



**Howden**  
School



THE CONSORTIUM  
ACADEMY TRUST

**Guided  
Choices**  
2024

[www.howdenschool.net](http://www.howdenschool.net)

# Key Dates 2024

As choosing options is such an important decision we have planned a number of events to support students and their parent/carers with these choices.

During the Summer term, we will write to all students to confirm their choices.

If you have any questions or concerns during the Guided Choices process, please contact Mr Harris - Deputy Headteacher.



Guided Choices  
launched.



Parents/Carers  
Evening.



Launch event.



Taster Sessions  
Evening.



Final date for  
preferences.



Start of Key Stage 4  
courses.



# Contents

Information		Option Subjects	
05	Introduction	17	Art and Design
06	Moving to Key Stage 4	18	Business Studies
08	EBacc Information	19	Design and Technology
09	Learner Support	20	Food & Cookery
10	Where next after Year 11?	21	French
		22	Geography
		23	Health and Social Care
		24	History
		25	ICT
		26	Performing Arts
		27	Physical Education
		28	Religious Studies
		29	Spanish
		30	Textiles Design
Core Subjects			
12	English Language & Literature		
13	Mathematics		
14	Combined Science Trilogy		
15	Physical Education		





# Introduction

**Guided Choices is an important period in your education, as it is here that you get to choose some of the subjects that you will study for the next two years.**

We encourage you to take time to gather information and listen to advice and guidance to help make your decisions.

Our aim as a school is to ensure that everyone is prepared and has developed the skills and knowledge to achieve their aspirations. A successful Key Stage 4 will not only enable you to gain qualifications, it will also support your progression in the next stage in your educational journey. We never stop learning.

This booklet contains information about the courses that you could study in Key Stage 4. You should read it carefully and discuss them with your parents/carers, subject teachers, and tutor. You will also have the opportunity to spend some time with a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will help you make the right decision. We know that for some students this process is exciting and for others it can cause some anxiety.

We have been through this process for many years so please be assured that we will help support you to make choices about your subjects and answer any questions you might have.

# Moving to Key Stage 4

**The Key Stage 4 Curriculum for all students is designed to be ambitious, broad and balanced.**

In Key Stage 4 you will study a core curriculum- which includes **Mathematics, English Language and Literature**, and **Combined Science (Trilogy)**.

You will also develop wider skills to support your development in our ACE programme which includes **PSHE, RSHE, Ethics, Careers, Personal Development, Citizenship** and **PE** all of which are non-examined subjects.

Each student will have access to support and guidance when completing their choices.

Where students wish to follow the EBacc qualification this will be discussed in the support and guidance meetings.

If a student wishes to study a combination of subjects that does not appear above, students can discuss this during their 1-1 meeting.

## Subject Choices

Through the guided choices process students will select 3 choice subjects. We expect all students to do an Ebacc subject and some may want to choose two.

## EBacc Subjects

- Geography
- History
- French

## Option Subjects

- Business Studies
- Design and Technology
- Fine Art
- Food & Cookery
- GCSE - PE
- Health and Social Care
- ICT
- Performing Arts
- Religious Studies
- Textiles Design





# EBacc Information

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is the “gold standard” qualification achieved if students gain grades 5 - 9 in English, Mathematics, two Science qualifications, a Humanities subject and a Modern Foreign Language.

The Government’s reasons for introducing the EBacc was a concern nationally that students were losing the opportunity to take exams in these subjects. This was considered to potentially cut off an important route in progressing to further learning.

The subjects we have included are designed to ensure that all students have the opportunity to study a broad core of

subjects, ensuring that doors are not closed off to them in terms of future progression.

For students hoping to go to university, The Russell Group have provided a guide on making informed choices for Post-16 education. These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most options open.

Therefore, students studying EBacc subjects at GCSE have access to ‘facilitating subjects’ at A level and hence should have access to the best universities.

At Howden, some students will select one EBacc subject and others will select two. Your Guided Choices meeting will support you to make the right decision for you.







# Learner Support

## **At Key Stage 4, support continues to be based on individual needs.**

Sometimes, students with additional learning needs opt for a vocational course and follow courses with a more practical or vocational focus but this decision is made through support and guidance between Howden School staff, parents and students themselves.

The majority of learning support in Years 10 and 11 takes place within the classroom; either working with a teacher or teaching assistants, using resources to support learning such as laptops, reading pens or voice activated software, or by special exam arrangements. The focus is always on developing independent work habits and self-reliance.

## **Exam Concessions:**

Students are tested at the end of Year 9 to see if they qualify for any special exam arrangements. The timing of these assessments is delayed until the summer term as the results are only valid for 26 months.

Students can only be granted exam access arrangements through qualification in specific and approved psychometric tests. Entry level is available for students for whom GCSE English is not appropriate. Individual students are advised accordingly.

Throughout Key Stage 4, academic tutoring takes place afterschool, catch ups and revision classes run across a range of subjects in ACE period and lunch time. Tutoring is also delivered in some cases.

For more information, please see Mrs Stephenson, SENDCo



# Where next after Year 11?



**THE CONSORTIUM**  
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

**All young people now need to stay in learning (i.e. training or education) until they are eighteen years old.**

They must choose one of the following options:

- Full-time education, such as school Sixth Form, a further education or Sixth Form College or a training provider
- Apprenticeships or other work-based learning routes
- Employment with training

At 16, students could consider continuing their full-time education at The Consortium Sixth Form College, which offers a wide range of courses, academic, applied and vocational. This provides an appropriate route for higher education at University or higher or degree apprenticeships.

We realise for some however, that this might not be the right choice, especially if they are seeking intermediate/advanced apprenticeships or work-based learning.

We are committed to offering quality Information, Advice and Guidance, so all students in Year 11 will have the opportunity to have a careers interview with a careers specialist to assist them with these major decisions. They will also have the opportunity to listen to guest speakers from Further Education establishments and Apprenticeship providers.



# Core

## Subjects



# English Language & English Literature (GCSE)

## Course

GCSE English Language and English Literature are essential qualifications required by employers, apprenticeship providers, and further and higher education establishments.

You will learn to improve your reading and writing skills, as well as developing analytical skills and exploring your own personal response to texts.

The English Language curriculum includes reading and analysing a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and writing in a range of styles and formats. In English Literature, you will study a Shakespearean play; a range of poetry from an anthology; a piece of post-1914 drama, and a prose text from the 19th Century.

You will develop the following skills throughout the course:

- how to write for different purposes and audiences
- how to interpret texts and make effective use of quotations
- how to explore and compare texts
- how to analyse media and spoken language texts
- how to communicate effectively in a range of situations

For further details see:

Mrs S Holliday

## Assessment

Both English Language and English Literature courses are externally examined at the end of the two-year courses. There are two examinations for English Language and two examination papers for English Literature. To prepare you for this style of assessment, we have regular mini-assessments and full mock exams at key points during the academic year.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Teacher
- Social Media Manager
- Writer
- Marketing
- Publishing
- Advertising

# (GCSE) Mathematics

## Course

GCSE Mathematics is a qualification that is required by most employers and is usually required for entry to further or higher education.

To be successful in Mathematics, you need to be able to think logically and work with accuracy and precision. Studying GCSE Mathematics will help you develop or improve these skills, allowing you to apply them to your studies and in the wider world. There are opportunities to develop problem solving techniques and basic skills that can be applied to further study in a range of disciplines, in the workplace and to deal with situations in everyday life.

The curriculum includes: number, algebra, ratio and proportion, geometry and measures, and probability and statistics.

The following skills will be gained throughout the course:

- numeracy
- logical thinking
- problem-solving techniques
- how to apply your mathematics to real life situations
- resilience and independence
- how to work collaboratively

## Assessment

The course is assessed by three written examinations at the end of Year 11, one of which is a non-calculator paper.

Higher-level GCSE examinations have a grade range from 4 to 9 Foundation level have a grade range of 1 to 5.

To prepare you for this style of assessment, we have regular mini-assessments and full mock exams at key points during the course.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Accountancy
- Engineering
- Financial Services
- Research
- Data Scientist
- Teacher

For further details see:

Mr N Issatt

# Combined Science Trilogy

## (GCSE)

### Course

**Most students will take this course. Combined Science Trilogy is a double award, meaning students will leave school with two Science GCSEs.**

The course is an equal balance of topics across the areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This qualification provides an excellent breadth of skills and understanding applicable to many career paths beyond school. Combined Science Trilogy is also suitable for students considering studying Sciences at A level.

Year 10 Biology Topics- B1: Cell biology  
B2: Organisation B3: Infection and response  
B4: Bioenergetics

Year 10 Chemistry Topics- C1: Atomic structure and Periodic Table C2: Bonding, structure and properties  
C3: Quantitative chemistry C4: Chemical changes  
C5: Energy changes

Year 10 Physics Topics- P1: Energy P2: Electricity  
P3: Particle model of matter P4: Atomic structure

Year 11 Biology Topics- B5: Homeostasis and response B6: Inheritance, variation and evolution  
B7: Ecology

Year 11 Chemistry Topics- C6: The rate and extent of chemical change C7: Organic chemistry C8: Chemical analysis C9: Chemistry of the atmosphere C10: Using resources

Year 11 Physics Topics- P5: Forces P6: Waves  
P7: Magnetism and electromagnetism

### Assessment

The course is assessed at the end of Year 11. Students take six exams, each lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes. There is no coursework in Science, but the exam papers will ask questions relating to several required practical activities that students will undertake over the duration of their course.

### Possible careers and opportunities

- Teacher
- Forensic Scientist
- Veterinarian
- Medical Doctor
- Environmental Scientist
- Research Scientist

**For further details see:**

Mrs R Adams



# Physical Education

(Core)

## Course

The course reflects a range of sporting activities that can encourage young people to actively pursue an interest in physical activity and lead a healthy lifestyle beyond school.

It includes traditional team sports such as football, netball, rugby and rounders and activities such as boxercise, volleyball, Zumba, HITT and using the fitness suite. All students currently take part in at least one hour of core Physical Education per week; this is in addition to any option subject they may choose. Students are expected to wear their Howden PE kit for the activity as described in the school guidelines.

## Assessment

Students are assessed using the whole school Attitude to Learning system. They're judged on the effort they demonstrate and how well they apply themselves to tasks during lessons.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Accountancy
- Personal Trainer
- Sports Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Sport and Exercise Psychologist
- Sports Coach
- Professional Sports Person

For further details see:

Mr G Hughes

# Option

Subjects

# (GCSE) Art and Design

## Course

Throughout GCSE Art and Design, you will explore a variety of approaches to investigate artists, explore ideas, and produce artwork responding to various cultures and contexts.

You will work on a number of projects developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking and photography.

A GCSE Art student will be expected to:

- work to deadlines and have high expectations
- carry out regular extended work and self-study outside lessons
- be fully dedicated showing an enthusiasm for the subject
- have a strong knowledge and skill of drawing and painting
- be open-minded to new ideas, materials and techniques
- persevere to follow a piece of work through to completion
- follow all advice and guidance given by staff as they are your examiner
- look at the work of other artists and make practical and written responses.

## Assessment

**Unit 1: Portfolio:** This is worth 60% of your overall result.

This will consist of more than one project/theme. You will begin working on your portfolio from the beginning of the course and every piece of work counts towards the final grade.

**Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment:** This is worth 40% of the overall result.

You will be given a limited number of weeks to produce preparatory work responding to one of the starting points set by the exam board. This unit ends with a **10-hour practical exam** over 2 days. All the work produced during this time will be marked towards the final grade.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Artist
- Illustrator
- Graphic Designer
- Photographer
- Interior Designer
- Architect
- Art Therapist
- Fashion Designer
- Stylist
- Visual Merchandiser
- Museum Curator
- Printmaker
- Sign Writer

For further details see:

Mrs A Aarosin



# Business Studies (GCSE)

## Course

Business Studies is popular subject for students and offers the opportunity to learn about the world of work and how companies are run.

You might have an interest and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, including how businesses are set up and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur.

Level 5 in English is required for this course to understand the content. Skills are taught in the application of knowledge and analysing in context, together with how to evaluate make appropriate recommendations.

The Business Studies GCSE provides a sturdy base for progression to further education for Level 3 Cambridge Technical/BTEC or an A level in Business.

Many students go onto university to study Business at a degree level. There is also an abundance of apprenticeships at all levels linked to Business Studies.

The business curriculum consists of investigating small businesses together with learning how to build a business.

## Assessment

The course is broken down into 2 examination papers as follows:

### Theme 1 (Examination paper, 1 hour 30 minutes)

This comprises of learning about Enterprise and Entrepreneurs, spotting a business opportunity and putting it into practice. Making the business effective, whilst understanding the external influences such as inflation and the economy.

### Theme 2 (Examination paper, 1 hour 30 minutes)

This comprises of building and growing a business and looks specifically at Marketing, Operations, Finance and Human Resources.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Business Advisor
- Business Development
- Investment Banker
- Project Manager
- Financial Advisor
- Accountant
- Law
- Data Analyst
- Market Research Executive
- Trading Standards Official
- Chartered Manager

For further details see:

Mrs S Hudson

# Design and Technology

(GCSE)

## Course

The Design and Technology GCSE focuses on developing practical skills within a particular material area, allowing students to manufacture high quality outcomes.

They will learn about commercial processes and careers in related industries, as well as developing core transferable skills, such as collaboration and communication.

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and will apply technical and practical expertise. Our GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment

The Design and Technology curriculum includes:

- designing and making principles
- how to develop a specification for a product
- how to analyse existing products
- how to generate a range of design proposals
- how to research ideas,
- product development and planning
- scales of production,
- industrial methods of design and manufacture
- how to select materials and components
- materials management
- working with tools and equipment
- how to evaluate products and suggest improvements.

## Assessment

Design and Technology is assessed through a 50% designing and making Non-examination Assessment, and 50% for a 2 hour written examination paper, which covers the core technical principles of the subject.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Artist
- Product Designer
- Architect
- Software Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Carpenter
- Manufacturing
- Engineer

For further details see:

Mrs C Harvey

# Food & Cookery (NCFE VCErt)

## Course

VCert Food and Cookery is an ideal course for students who enjoy cooking and are interested to learn more about the nutritional and chemical properties of food.

This specification requires students to develop their application of knowledge and understanding when developing ideas, planning, producing products and evaluating them. They will become familiar with dietary requirements, nutritional properties of foods and Health & Safety/hygiene standards in industrial settings as well as developing their practical skills across a wide range of food products.

For further details see:

Mrs D Morris

## Assessment

This course has 60% Non-Examination Assessment and 40% in one single examination paper of 1 hour 30 minutes duration.

Single examination paper 1 hour 30 minutes duration with a variety of questions in the form of multiple choice, short and extended answers.

Non-Examination Assessment to be completed in Year 11. The course focuses on students' ability to adapt recipes, demonstrate technical skill when making them and then evaluate them thoroughly.

Students create a Synoptic project consisting of 8 separate short assignments each demonstrating a skill. For example, their ability to adapt a recipe for someone with a specific dietary need. Within this assignment they are expected to research the dietary need, design with a suitably adapted recipe and explain their reasoning. The following assignment is where students make their adapted product and evaluate it. Each assignment is marked separately and then contributes to the student's overall mark.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Dietician
- Chef
- Food Scientist
- Nutritionist
- Personal Trainer
- Quality Assurance Officer
- Procurement Manager
- Food Journalist/Critic



# (GCSE) French

## Course

Studying a foreign language helps you to communicate in the rapidly shrinking world and enables you to learn more about your own language.

The knowledge of a European language in a post-Brexit world is likely to be even more desirable and useful in business. Once you have learnt one foreign language, acquiring a second or a third when you are older is much easier. Knowledge of a foreign language also means you get more out of travel experiences as well as learning about other cultures.

For some careers and courses in Higher Education, a foreign language is essential. Learning a language requires a level of dedication.

The curriculum includes three broad themes:

- People and lifestyle
- Popular Culture
- Communication and the world around us

## Assessment

You will take final examinations in each skill at the end of the course, which are each worth 25% of the final grade. Entry is available at either Foundation or Higher level. There is a vocab list of 1200 words out at Foundation and 1700 words at higher.

- Listening Paper – this will include a dictation task
- Speaking Paper – this will include a reading aloud task
- Reading Paper – this will include a translation into English
- Writing Paper – this will include a translation into French

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Business Advisor
- Interpreter
- Translator
- Tour Manager
- Pilot
- Diplomatic Service Manager
- Languages Teacher
- Public Services

For further details see:

Miss V Brownlee

# Geography (GCSE)

## Course

### Are you interested in the world around you?

Do you want to be able to make informed decisions about where to work, where to live and where to go on holiday? Are you concerned about the environment? Do you want to develop skills you will find useful long after you have left school? There has never been a better time to study Geography.

The curriculum includes various topics from both Human Geography and Physical Geography. The content is engaging and topical with a stimulating blend of traditional and contemporary Geography. You will learn how to collect and interpret data gained through fieldwork, how to make decisions and solve problems.

You will have the opportunity to go on two field trips. These change each year and have previously included coastal visits to Hornsea and an urban study of the city of York.

## Assessment

Paper 1: The Physical Environment (37.5% of GCSE)  
Paper 1: The Human Environment (37.5% of GCSE)  
Paper 3: Geographical Investigations (25% of GCSE)

## For further details see:

Mr A Mason

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Environmental Consultant
- Surveyor
- Volcanologist
- Surveyor
- Environmental Engineer
- Market Researcher
- Cartographer
- GIS Specialist
- Landscape Architect
- Town Planner
- Analyst
- Weather Forecaster
- NASA Researcher

# Health and Social Care

(OCR: Cambridge National Certificate)

## Course

The Health and Social Care course offers a great insight into Health and Social Care in Britain and is a solid foundation for further study or careers within the industry of Health and Social Care.

Health and Social Care is a great subject for people who are interested in caring for other people, learning more about how we grow and develop through life, how different factors affect that and how and why creative therapies can help heal throughout life.

The qualification is modular and is split into three units.

- R032: Principles of Care in Health and Social Care Services
- R033 Supporting Individuals through Life Events
- R034 Creative and Therapeutic Activities

## Assessment

**R032:** This component is externally assessed through an exam and is worth 40% of their final grade.

**R033:** This component is internally assessed through completing analysis and explanation tasks and is worth 30% of their final grade.

**R034:** This component is internally assessed through completing different assessment tasks and is worth 30% of their final grade.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Nurse
- Social Worker
- Counsellor
- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Personal Trainer
- Child Care Assistant
- Psychologist
- Doctor

For further details see:

Miss C Davies

# History (GCSE)

## Course

History allows students to contextualise the world we live in. It also helps them to ask questions properly and to express their opinions.

History is a well-respected discipline. History encourages students to infer information from sources and to recall facts. It demands strong written expression and the ability to look at different points of view.

Are you... Curious about the past and interested in how people lived? Keen to develop your writing, research and analytical skills? Willing to share and debate your ideas? Most of all, do you enjoy History? Then history is for you!

For further details see:

Mrs E Rowe

## Assessment

You will take 3 equally weighted written exams.

**Paper 1:** Thematic study and historic environment  
Content overview: Medicine in Britain, c1250-present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914-18: injuries, treatment and the trenches

**Paper 2:** Period study and British in-depth study,  
Content overview: Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 Superpower Relations and Cold War, 1941-91

**Paper 3:** Modern depth study  
Content overview: The USA, 1954-75: conflict at home and abroad

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Archaeologist
- Palaeontology
- Teacher
- Conservation Officer
- Journalist
- Solicitor



## (BTEC Tech Award – Digital Information Technology)

### Course

**In the digital age we live in, computing is engrained in the world around us.**

Everywhere we look we are exposed to the world of online design and project creation. In this course you will learn how to create digital projects for a range of scenarios to prepare you for industry and the digital world.

The course is designed to develop knowledge, understanding and practical skills that will be required in any industry that involves modern technology.

### Assessment

**Coursework:**

Component 1 – Exploring & Designing User Interfaces

Component 2 – Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data

**Written Exam:**

Component 3 – Effective Digital Working Practices

**Assessment Overview:**

**Component 1:** Students will develop their understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. They will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface.

**Component 2:** Learners will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in the decision making. They will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.

**Written Exam:** Learners will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use.

### Possible careers and opportunities

- Web Developer
- Photographer
- Media Sector
- Apprenticeships in Broadcasting and the Media
- Computer Science

For further details see:

Mr L Marshall

# Performing Arts

(EDUQAS Vocational Award)

## Course

This course is aimed at students who are interested in a vocational award comprising in a single Performing Arts discipline, or a mixture of all disciplines.

Students studying this course have the flexibility to choose to partake in a course comprising of:

- A mixture of Music, Drama, Musical Theatre or Music Technology

## OR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- Music
- Drama
- Musical Theatre
- Music Technology

This course will develop students' knowledge and understanding of the Performing Arts sector and provide them with opportunities to develop associated practical skills. It covers performing, creating and performance arts in practice.

## Assessment

**Unit 1:** Performing – students can choose to perform on a chosen instrument or sing, perform a drama performance or a musical theatre performance.

**Unit 2:** Creating – devised drama, choreography, composition (writing music), composition using technology.

**Unit 3:** Performing Arts in practise – an assignment will be provided by Eduqas which will include a real-life scenario and several tasks.

For further details see:

Mr S Steels

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Business Advisor
- Actor/Actress
- Director
- Script Writer
- Drama/Music Therapist
- Teacher
- Musician
- Musical Theatre/Music Technician
- Conductor
- Composer
- DJ
- Music Producer
- Music Therapist
- Music Teacher

# Physical Education

## (GCSE)

### Course

The GCSE PE course is an excellent stepping stone into the sports industry.

Topics are covered in great depth and will give students a solid foundation of knowledge to pursue a host of careers. Students will cover a range of topics such as the make-up of the human body, how to train effectively, sports psychology and sports nutrition.

Students are assessed in numerous ways in GCSE PE. Their progress will be measured on their practical ability within multiple sports throughout the course, their evaluation skills as they produce coursework in Year 10 and finally their ability to retain and apply knowledge when sitting two exam papers in Year 11.

It is important to note that the GCSE PE specification has changed with a higher percentage now focused on the theory element of the course. This course will suit students who are capable sports performers, and students who compete in sports both inside and outside of school.

### Assessment

#### Physical factors affecting performance

- 1.1 Applied anatomy and physiology
- 1.2 Physical training

Written Exam paper: 1 hour  
30% of total GCSE, 60 marks

#### Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology

This component will assess:

- 2.1 Socio-cultural influences
- 2.2 Sports psychology
- 2.3 Health, fitness and well-being

Written Exam paper: 1 hour  
30% of total GCSE, 60 marks

#### Practical Performances

This component will assess:

Core and advanced skills in three activities taken from the approved lists:

- one from the 'individual' list
- one from the 'team' list
- one other from either list

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

30% of total GCSE, 60 marks

#### Analysis and Evaluation of Performance

This component draws upon the knowledge, understanding and skills a student has learnt and enables them to analyse and evaluate their own or a peer's performance in one activity.

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

10% of total GCSE, 20 marks

### Possible careers and opportunities

- Personal Trainer
- Sports Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Sport and Exercise Psychologist
- Sports Coach
- Professional Sports Person
- PE Teacher
- Sports Nutritionist
- Sports Journalism
- Performance Analyst

For further details see:

Mr G Hughes

# Religious Studies (GCSE)

## Course

Religious Studies encourages students to learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions, while exploring their own beliefs and questions of meaning.

It challenges students to reflect on, consider, analyse, interpret and evaluate issues of truth, belief, faith and ethics and to communicate their responses.

Religious Studies encourages students to develop their sense of identity and belonging. It enables them to flourish individually within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society and global community. Religious Studies has an important role in preparing students for adult life, employment and lifelong learning. It enables students to develop respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own. It promotes a questioning, curious attitude and enables students to spot and combat prejudice.

**Component 1:** The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices.  
Christianity and Islam.

**Component 2:** Thematic studies.

Theme A: Relationships and families.

Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.

Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.

Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice.

## Assessment

**Paper 1** - Written examination 1 hour 45 minutes.  
Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices.

**Paper 2** - Written examination 1 hour 45 minutes.  
Component 2: Thematic studies.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Barrister
- Teacher
- Chaplain
- Health Service Manager
- Psychotherapist
- Recruitment
- Social Worker
- Armed Forces

For further details see:

Dr K Mackay-Roberts



# (GCSE) \*Spanish

## Course

Studying a foreign language helps you to communicate in the rapidly shrinking world and enables you to learn more about your own language.

The knowledge of a European language in a post-Brexit world is likely to be even more desirable and useful in business. Once you have learnt one foreign language, acquiring a second or a third when you are older is much easier. Knowledge of a foreign language also means you get more out of travel experiences as well as learning about other cultures. For some careers and courses in Higher Education, a foreign language is essential.

The curriculum includes three broad themes: People and lifestyle, Popular Culture, and Communication and the world around us.

### \* Teaching:

Choosing Spanish requires an extra commitment to study as lessons will take place outside of the normal school day and this will be an **EXTRA GCSE** in addition to your three option choices. The following will be provided:

- An after school class on a Wednesday in school (3:05pm-4:15pm)
- An online class using Microsoft Teams for 30 minutes from 4pm-4.30pm on a Monday
- A small group speaking session in school each week (approx. 15 minutes) this will involve coming out of a normal lesson for a short time at a different time each week
- Homework on Memrise and Duolingo as well as a short paper-based task each week

### Pre-Requisites

Students choosing GCSE Spanish must have a proven track record of an excellent ATL and excellent self-study record and good school attendance. Should standards drop throughout the course, they will forfeit their place on the GCSE Spanish.

*If you want to choose this option, a parent/carer must email [vbrownlee@howdenschool.net](mailto:vbrownlee@howdenschool.net) as soon as possible to express your interest. Miss Brownlee will then speak to your child about this opportunity.*

## Assessment

You will take final examinations in each skill at the end of the course, which are each worth 25% of the final grade. Entry is available at either Foundation or Higher level. There is a vocab list of 1200 words out at Foundation and 1700 words at higher.

- Listening Paper – this will include a dictation task
- Speaking Paper – this will include a reading aloud task
- Reading Paper – this will include a translation into English
- Writing Paper – this will include a translation into Spanish

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Environmental Consultant
- Interpreter
- Translator
- Tour Manager
- Pilot
- Diplomatic Service Manager
- Languages teacher
- Public Services

For further details see:

Miss V Brownlee

# Textiles Design (GCSE)

## Course

Textiles Design is an ideal subject for any students who enjoy hands on, creative subjects and learning new skills.

It is the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched, printed or decorative textiles that might have a functional or non-functional purpose. The areas of study in this course are wide and varied, ensuring all interests are catered for.

The curriculum includes art textiles, fashion design and illustration, costume design, constructed textiles, printed and dyed textiles, surface pattern, stitched and/or embellished textiles, soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors, digital textiles, and installed textiles.

For further details see:

Mrs D Morris

## Assessment

### Component 1: Portfolio 60%

This consists of more than one project showing your ability to research and develop ideas into an outcome. It must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study that demonstrate their ability.

### Component 2: Externally set assignment 40%

This is set in January of Year 11. Students respond to a starting point of their choice from an externally set assignment paper. Students then have a limited amount of time to research and develop ideas for their outcome which is produced in a 10-hour practical exam at the end of the course.

## Possible careers and opportunities

- Designer (of all types not limited to Fashion and interiors)
- Retail/Fashion Industry
- Costume Designer (Production/Media)
- Merchandising
- Manufacture
- Artisan





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