaged to live ambitiously, being proud of their local and wider communities.

GCSE English Literature - Course overview

English Literature gives you great cultural knowledge as well as an understanding of history and how words work on the page, on the stage and to represent all aspects of humankind: all valuable skills!

What does the course cover?

All pupils of AQA English Literature must study 5 key elements. At BLC, you will study the following:

- Shakespeare Play – Romeo and Juliet
- 19th Century Text – Jekyll and Hyde
- Modern Text – Lord of the Flies
- Poetry Anthology – Power and Conflict
- Unseen Poetry

What will you learn?

English Literature is a knowledge-based subject: you will learn how to analyse Literature at a deeper level, exploring the writer's use of language and structure and how the text can be interpreted in response to its social, historical or political context.

How is it assessed?

The course is made up of two exams. Both of the exams are closed book which means that you cannot have the text with them and must write essays from memory.

Paper 1 – 1 hour, 45 minutes

- **Section A (20%)** You will be expected to respond to one question about 'Romeo and Juliet'. You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole in its Elizabethan context.
- **Section B (20%)** You will answer one question on 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' by Robert Louis Stevenson. You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole in its Victorian context.

- **Section A (20%)** You will study 'Lord of the Flies' by William Golding and answer one essay question from a choice of two on the novel.
- **Section B (20%)** You will study an anthology of 15 poems based on the theme of 'Power and Conflict'. In the exam, you will compare two poems - one will be selected and printed for you and you can choose another one from the anthology to compare based on theme.
- **Section C (20%)** You will answer two questions based on unseen poems that you have not seen before.

Future opportunities

Any Further Education course requires you to have a good English grade - this could be a L1-3 vocational and technical qualifications, an apprenticeship or A Level courses. You could study A Level Literature, Language or Linguistics; GCSE Literature complements a range of other subjects such as History, Drama, Film or Theatre Studies, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Health and Social Care, Business...the list goes on! From here, you can take any of these subjects on to University and gain Bachelor of Arts, Masters or PhD degrees.

Career pathways

There are many careers which relate to the Literature: you could become a writer yourself as a novelist, journalist or editor or be a publisher or a content manager for print and online texts; you can work in the media as a copywriter or social media producer; in film or drama industries, you can be a scriptwriter, a proof-reader, a talent agent, casting director. Being able to understand emotions and relationships gives you opportunities to work with people in therapy, teaching, mentoring or training.

Faculty leaders: Bryony Phelps and Jodie Marchant
bphelps@blc.school jmarchant@blc.school



Science

At Bridge Learning Campus science is not just a subject; it is an opportunity for pupils to be enthusiastic and engaged with the world around them and the way it works. Pupils will think critically, challenge and be challenged and develop confidence in their own ideas and abilities. The science curriculum will inspire our pupils to seek out the different pathways a well-developed science education can take them.

GCSE Combined Science

Science is one of the most fundamentally important subjects to study as it helps make sense of why the things around us are and act the way they do.

A necessity for understanding of scientific principles and the content taught is not limited to those who wish to pursue strictly 'science based' careers but will help in analytical thinking, problem solving.

The course is taught across the three areas of science: biology, chemistry and physics.

Biology – Variation, genetics, classification, homeostasis and disease prevention, cell division, enzymes, body systems.

Chemistry – Neutralisation reactions, metals and their uses, carbon chemistry and maintaining the environment, atomic structure, bonding, rates of reaction.

Physics – Waves and the electromagnetic spectrum, generating electricity, Space and the Solar system, nuclear physics, radiation, forces and electricity

How is it assessed?

This is a double GCSE course meaning that pupils will be given **two** grades worth two GCSEs. The exams consist of six 1 hour 15-minute examinations – two for each science; Biology, (B1, B2) Chemistry (C1, C2) and Physics, (P1, P2).

Questions range from one to six marks, with two extended writing opportunities in each paper.

Subjects are broad and cover a wide variety of topics but with a concurrent theme of using scientific investigation and numeracy skills with application questions.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps:

A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry or Physics and then moving on to university opportunities in a wide range of subjects not limited to the 'big three' sciences. Your teachers have degrees ranging from the pure sciences to Biomedical sciences, Sports science and Palaeontology.

Career pathways:

In today's environment there are demands for scientists in just about every industry!

From the more obvious classical routes into medicine and lab-based work it is important to remember that not all scientists wear 'white coats!'

Examples include Sports physiologist/analyst, Exploratory geologist, Pilot, Astronomer, Engineer (Chemical, Civil, Maritime, Avionic, Hydro and many more! Take your pick!)

Faculty leader: Mr Dewer SDewer@blc.school



GCSE Triple Science

Triple science replaces and builds on the core science offering. This means that instead of receiving a double (combined) GCSE award in science; Pupils will receive three separate science grades in Biology Chemistry and Physics.

If Triple science is chosen as an option one third of a student's lessons in the school week will be science.

The course opens the chance to study in some different areas but due to the workload demands and amount of science on a student's timetable it is not a decision that should be made lightly!

Triple science is right for you if:

- You **love** science and it is one of your **favourite** subjects!
- You want **MORE** Science in your life, it will make up one third of your total time in school!
- You are enthusiastic and want to really challenge your levels of understanding.
- You are prepared to do research, reading and practice outside of school around the subject.
- Your attitude to learning in science is a 1 or a 2.

The course is taught across the three areas of science: biology, chemistry and physics.

Key Similarities (with combined Science)

- All content from the combined is covered as part of the triple.
- Both courses have six exams.
- Lesson format of combined and triple is the same.

Key differences (compared to Combined Science)

- Each of the six exams is thirty minutes longer.
- A total of three science GCSEs will be awarded instead of two.
- Extended and additional content over the combined.
- Higher level of maths content vs combined science.

How is it assessed?

Six one hour and forty-five-minute examinations – two for each science; Biology, (B1, B2) Chemistry (C1, C2) and Physics, (P1, P2).

Future opportunities

Opportunities are listed above in the Science section; however, it is important to be note these misconceptions:

- You DO NOT need triple science to do A-levels in science.
- You DO NOT need triple science to go into a career in medicine, nursing, midwifery or anything veterinary related.

Faculty leader: Mr Dewer SDewer@blc.school

Link to subject video <https://youtu.be/-wLuc4VBEMg>



History

We aim to create the very best historians. We challenge pupils to think, act and speak like those working in the field would: to research thoroughly, to weigh-up evidence, to understand chronology, to evaluate interpretations and develop arguments. We do this by a consistent approach across the department ensuring all pupils develop the range of skills needed to become confident in their own opinions, make well supported judgements and expressing them articulately using keywords from topics and academic, historical vocabulary. History is a subject that truly allows our pupils to understand the people, cultures and events that have happened in the past.

GCSE History

History at GCSE develops skills to critically evaluate a range of different sources as evidence. It is also about being able to write extended essays comparing different points of view and then making balanced judgements.

History offers fascinating courses learning about the past which also teaches skills that you can use in any future career.

Pupils studying History develop their independent research and communication skills, useful in all careers!

Course overview:

- Migration in Britain from 800BC to present day
- Nottinghill Carnival
- Superpower relations and the Cold War.
- Early Elizabethan England 1558-88.
- Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939

How is it assessed?

Summer exam will be spread across 3 papers.

Paper 1: British Thematic Study with Historical background.

Paper 2: Period Study and British Depth Study.

Paper 3: Modern Depth Study.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: Following on from studying GCSE History you could study A level History, Politics, Sociology or Philosophy. It is an academically rigorous subject which gives you a firm

grounding for most A level subjects. You could also use it if you go on to an apprenticeship, specifically in restoration.

Career pathways: Aside from going on to study History A-Level, GCSE History is a highly respected subject that can lead to many career opportunities. History teaches a range of skills that could lead to career paths in law, international relations, curation, archaeology, publishing, librarians, writers, archivists, researchers, teachers, politicians, journalists and lots of jobs in the media.

Faculty leader: Mr.Douglas mdouglas@blc.school



Geography



Through our Geography curriculum, pupils will learn about the world's diverse environments and cultures. They will gain a greater understanding of the complexity of both human and physical processes and will also learn how our actions are changing our planet and how we can minimise the impact of this change. This exciting and relevant course studies Geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them. Pupils will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Pupils are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

GCSE Geography

Geography covers a number of topics and skills. We learn everything from how the world is changed naturally by rivers and volcanoes, through to why people go on holiday, and why the Mall at Cribbs Causeway was built!

It is a subject that is greatly valued by colleges, universities and employers, mainly because of its variety. A good geographer demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the world around them and the people in it.

Geography is a challenging subject but is also fun.

How is it assessed?

Paper one - Living with the Physical Environment (35%) This unit will include topics such as Rivers, Coasts, Tectonics, Weather and Ecosystems.

Paper two - Living with the Human Environment (35%) This unit will cover topics such as Urban Issues, Population, Development and Resources.

Component three - Geographical Applications (30%) Pupils will need to participate in fieldwork opportunities to gain the skills needed for this paper.

Future opportunities

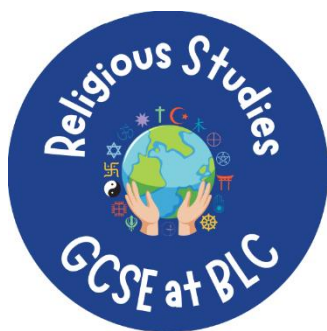
Post-16 next steps: If you choose to take Geography GCSE, you can of course go on to study the subject at A level. Besides this it can be helpful to those of you who go on to study apprenticeships which focus on engineering, construction, or conservation. It will also help you in becoming a mindful and productive member of society, as sustainability and development are covered in depth.

Career pathways: Aside from going on to study Geography A-Level, GCSE Geography opens up many opportunities for the future. Geography teaches us a wider range of



transferable skills such as data analysis, critical thinking and argument writing. These skills will help anyone looking to pursue a career in business, finance, law, research, journalism or teaching as well as careers in environmental studies, Geologist, Marine Biologist, Landscape Architect, Meteorologist, Nature Conservationist, Surveyor - Building, Hydrographic, Land or Geomatics, minerals or waste management, Economic development officer, Drilling engineer

Faculty leader: Mr. Kelleher akelleher@blc.school



Religious Studies



The Religious Education curriculum aims to inspire pupils to become theologians and philosophers who can make critical and balanced judgements about questions of meaning and purpose through developing religious literacy in terms of vocabulary and conceptual understanding. Through a knowledge rich curriculum, pupils acquire an in depth understanding of the core vocabulary and theological beliefs of the major world religions and how these beliefs influence religious believers in their daily practice. Comparisons of these faiths allows for frequent retrieval and for knowledge to be embedded before pupils explore how these faiths, along with secular views, respond to philosophical issues and how they make ethical decisions. This provides pupils with the theological, philosophical and ethical knowledge to apply their learning to contemporary issues within modern society in their GCSE's and hopefully at A level and beyond.

Religious Studies

Employers often value candidates with a Religion, Philosophy and Ethics qualification because of the skills taught to such as how to analyse information and understand other people's viewpoints – skills which are transferable to all other subjects and valued in the jobs market today.

Employers favour a Religion, Philosophy and Ethics qualification as this is a mark that those pupils who take it have those transferable skills such as teamwork, problem solving, IT and communication skills that are beneficial in the workplace.

How is it assessed?

Component One - A study of the key beliefs, teachings and practices of two of the following world religions:

- Christianity
- Islam

Component Two - Thematic Studies of four of the following topics:

- Relationships and Families
- Religion and Life
- Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Religion, Crime and Punishment
- Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: Achieving a GCSE RE will help you move on to A level RE, Philosophy, History, Politics and Sociology. It will also give you a firm basis in moral, ethical and philosophical arguments, which can also be supportive in the study of English A level.

Career pathways: A knowledge of Religious Studies will build strong foundations for a career path in any of the following areas due to the transferable skills and community awareness provided in this course. These areas include Law, Politics and Government, International Relations, Theology, Journalism and Media, Army, Civil Service, Law, Police, Advertising, Marketing, Sales, Finance, Education, Politician, Foreign Office, Journalism, Television researchers, Medicine.

Faculty leader: Mrs Crotty TCrotty@blc.school



Spanish

At Bridge Learning Campus, learning a foreign language is a freedom from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. Lessons should foster pupils' curiosity, develop their confidence

and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in Spanish and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and writing. Spanish should provide a foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

GCSE Spanish

Spanish is the world's second most widely spoken language after Mandarin Chinese - spoken by around 460 million people. Learning Spanish will open the doors to the world and your future. You could even live and work on the other side of the planet.

By learning a language you can: increase your future salary, stand-out more and improve your job prospects, and it improves your overall academic ability. Some universities insist you have a GCSE language in order to accept you on your course, even for non-language degrees (e.g. Business Studies at Warwick University).

Spanish is a great choice at GCSE that complements your other subjects, helps to develop your own understanding of English, and throws doors wide open to the world.

How is it assessed?

100% Examination in Summer Year 11

- Listening exam = 25%
- Reading exam = 25%
- Writing exam = 25%

- Speaking exam = 25%

We study 5 themes across the two years which include:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: A-levels at a college or sixth form college and then potential University.

Career pathways: Languages at GCSE can support careers in Business, politics, sales, buying, translating, teaching, academic research, RAF and army officer level careers, international relations and many other areas value the GCSE Languages qualification, indeed it is essential for career progression in some areas.

Faculty leader: Mr S Pooley SPooley@blc.school



Business

This is a subject appropriate for pupils with an interest in becoming an entrepreneur, planning their own businesses, and building a broad knowledge base for Business and Enterprise. Pupils must be confident with their oracy, have an interest in contemporary global business and must be able to manage their time with independent learning with specific focus on Coursework in Year 11. Pupils that have an interest in starting a business or running one in the future, this subject will be incredibly useful moving forward.

NCFE Business and Enterprise Vocational Qualification

VCERT qualifications allow pupils to show their understanding of topics through extended pieces of coursework rather than just an exam. VCERT qualifications allow pupils to show their understanding of topics through extended pieces of coursework rather than just an exam.

Pupils get to experience what it is like to work for a business and apply their knowledge to their coursework. The course is suitable if you want 'hands-on' experience of working to achieve a goal, if you enjoy working with others and can be successful in a team. The course focuses on:

- 1 Starting a business - Understanding how to set up a business.
- 2 Market research and analysis - Researching customers opinions on different products.
- 3 People, operations and recruitment - Understanding how to secure a job and how to manage a group of workers.
- 4 Finance for business and enterprise - Using calculations to work out if a business makes money.
- 5 Produce a business plan for a business - Setting up a business and seeing if you can make money.
- 6 Evaluate a business plan - Are you the next Alan Sugar? How well did your business do? Developing skills on how to improve a business idea.

How is it assessed?

50% Controlled Assessment completed in the form of a portfolio, covering content listed above.

50% External exam. The two-hour exam is based on knowledge covered within the course:

- Starting a business
- Market research and analysis

- People, operations and recruitment
- Finance for business and enterprise



Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: A Business Management degree could lead to a career as an actuarial analyst, business adviser, business analyst, business development manager, chartered management accountant, corporate investment banker, data analyst, data scientist, forensic accountant, insurance underwriter, management consultant, project manager, risk manager, stockbroker or supply chain manager.

Career pathways: It might also lead to careers as a construction manager, environmental engineer, human resources officer, logistics and distribution manager, marketing executive, mortgage adviser, retail manager, sales executive, systems analyst, urban designer or UX analyst.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@blc.school

Link to subject video <https://youtu.be/N3tItHLEBJ8>



Art



Art has a way of breaking across barriers and boundaries. It does not matter what you look like, it does not matter what you are into, and it does not matter if you can draw in a particular way. What does matter is imagination and passion to express yourself using mark, line colour, medium and material. To make an impact on another person based on what you have created.

GCSE Art & Design

If you are interested in expressing yourself and exploring the different way you can manipulate painting, drawing and sculpture, as well as love seeing new places, new ideas and concepts then yes, it is!

Course overview

In Year 10 you will be introduced to a range of different artists, as well as artists you chose yourself. You then will create pieces of artwork that shows their influence. How has their art affected you?

The Year 10 project is your choice within reason, you can explore Portraiture and painting, mental health or the downfall of the society. It is completely down to you but must be passionate about it. You will be able to experiment with a wide range of media and investigate different artists working in styles such as Manga, Street Art and Illustration

Year 11 you will revisit old skills and develop a short body of work based on your own interest and Level 3 A level media experiments.

How is it assessed?

Course Assessment 60% is based on the content covered throughout the year. The coursework is started in September of year 10 and will run to December of year 11.

Examination 40%:

- You will be able to select 1 exam question out of the 7 to 8 on the exam paper.
- As pupils you will have 12-13 weeks (40 hours) of preparation consisting of developing, designing and experimenting. You will have 10 hours over the course of a few days to create your exam final outcome in April-May.
- You will have the opportunity to go on some local, national and international trips, as well as gallery and sculpture park visits.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: This course could lead onto A level Photography and then a BA (hons) degree in Photography at university.

Career pathways: It would help you when pursuing a career in photojournalism, fashion photography, advertising and marketing, graphic designer, web designer photography, film editor, multimedia specialist and forensic photography.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@blc.school

Link to subject video <https://youtu.be/tOhnuD1L49k>



Product Design

Do you like knowing how things work? Do you like problem solving, do you like designing things and improving them so that they work better?

The Design and Technology GCSE aims to prepare pupils to participate in an increasingly technological world. By taking the GCSE, you'll gain an in-depth understanding of Design and Technology, including the historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors behind it. You will enjoy this course if you like solving problems and coming up with creative ideas.

A GCSE course in Design and Technology offers an opportunity for candidates to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems in a wide range of contexts relating to their personal interests.

GCSE Design and Technology

Pupils will acquire subject knowledge in design and technology which includes an understanding of different materials and manufacturing processes in order to design and make, with confidence, prototypes in response to issues, needs, problems and opportunities

You will learn about new and emerging technologies, different materials, specialist making techniques, and the full design process. In year 11 you will complete a project for your coursework that will take approximately 30-35 hours and is worth 50% of the GCSE. In the coursework, you'll be tasked with designing and producing a prototype; you'll also have to document the design and build process.

Pupils will develop an understanding of the design world and be able to reflect on current design concepts and ideas.

This course suits pupils who:

- Enjoy designing, drawing, making and constructing
- Working independently.
- Enjoy learning about other artists/craftspeople/designers to gain inspiration for their own ideas and thinking.

Want to take a practical GCSE to complement other subjects.

How is it assessed?

50% Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% Controlled assessment: NEA coursework based project set in June of year 10.

Students are provided with a design brief in Year 10 and have until May of year 11 to complete all aspects of the assignment and final product. Students are expected to design and produce their own product, create their own designs and prototype. The assessment has six parts to the assessment with in these 4 areas:

- – Investigate This includes investigation of needs and research, and a product specification
- – Design This includes producing different design ideas, review of initial ideas, development of design ideas into a chosen design, communication of design ideas and review of the chosen design
- – Make This includes manufacture, and quality and accuracy
- – Evaluate This includes testing and evaluation

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps

- A level Design technology
- A level Product design
- Trade Apprenticeships

Career pathways

- Product designer
- Architect
- Clothing/Textile Technologist.
- Civil engineer
- Software engineer
- Carpenter
- Electrical engineer
- Furniture Designer.
- Interior and Spatial Designer.
- Product Designer.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@blc.school

Link to subject video https://youtu.be/B_XibpFlmE0



Hospitality and Catering

The WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering, has been designed to support pupils who want to learn about the vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further studies. Pupils will develop a range of specialist and general skills that will support their progression to employment. Employment can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists.

WJEC BTEC Hospitality and Catering level 1-2 - Course overview

Do you love cooking do you have an interest in the hospitality industry?

In year 10, you will complete Unit 1 Industry where you will complete a theory-based Unit with practical sessions throughout the course. At the end of year 10 pupils will have the opportunity to take their written exam early. The written exam paper is worth 40% of the overall final grade. In year 11 you will complete coursework, Unit 2 Hospitality and catering in action. The focus is on is on is designing a 3-course meal based on brief and creating the 3-course meal showcasing all the practical skills learnt.

What will you learn?

- Would you like to work around the world?
- Are you interested in food?
- Do you wish to learn about healthy lifestyles?
- Are you creative and hard working?
- Do you enjoy being part of a team?

How is it assessed?

Controlled assessment, Hospitality and Catering in Action - 60% of overall grade. Pupils will be expected to:

- Plan, prepare and cook a 2-3 course meal within a 4 hour time period.
- Demonstrate at least two cooking skills.
- Demonstrate health and safety skills within the kitchen environment.
- Produce a piece of coursework, covering topics such as: nutrients, nutritional needs of specific groups etc
- The Hospitality and Catering Industry - 40% of overall grade. Topics covered:
- Understanding the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate.

- Understanding how hospitality and catering providers operate.
- Understanding health and safety within hospitality and catering.
- Food related causes of ill health.
- Proposing hospitality and catering providers to meet specific requirements.

Future opportunities

- Post-16 next steps:
- WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition (certificate and diploma)
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery
- Level 3 Advanced Diploma in Food Preparation and Cookery Supervision
- Various apprenticeships within the hospitality and catering industry.

Career pathways

Nutritionist, Health promotion, Dietician, Butcher, Fishmonger, Baker, Catering manager, Chef, Brewery worker, confectionery, Restaurateur, Hotel manager, Teacher

- Professional Chef
- Catering provider
- Management positions within hospitality and catering (hotels, pubs, bars, restaurants etc)
- Nutritionist
- Bar and pub management
-

Faculty leader: Klara Rock KRock@blc.school

Link to subject video <https://youtu.be/B9TzyorWQSU>



Art Graphics

GCSE Art & Design

If you are interested in expressing yourself and exploring the different way you can manipulate typography, drawing and Photoshop, as well as love seeing new places, new ideas and concepts then yes, it is!

Course overview

In Year 10 you will be introduced to a range of different graphic designers, artists, as well as artists you chose yourself. You then will create pieces of design work that shows both your own and the artist influence. How has their art affected you?

The Year 10 project will start with the course an introduction to Graphics where you explore illustration and photoshop, the topic you select to explore will be your choice, within reason but must be passionate about it. The outcome you produce, must fall into 1 to 2 of the following categories

- communication graphics (poster and billboards)
- advertising and branding
- illustration
- package design
- typography
- multi-media
- motion graphics
- signage
- exhibition graphics.

Year 11 you will complete your year 10 project of project and improve them using the skills you have developed.

How is it assessed?

Course Assessment 60% Is based on the content covered throughout the year. The coursework is started in September of year 10 and will run to December of year 11.

Examination 40%:

- You will be able to select 1 exam question out of the 7 to 8 on the exam paper.
- As pupils you will have 12-13 weeks (40 hours) of preparation consisting of developing, designing and experimenting. You will have 10 hours over the course of a few days to create your exam final outcome in April-May.

- You will have the opportunity to go on some local, national and international trips, as well as gallery and sculpture park visits.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: This course could lead onto A level Photography and then a BA (hons) degree in Photography at university.

Career pathways: It would help you when pursuing a career in Graphic Designers and have scope of working in various industries such as the fashion business, IT, gaming, advertising, news media, and entertainment, among others. The graduates can work as Multimedia Programmers, Creative Directors,.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@blc.school

Link to subject video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sT8ySAammlc&ab_channel=CrawshawAcademyArt%26Design



<https://youtu.be/tOhnuD1L49k>



Photography

Are you a creative person? Are you interested in the visual world around you? Photography GCSE allows you to embrace your creativity and develop new skills. With opportunities to widen your cultural horizons by taking part in school trips and mastering the art

of Photography!

Art and Design GCSE Photography

If you are interested in observing and recording the world around you as well as capturing moments in time, then yes, it is! Express your ideas through photography. You do not need to have strong drawing skills, but we will work with you to improve your drawing too!

Course overview

- This course will teach you the skills of project planning and independent work as you manage and control your workload. After mastering the basics, you will complete two separate coursework projects each on a topic of your choice to create a personal response.
- The practical skills that you will learn in Photography will allow you to explore your personal identity as develop your work and reflect upon your own artistic journey and process.
- Photography GCSE is particularly relevant to pupils interested in pursuing a career in Media Studies, Film, Social Media, Marketing, Sports Media Production and many more!
- What does the course cover?
- Skills in learning how to use a digital camera
- Setting up photoshoots
- Using digital editing software such as adobe photoshop
- Analysis of both contemporary and historical photographers

During the Portraiture project, you will also learn how to design and apply makeup in interesting ways, physically distort and change your photographs into weird and wonderful portraits, and you will also experiment with sewing, painting and drawing onto photographs.

How is it assessed?

60% Coursework Assessments:

- Year 10 Term 1-3: Still Life Project.
- Year 10 Term 4-6: Portraiture Project.
- Year 11 Term 1-2: Personal Project exploring an area of personal interest.

40% Examination during year 11



- You will start your exam in January and the exam topics are to be confirmed in January.
- You will be able to select 1 exam question out of the 7 to 8 on the exam paper.
- You will have 12-13 weeks of preparation consisting of developing, designing and experimenting. You will have 10 hours over the course of a few days to create your exam final outcome in April-May.
- You will have the opportunity to go on some local, national and international trips, as well as gallery and sculpture park visits.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: A level/ level 3 Photography, plus a number of other Creative and Digital Media level 3 courses. Entry requirements vary between institutions, but most creative A level courses like to see a portfolio of creative work. Other creative courses include: Digital Media, Art and Design, Game Design, Graphic Design.

Career pathways: BA (hons) degree in Photography or Digital Media. It would help you when pursuing a career in photojournalism, fashion photography, advertising and marketing, brand design, social media management, graphic design, web design, event photography, film editing, multimedia specialist and forensic photography.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@blc.school

Link to subject video <https://youtu.be/pq6Czjx3kbQ>



BTEC Music/Music Technology award

Music at BLC Key Stage 4 offers a creative and exciting course that enables learners to develop their skills in music creation, performance and music production. Using real life career scenarios, pupils focus on skills that are used and relate to the music industry. You will compose music and develop practical skills that allow you to work to your personal strengths and interests.

BTEC Music / Music Technology Award

It is a modular course that gives the student a choice to focus on individual strengths, for example, pupils can choose if they want to study practical music performance or a more music technology-based curriculum.

Course overview

The three components in the qualification give learners the opportunity to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the music sector. Specialist skills such as applying musical knowledge to music performance, music creation and music production.

What does the course cover?

The qualification allows learners to develop their compositional skills and helps them to gain an in-depth understanding of writing music on a computer and practical instrumental development.

If you answer yes to the following, this is the right course for you:

- Do I want to write music on an instrument or a computer?
- Am I interested in music performance / production and mixing?
- Am I interested in different styles of music?

How is it assessed?

60% Non-exam Assessments:

- Year 10 Term 1-4: Exploring Music Products and Styles.

Learners will explore the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigate the key features of different musical styles.

- Year 10 Term 4-6 and Year 11 Term 1-2: Music Skills Development.

Learners will have the opportunity to develop two musical disciplines through engagement in practical tasks, while documenting their progress and planning for further improvement.

40% Examination assessments during year 11 Term 3-6:

- You will start your exam in January and the exam topics are to be confirmed in January, it is a practical exam.

Learners will be given the opportunity to develop and present music in response to a given music brief. You will focus on a particular area of the music sector that excites and appeals to you and respond to a music brief as a composer, performer or producer. You will then present your own original creation as a solo or group performance, an audio recording or a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) project.

Future opportunities

- Post-16 next steps:
- A level Music Technology
- A level Music
- RSL music Technology level 3
- Music Production (Song writing)
- Level 3 Diploma and extended Diploma in Music Performance and Production.
- Most multimedia college courses

Career pathways: Musician, Mix Engineer, Stage manager, TV/ Film director, Teacher, Producer, Arts Administrator, DJ, Musical Instrument Technologist, Stage Manager, Roadie, Community Arts worker, Film/video editor.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@blc.school



PE



NCFE LEVEL 1/2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN HEALTH AND FITNESS

Our PE curriculum intent is to provide all pupils the inclusive opportunity to develop their physical, social, mental and emotional well-being. Pupils are provided with the skills and knowledge to live a lifelong healthy, active lifestyle and become a well-rounded member of their community. Demonstrating a passion for sport across a variety of roles will provide pupils with the transferable confidence and character to develop as individuals, and a member of future teams in the wider world.

Course overview

This qualification shows pupils how to understand and identify the main body systems and their functions, and understand the Principles of Training. Pupils explore how physical activities affect the body in the short- and long-term and understand how relevant fitness tests can be used for specific health and skill components of fitness. Pupils investigate and understand different lifestyle analysis tools and how to apply them to create a health and fitness programme. Consequently:

- Do you have a keen interest in sport and look forward to your PE lessons?
- Do you participate in sport, or sports outside of school?
- Do you want to improve your performance in a range of sports?
- Do you want to study a course that helps you help others live a healthy, active lifestyle?

If yes to any of these questions - PE is for you!!

How is it assessed?

60% Coursework

40% Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

Future opportunities

Pupils who achieve at Level 2 qualification might consider progression to Level 3 qualifications post-16 such as:

Level 3 Applied Generals in: Sport Studies, Sport and Physical Activity, Sports Performance and Excellence, Sport and Exercise Science.

Level 3 Technical Levels in: Sport and Physical Activity, Personal Training, Personal Training and Behaviour Change, Fitness Services and Exercise Science and Personal Training

A Level in Physical Education and Sport. This will support progression to higher education. Pupils could also progress into employment or onto an apprenticeship.

Career pathways: Physical education lends itself to a range of careers in sports and fitness as well as other industries that you may not have considered before. For example, did you know that many nutritionists, physical therapists and chiropractors have a degree in PE?

Some careers that you could consider doing with PE include: · Sports science · PE teacher · Physiotherapist · Professional sportsperson · Sports coach/consultant · Diet and fitness instructor · Personal trainer, Lifeguard, Firefighter, Instructor, Outdoor activity leader, Stunt performer, TV/Media Commentator. Sports Therapist, Physiotherapist, Teacher, Professional sportsperson, Journalist, sports and exercise scientist, Personal trainer, Public Force.

Faculty leader: Mr Knight

(Contact email) MrKnight@BLC.school

Link to subject video: [option pe video version 2.mp4](#)



Textiles

GCSE Art Textiles is a vibrant and dynamic course which teaches skills including hand and machine sewing, surface design, fabric manipulation, fashion design, and garment construction. It gives pupils the freedom to express themselves using techniques and materials they enjoy using.

This is an option for pupils with an interest in Textile art and design. It will provide a good foundation for further study at A-level and would be useful for pursuing a career in art and design, including fashion design, interior design, printed, knitted or woven textiles, costume design or working in any creative based industry.

You are most likely to enjoy this course if you have an enthusiasm for textiles, art, sewing, fashion and enjoy working with different materials. You will be required to explore both traditional textile techniques and modern approaches to textiles.

AQA GCSE Art Textiles

In Year 10 you will be introduced to a range of different artists who work within the Textiles field as the topic is up to the student once it meets the theme of embellishment. You then will complete a series of artwork using sewing machines, hand sewing, dyes, fabric paints, embroidery bodice making and constructions.

You will learn about a range of fashion designers and fashion illustrators and embellishment artists, generated artwork based on practical textiles and fashion.

You will develop your ideas in textiles that may relate to cultural, social, historical, contemporary, environmental and creative contexts and how ideas, feelings, forms, and purposes can generate responses.

How is it assessed?

Coursework is 60% of your overall grade.

Coursework started in September of Year 10: You will revisit old skills and develop a short body of work based on your own interest and Level 3 A level media experiments.

Examination which is 40% of your overall grade: You will start your exam in January of year 11.

- You will be able to select 1 exam question out of the 7 to 8 on the exam paper.
- As pupils you will have 12-13 weeks (40 hours) of preparation consisting of developing, designing and experimenting. You will have 10 hours over the course of a few days to create your exam final outcome(s) in May.
- You will have the opportunity to go on some local, national and international trips, as well as gallery and sculpture park visits.

Future opportunities

Post-16 next steps: This course could lead onto A level Fashion Design, A level in Textiles, A level Design Technology Fashion and Textiles as well similar courses. At University/level 4 you can get a BA (Hons) degree in Textiles, BA (Hons) Fashion Design and Development as well as Fashion BA (Hons) at universities.

Career pathways: Careers for Fashion/Textiles degrees include Fashion Design, Fashion Illustration, and Fashion Photography jobs, as well as retail, inventory, and merchandising positions. As well as these jobs in Textiles: Textile Research. Textile Research Scientist. Textile Design. Textile Designer. Careers In Apparel Design and Production. Apparel Design. Textile Production. Textile Converter. Textile Marketing and Sales. Market Analyst. Textile Administration. Personnel Administrator. Apparel Manufacturing. Production Management.

Faculty leader: Miss Rock KRock@bkc.school

Link to subject video <https://youtu.be/dgTyIFJvJpY>