



HOUSTONE
SCHOOL

Year 10 GCSE & Options

'We believe that given the right circumstances, all children are capable of extraordinary things'

ASPIRATION, ENDEAVOUR, RESPECT

The Options Process

Making the Right Choices

Pupils should aim to choose a range of subjects across the different curriculum areas. This will help keep your future options and aspirations open.

The following points may help your decision making:

DO choose the courses if:

- It gives you a good balance across the curriculum.
- You are passionate and enjoy the subject.
- You feel you are good at the subject and you try hard in it.
- You are aspirational and you want to keep future options open.
- You are fully informed about the subject and you know what you will be studying and how you will be examined.
- You have discussed it with your subject teachers.
- You know you will work hard across the two years in this subject.
- You want to achieve and excel in this subject.

DO NOT choose courses because:

- Your friends are choosing it – it may not be right for you.
- You like a particular teacher- you may have a different teacher next year.
- You think it will be easy.



Key Dates



Monday 12th September 2022

Options Process Assembly

- Parents to receive this information booklet and discuss with children over the weekend.

Tuesday 13th September 2022

- Options forms returned and timetable work begins.

Thursday 15th September 2022

- Options subjects confirmed.

Completing the Options Form



Year 10 Options Form 2022 Your Requests

1. Choose your favourite **TWO** choices by numbering them 1 & 2.

2. One of these should be a Humanities subject- History or Geography or Spanish (if you have studied this before in KS3).

3. Choose **TWO** reserve subjects by numbering them 3 & 4.

Instructions
1. Choose your favourite TWO choices below by numbering them 1 & 2 (pupils should select a Humanities subject- History or Geography and Spanish if you have studied this before in Key Stage 3).
2. Choose TWO reserve subjects – subjects you wouldn't mind doing if you couldn't have all of your top choices. Number these 3 and 4.
3. Please check your options choices carefully.

Pupil Name	Form Group
Example Pupil	9B

Subject	Preference Number (1-2 and 3-4 reserve choices)
Art	4 (reserve choice)
IT	
Drama	1
Geography	2
History	3 (reserve choice)
PE	
Spanish	

Check:

- Have you included at least one language and one Humanities if studied previously?
- Have you listed two options subjects (1-2) and indicated two reserve choices (3-4)?



Parents/Carers please sign to confirm that:	Parent/Carer Signature:
The above options choices have been discussed with you and you are happy that they are appropriate for your child.	

English Language GCSE

Everybody studies English Language. You will learn how to communicate effectively in both reading and writing. This course will teach you the skills and abilities to take an active and responsible role in your community, in your everyday life, workplace or educational setting.



What will I study?

You will investigate and analyse language, experiment and use language creatively and learn functional English to communicate effectively.

You will study the following

- Paper 1 – Explorations in Creating Reading and Writing.
- Paper 2 – Writers’ Viewpoints and Perspectives.

How will I be assessed?

Exams are 1hr 45m long. There is no Controlled Assessment. In addition, you will be assessed on the quality of your speaking and listening, now referred to as ‘Spoken Language’. This will not contribute to your final grade, but will appear on your certificates.

What will I learn?

You will be able to: communicate effectively and confidently, read and write non-fiction, read and explore some modern and heritage texts and learn about the way you speak. The skills gained during the course such as analysing and writing, speaking and listening techniques, organisation skills, developing ideas, evaluation, self-expression and critical awareness, are relevant to all subject areas and future employment.

English Literature GCSE



English Literature is part of our cultural heritage which is freely available to everyone, and which can enrich our lives in all kinds of ways. Once we have broken the barriers that make studying literature seem daunting, we find that literature can be entertaining, beautiful, funny, or tragic. It can convey profundity of thought, richness of emotion, and insight into character. It takes us beyond our limited experience of life to show us the lives of other people at other times. It stirs us intellectually and emotionally, and deepens our understanding of our history, our society, and our own individual lives.

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Maths

Exam Board

- Edexcel

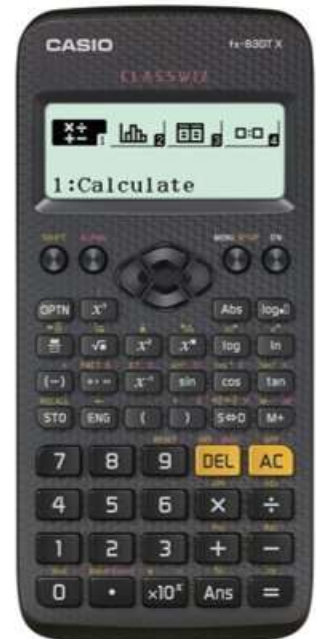
Two tiers– Higher and Foundation

- Foundation: grades 1-5
- Higher: grades 4-9

Assessment

- Three equally weighted end of course papers
- 90 minutes per paper / 80 Marks per paper
- 1 non calculator and 2 calculator

Topic area	Foundation	Higher
Number	25%	15%
Algebra	20%	30%
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	25%	20%
Geometry and measures	15%	20%
Statistics and probability	15%	15%



Combined Science GCSE

What is it?

Double award = 2 GCSE's e.g. 5 5

At the end of Year 11 you will sit six science exams:

- 2 x Biology
- 2 x Chemistry
- 2 x Physics

We follow the Pearson Edexcel specification.



Combined Science GCSE

What will I study?



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Biology

Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology

Topic 2 – Cells and control

Topic 3 – Genetics

Topic 4 – Natural selection and genetic modification

Combined Science GCSE



There will be practical lessons including 18 required practical's.

Do not expect EVERY lesson to be a practical.

You will have normal lessons, where you will be working in your booklets.

Geography GCSE

Due to the range of transferrable skills, Geography is known to be one of the most desirable subjects for both job recruiters and further education. Famous Geographers include Prince William, Theresa May (former Prime Minister), David Attenborough, Hugh Dennis (Actor and Comedian), and Alexander Von Humboldt (discoverer of the Humboldt species of Penguin).



What will I study?

The AQA Geography GCSE Course, is split into 3 papers (Paper 1; Physical Geography, Paper 2; Human Geography, and Paper 3; Geographical Skills. The papers are comprised of the following topics:

Paper 1

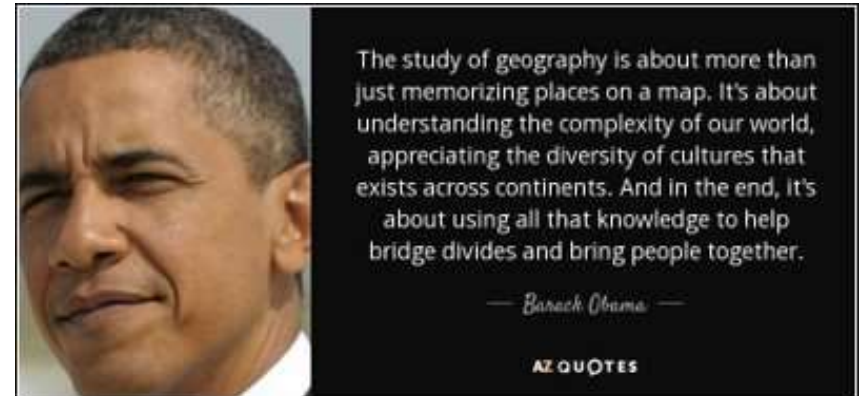
- The Challenge of Natural Hazards
- The Living World
- Physical Landscapes of the UK

Paper 2

- Urban Issues and Challenges
- The Changing Economic World
- Resource Management

Paper 3

- Issue Analysis (Decision Making Task)
- Human and Physical Fieldwork



History GCSE

Studying the past to understand the present and change the world.



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What will I study?

- **Paper 1: Period Study and non-British depth study:** International Relations: The Changing International Order 1918-c.2001 & Germany 1925 - 1955: The People and the State
- **Paper 2: British Thematic Study:** Power: Monarchy and Democracy in Britain c.1000 to 2014
- **Paper 3: British Depth Study and Study of the Historic Environment:** The English Reformation c.1520-c.1550 & Castles: Form and Function c.1000 - 1750

How will I be assessed?

- **Paper 1: Period Study and non-British depth study:** 50% (Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes)
- **Paper 2: British Thematic Study:** 25% (Written examination: 1 hour)
- **Paper 3: British Depth Study and Study of the Historic Environment:** 25% (Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes)



**Kenilworth Castle trip-
Summer, Year 10**

Spanish GCSE

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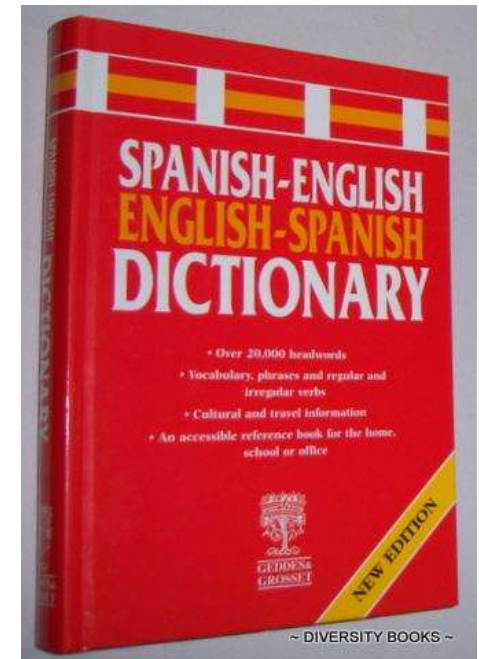
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BTEC : Digital Information Technology

The digital sector is a major source of employment in the UK. Despite a turbulent economy in 2020 the Digital sector in the UK advertised 90,000 jobs per week during. Digital skills span all industries, and almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy.



What will I study?

Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques

Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data

Component 3: Effective Digital working practices

How will I be assessed?

Internal Assessments & External Exam



PE GCSE

Different to the P.E. you've had from yr7-yr9.

What will I study?

- 60% Theory
- 30% Practical
- 10% coursework

This will be a classroom based course.



PE GCSE

Theory and Coursework



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Component	Assessment	Content overview
Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems	Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 38% of the qualification	Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology Topic 2: Movement analysis Topic 3: Physical training Topic 4: Use of data
Component 2: Health and Performance	Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes 24% of the qualification	Topic 1: Health, fitness and well-being Topic 2: Sport psychology Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences Topic 4: Use of data
Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme (PEP)	Non-examined assessment: internally marked and externally moderated 10% of the qualification 20 marks	Aim and planning analysis Carrying out and monitoring the PEP Evaluation of the PEP

PE GCSE

This is a course for you if...

- You love sport and physical activity
- You understand it's a classroom based course
- Interested in learning the science of PE
- Play sport outside school to assist your grades
- Interested in a career in sport (College or university)



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Art & Design GCSE

Drawing and Painting, Photography, Ceramics



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Drama GCSE



40% written exam
60% practical exam



Written exam topics:

- Being self employed
- Finding an agent
- Show reels, CVs
- Organisations (record labels, theatre companies, dance companies, management companies)
 - Pre production and production roles
 - Event planning
- Legal, financial and promotional responsibilities

Practical exam:

- Live performance (musician, dancer, actor, singer)
 - Rehearsal process
- Pre production and production roles (choreographer, director etc/lighting, sound etc)
 - Event planning
 - Promotional and marketing