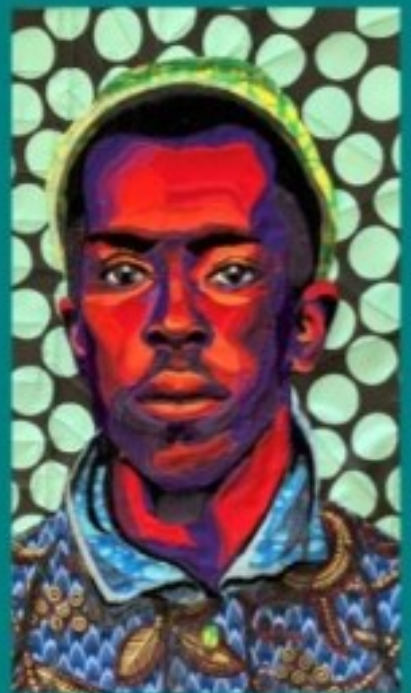


# PATHWAYS |

GCSE CHOICES FOR 2026-2028



NAME:

FORM:



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# INTRODUCTION

This booklet is to help you and your parents decide which subjects you are going to study in Years 10 and 11.

During Years 7, 8 and 9 most subjects are compulsory, that means they have to be studied because together they make up the National Curriculum. We call these years National Curriculum Key Stage 3. Years 10 and 11 are called Key Stage 4. At this stage, the National Curriculum still requires all pupils to continue their study of essential subjects. This is very sensible because it means pupils do not close doors to future job opportunities or Further Education courses.

Next year pupils starting Key Stage 4 will continue to learn:

- **English Language & Literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**

Students will also study PE, RS, PHSE/RHSE IT and Citizenship but will not necessarily be examined in these subjects.

Most of these subjects may be studied to GCSE level or equivalent. Some students will be guided towards studying the English Baccalaureate.

Students will have the opportunity to choose up to 4 options depending upon the combination of subjects chosen and their ability.

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ▪ <b>History</b>                  | ▪ <b>Dance</b>                      |
| ▪ <b>Geography</b>                | ▪ <b>Acting</b>                     |
| ▪ <b>Citizenship</b>              | ▪ <b>Music</b>                      |
| ▪ <b>Spanish and French</b>       | ▪ <b>Textiles</b>                   |
| ▪ <b>BTEC Level 2 Sport</b>       | ▪ <b>Graphic Design</b>             |
| ▪ <b>Separate Sciences</b>        | ▪ <b>Photography</b>                |
| ▪ <b>Computer Science</b>         | ▪ <b>Fine Art</b>                   |
| ▪ <b>RS/Philosophy and Ethics</b> | ▪ <b>Film Studies</b>               |
| ▪ <b>Three Dimensional Design</b> | ▪ <b>Hospitality &amp; Catering</b> |

It is important that pupils follow a broad curriculum in order that their subject choices for further study and their career options are not limited later on. It is not always possible to study some subjects at 16+ if they have not been studied at Key Stage 4.

**Please note: It is important that students/parents understand that we shall do our best to provide classes in all subjects that are offered, but if there are not enough pupils wanting to take a subject, we may be unable to run that class. We aim to give as many first choices wherever possible but will offer back up choices if a particular option is oversubscribed. We are also mindful that we have limited specialist staff in some subjects. We will not run classes if we do not have specialist staff to teach that subject. Places in the Separate Science class will be allocated by teacher judgement after careful consideration of a range of Yr 9 formative and summative assessments.**

Wayne Thiebaud, American, B:1920  
Cakes number 1, 1967  
Pastel & graphite on paper.



# MAKING CHOICES

When making choices about what you are going to study – remember:

## Do choose a subject because:

- You like it.
- You are good at it.
- You have found out it will be useful in the career or job you have in mind.
- It goes well with your other choices.

## Do not:

- Copy your friends – you may all end up in different groups anyway.
- Choose a subject because you like the teacher you have now, you may have a different teacher next year.
- Choose a subject just because it is new – new does not mean easy.

Remember it may not be possible for you to do all of your preferred subjects if, either insufficient numbers of students choose a subject or, the combination of subjects cannot be timetabled. You may need to be prepared to make compromises so that you have a balanced curriculum. You will need to choose 3 reserve subjects.

It is particularly important to think carefully when choosing what to study. Think about the kind of person you are and what type of subjects you enjoy most. Remember some subjects require a lot of written work and others need practical skills.

As a school with a Visual and Performing Arts specialism, we expect all students to take one creative subject.

## Targets

During Key Stage 3 you have taken CATs tests or Cognitive Abilities Tests. Recently you have taken exam papers in English, Maths and Science. The results of these tests will help teachers assess how much progress you have made during Key Stage 3 and can be used to predict your GCSE results in Year 11. They will also be used to advise you on appropriate career choices, your pathways subjects and ensure that in Year 10 and 11 you are correctly placed in subjects which organise teaching classes by ability.

Results of examinations and assessments will need to be considered before making your final option choices.



Fred Tomasselli, American, B:1956  
Study for Expulsion, 2000  
Printed paper, leaves, pills, acrylic, photo collage, resin.

# PROGRESS 8 AND ATTAINMENT 8

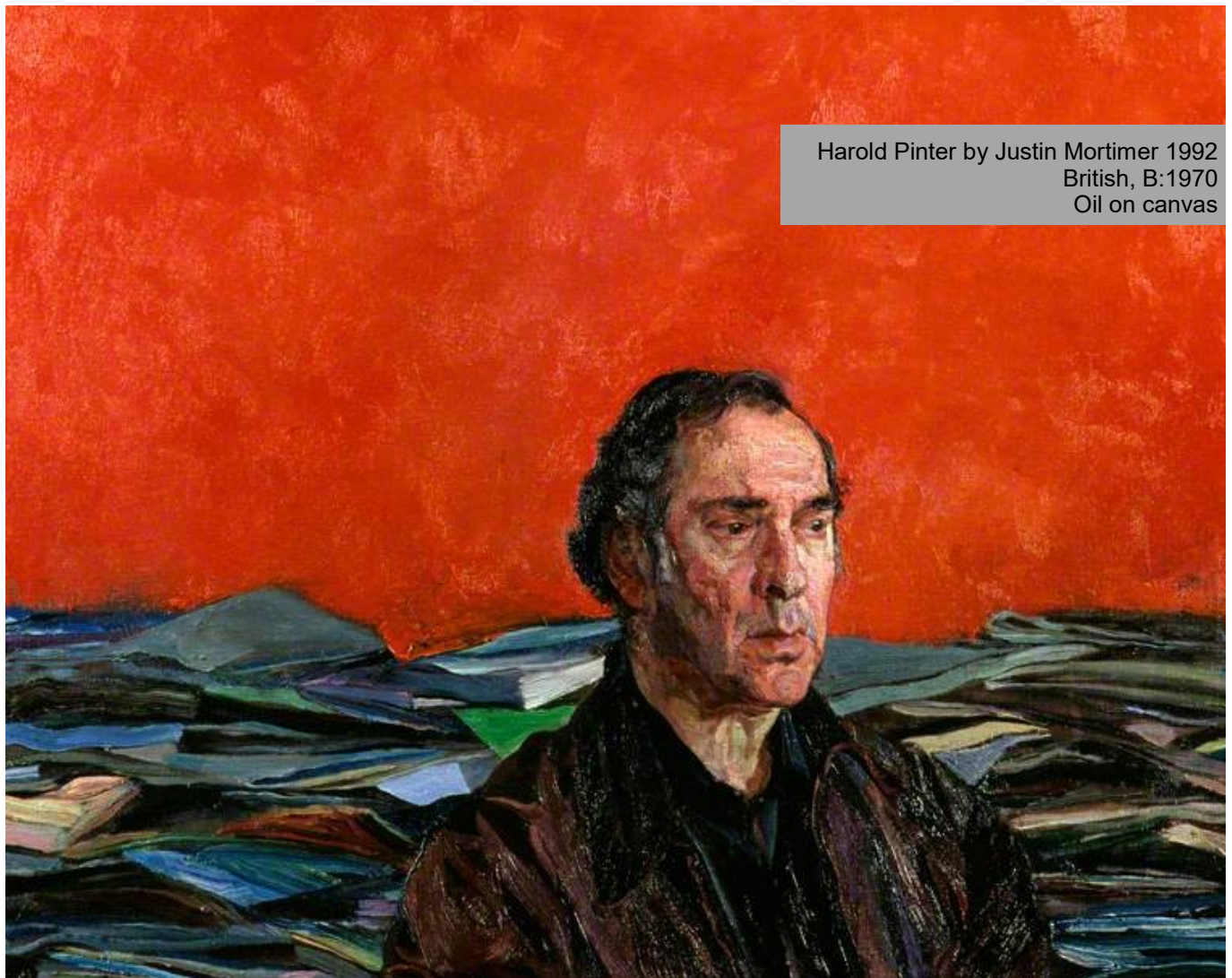
## What are Progress 8 and Attainment 8?

Schools are now judged on:

1. Progress 8. A score based on the progress students have made in their best 8 subjects and this will be the main performance indicator for a school. Progress is measured from Key Stage 2 levels to GCSE exam results. The importance of English and Maths is maintained, as the score for these subjects is doubled.
2. Attainment 8. A score based upon the final GCSE grades in your best 8 subjects.
3. The English Baccalaureate (which includes English/Maths/Science/MFL, Humanities and Computer Science).

To get into our Sixth Form students will need to gain the higher grades especially in English and Maths.

The Government have made it compulsory for Sixth Form students to continue to study Maths and/or English GCSE if they do not achieve at least a Grade 4 in Year 11.

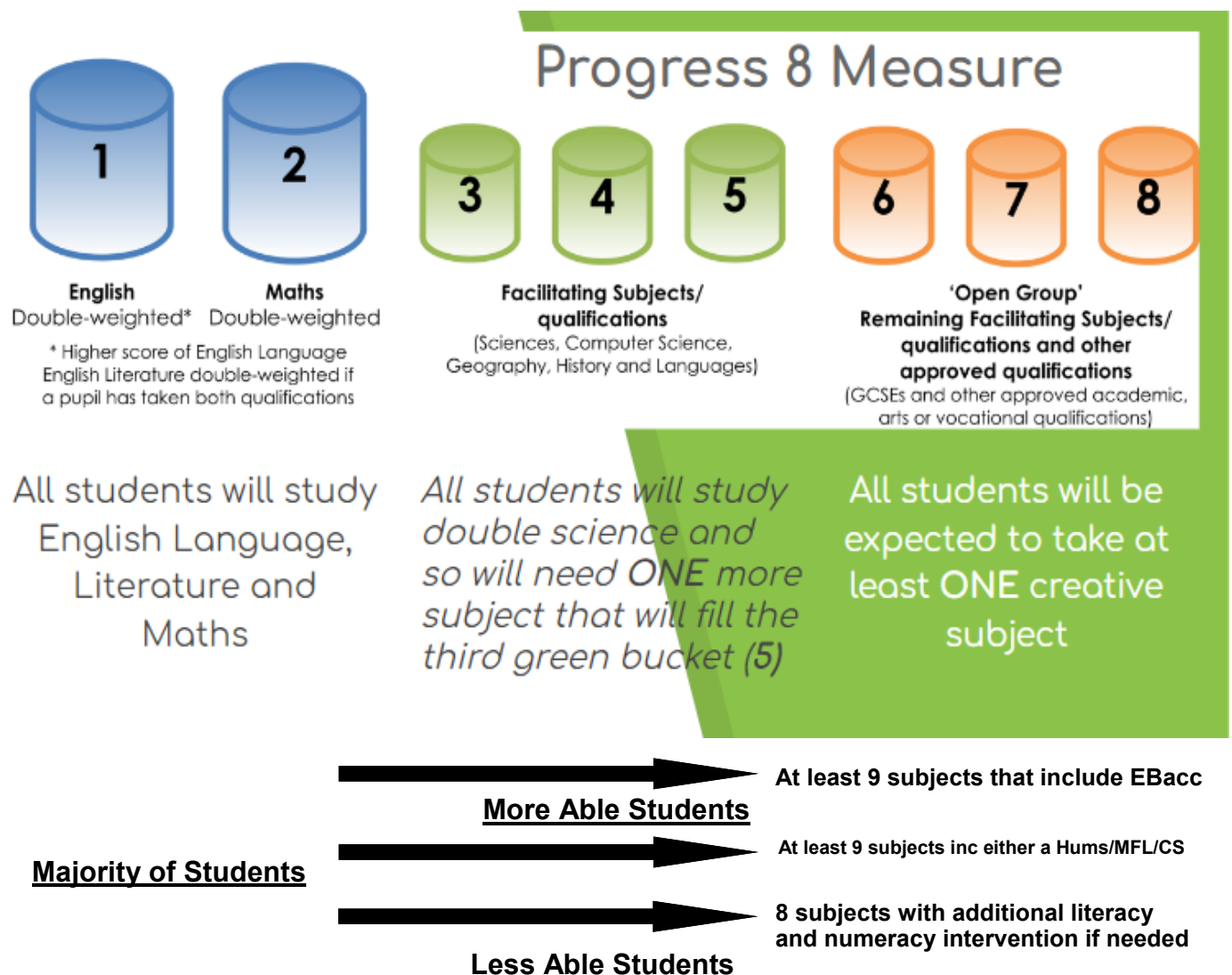


Harold Pinter by Justin Mortimer 1992  
British, B:1970  
Oil on canvas

# PERSONALISED PATHWAYS

There are some GCSE's that you will only be recommended to study if you have reached a particular level. This is because we know that you need to have shown a certain amount of ability in some subjects, for example English and Maths, to be able to access the content of these GCSE courses. If you are not sure ask your subject teachers or Tutor.

- We recommend that you could consider taking separate sciences if you are a more able scientist.
- Talk to Mr Francis about the music course and see if you would be suited to it if you have not had instrumental lessons.
- We recommend that to take Humanities subjects, you have shown an aptitude for that subject and feel confident when being asked to complete extended pieces of writing.
- We would recommend that you continue with the language that you have been studying since Year 7. Community Languages can be taken as additional GCSE's in Yr 11.
- We will recommend that you take at least one specialist subject, it is the expectation that all pupils take **either** a Performing or Visuals Art Option. You can only take ONE Visual Arts subject but could possibly take more than one Performing Arts subject.
- If you are a Bursary student we would expect you to take your subject of expertise in Key Stage 4 as one of your Choices.
- If you are interested in Computer Science we would recommend that you are a competent mathematician.



# PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

## GCSE

The majority of subjects offered in the Key Stage 4 curriculum are available to GCSE Level. You will read more of the individual subject requirements in the second half of this booklet.

The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) aims to help all pupils show what they know, understand and can do. There is much emphasis on practical work and oral work. Examinations will test whether you understand what you have been taught and whether you can apply it to the everyday world, as well as whether you can memorise facts and present them properly.

The Government re-structured GCSE courses a few years ago. All GCSE's will have an exam at the end of the course.

Excellent attendance and consistent, well-organised work throughout Key Stage 4 are an essential part of successful GCSE work. A very important target for the majority of pupils is the achievement of 9 GCSE grades at 9-5, including English Language and Maths.

The grading scale uses numbers 1-9 to identify levels of performance with 9 being the top grade.

In the Final Examination in some subjects, there will be a choice of papers or questions to suit your ability. Your teachers will advise you which tiered paper you will be entered for in due course.

### Cost of materials trips and visits in some subjects

In Visual Arts subjects you will have to buy a sketchbook to record your coursework. A number of subjects will broaden the GCSE content by including theatre visits and fieldwork.

You may sometimes be asked to make a contribution to such trips, if you can.

## BTECs

The Government changed the equivalencies of the BTEC qualifications a couple of years ago. The BTECs that we offer at Norwood are now worth one GCSE. You can take up to **2 approved BTECs**.

Jenny Holzer, American, B:1950  
SOFTER, Bleinheim Palace  
Light installation, 2017



# CAREERS EDUCATION & GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

## Parents—you can help by:

- Giving positive feedback when your child does something well at school, at home or through their hobbies and interests.
- Listening carefully to their ideas and future plans.
- Encouraging family and friends to talk about their experiences of work.
- Encouraging them to try out new experiences – joining groups/activities/ Saturday jobs.
- Helping them to go to organised careers events, visit careers libraries and take part in work experience.
- Giving advice without pressure.
- Familiarising yourself with our Careers Strategy and Unifrog. (Please see the website)

## The school will help by providing Careers Education and Guidance, which will enable students to:

- Make preference choices for Year 10 in Year 9.
- Find out about Options at 16/19 **including the Norwood School 6<sup>th</sup> Form**, apprenticeships and T Levels
- Find out about the world of work or jobs.
- Match interests and abilities to career ideas.
- Use careers libraries and careers Information on **UNIFROG**
- Make decisions about the future.
- Draw up a career action plan.
- Apply for courses/training/or jobs.
- Go for interviews with confidence.
- Seek further help when they leave school.

## As a parent you are entitled to:

- Know how your son/daughter's progress at school will affect their decisions.
- Talk to the careers teacher or careers advisor to find out information about careers. Staff will be available to speak to the pupils and parents at Year 9 Parents' Evening.
- Come to parents' evenings or events which discuss Careers Education and Guidance.
- Attend your son/daughter's careers interview, if you wish, especially if your child has SEN needs
- See a copy of his/her career action plan on Unifrog.
- Find out more about how you can support your child at this time.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Senior Deputy Head Teacher Senior Line Manager for Year 9	-	Ms Nicholas <a href="mailto:nicholas.j@thenorwoodschoool.org">nicholas.j@thenorwoodschoool.org</a>
Head of Year 9	-	Mr Oxford <a href="mailto:oxford.j@thenorwoodschoool.org">oxford.j@thenorwoodschoool.org</a>
Deputy Head of Year	-	Mr Murphy <a href="mailto:murphy.r@thenorwoodschoool.org">murphy.r@thenorwoodschoool.org</a>
Careers Advisor	-	Ms Boyle <a href="mailto:boyle.a@thenorwoodschoool.org">boyle.a@thenorwoodschoool.org</a>

## Form Tutors

**9RPI Mr Pierson** [pierson.r@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:pierson.r@thenorwoodschoool.org)  
**9DRO Mr Rogers** [rogers.d@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:rogers.d@thenorwoodschoool.org)  
**9IKA Ms Ahmed** [ahmed.i@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:ahmed.i@thenorwoodschoool.org)  
**9ALE Mr Lever** [lever.a@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:lever.a@thenorwoodschoool.org)  
**9BPA Mr Parsons** [parsons.b@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:parsons.b@thenorwoodschoool.org) and Mr Jacobs [jacobs.m@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:jacobs.m@thenorwoodschoool.org)  
**9LGO Ms Goodman** [goodman.l@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:goodman.l@thenorwoodschoool.org)

## Co Tutors

**Ms Liddiard** [liddiard.i@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:liddiard.i@thenorwoodschoool.org)  
**Ms Dessi** [dessi.c@thenorwoodschoool.org](mailto:dessi.c@thenorwoodschoool.org)

# LOOKING AHEAD TO THE NORWOOD SIXTH FORM



## After GCSE's and Key Stage 4

We are delighted that students will have our flourishing Norwood Sixth Form to look forward to after Key Stage 4. All pupils are now expected to carry on with their education after their GCSEs. There is a lot of choice in terms of the courses that can be taken. Your GCSE's provide a foundation for these further courses and during Year 11 you will plan for your next stage.

As part of the rich and varied Sixth Form provision here at The Norwood School we offer a range of 'pathways' that include 'families' of subjects that we know will guide you on your journey to University or an apprenticeship. "Families" of subjects create groups of subjects that will often complement one another and will be the kind of qualifications we know top universities and employers are looking for.

<b>Specialist Options</b>	A-Level Photography BTEC Acting A Level Art	A-Level Graphics A Level Textiles BTEC Music BTEC Dance
<b>Subjects</b> <b>A-Levels</b>	A-Level Biology A-Level History A-Level Physics A-Level Geography A-Level Film Studies A-Level Sociology	A-Level Chemistry A-Level English A-Level Maths A-Level Spanish A-Level French A-Level Psychology A-Level Gov.& Politics
<b>BTECs</b>	BTEC Business Studies BTEC ICT	BTEC Sport & Leisure
<b>Additional</b>	Basketball Academy	EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) AS-Level

If you would like to study A Levels, will need at least 6 GCSEs Grade 5 or above including English and Maths. [Find out more on the website.](#)

### Specialist Pathways

**The Arts Pathway** (Acting, Dance, Music, Film Studies, Graphics, Fashion, Art and Photography)

**Vocational Pathways** (Sport and Leisure, IT and Business, and Greenhouse Basketball). Post 16 routes are Vocational or Academic, but it is also possible to select from both routes in order to keep your options open. Through a vocational route, pupils will study a course which can lead to further education, training or a job.

Jean Dubuffet, French, 1901-1985  
La Vie de Famille, 1936  
Lithograph print

# LOOKING AHEAD TO THE NORWOOD SIXTH FORM

Have you found out about our excellent enrichment and PHSE programme for the Sixth Form?

Make sure you speak to the Sixth Form Ambassadors that will help you decide if the choices you make for next year are in line with what you might want to study in the Sixth Form.

At the end of Year 9 you might be targeted as a potential Russell group or Oxbridge University Student. You will participate in a programme that supports our most able students getting to the very best Universities, talk to Upper Sixth about their Oxbridge success and how much the school has supported them with excellent academic and super curricular opportunities.

Excellent attendance, choosing wisely, working hard and being successful will give you a good foundation for the next step. If you want to discuss your possible routes after Year 11 the following people will help:

Your **Form Tutor** will help you to make the right choices and can also help you complete your option form correctly online. **Your subject teachers** can give you guidance or tell you what a subject involves.

The following pages provide brief course descriptions of all the subjects that may be studied during Years 10 and 11. Names of staff responsible for each of the courses offered are provided in order for you to seek further information before making your final choice, should this be necessary.



Jenni Holzer. B 1950  
Monument, 2008  
LED Light installation

HATJE

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# **CORE SUBJECTS**

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# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## HEAD OF ENGLISH FACULTY - MS KOVACS ENNIS

*The course is 100% exam based. Students will study a Shakespeare play, a 19th century novel, a modern prose or drama text and a range of seen and unseen poetry. There are no entry tiers - all students sit the same exam paper.*

**FINAL EXAMINATION** Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel (40% of the total GCSE marks)

External Examination    1 hour 45 mins    64 marks

Section A: Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B: The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry (60% of the total GCSE mark)

External Examination    2 hour 15 mins    96 marks

Section A: Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B: Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C: Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

**TRIPS/VISITS:** Over the two-year course, students will be given the opportunity to explore language and literature through in-house productions and external theatre visits.

**What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?** You can go on to study A Level English Literature and/or Film Studies as a Sixth Form student at the Norwood School and then continue on to a University Degree. Possible careers include working in the Media, Advertising, Education, Journalism and Law.

J K Rowling by Stuart Pearson Wright, 2005  
British, B: 1975  
Oil on board coloured pencil on paper



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## HEAD OF ENGLISH FACULTY - MS KOVACS ENNIS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is 100% exam based and is comprised of studying fiction and non-fiction texts, as well as developing descriptive and persuasive writing skills. There are no entry tiers—all students sit the same exam paper.

### FINAL EXAMINATION :

**Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing** (50% of GCSE) 1 hour 45 minutes, 80 marks.

**Reading** (40 marks) – one single text  
1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)  
2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)  
1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

**Writing** (40 marks) - 1 extended writing question that either narrates a story or describes a given image (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

**Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives** (50% of GCSE)  
1 hour 45 minutes. 80 marks.

**Reading** (40 marks) – two linked texts  
1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)  
2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)  
1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

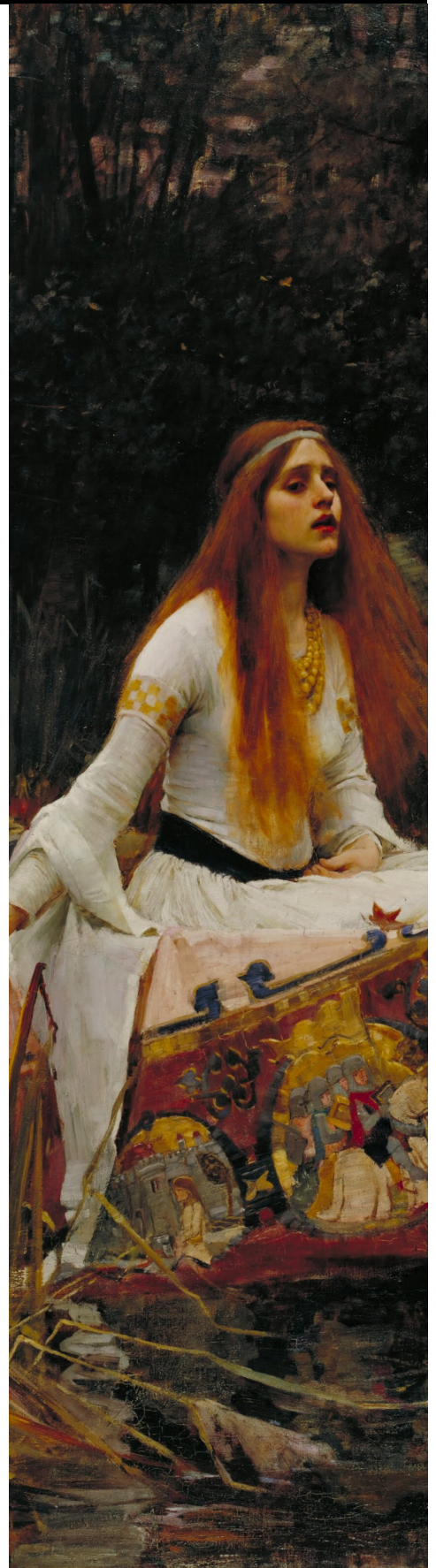
**Writing** (40 marks) 1 extended, persuasive writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

**TRIPS/VISITS:** Over the two-year course students will be given the opportunity to explore language and literature through in-house productions and external theatre visits.

**What types of career or further education possibilities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study A Level English Literature and or Film Studies as a Sixth Form student at the Norwood School and then continue on to a University Degree. Possible careers include working in the Media, Advertising, Education, Journalism and Law.

The Lady of Shalott, 1888  
John William Waterhouse, 1849-1917  
Oil on canvas



# MATHEMATICS

## HEAD OF MATHS FACULTY - MS RAZVI

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

All pupils in Years 10 and 11 will follow the Linear Course for Mathematics.

There are two tiers of entry: Higher Tier (9-4) and Foundation Tier (5-1).

Pupils will study topics in four key areas of mathematic:

- Ratio
- Number
- Algebra
- Shape, Space and Measure
- Handling Data

### FINAL EXAMINATION

The pupils will sit three final exams consisting of two Calculator and one Non-calculator papers. These will represent 100% of the marks available in the subject.

**TRIPS/VISITS:** Over the two years there will be a number of internal and external competitions and events to participate in such as the UKMT maths challenges, maths inspiration talks, count on us competition, piday competition, Sparx maths competition and so on.

**What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study A Level Maths as a Sixth Form student at the Norwood School, then move on to a University Degree.

Maths is important for all careers. Possible careers could include finance, engineering, scientific research, architecture, town planning, logistics, computer programming, mathematician medicine



Crystal Palace Subway  
High Level Line, 1865

# SCIENCE

## HEAD OF SCIENCE FACULTY - MS O'NEILL

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

GCSE study in the Sciences provides the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All students should learn essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of Science. They should gain appreciation of how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas that relate to the Sciences and that are both inter-linked and of universal application.

### Science Options

Students will follow a Combined Science GCSE or a Separate Sciences GCSE depending on their interests and aptitude for Science. If students wish to follow the Separate Sciences pathway, then they must pick this as one of their Options.

### **Combined Science (Double Award, 2 GCSEs) - Edexcel**

This qualification replaces what used to be known as 'Double Science'. The GCSE in combined science develops scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. This is assessed through six exams at the end of Year 11. This GCSE also requires students to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of working scientifically. Working scientifically will be assessed through examination and the completion of the 18 core practical's.

Key points:

- Students will receive 2 x GCSE grades
- All exams will take place at the end of Year 11 (6 x exams of 70 minutes)
- There is no controlled assessment work, everything is assessed through examinations
- Students will have 6 x lessons of Science per week (with an additional 3 for Separate Science).

### **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study a Level 3 qualification as a Sixth Form student at The Norwood School, A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, then on to a University Degree.

Sciences are important for all careers. However, possible careers could include medicine, dentistry, teaching, engineering, archaeology, forensic science and research.

Damien Hirst, British, B:1965  
Pharmacy, 1992  
Room sized installation



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# **OPTIONS**

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# RS/PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

## HEAD OF FACULTY—MR CURTIS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Religious studies provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. It contributes to pupils' personal development and well-being and to community cohesion by promoting mutual respect and tolerance in a diverse society.

It will help students develop analytical and critical thinking skills to enable them to present a wide range of well informed and reasonable arguments, aiding in progression to A level study.

The syllabus consists of a study of moral and spiritual issues assessed by the AQA exam board. Students study 2 sections for a full GCSE. These are Christianity and Islam (beliefs and practices). These will be studied from the underpinnings of two religions (Christianity and Islam).

#### Area of Study 1:

*Christian beliefs*  
*Christianity practices*  
*Islam beliefs*  
*Islam practices*

#### Area of Study 2:

*Themes such as marriage, equality and coming of age.*

The course is interesting and relevant but it entails a lot of hard work and relies on students being prepared to think for themselves and listen to and learn from others. All beliefs and points of view are equally welcome and valued.

**Trips/Visits** Over the course a number of speakers will visit teaching groups to deliver presentations on a range of topics and join in discussions.

**What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study A Level Religious Studies or Philosophy/Ethics as a Sixth Form student, then on to a University Degree.

Possible careers could include Social Work, Teaching, Media and Politics, Charity Work, the Ministry, Counsellor, Chaplaincy in the Military, the Civil Service and politics. Most notable politicians in the UK have studied Philosophy at university.



Marc Chagall, Russian-French, 1887-1985  
White Crucifixion, 1938  
Oil on canvas

# HISTORY

## HEAD OF FACULTY — MR CURTIS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a full GCSE course with a terminal paper in Year 11.

GCSE History is a two year course in which students learn and develop their analytical, interpretative, discursive writing skills, at the same time as developing a breadth of historical knowledge and understanding. The course is appropriate for anyone interested in finding out about how the events of the past have shaped the world we live in today. If you have been guided towards the English Baccalaureate, you will have to opt for either History or Geography. This is an essay writing subject with three written papers.

We will be studying a combination of British and non-British topics:

- The Elizabethan Era
- Democracy to Dictatorship: Germany 1890-1945
- Conflict and tension: the Cold War in Asia 1954-75
- Migration, empires and peoples, c790 to the present day

### TRIPS AND VISITS

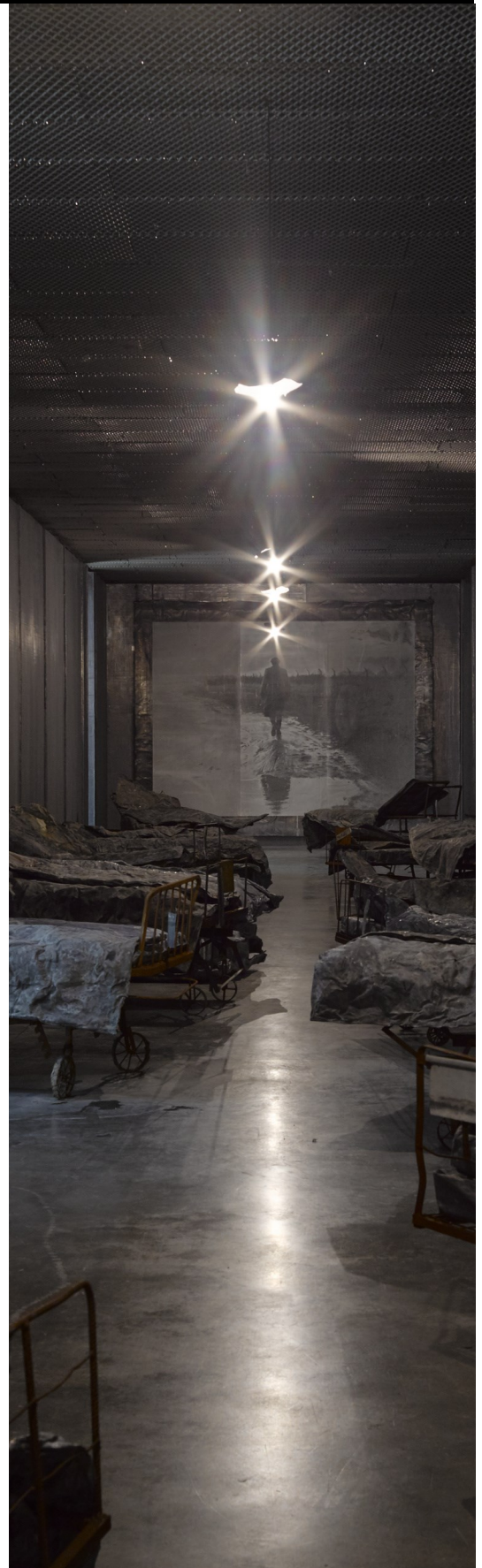
This course is likely to include visits to various London museums including the Black Cultural Archives, the Imperial War Museum and Hampton Court.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

This course is suitable for any student who wishes to gain a rigorous academic qualification which is valued by employers and colleges and universities alike. You can move onto A Level History at the Norwood Sixth Form, then onto a University degree.

History is directly related to careers in the media, writing, the arts, the law, education, politics, or in fact any career; don't think of History merely as a subject you study, but a passport to a way of thinking which will open many doors for you in the future!

Anselm Kiefer, German, B:1945  
Walhalla, 1992-2016  
Lead installation



# GEOGRAPHY

## HEAD OF SUBJECT — MS HOWE BROWNE

This is a full GCSE course with 3 terminal papers in Year 11 you will:

- Learn more about the physical world and how humans interact with it.
- Have discussions about our impact on the environment.
- Develop your geographical skills that will help you in other areas such as IT and Maths.
- Attend two field trips where you design and write up an investigation.
- Learn to create geographical questions and make geographical decisions about current issues in the world.

GCSE Geography is a three year course in which students learn and develop their analytical, interpretative, discursive writing skills, at the same time as developing a breadth of geographical knowledge and understanding. This course is appropriate for those who wish to investigate real places and understand how physical processes form the world we live in. We study a range of human geography and physical geography topics including the following:

**Changing Cities** – The study of how cities have changed over time and how to make them more sustainable for the future

**Global Development** – We will examine how development levels vary around the world, what causes this and what can be done to close the development gap

**Resource Management** – The future is renewable energy but what is stopping us from switching sooner, who is using the most energy and why

**Coastal Landscapes** – We will study the physical processes that form our coast lines and how humans can intervene

**Weather Hazards** – What causes major weather events in our world? We will look at an example of hurricanes and assess the extent to which we can minimise the damage

**River Landscapes** – Why do rivers change as they move downstream? What can humans do to manage the risk of flooding?

**UK Challenges** – We will study and interpret a set of resources to justify a decision on how to improve an issue in the UK.

### **Trips and Visits:**

Field trip to Eastbourne and your local area for fieldwork investigations.

### **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished your course?**

You can move on to A Level Geography at the Norwood Sixth Form and then onto a degree at University. Geography GCSE is a great basis for both social science A Levels such as politics or sociology and also science A Levels. Employers and Universities value the broad range of transferable skills that Geography delivers. Geography fits neatly with science, the arts and humanities and geographers also tend to have good IT skills. A GCSE in Geography can lead to a variety of careers, including business, global institutions such as the EU or UN, charity work, land management, the oil industry and online mapping agents like Google.



Eric Ravilious, British, 1903-1942  
The Long Man of Wilmington, 1939, Watercolour

# CITIZENSHIP

## HEAD OF SUBJECT— MS FOOKS

“Should the voting age at UK General elections be lowered to 16?”

“Britain should never go to war.”

“Is stop and search used discriminately?”

“How far has devolution reduced the power of the Westminster parliament?”

“Would a more proportional electoral system at UK general elections strengthen democracy?”

**What do you think.....?** If you're interested in the world and people around you, this is the subject for you. We are bombarded with information about things like the environment, conflict and people's rights across the world, but most of us find it hard to work out what's accurate and what's inaccurate. Citizenship helps you to develop the skills to make sense of the legal, political, economic and social aspects of your lives and to decide for yourself.

In Citizenship we seek to provide a curriculum that equips students with the skills, understanding, knowledge and cultural capital that they need to play a full part in society as informed and active citizens, at local, national and international levels. Pupils learn about politics, international relations, parliament and voting as well as human rights, justice and the law. In order for students to believe in their own political agency and to invest effort in actively improving their communities they first need to develop the skills of researching, interrogating and debating evidence and arguments, as well as critical thinking. Citizenship allows them to develop these skills. Citizenship GCSE is a good feeder subject for Politics, Economics and Law A Levels.

The course is interesting and relevant but it entails hard work and relies on students being prepared to think for themselves and listen to and learn from others. Literacy is a key component of the course as is discussion and debate. All beliefs and points of view are welcome and valued. You are assessed by two exams. You will also complete a citizenship campaign

### Themes

- Life in modern Britain
- Rights & Responsibilities (Legal system, laws in contemporary society and universal human rights).
- Politics & Participation
- Taking citizenship action

**Trips and Visits** to Parliament, the Royal Courts of Justice and the Supreme Court. Workshops with Parliament and the Red Cross.

**What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study a range of A Level qualifications as a Sixth Form Student, for example, Government and Politics, Sociology, History then on to a University Degree in Politics, International Relations, Human rights, Economics and Journalism etc. Possible Careers can include Law, journalism and the media, civil service, PR, human resources, social work, citizen's advice, police, probationary service, politics.

Barbara Walker, British, B:1964  
Brighter Future, 2006, Mixed media on newspaper

KS IN  
ON

FROM PAGE 1

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t chief defends 's

an electrician, who was killed  
by police on Friday at Stockwell  
Tube station, south London.  
'The death has provoked strong  
criticism of the police by the  
man's family, who described the  
Met as "stupid and incompetent".  
Sir Ian said: "Somebody else  
could be shot. But everything is  
done to make it right. This is a  
terrifying set of circumstances  
for individuals to make decisions."  
The country's most senior  
police chief defended the actions

netto  
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l" policy when de-  
spected suicide  
dding that more  
be shot dead...  
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nmissioner, followed  
of Jean Charles de  
an innocent Brazil-

police, the Government - should  
hide their faces in shame." Mr  
Pereira, who identified his cousin  
at a mortuary in Greenwich on  
Saturday after being called by  
police about his "disappearance",  
claimed exit wounds in Mr de  
Menezes' jaw and mouth showed  
he had been shot from behind.  
He said: "I pushed my way  
into the morgue, they wouldn't  
let me see him. His mouth was  
twisted by the wounds and it  
looked like he had been shot  
from the back of the neck. All I  
want to do is take him home to  
Brazil to be buried."

Like most in the capital last  
Friday morning, Mr de  
Menezes, known as Jean or Jim  
to his wide circle of friends, was  
resigned to suffering delays on  
his way into work after the failed  
bombing the day before.

He was not known to police  
despite being stopped three  
times in the past year while riding  
his 90cc moped too quickly. His  
last encounter with the police  
had been at Brixton Tube station  
last month when his bag was  
searched by officers conducting  
routine checks.

He had slept in on Friday after  
working late as a kitchen porter  
at a restaurant to help a friend.  
He left the flat he shared with his  
two cousins, Patricia and Vivian,  
at 10am after receiving a call to  
repair a boiler. He also made a  
two-minute walk to the  
Pulse Hill Road bus  
stop, where he was bound for  
his job. He had to change  
at Brixton and then walk to  
Stockwell.

He had lived in the flat for  
two years. He was a friendly  
man who had been in the  
area for a long time. He was  
known to many people in the  
area. He was a good neighbour  
and a good friend. He was a  
good person. He was a good  
man. He was a good citizen.

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# SPANISH AND FRENCH MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

**HEAD OF FACULTY —MR CLEMENTS**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Spanish and French GCSE qualifications are focused on the important ways that languages foster communication, broaden perspectives, introduce new cultures and develop students into global citizens. Students can study French or Spanish at GCSE if have studied that particular language in KS3.

### **Over the course the students will develop:**

- Confident and accurate communication in writing and speaking.
- A keen understanding of how to extract information from a variety of spoken and written texts.
- A working knowledge of the grammar of the language.
- An appreciation of the cultural aspects of the French and Spanish speaking world.

### **Final examination:**

The exams consist of 4 equally weighted parts: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The themes to be studied are: My Personal World, Lifestyle and Wellbeing, My Neighbourhood, Media and Technology, Studying and My Future, Travel and Tourism

### **TRIPS AND VISITS**

Students studying French or Spanish will have priority for trips to Spain or France.

### **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

Students can go on to study A Level Spanish and French as a Sixth Form student at Norwood School, which could lead to a university degree in a language, or a language in combination with any other subject (e.g. Spanish and Law, French and Business). Having studied a language, even at GCSE, will show great academic achievement and is seen as a 'facilitating subject' by universities and employers. When you go for an interview, it is sure to impress.

There are many jobs that use languages on a daily basis such as: journalist, teacher, interpreter, translator, lawyer, fashion buyer and distributor. There are even more jobs that use transferable skills from a language qualification such as: working for an international organisation, writing and editing, working in the civil service and becoming an analyst.



Vincent Van Gogh, Dutch, 1853-1890  
Café Terrace at Night, 1888  
Oil painting

# BTEC Sport - Level 2

**HEAD OF PE, SPORTS & WELL BEING FACULTY - MR GRANT**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

If you enjoy physical education and have an interest in finding out more about sports coaching, fitness training and how people access Sport with the industry then this could be the course for you. The course contains practical sport through team games, health related fitness training and outdoor adventurous activities and written coursework from two components completing tasks within controlled assessments.

Students will study 3 different units over the course of the 2 years. 2 being internally assessed units completed via controlled assessments and 1 being an externally assessed exam. The assignment work and exam is graded as a PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION and each unit makes up 33% of the final mark.

### **The units are:**

- Component 1 - Preparing participants to take part in sport.
- Component 2 - Taking part and improving others participation in sport.
- Component 3 - Developing fitness to improve performance in sport.

For this course, you will be required to complete assignments within a controlled assessment window, one within year 10 and one in year 11. It is important that you understand this IS NOT an option to do more practical PE. There will be practical work within the course but the emphasis is on the theory within how sport works within Industry.

### **Trip and visits**

Students will be given the opportunity to attend a 5-day residential trip to an Outward Bound centre in the Lake District.

The trip aims to work on:

- Increased self-awareness and confidence
- Improved problem-solving abilities
- Improved ability to listen and communicate effectively with others
- Increased resilience and perseverance
- Increased social responsibility through connection with the natural environment

Students on the trip will take part in activities such as; stream scrambling, rock climbing, kayaking and an overnight expedition.

### **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

Physical Education is the ideal, if not, the only pathway to choose if you are wishing to follow a career in sport. From the BTEC Level 2 Tech Award course, you could go on to study A Level PE or a BTEC Level 3 in Sport at the Norwood School. This, in turn, would enable you to study Sport or Physical Education in Higher education or help you to secure a job as a coach, gym instructor or personal trainer to name but a few roles.

There will be practical and theory lessons for this course and this will be in addition to your two lessons a week of core PE.

***You do not need to excel in practical PE, though a keen interest in sport and PE is essential.***



# FINE ART

## HEAD OF SUBJECT—MS UNDERWOOD

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Art and Design GCSE examination is a two-year course. The GCSE aims to encourage an adventurous and enquiring approach to Art and Design. Standards are high and students are expected to complete a minimum of 2 hours of homework a week. Students need to prepare and research their work independently, visiting museums, galleries and libraries both within the school and on their own. In addition to making work, students are encouraged to reflect on their own work and the work of others in the form of critical analysis. Successful students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of past and contemporary Art and Design practice of different historical, social and cultural contexts and should be able to produce a personal response that embraces a range of ideas.

The Department offers a wide range of practices, which include painting, drawing, printmaking, ceramics, mixed media, sculpture, ICT and photography.

### COURSE CONTENT

The current assessment for the GCSE course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment (ESA). The ESA is a project whereby the title is set by the examination board and there is a 10-hour practical exam. For both units there are four assessment objectives that need to be met:

- A01. Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- A02. Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- A03. Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- A04. Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

### BOOKS/MATERIALS

Students should be equipped with basic drawing materials. Students are expected to keep sketchbooks and a portfolio of work.

### TRIPS/VISITS

Students are encouraged to visit Art Galleries and Museums as part of their research.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

You can go on to study a Level 3 Visual Arts qualification as a Sixth Form student at The Norwood School then on to a University Degree or Art College. Possible careers include becoming a designer - interior / architect / graphic / web / fashion, illustrator; painter / fine artist; photographer, ceramicist; art therapist, theatre set and costume designer or working in film, video, museums and galleries.



Jean Michel Basquiat 1960-1988  
Philistines, 1982  
Oil on canvas

# TEXTILES

## HEAD OF SUBJECT- MS UNDERWOOD

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Textiles GCSE is a two-year course. Textile design involves the creation, selection and manipulation of textiles across a variety of practices. Students are taught a wide range of skills that encompass traditional crafts and computer aided design. Students learn a variety of techniques which could include printing, (including lino, silk-screen, relief print), constructed textiles/weaving using wires, card, recycled packaging and batik. Students are required to work in one or more disciplines in each unit submitted – printed, woven, knitted, dyed, constructed textiles or fashion. All students undertake visual research, develop and explore their ideas to understand how to use a range of materials, processes and techniques in 2 and 3 dimensions. Students will understand a range of work from contemporary practice, traditional past practice and different cultures.

The course requires you to become an independent learner and you will need to complete at least 2 hours of work at home each week and through extended study sessions after school.

### COURSE CONTENT

The current assessment for the GCSE course is 60% course-work and 40% externally set assignment (ESA). The ESA is a project whereby the title is set by the examination board and there is a 10-hour practical exam. For both units there are four assessment objectives that need to be met:

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A04. Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

### BOOKS/MATERIALS

Students should be equipped with basic drawing materials. Students are expected to keep a sketchbook and portfolio of work.

### TRIPS/VISITS

Students are encouraged to visit art galleries and museums as part of their research.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

You can go on to study a Level 3 Visual Arts qualification as a Sixth Form student at The Norwood School, then on to a University or Art College. Possible careers include a fashion designer, textile designer, fashion journalist, fashion buyer, pattern cutter and industrial textiles artist.



Bisa Butler B:1973  
The Princess, 2018  
Quilted collage

# THREE DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

## HEAD OF SUBJECT— MS ACHAM

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Three Dimensional Design will allow you to be creative and practical, whilst challenging you to develop knowledge, build time management skills and be independent in your creative choices.

You will be taught a range of practical skills that are the foundation stone to all 3D products. During the two-year course, you will undertake a series of coursework projects, in addition to a further assignment set by the examination board. All these projects will allow you to develop your technical skills, whilst also being creative with your ideas and incorporating your interests. You will gain knowledge and understanding in areas including model making, constructing, surface treatment, assembling and modelling. You will need good basic skills and an interest in Design and Technology and/or Art.

Possible areas of study could include: Architectural design, Product Design, Furniture Design, Jewellery, Interior Design, Environment/landscape/garden design, Design for theatre, film and television.

The course requires you to become an independent learner and you will need to complete at least 2 hours of work at home each week and through extended study sessions after school.

### COURSE CONTENT

The current assessment for the GCSE course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment (ESA). The ESA is a project whereby the title is set by the examination board and there is a 10-hour practical exam. For both units there are four assessment objectives that need to be met:

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### BOOKS/MATERIALS

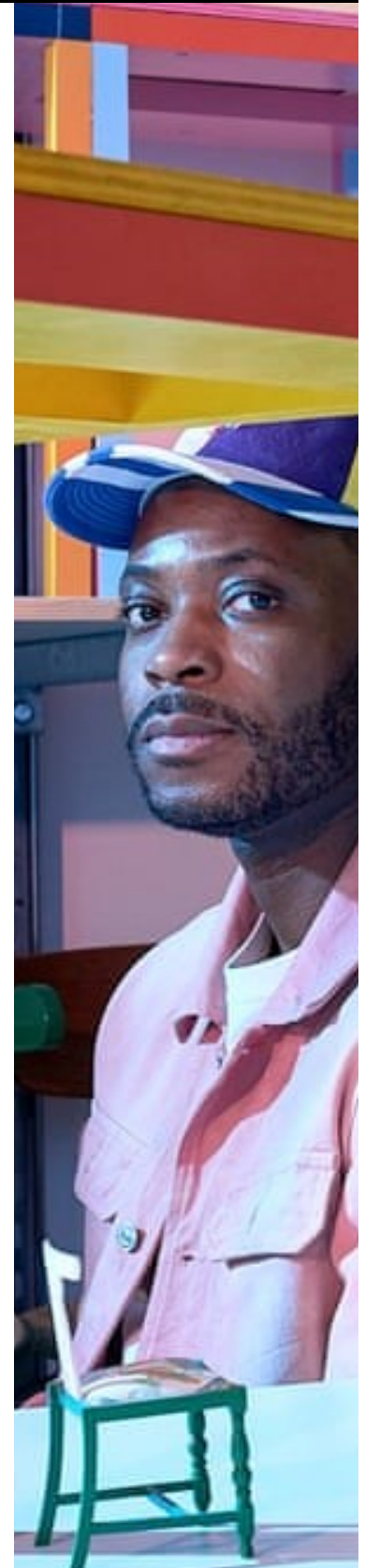
Students should be equipped with basic drawing materials. Students are expected to keep sketchbooks and a portfolio of work.

### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENT

Students will visit art galleries, museums and trade fairs as part of their research.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

You can go on to study A Level Product Design/Three Dimensional Design. Possible careers include ceramics designer, furniture designer, glass blower/designer, industrial/product designer, interior and spatial designer, jewellery designer, product designer, production designer theatre/television/film and then on to a University degree or Art college.



Yinka Ilori's  
Colourful World  
Architect & Product Designer

# PHOTOGRAPHY

**HEAD OF FACULTY— MS HUGHES**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Photography GCSE is a 2-year course. Photography covers a broad area and is frequently used to document and record ideas and images for use in fine art as well as the graphic disciplines. Work in photography should form a means of personal enquiry and expression involving the selection and manipulation of images. You must employ creative approaches which go beyond mere observation and recording. You will explore film, photography and video within the course. You will learn traditional methods of photography but will also explore and develop digital media.

The course requires you to become an independent learner and you will need to complete at least 2 hours of work at home each week and through extended study sessions after school.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

The current assessment for the GCSE course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment (ESA). The ESA is a project whereby the title is set by the examination board and there is a 10-hour practical exam. For both units there are four assessment objectives that need to be met:

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## **BOOKS AND MATERIALS**

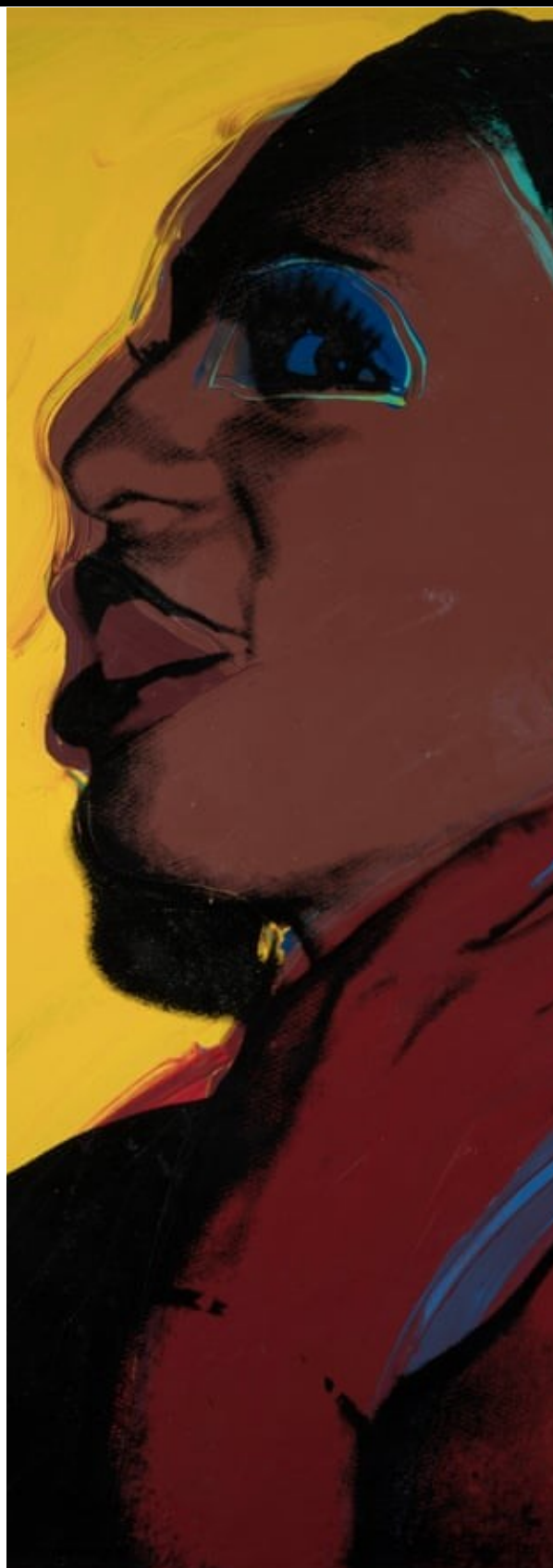
Students should be equipped with basic drawing materials. Students are expected to keep a sketchbook and portfolio of work.

## **TRIPS AND VISITS**

Students visit art galleries and museums as part of their research.

**What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study a Level 3 Visual Arts qualification as a Sixth Form student at the Norwood School, then on to University or Art College. Possible careers include becoming a photographer, film maker, editing engineer, fashion photographer, photojournalist, food photographer or working on a magazine.



Andy Warhol, American, 1928-1987  
Marsh P. Johnson 1975  
Silk screen print

# GRAPHIC DESIGN

**HEAD OF FACULTY— MS HUGHES**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Graphic GCSE design course runs for two years. Graphic Design is the communication of information and ideas by visual means. You will be required to work in at least one of the following disciplines which include advertising, illustration, packaging, typography, printmaking, developing and applying design skills, innovation and marketing products. The course requires you to become an independent learner and you will need to complete at least 2 hours of work at home each week.

Students will undertake visual research recording observations and experiences and developing design and technology skills. You will explore and develop your ideas, use a range of materials, ICT equipment, techniques in 2 and 3 dimensions and will study the work of contemporary and past designers as well as the work of artists and designers from a range of different cultures. You will develop skills using professional applications including adobe Photoshop and illustrator on the Apple Mac's.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

The current assessment for the GCSE course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment (ESA). The ESA is a project whereby the title is set by the examination board and there is a 10 hour practical exam. For both units there are four assessment objectives that need to be met:

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## **BOOKS AND MATERIALS**

Students should be equipped with basic drawing materials.  
Students are expected to keep a sketchbook and portfolio of work.

## **TRIPS AND VISITS**

Students will visit Art Galleries and Museums as part of their research.

## **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study a Level 3 Visual Arts qualification as a Sixth Form student at the Norwood School then on to University or Art College. Possible careers include becoming an illustrator, comic book designer, magazine designer, product designer or web designer



Michael Craig Martin, Irish, B: 1941  
Full Life, 1985  
Oil on aluminium

# HOSPITALITY & CATERING

## HEAD OF SUBJECT- MS ACHAM

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

On the WJEC Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering course, you will develop your preparation and knife skills, cooking and presentation skills in order to make a variety of dishes suitable for starters, mains and desserts. You will also learn a lot about the different types of food service, equipment, roles and how providers operate. The course requirements are demanding and require dedication and excellent organisational skills. Students should have demonstrated their passion for food preparation and want to learn more about the food industry.

### COURSE CONTENT

#### Unit 1 - The Hospitality and Catering Industry

External assessment in the form of an online typed examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes. 40% of qualification.

**Topics covered:** Types of service providers and food service, factors affecting success, the operation of a kitchen, front of house and back of house service, job roles, Health & Safety Laws, the role and powers of an Environmental Health Officer, food related causes of ill health.

#### Unit 2 - Hospitality and Catering in Action

Controlled Assessment. Research, plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes for specific customers. 12 hours controlled assessment (including 3.5-hour practical assessment) 60% of qualification.

**Topics covered:** Nutrients, diets and dietary requirements. Menu Planning for specific groups. Environmental considerations, more advanced cooking skills, skills and techniques, Commodities, Serving and presentation

### INGREDIENTS

Students are expected to provide some ingredients each week. Support will be provided for PP/FSM students.

### TRIPS/VISITS

We will visit food hubs such as Brixton /Borough Market. We will also look to visit a variety of hospitality and catering establishments and have visiting professionals.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

This course is a great steppingstone to the many future pathways and careers. You may consider a catering course at college or you may consider studying A levels like Biology, chemistry or Business Studies that would help you go on to study a Food or Hospitality related degree at University. Related careers include Chef, Environmental Health Officer, Restaurant or Hotel Managers, Product Developer, Food Critic, Dietician, Food Technologist, or Mobile Caterers.

Wayne Thiebaud American, 1920-2021 Cakes number 1, 1967  
Pastel & graphite on paper.



# BTEC TECH LEVEL 1/2 AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS (Dance)

**HEAD OF SUBJECT - MS GOODMAN**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is a two-year vocational course that is offered to students who wish to take a practical dance course in which they get to use and develop their dance skills and professional appreciation. Students will acquire knowledge in dance that will allow them to perform, choreograph and analyse in a range of dance pieces and styles.

Students will also be expected to complete both written and practical work outside of sessions. In class they will be expected to have a smart, professional appearance with fit for purpose dance clothing. They will also be encouraged to adopt healthy and disciplined habits.

Students will continually work on their technique, spending time on their conditioning both in and outside of lesson time and by attending additional classes/rehearsals.

Students will take part in practical workshop sessions where they will develop their dance techniques, working on both their physical and interpretive skills. They will study a range of styles and choreographies. They will take part in a number of productions and be given the opportunity to perform in front of an audience at a number of points on the course.

## **TRIPS AND VISITS**

Students are encouraged to experience dance in a wide variety of forms by making regular trips to theatres and dance colleges. They will work with professional dance companies in school and will be given the chance to perform in front of an audience on a number of occasions as well as offering them space to watch professional work.

## **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can progress onto a RSL Level 3 qualification offered in the Norwood Sixth Form, then on to University or to a specialist Dance conservatoire. As with other Level 2 qualifications it will also give you the grades/points required to study on a range of other courses.

Possible careers included in the performing arts industry are; becoming a dancer, choreographer, dance critic, dance therapist, teacher. There would also be possibilities open to you in the arts administration field.

“Young people that studied arts subjects tend to have higher employability and are more likely to maintain employment than those that did not study arts subjects” - DTZ Consulting and Research: Arts and Employability.



Edgar Degas, French, 1834-1917  
The Green Dancer, 1877  
Gouache on paper

# BTEC TECH LEVEL 1/2 AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS (ACTING)

## HEAD OF SUBJECT - MR SPRING

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The BTEC Tech Award in Acting is ideal for you if you would like to develop practical skills and find out more about performing arts. This course offers a practical introduction to life and work in the performing arts industry. This is a two year course that is offered to students who wish to take a practical Drama route in which they get to use and develop their acting skills and appreciation of theatre.

Students will acquire knowledge in acting and drama that will allow them to perform and devise a range of acting pieces and styles.

Students will take part in practical workshop sessions where they will develop their acting techniques, working on the creation of character, vocal and movement skills, text and devising plays. They will take part in a number of productions and be given the opportunity to perform in front of an audience at a number of points on the course.

Students will also be expected to complete both written and practical work outside of lessons.

### TRIPS AND VISITS

Students are encouraged to experience acting and drama in a wide variety of forms by making regular trips to the theatre. They will work with professional drama practitioners and theatre companies in school and will be given the chance to perform in front of an audience on a number of occasions.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

You can progress onto a Level 3 qualification offered in the Norwood Sixth Form, then on to University or a specialist Drama school. As with other Level 2 qualifications it will also give you the grades/points required to study on a range of other courses. Possible careers include becoming an actor, presenter, director, stage manager, playwright, theatre critic/journalist, theatre historian, drama therapist, drama teacher, performance artists, arts administrator. A study in drama would also aid a whole range of alternative careers and pathways.

“Young people that studied arts subjects tend to have higher employability and are more likely to maintain employment than those that did not study arts subjects” - DTZ Consulting and Research: Arts and Employability.



# GCSE MUSIC

## HEAD OF SUBJECT - MR FRANCIS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

#### Music GCSE COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a two year OCR GCSE course that is offered to students who wish to develop their musical skills through practical workshops and lessons. Assessment is 60% coursework (two performances and two compositions) and 40% listening and appraising exam covering four areas of study (Concerto Through Time/Rhythms of the World/Film and Game Music/Popular Music). There are two available routes through the course:

#### GCSE Music

Students will take part in practical workshop sessions where they will develop their musical techniques, working on their solo and ensemble performance skills. All students will have specialist instrumental or singing tuition and must be able to play an instrument or sing to a good standard.

They will develop their compositional skills through a series of projects that introduce them to the basics of composition including understanding harmony, writing melodies and creating convincing rhythmic ideas.

#### TRIPS/VISITS

Students will be encouraged to attend concerts and performances of a wide variety of musical styles and to participate in a variety of performances both in and out of school.

#### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

You can go on to study a Level 3 qualification as a Sixth Form student at The Norwood School, then on to a University Degree or a specialist music college or conservatoire. As with other Level 2 qualifications, it will also give you the grades/points required to study on a range of other courses. Possible careers could include becoming a performer, composer, music producer, studio engineer, record label manager, or working in media: radio, TV, internet, magazines, education and music therapy.



Pablo Picasso, Spanish, 1881-1973  
Seated Harlequin with Guitar, 1916  
Oil on canvas

# FILM STUDIES

**“Movies touch our hearts and change the way we see things. They take us to other places, they open doors and minds”.**  
**Martin Scorsese**

**HEAD OF SUBJECT - MS TATAM**

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Film Studies GCSE course combines watching, discussing, writing about and making films. Students watch movies from Hollywood through the decades, as well as from the UK and other parts of the world. Approximately two thirds of your final grade will come from an exam in which you write about the films you have studied and your understanding of how the movie business works. For the remaining third of the GCSE you will work creatively, screenwriting, planning, shooting and editing your own short films. The creative component makes up most of the homework in this subject. Your final filmmaking project in Year 11 is a chance to show off your creative skills, and this piece of work makes up the remaining third of the total grade.

This is a fairly new subject to all students, and no previous experience is necessary. What is essential is a genuine love of watching films, and a curiosity about how cinema can tell us about different times and places. You'll also need to be prepared to really study the small details of a movie scene, and think about why the director, editor, designer, cinematographer and composer have made their creative choices, and how those choices can have different effects on the audience. Students and parents should be aware that some of the films we watch are 15 certificate and have language and content a small number of students may find challenging, and if you think this might be a concern you should discuss the set films with Ms Tatam before you make your subject choices.

## TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENT

While films can be enjoyed at home, there's nothing to beat the full cinema experience, and we will offer trips to selected new releases or special screenings of classic films as they become available. Film GCSE students take a pivotal role in our annual Norwood School Film Festival, where they will be able to showcase their best work and will be invited to meet people working in the industry.

## What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

Film Studies GCSE provides students with a fantastic first step towards a career in film. Our school offers an extremely successful Film A Level course, and from there many students have gone on to study Film Production. These students can then consider a range of careers including as directors, producers, camera and sound technicians, editors, designers, and screenwriters, as well as advertising, journalism, marketing, public relations, social media management and games design. Film Studies also supports students with interests in pursuing Performing Arts training, and equally, it can develop and enhance the skills of those who wish to pursue the Visual Arts.



# SEPARATE SCIENCES

## (TRIPLE AWARD) SCIENCE

**HEAD OF SCIENCE FACULTY - MS O'NEILL**

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This qualification replaces what used to be known as "Triple Science".

The GCSE in separate Sciences develops scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. This is assessed through six exams at the end of Year 11. The GCSE also requires students to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of working scientifically. Working scientifically will be assessed through examination and the completion of the 24 core practicals.

### Key points:

Students will receive 3 x GCSE grades (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)  
All exams will take place at the end of Year 11  
(6 exams of 105 minutes)

There is no controlled assessment work, everything is assessed through examinations.

Students will have 9 lessons of Science per week (3 for each discipline, with specialist subject teachers for each).

The exam board is Edexcel.

Entry requirements: students must be confident in both Maths and Science, entry will be determined by success in Yr 9 Science Assessments.

Triple Science is an excellent preparation and highly recommended for those wishing to study A Level Sciences.

### What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?

You can go on to study a Level 3 qualification as a Sixth Form student at the Norwood School, A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, then on to a University Degree.

Sciences are important for all careers. However, possible careers could include medicine, dentistry, teaching, engineering, archaeology, forensic science and research.

Roy Lichtenstein, , 1923-1997  
Peace Through Chemistry 1, 1970  
5 colour lithograph & screen print



# COMPUTER SCIENCE

**HEAD OF SUBJECT - MS VINCENT**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is a full GCSE which has three different assessments. Two written examinations and one practical controlled assessment.

### **Why Computing?**

Ever wanted to become a web designer, software developer and many more? Then Computing may be the GCSE for you. This is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. While learners will no doubt already have some knowledge of computers and related areas, the course will give them an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. As part of this, they will investigate computer programming, which many learners find interesting.

Through this study of computer programming, the course will help learners develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. In fact, information technologies continue to have a growing importance. This means there will be a bigger demand for professionals who are qualified in this area.

### **Modules Taught Include:**

**Paper 1:** Computational thinking and problem solving 50%.

**Paper 2:** Written assessment 50%

If learners want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science, they will find that this course provides a superb stepping stone. Learners who have taken a Computing GCSE and who then progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have a sound underpinning knowledge of this subject area.

### **Trips and Visits**

There will be a series of competitions, workshops and visits to conferences and exhibitions available throughout the course.

### **What types of career or further education opportunities will be available to you after you have finished the course?**

You can go on to study Level 3 BTEC Diploma in ICT as a Sixth Form student at The Norwood School, then onto University to study a Degree. Computing is important for many careers. However possible careers could include data analyst, IT consultant, games developer or web designer.



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

It is important that you attend all your tutor times. You must be punctual because Heads of Faculty, Mr Oxford, Mr Murphy and Tutors will be passing on important messages and helping to explain the process of making your GCSE choices. It will be a valuable opportunity for you to ask questions and find out more about the pathways we have here at Norwood.

### **Tuesday 3rd March 2026 Pathways Evening 4:30pm—7pm**

This will be a chance for you and your family to speak to subject specialists about particular options. Your parent /carers will be sent a link via the parent-cloud to book appointments but the meetings will be face to face. Heads of Faculty will talk to you about the subjects that they offer in tutor time so that you are ready to make your choices by the deadline.

## **All information on the pathways process can be found on the website, under the Curriculum Tab, then go to Pathways.**

As a school with arts specialisms, we encourage you to take at one Performing or Visual Arts subjects. Some of you might choose to take two Performing Arts subjects **but you are only able to take one Visual Arts.**

We will expect more able students to take the EBAC, which means that they will choose a language, AND either History or Geography.

Your choices will be made online. You can access the link via the school website [www.thenorwoodschool.org](http://www.thenorwoodschool.org) go to the Curriculum page and then click on Pathways.

Online application Forms will be available from Tuesday 3rd March 2026. You may complete the application more than once—but it will be the last time stamped entry that will be counted.

## **Key Dates 2026**

- **Pathways Process Begins WB 5th January** in Tutor time for next 8 weeks
- **National Apprenticeship Week** February 9th - 15th 2026
- **Pathways App Form Available online** from Tuesday 3rd March 2026
- **Pathways Parents Evening** Tuesday 3rd March 2026
- **Parents Application Workshop** 5 - 6pm Tuesday 10th March 2026
- **National Careers Week** March 2nd—7th 2026

## **Deadline for Pathway Choices Friday 13th March 2026 5pm**



Check out the website for all the information that you will need including;

- The Blocks for next year
- The link to the application form
- Careers advice sent home to families
- This booklet
- Frequently Asked Questions
- The presentation that we shared with parents in December.

### Yr 10 Pathways Blocks for September 2026

Block A		Block B		Block C		Block D	
History	GCSE	Computer Sci	GCSE	Geography	GCSE	History	GCSE
French	GCSE	Geography	GCSE	History	GCSE	Geography	GCSE
Spanish	GCSE	Spanish	GCSE	Seperate Scie	GCSE	French	GCSE
Graphics	GCSE	Drama	BTEC	Art	GCSE	Dance	BTEC
Textiles	GCSE	Dance	BTEC	Music	GCSE	3D Design	GCSE
Music	GCSE	Photography	GCSE	Drama	BTEC	Photography	GCSE
						Film Studies	GCSE
RS Philosphy	GCSE	Hospitality & Vocational		Citizenship	GCSE	Citizenship	GCSE
Sport	BTEC	ESOL	FS	Sport	BTEC	Sport	BTEC
				Functional Sk	FS		

You will need to make **4** subject choices in total - one from each Block.

At least **ONE** of your choices **MUST** be from the **BLUE** section.

We advise that at least **ONE** of your choices **SHOULD** be a Creative Subject from the **ORANGE** section.

Please enter your choices below:

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D

Please also select **THREE** reserve subjects in order of preference. We will obviously do what we can to make sure you have as many of your first choices as we can, but this is not always possible. It is therefore necessary to know what other options you would choose if you cannot get all of your first choices.

Reserve Choice 1	Reserve Choice 2	Reserve Choice 3

## Notes and Reminders:

Keep a note of any questions you would like to ask your specialists at Parents' Evening. For example:

- Do you think I am suited to taking your subject at GCSE?
- Is there an element of coursework in your subject? If so, what and how much?
- Is there any aspects of your subject that you think I might find more of a challenge?
- Can I take a GCSE in a community language?
- Can I take two Arts subjects?
- Can I take two Performing Arts subjects?
- How much practical PE is there in BTEC Sport?
- Do I have to take your subject at GCSE in order to take it in the Sixth Form?

## Norwood School GCSE and BTEC Exam Boards

GCSE English Literature AQA	GCSE Textiles AQA
GCSE English Language AQA	GCSE 3D Design AQA
GCSE Maths Edexcel	GCSE Photography AQA
GCSE Science Edexcel	GCSE Graphics AQA
GCSE RS/Philosophy AQA	Level 1 / 2 Award in Hospitality and Catering WJEC
GCSE History AQA	BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts Dance
GCSE Geography Edexcel A	BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts Acting
GCSE Citizenship AQA	GCSE Film Studies <u>Edugas</u>
GCSE MFL Edexcel	GCSE Music 1 and 2 OCR
BTEC Sport Tec Award - Edexcel	GCSE Computer Science AQA
GCSE Fine Art AQA	GCSE Separate Science Edexcel

Check with your parents and teachers that you are making the most informed GCSE Option choices. Use this page to shortlist the subjects you are keen to take and find out from staff whether they think you would enjoy the subject and make a successful candidate.

Subject	Teacher Comment