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The
Whitstable
School

KS4 OPTIONS 2022



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Dear Year 9

Over the coming weeks you will be making decisions about your choice of subjects in Key Stage 4 alongside your parents or carers.

This booklet has been created to provide details about the subjects available and supplements the information from the Options' Evening.

At The Whitstable School we are keen to ensure that the right decisions are made and that the decision process is as smooth as possible.

Whatever courses you eventually follow, your teachers will encourage you to achieve your best.

Mrs A Gibson, Headteacher

Key Dates:

Thursday 17th March - Options Evening.

Friday 21st April - Deadline for option choice form to be completed.

Friday 10th June - Options confirmed.

CHOOSING OPTIONS

Key Considerations

All of the option choices will result in a Level 2 Qualification, either a GCSE or equivalent. All pupils will study for a minimum of 6 GCSEs in their core subjects, and they will be able to choose at least 3 additional subjects.

Balanced Curriculum

It is a good idea to keep your choices broad and balanced - even if you have a specific career in mind. You may change your mind over the next few years. Keeping your curriculum broad means that you keep as many doors open as possible. It also shows you are a well rounded person. Consider taking a subject you really enjoy even if it is something you don't think will be relevant to your career.

Dos and Don'ts

When choosing options DO:

- Take your time, making hurried choices could mean making the wrong choices
- Think about which subjects you are good at.
- Do you enjoy the subject? If you do you are more likely to work hard and gain good grades.
- Choose the subject not the teacher.

But DON'T:

- Worry about your choices. There is a lot of support on offer (see Advice and Guidance).
- Choose a subject because your friends are doing it. They may be more suited to the subject than you.

The choices you make now could affect the choices you can make in the future for 6th Form, University or career. This means you need to think ahead.

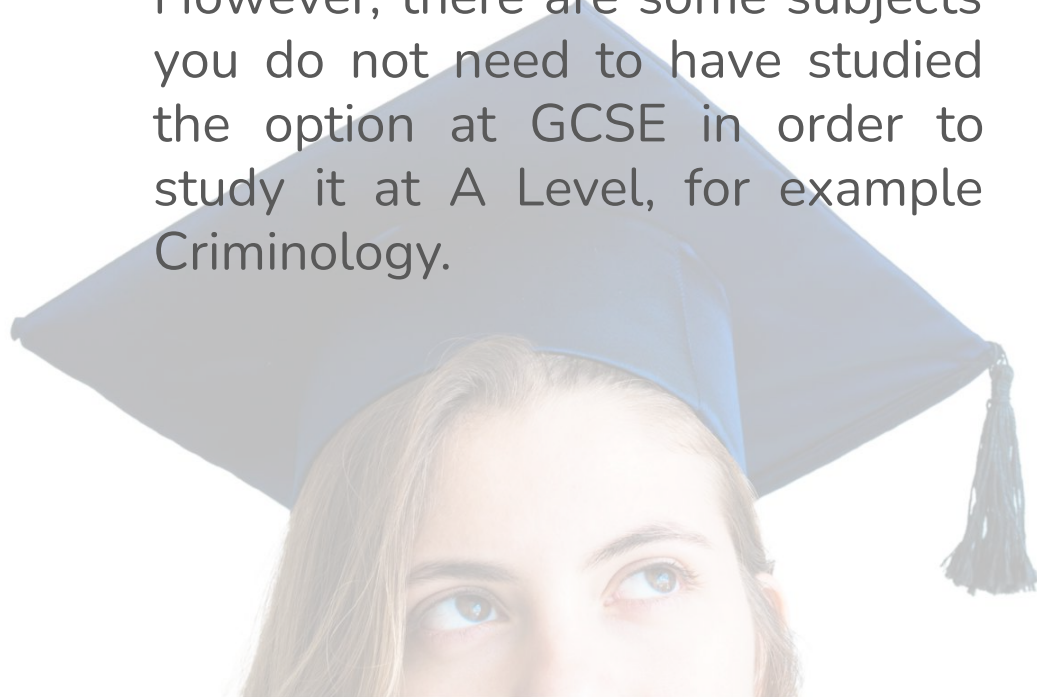
Some A Level choices will require certain GCSE grades. For example you may need Grade 5 or 6 to study A Level maths.

However, there are some subjects you do not need to have studied the option at GCSE in order to study it at A Level, for example Criminology.

Universities may value certain A Level subjects more than others.

For more information have a look at www.theuniguide.co.uk which gives a useful overview, advice and guidance on GCSEs and A Levels with a view to pursuing University education.

You may be thinking about taking a vocational path. There are many careers for pupils who do not wish to go to university. There are a variety of courses at colleges that offer a chance to train whilst studying, have a look at college prospectuses for more information.



CHOICES

Compulsory Subjects

You will continue to study for:

English

Maths

Science

Modern Foreign Language*

*All pupils will study a Modern Foreign Language. Pupils that are able to will study this to GCSE level, whilst others will continue to study at a conversational level alongside the LIBF Finance qualification.

All pupils will continue to study Religious Education and Personal Development as part of the non examined statutory curriculum..

Optional Subjects

You should choose one of the following humanities subjects:

Geography

History

You can then choose a further 2 options from:

Art Textiles

Business Enterprise

Citizenship

Computer Science

Dance

Design Technology

Drama

Fine Art

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Health & Social Care

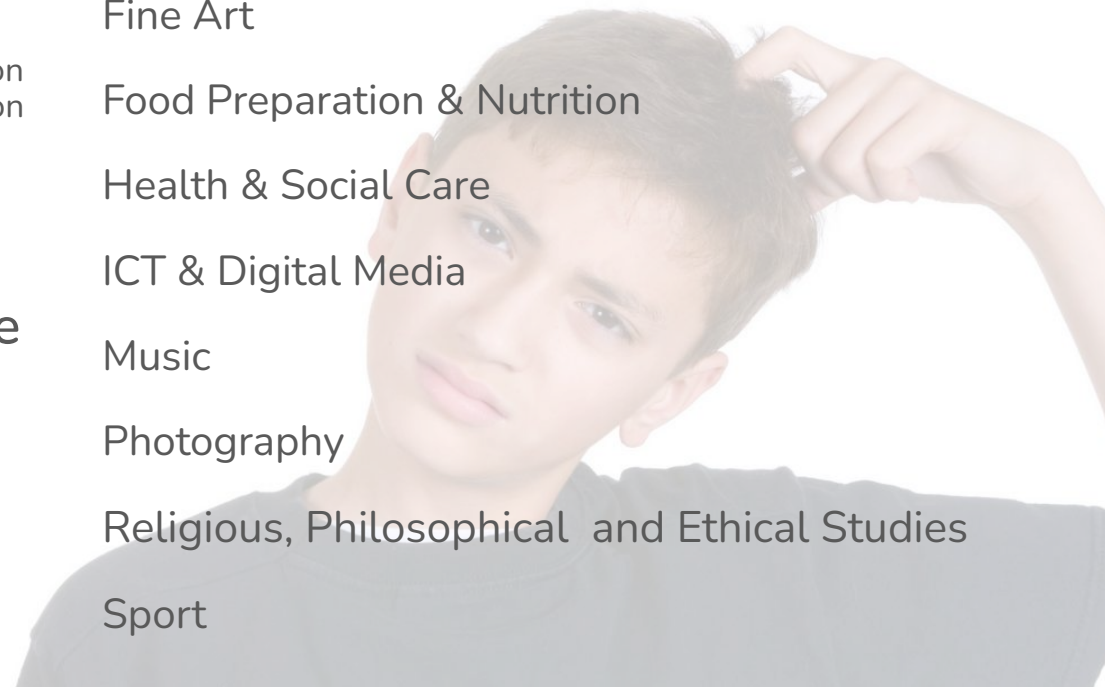
ICT & Digital Media

Music

Photography

Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies

Sport



The Option Form

To choose your options, you will need to complete this [Online Form](#) whilst signed into your school google account.

The first choice you will make is between History and Geography.

You will then be able to put FOUR subjects in order of preference. We aim to offer everyone the first two of these option subjects, but sometimes it is necessary to offer the third or fourth option as a back up.

The deadline for submitting the option form is:

4pm on 21st April 2022

Submissions after this date may not be successful.

If you do not complete the form, we may be forced to pick the options for you.

Advice & Guidance

Speak to the people who know you best - your family, your mentor, your teachers. The contact details for the lead member of staff for each subject is included on the next pages if you have further questions about that specific qualification.

In addition if you would like careers advice please email twc_careers@swale.at or visit [National Careers Service](#).

Useful Websites

[TWS Sixth Form Website](#)

[BBC Bitesize](#)

[Prospects](#)

[National Careers Service](#)

[Studential](#)

For questions about the option form, speak with Mrs Higgins katherine.higgins@swale.at

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COMPULSORY SUBJECTS



Why study English Language and English Literature?

There are many benefits to studying English, including the development of skills in reading and interpretation, the development of confident skills of communication in written and spoken language, and the fostering of an accurate and fluent personal style with an awareness of audience and purpose.

In Years 10 and 11, as well as studying a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry, you will continue to develop your spoken language skills. As part of this, you will study a variety of different texts for the Literature examinations. You will also complete a spoken language certification as part of your GCSE English Language qualification.

Possible destinations

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
A Level / Level 3 qualifications
English Literature
English Language
International Baccalaureate
Creative Writing
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
Administrator
Digital Copywriter
Editorial Assistant
Journalist
Copy-editor
Teacher
Vlogger
Web content manager
Writer

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

Within GCSE English Literature you will study the following texts:

- Macbeth
- Christmas Carol
- Lord of the Flies
- AQA Power and Conflict poems

This will be assessed in two externally assessed exam papers:

- Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel
- Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

English Language focuses on reading and writing. It is also assessed at the end of year 11 in two exam papers (marked externally) and a non-examination assessment of Spoken Language.

- Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing
- Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives
- Non-examination Spoken Language assessment.

Why study Mathematics & Statistics?

“Without mathematics, there is nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is numbers.” Shakuntala Devi.

When you study maths at The Whitstable School you actually follow the qualifications for:
OCR Mathematics GCSE and Edexcel Statistics GCSE.

At key stage 4, you will continue on your maths journey with the added emphasis on real world maths. It is important that pupils not only understand the abstract mathematical concepts and how that they can be used in a real world context to solve problems.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

GCSE Mathematics covers the following core topics:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Probability
- Statistics

All are assessed at the end of year 11 in three exam papers. This is split between two calculator papers and one non-calculator paper. With the emphasis on using a calculator, it is important that you have your own calculator and we would recommend the Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator.

With a substantial crossover in topics, you will take the GCSE Statistics qualification at the end of year 10 after spending several terms focused on Statistics. Edexcel Statistics GCSE comprises of two calculator papers. There is a tier system, where you are entered for either Foundation tier (which goes from grade 1 to grade 5) or Higher tier (which goes from grade 4 to grade 9).

Possible destinations

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
A Level or Level 3 qualifications
International Baccalaureate
Advanced maths
Mechanics
Engineering
Accountancy
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
Data Analyst
Chartered Accountant
Game Designer
Financial Services
Sound Engineer
Statistician
Quantity Surveyor
Teacher

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Yates gavin.yates@swale.at

Why study Modern Foreign Languages?

The ability to communicate in more than one language is such a valuable skill in our increasingly interconnected world. Indeed, the TWS motto is “Learn locally, think globally”! As a result, MFL is not an optional subject, and all pupils who are able will be enrolled in the course. The aim is to help pupils develop into excellent communicators in a range of contexts and to inculcate an appreciation of other ideas and cultures.

The majority of employers will have a use for your language skills! The percentage of people who speak English in the world is decreasing, so companies with an international reach need linguists more than ever!

What skills will I need?

The MFL GCSE courses build and extend upon the knowledge and skills used in the KS3 curriculum.

Possible destinations

- **Sixth Form**
A Level - extension of the subject taken at GCSE or an additional language
- **Apprenticeships**
Cabin Crew
Travel Services
Border Force
International Logistics
- **Employment**
Travel and Tourism
Government
Education

What will I study?

You will study three themes which are relevant to young people in the modern world.

Theme 1: Identity and culture, relationships, technology in everyday life, free-time activities, customs and festivals

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global area of interest, home, town and region, social issues, environment, travel and tourism

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment, my studies, life at school / college, education post 16, career choices and ambitions

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed at the end of the GCSE course in four exams

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

Why study Science?

Studying Combined Science will help you to apply the science you learn in the classroom to the outside world. This is especially pertinent as you will gain an understanding of the science behind current global issues; such as climate change and communicable diseases. You will be taught all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

You will gain two GCSE grades from Science.

What will I study?

Some units of GCSE science are covered during year 9. Moving on into year 10 and 11 you will study 7 units in total from each specialism with one being a practical unit.

- Biology: cells, organs, the human body, the environment, interaction between body systems and global challenges.
- Chemistry: particles, the periodic table, chemical reactions, chemical equations, prediction reactions and global challenges.
- Physics: matter, forces, electricity, magnetism, waves, radioactivity, energy and global challenges.

What skills will I need?

The skills you will need to portray whilst studying combined science are: mathematical, analytical, development, research, working methodically and scientifically.

Possible destinations

Successfully completing Combined Science GCSE will allow you to go on to many science based courses from A-Levels to apprenticeships. This could be applied science, forensic investigation or psychology.

Watch the video for more information:



How will I be assessed?

You will study the Combined Science course which is assessed through 6 exams at the end of year 11. There are two biology, two chemistry and two physics examinations. Each exam is 1hr 10mins.

Information relating to the specific content of the course can be found in the specification links below.

Combined science: [CLICK HERE](#)

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Donovan-Bayley

chris.donovanbayley@swale.at



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OPTIONAL SUBJECTS



Why study Art Textiles?

Art Textiles is a very 'hands on' subject that allows you to work in a Fashion, Fine Art or Interior Design direction. This course is particularly good if you have previously enjoyed your Art and Textiles lessons but want to learn more fun techniques and use lots of materials. The course is self directed, so you can choose your own project themes and develop your own ideas with help and support.

If you enjoy working with pattern, colour and texture and you would like to explore working with fabrics and textile techniques in more depth this is a great option for you.

What will I study?

You can choose whether you want to work in a fashion direction, developing a garment or fashion accessory (hat, scarf) or whether you would like to make textile art pieces using fabrics and threads. You can also work in an interior design direction making cushions and fabrics to be used for soft furnishings if you prefer - the choice will be yours.

What skills will I need?

Most skills are taught during the course, so you need to approach the course with enthusiasm and motivation to succeed. You will learn a wide range of textile skills such as printing, fabric painting, dyeing, weaving, using the sewing machine, embellishing, stitch drawing, fabric manipulation, felt making and hand embroidery.

Possible destinations

Textile designer, fashion designer, interior designer, graphic designer, retail buyer, visual merchandiser, fashion journalist, stylist, make-up artist, textile production, fashion promotion.

Watch the video for more information:



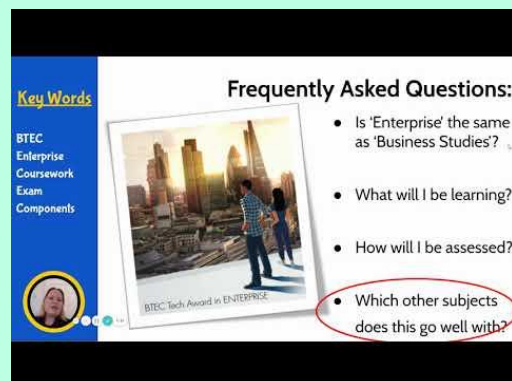
How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Coursework Portfolio of Work
You will create two coursework projects selecting themes and developing ideas related to artists and designers. Your portfolio is marked across 4 assessment objectives (60% of the total GCSE).

Unit 2: Externally Set Task
An externally set project that you will start preparing for in Term 3 in Year 11 until the timed exam in May. A choice of questions will be used as starting points. In the exam you will be expected to produce a final textile piece in response to your sketchbook work. The exam will take 10 hours over 2 days. (40% of the total GCSE).

For more information about this subject speak with Mrs Connell sonya.connell@swale.at

Watch the video for more information: **Why study Business Enterprise?**



How will I be assessed?

You will study 3 components in total. Two will be assessed by coursework and one by an external examination.

Possible destinations

- **Sixth Form**
 - L3 - BTEC Business Studies
 - L3 - Finance
 - IB Maths
- **Apprenticeships**
 - Business Administration
 - Customer Service
 - Marketing
- **Employment**
 - Office administrator
 - Entrepreneur
 - Finance officer

Why study Business Enterprise?

The business sector covers a large range of careers. A BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise is the ideal qualification to give you an awareness of the variety of interesting opportunities that are available. You will investigate the skills required to be a successful entrepreneur, have the opportunity to develop your own business idea as well as learn how to manage business finance and promotions.

What will I study?

During your BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise, you will learn about the terms used in business and delve deeper into how the sector works; how they operate and the factors that can influence their success. You will also explore how businesses plan for success and understand the market itself. Students will have the opportunity to explore what it means to set up and run a business enterprise, develop key skills and discover potential careers.

BTEC Tech Award qualifications are practical, work-related courses. You will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. Consequently, it is important that you have an interest in this area and have considered working in a Business related setting.

What skills will I need?

Creativity, numeracy, IT, oracy, presentation skills, team working

For more information about this subject speak with Miss Sawyer claire.sawyer@swale.at

CITIZENSHIP GCSE

Why study Citizenship?

Citizenship develops knowledge, skills and understanding that you will need to play a full part in society as an active and responsible citizen. You will learn about politics, parliament and voting as well as human rights, justice, the law and the economy. You will also learn the skills of active citizenship. Teaching is brought to life using real issues and events in local to global contexts.

The course is good for those that have an interest in crime, politics and speaking out to make a positive contribution towards our society. You should choose this subject if you enjoy values.

What will I study?

You will study four modules:

- Life in Modern Britain
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Citizenship Action
- Politics and Participation

These modules really allow you to get to grips with the ways society works, and how modern society has changed.

What skills will I need?

An interest in current affairs and what is happening in the world is fundamental for Citizenship. You need to be able to argue and debate points of view.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by two external examinations at the end of Year 11.

Watch the video for more information:



Possible Destinations:

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
History
Business Studies
Social and Cultural Anthropology
Health and Social Care
Law
Psychology
Criminology
- **Careers & Apprenticeships:**
Law
Police
Politics
Health and social care
Psychology
Civil service
Teaching
Charity

Watch the video for more information: **Why study Computer Science?**



The world is becoming increasingly digital. As technology constantly advances, new roles are created, and in this exciting and ever-shifting landscape, so many new opportunities are open to students.

If you've enjoyed grappling with Python programming, cracking ciphers and problem solving using computers then this is a great course for you. This is a hands on and practical approach to learning computational skills and will set you up for further study or a career in computer science.

Possible Destinations:

Sixth Form & Further Education

- Creative and Digital Media Production
- Maths
- Computer Science
- Engineering

Careers & Apprenticeships:

- Software Engineer
- Help Desk Analyst
- Engineering
- Web developer

What will I study?

The course is broken into 6 topic areas:

- Topic 1 - Computational Thinking
- Topic 2 - Data
- Topic 3 - Computers
- Topic 4 - Networks
- Topic 5 - Issues and Impacts
- Topic 6 - Problem Solving with Programming

What skills will I need?

An interest in computers and an inquisitiveness about how they work. A good grasp of maths is fundamental along with resilience in solving problems through coding.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 - Written Exam 1hr 30 (Covering Topics 1 - 5) **50%**

Paper 2 - On screen Python Assessment 2h **50%**

For more information about this subject speak with Miss Whittaker jennie.whittaker@swale.at

DANCE

RSL Level 2 Certificate in Creative & Performing Arts Dance

Why study Dance?

The course is highly practical, meaning you can focus on developing your technique and performance skills, with written work supporting the practical aspects of the course. Dance gives the opportunity to hone and develop your expressive skills, whilst also developing a plethora of key life skills that will help you to continue in further education and future employment. The course aims to help students experience what it might be like to work in the dance industry.

What will I study?

Ensemble Dance Performance (Year 10) *Internally Assessed 50%*

You will study contemporary and jazz dance techniques. For each style you will work with your teacher to create two contrasting performance pieces, and complete a written evaluation following a public performance of each dance. You will take technique classes in jazz and contemporary dance styles over the course of the year, considering your strengths and areas for development.

Live Performance (Year 11) *Externally Assessed 50%*

You will be given a live performance brief from the exam board and will work in small groups to create a performance piece that meets the requirements. The brief features a stimulus that you will use as the basis for your final performance. Additionally you will create a short portfolio of written evidence comprising a letter of application, review of the rehearsal process and an evaluation of your performance.

What skills will I need?

You should already have a high level of dance skill and should be determined and enjoy working to overcome challenging movement vocabulary. Additionally you need to be able to work well in a team and build a positive working relationship with all students in the group. You will need to attend additional rehearsals and take part in school productions.

Watch the video for more information:

Video coming soon...

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is ongoing and therefore pupils will be videoed regularly in lessons. It is a mandatory requirement of the course that pupils perform in front of a live audience - so you really need to love performing!

Written assessment takes the form of evaluations and written evidence of planning and reflection.

Possible destinations

Any career where confidence, team work, perseverance and creativity are valued! You will be able to progress to level 3 study in a range of subjects- not just dance!

For more information about this subject speak with Mrs Smithson becky.smithson@swale.at

Historically we have run Dance as part of the weekly PE lesson, meaning students could study two further subjects.

On the option form please indicate your preference for Dance as a standalone option or instead of PE.

Watch the video for more information: **Why study Design Technology?**



Possible Destinations:

Design Technology opens the door to a wide range of careers in the creative, engineering & manufacturing industries.

It is also excellent preparation for careers in many other fields e.g. medicine, law and computer science. Whichever career you choose, the knowledge and skills you learn, particularly those concerned with rapidly developing technologies, will be extremely valuable.

You will develop skills, such as teamwork and time management which are highly prized by employers.

Studying GCSE Design and Technology will build on what you have learnt about designing and making in Key Stage 3. You will use your knowledge and skills to design and make new and better solutions to real problems.

Design Technology teaches students how to take risks and to become more resourceful, innovative, creative and independent.

What will I study?

You will study a range of topics from new and emerging technologies to energy and mechanical devices the majority of these will be supported by mini-projects or single practical lessons.

What skills will I need?

You will need enthusiasm and a passion for the subject. You will also need to be able to communicate, whether working in a team or independently. Organisational skills are key, as well the ability to problem solve. It's important to have a creative flair in order to find solutions to real life problems.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed through two components both worth 50% of the course.

Component 1: External Exam

The exam consists of three sections, pupils will be assessed on the following:

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles - focusing on Timbers
- Designing and making principles

Component 2: Non-exam assessment (NEA)

The NEA is a substantial design and make task, where students will be assessed on the following five areas: ranging from investigation to designing, to making and evaluating. Students will pick one of the three challenges to research, design and make a prototype to produce a portfolio of evidence.

For more information about this subject speak with Mrs Newton amber.newton@swale.at

DRAMA

RSL Level 2 Certificate in Creative & Performing Arts Acting

Why study Drama?

The course is largely practical with lots of opportunity to perform in a wide range of styles and genres. There is a small amount of written work that compliments the practical work done to enhance and reinforce the knowledge.

Studying drama will help you build soft skills such as confidence, communication, leadership and teamwork skills that are vital in any workplace. Not all drama students want to be an actor! There are a huge number of careers within the performing arts industry and outside the industry that will benefit from the skill you will learn during the course.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Performing Text (Year 10 into Year 11) *Internally Assessed*

You will study one classic and one contemporary text, looking at the writer's intentions, characterisation, performance skills and bringing the text to life on stage. You will be assessed on your performance skills, a short portfolio based on the texts and an evaluation of your performance.

Unit 2: Live Performance (Year 11) *Externally Assessed*

This unit is an externally set unit by the exam board. You will be given a brief with a stimulus and asked to complete a number of tasks based on the stimulus. You will create a short portfolio of written evidence based on your ideas and personal aims and then devise a performance based on the stimulus. You will then evaluate your performance.

Watch the video for more information:



What skills will I need?

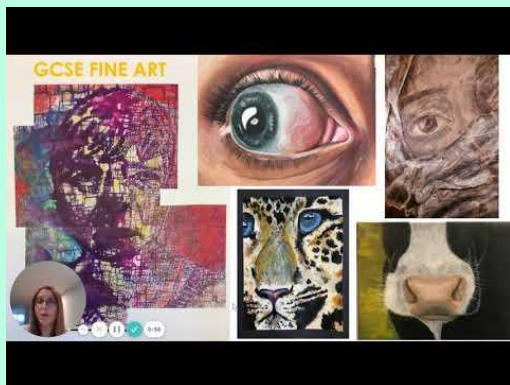
You will need to have a love of drama, be willing to learn and experiment with new techniques.

Possible destinations

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
 - Level 3 Drama
 - BA Hons in Performing Arts (Acting)
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
 - Actor
 - Events Manager
 - Lighting Technician
 - Presenter
 - Screenwriter
 - Set Designer
 - TV or Film Producer
 - Vlogger

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Giles simon.giles@swale.at

Watch the video for more information: **Why study Fine Art?**



Possible Destinations:

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
A Level or level 3 qualifications
Art
Design
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
Art therapist
Animator
Designer
Fashion Design
Fine Artist
Illustrator
Printmaker
Teacher

What skills will I need?

The Fine Art GCSE course will allow you to develop and express yourself creatively whilst developing a wide range of skills. You will use a wide range of media and techniques including pen and wash, wax resist, collage, mixed media, various types of painting—watercolours, gouache and acrylic. You will also experiment with different ways of drawing and several methods of printing like mono printing, lino, collagraph printing and dry point etching.

The aim of the course is to encourage a personal approach showing confidence when using a variety of media, fine art and sculptural techniques. You will work on several projects over the two years, set by the teacher or by the your individual interests.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

You will research and study artists and art movements to support and inspire their own work. The wide use of media, techniques and artists' influence will help to develop their projects in their sketchbooks to create interesting, creative and personal final pieces.

Unit 1: Coursework Portfolio of Work (60% of the total GCSE) non exam assessment.

You will be given a list of three possible project titles of which you choose the one which most interests you. These change each year and usually include one based on still life, one on landscape and the third on a more narrative or thought-provoking message.

The second unit is usually more student-led where you can pursue a subject matter that is of direct interest to you or you have a personal experience of.

Unit 2: Externally Set Task (40% of the total GCSE)

This is an externally set project that is prepared for from Term 3 in year 11 until the timed exam in May. Students are given a choice of questions that will be used as starting points for their projects. The exam is over two days (10 hours) to produce a final piece in response to their sketchbook work.

FINE ART GCSE

For more information about this subject speak with Mrs Connell sonya.connell@swale.at

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION GCSE

Why study Food Preparation and Nutrition?

AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is a varied and interesting course. The course focuses on ensuring you have a wide range of practical cooking skills, understanding of nutrition and the working characteristics of food ingredients and processes. You should study this course if you enjoy cooking and have a keen interest in health and food.. The course comprises a large amount of academic study as well as practical activities.

What will I study?

Learning takes place through practical activities wherever possible. The course focuses on nutrition and health and food preparation skills. There are 12 practical skills which will be assessed. There are five core topics which will be covered:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food Science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

You will prepare and cook a wide range of dishes associated with these topics and the 12 Food Preparation skill groups.

What skills will I need?

Enthusiasm, willingness to try new things, interest in nutrition, good organisational skills, ability to multi task and keep to deadlines, creative flair.

Watch the video for more information:



How will I be assessed?

The qualification is divided into two equal mark parts; a written exam and two non-exam assessments (NEA).

NEA1: Food investigation (2000 word essay)

Understanding of the working characteristics, functional & chemical properties of ingredients

NEA2: Food preparation assessment (Portfolio of written work and practical activities)

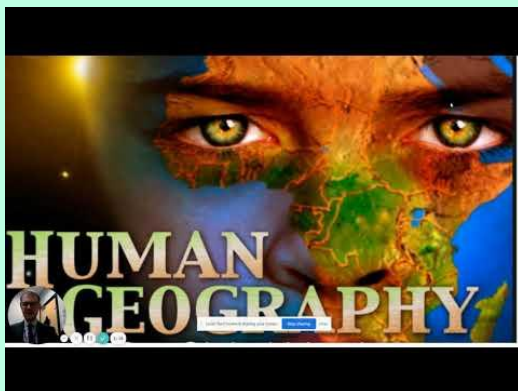
Knowledge, skills and understanding of planning, preparation and cooking of food, plus the application of nutritional standards. You will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes.

Possible destinations

Chef	Catering	Nutritionist
Dietician	Hospitality	Restauranter
Food Technologist	Hotel Management	
Food Manufacturing Inspector		

For more information about this subject speak with Mrs Harvey bridget.harvey@swale.at

Watch the video for more information: **Why study Geography?**



Two of the most important issues facing the world today are; climate change and globalisation. Both of these issues are geography related. However, it is not just climate change and globalisation that makes geography so important it is also; population growth, resource management, hazard management, multiculturalism, industrial growth, economic development and much more. If you study geography you are learning about global issues that affect us and the world on a daily basis.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

There are three written exams

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment

The challenge of natural hazards (tectonic hazards, weather hazards and climate change), the living world (ecosystems, tropical rainforests, hot deserts), physical landscapes in the UK (coastal landscapes and river landscapes) and geographical skills.

Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment

Urban issues and challenges (urban issues and challenges in London and Lagos), the changing economic world (changing economy of the UK and Nigeria), the challenge of resource management (food, water and energy) and geographical skills.

Paper 3: Geographical applications

Issue evaluation, fieldwork, and geographical skills. You will complete a minimum of two field trips to contrasting locations in KS4 in preparation for the Paper 3 exam.

What skills will I need?

Being able to work as a team, have a passion for the subject, the ability to problem solve, to be able to interpret and analyse knowledge, understand and read graphs and maps.

Possible Destinations:

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
Geography
Archeology
Economics
Geology
Sociology
Travel & Tourism
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
Architect
Cartographer
Environmental Consultant
Groundsperson
Surveyor
Teacher
Town Planner
Travel & Tourism

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Brewster james.brewster@swale.at

Why study Health & Social Care?

Health and social care is used within many industries and linked directly to local employment. Following studying this subject you would be able to progress onto higher level study or pursue careers within the health industry. The study incorporates development throughout childhood and adult life so would give knowledge of these areas and broaden career options. The course will give you the opportunity to develop personal, learning and thinking skills within a sector related context.

What will I study?

Human Lifespan Development: During their life course people can pass through six life stages. This component develops knowledge around life stages and factors which affect development such as social, cultural, economic, psychological and physical environment.

Health and Social Care Services and Values: You will learn about the range of health and social care services (primary, secondary and tertiary), any barriers individuals face accessing them and how they may overcome these. You will learn how to adopt caring behaviours and practise demonstrating care values.

Health and Wellbeing: learn and understand the meaning of health and wellbeing through recognising poor indicators of poor health and understand how to interpret health and lifestyle data. You will design a health improvement plan, including short and long-term targets and consider obstacles people face when implementing such a plan.

What skills will I need?

Sensitivity and understanding, willingness to accept others views without prejudice, organised and able to work on your own initiative to complete coursework. The ability to work well with others, to engage in discussions around sensitive issues. Active listening skills, a caring nature and an interest in people.

Watch the video for more information:



How will I be assessed?

This course involves 2 coursework units:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Health and Social Care Services and Values

And one external exam:

- Health and Wellbeing

Possible destinations

- **Sixth form**
Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care
- **Employment & Apprenticeships**
Childcare
Counselling
Nursing & Healthcare
Midwifery
Social Work
Teaching

For more information about this subject speak with Mrs Rawlinson tamsin.rawlinson@swale.at

Watch the video for more information: **Why study History?**



You should choose to study history if you enjoy learning about human behaviour and life. You'll learn about the processes and significance of events that have shaped the world around us and how past events can also have an enormous impact on the future. You'll build lots of useful and desirable skills like critical thinking, analysing events and their consequences and also making judgements, which all look great on your personal statement or CV. History is a challenging subject that is also incredibly rewarding, so is the perfect choice for students who want to push themselves academically.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

You will study 4 topics over the 2 years which will be assessed by written exam.

Paper 1: Medicine in Britain 1250 to present, with an environmental study about medical development on the Western Front in the First World War. This topic explores the vast changes to medical knowledge, care and treatment from the Medieval period to now. You will look at various factors that influence change, like technology, individuals and government intervention.

Paper 2a: British America 1718 to 1783. You will learn about the colonies under British rule, how America became financially successful and how they fought for their independence.

Paper 2b: Henry VIII and his ministers from 1509 to 1540. This topic looks at the 2 most important advisors during Henry VIII's reign, Thomas Wolsey and Thomas Cromwell. You will study the impact of foreign policy, economic policy and also the huge changes to the Church in England that Henry VIII was responsible for.

Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany from 1919 to 1939. You will look at the position Germany was in having just surrendered in the First World War, how the Weimar Republic was established in Germany and decide whether it was a successful new democratic that stabilised Germany or not. Following this we see Hitler rise to power and look at how the lives of German people changed so drastically under Nazi dictatorship.

Possible Destinations:

- **Sixth Form & Further Education**
 - History
 - Law
 - Philosophy
 - Politics
 - Sociology
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
 - Archeology
 - Archivist or Librarian
 - Journalism
 - Museum Curator Solicitor
 - Teaching & Education

What skills will I need?

For the exams you will need analysis, judgement, finding appropriate evidence, essay writing and using the PEEL structure, being able to analyse historians interpretations, and the ability to understand the chronology and importance of events. These are all skills that will be built and developed over the course, so the basic knowledge of them that has been developed in Key Stage 3 is all that is necessary. The most important skills you really need are resilience and the ability to listen to feedback and improve. Enthusiasm for the subject is also vital to really help push through the hardest parts of the course.

For more information about this subject speak with Miss Coleman theresa.coleman@swale.at

ICT & DIGITAL MEDIA

OCR Creative iMedia

Why study ICT & Digital Media?

If you have ever shown a desire for creative aspects of computing such as website, animation, character, game or graphic design then this course is the perfect choice for you. You will be using industry standard software and technology to create digital and multimedia products and learning the art of designing for a target audience.

What will I study?

This course is perfect if you wish to continue your study of digital media into year 10 and 11. Some of the possible topics of study are as follows:

Graphic Design: Use your creativity to research and produce innovative and professional graphic products such as posters, advertisements, branding and website graphics for a specified audience. Use industry standard technology as well as photography to generate professional and effective digital designs.

Storytelling with Comic Strips: Learn about the history and origins of comic strips and then put your skills to the test and create a digital comic using graphics, illustration and dialogue that will inspire and engage a specified audience.

Game Design: Explore the genres and platforms of video gaming and learn about the history and origins of this popular area of digital media. This unit aims to give you the knowledge and skills you need to design and pitch your own game. Work to the professional brief provided to make your game design appeal to a specified audience and purpose.

What skills will I need?

Creative iMedia pupils must enjoy working independently and be curious, resilient and enthusiastic learners. A passion for digital technology is essential and a willingness to express this through writing is desirable due to the high amount of written content required to complete this course.

Watch the video for more information:



How will I be assessed?

This course consists of one external exam focusing on pre-production techniques and design methods and two coursework units. In each coursework unit you will research, design and develop a digital product which will form the basis of your assessment.

Possible destinations

This course lends itself to a variety of future career pathways. Should you wish to take your study further there are courses available at both sixth form and local colleges.

Digital Marketing	Animation
Web design	Graphic Design
Game design & development	
Design	Digital media
Social media marketing	Film & Television
Photography	Video marketing
Digital art and design	

For more information about this subject speak with Miss Coleman jasmin.coleman@swale.at

Watch the video for more information:



How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through audio and video recordings. You will keep written performance and composing logs to chart your progress. Typically, you will have one technical lesson each week, in which you learn new knowledge or skills, and one practical lesson in which you demonstrate these skills.

Possible destinations

- **Sixth form**
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music or Music Technology
A-Level Music
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
Audio Editor
Live music events
Music Teacher
Production Assistant
Sound Engineer

Why study Music?

Are you a passionate musician, enjoy live performing and making your own music, then this is the course for you. You will develop your musical knowledge and skills in practical, workshop-style lessons. This is a particularly good course for developing independent learning and working as a part of a team.

What will I study?

The course is divided into three core units of study:

Musical Knowledge: You will build your musical knowledge which will give you ability to articulate your thoughts and feelings about music using the appropriate industry & theoretical language. You will study musical styles and the various distinctive traits. You will build a wider contextual and theoretical knowledge of contemporary music.

Live Music Performance: You will engage with a full live performance project including planning, rehearsal, performance, and evaluation. You will develop planning, organisation, communication and evaluation skills throughout the rehearsal process. The purpose of the unit is to prepare you for the undertaking of a live musical performance in front of an audience.

Instrumental Study: To enhance your capacity to understand how to maximise your own personal development as an instrumentalist. This will be based around your own goals and objectives using structured planning and reflection of personal development.

What skills will I need?

You will need to be able to play an instrument or be able to sing. It is recommended that you have a private lesson to accompany your skills building and understanding in this subject area. We have a range of instrumental and singing teachers that provide private tuition. You will need to be able to work independently, have good communication skills and be able to work in groups.

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Richardson luke.richardson@swale.at

Why study Photography?

Taking Photography combines a dynamic creative environment with cutting edge technology. You will build your own website, learn to control and manipulate cameras and explore studio lighting techniques just as a professional photographer would. You will have opportunities for personal expression and independent thinking in which you take active control of your projects. In turn this style of learning should give you the problem solving and critical thinking skills that are invaluable to employers. The creative arts sector is the fastest growing and second biggest market for jobs in the UK. In the South East we have some of the finest arts universities offering a diverse range of opportunities. GCSE photography is the first step on a path towards these creative and rapidly changing careers.

What will I study?

At the heart of the course is a desire to make meaningful contemporary art. You will explore how artists respond to the world around them by challenging convention and provoking change. To begin with you will learn how to control the visual elements to build strong images before expanding to more open ended themes like identity and culture.

During these projects you will cover a broad range of practical photography skills giving you the tools you need to work independently. In the final major project you will take control of your research and theme to generate a body of work that reflects your personal interests.

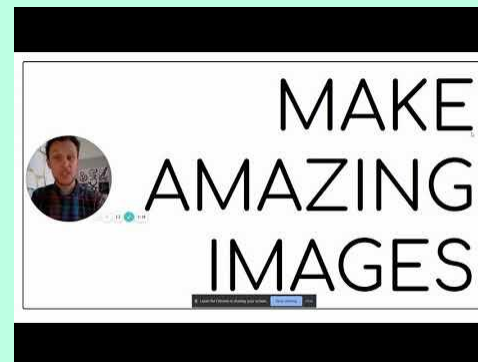
How will I be assessed?

The course is divided into two units.

Unit 1: Consists of a portfolio (selection) of your best projects and artworks during Year 10 and the first half of Year 11. You can include your digital portfolio (website) alongside prints, collages and other physical artworks. This will be marked across four assessment objectives (60% of the total GCSE).

Unit 2: This is an externally set project that is prepared for from Term 3 in year 11 until the timed exam in May. You will be given a choice of questions that will be used as starting points for your projects. The exam takes place over two days during which you will produce a final piece in response to their Unit 2 website pages. (40% of the total GCSE)

Watch the video for more information:



Possible Destinations:

- **Sixth form & Further Education**
 - Animation
 - Digital Media
 - Photography
- **Apprenticeships & Employment**
 - Filmmaker
 - Photographer - commercial, fashion, forensic, medical, nature, sports, fine art
 - Photographic Illustrator
 - Photojournalist
 - Teacher

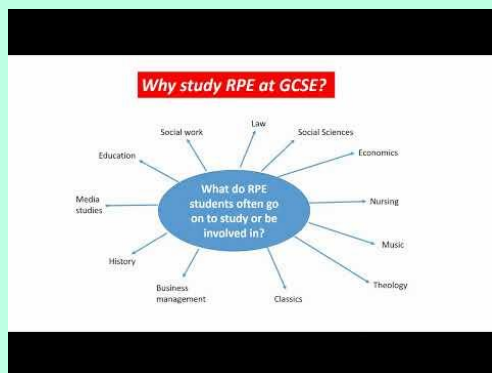
What skills will I need?

Curiosity, imagination and a willingness to learn from your mistakes are essential.

Everything else we can teach.

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Walker thomas.walker@swale.at

Watch the video for more information: **Why study RPE?**



If you are the kind of person who is intrigued by the big questions in life, then taking a GCSE course in RPE in might well be for you! We explore the big questions in life, to find out what people believe and what differences this makes to how they live, so that you can make sense of religion, reflecting on your own ideas and ways of living.

What skills will I need?

It would be useful if you feel confident in English, both in studying literature and in your own writing. These are skills that you will need (and develop) in the the study of religious and philosophical texts. Critical thinking plays a big part as well. Having a naturally curious mind is a must - seeking answers to big philosophical and ethical questions. Sometimes those answers are more questions! Being a confident speaker will also help because we will discuss our thoughts and ideas quite often in class.

Benefits of Studying RPE

- Critical analysis skills (really useful in other subjects and life)
- Gaining an insight into different cultures and ways of living
- Improved oracy skills
- A route to 6th form and beyond

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

You will study three of the main religions, exploring their beliefs and how these are expressed. These religions might include: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and Hinduism, the historical contexts of these religions and how they influence contemporary society as well as the individual. You will hear accounts of how teenagers from different faiths experience their religion in Britain today, as well as developing an understanding of the historical context of these faiths, through examining texts, symbols and narratives.

As well as this, you will will explore: the origin of the universe, the value of human life, philosophical arguments for and against the existence of God, peace and conflict, crime and punishment - AMAZING!

There will be termly assessments as well as end of year assessments and a mock exam to help monitor your progress and prepare you for your GCSE exam

For more information about this subject speak with Mr Williams chris.williams@swale.at

SPORT

Level 2 BTEC Sport

Why study Sport?

If you are a keen sports person or would like to understand your body and health, this is the subject for you. The Sport BTEC tech Level 2 enables you to learn about the theory behind sport in great depth. It gives you the opportunity to gain experiences for use in the workplace or as a foundation into higher education. The variety of topic areas gives you the opportunity to study several areas of sport and allows you to see a theoretical side of sport on and off the field.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

You will study a range of units that will be assessed both internally and externally.

Preparing Participants to take Part in Sport and Physical Activity - (Assessment- coursework)

- Explore types of provision in sport and physical activity for different participants
- Examine equipment and technology required for participants to use when taking part in sport and physical activity
- Prepare participants to take part in physical activity.

Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance (Assessment- coursework)

- Understand how different components of fitness are used in different physical activities
- To participate in sports and understand the roles and responsibilities of officials.
- Demonstrate ways to improve participants sporting techniques

Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity - (Exam)

- Applying Knowledge and understanding of components of fitness, fitness tests, training methods/processes/principles in relation to improve fitness in sport and exercise. Whilst making connections with all elements.

Watch the video for more information:



What skills will I need?

It will be desirable to have a good aptitude in English and science along with a good practical ability in sports. A positive attitude to practical sport is essential and an asset would be to represent one of the school sports teams, although this is not essential. This course is a practical course but does have an element of coursework too .

Possible destinations

- **Sixth form**
BTEC Level 3 Sport
- **Employment & Apprenticeships**
Fitness Instructor
Personal Trainer
Physiotherapist
Sports Scientist
Sports Psychologist
Sports Coach
Teacher

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Vox Populi



The Whitstable School
Bellevue Road
Whitstable
CT5 1PX

01227 931300

www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk

