

Year 9 Options 2021



Confidence. Happiness. Courage. Success.

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Introduction

Making curriculum choices in Year 9 is a very important time in your school career. It is an opportunity for you to take control of your education and shape the way you want your future to be.

The options you choose for Years 10 and 11 will determine not only the next two years of your school experience but will also have an impact on your choice of pathway after Year 11. We want you to have every chance to have a great career or attend a top university.

You now have fantastic opportunities available to you that will help you get the future that you want.

But Years 10 and 11 aren't just about GCSEs. There are other qualifications such as BTECs. These are often taught in different way that involves more coursework during class time, possible work experience and fewer exams at the end of the course.

It may be that one type suits you more than others.

It is important to choose subjects that will interest and motivate you. Spend some time thinking about what you enjoy doing, what keeps you interested in something and what makes you work hard.

Remember that you are not alone in making these decisions; everyone in Year 9 is going through the same process.

Teachers, friends, parents, carers and family will be able to guide, advise and support you in this important decision-making process.



Choices at Colton Hills

In Year 10 and Year 11 there are a number of subjects that are compulsory for all students to study:

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

English Language and Literature (2 GCSE)s

Mathematics (GCSE)

Science—either Combined or Separate Sciences (GCSE)

Philosophy and Ethics (GCSE)

Core PE

In the rest of your time you will study courses to fill three more spaces on your timetable. Each option space has five lessons over each two-week span, or 2.5 hours per week of teaching time.

OPTIONAL COURSES

One of these three blocks will be taken up by more time in Science if you study Separate Sciences (p20). If you choose to study Combined Science (p22), this third block will be open for another choice.

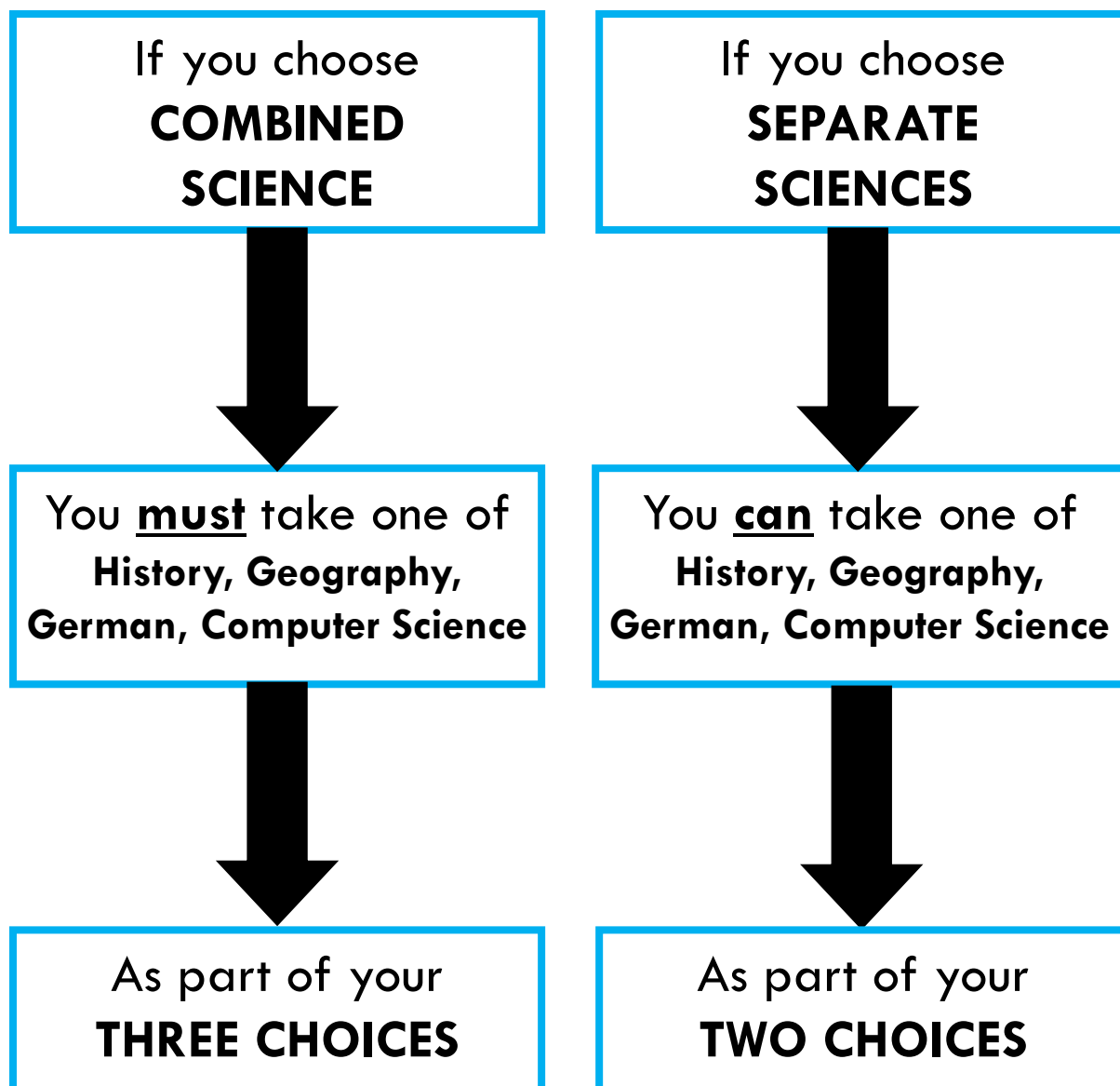
You will then have two or three options choices to make. These are choices from the wide range of options that we offer, though there are some restrictions on what students can choose, and some things that they must choose to meet government rules.

Students will be advised taking into account their academic performance so that the options taken are appropriate and ones that they can succeed in. For example, students working towards grade 6 and above will be selecting subjects to achieve the English Baccalaureate (EBacc).



The Options Combinations

- Simplified version



Only one of
ART, GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION or **TEXTILES**
may be taken.

You cannot take both **DANCE** and **DRAMA**.



What is the 'EBacc'?

WHAT IS THE EBacc?

The EBacc stands for the **English Baccalaureate**.

The EBacc is a suite of highly-valued subjects comprising English, Mathematics, at least two sciences (including Computer Science), a language and Geography or History. The EBacc is one measure that the government uses to check that students are following a broad and balanced curriculum.

However we believe that the arts, design and technology and vocational subjects can also be important in the curriculum for some students.

DO STUDENTS HAVE TO FOLLOW THE EBacc?

At Colton Hills we do not force all students to follow the EBacc qualification pathway, as we believe that making choices is an important part of school life. We want our students to choose the curriculum that is right for them.

DOES IT STILL MATTER?

Though we do not force students to take the EBacc qualification, we do recommend it to lots of our students as an excellent combination of options.

Having a curriculum which includes a language, a humanities subject and strong core subject results will make them very employable and stand out from others in the future, in particular to Universities.

Some of our best results are achieved in EBacc subjects, and some of our EBacc results are amongst the very best in the city.

**The 'EBacc' is not COMPULSORY,
but it is
STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**



How do I Choose?

Students mainly fit into two groups: those who know what they want in the future, and those who don't

If you do know what career you want, then make sure you choose the right options to help you on this path.

If you don't know, then choose a combination of options that will keep your choices open for the future.

Our best advice for making your choices is:

- **Research all your options before you make a decision**
- **Don't fall into the trap of thinking that some courses are only for boys and some only for girls - this isn't true**
- **Don't be afraid to ask for help and advice from your family, friends, teachers, our careers coordinator, head of 6th form and others.**
- **If you have a firm career idea, choose the options you need to meet the entry requirements for the post-16 opportunities that interest you—whether that's for 6th form, university, apprenticeship or a job with training.**
- **If you don't have a firm career idea, choose options that will give you plenty of post-16 choices.**



Good reasons for choosing an option

You're good at the subject

You think you'll enjoy the course

It fits your career ideas and plans

It goes well with your other choices

It is required for a future pathway
you are considering

You think you might want to
continue studying it post-16

Your research shows that it will
interest you.

Poor reasons for choosing an option

Your friends have chosen it

You think it will be easy

You think it's a good option for a
boy/girl

Someone else thinks that
it's a good idea

You like the teacher you have now

You didn't have time to research
your options properly

You're not exactly sure how lesson
will be taught



Grading of GCSEs

All GCSE courses are graded using the new GCSE structure. These grades are numbers, not letters and range from 1 to 9.

The table below gives a comparison between the previous structure (on the right) and the new structure (on the left). The national measure to judge a 'pass' at GCSE has been set at Grade 4.

As you can see from the table below, the grades roughly match to the old letter-based system, with a few changes. Grade 4 is known as a 'Standard Pass', and Grade 5 a 'Strong Pass', which can often be necessary for colleges and sixth-form places.

It is important to note that Grades 1-3 are also a pass of the course.

9		A*
8		
7		A
6	GOOD PASS (DfE) 5 and above = top of C and above	B
5		
4	AWARDING 4 and above = bottom of C and above	C
3		D
2		E
1		F
		G
U		U



Important Dates

February 2021

Options launch on website

March 2021

Year 9 Parents' Evenings (2nd/4th March)
Options booklet given out to all students
Curriculum Leader guides to subjects in school
Advice and guidance for all students

April 1st 2021

Deadline for completing option choices

Useful resources

- **University admissions** website where you can search courses and find out the academic requirements.

www.ucas.com

- **SACU** offers an independent and impartial source of careers information to students, parents and teachers.

sacu-student.com/

- The **National Careers Service** provides information, advice and guidance to help you make decisions on learning, training and work.

nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

- **Get In Go Far** is a website dedicated to apprenticeships of all levels. It gives information, case studies and links to applying for apprenticeships

<http://www.getingofar.gov.uk/>

- **Start** is a website for developing a personal skills profile, career profiles, ideas for apprenticeships and universities. Register using code: 81773.

www.startprofile.com

- An increasingly popular study option, **apprenticeships** are a great way to gain hands-on experience while studying towards an industry-recognised qualification and earning a wage. They're available across a range of sectors, from engineering and law to construction and fashion design.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/apprenticeships>

**Miss Lopez, our Careers and Aspirations Leader,
is in school every day to offer advice and support**

COURSE Information

The following pages give information on all of the GCSE and BTEC subjects available in Years 10 and 11

The first subjects — English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science and Philosophy and Ethics — are compulsory subjects and are not option subjects.

These brief guides are designed to be a starting point for you to find more out about each subject. You can learn more by asking questions of your teachers, looking at the links on each page, or speaking to others who have experienced these subjects in the past.





English Language—GCSE

What will you be learning?

The English Language course is designed to inspire and motivate students, providing appropriate challenge whilst ensuring that the assessment and texts are accessible to all students.

It enables students to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will also be taught how to write clearly, for different purposes and audiences, and to make their writing as engaging as possible by building vocabulary

Who would enjoy it?

All students have to study English Language as part of the Key Stage Four Curriculum. Teachers will endeavour to inspire and engage students through a variety of teaching methods.

What happens when you finish?

GCSE English Language is a requirement by all Further and Higher Education establishments, as well as employers. Students could go on to study English Literature at A level in this school (or English Language A–Level at another institution).

Need more information?

For more information visit the AQA Examination Board website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/specification-at-a-glance>

Assessment

Students will be assessed at the end of Year 11 through two examinations:

Paper One: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.

Paper Two: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.

Student quotes

The English teachers at Colton Hills show great support with and not only make lessons enjoyable, but show us how we can use it in everyday life.

English Language is amazing as it allows you to learn about how language is important in every day life.





English Literature — GCSE

What will you be learning?

In English Literature, throughout Year 10, students are encouraged to develop a love of reading by engaging with some of the greatest writers in History

Students will study a range of texts including:

- **Modern literature**
- **Shakespeare**
- **Poetry across time**
- **19th Century literature plays and prose**

Students will explore the importance of contextual influences, and the impact of writers' methods on readers, both at the time of writing and today,

Who would enjoy it?

All students have to study English Language as part of the Key Stage 4. Teachers will endeavour to inspire and engage students through a variety of teaching methods, class discussion and developing essay skills.

What happens when you finish?

Students could go on to study A Level English Literature. This is a second full GCSE qualification (in addition to English Language GCSE) and will enable students to study any English qualification at post-16, and is a popular choice for university study.

Need more information?

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/specification-at-a-glance>

Assessment

Students will be assessed at the end of Year 10 through two examinations:

Paper One: Shakespeare and the 19th-century Novel.

Paper Two: Modern Texts and Poetry.

Student quotes

It's great learning about English Literature as it expands our horizons on different views and perspectives of different time periods.

English Literature shows how passionate you can get over a book that's been written over 100 years ago, and how much you can relate to it today.





Maths — GCSE

What will you be learning?

The new Mathematics curriculum is designed so that students develop a sound understanding of concepts, fluency in procedural skill and competency to apply mathematical skills in a range of contexts.

The six main topics that students study are Number, Algebra, Ratio and proportion, Geometry and measure, Probability and Statistics.

At foundation tier, the topics are almost equally weighted. At Higher tier, there is a greater proportion of algebra than any other topic.

Who would enjoy it?

All students are required to study GCSE Mathematics as part of the Year 10 and 11 curriculum.

The foundation tier covers material at Grades 1 to 5, whereas the Higher tier starts at Grade 3 and allows students the opportunity to reach a Grade 9.

The decision as to which tier you will be entered for will be made based on the progress you make in lessons and mock examination grades.

What happens when you finish?

If you are working at Grade 9 before the end of the course, we also offer the 'Free Standing Maths Qualification' which bridges the gap between GCSE and A-Level Mathematics.

Need more information?

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-mathematics-j560-from-2015/>

Also, see your current Maths teacher for more information about the course

Assessment

100% Exam, assessed over one non calculator and two calculator papers.

Student quotes

I feel really well supported in the run up to the GCSE Maths exam. We have the use of GCSE POD, PiXL Maths APP and extra revision classes.

I don't always find Maths easy, but my teacher has lots of different ways of explaining things so that I understand.

There are lots of real life problems to solve, which helps me to see the relevance of Maths to the real world.





Combined Science — GCSE

What will you be learning?

As the name suggests, Combined Science is a mixture of all of the three branches of Science, and is worth two GCSES, so is a very important part of your curriculum.

You will learn about living things in Biology, including diseases, evolution, ecology and homeostasis.

You will learn about the matter the world is made of in Chemistry, including the atom, the atmosphere, chemical reactions and how we use them.

You will learn about the invisible forces that govern the Universe in Physics, including electricity, forces, waves and magnets.

Through this you will also learn how to think like a scientist, get a chance to conduct practical's and find out how to apply your knowledge to new questions.

Who would enjoy it?

Science brings together a mix of skills, including problem solving, literacy, and mathematics, but also teaches you new ideas and how they affect the world.

All students study Science at KS4, but must choose between Combined Science and Single Sciences.

The right path for you will be decided by your grades and discussions with teachers.

What happens when you finish?

With good grades you can go on to study A Level Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics. You could take a different route and study Level 3 BTEC Applied Science. There are countless jobs in Science and even more that use it.

Need more information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>

Assessment

100% exam in Summer of year 11

Student quotes

Science makes me happy,
because you learn
something new and
interesting everyday!

I find it extremely
interesting how everything
is Science. I want Science
to be a major part of my
job or future career.





Separate Sciences — GCSE x 3

What will you be learning?

You will learn about living things in Biology, including diseases, evolution, ecology and study topics that are not covered in Combined such as the brain, and how new species are made.

You will learn about the matter the world is made of in Chemistry, including the atom, the atmosphere, chemical reactions and how we use them, as well as nanochemistry and titration practicals.

You will learn about the invisible forces that govern the Universe in Physics, including electricity, forces, waves and magnets, but will also cover Space.

Through this you will also learn how to think like a scientist, conduct practicals and apply your knowledge to new questions.

You will achieve three GCSE's from this course.

Who would enjoy it?

Science brings together a mix of skills, including problem solving, literacy, and mathematics, but also teaches you new ideas and how they affect the world.

You have to study Science at KS4, the right path for you will be decided by your grades and discussions with teachers.

What happens when you finish?

With good grades you can go on to study A Level Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics. You could take a different route and study L3 BTEC Applied Science.

There are countless jobs in Science and even more that use it.

Need more information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461>

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462>

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463>

See Ms McClure.

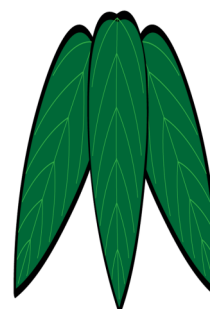
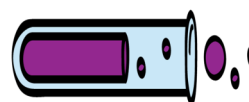
Assessment

100% exam in Summer of year 11

Student quotes

Science makes me happy,
because you learn something
new and interesting
everyday!

Science itself will help with
academic success in other sub-
jects unrelated to Science and
you will leave with 3 GCSES.





Philosophy and Ethics GCSE

What will you be learning?

GCSE Philosophy and Ethics is an important core subject at Colton Hills, and something that we think all students will benefit from, which is why they all take this course.

It is divided into two areas, which each have a separate exam – there is no coursework element.

We start off in Year 10 examining philosophical and ethical issues including crime and punishment, family and relationships, war, peace and conflict and the existence of God. These are exciting debates which will shape their views for the rest of their lives.

In Year 11 we examine the key beliefs and practices of Christianity and one other religion to widen the students ability to have important debates and think about how they impact people around the world.

We will be working hard to develop skills to enable students to be able to discuss things with confidence, develop their worldview, become an informed citizen and be able to make an argument

There are no right and wrong answers which makes this subject interesting — ask questions and debate!

Who would enjoy it?

Anyone who likes to think, ask questions and debate motions, which is at the heart of the course.

Students will come across some of the ideas of the greatest thinkers who have ever lived, and this will allow them to broaden their own ideas and views.

What happens when you finish?

At Colton Hills we offer A-level Religious Studies for those who would like to take their studying to the next level.

It is a recognised GCSE by all colleges and employers as it shows that you can evaluate and analyse different viewpoints and have good critical thinking skills.

Possible careers:

Police force, Medicine, Lawyers and judges, politics, teaching, Social work, Armed forces - anything where you need to really understand and empathise with others!



Need more information?

AQA Religious Studies page: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062/specification-at-a-glance>

Please come and speak to us!

Ms H Brookes – Curriculum Leader for RS

Ms B Gidda – Subject teacher

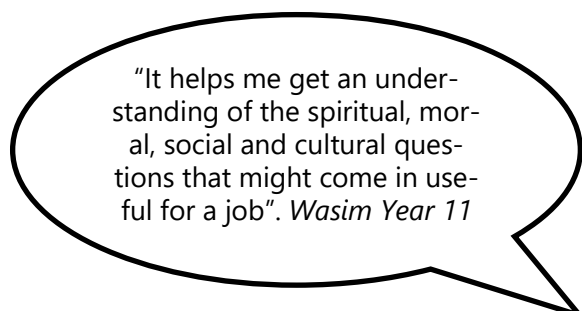
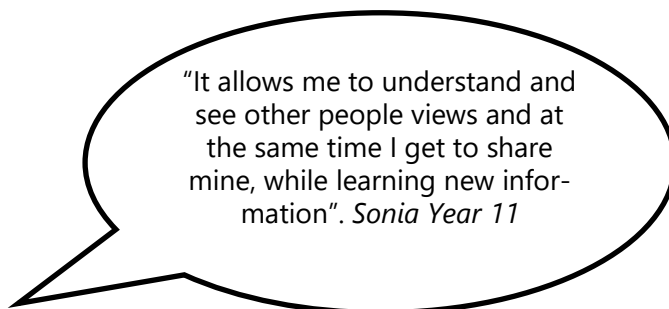


Assessment

100% exam in Year 11

Religious Beliefs and Practices = 50%

Philosophical and ethical themes = 50%





Art, Craft and Design — GCSE

What will you be learning?

You will learn how to develop your Art and Design skills in a range of materials and techniques from 3D work and traditional painting and drawing to Photoshop.

You will analyse artists' work and show how it has influenced your own.

You will be able to develop your own ideas creatively and develop them through experiments and further investigation into exciting final outcomes.

Year 10 work initially focuses on skills and techniques, moving on to development of ideas and responses to artists' work when students have built up confidence in their technical abilities.

The exam unit in year 11 allows students to choose one of five themes to respond to and create their own project, resulting in a ten hour exam in April.

Who would enjoy it?

Anyone who likes drawing, designing and making and enjoys being creative and individual.

**IMPORTANT: Art cannot be taken with
Textiles or Graphic Communication.**

What happens when you finish?

You can go on to do 'A' level Art and Design and then a BA Hons degree in any area of Art leading to careers such as; Architect, Graphic designer, Interior designer, Multimedia Programmer, Illustrator, Teacher/Lecturer, Fashion designer, Jewellery designer and many more...

Need more information?

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-art-and-design-j170-j176-from-2016/>

Assessment

60% controlled assessment work (starts in year 10), 40% exam in year 11

Student quotes

Art gives you a chance to be creative. You get a break from academic subjects.

I can express my feelings through Art and the teachers motivate you to do well.





Computer Science — GCSE

What will you be learning?

The most important aspect of computer science is problem solving, an essential skill for life.

Students study the design, development and analysis of software and hardware used to solve problems in a variety of business, scientific and social contexts.

Because computers solve problems to serve people, there is a significant human side to computer science as well, which people can often forget.

Computer Science is part of everything we do and knowledge learnt in this course can be transferred into a wide range of other subjects.

Students learn how to be a creator rather than just another user!

Who would enjoy it?

Students who enjoy Computing in Key Stage 3. Students who wish to have a future career in Computer Science or related disciplines. Students interested in being a computer programmer.

Computer Science is a major growth industry and will help to shape the twenty-first century. You could go on to take Computer Science or ICT at A Level or BTEC, and do a degree in Computing or related areas.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study A Level Computer Science or BTEC Technical in Information Technology at Level 3 at Colton Hills.

Need more information

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j276-from-2016/>

See Mrs Johal or Mr Malhi.

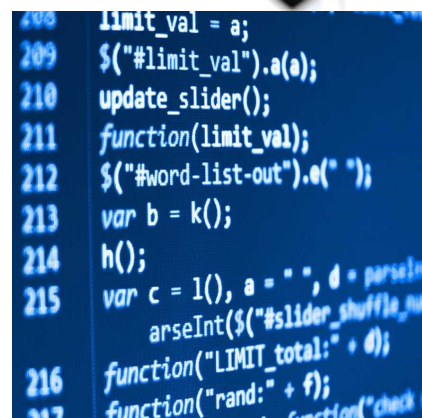
Assessment

100% Exam

Student quotes

I chose Computer Science because I wanted to learn how to program as there is a high demand for computer programmers.

I chose computer science because programming, coding and doing something different is what I wanted to do. Programming and coding is difficult at first, but really easy to get used to.





Graphic Communication cannot be taken with Textiles or Art.

What will you be learning?

During the course you will be asked to gain an understanding of a range of materials and techniques used in Graphic Communication (Graphic Design). You will also learn how to develop your skills using Photoshop and Illustrator to produce a range of 2D designs and 3D outcomes.

You will be set a range of projects based on all aspects of Graphic Communication.

Topics covered could include:

- ♦ **Typography**
- ♦ **Communication graphics**
- ♦ **Design for print**
- ♦ **Advertising**
- ♦ **Multi-media**
- ♦ **Interactive design (including web, app, game design)**
- ♦ **Package design**
- ♦ **Signage**
- ♦ **Illustration**

You will use the knowledge and skills gained to produce a design portfolio which is worth 60% of your overall mark.

Who would enjoy it?

You will enjoy the 2 year course if you are a creative person who loves designing and using a variety of materials and processes to develop your designing skills. You will also be given the opportunity to develop your design skills using Photoshop and Illustrator.

You will enjoy the course if you are a practical person who enjoys making and design.

Remember there will be a practical exam at the end of the 2 year course.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study Graphic Communication at A Level leading to a degree course.

Need more information

Talk to Mr Lilley or have a look at the specification:

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/220463-specification-accredited-gcse-art-and-design-j170-j176.pdf>

Assessment

Coursework Portfolio (NEA)

- 120 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Externally set task: 10 hours

- 80 marks

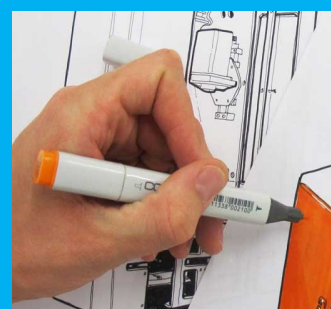
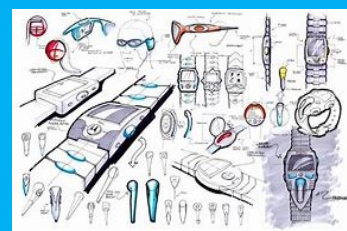
The course is part of the OCR Art and Design GCSE. (9-1).

You will be asked to produce a design Portfolio and take a 10 hour practical (not written) exam.

Student quotes

I enjoy this subject as I am interested in a career in this area and this will help me. I want career in design when I leave school.

I really enjoy using practical skills and developing my ideas using ICT. I like using Photoshop and Illustrator.





Textiles cannot be taken with Graphic Communication or Art.

What will you be learning?

During the course you will be asked to gain an understanding of a range of materials and techniques used in Textiles (Textile Design). You will learn how to develop practical and designing skills using a range of materials and processes.

You will be set a range of projects based on all aspects of Textiles Design.

Topics covered could include:

- **art textiles**
- **fashion design and illustration**
- **constructed textiles**
- **printed and dyed textiles**
- **surface pattern**
- **stitched and/or embellished textiles**
- **soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors**
- **installed textiles**

You will use the knowledge and skills gained to produce a design portfolio which is worth 60% of your overall mark.

Who would enjoy it?

You will enjoy the 2 year course if you are a creative person who loves designing and using a variety of materials and processes to develop your designing skills.

You will enjoy the course if you are a practical person who enjoys making and designing products.

Remember there will be a practical exam at the end of the 2 year course.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study Textiles at A Level leading to a degree course.

Need more information

Talk to Mr Lilley or Miss Cowlshaw or have a look at the new specification yourself:

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/220463-specification-accredited-gcse-art-and-design-j170-j176.pdf>

Assessment

Coursework Portfolio (NEA)

- 120 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Externally set task: 10 hours

- 80 marks
- 40% of GCSE

The course is part of the OCR Art and Design GCSE. (9-1).

You will be asked to produce a design Portfolio and take a 10 hour practical (not written) exam.

Student quote

I enjoy this subject as I am interested in a career in this area and this will help me. I want a career in design when I leave school.





Enterprise (Business) — BTEC

What will you be learning?

At Colton Hills we are working very closely with the exciting Retail development in Wolverhampton City Centre. In Business we will encourage a personal development of knowledge and skills relevant to the business world through practical participation in a range of vocational business activities.

We will encourage you to develop their people, communication, planning and team working skills and give you the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques for successful performance in work.

You will have the opportunity to develop your business ideas, consider what makes a business successful and plan to start your own business.

We will further develop your business ideas by encouraging you to “promote a brand” and “customer service”, showing that you have developed important skills in this area.

Who would enjoy it?

All students have the opportunity to develop their business ideas. We are looking for creative students who wish to express themselves in a professional business environment.

You will enjoy working in teams and expressing your business ideas to an audience.

You will also feel confident in organising yourself to complete ongoing coursework and assignments, as this is how much of the learning in Business takes place.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study A Levels in Economics or follow the Vocational progression route which is available in the form of a Level 3 BTEC in Business. This has been a very popular option for students at Colton Hills over a number of years.



Need more information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/enterprise.html>

See Mr Kennedy
Miss Ijaz
Mr P Banger
Ms Hall

Assessment

33% Exam
66% coursework



SMALL Business Education Series

finance accounting
marketing
banking LAW
human resources



Geography—GCSE

What will you be learning?

In the Physical Geography half of the course you will learn about how countries deal with natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms. You will also learn about what physical processes shape landscapes such as rivers and coasts. Finally, you will study tropical rainforests and hot deserts.

In Human Geography you will learn about how cities in rich and poor countries can be managed sustainably for the future. You will compare how richer and poorer countries have developed over time and how we can help to reduce the 'development gap' that exists in our world.

You will also study about global inequalities of resources, including food, water and energy.

Finally, you will complete a two-day fieldwork activity which will link to your geographical skills exam.

Who would enjoy it?

If you want to persevere to become a global, well rounded citizen who has a passion for protecting this beautiful, incredible planet we call home and if you want to participate in a subject that studies societies with social, cultural and economic diversity then Geography is the subject for you.

Geography is great for gaining transferable skills that can be used across a wide range of subjects, with many interlinking themes. We are able to take these outside of the classroom and apply them to a variety of fantastic, fascinating places all around the world.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study A Level Geography by the same exam board: AQA.

This will deepen your knowledge studied at GCSE and will provide you with an academic qualification that is well respected by all Universities and other higher education providers.

Need more information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035>
Or, see your Geography teachers.

Assessment

100% Exam in June of Year 11

Student quotes

I enjoy Geography because everything we study is happening in the world right now and is so relevant!

Geography GCSE fits well with my other subjects. It gives me a world view.





German — GCSE

What will you be learning?

The GCSE German course follows on from the work done at Key Stage 3.

You will further develop the skills of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing and you will develop a sound knowledge of German grammar.

You will develop your skills while studying 3 themes: Identity and Culture; Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest; Current and Future Study and Employment.

You will also learn about German culture, building on the work that you have already done on this.

We have also run a German exchange visit for a number of years to allow students to experience Germany for themselves. We hope to continue to run this visit in future years for our students to enjoy.

Who would enjoy it?

If you enjoy learning German in KS3 you will enjoy it at KS4. Students who already speak more than one language will enjoy learning German.

If you enjoy speaking and communicating orally with other people you will enjoy the course.

GCSE German is one of the EBACC subjects, and so it is highly respected by sixth forms, colleges and by employers in the future.

What happens when you finish?

When you finish you will have a very useful qualification for a range of careers.

You may want to continue your studies and do A Level German in the future.

Need more information

Your German teachers will tell you about the course in your lessons.

http://www.whystudylanguages.ac.uk/ks4/why_languages/

Assessment

4 exams at the end of Year 11.

25% Speaking; 25% Listening;

25% Reading; 25% Writing

Student quotes

I enjoy finding out about what life is like in Germany.

I am so proud that I can communicate with other people in German.

I find it fascinating how our brains can just switch between languages.





Health and Social Care — BTEC

What will you be learning?

You will complete three modules over the course of two years.

The new BTEC Tech Award modules are Health and Social Care values and Human Lifespan Development which are coursework based.

For Human Lifespan Development you will choose a celebrity to go through their life stages and show how factors and events affect their growth and development.

For Health and Social Care Services and Values you will examine different local services and look at ways in which service users overcome barriers which affect their ability to access these services using case studies.

The third module is an exam module called Health and Wellbeing which investigates the importance of keeping individuals and the nation healthy and what factors affect our long term health.

You will design a wellbeing improvement plan, looking at lifestyle factors and obstacles and suggest ways to overcome them.

Who would enjoy it?

Students who are interested in a career within the NHS, private charities or social care.

In fact with Health and social care being one of the largest and fastest growing industries it makes this a course suitable for anyone interested in caring professions, social work or working with children.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study Level 3 Health and Social Care at sixth form.

This is a vocational course where students have the opportunity to do relevant work experience within different social care settings.

Need more information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care.html>

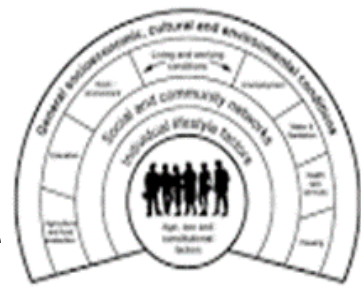
Assessment

40% exam based,
60% coursework

Student quotes

It entails recognising and respecting other peoples values, beliefs and cultures.

You learn transferable skills such as communication, and how to show dignity to people who need help.





History — GCSE

What will you be learning?

There are a range of modules that we study during our varied and interesting History GCSE.

Germany 1890-1945:

Examine the rise of the Nazis, the way in which Hitler transformed life in Germany until the end of the Second World War.

Conflict and tension 1918—1939

What challenges did the 'Peacemakers' face after the First World War? Why didn't the world stand up to Hitler to prevent World War Two?

Britain: Health and the people 1000 to the present day:

Why has there been progress in the health of the British people? How and why has the pace of medical development varied at different times? What impact has medical progress had on people and society?

Norman England: 1066-1100:

Examine the impact of the Norman conquest of England and looks at the many ways that life would be radically altered by William the Conqueror.

Who would enjoy it?

If you are keen to have the knowledge to understand the world and the problems it faces today.

Anyone who wants to develop a range of skills such as evaluating evidence, developing and presenting arguments and the ability to think independently and understand human behaviour.

What happens when you finish?

History at GCSE opens the door to further study at A Level – the perfect partner to A Levels in other subjects such as law, sociology, psychology.

Beyond that, history is useful for careers in the following areas: lawyer, barrister, police, media, government, management, social services, teaching, civil service, journalism, secret service and national security.

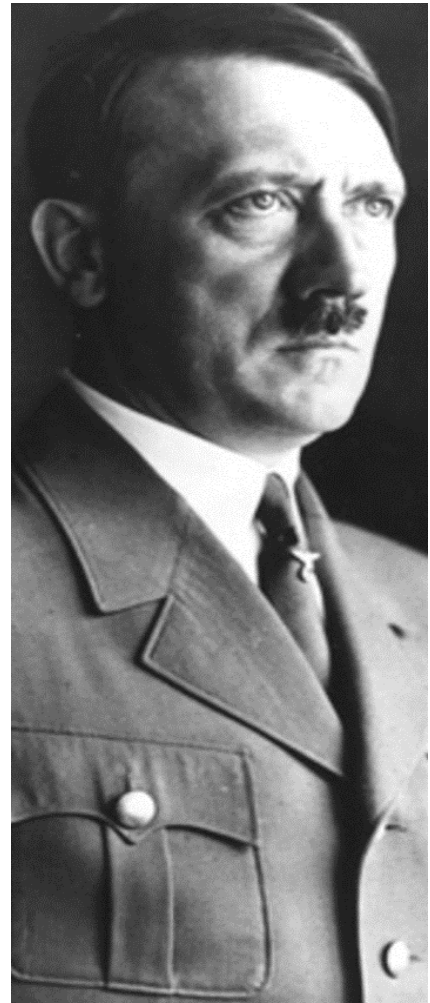
Need more information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/gcse/history-8145>

See Mr Gittins, Miss Lester or Mr Rowley.

Assessment

100% Exam in June of year 11



Student quotes

I chose History because I enjoyed it in Year 9 and found it interesting. GCSE History is even better!

History doesn't just teach you loads of valuable skills, it opens your eyes to the world around you.





Hospitality and Catering Award

What will you be learning?

The award is made up of two units:

Unit 1: Hospitality and Catering Industry

In this unit, you will learn about the different types of providers within the hospitality and catering industry, the legislation that needs to be adhered to and the personal safety of all of those involved in the business, whether staff or customers.

You will learn about the operation of hospitality and catering establishments and the factors affecting their success.

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action

In this unit you will gain knowledge of the nutritional needs of a range of client groups in order for you to plan nutritional dishes to go on a menu.

You will learn and develop safe and hygienic food preparation, cooking and finishing skills required to produce nutritional dishes.

Who would enjoy it?

If you really enjoy cooking and are interested in catering this is the right course for you. If you are thinking about a career in the food industry this would be a good starting point.

Remember there will be a written element and you will need to buy ingredients, so you must be organised.

What happens when you finish?

Successful completion of this qualification could support entry to qualifications that develop specific skills for work in hospitality and catering.

Need more information

Talk to Miss Shepherd or have a look at the new specification yourself.

http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering/Level-1-2-Award-in-Hospitality-and-Catering-Spec-A-from-2016.pdf?language_id=1

Assessment

Unit 1 is an external assessment 90 minutes.

Unit 2 is assessed internally by portfolio.

Both units need to be passed to be awarded an overall grade.

Student quotes

I enjoy Food & Catering as it gives me an opportunity to try international cuisine.

This is an exciting course that allows me to explore lots of different foods and work in teams.





IT (Digital IT) — Tech Award

What will you be learning?

From smartphones and Wi-Fi, to hashtags and instant messaging: over the last 20 years, technology has dramatically changed the way in which we live and communicate with each other.

Does your interest in technology extend beyond the hardware? Are you curious about how digital information is spread? Maybe you want to know more about computers and how, when and why people use them?

If so, Digital Information Technology could be the course for you!

As a student of the Tech Award in Digital Information Technology you will be learning about the global use of Digital Information Technology. You will learn a broad array of knowledge to prepare you for a future in a world governed by information. You will not only learn to become proficient in a broad range of applications you will also learn how the world communicates information.

Who would enjoy it?

Students who enjoy Computing and ICT in Key Stage 3.
Students who wish to have a future career in technology and related industries.

Students who want to further their knowledge of the digital world.

What happens when you finish?

You could go on to study a BTEC Technical in Information Technology at Level 3.

Need more information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/information-technology/2017/teaching-and-learning-materials/BTEC-Tech-Award-Digital-Information-Technology-Guide-Pearson.pdf>

See Mrs Johal.

Assessment

60% Coursework / 40% Exam.

Student quotes

I enjoy ICT because it helps me in all of my other subjects.

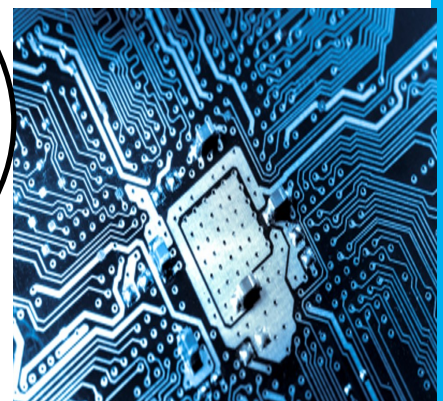
Since starting BTEC ICT I have figured out that it is really fitting in well with my BTEC Business work and I would like to work in these subjects in the future.



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208 limit_val = a;
209 $("#limit_val").a(a);
210 update_slider();
211 function(limit_val);
212 $("#word-list-out").a(" ");
213 var b = k();
214 h();
215 var c = l(), a = "", d = parseInt(
    arseInt($("#slider_shuffle_num
function("LIMIT_total:" + d);
216 function("rand:" + f);
217 function("check r

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Music in Practice — Tech Award

What will you be learning?

During Year 10, you will study different styles and genres. This means you will examine music from different styles from as Classical to Hip Hop and from different time periods. You will explore what make each style unique and recognizable before composing music in these styles yourself.

In the same unit you will also explore music products; this involves ways to create music from recording using live instruments, to working with software such as Bandlab and on the Mac computers—and also exploring fusions of these products. This forms your Component 1 which involves creating a research journal in which you record your thoughts.

For the second half of Year 10, you will move on to Component 2 in which you develop your music knowledge further by composing in more detail using a music product you explored in Component 1. During this component you will learn how to compose, develop your skill sets and also explore roles within the music industry.

In Year 11 you will combine your learning from Year 10 to respond to a brief where you are given a stimulus (starting point) to create from. The expectation is to compose music, perform it and/or produce it. Alongside your composition you will have three written essays where you explain the process of how you created the work, the skill set used and how you would improve it further.

Who would enjoy it?

You would enjoy this course if you have a creative flair, enjoy creating beats and rhythms and are often writing lyrics or singing songs to yourself. Your personal music preference would not matter as on the course you will study all styles and genres. It is preferable that you know how to play an instrument and have perhaps taken peripatetic lessons but it is also not necessary.

You can only take Music in Year 10 if you take it as an option in Year 9.



What happens when you finish?

On completing the course you could go on to study BTEC level 3 Music or A-Level. There are several courses that are specific to if you play an instrument or have a preference to music technology. There are also options to go onto Musical Theatre courses if you have taken this BTEC in conjunction with dance or drama.

Need more information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/music-practice.html>

See Miss Pound, Curriculum Leader of Performance, in L22, or Mrs Tobin

Assessment

This qualification is 60% coursework and split evenly between component 1 and 2 which are completed in year 10 and 40% counts for your exam which is the focus of year 11.

Student quote

"I've never done music like this before and didn't know there was so many ways to make music. It has made me realise there are more musical genres out there than what I thought"





Performing Arts (Dance) — BTEC

What will you be learning?

Over the two year course you will have the opportunity to watch, perform and create.

Firstly you will learn about the process of choreographing dance through three professional works that contrast each other in the skills, responsibilities and process the choreographers followed. Through this Component, you will create a reflective journal of your learning, take part in workshops in the three styles and deliver a 5-10 minute presentation of your learning. Be prepared as this component is heavily written work-based.

Later in Year 10 you will study Component 2 in which you will perform a 10-minute performance in a group based on a professional piece of dance that already exists. The unit is completely practical-based and the written work alongside the unit consists of setting targets and reflecting on your learning.

In Year 11, you take Component 3 which is an examined unit of work. A brief is given to you which is the same for everyone across the country and as a group you will create a 10-15 minute performance using all the skills and knowledge from the first two components. Alongside the performance is three one hour written tasks based on your contribution, skill development and analysing the performance that you created.

The components are designed to build knowledge and skills that can be transferred across your work.

Who would enjoy it?

This course will offer you a lot of variety as the components are completely different to each other. You will enjoy this course if you like working in a group, working practically, have confidence in performing and presenting.

There is a level of written work and so you must be prepared to do work at home and independently to be successful.



What happens when you finish?

There are several qualifications open to you when finishing this qualification. You could move onto study BTEC level 3 in Performing Arts or Dance, A Level Dance or apply for dance school. If you took this qualification alongside BTEC Music in Practise you could also apply for Musical Theatre courses.

Previous students from Colton Hills have gone on to College to study dance and are now pursuing a career as professional dancers.

Need more information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/performing-arts.html>

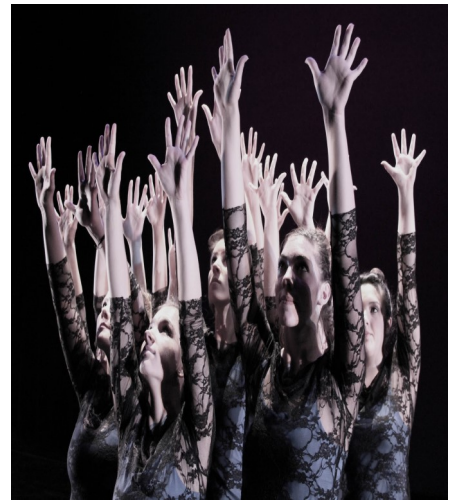
See Miss Pound, Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts or Miss Jones who is the dance teach for this course.

Assessment

60% of the course is assessed with coursework, and 40% of the course is assessed through an exam at the end of Year 11.

Student Quote

It has made me realise
all the meaning
movement has, I have
looked at why certain
movements are created.





Performing Arts (Drama) — BTEC

What will you be learning?

Year 10 starts with a reflective Journal which is heavily written but there are practical workshops alongside this. You will study three professional drama works in depth and 'have a go' at some parts of these works too. For your assessment you will have in a research journal of everything you have learn and create a presentation on the three works.

Later in Year 10 you will study Component 2, in which you will perform in a small group based on a professional piece of drama that already exists. The unit is completely practical based and the written work along side the unit consists of setting targets and reflecting on your practical learning. You should expect to perform Infront of a live audience.

In Year 11, you will focus on an examined unit of work. A brief is given to you which is the same for everyone across the country; as a group you will create a performance using all the skills and knowledge from the first two components. Alongside the performance there are three written essays based on your contribution, skill development and analysis of the performance that you created for your exam.

Who would enjoy it?

You will enjoy this course if you like being creative, building ideas, working in a group, working practically and have confidence in performing and presenting.

As in all drama courses there is a lot of script work and you will be expected to learn all your lines for performances and to play characters who are far removed form your natural personality, so an ability to not take yourself too serious is desirable.

It would be beneficial if you have taken drama in Year 9 but not essential. This is a performance course and you will need to be willing to perform in front of a live audience.



What happens when you finish?

There are several qualifications open to you when finishing this qualification. You could move onto study BTEC level 3 in Performing Arts or Drama, A Level drama or apply for drama school. If you haven't taken this course along side BTEC Music you could also apply for Musical Theatre courses.

Students who have studied drama at Colton Hills have gone on to College courses and apply for drama school. We have students who have also auditioned with professional companies and are now working along side their studies in the professional world.

Need more information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/performing-arts.html>

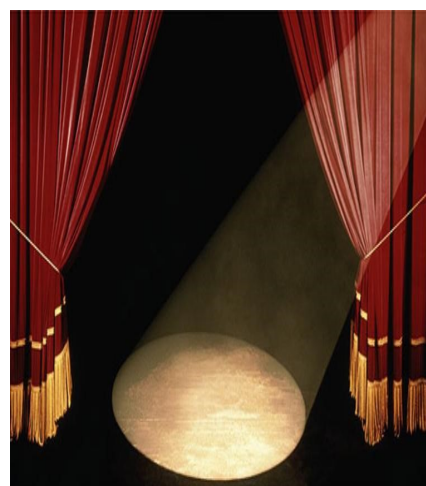
See Miss Pound, Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts in L22, Miss Pound will also be leading this course.

Assessment

60% of the course is assessed with coursework, and 40% of the course is assessed through an exam at the end of Year 11.

Student quote

I think my confidence has grown because of all the group work, performing and presenting. This is a skill I will always need.





Sport — BTEC

What will you be learning?

In this BTEC course, you will study a range of different units:

Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise.

In this unit you will learn about the fitness components required to be a successful sports performer.

Unit 2: Practical performance in sport.

In this unit you will study two sports in detail,. To gain a full appreciation of the sports, you will take on the roles of a performer, official and coach.

Unit 3: Applying the principles of personal training.

This unit is all about you as the individual performer, training to improve and enhance personal fitness. This unit is a synoptic unit and designed so that you think about your learning from across the qualification.

Unit 6 Leading sports activities.

You will have the opportunity to plan, lead and evaluate your own effectiveness as a sports leader. We will develop leadership skills, looking at examples of how real sportspeople show these skills every day.

Who would enjoy it?

If you enjoy participating in sport and physical activity and would like to develop your performance, leadership skills and knowledge of sport training principles.

What happens when you finish?

Once finishing, students can go on to study BTEC Sport at Level 3, or participate in sports coaching courses.

Need more information

Speak with your PE teacher or view more information online at https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Firsts/Sport/2012/Specification-and-sample-assessments/9781446936368_BTECFIRST_AWD_SPORT_SPEC_ISS4.pdf

Assessment

75% coursework
25% online exam.

Student quotes

I enjoy the practical elements in my learning and my written work helps me develop these skills.

I enjoyed PE at KS3 and doing theory lessons about Sport has helped me understand the range of skills and qualities that I have to help me with my work

