



LORD LAWSON OF BEAMISH ACADEMY YEAR 9 OPTIONS BOOKLET



2018

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LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE USEFUL INFORMATION WEBSITES:

CAREERS

For careers advice and guidance,
13 – 19 year olds:

www.connexions-tw.co.uk

UNIVERSITY

For information and options post school,
college or sixth form:

www.ucas.com

EMPLOYMENT

Advice and information on job profiles,
skills and qualifications required:

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

APPRENTICESHIPS

Advice post 16 on options/guidance
relating to apprenticeships:

www.gov.uk/apprenticeships-guide

Letter



January 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

An important stage in the education of your child has been reached. It is now time to give careful consideration to the courses which are to be studied in Key Stage 4 (years 10 and 11).

Some of these courses are compulsory and some are optional.

It is essential that students, parents and teachers work together to help students make option choices that will ensure success and lead to pathways for the future.

This booklet will inform you about:

[The Curriculum](#)
[Compulsory Courses](#)
[Optional Courses](#)
[How to Choose a Course](#)

In order to assist you further with Option Choices, there will be a meeting for parents and students on Tuesday 23 January 2018, between 6:00pm and 8:00pm for X band students and between 6.30pm and 8.30pm for Y band students. It is essential that you attend this meeting along with your son/daughter.

I would also like to emphasise the importance of good attendance in years 10 and 11. Some of the courses involve 'on going' coursework which starts in year 10 and counts towards the final assessment.

Please keep this booklet to use as a reference throughout years 10 and 11.

Yours sincerely



Mr N Mills

(Deputy Principal)

The Curriculum

The Courses

At Key Stage 4, students study a mixture of compulsory courses and individually chosen courses. The compulsory courses are:

English, Mathematics, Science and Physical Education, + one EBacc subject which is an option.

The optional courses include:

Art and Design, Business Studies, Children's Learning and Development, Computer Science, Creative Media and Digital Production, Dance, Drama, Fashion and Textiles (Technology Based), Food and Catering, French, Geography, German, Graphic Design, History, IT, Design & Technology, Music, PE, Philosophy and Ethics, Photography, Textiles (Fine Art Based)

All students are asked to choose either History or Geography and our more able students are encouraged to study an MFL option.

The Qualifications

The majority of these courses lead to GCSE and BTEC qualifications / Technical Awards
BTEC stands for Business and Technical Education Certificate. These courses are skills based, with a more 'hands on' approach to studying, which some students find to their liking.
The BTEC qualifications on offer are equivalent to 9 -1 grades i.e. Level 2.



EBacc subjects are:

Maths, English, Science, Geography, History, French, German and Computer Science. All students MUST study at least one EBacc subject in addition to Maths, English and Science.

EBacc measure:

This is a measure for schools and Academies based upon the percentage of students who are studying Maths, English, Science, Geography or History and MFL. We would encourage our more able students to follow this route.

Guidance on Choosing your subject

Here are some good reasons for choosing a course:

- You like it
- You are interested in it
- You are good at it and likely to be successful in it
- You want to continue to study it in future years and it will help you gain entrance into University and Further Education

Here are some bad reasons for choosing a course:

- It is new and you haven't studied it in Key Stage 3
- It is the same choice as your friend and you don't want to be separated. Remember that people are different and what is right for your friend may not be right for you.
- You like your current teacher. You are not guaranteed to have the same teachers.

Advice from some of our students who have already been through this process:

"Consider the subjects you are interested in and enjoy, as it is generally easier to succeed in a subject you really want to do. I would recommend speaking to your current subject teachers if you already take the subject, and discuss the course contents so you have an insight into what is expected of you at GCSE."

Olivia Inness – Head Girl Fleet House

Before deciding to study any subject at GCSE, you should ensure you are opting for the subjects that are right for you, not for your friends or anyone else. Choose subjects you believe you will do well in, you may already do so, and you can build on this.

Alexander Moody – Head Boy Brookside

My advice to any student would be to make sure you are 100% sure it is a subject you either really enjoy or know you will do well in. I am happy with my options and succeeding in them as I knew I would not get bored whilst being taught the content, which helps to keep you motivated to try harder and get the good grades you want and deserve.

Sophie Hughes – Head Girl turner

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

What qualification will I gain?

All students will follow the AQA GCSE English Language and AQA GCSE English Literature courses, therefore achieving two separate GCSEs.

What will I learn about?

For GCSE English Language: You will be developing and improving upon your reading, writing and speaking and listening skills from KS3 English. You will recognise some of the work such as writing to describe or presenting a viewpoint. However you will be expected to embark upon some new, exciting and challenging work. You will read a wide range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, including literature and literary non-fiction as well as other writing such as reviews and journalism. You will be expected to develop critical skills, summarise and compare texts, as well as improving your writing skills.

For GCSE English Literature: You will continue to read a range of fiction texts (novels, poetry and plays), as you did at KS3. You will develop your skills of critical evaluation so that you can discuss and explain your understanding of the texts you study. You will be expected to read widely and appreciate the depth and power of the English literary heritage, using some appropriate terminology to analyse how writers present their ideas.

Assessment

Both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature are assessed through 100% exam. GCSE Language involves the study of fiction, literary non-fiction and non-fiction texts that students are expected to analyse and produce within the exam.

In GCSE English Literature students are examined on a nineteenth century novel, a Shakespeare play, a modern drama text, an anthology of poetry and some unseen poetry.

How will this course help me in the future?

Whatever your future plans a qualification in English is a necessity. Students that demonstrate a consistency of effort; a willingness to explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas; an ability to work collaboratively in a group and a desire to improve the quality of work will be students that succeed in this subject. Therefore future employers would expect students of English to have good communication skills, be proactive in meeting deadlines; able to complete work to a high standard; work as part of a team and be able to discuss, intelligently and analytically, their thoughts and ideas.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Leader

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Deputy Subject Leader



Science

What qualifications will I gain?

All students in the academy will study Science in one of two routes:

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

This is known as 'double award' GCSE Science. It draws much of its content from the single Science qualifications. You'll explore exciting topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and sit six exams – gaining the equivalent of two GCSEs. It's excellent preparation if you want to study Science after Key Stage 4 either at A level or through our Applied Science route.

GCSE Separate Sciences

This is sometimes referred to as 'triple award' GCSE Science. The three GCSEs gained are in each of the three separate Science subjects and provide students with an excellent foundation to progress on to the A level Science subjects.

Students will be selected for the GCSE Separate Science route based on a consistent track record of performing at a high level.

What will I learn about?

GCSE Trilogy Science (Dual Award) is the course that all students will take covering the principles of all three Sciences which will lead to you achieving two GCSE's in Science. These will be awarded at the end of Year 11. The course comprises of Biology units ranging from how our body's internal environment is maintained and how organisms grow and develop, to genetics and natural selection. In the Chemistry unit's, patterns of chemical reactions are studied as well as how the rates of chemical reactions can be controlled and how new materials are made. You will also study Physics units that consider issues surrounding radiation in all its forms, electricity, forces and motion, the behaviour of waves and the development of ideas about our place in the Universe.

During the course, you will learn about a wider range of scientific ideas and consider them in depth. You will explore how technological advances relate to the scientific ideas underpinning them. You will do numerical work and evaluate critically evidence collected and conclusions drawn. You will see how scientists work together to develop new ideas, how new theories may, at first, give rise to controversy and how social and cultural contexts may affect the extent to which theories are accepted.

Those choosing to take Separate Science qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics will study all the same topics covered in the Trilogy course. However, each of these topics will be covered in greater depth, and with an increased mathematical emphasis.

Assessment

For both Trilogy (Dual Award) and Separate Sciences you will sit 6 exams (2 per subject area). The Trilogy (Dual Award) exams are 1 hour 15 minutes, whereas the Separate Science exams last 1 hour 45 minutes each.

How will this course help me in the future?

Trilogy (Dual Award) and Separate Sciences provide a secure foundation for further study at 'A' Level if high enough grades are achieved and the course entry requirements are met. Science opens up a wide range of career opportunities from Medicine to Engineering, Dentistry to Accounting. Speak to your Science teacher about the possibilities ahead of you with a strong set of Science GCSEs.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Leader

harmstrong4@lordlawson.org.uk

Deputy Subject Leader



Mathematics - GCSE

Mathematics is a fantastic, fun and exciting subject where we consider questions such as:

- Do statistics lie?
- How many legs does the average dog have?
- What kind of chart can you eat?
- Why do we use letters in maths?
- How can a number behave irrationally?
- What is the last digit of the number pi?

What qualifications will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I learn about?

The course covers a range of topics such as: Number, Algebra, Ratio (proportion and rates of change), Geometry and Measures, Probability, and Statistics.

Assessment

At the end of year 11 and the five year course, you will sit three exams. GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a higher-tier (grades 4 – 9).

Students must take three question papers at the same tier. Each paper is worth 80 marks and last 1 hour and 30 minutes. A calculator can be used for paper 2 & 3 only.

For more detailed information refer to the AQA website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300>.

How will this course help me in the future?

What types of skills do employers look for? Problem solving, analysis, data handling and communication skills, to name just a few. These transferable skills are useful in any job, and you can get all of them from studying maths. There are many career opportunities available to you with a Maths qualification, some obvious but others that you may not have thought of, such as: Computer game designer and ICT, Medical statistician and medical research, Audio software engineer and digital signal processing, Meteorologist and climate prediction, Racing car designer and aerodynamics, Avalanche researcher and fluid dynamics, Statistical consultant and data analysis, the list goes on. But this shows you don't need to be called a mathematician to use maths in fact, no matter what job you go into you will use your mathematical skills.

Should you require further information please contact:

djackson@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader



What will I learn about?

The academies high-quality physical education curriculum is set up to inspire all pupils to succeed and excel in competitive sport and other physically-demanding activities. It will provide opportunities for pupils to become physically confident in a way which supports their health and fitness. Opportunities to compete in sport and other activities will help build character and help to embed values such as fairness and respect.

Students at KS4 will tackle complex and demanding physical activities.

Students will be taught to:

- Use and develop a variety of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in team and individual games for example, badminton, basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rounders, rugby and tennis.
- Develop their technique and improve their performance in other competitive sports, for example, athletics, or other physical activities
- Evaluate their performances compared to previous ones and demonstrate improvement across a range of physical activities to achieve their personal best
- Continue to take part regularly in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs.

Aims of the Curriculum

The LLOB curriculum for core physical education at KS4 will aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities
- Ensure that students are physically active for sustained periods of time
- Engage students in competitive sports and activities
- Provide knowledge so that students can lead healthy, active lives

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gthompson3@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader

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Assistant Subject Leader



Art and Design - GCSE

This art qualification is an exciting and challenging course that covers a wide range of art and design disciplines such as painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking as well as embracing new technologies such as photography and computer aided design.

What qualifications will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I learn about?

Over the two years you will produce two to three large coursework projects inspired by a variety of themes and the course will culminate in an externally set assignment with a ten hour examination. This qualification is an excellent grounding for all A-level Art and Design courses offered in Sixth Form and is an essential subject for those wishing to progress into careers in Art & Design.

This will be well suited to students who wish to cover a more varied and general art based skill set.

Assessment

Assessment is by an examination of a portfolio of work undertaken during the course of study (60%) and an externally set task (40%) in which the students will create a personal response to one of the questions issued by the examination board. This includes a 10 hour controlled test period.

How will this course help me in the future?

Art and Design GCSE is an excellent grounding for 'A' Level courses and Art and Design related degrees. The creative industry is thriving and Art and Design offers pathways into Design, Fashion, Textiles, Graphic and Product Design, Fine Art, Architecture, Advertising, Games Design and Gallery Work.

Should you require further information please contact:

ymurray@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader



Business – BTEC

What will I learn about?

Unit 1 Enterprise in the Business World

You will explore different types of business ownership and how these relate to the size and scale of a business, as well as how the type of ownership impacts on the responsibilities of the owners of a business. Combined with looking at types of business model, you can begin to understand how diverse the world of business is.

Unit 2 Finance for Business (On-screen test)

All businesses have to spend money before they can make a profit, and when they spend money, they incur costs. In this unit, you will explore the types of costs that businesses incur, from the initial start-up costs involved in setting up a business to the ongoing daily costs of running the business. You will then explore the ways in which the sale of products and services generates revenue, so that you can develop your understanding of profit.

Unit 3 Promoting a Brand

A successful business promotes itself to customers through its brand and image. In this unit, you will find out what it takes to build a brand and what a business has to consider when planning brand development. You will investigate the importance of branding to a business, the types of branding that are available and why businesses need to review and update their brands.

Unit 8 Recruitment, Selection and Employment

The success of any business is largely due to the calibre of the people who work for it.

A business will strive to ensure that it has the right people in the right place at the right time.

In this unit you will be introduced to the variety of job roles that exist within businesses and the various functions that are performed by individual roles, as well as the types of organisational structures used in businesses.

Assessment

This is an active course where you will complete 4 units of work (as outlined above), 3 of which are internally assessed (coursework) and another which is externally assessed (onscreen test).

How will this course help me in the future?

It is useful to anybody BUT especially useful if you want to work in a business. Understanding how small or large businesses function is very useful information. BTEC courses also allow you to develop skills which are very useful in the workplace. You can continue to study BTEC Business Studies at in the Sixth Form and then pursue it even further at University.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Leader

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Subject Teacher



Business Studies - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

1 GCSE.

What will I learn about?

- Business activity
- Marketing
- People
- Operations
- Finance
- Influences on business
- The independent nature of business

You will study the different types of businesses, from small corner shops to powerful multinationals, how businesses grow, why people are the most important resource a business has, who helps but also controls business activity and what happens to businesses when “things change”.

You will learn how to describe business situations, analyse problems, evaluate the evidence and communicate clearly your arguments using business terms. You will regularly use ICT to carry out classroom tasks and study real businesses.

Assessment

You will have two exam papers both of which contribute 50% to your total GCSE grade.

How will this course help me in the future?

You can continue to study Business Studies at A level in the Sixth Form and then pursue it even further at University.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Leader

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Subject Teacher



Children's Learning and Development – Technical Award

What qualification will I gain?

One GCSE graded Distinction - Pass

What will I learn about?

This qualification is for learners who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in child development. It is designed with both practical and theoretical elements, which will prepare students for further qualifications in Child Care, Health and Social Care, Psychology, Sociology and Biology.

All students will study three mandatory topics as follows:

1. Health and well-being for child development
2. Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years
3. Understand the development norms of a child from birth to five years.

- The first topic of study underpins all of the other learning in this qualification. Students will develop the essential knowledge and understanding in child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, postnatal provision, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.

- In the second topic of study, students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. This topic will also cover nutrition and hygiene practices and students will be given the opportunity to investigate feeding solutions, comparing these to nutritional requirements and evaluating the outcomes. Evaluation skills are developed, which would be of use in further studies in a number of areas.

- In the third topic of study, students will gain an understanding of the development norms from birth to five years and the stages and benefits of play. Students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. This topic will include researching, planning and carrying out activities with a child and observing and evaluating

these activities, as well as comparing the child to the expected development norms. Researching, planning, observing and evaluating skills would be useful in further studies as these are transferable skills and could be applied to many subject areas.

Assessment:

- R018: Health and well-being for child development.
Written paper OCR-set and marked 1 hour and 15 minutes – 80 marks
Learners answer all questions
- R019: Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years.
Centre assessed coursework task
Approx. 7-10 hours – 60 marks
- R020: Understand the development of a child from birth to five years
Centre assessed coursework task
Approx. 7-10 hours – 60 marks

How will this course help me in the future?

Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in PHSE, Biology and other child development qualifications.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Teacher



Creative Media Digital Production - BTEC First Award

Studying Media Studies gives you the chance to develop a critical understanding of the role of the media in daily life. If you are looking for a broad introduction to Media with a particular focus on video production and digital publishing, this could be the right course for you. The BTEC First Award in Creative Digital Media Production has been created with an insight into the rapidly expanding world of Media and Digital Communication. A strong emphasis has been placed on skills development. The subject is perfect for those who like to combine an understanding of media and the opportunity for hands-on practical work, giving you a valuable insight into the way the media works in the 'real world'.

You will have the opportunity to be creative and analytical in areas that interest you like film, TV and music, for example by producing your own videos, magazines and even websites. The course is also geared towards the development of a host of new skills, from the practical skills needed for video production, and presentation to the creativity required for digital publishing and film production.

Working with products and media that you come into contact with in your everyday life is both interesting and often unexpected. By analysing the packaging on DVDs or how the opening minutes of a film, radio show or game are designed to grab audience attention gives you an appreciation into the work that goes on behind the scenes.

What Qualifications Will I Gain?

Completion of this course will mean you have gained a Level 2 First Award in Creative Digital Media Production.

- The grades are Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*
- If you do not achieve at Level 2 you may be awarded a Level 1 grade.
- This qualification is a 120 guided-learning-hour qualification (equivalent in teaching time to one GCSE)
- You will complete essential core units and optional specialist units
- 25 per cent of this qualification is externally assessed.

What Will I Learn About?

Some of the knowledge/skills you will gain are:

- An appreciation and critical understanding of the media and its role in their daily lives.
- Critical thinking and decision-making skills.
- Pre-production and planning skills like storyboarding, scripting, flat plans, news selection, mock-ups and sketching
- Production skills like photography, filming, recording, editing, and desktop publishing.
- An understanding of new technologies.

Assessment

The units we will study are as follows. Each unit is worth 25% of the overall qualification:

Unit 1:

Digital Media Sectors and Audiences – External Exam.

You will explore the digital media industry. You will also explore the different types of audiences and how audiences can engage with each sector.

Unit 2:

Planning and Pitching a Digital Media Product – Internally Assessed Coursework.

You will use your verbal, written and visual communication skills to enable you to formulate, develop and pitch ideas of a product that they then plan to produce.

Unit 3:

Digital Moving Image Production – Internally Assessed Coursework

You will investigate key features of digital moving image productions, including structures, generic conventions and audience address, in preparation for the making of a film or video.

Unit 5:

Digital Publishing Production – Internally Assessed Coursework

You will gain the knowledge and skills required for the design and development of digital publishing products. You will also have an overview of how to source materials and then combine them. You will organise and manage the production of a digital publishing product.

How Will This Course Help Me In The Future?

Qualifications in Media Studies provides a good foundation for further study of Media Studies. It is a great choice for people considering careers which include: camera operator, animator, journalist, Public relations, marketing, social media analyst, film/video editor, advertising executive, press officer, television presenter or producer, storyboard editor, video production manager, scriptwriter, script editor.

Should you require further information please contact

sbrown@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader

cturner@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Teacher



Drama - GCSE

The course is specifically designed for students who have a genuine interest in Drama and the Theatre.

Students are encouraged to develop their creative skills; self confidence; self discipline and communication skills.

What qualifications will I gain?

One GCSE in Drama.

What will I learn about?

The course consists of both practical work and a final written examination. You will learn about different genre and performance styles and the ways in which performers and designers communicate meaning to an audience. You will take part in practical workshops to improve your personal acting skills and perform one script and one devised piece for formal assessment.

Assessment

Component 1; Understanding Drama.

Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre. Study of one set play and analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre maker.

How it's assessed:

Study of one set text and Live Theatre; open book exam – 1hr 45

- Section A: multiple choice (4 marks)
- Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen (46 marks)

- Section C: one two part question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (30 marks)

Component 2; Devising Drama (Practical)

Process of creating and performance of devised drama) Analysis and evaluation of own work.

How it's assessed:

- Devising log (60 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)

Component 3; Texts in Practice (Practical)

Performance of two extracts from one play, specific focus on the characterisation or design skills.

How it's assessed

- Performance of Extract 1 (25 marks) and Extract 2 (25 marks)

How will this course help me in the future?

This qualification can lead to 'A' level Drama and Theatre which in turn can be used to access a range of degree courses ranging from Performance Studies to Dramaturgy.

Should you require further information please contact:

sbrown@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader

jrace@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Teacher



Food Preparation and Nutrition - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

One GCSE graded 1-9

What will I learn about?

This new GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance.

Assessment:

UNIT 1

In this unit you will study theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from Sections 1 to 5.

How it's assessed

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
100 marks - 50% of GCSE

This exam will contain the following types of questions:

- Multiple choice questions (20 marks)
- Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)

UNIT 2

Task 1: Food investigation (30 marks)

Students will be assessed on their understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Practical investigations are a compulsory element of this NEA task.

Task 2: Food preparation assessment (70 marks)

Students' will be assessed on their knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

How it's assessed

- Task 1: Written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.
- Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

How will this course help me in the future?

Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study, or embark on an apprenticeship or full time career in the catering or food industries. For example:

- Head chef / chef
- Food Scientist
- Food manufacturer
- Restaurant manager
- Dietician

Should you require further information please contact:

ggreenwell@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Teacher



French - GCSE

What qualification will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I learn about?

GCSE French focuses on communication with French speakers in France, Belgium, or anywhere you may need to speak or understand French.

A good GCSE in French will give you the competence to discuss and describe issues in a variety of contexts, which relate to your own experience:

- Lifestyle: relationships, family and friends, healthy and unhealthy lifestyles, future plans
- Leisure: free time, shopping, holidays
- Home and Local Environment: home town and region, special occasions, being environmentally friendly
- Work and Education: school, getting a job

You will develop skills and language which will enable you to pick out the most useful information from everyday texts, such as notices, signs, announcements and from short conversations.

Assessment

Each skill will be assessed separately in exams at the end of the course : Listening (25%), Reading (25%), Speaking (25%), Writing (25%).

How will this course help me in the future?

A GCSE in French will enable you to deal with a variety of situations in a French speaking country, which, in an increasingly multilingual world will give you an advantage in the world of work.

In addition, you will gain invaluable language learning skills to apply to learning any second foreign language later in life. Learning one language will serve as an excellent base for learning a second more quickly.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Leader



German - GCSE

What qualification will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I learn about?

GCSE German focuses on communication with German speakers in Germany, Austria, or anywhere you may need to speak or understand German. A good GCSE in German will give you the competence to discuss and describe issues in a variety of contexts which relate to your own experience:

- Lifestyle: relationships, family and friends, healthy and unhealthy lifestyles, future plans
- Leisure: free time, shopping, holidays
- Home and Local Environment: home town and region, special occasions, being environmentally friendly
- Work and Education: school, getting a job

You will develop skills and language which will enable you to pick out the most useful information from everyday texts, such as notices, signs, announcements and from short conversations.

Assessment

Each skill will be assessed separately in exams at the end of the course : Listening (25%), Reading (25%), Speaking (25%), Writing (25%).

How will this course help me in the future?

A GCSE in German will enable you to deal with a variety of situations in a German speaking country, which in an increasingly multilingual world will give you an advantage in the world of work. In addition, you will gain invaluable language learning skills to apply to learning any second foreign language later in life. Learning one language will serve as an excellent base for learning a second more quickly.

Should you require further information please contact:

jknight2@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader



Geography - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

We follow the new AQA Geography Specification (8035), which is graded on the 9-1 grading system. A grade between 1 and 9 will equate to one GCSE pass.

What will I learn about?

Unit 1: Physical Geography

The Challenge of Natural Hazards: Where are volcanoes and earthquakes most likely to be found? How do tropical storms form and how much damage can they do? Why is UK weather becoming more extreme? Does climate change exist? What can be done about it in the world?

The Living World: What is an ecosystem? Where do we find tropical rainforests and why are they being cut down? What impact does the Amazon Rainforest have on the world? How important are places like Antarctica to the planet? How can humans use cold environments as opportunities for development? Should we?

Physical Landscapes in the UK: How do rivers help to shape our land? What can be done to help prevent flooding? What have ice and glaciers done to the UK, especially the Lake District? Why is the Lake District so attractive to tourists?

Unit 2: Human Geography

Urban Issues and Challenges: Why are cities in poor countries growing so rapidly? What problems exist in cities around the world? How important are UK cities in the world? How can cities become more sustainable and eco-friendly?

The Changing Economic World: How can we measure development in the world? How can the population, or even tourism, affect development in a country?

Does aid actually help countries to develop? Or do big business help? What can we do to improve the UK's economy? Is the UK still important in the world?

The Challenge of Resource Management: How are food, water and energy distributed around the world? Where in the world has a secure or insecure energy supply? What can we do to increase energy supplies? What is fracking all about? How can we develop energy in a sustainable and environmentally-friendly way?

Unit 3

Involves fieldtrips that are organised so that we can see these processes in real life and collect data relating to them. We will evaluate real life events and understand solutions to local, national and global problems by using many geographical skills, such as map work, statistics, computer and graphical skills. We will undertake one aspect of human geography fieldwork and one aspect of physical geography fieldwork. Voluntary monetary contributions are necessary to fund these visits.

Assessment

There will be 3 exams at the end of year 11: one on Physical Geography (35%); one on Human Geography (35%); one on Skills, Fieldwork and an Issue Evaluation (30%).

How will this course help me in the future?

Geography will enable you to fully understand what is happening to our planet and what we need to do to make sure that we treat it well enough so that it is here for a long time yet. You will learn a range of skills that will prepare you for so much in the world and that will prepare you well for further study. Skills including research, analysis, statistical, cartographic and report-writing will all prepare you for A Levels and the working world.

Should you require further information please contact:

msurtees@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader



Graphic Design - GCSE

This is an art qualification which specialises in graphic design techniques. It is an exciting and challenging course which covers all aspects of Graphic Design. Areas of study include packaging design, DVD, CD and games cover design and advertising and promotion.

What qualifications will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I learn about?

You will have the opportunity to use up-to-date industry software such as Photoshop as well as learning the more traditional aspects of Graphic Design.

Over the two years you will produce between 2 and 3 large coursework units which account for 60% of your final grade. The remaining 40% will come from a practical controlled test set by the exam board. This will be set over a period of time and culminate in a 10 hour practical exam. You will have the opportunity to work on some exciting new project briefs all of which are heavily linked with the Art and Design industries. There are many opportunities in the creative field and this course will give you real insight into the types of careers you could have if you studied this subject.

Assessment

Assessment is by an examination of a portfolio of work undertaken during the course of study (60%) and an externally set task (40%) in which the students will create a personal response to one of the questions issued by the examination board. This includes a 10 hour controlled test period.

How will this course help me in the future?

It is an excellent foundation for graphic and media related courses in Sixth Form and beyond. It provides a wide range of career pathways into Graphic Design, Games Design, Advertising, Product Design and many more.

Should you require further information please contact:

ymurray@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader



History - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

You will gain a GCSE History qualification.

What will I learn about?

This is a GCSE with a very diverse set of topics on offer! It is split into a 'period study', a 'thematic study', a 'wider world depth study' and a 'British depth study'. You will look at America in the period 1920-1973, as the USA emerged as the most powerful and influential country in the world. You will study the theme of power in Britain over a thousand years, covering the Magna Carta, the civil war and modern democracy with votes for men and women. Your wider world depth study will look at the causes of WWII, while your British depth study will focus on the Norman invasion of England. The North East has a big role in this part of History – it took a lot of castles and a lot of harrying to get us northerners to accept Norman rule – and so this unit should help you to understand your local environment. As part of your studies you will take part in visits to local historical sites to do with the Norman period, and you may also get the opportunity to take part in one of the History Department's overseas visits, for example to Berlin, to aid your understanding of Nazi Germany, and Hitler's role in causing WWII.

Assessment

GCSE History is assessed in two exams. These are taken at the end of year 11. There is no controlled assessment or coursework in GCSE History. Each exam lasts 1hr 45mins. You will practice exam questions throughout the two years of GCSE History so that you are fully prepared.

The units will be split into the following papers:

Paper 1:

Conflict and Tension 1918-1939
America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and inequality

Paper 2:

Britain: Power and the People
Norman England, c1066–c1100

How will this course help me in the future?

As well as being interesting, History at Lord Lawson is relevant to the events happening in the world today. By studying History, you will understand how people are motivated and how the world today has been shaped by past events. History skills are valuable to both further study at A-level and employers. Evaluating evidence and thinking about bias and propaganda, as well as constructing your own well written arguments are sophisticated skills. History is great for jobs in journalism and law as well as many others.

Should you require further information please contact:

aluke@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader



Computer Science - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

You should obtain 1 GCSE grade in line with your target grade

What will I learn about?

You will develop an understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work. You will demonstrate an ability to interpret, amend and create algorithms. You will study binary representation, data representation, data storage and compression. You will work with a structured database and experience use of SQL as well as study encryption. Additionally, you will work with logic statements and read and interpret fragments of assembly code. You will use HTML and CSS to construct web pages. Additionally, you will study computer networks, the internet and the world wide web, as well as an awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.

Units for study -

- Principles of Computer Science
- Practical Programming

Assessment

This course is assessed by means of a written exam paper and a controlled assignment brief. The written exam for Principles of Computer Science is externally set and marked by the examining body and worth 75% of your final grade. This indicates the importance of theory in this qualification. The Programming element of your qualification is worth 25%.

How will this course help me in the future?

This qualification will give you a sound basis for developing your further education in this subject. You will demonstrate that you have sound computational thinking skills as well as the ability to translate theory into practice through your own programming project.

Should you require further information please contact:

arobinson@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader



What qualifications will I gain?

A Level 1 OR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies
The Level 2 pass is equivalent to one GCSE and is graded at: Distinction *, Distinction, Merit and Pass.

What will I learn about?

1. Project initiation, planning and review

Alongside understanding each stage of the life cycle, you will learn about the methods and processes used to complete each stage. Having been provided with a data problem, you will creatively use your skills to plan and develop a technological solution. You will undertake activities such as creating project plans, carrying out research and online surveys.

2. Collecting, manipulating/processing and storing data

Knowing how and why data and information are gathered and being able to turn raw data into something meaningful. Understand the tools and techniques that can be used to initiate and plan solutions. You will learn how to use different technologies (hardware and software applications), and tools and techniques used to select, store and manipulate data.

3. Creatively developing meaningful information for customer

You will have the opportunity to use a breadth of distribution channels, ranging from traditional methods of presentation such as customer mail outs to using online technologies such as email, app technologies or social media and web uploads. You will develop the confidence to use a range of information technologies that are currently available, as well as being adaptable and resilient enough to deal with its rapid advances.

4. Awareness of the importance of legal, moral, ethical and security factors

Essential when handling data is an understanding of the surrounding legal, moral, ethical, and security issues. This theme considers this along with the different risks associated with data and its storage and how these can be mitigated (for example, minimising risks of cyber-attacks). This element of the qualification will provide you with the skills to stay safe when completing their future activities using information technologies, be that for personal, education or working for an employer.

Assessment

There are two assessments to be taken:

1. Unit R012

Understanding tools, techniques, methods and processes for technological solutions, is examined, there will be two series every year after the first year.

2. Unit R013

Developing technological solutions, is internally assessed and OCR-moderated. There will be two series every year after the first year.

Students have two opportunities to sit the exam, and multiple opportunities to sit the centre-assessed unit.

How will this course help me in the future?

ICT skills are essential for success in employment and higher education and are among the fundamental transferable skills required by employers. OCR Nationals deliver these skills across the whole range of learning styles and abilities effectively engaging and inspiring all students to achieve their potential. Successful completion of the course will allow access to further education (sixth form or college) or employment opportunities.

Should you require further information please contact:

arobinson@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader



Music - GCSE

GCSE Music gives a thorough understanding of music from three different perspectives; performance, composition and Listening/appraising. If you have a passion and interest in music you will be really successful on this course. It will provide you with the opportunity to study a creative and practical based course with a group of like-minded creative students who love to perform and write their own music.

What qualifications will I gain?

Written Examination

40% Listening and appraising- This is a 1 hour 45 minute exam with a mixture of short and longer style questions. The questions are based around the 8 set works that you will study throughout year 10 and 11, as well as some pieces that you haven't studied.

What will I learn about?

All students will perform as an individual soloist and as a member of an ensemble. It is vital that you feel comfortable performing to an audience.

The course also incorporates compositional techniques culminating in large scale compositions to be submitted as coursework.

A real musical focus on a variety of set works allows you to develop your listening skills and analysis through an in-depth understanding of different musical styles genres.

Assessment

Non-examined Assessment:
30% - Performing - You will perform and record a solo and group piece which will be sent off to the exam board to be moderated.

How will this course help me in the future?

You will develop your musical skills, working independently and as a member of a team. You will investigate and research a variety of styles of music and performers expanding your knowledge base of different genres/styles of music from various times and places.

Should you require further information please contact:

sbrown@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader

rhall@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Teacher



Dance - AQA GCSE

GCSE Dance is suited to learners who are interested in developing both their knowledge of dance and their experience of performance and choreography. Students will develop their understanding of dance history, choreographers and set professional works as well as perform in group dances and create their own choreography.

The new GCSE Dance Specification will be includes fresh and exciting changes making this the ideal opportunity to study dance further within this improved and relevant course. Studying GCSE Dance will also provide students with the opportunities and experiences to develop their communication skills, collaborative skills and self-confidence.

Students with a range of dance experience would benefit from the course. Students with a passion and interest in the subject would be successful on this course. Studying the GCSE Dance course will support you in accessing further higher dance training leading to a career within the dance Industry. It will also provide you with the enjoyment of studying of a creative and practical based course in school. You will work closely with a small class of like-minded creative students who love to dance and explore topics and issues through choreography.

Assessment

The GCSE course is internally marked and externally moderated.

There are two course components:
Component 1- Performance and Choreography
60% of overall GCSE grade.

Performance:

30% of GCSE Grade
40 marks (15 marks for set phrases and 25 marks for duet/ trio performance)

Choreography:

30% of GCSE
40 marks
Component 2- Dance Appreciation
40% of overall GCSE Grade
Written Paper- 1 hour 30 minutes
80 marks

Should you require further information please contact:

sbrown@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader



Photography - GCSE

The course encourages a creative approach to photography, offering an opportunity for artistic expression which does not rely on drawing and painting ability. Students will use digital cameras to explore themes such as portraiture, landscape, documentary and movement.

What qualifications will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I learn about?

Students will learn how to compose, combine and manipulate images. Critical studies is an essential part of the course and students will be expected to undertake detailed, written case studies on the work of relevant photographers. To be successful on this course you need to be flexible, committed, determined creative and imaginative. The course may involve visits to galleries and museums as well as the opportunity to take part in workshops and work on location.

Assessment

Assessment is by an examination of a portfolio of work undertaken during the course of study (60%) and an externally set task (40%) in which the students will create a personal response to one of the questions issued by the exam board. This includes a 10 hour controlled test period.

How will this course help me in the future?

Photography GCSE is an excellent grounding for 'A' Level Photography and Media related courses. It is a creative subject which lends itself well to a wide range of Media and Photography based careers. It is an excellent foundation for many career pathways such as Journalism, Advertising, Web Design and Graphics.

Should you require further information please contact:

ymurray@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader

[Hollie Nesbitt](#) - Year 11 Photography



PE - GCSE

What will I learn about?

Two year course comprising of practical and theory work.
The theory carries a weighting of 60% and practical a weighting of 40%
The theory is made up of two parts

Part 1 Human body and movement in physical activity and sport

Applied anatomy and physiology
Movement analysis
Physical training
Use of data

Part 2 Socio-cultural influences and wellbeing in physical activity and sport

Sport psychology
Socio-cultural influences
Health, fitness and wellbeing

Assessment

There are two exams each lasting 1hr 30mins and each worth 30% of the total. Both exams are a mixture of multi-choice/objective test questions/short answer questions and extended answers questions.

Practical otherwise known as controlled assessment consists of two parts:
The practical performance requires a student to be assessed in 3 different physical activities in the role of a player/performer. (One in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or individual activity)

Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.

Should you require further information please contact:

gthompson3@lordlawson.org.uk
Subject Leader

ehalliday@lordlawson.org.uk
Assistant Subject Leader



Design and Technology - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

One GCSE graded 1-9

What will I learn about?

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 apply technical and practical expertise.

This GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Assessment

UNIT 1- Written exam

You will learn about 3 areas of D&T:

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

You will sit a 2 hour written exam, which is worth 100 marks and 50% of the GCSE.

The exam will consist of the following questions:

Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks)

A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.

Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks)

Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.

Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks) A mixture of short answer and extended response questions.

UNIT 2- Non examined assessment (NEA)

In this unit you will demonstrate the practical application of:

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

You will spend approximately 30–35 hours on a substantial design and make task, which is worth 100 marks and 50% of the GCSE. You will produce a prototype and a portfolio of evidence will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas
- Analysing & evaluating

How will this course help me in the future?

This qualification could help you to move into a wide range of careers. For example:

- Architecture
- Civil Engineering
- Industrial Design
- Graphic Design
- Theatre and set design

After GCSE, you could go on to study A Level Design and Technology at 6th form

Should you require further information please contact:

chancill@lordlawson.org.uk – Subject Leader



Textiles (Fine Art) - GCSE

GCSE Textiles is a dynamic and exciting subject area that will appeal to students who are interested in fashion, textiles, costume and interiors. This course enables you to develop your creativity in textiles and fashion, allowing you to experiment with many different processes such as freehand machine embroidery and printing, whilst building a portfolio of work that will enable you develop your skills as a designer.

What qualifications will I gain?

1 GCSE

What will I Learn about?

We study cutting-edge designers and contemporary textile artists as well as using influences from more historical traditions of textile design. We actively encourage studying current trends in fashion and textiles, examining contemporary practitioners, and producing creative and experimental samples, garments and textiles. Our students enjoy and appreciate the opportunity to have the freedom to experiment, develop their skills as a designer, and explore options in many different media using conventional and unconventional processes. To be successful on this course you need to be flexible, committed, determined creative and imaginative. The course may involve visits to galleries and museums as well as the opportunity to take part in workshops.

Assessment

Assessment is by an examination of a portfolio of work undertaken during the course of study (60%) and an externally set task (40%) in which the pupils will create personal response to one of the questions issued by the exam board. This includes a 10 hour controlled test period.

How will this course help me in the future?

Textiles GCSE is an excellent foundation for many Art and Design courses in Sixth Form and beyond. It provides a wide range of career pathways into Fashion Design, Fashion Trends, Textile Design, and Interior Design.

Should you require further information please contact:

ymurray@lordlawson.org.uk

Subject Leader



Fashion and Textiles – Technical Award - GCSE

What qualifications will I gain?

A vocational qualifications equivalent to one GCSE

What will I learn about?

This qualification is designed for students who want to study fashion and textiles in a hands on, practical way that helps them develop the knowledge, skills and experience that could open the door to a career in the industry. The course will develop a wide range of practical making skills incorporating surface embellishment, joining and finishing, combining materials and colouring fabrics. Learners will also develop an understanding of commercial processes and an in-depth knowledge of textiles based materials and their properties.

Assessment

You will complete three mandatory units (one externally assessed and two internally assessed)

Unit 1: Skills demonstration (internally assessed)

Learners will carry out a number of bite-sized projects to demonstrate their competence in the 8 core skills. Learners will produce a series of small made outcomes and record their work in a portfolio of no more than 15 pages.

72 marks, 30% of overall qualification

Unit 2: Extended making project (internally assessed)

Learners will undertake an extended project that showcases the skills they have developed in unit 1 and knowledge they have developed through unit 3. Learners will develop skills, knowledge and understanding in planning and development, making, testing and evaluation and communication.

72 marks, 30% of overall qualification

Learn about materials and their properties and also about possible careers within the industry. They will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the following:

- Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM)
- commercial practice
- materials and components
- processes and techniques
- tools and equipment
- industrial processes
- career opportunities.

The assessment will be a written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes, 96 marks. 40% of overall qualification

- Section A: 20 multiple choice questions (20 marks)
- Section B: Mixture of short answer and extended response questions (76 marks)

How will this course help me in the future?

- Fashion designer
- Textiles designer
- Fashion marketing
- Fashion illustration
- Fashion buyer
- Accessories designer
- Product designer

Should you require further information please contact:

gpallas@lordlawson.org.uk
Deputy Subject Leader



Philosophy and Ethics - GCSE

This is a brilliant subject for anybody who is interested in other people's culture and beliefs. Never has it been so important to understand other people. In today's world we seem to focus on differences – why not investigate the similarities between us and learn what makes people tick? Prepare yourself for the adult world. Understand why the friend you meet at work who is a Muslim fasts. Understand why the friend you have who is Jewish cannot go out with you on Friday night. Once you understand these things you will understand the person so much more. You will become aware of the importance of religions around the world and the customs associated with them – this will help you appreciate the culture when you go abroad on holiday. This subject will help increase your general knowledge, understanding of the world and help you form your own opinions. You will learn how some of the great thinkers of the past have contributed to people's beliefs and values.

What qualifications will I gain?

AQA GCSE RS syllabus A

What will I learn about?

The practices and beliefs of two of the 6 major world religions.

Religious and non – religious attitudes towards: peace and conflict, crime and punishment, human rights and social justice, relationships and families, religions and life issues, the existence of God.

Assessment

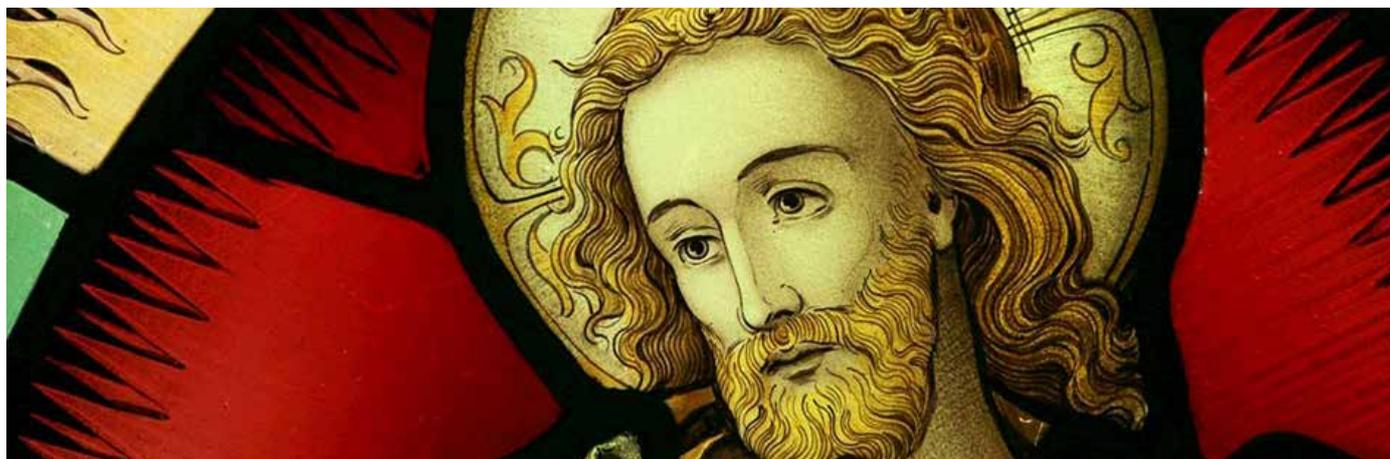
2 exams: each will be 1 hour 45 minutes

How will this course help me in the future?

This is a great course for anybody who wants to work with people in any capacity. When you have to understand particular needs of people which are often cultural or religious this will give you a head start. Employers and universities look for people who can form a well-reasoned opinion and express and defend their opinion logically. These are skills that you will learn and develop within this subject. These high order skills will be demonstrated through discussions, debates and extended written work.

Should you require further information please contact:

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Subject Leader



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