



OPTION CHOICES 2022



Where can you get advice?

There is advice available from a range of people including:

Principal – Mr Taylor

Vice Principal/ Curriculum Coordinator – Ms Gilmore

SENCO – Mrs Mallon

Head of Junior School - Mrs Love

Subject teachers

Form Tutors – 10AC Mrs Cockfield, 10JC Miss Conaty and 10AW Mrs Ward

Parents

Careers Teacher – Mrs Stott

Careers Service - S Doolan

email siobhan.doolan@economy-ni.gov.uk/careers or

mobile number 07795646489



This year all Year 10 students also have access to a KS4 Careers information room on Google Classroom entitled '**Year 10 Career Pathways**'. This has been set up to provide immediate advice and support for students. The room is regularly updated by staff.

The Careers Advisory website (www.nidirect.gov.uk/careers) also provides up to date information in relation to subject content at KS4 level and how to go about making the best choices.

**The initial Options consultations this year will be held on
Wednesday 16th March.**

Parents are encouraged to prepare for this by reading the information in this booklet. Form Tutors and Senior Staff will speak to parents / guardians to discuss and give guidance on the process to ensure that informed decisions are made about future choices.

Students will be advised on suitable subjects. This is an important time for Year 10 students and the support of parents and teachers is vital in helping the young people to make wise choices which will have a significant impact on their future lives and careers.

Choosing subjects: a note to parents

As your daughter or son approaches the end of Key Stage 3 there will be discussions about which subjects to study for the next two years.

Apart from the compulsory subjects, such as English and Mathematics, students will choose from a range of optional subjects.

Many factors influence the choices which will be made. Students should carefully consider their learning styles, future ambitions, your wishes as parents and the recommendations of their teachers.

Some courses are offered through our participation in the Lecale Learning Community with part of the course being taught in Blackwater Integrated College and other parts in another school in the learning community. Courses like GCSE Music may require extra music lessons which parents will have to pay for.

All students should be aware of the importance of good attendance. This is closely monitored, both in the College and in other locations and in some courses, there are marks for attendance so poor attendance may have a serious impact on final grades.

If you are thinking about your future, getting into STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) could be a worthwhile choice to make as many employers in our modern technological society look for the skills developed through these subjects when recruiting new staff. Also, if you are thinking about progressing to A Level studies it is essential that you choose courses which will be recognised for admission to sixth form study.

Please be aware that the Options consultation allows students to indicate an interest in a subject: **these decisions are not final**. The College will try to accommodate students with their choices, however, some classes with fewer than the minimum number required may not be able to run.

*As we work in collaboration with partner schools in the Lecale Learning Community, further subjects may be added as options. Students and parents will be informed.

**Please have this booklet available for meetings
on Wednesday 16th March**

The next few pages are for you to record your thinking about the subjects you will choose and your discussions with parents/ guardians and staff.

How are subjects chosen?

Jot your ideas in the spaces provided and have this booklet available for your appointment on the 16th March.

Making your Decisions

- **What might I want to do in the future?**

I currently have no clear plan for my career

- **Which subjects am I best at?**

Read your recent reports to see which subjects you have done well in. Circle these in the list above.

- **Which subjects are important for these career paths or to keep options open if still undecided?**

- Investigate the subjects available at Key Stage 4 by reading this booklet and the information on Google Classroom.
- Talk to your teachers and parents too. What advice do they have for you?
- **Follow the option planning guide posted in the 'Year 10 Career Pathways' room.**

The choices that you make are important now and in the future but it is also good to remember that if you change direction in terms of your career plans you can always take up new courses post-16.

RESEARCH



To help you with your decision-making, here are some questions to ask yourself.

What do I enjoy doing?

Do my chosen subjects involve coursework? If so, what percentage?

Will I have to do a project in any of my chosen subjects?

Does how the way the subject is taught suit my learning style? Am I a visual, aural or kinaesthetic learner?

What practical skills are involved in my chosen subjects? Are these my strengths?

What skills will I develop?

Have I selected an appropriate **range** of subjects that will be required for the next steps to my chosen career?

Consider the consequences of the choice, for example is there any subject that I must take to progress to a particular career? Is there any career which would be closed at this time by not choosing a subject?

Courses Available: (GCSE unless otherwise indicated)

Art and Design

Business and Communication Systems

Construction

Contemporary Craft

English

Essential Skills English Literacy and Communication

English Literature

Geography

History

Health and Social Care

Hospitality

BTEC Information and Creative Technology (ICT)

OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Information Technology Applications

Learning for Life and Work

Mathematics

Essential Skills

Numeracy and Application of Number

Music

Occupational Studies

Personal and Social Effectiveness (previously called CoPE - GCSE grade C equivalent)

Prince's Trust Achieve Programme

Religious Studies

Science - Double Award and Single Award

OCN Applied Science

Spanish

BTEC Firsts in Sport - Level 2

Statistics

Technology and Design

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1 (60% Part A + Part B)

Part A - Exploratory Portfolio (25%)

You will experiment with some of the following disciplines.

- Fine Art – drawing and painting/ sculpture/ printmaking
- Textiles
- Ceramics
- Graphic Design/Photography

Part B - Investigating the creative and Cultural Industries (35%)

- complete one practical task, set by your teacher
- have the opportunity to go on museum visits, gallery visits or collaborate on projects
- document your research and use drawing to support the development of your work
- produce a final piece

Component 2 (40%)

- You will complete work in response to an examination paper that is released in January of Year 12
- You will complete research and experimental work based on the theme of the paper
- You will produce and complete a final piece based on your preparatory work within a set period of 10 hours under exam conditions

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is creative
- is organised and can manage their time
- enjoys exploring the work of artists
- enjoys experimenting with different materials
- can confidently communicate new ideas



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

You may become an artist, designer or architect and contribute to the economy as part of the fast-growing creative and cultural industries. Northern Ireland is influential in the Film Industry and Art based courses can lead to jobs including set design, special effect make-up and costume design. With the increased use of technology in Art it can also lead to employment in Graphic Design and Web Design.



COURSE CONTENT

The BCS GCSE course provides students with the opportunity to study modern business activity, investigating how ICT has changed the business environment. You will have the opportunity to develop valuable, practical ICT skills becoming more confident in all Microsoft Applications including Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint and Publisher.

You will also develop knowledge of Business and ICT issues in the workplace.

This will include topics such as:

- The Business Environment
- Workplace Organisation
- Human Resources
- Communication
- ICT in the Business Environment
- Computer Applications in the Business Environment



ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING	COMPLETED
Unit 1 Software Application for Business	40% Practical ICT Examination (2 hour)	Summer Term Year 11
Unit 2 The Business Environment	35% External Written Examination (1 hour)	Summer Term Year 12
Unit 3 Developing Digital Solutions	25% Controlled Assessment	Winter Term Year 12

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This course helps students develop practical ICT skills and business knowledge that are useful in a diverse range of employment roles. As ICT is becoming a vital part of many careers, this course helps pupils to keep up to date with skills demanded in many industries. It also prepares students for studying business and ICT at a more advanced level and would benefit those students considering starting their own business.

COURSE CONTENT

The aims of this qualification are to help students develop and demonstrate a range of skills and to gain credit for a variety of activities that they already undertake inside and outside formal education.

Qualification structure

	Award	Certificate
Developing myself and my performance	✓	✓
Working with others	✓	✓
Problem solving	✓	✓
Delivering a project	–	✓



ASSESSMENT

The qualification is 100% portfolio based and teacher assessed and carries performance points comparable to a GCSE. Level 2 is equivalent to a grade B and Level 1 is equivalent to a grade E.

mandatory units:

ASDAN unit no.	Ofqual unit code	Unit title	Type	GLH	TQT	Weighting
DM2	F/618/7124	Developing myself and my performance	Mandatory	30	40	25%
WW2	J/618/7125	Working with others	Mandatory	23	30	18.75%
PS2	L/618/7126	Problem solving	Mandatory	23	30	18.75%
DP2	R/618/7127	Delivering a project	Mandatory	44	60	37.5%
Total:				120	160	100%

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

- Someone who is highly motivated and has excellent attendance
- Someone who will work well with others
- Someone who will confidently express opinions orally and in writing
- Someone who enjoys ongoing assessment instead of examinations

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This subject lends itself to careers in all working environments where people will be asked to work together as part of a team, research independently, follow instructions, manage their own learning and be prepared to undertake a wide range of tasks.

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1 - Making: Exploring Materials, Techniques and Processes

- work with a range of materials, tools and equipment
- demonstrate design/ideas development through relevant research, sketches, plans, working drawings and sample pieces
- produce a learning file which will include information on designers, evidence of health and safety practices, evidence of business models and employability options within the creative industries
- create final outcomes

Component 2

In response to a set brief released in January of Year 12 you will produce preparatory work, a final outcome and a written evaluation.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1	Controlled Assessment	60%
Component 2	Controlled Assessment	40%

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is creative and enjoys practical work
- is keen to develop their enthusiasm for making
- is organised and can manage their time
- enjoys experimenting with different materials



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Students of Contemporary Crafts develop transferable skills, required by many colleges, employers and industry leaders. These practical skills and the ability to solve problems and think creatively will be used throughout your career. The construction industry in Northern Ireland currently needs employees to work at trades such as joinery, bricklaying and metal fabrication. Contemporary Crafts will assist you if you decide to explore these jobs. Having the opportunity to work in a wide range of materials will also teach you how to create your own craft business.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 1 Writing for Purpose and Audience & Reading to Access Non-Fiction and Media Texts	External written examination (1 hour 45 mins) Respond to five tasks.	30%
Unit 2 Speaking and Listening	Teacher Assessed	20%
Unit 3 Studying Spoken and Written Language	Controlled Assessment	20%
Unit 4 Personal or Creative Writing & Reading Literary and Non-Fiction Texts	External written examination (1 hour 45 mins) Respond to five tasks.	30%

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is highly motivated
- is committed to working to improve standards in English for personal development and to obtain best possible grade
- will work well with others
- will take risks for learning
- will confidently express opinions orally and in writing



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

English enables students to develop transferable skills and provides opportunity to develop work related skills such as communication, team work, meeting deadlines and presenting information clearly.

English is a gateway to post 16 studies and an essential requirement for the majority of further courses and jobs and leads to careers in working environments from administration, hospitality and retail to teaching and the caring professions to name a few.

COURSE CONTENT

Essential Skills course aims to improve candidates' ability to:

- Speak, listen and respond. This means developing the ability to express and communicate meaning in spoken language and to interpret what others say.
- Read and comprehend. This means developing the ability to read, understand and engage with various types of text for enjoyment and learning.
- Write to communicate. This means developing the ability to make and shape text in order to communicate meaning in written language, appropriate to context, purpose, reader and audience.

ASSESSMENT

- Entry Level 1 is assessed through an end of level test and a formal interview which is completed with the class teacher.
- Entry Levels 1, 2 and 3 are assessed through an end of level test, a formal group discussion and also a formal interview which is completed with the class teacher.
- Levels 1 and 2 are assessed through external end of level test. There are two formally assessed speaking and listening elements to the course in the form of formal and informal discussions.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

Students who

- wish to improve their essential literacy skills
- wish to become better qualified
- wish to improve their employment and training opportunities
- may feel less confident in their language skills



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Essential Skills qualifications are widely recognised by FE Colleges such as SERC and by employers in a range of fields so this course can open the door to both employment and further studies.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 1 The Study of Prose	External written examination Untiered (1 hour 45 mins) Students answer two questions, one from Section A and the set question in Section B. Section A is closed book	30%
Unit 2 The Study of Drama and Poetry	External Examination Untiered (2 hours) Students answer two questions. The examination is open book.	50%
Unit 3 The Study of Shakespeare	Controlled Assessment Untiered (2 hours) Students complete one task: an extended writing question based on a theme	20%

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

- a student who enjoys reading and discussion
- someone who has opinions and ideas
- a student with solid writing skills
- a student who loves to learn about people and history
- someone who enjoys learning in a small, supportive group
- an independent worker who will dedicate the time needed for revision of the subject.



The specification deepens students' knowledge and understanding of a range of poetry, prose and drama, including texts by local and modern writers. Students explore the impact of language, structure and form in the texts. Connecting the texts' ideas, themes and issues is another key focus. Students also learn how to explain settings, characters and themes creatively through social, cultural and historical contexts. They develop their ability to research, plan and prepare their responses using their own ideas and interests, as well as critical reading.

This specification aims to encourage students to:

- become critical readers of prose, drama and poetry;
- develop the ability to analyse the impact of language, structure and form in a range of texts;
- connect ideas, themes and issues in a range of texts;
- explore contexts and experience different times, cultures, viewpoints and situations in texts;
- read for enjoyment and nurture a lifelong love of literature.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

English Literature develops a range of skills which will be useful in a range of workplaces and especially for anyone considering further study.

COURSE CONTENT

Year 11 - Paper 1

- Environments
- Coastal environments
- The restless earth
- Weather and climate

Year 12 - Paper 2

- Population and migration
- Changing urban areas
- Contrasts in world development
- Managing our environment

ASSESSMENT

Exams at the end of each year - modules can be retaken.

We will have a minimum of two days of fieldwork for Geography GCSE.

One day will be in Belfast and the other will be looking at physical geography e.g. a coastal area or a river.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is a good communicator
- is a problem solver
- likes to work with pictures and graphs
- has a sense of wonder about the world
- likes a challenge



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

The **transferable skills** which Geography fosters (like literacy, numeracy and communication skills) are useful in the world of employment. Geography is about the future of our world and encourages flexible thinking, as well as providing a firm base for life-long learning. It links well with other GCSEs such as Science, Maths, English and Business.

Many past students have gone on to study 'A' level Geography in other schools.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

The aim of the History GCSE is to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives, as well as its objectives:

- to develop the young person as an individual;
- to develop the young person as a contributor to society; and
- to develop the young person as a contributor to the economy and environment

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
<p>Unit 1 Section A: Life in Nazi Germany 1933-1945</p> <p>Section B: Changing Relations: Northern Ireland and its Neighbours, 1965-98</p>	<p>External written examination - 1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>Section A: Students answer five questions. The paper includes short response questions, structured questions and an essay question.</p> <p>Section B: Students answer six questions. The paper includes source-based questions, short response questions and an essay question.</p>	<p>60%</p>
<p>Unit 2 Outline Study International Relations, 1945–2003</p>	<p>External written examination - 1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>Students answer six questions. The paper includes source-based questions, a structured question and an essay question.</p>	<p>40%</p>

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who is highly motivated, enjoys extended writing, is curious and thinks outside the box.



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

History enables students to develop a range of transferable enquiry based skills. There is a focus on evaluation and analysis of sources as well as content based learning. History is still deemed to be an academic subject. If you enjoy ongoing assessment History is not for you.

This subject lends itself to careers in all working environments from administration, hospitality and retail to teaching and the caring professions as well as opening doors to further study post-16.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Through studying a GCSE in Hospitality, students develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the hospitality industry. In particular, they learn about:

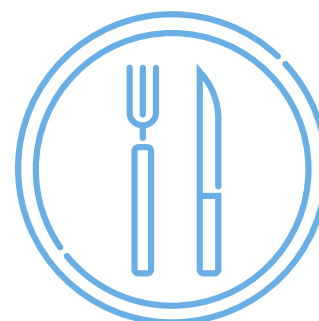
- how hospitality organisations operate;
- the products and services offered by the hospitality industry;
- employment possibilities in hospitality;
- the importance of quality and customer service in the hospitality industry;
- basic food hygiene practices;
- the skills required to provide food and drink for customers.

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 1 Hospitality Industry	60 minute examination paper	25%
Unit 2 Reception and Accommodation	60 minute examination paper	25%
Unit 3 Food and Drink	Controlled Assessment Portfolio of three tasks Meal and Function Task	50%

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- can recall facts in an examination
- can work and manage their time independently
- has regular attendance
- is interested in pursuing a career in this area



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Hospitality is a major growth industry in Northern Ireland and this specification provides opportunities for students to progress into further education, training and employment in the hospitality industry. Many students with a qualification in GCSE Hospitality go on to have successful careers as chefs, waiters, front office managers, events managers and account managers. **The Hospitality Sector sustains 60,000 jobs across Northern Ireland (Hospitality Ulster)**

COURSE CONTENT

BTEC First Award in ICT

The BTEC Firsts in ICT have been designed to build on learning from Key Stage 3 for those who may wish to explore a vocational route throughout Key Stage 4. It is equivalent to one GCSE.

The course is designed to give learners a basic grounding in understanding and knowledge of ICT. Learners will specialise in Database Management, Web Design and The Online World by completing 4 units over the 2 years.

- 1: The Online World (Examination Unit)
- 2: Creating a Digital Portfolio
- 3: Database Development (Double Unit)

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1 is assessed externally via an online examination which is worth 25% of the overall course. The remaining units are assessed by ongoing Controlled Assessments which are marked internally and then externally verified.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- works independently to complete tasks to the best of their ability
- demonstrates good literacy skills
- can manage time to meet deadlines
- has an interest in developing ICT skills
- would like to study ICT at a higher level
- takes pride in their work and can review and improve practical/written work.



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This vocational qualification will give you skills that could be essential in your future workplace. This subject lends itself to careers across a range of industries as ICT is becoming a key skill in many job roles.

COURSE CONTENT

Today's work environment depends increasingly on a range of technologies. The OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Information Technology Applications are designed to provide learners with the IT skills required to function successfully in the work and wider environment. Instead of sitting examinations students are assessed through a portfolio of evidence which demonstrates their skills and understanding across the units outlined below:



Unit Title	*Units may change
Email Software Skills Using Microsoft Outlook	
Presentation Software Using Microsoft Powerpoint	
Spreadsheet Software Using Microsoft Excel	
Using the Internet Using Internet Explorer	
Multimedia Game Design Software Using GameMaker	

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This qualification will give you skills that could be essential in your future workplace. This qualification ensures students can confidently use Microsoft Office in the workplace. As ICT is used in nearly all industries this course helps pupils to ensure they are confident ICT users who can complete tasks independently.

COURSE CONTENT

The subject content is divided into three distinct compulsory areas of study:

- Local and Global Citizenship
- Personal Development
- Employability

ASSESSMENT

- There is a single tier of entry
- There are three written examinations that assess each of the areas of study
- There is one controlled assessment task

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is highly motivated
- works well with others
- engages in research tasks
- demonstrates persistence to complete tasks
- confidently expresses opinions orally and in writing



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Learning for Life and Work will prepare young people to participate in society as active citizens.

It is recognised as an academic qualification giving suitable access to post 16 studies.

This subject gives a grounding in a range of areas connected with public life and service in the local and global community.

COURSE CONTENT

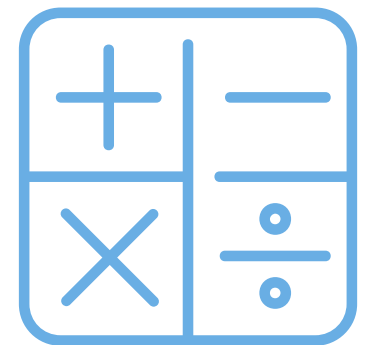
Mathematics is an integral part of everyday life and it is essential that students obtain a qualification in Mathematics. To accommodate this, we are offering GCSE Mathematics at both Foundation and Higher tier.

- GCSE Mathematics is a modular course
- Students are required to sit 3 papers

The grade students can obtain depends on the tier they are entered for.

Higher Level:	Grades	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E
Foundation Level:	Grades	C*	C	D	E	F	G	

	Assessment Unit Combinations	Available Final Grades
Foundation Tier	M1 and M5	D - G
	M2 and M6	C - F
Higher Tier	M3 and M7	B - E
	M4 and M8	A* - C



CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Foundation Tier M1 and M2	External written examination (1 hour 45min) with calculator	45%
Foundation Tier M5 and M6	Two external written examinations: Paper 1 without calculator (1 hour) Paper 2 with calculator (1 hour)	55%
Higher Tier M3 and M4	External written examination (2 hours) with calculator	45%
Higher Tier M7 and M8	Two external written examinations: Paper 1 without calculator (1 hour 15 mins) Paper 2 with calculator (1 hour 15 mins)	55%

Students must take at least 40 per cent of the assessment (based on unit weightings) at the end of the course as terminal assessment.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

GCSE Mathematics is required by students who wish to study 'A' Levels.

Purpose of the qualification

The aim of this qualification is to improve the learners' ability to understand, use, calculate and manipulate mathematical information and interpret results.

COURSE CONTENT

- Number
- Measures, shape and space
- Handling data
- Representing information
- Carrying out calculations
- Interpreting results and presenting findings



ASSESSMENT

- Students complete Level 1 or Level 2 Essential Skills.
- There is one externally set and externally marked examination.
- This examination lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Calculators are allowed.
- Pass Mark is between 60% and 70 %
- Assessment outcome is PASS or FAIL.
- It can be repeated 3 times in Year 12.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

Students who

- have found Mathematics challenging at Key Stage 3
- wish to follow a more vocational route

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

The OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Essentials Skills Application of Number enables progression to other recognised qualifications at Level 2 and above. This qualification will help a learner to get onto vocational courses at SERC.

Purpose of the qualification

The aim of this qualification is to improve the learners' ability to understand, use, calculate and manipulate mathematical information and interpret results.

COURSE CONTENT

To achieve the certificate, learners must be assessed in each of the 3 skills:

- Number
- Measure, Shape and Space
- Handling data



Learners must demonstrate competence in all 3 skills areas in order to be awarded an Entry Level certificate. An award cannot be made for achievement of only one or two of the skills areas.

ASSESSMENT

- One unseen assessment task.
- Externally set, internally marked and externally moderated.
- Each test can be taken only once but there are no restrictions upon the number of tasks a candidate can take.
- Normally 60-90 minutes duration to complete all elements of the task.
- Taken in the normal learning environment but under controlled conditions

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

Students who find Essential Skills Level 1 difficult to achieve at this stage

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

The OCN NI Entry Level Certificate in Essentials Skills enables progression to the OCN NI Level 1 and Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills.

COURSE CONTENT

This two-year course builds on the knowledge that you have already acquired from primary school through to the present day. Over the two years you will actively make and respond to music through composition, performance and listening to a wide variety of musical styles and traditions.



ASSESSMENT - 65% of this course is based on coursework activities

- **COMPOSITION AND APPRAISING (30%)**

You will compose TWO contrasting pieces of music (lasting 3 – 6 minutes in total) and keep a diary or log.

- **PERFORMANCE AND APPRAISING (35%)**

You will perform ONE solo and ONE ensemble piece (each lasting no more than 5 minutes) and will be able to discuss your performances with an external assessor.

- **LISTENING AND APPRAISING (35%)**

You will listen to and appraise a range of music from 1600 to present day. There will be a 90-minute test, based on your learning, at the end of the course.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is motivated to work independently to develop his/her creativity through composition, making informed decisions about musical quality, and is committed to achieving high grades
- welcomes an opportunity to develop understanding of different cultures and traditions
- is keen to develop their confidence through performance and in writing
- is willing to attend instrumental lessons outside school at additional cost

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This course will help students to develop a range of transferable skills which can be used in other subjects and all areas of life, for example, pair and team work, listening skills, organisational skills, self-awareness, self-confidence and public speaking.

Music is one of the largest industries in the world. Students who study GCSE Music often go on to have successful careers as performers, composers, administrators and publishers, as well as teachers, Music Therapists, broadcasters, DJs, journalists and much more.

COURSE CONTENT

This course is for learners of all abilities and provides a more flexible and 'hands-on' approach to learning in practical and occupational settings. This qualification has been uniquely structured with this in mind as learners will have the opportunity to learn for work, through work and about work with a real outcome that will deliver skills for life.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework is the major part of the Occupational Studies course: you will be marked on the practical tasks you complete and you should be able to recall knowledge of these tasks.

Award	Equivalent GCSE Grade
Level 2 Distinction*	A*
Level 2 Distinction	A
Level 2 Merit	B
Level 2 Pass	C
Level 1 Distinction	D
Level 1 Merit	E
Level 1 Pass	F



WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- enjoys working in a practical setting
- can recall knowledge for assessments
- works well with others

Availability will depend on numbers choosing specific units. Units that may be available include the following pairs:

Basic Fast Fit and Electrical Wiring

Contemporary Cuisine and Patisserie

Carpentry and Joinery and Plumbing

Sports Leadership and Running a Leisure event

Physical Care of Babies and Childcare. The Play Environment

Digital Imaging and TV & Film Production

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This course is good preparation for careers in a range of industries, apprenticeships and further educational courses.

COURSE CONTENT

The Achieve programme offers a varied curriculum which covers different topics across a range of activity areas. Students will follow an active learning programme during which they build up a portfolio of evidence and submit completed units for assessment in Personal Development and Employability (PDE).

As part of the programme, you will explore the following:

- Personal and social development. By working in small groups, you'll be able to meet new people and make new friends
- Life skills. Through fun and interactive sessions, you'll learn how to manage money, be healthy and stay safe
- Active citizenship. You'll work as part of a team to make a difference to your local community
- Preparation for work. Create a tip-top CV, practise for future interviews and explore your skills and talents

ASSESSMENT

- Portfolio based. Units completed and assessed throughout the course.
- A Prince's Trust Certificate in PDE at Level 2 is equivalent to 2 GCSEs at Grade B

Students who do not complete sufficient units may gain a Prince's Trust Award in PDE and credit for all units they have completed.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- may struggle to achieve 5 A*-C GCSE grades
- will thrive in a practical learning environment
- prefers ongoing assessment to formal written exams



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This course offers a practical approach to help students fulfill their potential. Students develop transferable skills while boosting confidence and motivation. They are prepared for their career with a CV, self-confidence, and the ability to present and promote themselves and products, and they know how to stay motivated working independently and as a team player. These are valued skills and qualities in the workplace.

COURSE CONTENT

In one year of the course pupils will study the life and ministry of Jesus and look at how his life still influences some people today. In the other year, pupils will study a range of moral issues such as equality, matters of life and death, personal and family issues, war and peace.



ASSESSMENT

- There is a single tier of entry
- There are two externally assessed written examinations, each worth 50%

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is highly motivated
- is interested in debating
- can manage a wide range of information from different sources
- works well with others and is willing to listen to others' views
- is confident in writing extended and essay type answers

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

- Whether you go on to further studies or into the world of work, you will meet people from all walks of life with different religious and moral opinions. GCSE Religious Studies will help you understand and appreciate them.
- Religious Studies is a valuable entry qualification to post 16 education and further education. Universities welcome students with Religious Studies onto a variety of courses in Humanities, Arts and Sciences as well as courses in Religious Studies.
- Religious Studies can lead to a variety of careers, for example, in charity organisations, counselling, journalism, libraries, museums, public service, sales and marketing companies, teaching and youth work.



COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Biology Unit 1 (B1) Cells, Living Processes and Biodiversity	An externally assessed written examination 11%	NOVEMBER YEAR 11
Chemistry Unit 1 (C1) Structures, Trends and Chemical Reactions, Quantitative Chemistry and Analysis.	An externally assessed written examination 11%	FEBRUARY YEAR 11
Physics Unit 1 (P1) Motion, Force, Moments, Energy, Density, Kinetic Theory, Radioactivity, Nuclear Fission and Fusion.	An externally assessed written examination 11%	SUMMER YEAR 11
Biology Unit 2 (B2) Body Systems, Genetics, Microorganisms and Health	An externally assessed written examination 14%	SUMMER YEAR 12
Chemistry Unit 2 (C2) Further Chemical Reactions, Rates and Equilibrium, Calculations and Organic Chemistry.	An externally assessed written examination 14%	SUMMER YEAR 12
Physics Unit 2 (P2) Waves, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Electromagnetism Space Physics.	An externally assessed written examination 14%	SUMMER YEAR 12
Unit 7 Practical Skills	For each of the three sciences, students carry out one practical task in the laboratory and a written exam 25%	THROUGHOUT YEAR 11 AND 12

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who:

- is highly motivated
- can work well both independently and with others
- has good mathematical ability
- has well developed practical and problem solving skills
- can recall and express information concisely under examination conditions



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Choosing Double Award Science will widen options as Science is a valued and useful subject for many careers. For those hoping to follow a Science related career or to study Science post 16, Double Award Science is an essential stepping stone.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

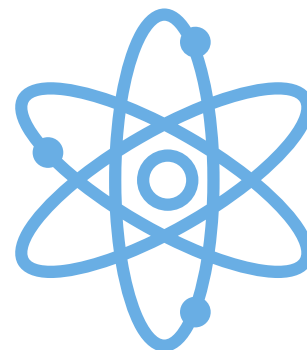
This Single Award Science course encourages students to be inspired, motivated and challenged by following a broad, coherent, practical, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It encourages them to develop their curiosity about the living, material and physical worlds and provides insights into and experience of how Science works.

Unit 1 Biology Cells, food and energy, chromosomes and genes, co-ordination and control, the reproductive system, variation and adaptation, disease and body defences, ecological relationships.	An externally assessed written examination 25%	FEBRUARY YEAR 11
Unit 2 Chemistry Acids, bases and salts, elements, compounds and mixtures, the Periodic table, atomic structure and bonding, materials, metals and the reactivity series, rates of reaction, organic chemistry.	An externally assessed written examination 25%	NOVEMBER YEAR 12
Unit 3 Physics Electrical circuits, household electricity, energy, electricity generation, heat transfer, waves, forces and motion, radioactivity, the Earth in space.	An externally assessed written examination 25%	SUMMER YEAR 12
Unit 4 Practical Skills	Two practical task in the laboratory and a written exam 25%	THROUGHOUT YEAR 11 AND 12

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who:

- is motivated
- is committed to working to improve standards in Science for personal development and to obtain their best possible grade
- can work well with others
- has reasonable mathematical ability
- enjoys practical work
- can recall information under examination conditions



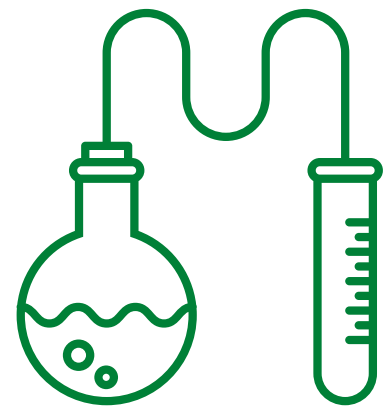
CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Science is everywhere: just about everything from the mobile phones that we use to the gel we put on our hair involves Science somehow. Science gives you the best options to expand your career opportunities whatever path you take. The analytical, problem-solving skills you gain from studying Science are quite possibly the most useful skills you can get and employers are always keen to take on people with a Science background.

COURSE CONTENT

Learners must successfully complete all three mandatory units to achieve the qualification.

- Physical Processes
- Life Processes and Living Things
- Materials and their Chemical Properties



ASSESSMENT

The qualification is 100% portfolio based and teacher assessed and carries performance points comparable to a GCSE Level 2 equivalent to a grade B.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

This qualification is targeted at individuals who are interested in developing their knowledge and understanding in applied science. It will enable learners to progress to further qualifications in applied science at a higher level or to study particular aspects of science in greater depth.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This qualification will provide learners with the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that would support progression to employment within the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) sector.

COURSE CONTENT

Students will build on their knowledge from Key Stage 3 and in Year 11 will cover familiar topics such as family, home, eating out and places in the town, however, these will be extended to cover new material such as healthy eating and family relations. The following year, students will cover topics such as school, career and holidays and will choose one of these areas as part of their speaking test at the end of that year.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be tested in four skills and each skill is worth 25%. Foundation and Higher Tier are available for each examination and students can mix the tiers to match their strengths.

Reading: Students must be able to read texts in Spanish and understand key points and ideas. There is also a translation from Spanish into English.

Listening: Students will be expected to listen to Spanish sentences and answer questions in English.

Speaking: Students will prepare a presentation on their chosen topic and present this to the teacher. There will also be a short conversation in Spanish and role-play questions.

Writing: Students will progress from writing a short task with single words to writing paragraphs on topics such as school, holidays and region.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who

- is highly motivated
- is interested in finding out how languages work
- has gained above average marks in Spanish at Key Stage 3
- can perform well under examination conditions
- can confidently express opinions orally and in writing



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

In Northern Ireland, the Tourism and Hospitality sector has enjoyed steady growth and having a GCSE in Spanish is an asset if you would like to get a job in a hotel, restaurant or Tourist Office. Most employers judge languages to be very useful and therefore you would be more likely to get a job with a company if you spoke another language.

COURSE CONTENT

This BTEC First Award in Sport enables progression to further study and prepares learners to enter the workplace. There is a clear progression to a Level 3 course or an apprenticeship.

- It is a vocational qualification which allows students to develop knowledge and understanding by applying their learning and skills in a work related context.
- It allows students to develop skills working as a team, working to deadlines, presenting information effectively and completing administrative tasks.
- The course is designed to give students a basic knowledge and understanding of the sport and leisure industry. Students will specialise in sports performance, exercise and fitness.



ASSESSMENT

Unit 1	Fitness for Sport and Exercise	25% external online exam
Unit 2	Practical Performance in Sport	Internal assessment of portfolio
Unit 3	Applying the principles of Personal Training	Synoptic assessment and internally assessed
Unit 4	Leading Sports Activities	Internal assessment of portfolio

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

- Students who are enthusiastic about sport and want to improve their fitness level and understand how exercise affects the body.
- Students who can work well with others and have an interest in sport and participate on a regular basis.
- Students who enjoy a course which is continually assessed with a 25% focus on an external examination and internally moderated by college staff.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

This course is useful for those students who wish to pursue a Level 3 course in Sport at either SERC or Belfast Met post-16.

This subject lends itself to careers across a range of industries, such as working in a leisure centre, coaching, sports business management and personal fitness training.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 - Technology and Design Core Content (Written Exam 25%)

Students will take a written exam comprising of:

- Designing
- Manufacturing
- Electronic control systems
- Mechanical control systems
- Pneumatic systems and control
- Computer control systems

Unit 2 - Product Design (Written Exam 25%)

Students will take a synoptic assessment written exam building on the content of Unit 1:

- Design and innovation
- Manufacturing practices
- Materials, components and fabrication
- Market influences
- Social responsibilities of product design

Unit 3 - Design and Manufacturing Project (Controlled Assessment 50%)

Students will produce a final practical outcome based on a brief set by the exam board and will produce a sketchbook portfolio of work to support the final piece which will include:

- evidence of creative thinking, problem solving and decision-making through both detailed freehand and CAD sketches and written annotations
- research and analysis of products, target market groups and existing designers
- evidence of research on materials and components needed for manufacturing
- evidence of a physical model/ prototype making
- evidence of testing and evaluation of the final solution/ product made

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who:

- enjoys practical work and experimenting/ problem solving with different materials, techniques and processes
- is highly motivated to work independently to develop his/her creativity
- is organised and can manage their time when working towards a deadline
- can confidently communicate new ideas through drawings and written explanations



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Students of Technology and Design develop desirable and transferable skills, required by many colleges, employers and industry leaders. These practical skills, the ability to solve problems and think creatively will be used throughout your career. The construction industry in Northern Ireland currently needs employees to work at trades such as joinery, bricklaying and metal fabrication. Other jobs linked to studying Technology and Design are mechanical engineering, architect, sculpture.



COURSE CONTENT

The CCEA GCSE Health and Social Care specification provides opportunities for students to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of what is required for working in the health, social care and early years sectors.

In particular, students learn about:

- human development through the main life stages and age ranges;
- factors affecting health and development, including behavioural, environmental, physical and socio-economic factors;
- how relationships influence social and emotional development;
- how a range of factors influence self-concept;
- major life changes and sources of support;
- how health and social care services meet a range of service users' needs;
- barriers to health and social care services and how they can be overcome;
- job roles of a range of practitioners and how they apply the values of care in their day-to-day work; and
- the importance of safeguarding in health, social care and early years settings.

This qualification links to the Learning for Life and Work and Science and Technology Areas of Learning at Key Stage 4.

It is possible to take part of the assessment at the end of the first year of study.

The course has two units:

- **Unit 1: Personal Development, Health and Well-Being**
- **Unit 2: Working in the Health, Social Care and Early Years Sectors.**

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Many students with qualifications in Health and Social Care go on to have interesting and successful careers in childcare, nursing, midwifery, social work, teaching, paramedics, counselling and health visiting.

COURSE CONTENT

Students learn to interpret drawings of domestic buildings and explore the materials and sustainable methods used in domestic and commercial construction. The specification also helps students to appreciate the importance of health and safety in the construction industry.

To enhance their practical skills, students complete a craft project based on woodwork, brickwork or blockwork. They also develop their computer-aided design knowledge, understanding and skills by producing a portfolio of work.

The specification has four units:

Unit 1: Introduction to the Build Environment
Written Examination - 20%

Unit 2: Sustainable Construction
Written Examination - 30%

Unit 3: The Construction Craft Project
Controlled Assessment - 25%

Unit 4: Computer Aided Design in Construction
Controlled Assessment - 25%



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Students will develop their knowledge in the following occupations: Architect, Surveyor, Engineer, Construction Manager, Bricklayer, Electrician, Joiner, Plasterer, Plumber, Tiler, Gas Engineer

COURSE CONTENT

GCSE Statistics

The CCEA GCSE Statistics course encourages students to develop understanding of the basic concepts of statistical problem-solving. They also develop skills in planning, collecting, processing, analysing and representing data.

Students reason, interpret and discuss results and use data to calculate estimates of probability. They develop understanding of how technology enables us to collect, visualise and analyse large quantities of data to inform decision-making in public, commercial, charitable and academic sectors.

Students apply their knowledge and understanding to planning a statistical enquiry. They also learn to evaluate and interpret the outcomes of the enquiry, which involves thinking critically and choosing an appropriate way to communicate their conclusions.

WHO THIS COURSE IS FOR

A student who:

- is highly motivated to work independently
- has good knowledge, understanding and skills developed through Mathematics and Numeracy.
- has a strong mathematical background and interest in the subject

The course has two externally assessed units and two tiers: Foundation and Higher.

The exam for Unit 2 includes questions on information from a pre-release case study focusing on Northern Ireland data.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Students will develop their knowledge in the following occupations:

- Actuary, Civil Service, Data analyst, Data scientist, Financial risk analyst, Investment analyst, Market researcher, Operational researcher, Statistician