



# **Stratford School Academy**

## **Key Stage 4 Prospectus**

**2016 - 2018**

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### Important Dates

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Options Assembly – SLT  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February Departmental Assemblies  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Options Tutor Evening – 5.00 – 6.30pm**  
Option Choices Form to be handed in by **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

**STRATFORD SCHOOL ACADEMY**  
**YEAR 10 Choices for 2016-2018**

**Introduction for Parents**

In September 2016 your child will start a 2 year course of study leading to GCSE examinations and/or another Key Stage 4 course of study. This booklet has been designed to guide your child's Option Choices and to provide you with valuable information about the courses on offer for your child.

Your child will be required to take a number of compulsory core subjects in years 10 and 11. These are clearly indicated in this booklet. These ensure that your child has the right balance of subjects at GCSE and will provide your child with the broadest range of options available to them when they leave Stratford School Academy at the end of year 11. We have provided your child with a diverse curriculum choice, catering for all possible levels of attainment so that all pupils will be able to access the curriculum.

Between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February your child will be attending a series of assemblies focussing on the various option choices available. These will be held in the mornings at 8.40a.m. Please ensure that your child arrives on time for these important presentations. During morning registration time, Form Tutors will be discussing the Option Booklet with your child and focussing on your child's strengths in order to help your child make appropriate option choices. Finally, you and your child will be required to attend a Year 9 Tutor Evening on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at a mutually agreeable time between 5.00pm and 6.30pm** in order to discuss and finalise your child's option choices. Details of this will be given to you nearer the date.

Year 9 pupils requiring more detailed discussion will be invited with their parents for interview with a senior member of staff to make sure that the most suitable choices are made. Your child's previous achievements, successes and interests will guide us in these interviews.

This booklet provides an overview of what is covered in each subject, coursework that needs to be completed and the format of how the course will be examined. The layout of the booklet has been structured in such a way as to provide answers to questions that would normally be put to subject teachers or Heads of Departments. Once again we appreciate your ongoing support in your child's education.

Please note that in some cases it may not be possible to provide an option if numbers for that class are too small.

**Mr M. Walkinshaw**  
**Assistant Head teacher**

**The Form Tutor will help you and your child complete the Option Form during the Tutor Evening interview on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Form Tutors will introduce these forms to the pupils closer to the Tutor Evening on which the Option Choices will be finalised.**

**STRATFORD SCHOOL ACADEMY**  
**YEAR 10 Choices for 2016 - 2018**

**Introduction for Year 9 Students**

During the next few weeks you will have to make important decisions about which subjects to study when you start Year 10. These decisions will affect your future career. We don't expect you to know exactly what you want to do for the rest of your life but we do expect you to spend some time thinking carefully about the subjects you want to study in year 10.

***What happens next?***

You will have assemblies about different option choices. During registration times, your Form Tutors will be going through the various option choices and clarifying what they entail. Your Form Tutors will also discuss your strengths and how to make good choices. Teachers will also be giving details about the different subjects in lessons. Finally there will be a special Year 9 Tutor Evening (**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016, 5.00 - 6.30pm**) where you and your parents will be given an appointment to meet your Form Tutor to discuss your option choices and to complete the Option Choice Form.

*Here are some useful questions or activities to help you prepare:*

- Discuss your choices with your parents.
- Do you know what you want to do when you leave school?
- What qualifications and what subjects will you need for this?
- What kind of things do you enjoy?
- What are your special interests?
- What subjects are you good at? Your Tutor will help you with this.
- Talk to your teachers about what you're good at.
- Talk to your Tutor and your teachers about their subjects.
- Talk to older students about their option choices (during registration).
- Talk to a careers adviser or use a careers advice computer program.

Whatever you choose it should fit into your ideas about what **you** want to do in the future and **not** what your friends want to do.

It is very difficult to change your options once you have started them in September 2016 and you will have to complete the 2 year course. Alternative subject courses are most likely to be full by then. So make sure you choose the subjects which are best for you and not because your best friend is taking them.

Discuss your choices with as many people as possible. To make sure you have made a good choice, you and your parents may be able to have an interview with a senior member of staff.

Good Luck!

**Mr M Walkinshaw**  
**Assistant Head teacher**

## CURRICULUM OUTLINE

This page is designed to tell you about the different subjects that make up the curriculum in Years 10 and 11. It outlines the subjects that are compulsory and those areas where choices are possible.

### Core Subjects

These subjects are compulsory by law or are subjects which we at Stratford School Academy feel are necessary and an important part of a broad and balanced curriculum.

English Language and Literature	(2 GCSEs)
Mathematics	(1 GCSE)
Core Science & Additional Science	(2 GCSEs)
RE	(1 GCSE)
Language: French or Spanish	(1 GCSE)
Core P.E.	<i>(Non Exam)</i>
Careers and IAG	<i>(Non Exam)</i>

### Options Subjects

Pupils must select 5 subjects from the list below and rank them 1 to 5 in order of preference. These are all GCSE qualifications unless stated otherwise.

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Food and Cookery (Vcert)
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Geography
- Graphics
- History
- ICT
- iGCSE in English as a second language
- Music
- Physical Education
- Product Design
- Religious Education
- Sport (BTEC)
- Statistics
- Triple Science

It is very important that you have studied this page thoroughly before you turn to read through the more detailed descriptions of these subjects. Whilst every effort will be made to allow your child to study the subjects they choose, we reserve the right to cancel classes for which there are not sufficient numbers to make group sizes viable.

## **English Baccalaureate**

Although Stratford School Academy offers a broad spectrum of choice, we do address the current trends and expectations in education. The attainment of the English Baccalaureate is a very positive achievement for pupils.

### **What is the English Baccalaureate?**

The English Baccalaureate was introduced as a performance measure in the 2010 performance tables. It is not a qualification in itself. The measure recognises where pupils have secured a C grade or better across a core of academic subjects – English, Mathematics, History or Geography, at least Double Science and a Language. Pupil achievement will be measured against these subjects in the forthcoming years.

### **Why has the English Baccalaureate been introduced?**

Many including the present Minister of Education believe that many of the qualifications on offer to students do not carry real weight for entry to higher education or for getting a job. As schools are being measured against these subjects, parents and pupils should recognise the importance of getting a good grade in them.

### **What subjects are in the English Baccalaureate?**

The English Baccalaureate is made up of Mathematics, English, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geography, History and Languages (classical and modern).

### **Why have these subjects been chosen for the English Baccalaureate?**

The subjects that have been selected are designed to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to study a broad core of subjects, ensuring that doors are not closed off to them in terms of future progression. These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most options open.

The English Baccalaureate is intended to give pupils greater opportunity to study in and beyond the vital core of English, Mathematics and the Sciences. Stratford School Academy will continue to offer a broad range of subjects and courses to suit our cohort of pupils.



1. What am I like? What do I like? What am I good at?
2. Where do I want to go?
3. How am I going to get there?

### THESE ARE THE 3 QUESTIONS YOU WILL NEED TO WORK ON TO CHOOSE YOUR OPTIONS

1. **What am I like? What do I like? What am I good at?** Ask yourself, and people who know you well
2. **and 3 Where do I want to go? And How am I going to get there?**
  - Some of you will know what career you want
  - And some of you won't!
  - **IF YOU KNOW THE CAREER YOU WILL WANT** - use websites, careers advice, and conversations with your teachers to see what courses you should be taking now.
  - **IF YOU KNOW WHAT SUBJECTS YOU REALLY ENJOY AND ARE GOOD AT** – talk to teachers in those areas about what jobs those subjects can lead to
  - **IF YOU ARE UNCERTAIN** – try to choose subjects now that will *keep the choices open that you need*. Think about the next stage you are sure about – may be the A level subjects that interest you most – and make sure you choose the right GCSEs for it. In many cases the TRADITIONAL subjects (History, Geography) may be best if you want to go to a high ranking University later on, in the RUSSELL group
  - **TALK TO PEOPLE** - (see in the introduction - '*Here are some useful questions or activities to help you prepare*').
  - **USE WEBSITES**  
[www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk)  
This is free, and very easy and quick to use. There are 2 parts (2 tabs top left). CAREERS BOX is a video library of over 300 careers related films and news. SKILLS EXPLORER is a quick individual questionnaire where you can get a short report on the kind of jobs that might suit you  
[www.icould.org.uk](http://www.icould.org.uk) and [www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)  
Similar to 'careersbox'
  - **ASK TO SEE THE CAREERS ADVISER** Ms Williams will arrange this. He is called Paul Duggan.
  - **USE YOUR FREE TIME** – go to homework club and do research
  - **THE READING ROOM** has a selection of Careers books and leaflets

### GOING FORWARD.....

#### Year 10

- You will have WORK EXPERIENCE. *Prepare carefully – try to find your own placement...if not you will have a big choice from a list.*
- You may receive individual or group advice and guidance on progression in summer term. This will be via sessions with the careers adviser from 15 billion. *Ask if you want to see the adviser.*
- Some of your subjects will relate to the world of work
- There may be careers and education related trips and visits.
- You may do the Duke of Edinburgh Award

- Your Key Stage 4 student planner will include a page for you to note your careers ideas and plans for after year 11

## **Year 11**

- You will receive individual advice and guidance with an individual action plan to help with applying for colleges etc. This is useful for discussion with form tutors, and others, to get ongoing support.
- You may have group discussions on some topics such as apprenticeships.
- There may also be talks from and visits to employers and colleges.
- There will be a Careers Fair where many representative colleges and apprenticeship providers will be present to give information and answer questions. Parents / carers will be invited to part of this too. A handbook will give information about options and colleges.
- You will complete various surveys. Some students will be part of special groups e.g. Sponsors for Educational Opportunities to be given additional mentoring and access to contacts in universities and companies.
- You may do a programme called The Challenge (in the Summer after finishing school).

*If you require further information the school has a visiting careers advisor, Paul Duggan. Please ask Mr Walkinshaw or your Tutor or Head of House for an appointment with Paul.*



### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Compulsory - All pupils participate in Physical Education in Years 10 and 11. Pupils receive one double lesson each fortnight in Year 10 and two double lessons in Year 11.

### 2. What do I learn in this subject?

- During Year 10 and 11 pupils have the opportunity to participate in a broad range of sports physical activities and follow a curriculum map.
- In Year 10 all pupils complete the Stratford Sports Leadership Course – a practical course based on planning and delivering a **range of sports activities**. Communication and team work are key elements of this course and all pupils receive a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award to recognise their achievements.
- Health and Fitness makes up a large part of the curriculum at KS4 with current units taking pupils to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.
- Local community facilities are also used for 'multisport' units to integrate pupils into the local 'active' community and encourage continued participation in physical activity.

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

All students

### 4. Assessment details and weighting:

Classroom formative assessment only.

### 5. What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?

N/A

### 6. What are my career prospects if I gain a qualification in this subject?

N/A

### 7. What resources will I be using or will I need?

PE Kit

### 8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?

BBC GCSE Bitesize: a BBC run website with useful information, revision tips and example questions:

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/)

Sport Academy: a BBC run website for up to date news on sport  
[www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy)

## **1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?**

Science is a compulsory subject for all pupils at Stratford. Pupils can choose to sit separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics by selecting 'Triple Science' as an option. Otherwise, pupils will take the combined Science GCSE which will be worth 2 GCSEs.

## **2. What do I learn in Science?**

### Biology:

Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in biology, Topic 2 – Cells and control, Topic 3 – Genetics, Topic 4 – Natural selection and genetic modification, Topic 5 – Ecosystems and material cycles, Topic 6 – Plant structures and their functions, Topic 7 – Animal coordination, control and homeostasis, Topic 8 – Exchange and transport in animals, Topic 9 – Health, disease and the development of medicines.

### Chemistry:

Topic 0 – Formulae, equations and hazards, Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in chemistry: atomic structure, the periodic table, ionic bonding, covalent bonding, types of substance, calculations involving masses, Topic 2 – States of matter, Topic 3 – Methods of separating and purifying substances, Topic 4 – Acids, Topic 5 – Obtaining and using metals, Topic 6 – Electrolytic processes, Topic 7 – Reversible reactions and equilibria, Topic 12 – Groups 1, 7 and 0, Topic 13 – Rates of reaction, Topic 14 – Fuels, Topic 15 – Heat energy changes in chemical reactions, Topic 16 – Earth and atmospheric science.

### Physics:

Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in physics: motion, forces and conservation of energy, Topic 2 – Waves, Topic 3 – Light and the electromagnetic spectrum, Topic 4 – Particle model – 1, Topic 5 – Radioactivity, Topic 6 – Astronomy, Topic 7 – Energy - Forces doing work, Topic 8 – Forces and their effects, Topic 9 – Electricity and circuits, Topic 11 – Magnetism and the motor effect, Topic 13 – Particle model – 2, Topic 14 – Forces and matter.

(Note – Some topics are missing as they are part of the triple science content)

There will also be 16 compulsory experiments that pupils must complete as part of this course across Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

## **3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

Science is accessible to all students. It involves many different skills and is presented in a variety of ways. It is our aim to make Science fun and engaging for all.

## **4. Assessment details and weighting:**

Pupils will sit 6 exams each 1 hour and 10 minute long, 2 for each Science.

Students will be entered for either Higher or Foundation tiers depending on their progress and ability, determined using PPEs (pre-public exams).

Higher tier                      Grades awarded from 4-9

Foundation tier                Grades awarded from 1-5

### **5. What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?**

All pupils will achieve at least 2 GCSEs in Science. Pupils who choose triple Science will achieve 3 GCSEs in Science.

### **6. What are my career prospects if I gain qualifications in this subject?**

Science can open up a whole range of career opportunities. Many students who study Science at A-level and University go onto non-science related jobs since the skills they obtain make them highly employable.

However, jobs directly related to Science are:

Medicine, Sport Science, Materials Designer, Nutritionist, Pharmacist, Psychologist, Biochemist, Physiotherapist, Sports Trainer, Engineering, Forensic Scientist.

### **7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

All pupils will be given a revision guide appropriate to their course. It is vital that they use this regularly to ensure they keep on top of their understanding.

### **8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

- BBC Bitesize – Revision materials and quizzes
- BBC Learning Clips – Useful revision videos
- MyGCSEscience.com – Excellent tutorial videos

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?**

English Language and Literature are compulsory. English is a core subject and pupils are awarded 2 qualifications-English Language and Literature.

**2. What do I learn in this subject?**

- The individual specifications offer a stimulating and engaging learning experience.
- The assessments are designed to suit everyone, allowing students of all abilities to succeed.
- English Literature and English Language are designed to work together, giving students the opportunity to develop a wider range of knowledge and skills.

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

All students

**4. Assessment details and weighting**

**GCSE English Language:**

**Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing**

**What's assessed:**

**Section A: Reading**

One literature fiction text

**Section B: Writing**

Descriptive or narrative writing

**Assessed**

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks

50% of GCSE

**Questions**

**Reading (40 marks) (25%)– 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) (25%)**

1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

## Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

### What's assessed

#### Section A: Reading

One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

Writing to present a viewpoint

### Assessed

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks

50% of GCSE

### Questions

#### Reading (40 marks) (25%) – 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) (25%)

1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

## Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language

### What's assessed

(AO7–AO9)

Presenting

Responding to questions and feedback

Use of Standard English

### Assessed

Teacher set throughout course

Marked by teacher

Separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)

## GCSE English Literature:

### Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

#### What's assessed

Shakespeare plays  
The 19th-century novel

#### How it's assessed

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes  
64 marks  
40% of GCSE

#### Questions

**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

#### What's assessed

Modern prose or drama texts  
The poetry anthology  
Unseen poetry

#### How it's assessed

Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes  
96 marks  
60% of GCSE

#### Questions

**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.

## Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

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

### 5. What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?

GCSE in English Language and GCSE in English Literature. Part of the requirement for the English Baccalaureate.

### 6. What are my career prospects if I gain a qualification in this subject?

Help in entry into college and University if achieved at Grade C new grading of Level 5 or above. Later on, English is highly useful for all study and career options involving communication – for example, journalism, law, teaching.

### 7. What resources will I be using or will I need?

- A Christmas Carol (novel)
- An Inspector Calls (play)
- AQA Anthology Poetry –Love and Relationships

### 8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?

[www.universalteacher.org.uk/](http://www.universalteacher.org.uk/)

[www.sparknotes.com/](http://www.sparknotes.com/)

[www.gradesaver.com/](http://www.gradesaver.com/)

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?** Compulsory

**2. What do I learn in RE**

**Year 10** - Religion and Society, Rights and Responsibilities, Environmental and Medical Ethics, Peace and Conflict, Crime and Punishment.

**Year 11** - Religion and life, Believing in God, Matters of Life and Death, Marriage and Family Life, Community Cohesion.

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

Pupils who are good at debating, discussion work, formulating and expressing their own opinions and pupils who have good writing skills.

It is suited to all students as they get to learn about the wider world and appreciate people of all religions and backgrounds.

**4. Assessment details and weighting:**

- **Examination Format and tiers:**
- 1 hour 30 minute exam in year 11 on “Religion and Society”.
- 1 hour 30 minute exam in year 11 on “Religion and Life”.

**No controlled assessments or coursework.**

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

GCSE in Religious Education.

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

It is a really useful subject if you are looking to do subjects such as Government and Politics, Sociology or Law at A' level. It works well alongside other Humanities subjects such as History, and Geography, as the subjects will complement and deepen skills and knowledge taught in both.

It helps in professions such as the Police Force, HR, Counselling, Politics and Law.

**1. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Watch the news, read newspapers, check the BBC website; in short take an interest in what is going on in the world around you. You will look at lots of historical and up to date issues in your RE lessons make sure that you are willing to form an opinion and that you have as many facts as possible to back up your point of view.



Also, Edexcel revision guides and workbooks, text books and truetube clips.

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

BBC bite size, RE online and edexcel online to make use past papers.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/>

<http://www.reonline.org.uk/>

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/exams/past-papers.html>

1. Is this subject compulsory or optional? Compulsory

2. What do I learn in this subject?

Six content areas:	F	H
a. Number	25%	15%
b. Algebra	20%	30%
c. Ratio, proportion, rates of change	25%	20%
d. Geometry	15%	20%
e. Probability &		
f. Statistics	15%	15%

3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

All students – because the new specification is larger we have actually started its coverage in Year 9.

4. Assessment details and weighting:

### Examination Format and tiers: 100% exam for the linear paper

- Assessment time (4½ hours)
- **Three** papers, **TWO** calculator paper and **ONE** non-calculator paper (80 marks each, 1hour 15 minutes each)
- 33.3% non-calculator
- **240** marks in total

### Controlled Assessments

None

### Assessment objectives

- AO1: Use and apply standard techniques  
(50% Foundation, 40% Higher)
- AO2: Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically  
(25% Foundation, 30% Higher)
- AO3: Solve problems within mathematics and other context  
(25% Foundation, 30% Higher)
- More emphasis on problem-solving, communication, proof, interpretation

**There are 2 levels - Foundation and Higher**

The new GCSEs will be awarded scores from 1 – 9. This move from grades will also affect English. Whilst we await guidance from the DfE our interpretation of the new boundaries is as follows:

<b>Exam Level</b>	<b>GCSE Grades Possible</b>
Foundation	1 – 5 (used to be G – C)
Higher	5 – 9 (used to be C – A*)

**Lessons**

- 9 lessons per fortnight in year 10
- 9 lessons per fortnight in year 11

**5. What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?**

Maths GCSE

**7. What are my career prospects if I gain a qualification in this subject?**

Help in entry into college and University if achieved at Grade C. It is a great subject for law, finance, business, architecture, and medicine and health related careers.

**8. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Calculator Scientific, Geometry set

**9. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

[www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com)

Exam Wizard

**Textbooks for GCSE Maths:  
Foundation books**

[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)

Mathswatch vle

**Edexcel GCSE Mathematics A: Linear Higher and**

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?**

A Modern Foreign Language (MFL) is compulsory. Pupils make a choice between French or Spanish at the end of Year 7 and will continue with this throughout KS4.

**2. What do I learn in this subject?**

Pupils practise learning the language through the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The topics covered include "Me, my family and friends"; "Technology in everyday life"; and "Free-time activities". A full list can be seen on [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk).

There will no longer be any Controlled Assessments and students will sit their exam at the end of Year 11. We strongly recommend the early purchase of a suitable dictionary (a 'student', 'school' or 'learner' dictionary) and a CGP or Letts' Revision Guide suitable for exams from June 2018. We would also recommend that pupils should develop the ability to learn vocabulary off by heart as dictionaries are no longer allowed during examinations.

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject? All students**

This subject is particularly important for those pupils who want to move on to 6<sup>th</sup> form colleges and universities.

**4. GCSE assessment details and weighting:**

**Examination Format and tiers:** End of course examination in year 11:

- Listening 25%      - Reading 25%
- Speaking 25%      - Writing 25%

Students will be entered for Foundation or Higher tier and all four skills will have to be completed at the same tier.

**5. What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?**

Students will study for a GCSE in French or Spanish which is part of the requirement for the English Baccalaureate.

**6. What are my career prospects if I gain a qualification in this subject?**

A variety of jobs now demand a foreign language as a core or complementary skill and career prospects in fields as diverse as business, sales, engineering, law and banking may be enhanced by having a language qualification.

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Expo (French) or Mira (Spanish) textbooks, Interactive teaching resources, Audio resources.

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

You will be given a Pearson's Revision Guide which has online support and practice exam questions, as well as a Homework booklet to consolidate all four skills.

# The Option Choices

## GCSE Art & Design

### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Optional

### 2. What do I learn if I choose this option?

The Edexcel GCSE Art & Design course gives students the opportunity to develop imaginative, graphic, expressive and creative skills. Techniques explored include drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, collage, sculpture and mixed-media including ICT and a chance to work with Adobe Photoshop in our Mac rooms with specialised software.

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

This course is suitable for students who in their Art lessons are highly focused and committed, who can work independently and who are determined to improve their skills in Art. Art and Design Students should expect to visit various Art venues and galleries. At Stratford School Academy we visit London's most famous Art galleries, both modern and traditional, including the National Portrait Gallery, Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, and Tate Modern. We firmly believe that every young person should experience the world beyond the classroom. Art trips are an essential part of their learning and personal development. It's these extra-curricular activities which can make such a vital difference to their well-being, and of course their grades.

### 4. Assessment details and weighting:

#### • Examination Format and tiers:

The examination grade for GCSE Art & Design is awarded:

- Unit 1: controlled assessment (60% for practical coursework)
- Unit 2: timed exam (40%)

Further information (including a student guide) can be obtained from the Edexcel website.

#### • Controlled Assessments:

For Unit 1: students work on two projects: Organic Architecture, Culture, Identity and Expression. Their Mock Exam is based around the completion of a final piece for Culture, Identity and Expression.

### 5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?

GCSE Art

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

Choosing Art & Design will help you understand the visual world in which we live. There are many creative jobs where these skills are invaluable:

Graphic Designer, Architect, Animator, Illustrator, Theatre Designer, Games Designer, Film Maker, Fashion Designer, Photographer, Interior Designer, Product Designer, Sculptor/Painter, Art Therapist, Textiles Designer and working as an Advertiser.

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Various Art materials will be provided for class work. Students will be expected to purchase sketch books and a folder from the department and may want to purchase additional art materials to do work at home.

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

[www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?**

Optional

**2. What do I learn if I choose this option?**

You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity, and turn that into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

You will do this through studying 3 units:

**Unit 1 – Introduction to Small Business**

- spotting a business opportunity
- showing enterprise
- putting a business idea into practice
- making the start-up effective
- understanding the economic context

25% of the total GCSE  
Assessed externally (exam)

**Unit 2 – Investigating Small Business**

- spotting a business opportunity
- showing enterprise
- putting a business idea into practice
- making the start-up effective
- understanding the economic context

25% of the total GCSE  
Assessed internally  
(controlled assessment)

**Unit 3 – Building a Business**

- marketing
- meeting customer needs
- effective financial management
- effective people management
- the wider world affecting business

50% of the total GCSE  
Assessed externally (exam)

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**



This subject would suit someone interested in learning about the world of business through research and investigation. It requires students to be good at:

- communicating and explaining ideas
- thinking creatively and making decisions
- working with numbers to solve business problems

#### **4. Assessment details and weighting:**

- **Examination Format and tiers:**

2 examinations, both single tier:

- Unit 1 Introduction to Small Business – 45 minutes, 25% of the total GCSE
- Unit 3 Building a Business – 90 minutes, 50% of the total GCSE

- **Controlled Assessment:**

- Unit 2 Investigation Small Business – 25% of the total GCSE  
This involves carrying out research and an investigation on a set task. The results of the investigation must be analysed and evaluated.

#### **5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

GCSE Business Studies

#### **6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

This course could help you prepare for further and higher education such as AS/A2 Levels and BTEC and NVQ courses. It could lead to work in a business-related profession such as accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry. It would be useful if you wanted to set up and run your own business.

#### **7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

You will make use of the internet and your local community to learn about business. You will use different IT applications to carry out research and investigations, deal with data and present and communicate.

#### **8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

Further information (including a student guide) can be obtained from the Edexcel website. [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

### Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Optional

### 2. What do I learn if I choose this option?

You will already have some knowledge of computers and related areas but this course will give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. Computer Science is split into three components:

#### Component 01 – Computer Systems

The first component is an exam focused on computer systems covering the physical elements of computer science and the associated theory.

#### Component 02 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

This component is focused on the core theory of computer science and the application of computer science principles.

#### Component 02 – Programming Project (non-exam assessment)

This component is the non-exam assessment where candidates will be challenged by a range of exciting and engaging tasks to apply the knowledge and skills they have learned.

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

These skills will be the best preparation for learners who want to go on to study Computer Science at AS and A Level and beyond. The qualification will also provide a good grounding for other subject areas that require computational thinking and analytical skills.

This is a very technical subject and requires logical thinking with a high ability in Maths being essential. To choose this option you must have Grade D or above in Maths.

### 4. Assessment details and weighting:

- **Examination Format and tiers:**

There will be two examinations worth 80% of the total GCSE. There will only be one tier. The exam will last for 1½ hours each and will include short questions and essay type questions. Some of the questions will require you to write computer programming code. The exam will cover the things you will learn about that are listed above.

- **Controlled Assessments:**

There will be one controlled assessment. This will be a Programming Project. You will be given a task containing up to three sub-tasks. You will need to demonstrate your practical ability to use the programming skills that you have learnt. You will have to create suitable algorithms which provide a solution to a given problem then code your solutions in a suitable programming language. You will have to test your solutions to ensure they solve the problem. You will also have to provide an evaluation of your solution. This controlled assessment is worth 20% of the total GCSE.

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

You can achieve 1 GCSE in Computing with this option choice.

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

This qualification could stimulate interest and engagement with technology and technology-related careers. It can be a good preparation for study and employment in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Software testing, Networking, Data Mining and System Analyst.

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Your lessons will take place in a computer room. There will be a mixture of desk-based and computer-based tasks.

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

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

- Website guide to the course and materials

<https://www.python.org/> - Python programming Language.

<https://www.codecademy.com/> - simple tutorials for Python programming

### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Optional

### 2. What do I learn if I choose this option?

In years 7, 8 and 9 you have learned many drama skills. GCSE Drama is time to extend these skills, and your understanding of theatre further. Throughout Year 10 and Year 11 you will explore new genres of theatre that you have not come into contact with and also hone your performance skills. You will explore plays, developing your knowledge of how to interpret characters, plot and style. You will be invited to attend theatre trips to see new, exciting theatre and will learn how to respond to the work you have witnessed.

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

#### You should choose Drama if...

- you enjoy working as part of a team;
- you are confident and are able to work as a leader
- you have a creative mind and are interesting in pushing and breaking through barriers;
- you are prepared to work hard, both in class and at home;
- you are able to speak and perform in a confident and focused way in front of an audience;

Any pupils who believe they possess these or would like to further develop them would be well suited to this option.

### 4. Assessment details and weighting:

- **Examination Format and tiers:**
  - Written Exam (40%) – A written paper focusing on you as;
    - A performer
    - A director
    - A designer
    - A member of an audience
  - Performance Exam (20%)
    - Two scripted performance
- **Controlled Assessments:**
  - Controlled Assessment (40%)

- One devised performance
- A presentation on the devising process or 2000 word essay

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice? GCSE Drama**

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

GCSE Drama is especially useful for a wide variety of Careers across many sectors. In Theatre, Film and Media you could take on a career both in front of the camera and behind the scenes. GCSE Drama will also improve your career prospects in most other careers where speaking, communication and collaboration are important e.g. Teaching, Law or Business.

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need? Resources such as props and masks are provided. Occasionally students need to source costumes for performances.**

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

Further information (including a student guide) can be obtained from the Edexcel website. (GCSE from 2016 | Drama) - [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Optional

### 2. What do I learn if I choose this option?

- Year 10
  - i. Urban Issues and Challenges
  - ii. The Changing Economic World
  - iii. Human Geography Fieldwork
  - iv. Physical Landscapes in the UK
  - v. Coasts and Rivers
  - vi. Physical Geography Fieldwork
- Year 11
  - i. The Challenge of Resource Management in the UK
  - ii. The Challenge of Global Food, Water and Energy Management
  - iii. The Living World
  - iv. The Challenge of Natural Hazards
  - v. Decision Making in Geography

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

#### **You should choose Geography if...**

- you have an interest in the environment;
- you keep up to date with current affairs;
- you have enjoyed Geography in KS3;
- you are prepared to work hard, both in class and at home;
- you like producing project and display work;

#### **Choosing Geography is as easy as A, B, C...**

A is for Academic

The 20 top universities in the country have identified Geography as one of only 10 'Gateway' subjects. These are the subjects universities look for when they're deciding who to offer places to.

B is for Baccalaureate

A new certificate has been introduced for students who achieve good passes (C or above) in a number of key subject areas, including Geography.

### C is for Choice

Geography makes you competent in a wide range of key skills. As a result, Geography keeps your options open. The subject leads on a wide range of humanities and science courses at college and university and has strong links to a wide and growing range of jobs.

#### **4. Assessment details and weighting:**

- The whole course is assessed in three exam papers at the end of Year 11. Each paper consists of some short answer questions and some extended writing questions. Questions involve creating and analysing data, maps, graphs and diagrams. You will also need to find solutions to geographical issues and justify your decisions.

#### **5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

GCSE Geography. Part of the requirement for the English Baccalaureate

#### **6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

The skills you use in geography make you of potential interest to a wide range of employers. The close link between the subject and the world around us makes for a long and varied list of related careers. Some examples include: working with development or aid agencies, environmental work, using Geographical Information Systems, working for the census office and in Tourism and Recreation. However most of these areas involve only one part of the broad subject of Geography.

#### **7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Working from school provided resources.

Revision guide is available from the Geography Department

#### **8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

[www.geography.learnontheinternet.co.uk](http://www.geography.learnontheinternet.co.uk)

[www.georesources.co.uk](http://www.georesources.co.uk)

[www.juicygeography.co.uk](http://www.juicygeography.co.uk)

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?** Optional

**2. What do I learn if I choose this option?**

Year 10

▪ Unit 1: Period Study

We will study a European country or the USA over a period of 50 years. You will learn about their political, economic and social history.

▪ Unit 2: British Depth Study

We will learn about a specific period from British History between 1066 and 1685. This will involve a trip to an historic site.

Year 11

▪ Unit 1: Thematic Study

We will examine either the development of power and democracy, development of health and medical care, or the development of empires and migration from 1000AD to the present day.

▪ Unit 2: Wider World Study

We will learn about global issues from Twentieth Century history and find out the steps taken by the international community to solve these issues.

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

If you enjoy:

- Sifting through source materials for relevant information
- Investigating evidence from the perspective of various key players
- Trying to understand why people thought and acted as they did
- Drawing your own conclusions about what happened in the past
- Debating with others the causes and consequences of various scenarios
- Presenting (in writing or verbally) a well-argued case based on sound evidence

**4. Assessment details and weighting:**

- The whole course is assessed in two exam papers at the end of Year 11. Each paper consists of some short answer questions and some essays. Questions involve analysing and evaluating sources and creating argumentative essays based on knowledge you have learnt during the course.



## **5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

GCSE History. Part of the requirement for the English Baccalaureate.

## **6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

History is an important and relevant subject for pupils in today's world. It is a well-respected qualification as employers value the skills that will be acquired. The course is designed to equip pupils with skills which will help them in all areas of study and in the work place. History is about disciplined enquiry, analysis and evaluation.

Choosing History at GCSE will provide you with plenty of opportunities for further progression. At AS/A Level, in colleges and universities, History is a very relevant subject. For example, many professions such as Medicine and Law feel that History opens the minds of students. Therefore, History can gain you entry into a wide range of careers including Television, Radio, Journalism, the Police Force, Social Work and the Civil Service. History is also a "gateway" subject at A-Level. This means that many top universities look for pupils with History at GCSE and A-Level regardless of which degree you plan to study.

## **7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

Working from school provided resources.

Revision guide is available from History Department

## **8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

BBC Bitesize

AQA History website

Johndclare.net

**Is this subject compulsory or optional?**

Optional

**What do I learn in this subject?**

This course is designed to help you become confident users of ICT. There is an emphasis on 'doing' rather than just 'writing about' ICT.

In *Unit 1 Living in a Digital World* you will explore how digital technology impacts on the lives of individuals, organisations and society. You will learn about current and emerging digital technologies and the issues raised by their use in a range of contexts (learning and earning, leisure, shopping and money management, health and well-being, on the move). You will develop awareness of the risks that are inherent in using ICT and the features of safe, secure and responsible practice.

In *Unit 2 Using Digital Tools* you will work with a range of digital tools and techniques to produce effective ICT solutions in a range of contexts. You will learn to reflect critically on your own and others' use of ICT and to adopt safe, secure and responsible practice.

**What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

This course suits students with an interest and ability in ICT. Being a confident user of ICT is an important skill to have in the world of work. You will have been prepared for this course through the topics you have covered since Year 7. You will have also completed a similar work in Year 9.

**Assessment details and weighting:**

**Unit 1 Living in a Digital World:** Written examination 40%

There will be one examination worth 40% of the total GCSE. There will only be one tier. The exam will last for 1 ½ hours and will include short questions, multiple choice options and essay type questions.

**Unit 2 Using Digital Tools:** Controlled assessment 60%

There is one controlled assessment worth 60% of the total GCSE. This is a practical unit. Students broaden and enhance their ICT skills and capability. They work with a range of digital tools and techniques to produce effective ICT solutions in a range of contexts.

### **What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?**

You can achieve 1 GCSE in ICT with this option choice.

### **What are my career prospects if I gain a qualification in this subject?**

This qualification prepares students to develop important and transferable skills. The skills you learn will be important for further study in any career you choose. It can be a good preparation for study and employment in Web/Graphic Designer, Software Analyst, Network/Database Administrator and IT/Project Manager.

### **What resources will I be using or will I need?**

You will need access to a computer with a variety of applications including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Serif PagePlus and Serif WebPlus. These will be made available to you in school. Homework club is also available to you in school if you do not have computer or internet access at home.

You will need a Revision Guide and Workbook to prepare for the written examination.

### **Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

There may be particular websites you may find useful depending on the topic set in your controlled assessment. You will be given some help in making sure that you can find suitable websites.

There will be materials on the school network for learning and revising in preparation for the examination. You may also find <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/ict> a useful site to use.

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?**

Optional

**2. What do I learn if I choose this option?**

You will study many different styles of Music including Popular Music, World Music (including Indian and African Music), 20<sup>th</sup> century Music and Classical Music. You will also have the opportunity to work using more current musical styles.

We use a team of specialist Music teachers who can develop your skills in playing keyboard and piano, singing, guitar and drums.

Many students particularly enjoy learning to use Music technology (computers) to play and compose music.

As well as visiting workshops, you will have the opportunity to go on trips to see different performers.

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

Do you enjoy playing, composing, listening to and writing about Music? Can you learn independently? Then the Music GCSE course is for you. Apart from developing students' musical skills and interests, this course aims to develop some very important skills which you could use in a variety of careers. These include: Self-confidence, Self-discipline, Self-motivation, Cultural Understanding, Critical and Creative Thinking and Emotional Awareness.

**4. Assessment details and weighting:**

**Examination Format and tiers:** Written paper involving Listening and Appraising (40%)

**Controlled Assessments:** Performing Music (30%) and Composing Music (30%)

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice? GCSE Music****6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

Areas in which Music skills will be particularly useful are in the Recording Industry, Event Promotion, Teaching and Music Performance.

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need?** Various musical instruments provided. It is helpful if students have instruments at home they can practise on.**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

Further information (including a student guide) can be obtained from the Edexcel website (GCSE from 2012 | Music) - [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

## GCSE Product Design/Graphic Products

### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Optional

### 2. What do I learn if I choose this option?

This is an exciting and challenging course which teaches students how to design effective products and become well rounded designers with a broad range of skills. You will learn how to design and make products using different materials.

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

Students who are Independent learners. Pupils who are good at Design and Technology, Those who enjoy designing and making products. Pupils who may wish to pursue careers in the creative industries such as Product Design, Architecture and Graphics.

### 4. Assessment details and weighting:

#### • Examination Format and tiers:

Single tier paper

- Unit 1: Written Paper (40% of total marks), 2 hours

#### • Controlled Assessments:

45 hours Controlled Assessments

- Unit 2: Design and Making Practice (60% of total marks)

### 5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?

GCSE Product Design or GCSE Graphic Products

### 6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?

Architecture, Graphic Design, Automobile Designer, Furniture Designer, Engineering, Interior Designer, Web Designer etc.

### 7. What resources will I be using or will I need?

You will learn to use CAD/CAM equipment, hand and machine tools and a wide range of materials such wood, metal and plastic

### 8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?

Further information can be obtained from the AQA website. [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

[www.designcouncil.org.uk](http://www.designcouncil.org.uk)

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?** Optional

**2. What do I learn if I choose this option?**

Anatomy & Physiology	Psychology of Sport	Injury in Sport
Leadership	Planning & Leading	Sporting Events
Principles of Training	Methods of Training	Fitness Testing
Government initiatives in Sport	Health & Safety in Sport	

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

If you:

- ⇒ Have a keen interest in PE theory (Anatomy and physiology, Movement Analysis, Physical Training, Health and Well-being, Sports Psychology, Socio-cultural Issues in Sport)
- ⇒ Take part in sport/recreation outside of class time. For GCSE PE involvement in competitive Sport outside of school is an advantage
- ⇒ Want to follow a course that develops knowledge and understanding through practical study the theory of PE and Sport at A-level and Degree level
- ⇒ Want to improve your own performance in a range of sports (Assessed in 3 activities, both team and individual)
- ⇒ Want to study a course that is active and that you will enjoy

**4. Assessment details and weighting:**

• **Examination Format and tiers:**

- BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Sport (NCF)
  - 75% Controlled Assessment (Unit Assignments)
  - Theory Exam 25%
- GCSE PE
  - Theory Exams - 60%
  - Practical Assessment – 30%
  - Personal Exercise Program – 10%

• **Controlled Assessments:**

- BTEC
  - 75% Unit Assignments

- 25% Theory Exam
- GCSE PE
  - 3 practical sports are assessed – 30% (must have both individual and team sports)
  - Theory assessed in 2 written exam papers (1h30min each) – 60%
  - Personal Exercise Program (written coursework) – 10%
- **Coursework:**
  - BTEC – 75%
  - GCSE PE
    - 30% - 3 x 10% Practical Assessments
    - 10% - Personal Exercise Programme

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

- GCSE PE – 1 GCSE
- BTEC First Award – 1 GCSE (Distinction A, Merit B, Pass C)

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

PE Teacher, Sports Coach, Sports Development, Leisure Centre Management, Physiotherapy, Sports Scientist, Fitness Consultant, Personal Trainer, Nutritional Adviser

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need? PE kit/Folder/Text book**

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

BBC GCSE Bitesize: a BBC run website with useful information, revision tips and example questions:

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/)

Sport Academy: a BBC run website for up to date news on sport

[www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy)

Brian MacSports Coach: information on coaching, sports, nutrition and more

[www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)

Interactive Resources for GCSE PE: GCSE PE questions answered:

[www.interactivepe.co.uk](http://www.interactivepe.co.uk)

British Olympic Association: everything you need to know about the Olympics

[www.britisholympicassociation.co.uk](http://www.britisholympicassociation.co.uk)

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?** Optional

**2. What do I learn if I choose this option?**

- You do Statistics at a detailed level, handling data, measures of spread and averages, interpretation and analysis of graphs

The course covers 4 Attainment Targets:

<b>AT1</b>	<b>Planning and data collection</b>
<b>AT2</b>	<b>Processing, representing and analysing data</b>
<b>AT3</b>	<b>Reasoning, Interpreting and discussing results</b>
<b>AT4</b>	<b>Probability</b>

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

Students who are good at Mathematics or those who enjoy it. Students will be entered for the different levels of examination according to their mock examination result, project work, attendance, class work and homework.

<b>Exam Level</b>	<b>Grades Possible</b>
Higher	D – A*

**4. Assessment details and weighting:**

**Examination Format and tiers:**

- Statistics: 1 controlled assessment project 25% & 1 exam 75%

**Controlled Assessments:**

- Statistics 1 controlled assessment 25%

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

- GCSE Statistics by the end of Year 11

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

A good route into a future to do with Mathematics, particularly if you want to do Maths at A-Level



**7. What resources will I be using or will I need? Scientific calculator**

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

AQA GCSE Website for Statistics

### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Science is a compulsory subject for all pupils at Stratford. Pupils can choose to sit separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics by selecting 'Triple science' as an option. Otherwise, pupils will take the combined Science GSCE which will be worth 2 GCSEs.

### 2. What do I learn in Science?

Triple science students study each of the 3 sciences in more detail and will be awarded 3 separate GCSEs in Science. Many of the units are the same as the combined (compulsory) Science but covered in more detail. Some topics are solely covered in the separate sciences.

#### **Optional Triple Science Units:**

##### Biology:

Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in biology, Topic 2 – Cells and control, Topic 3 – Genetics, Topic 4 – Natural selection and genetic modification, Topic 5 – Health, disease and the development of medicines, Topic 6 – Plant structures and their functions, Topic 7 – Animal coordination, control and homeostasis, Topic 8 – Exchange and transport in animals, Topic 9 – Ecosystems and material cycles

##### Chemistry:

Topic 0 – Formulae, equations and hazards, Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in chemistry: atomic structure, the periodic table, ionic bonding, covalent bonding, types of substance, calculations involving masses, Topic 2 – States of matter, Topic 3 – Methods of separating and purifying substances, Topic 4 – Acids, Topic 5 – Obtaining and using metals, Topic 6 – Electrolytic processes, Topic 7 – Reversible reactions and equilibria, Topic 8 – Transition metals, alloys and corrosion, Topic 9 – Quantitative analysis, Topic 10 – Dynamic equilibria and calculations involving volumes of gases, Topic 11 – Chemical cells and fuel cells, Topic 12 – Groups 1, 7 and 0, Topic 13 – Rates of reaction, Topic 14 – Fuels, Topic 15 – Heat energy changes in chemical reactions, Topic 16 – Earth and atmospheric science, Topic 17 – Qualitative analysis: tests for ions, Topic 18 – Hydrocarbons, Topic 19 – Polymers, Topic 20 – Alcohols and carboxylic acids, Topic 21 – Bulk and surface properties of matter including nanoparticles

##### Physics:

Topic 1 – Overarching concepts of physics: motion, forces and conservation of energy, Topic 2 – Waves, Topic 3 – Light and the electromagnetic spectrum, Topic 4 – Particle model 1, Topic 5 – Radioactivity, Topic 6 – Astronomy, Topic 7 – Energy - Forces doing work, Topic 8 – Forces and their effects, Topic 9 – Electricity and circuits, Topic 10 – Static electricity, Topic 11 – Magnetism and the motor effect, Topic 12 – Electromagnetic induction, Topic 13 – Particle model 2, Topic 14 – Forces and matter

### **3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

To study Triple Science, pupils need to have a passion for Science. The demand of the Separate science GCSEs is significantly higher than the Combined science GCSE and therefore should only be chosen by pupils who are highly motivated to do well in Science. A recommended end minimum of year 9 grade would be a C, although this is not compulsory.

### **4. Assessment details and weighting:**

Pupils will sit 6 exams each 1 hour and 45 minute long, 2 for each Science.

Students will be entered for either Higher or Foundation tiers depending on their progress and ability, determined using PPEs (pre-public exams).

Higher tier                      Grades awarded from 4-9

Foundation tier                Grades awarded from 1-5

### **5. What qualifications can I achieve in this subject?**

Triple Science pupils will leave Stratford School Academy with a total of 3 GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

### **6. What are my career prospects if I gain qualifications in this subject?**

Studying Science in more detail will better prepare students wishing to take Biology, Chemistry or Physics at A-Level, with the aim of continuing to study Science at University. Careers that require University level study of Science are:

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary science, Optometry, Researcher, Engineer.

### **7. What resources will I be using or will I need?**

All pupils will be given a revision guide appropriate to their course. It is vital that they use this regularly to ensure they keep on top of their understanding.

### **8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

- BBC Bitesize – Revision materials and quizzes
- BBC Learning Clips – Useful revision videos
- MyGCSEscience.com – Excellent tutorial videos

**1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?** Optional

**2. What do I learn if I choose this option?**

The aim is to achieve a level of practical communication ideal for everyday use, which can also form the basis for further, more in-depth language study. Students can achieve an English language qualification that is equivalent to GCSE English as a first language and is recognised as such by many colleges and universities. Students choosing this option not only benefit from enhancing and developing their English but also double their chances of gaining a English qualification to access further study that is internationally recognised.

**3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?**

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language is designed for learners who already have a working knowledge of the language and who want to consolidate their understanding in order to progress in their academic or professional career.

**4. Assessment details and weighting:**

Grades are awards from A\* to G. Examination consists of Reading and Writing (15%), Speaking (15%) and listening (15%).

**5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?**

iGCSE in English as a second language

**6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?**

The qualification reflects the widespread use of English in education and commerce, and also in entertainment

**7. What resources will I be using or will I need?** None

**8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?**

N/A

### 1. Is this subject compulsory or optional?

Optional

### 2. What do I learn if I choose this option?

- A balance of practical cooking and development/written work
- The function of foods in recipes (Food Science) and in the body (Nutrition)
- A knowledge of the sources of ingredients and foods including environmental influence
- All aspects of diet, food needs and health
- A thorough understanding and application of food hygiene and safety
- Develop and apply a wide range of practical cookery skills, using appropriate equipment to meet specific needs.

### 3. What sort of students would be best suited to this subject?

This course is suitable for students who, in their Cooking lessons are highly focused and committed. The ability to work independently is very important because of the practical aspects of the course, where you will have to plan, cook and evaluate your progress for a successful outcome.

### 4. Assessment details and weighting:

All units must be completed with a minimum of a pass to gain the qualification and each unit is worth 25%. Units 1, 2 & 4, are internally assessed (Controlled Assessments) & Unit 3, is externally assessed (written exam, 2hrs)

**Unit 01** Preparing to cook Mandatory Internally assessed portfolio of evidence

**Unit 02** Understanding food Mandatory Internally assessed portfolio of evidence

**Unit 03** Exploring balanced diets Mandatory Externally set and marked assessment paper

**Unit 04** Plan and produce dishes in response to a brief Mandatory Internally assessed portfolio of evidence

### 5. What qualifications can I achieve with this option choice?

Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery

### 6. What are my career prospects if I choose this option and gain a qualification?

The Food industry; Product Development, Food Scientist, Food Photographer, Marketing,, Dietician, Chef, Nursing, Health and Social Care, Teaching, Hospitality

**Possible university/college courses:** 'A 'level courses, Level 2/3 Hospitality and Catering. Degree and HND level related courses in Food Science, Teaching, Food Industry, Hospitality, Health and Social care.

### 7. What resources will I be using or will I need?

This is a subject where we focus on a lot of practical lessons where we cook a variety of dishes. As a school, we provide most basic ingredients for the recipes we use; however, students are required to provide additional ingredients when necessary.

### 8. Are there any useful websites which may help me with this subject?

[www.ncfe.org.uk/media/824716/l2-food-and-cookery-qualification-specification-issue-4.pdf](http://www.ncfe.org.uk/media/824716/l2-food-and-cookery-qualification-specification-issue-4.pdf)

[www.royalacademyofculinaryarts.org.uk/](http://www.royalacademyofculinaryarts.org.uk/)

[www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/](http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/)

2016-2018 OPTIONS CHOICE FORM

NAME OF PUPIL .....

Tutor Group 9.....

All these subjects are compulsory: **English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Core Science & Additional Science, French or Spanish, RE, Physical Education (core)**

These are the subjects available for your Option Choice:

- Computer Science
- History
- Geography
  
- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Drama
- Graphics
- ICT
- iGCSE in English as a second language
- Music
- Physical Education
- Product Design
- Sport (BTEC)
- Statistics
- Triple Science
- Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery

**Now select your 5 top choices. Number them in order of preference. This means number 1 would be your favourite choice and number 5 your least favourite choice. You will then be allocated 3 of your chosen subjects. One of your choices needs to be History, Geography or Computer Science**

Subject Choices 1 to 5
1
2
3
4
5

Student's signature .....

Parent's signature.....

Tutor's signature.....

**The deadline for returning completed options forms is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016**