



Subject Information 2017 – 2018

English

Years 7-8	Students have three lessons of English and one literacy lesson per week. Students are set from the October half-term of Year 7 with Learning Support for students on a withdrawal or in class basis according to need. The English course aims to increase reading experience and enjoyment, developing independence. Extended and supported private reading is built into all years through the Accelerated Reader scheme. Students will also develop their ability to write for a range of purposes and audiences.
Year 9	Students continue to develop their reading and writing skills to GCSE standard and will begin to study set texts from the GCSE syllabus. Frequency of lessons increases to four per week with an additional literacy lesson.
Years 10 & 11	All students will have 5 English lessons per week and study AQA English Language and English Literature, 100% exam.
Year 12	English Literature: students have four lessons per week and follow the AQA B syllabus linear course. Resits of GCSE English are supported for students that were unable to achieve a standard pass (grade 4).
Year 13	English Literature: students follow the AQA B syllabus linear course. Alternatively some students follow the AQA syllabus linear course in English Language and Literature. Each course is delivered through the provision of four lessons per week. Resits of GCSE English continue to be supported for students that were unable to achieve a standard pass (grade 4).

Maths

Years 7-8	Students have three lessons of Mathematics per week. Students are set from the October half-term of Year 7 with Learning Support for students on a withdrawal or in class basis according to need. The Mathematics course aims to build key mathematical understanding, numerate appreciation and problem solving ability. Extended and supported numeracy skills are built into all years.
Year 9	Year 9 students have four lessons of Mathematics per week and continue to develop their numeracy and problem solving skills. All students start to study GCSE Mathematics (Edexcel), 100% exam.
Years 10 & 11	Years 10 & 11 students have four lessons of Mathematics per week and study GCSE Mathematics (Edexcel), 100% exam.
Year 12	Year 12 Mathematics & Year 12 Further Mathematics: students have 4 lessons per week for Mathematics & 2 lessons per week for Further Mathematics and both follow the Edexcel syllabus. Students will sit AS examinations at the end of year 12 but AS results do not count towards A2 qualifications. Resits of GCSE Maths are supported for students that were unable to achieve a standard pass (grade 4).

Year 13	Year 13 Mathematics and Year 13 Further Mathematics: students have 4 lessons per week for Mathematics and two lessons per week for Further Mathematics and both follow the Edexcel syllabus. A2 examinations will test knowledge gained from both the year 12 and 13 course content. AS results do count towards A2 qualifications. Resits of GCSE Maths continue to be supported for students that were unable to achieve a standard pass (grade 4).
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Science

Years 7-8	Students have three lessons of Science per week. Students are set from the October half-term of Year 7 with Learning Support for students on a withdrawal or in class basis according to their needs. Students are given the opportunity to learn the investigative skills required to access the more complex questioning in Key Stage 4.
Year 9	Students have five lessons of Science per week. Teaching is in sets and students begin to cover the AQA GCSE material whilst developing their practical skills. At this stage, those in Set 1 start to cover material at a more advanced level in preparation for the possible separate Sciences route.
Years 10 & 11	The exam board used for all Science qualifications at GCSE is AQA. Students continue to be taught in sets with students selected for either two GCSEs in Science (Trilogy Science) or separate qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The frequency of lessons increases to six lessons per week.
Years 12 & 13	Students can complete post-16 courses in two ways; conventional A-Levels (linear examinations) in Biology, Chemistry or Physics (following the AQA syllabus) or BTEC Applied Science. All subjects are delivered across four periods per week.

Art & Photography

Years 7-8	Students in Year 7 and 8 have one Art and Design lesson a week. Teaching and learning takes place in mixed ability groups. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Years 9, 10 & 11	Students may opt to take GCSE Art and Design or GCSE Photography from the start of Year 9. These are modular courses over three years with the coursework portfolio contributing 60% and the externally set task component contributing 40% to the overall grade. Students follow the AQA GCSE syllabus and are allocated three one-hour lessons per week.
Years 12 & 13	Students in Year 12 and 13 may opt to take A' Level Art or A' Level Photography. These are linear two year courses with the portfolio components contributing 60% to the overall grade and the externally set assignments contributing 40%. Key Stage 5 pupils studying Art or Photography will follow the AQA syllabus and are allocated four one-hour lessons per week.

Business Studies

Years 9, 10 & 11	Students who have opted for Business Studies study the Pearson BTEC Level 1 /2 Award in Business (vocational qualification equal to one GCSE) over three lessons per week or Pearson Edexcel GCSE Business Studies. GCSE Business is assessed by two exams at the end of Year 11, both with a weighting of 50% each to the final grade. The BTEC Level 2 Award in Business is assessed through one exam at the end of yr10 and three units of coursework.
Years 12 & 13	Students study the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business (1 A Level equivalence) through the completion of 4 units. Alternatively students can study the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Business which is made up of 8 units. Both options are delivered over four lessons per week.

Citizenship

Year 7	All students study two lessons per fortnight and study topics such as Children's Rights, Human Right's, Money Matters, Sex Education, Health and Wellbeing, First Aid and Emotional Health.
Year 8	All students study two lessons per fortnight working through the PIXL Edge Leadership scheme. Students will study topics such as Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Giving Nation, British Government, Monarchy and Britishness, Sex Education, Drugs Education and Young Offenders.
Years 9, 10 & 11	Material is delivered through drop downs days/sessions covering topics such as Sex Education, Road Safety, Drugs/Alcohol Education, British Values/radicalisation, Careers Advice and Mental Health.
Years 12 & 13	Material is delivered through drop downs days/sessions covering topics such as Sex Education, Road Safety, Drugs/Alcohol Education, British Values/radicalisation, Careers Advice and Mental Health.

Design & Technology

Year 7-8	All students study one lesson per week and over the course of a year experience the different disciplines of Food, Resistant Materials, Graphics and Textiles Technology in rotation. Lessons are taught in mixed ability groups.
Years 9	All students study three lessons per week for their AQA GCSE option. The AQA GCSE Design and Technology option group, over the three year period, can specialise in a preferred material such as Resistant Materials or Textiles. We also have an AQA GCSE Food and Nutrition group. Lessons are taught in mixed ability groups and receive three lessons per week.
Years 10 & 11	Year 10 and 11 students are studying AQA GCSE Food and Nutrition. In Year 11 we are running an NVQ Creative Craft specialising in Resistant Materials. Both subjects receive three lessons per week.

Dance

Years 9, 10 & 11	Students who opt for GCSE Dance follow the AQA GCSE Syllabus over three lessons per week.
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Drama

Years 7-8	All students study one lesson a week, taught in mixed ability groups. A range of topics are studied using text, devising, improvisation and stimuli preparing students for further study and viewing topics from a range of viewpoints. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Year 9	Year 9 students study OCR GCSE Drama focusing on text analysis and performance, theatre etiquette and skills, devising from a stimulus and interpreting and evaluating live performances. They receive three lessons per week.
Year 10	Year 10 students study OCR GCSE Drama focusing on text analysis and performance, devising from a stimulus and interpreting and evaluating live performance. They receive three lessons per week.
Year 11	Year 11 students study AQA GCSE Drama focusing on analysis of live performance acting and technical skills, devising from a stimulus, performing text or merging both text and devising skills to represent a theme. They receive three lessons per week.
Year 12	Students follow the OCR A level course for 2 years, receiving four lessons per week. Students study set texts, perform extracts, texts and/or devised work and analyse live performances. The course is linear meaning that external examination takes place in Year 13 with an internal examination at the end of Year 12.
Year 13	Students follow the OCR A level course, receiving four lessons per week. Students create a devised performance, study set texts, perform extracts of text and analyse live performances. The course is linear meaning that external examination takes place this year.

Economics

Year 12	Students study the AQA Economics syllabus focusing on The Operation of Markets and Market Failure and the National Economy in a Global Context. This is a two year full A 'Level; however students do sit the AS Economics at the end of Year 12. The course is delivered through four lessons per week.
Year 13	Students study the AQA Economics syllabus which is 100% exam assessed including multiple choice, data questions and essays. Topics include Markets and Market Failure, The National and International Economy and Economics Principles and Issues. The course is delivered through four lessons per week.

Film Studies

Years 9 & 10	Students can opt for EDUQAS GCSE Film Studies as one of their choices during Year 8. The course comprises of 70% exam and 30% coursework and is delivered through three lessons per week.
Year 12	Students follow the EDUQAS A Level syllabus: 70% exam, 30% coursework. The course is linear, therefore students get an A Level at the end of Year 13 with no external exam in Year 12. The course is delivered over four lessons per week with an internal exam at the end of Year 12.

French

Years 7-8	All students study two lessons per week. Lessons are taught in mixed ability classes. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Years 9, 10 & 11	All students follow the AQA French course. Students have three lessons per week. The French course prepares them for four individual exams in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Geography

Years 7-8	All students study two lessons per week. Lessons are taught in mixed ability classes. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Year 9	Options groups study three lessons per week and complete bridging work until the end of the Autumn term. The full AQA GCSE Geography course starts in the Spring term.
Years 10 & 11	All students study three lessons per week on the AQA GCSE Geography course. The course is assessed in three exams at the end of Year 11.
Years 12 & 13	All students study four lessons per week on the AQA A-Level Geography. The course is linear and has two examinations and fieldtrip study write-up.

History

Years 7 & 8	All students study two lessons per week. Lessons are taught in mixed ability classes. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Year 9	Options groups study three lessons per week and complete bridging work until the end of the Autumn term. The full Edexcel GCSE History course starts in the Spring term.
Years 10 & 11	All students study three lessons per week on the Edexcel GCSE History course. The course is assessed in three exams at the end of Year 11.
Years 12 & 13	OCR A Level: All students study four lessons per week, divided between 2 teachers who each teach separate units. The course is linear. Students will sit 3 examinations at the end of Year 13 and one coursework unit completed by March of Year 13.

ICT & Computer Science

Years 7-8	All students study one lesson per week. The delivery follows the computing curriculum.
Years 9, 10 & 11	Students can opt to study either Vocational ICT or GCSE Computer Science. Students have 3 lessons per week for their chosen course.
Year 12	There are two courses offered in Year 12: the Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT and the Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT, both delivered over four lessons per week.
Year 13	There are currently two courses offered in Year 13: A Level ICT and the Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT. Both courses are delivered over four lessons per week.

Media Studies (Outgoing)

Year 11	All students opting for this study the legacy AQA Media Studies qualification 60% coursework, 40% exam over three lessons per week.
Year 13	Students follow the legacy AQA syllabus 50% coursework, 50% exam, receiving four lessons per week. This is an A2 course for students who have previously studied the AS course.

Music

Years 7-8	All students study music once a week and are taught in mixed ability groups. Students study a range of topics including world music, film music, singing and keyboard skills, Blues, popular music and Instruments of the orchestra. Students will undertake a variety of performance, composition and listening tasks based on the topics covered. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Years 9, 10 & 11	Students follow the OCR specification and complete performance, composition and listening based tasks centered around five areas of study. These areas include the concerto through time, film music, rhythms of the world and conventions of pop. Students receive 3 lessons per week.

PE

Years 7-8	All students study two lessons a week taught in ability leveled groups. Both indoor and outdoor lessons are undertaken and a wide range of activities are followed. Options are chosen by students in Year 8.
Years 9, 10 & 11	Students choosing GCSE PE follow the AQA syllabus delivered through three lessons per week. In addition all students participate in core PE lessons in order to continue their participation in sport and to assist in their healthy active lifestyles through regular physical activity. Year 9 students receive two lessons a week taught in ability leveled groups; Years 10 & 11 receive one lesson a week. These lessons encompass a wide range of activities in order to allow students to participate in a variety of sports.

Years 12 & 13	Students follow the OCR PE syllabus at A level or can opt for a BTEC course in Sport. Both courses run over the two years, with both having externally sat exams as part of the assessment and are delivered over four lessons per week.
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Psychology

Year 12	Students study a linear course of Edexcel A level studying Social, Cognitive, Biological and Learning Approaches across four lessons per week. Students are assessed with an internal examination at the end of Year 12.
Year 13	Students study a linear course of Edexcel A level Psychology. Topics include Criminological, Child and Clinical Psychology across four lessons per week. There are 3 external exams at the end of the year.

RE

Years 7-8	All students study one lesson per week and cover topics such as world religions, inspiring people, human rights and ethics. GCSE options are chosen in Year 8.
Years 9-10	Students who have opted for GCSE RE study three lessons per week and on their GCSE course they follow the AQA Religious Studies A syllabus.
Year 11	Students studying GCSE RE have two lessons per week and currently follow the AQA Religious Studies A syllabus.

Sociology

Year 12	All students follow the AQA linear course over four lessons per week. They will sit the AS paper.
Year 13	All students follow the AQA linear A level course receiving four lessons per week.