



BEAUMONT SCHOOL

**COURSE
INFORMATION
BOOKLET**

**YEAR 11
GCSE ENTRY SUMMER 2012**

INTRODUCTION

Details of GCSE coursework/Controlled Assessment were published last year in the "Coursework Information Booklet - Year 10 - GCSE Entry Summer 2011". This booklet is primarily designed to give parents/carers further information about the assessment and coursework/controlled assessment requirements of the GCSE courses during your child's examination year. It also contains the Parent Information Sheet on homework which is part of the school's homework policy.

GCSE assessment may include several components:-

- 1) Terminal examination: a written paper in May/June of Year 11.
- 2) Interim examination: a written paper part way through the course, as for science.
- 3) Written coursework/Controlled Assessments.
- 4) Practical assessment.
- 5) Oral assessment.
- 6) Aural assessment.

Page 8 summarises the weighting given to the above components in each of the examination courses.

The remainder of the booklet provides more detail about the nature of the coursework/Controlled Assessment, the important deadlines which need to be met, and the means of monitoring work.

I hope that this booklet will help you as you support and encourage your child at this important time.

A Goodwin
Assistant Headteacher
September 2011

THE CURRICULUM

Our prime objective at Beaumont is to enable each individual, including those of exceptional ability and slow learners, to develop his or her maximum potential through a stimulating and challenging curriculum and by carefully monitoring each pupil's social and academic progress.

Our arrangements are designed to ensure that:

- ◆ all pupils receive the broad and balanced education needed for life in the 21st century
- ◆ all pupils experience a range of teaching and learning styles
- ◆ pupils of all abilities can achieve success
- ◆ parents are kept well informed about the progress of their children
- ◆ pupils are given professional guidance about the choice of pathways available Post 16.

The curriculum consists of :

- ◆ a number of subjects
- ◆ a wide range of activities which supplement and enhance the timetable
- ◆ certain themes which occur in a planned way across several subjects.

At Key Stage 4 the curriculum has two components: the core and the options.

The core consists of the following subjects:- English, Maths, Science, a Modern Foreign Language (**one** of French, German or Spanish) Core ICT and PE.

In addition to the core subjects your child will be studying three of the following option subjects:- Art & Design, BTEC Art, Drama, Economics and Business, Business, French, Geography, History, Link Support, Music, Physical Education, BTEC Sport, Religious Studies, Design and Technology (**one** of Food Technology, Resistant Materials, Textiles, Graphic Design), Engineering Diploma or Oaklands College options.

Parent(s) / carer(s) are requested to inform the school in confidence if they anticipate that an aspect of the school's curriculum might cause a particular difficulty for an individual pupil. In most cases, contact with the class teacher or Form Tutor will be more than adequate, but Ms Cleverly (Head of Year), or Mr Levoir (SENCO) should be contacted if the information is especially sensitive or difficult. Pupils are also encouraged to inform the school if they are aware of aspects of the school's curriculum which might cause them distress.

When you receive your son's/daughter's report later in the year, it may refer to statements within the subject entry, so the booklet and report should be considered together.

HOMEWORK - Parent Information Sheet

What is “homework”?

“Homework” is any work or activity which your child is asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with you, their parent/carer. It is an essential part of the learning process and we place a strong emphasis on it at Beaumont. Staff are required to set and assess appropriate homework on a regular basis. All pupils across the age and ability range are expected to complete homework tasks. You are encouraged to take an active role in the process.

Principles

We believe that homework plays an important part in your child’s learning because:

- it encourages them to develop the skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively on their own; this is vital given the importance of lifelong learning and adaptability;
- it encourages good time management;
- it allows practice of skills learned in the classroom and extends school learning which permits more rapid progress to be made in school;
- it makes use of outside interests and resources;
- it may involve you and other adults in their work, improving home-school and community-school links.

What do we do about homework?

- Teachers regularly set a variety of tasks or activities which need to be done partly or completely out of school time.
- The tasks take different lengths of time to complete; some take half an hour, some go on in stages for a number of weeks. In each week of term, pupils will normally have either a homework task or work that they can carry on with for every subject they take. These activities arise naturally out of the work in the classroom.
- Tasks have *deadlines* which are made clear to pupils.
- Teachers check who has met the deadline and will challenge any who do not. If a pupil often fails to do homework without good reason, parents are informed.

- Homework, if given in on time, is normally marked promptly and returned with appropriate feedback.
- As well as doing set tasks for homework, pupils are expected to develop their knowledge and skills independently. If, for some reason (such as teacher absence), a homework is not set, this does not mean that there is no work to do. Pupils should take responsibility for their learning by doing one of the activities suggested for that subject in this booklet.
- Every pupil is given a planner for recording homework tasks and deadlines. Tutors check and sign the planners regularly.

What can you do to help?

- Check and sign their planner weekly to show that you are doing this.
- Inform staff if there is a genuine reason for homework not done.
- Appreciate the need for independent study and try to provide a place for it, as free from distractions as possible.
- Support your child by showing an interest and giving encouragement; ask them to explain the work to you. This can develop their understanding and their reasoning skills.
- Help them plan their time and organise themselves so that they remember to bring to school each day the materials that they need, and to *take home* the work they need to do each evening.

Thank you for encouraging and supporting your child

HOMEWORK - Pupil Information Sheet

What is “homework”?

“Homework” is any work or activity which you are asked to do outside lesson time, either on your own or with your parents/carers.

Why do you get homework?

The main reasons are:

- you learn how to plan and organise your work;
- it helps you learn how to work on your own, and to think and try things out for yourself;
- it helps you learn how to use time effectively and to meet deadlines;
- it gives you the chance to practise what you have done in class, or to do some background work that will help you understand what’s coming next;
- it encourages you to use resources that can be found outside school;
- it involves people outside school in your work: parents and others can work with the school and help you make progress in your learning;

.... and you will learn more.

If you have not been set homework for some reason (e.g. the teacher was away), this does not mean that there is no work to do. You must take responsibility for your own learning and progress by spending time doing one of the activities suggested for that subject in this Course Information booklet.

Here are some ideas to help you do your homework successfully:

Before you do your homework:

- Make sure you know what you are meant to be doing and why you are doing it.
- Write down the details clearly in your planner.
- If you think you are going to struggle to do the work set, talk to your teacher about it; **don’t** do nothing!
- If you have a number of things to do, ask yourself which it is important to do first, second and so on, and plan your time carefully.
- Choose a suitable time and, if possible, make sure you have all the books and equipment you need when you sit down to work.
- Try to work somewhere where you will not be disturbed or distracted.

While doing your homework:

- If your work is taking a long time, give yourself a short break, and go back to it with a fresh mind.
- If it is taking much longer than was intended, stop at a suitable point and explain this to your teacher; he or she will be understanding if it is clear that you have done your best to finish.
- Take pride in all your work! Don't just do the bare minimum in the shortest possible time!

After doing your homework:

- Check it!
- Hand it in on time!

Every day:

- Check the exercise books you've used during the day, stick in loose sheets and finish off any underlining, dates, titles etc. whilst the lessons are fresh in your mind.

Every weekend:

- Check your planner. Make a list of any things you need to bring for each day during the coming week (e.g. work to hand in, PE kit, musical instruments, ingredients, library books).

GUIDANCE ON COURSEWORK/CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS

Many GCSE subjects contain coursework/Controlled Assessments components. These provide the opportunity for pupils to undertake personal research and develop their own interests as well as an alternative means of assessment particularly suited to those who get nervous in exams. Coursework/Controlled Assessments can however become a great burden for pupils who do not manage their time effectively. Deadlines vary from subject to subject to stagger the workload. Interim deadlines may be set to help pupils keep on target.

- begin coursework/Controlled Assessments as soon as you get it,
- make sure you meet all interim deadlines,
- ask your teachers for help early if you run into difficulties.

Coursework/Controlled Assessment has recently been a talking point in the media due to concerns over cheating and particularly via the internet. The following guidelines should ensure that you complete your work in accordance with examining board rules.

- ask for help only from your teachers as they know exactly how much assistance you are allowed to have,
- parents or private tutors may not help pupils with coursework/Controlled Assessments,
- if you are using web-sites or books for research, make sure you do not copy anything directly. If you do you must put it in quotation marks and write where it has come from but it cannot be given marks as being your own work,
- you should write the names of books, web-sites or other sources you have used to research your topic at the bottom of your coursework/Controlled Assessments,
- do not under any circumstances use any of the web-sites which provide pupils with coursework/Controlled Assessments.

When submitting coursework/Controlled Assessments, pupils are required to sign a declaration that all the work is their own and teachers sign to say that they accept this. Teachers will not accept any coursework/Controlled Assessment which they suspect is not entirely the pupil's own.

If pupils are unsure what they are and are not allowed to use to complete coursework/Controlled Assessments, they should consult their subject teachers who will be able to help.

If found guilty of plagiarism the coursework/Controlled Assessments for that pupil and the one who provided the coursework/Controlled Assessments, will be void.

A pupil would usually still sit other components of the examination but this would depend on decisions made by the Head of Centre and/or the Awarding Body.

Subject	Written Exam	Interim Exam Exam	Coursework/ Controlled Assessment	Practical Assessment	Oral	Aural
Art	40 (Practical exam)		60			
Business Studies	75 (25 already taken)		25			
Design & Technology	40		60			
Drama			60	40		
Economics & Business	75 (25 already taken)		25			
English Language	60		20		20	
English Literature	70		30			
Geography	75		25			
History	75		25			
ICT			100			
Mathematics	100% (Students do final module Shape, Space and Measure and Algebra work which is 55% of the total score)		N/A			
Mathematics - Modular Option	One module already taken - 19% One module in November - 11%, Final module in June 50% 11%, Final					
Modern Foreign Languages (French, Spanish, German)		Reading 20	30		30	20
Music	25		60 (including performing and composing)	15		
Physical Education	40			60		
Religious Studies	100					
Science	55	25	20			

CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

Examination Board: AQA

The course in English can lead to two separately certificated but related examinations at the end of Year 11:

either

GCSE English Language	+	GCSE English Literature
2 GCSEs		

or

GCSE English
1 GCSE

Syllabus Content

English: In accordance with National Curriculum requirements, you complete a unit on media and non-fiction texts; a unit on speaking and listening and; a unit on understanding and producing creative texts (including a play by Shakespeare, a text from the English Literary Heritage and a text from a different culture). You are expected to develop your own capabilities as users of language, whether as writers, readers, speakers or listeners.

Assessment: There is one final examination for this course, on understanding and producing non-fiction texts, which is two hours long and examines both reading and writing skills. This examination provides 40% of the total marks. The speaking and listening (worth 20%) and understanding and producing creative texts (worth 40%) units, make up the remaining 60% of the available marks. It is worth noting that for the understanding and producing creative texts unit you are to complete two tasks, under the requirements of controlled assessment.

English Language: This course covers three units, namely; understanding and producing non-fiction texts; speaking and listening and; understanding spoken and written texts. You are expected to develop your own capabilities as users of language, through extended reading, creative writing and through an extended language study.

Assessment: There is one final examination for this course, on understanding and producing non-fiction texts, which is two hours long and examines both reading and writing skills. This examination provides 40% of the total marks. The speaking and listening (worth 20%) and understanding spoken and written texts (worth 40%) units, make up the remaining 60% of the available marks. It is worth noting that the understanding and producing creative texts unit you are to control three tasks, under the requirements of controlled assessment.

English Literature: This course also covers three units; exploring modern texts; Shakespeare and; poetry. You are expected to develop informed critical responses to the texts and an awareness of their social, historical and cultural contexts and influences on them.

Assessment: There are two final examinations at the end of this course. The modern texts examination is one hour and thirty minutes long and examines two main sections: a modern prose or drama and exploring cultures. It constitutes 40% of the total marks.

The Shakespeare and poetry unit can be examined either by an examination or under the requirements of Controlled Assessment, so long as one of these is taken as an examination and one as a Controlled Assessment piece to make up the remaining 60% of the marks. The Shakespeare examination (worth 35%) is one hour and fifteen minutes long, whereas there is only one task for completion under the requirements of Controlled Assessment (worth 25%). The poetry examination (worth 35%) is also one hour and fifteen minutes long (and includes a section on unseen poetry) whereas there is only one task for completion under the requirements of Controlled Assessment (worth 25%).

You will be entered for one of two possible tiers:

Tier F (Foundation Tier) Target grades G to C

Tier H (Higher Tier) Target grades D to A*

The work covered in class is suitable for both tiers of entry.

For further information please contact Mrs Proudfoot

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Examination: OCR Level 2 Nationals in ICT (a series of qualifications)

CORE: Level 2 OCR National First Award in ICT

All pupils will follow the core ICT curriculum in Year 11 and build on the work covered in Year 10. All pupils will aim to pass the equivalent of one GCSE at the end of Year 11 (Level 2 OCR National First Award in ICT).

In this course pupils will have completed Unit 1 in Year 10 and in order to obtain the full OCR Level 2 National First Award and further demonstrate each pupil's ICT skills, they must complete another half unit, an assignment portfolio on creating animations for the www.

The area of ICT for Year 11 that is covered includes:

Reviewing other animations, e.g. on the www, design an animation for a given scenario, use flash animation software to make the product, test and improve the animation.

Each section of the course is differentiated so that pupils can achieve success at their own level. Pupils will be directed to complete a set of tasks related to the assignment and through evidence provide by annotated screen shots and printouts will achieve a Pass, Merit or Distinction level, these are equivalent to a C, B or A grade at GCSE respectively.

MATHEMATICS

In Years 10 and 11 pupils follow the Edexcel Option B Modular Mathematics Course. This consists of three modules. Students currently sit modules 1 and 2 in Year 10 and module 3 in Year 11.

- Module 1 is the Statistics and Number Module and contributes 30% of the final assessment mark
- Module 2 is the Number Module and contributes 30% of the final assessment mark;
- Module 3 is the Algebra and Shape, Space and Measures Module and contributes 40% of the final assessment mark.

There is no longer any coursework component for the GCSE Mathematics. Candidates will be entered for either the Foundation Tier (graded G to C) or the Higher Tier (graded D to A*) as appropriate to aptitude.

Homework

Homework is set once a week from the homework book or using the My Maths website and should take one hour.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Pupils select which pathway to follow from the following **four** options:

1. GCSE Physical Education

Board of Examination Edexcel

The G.C.S.E. Edexcel Syllabus covers a number of areas within the theory and practical. Pupils cover a range of practical activities which are assessed in a final practical exam. Theory is covered from the syllabus specification.

Edexcel	48% Practical Performance
	12% Analyses of Performance and coursework
	40% Theory Exam

3 lessons per week – combination of practical and theory.

2. BTEC First Sport

Examination Board Edexcel

This course provides an alternative to GCSE PE and is coursework based. Four Units are covered. All pupils have three 45 minute lessons a week.

Unit 1 Fitness Testing and Training

Unit 2 Practical Sport

Unit 7 Planning and Leading Sports activities.

Unit 11 Development of personal Fitness

Pupils will also have the opportunity to gain the Level One Sports Leader Award during the BTEC course.

3. Practical Activity and Sports Leaders Level 1 Award

This option is 100% practical in year 10 and 11.

Within these lessons pupils take part in a variety of practical activities covering a wide range of sports and will also have the opportunity to complete a nationally accredited sports leadership course.

The Leadership course involves pupils gaining skills in cooperation, officiating, communication, and ability to lead a small group of younger children in a sporting activity. This option gives pupils a certificate of sports leadership that is nationally recognised.

4. **BTEC in Performing Arts (Dance)**

Exam board: Edexcel

This course provides an alternative to the GCSE course. It results in 2 GCSEs at the end of year 11 A* to C [Distinction* to Pass]

Grading:

3 Units which are marked at Pass, Merit and Distinction.

Unit 1: Performing Dance Mandatory

Choreography, refining material for performance, range of styles, visiting company and visits to performances, accurate reproduction of movement, movement memory, interpretation and self observation/evaluation

Assessment: Two dance styles demonstrated over 3 short performances of 2 minutes each.

2. Contemporary dance

Developing skills in one contemporary style. Warm ups and posture, movement phrases, isolation, rhythm, short set studies, body actions, body shape, build up of phrases and timing.

Assessment: 2 x 1-2 minute dances based on a set study. Solo, partner or ensemble.

3. Jazz dance:

Pop street, funk, musical theatre. Performing basic positions, opposing rhythms, interpreting music, repetition and recall, body management and core stability.

Assessment: 2 x 1-2 minute dances either solo or group.

SCIENCE

Double Science

In Year 11 Double Science students will be following the **Additional Science** syllabus. In June of Year 11 these students will sit structured question examination papers in additional Physics (P2), additional Chemistry (C2) and additional Biology (B2). Each of these exams counts for 25% of the qualification. As in Year 10 the remaining 25% of the available marks come from a coursework component called the **Investigative skills assessment or I.S.A.** This is completed wholly in lesson time under teacher supervision and involves students planning a suitable investigative experiment, carrying out the experiment and collecting data, appropriately representing their data in graphical form and lastly being examined on their understanding of their experiment and related issues on how Science works via test paper.

Triple Science

Triple Science students will be examined on the second and third components of each Science. E.g. for Biology students will undertake a B2 paper (in January) which tackles the same content studied by Double Science students in Year 11.

In addition, students will sit the extension paper, B3 in the summer of Year 11. The other two Sciences work in the same way.

The marks from One I.S.A. are submitted for each of the three Sciences.

Homework

Appropriate homework tasks will be set regularly throughout the course.

OPTION SUBJECTS

ART

Examination Board: Edexcel

Coursework	2 units	60% of final mark
Exam		40% of final mark

Throughout Years 10 and 11 two units of coursework are introduced:

- **Unit 1: Natural Forms**
- **Unit 2: Collections**

Each unit is must demonstrate four objectives:

Recording observations, analysing and evaluating, developing and exploring, realising intentions.

- In Year 11 pupils continue to develop skills learnt in Year 10 and extend and develop their work in a more individual way.
- The Year 11 course continues with Unit 2 – Collections and this is completed by February half term.
- The final deadline for all coursework is February half term in Year 11, and after this the students begin their 8 week exam preparation period.
- From February to May in Year 11 pupils will be preparing for the end of year GCSE Art exam (**40% of the final grade**) and the final assessment.
- All pupils keep a work journal as a requirement of the exam.

Homework

Pupils are given homework tasks for each unit of coursework. These tasks contribute to their final coursework grade and should be completed to the best of the pupil's ability.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Examination Board: AQA and OCR

Course Availability:

In Design and Technology you will focus on a single material area and develop the knowledge, skills and understanding introduced in the lower school. You may choose **one** course from the following:



D&T: Home Economics: Food and Nutrition 4585

D&T: Resistant Materials Technology 4560

D&T: Textiles Technology 4570

OCR D&T: Graphics J303

Course Content:

Each specification is designed to foster awareness of the need to consider sustainability and the environmental impact of design.

Each course will develop candidates' awareness through a range of design and make assignments suitable to the relevant subject area.

Further information is available from:

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcscs/dandt/new/home_fn_overview.php?id=7&prev=7

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcscs/dandt/resistant_index.php?id=07&prev=07

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcscs/dandt/textiles_index.php?id=07&prev=07

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gcse/dt/graphics/index.html>

AQA course content is assessed through:

Unit 1: 2 hour un-tiered written paper with a weighting of 40%

Unit 2: 45 hour controlled assessment task with a weighting of 60%

OCR course content is assessed through:

Unit A531: 20 hour controlled assessment task with a weighting of 30%

Unit A532: 1 hour un-tiered written paper with a weighting of 20%

Unit A533: 20 hour controlled assessment task with a weighting of 30%

Unit A534: 1 hour and 15 minute un-tiered written paper with a weighting of 20%

Homework

Homework is set by individual teachers as and when required. In addition to standard homework, candidates will also be required to research and prepare in readiness for Controlled Assessment.

For further information please contact Mr C Jeffcoate

DRAMA

Controlled Assessment will be completed in Spring and Summer term of Year 10 and Autumn term of Year 11.

The mark for written work is incorporated into the overall mark awarded for teacher-assessed units. This element is a combination of practical and written work and forms 60% of the overall GCSE marks.

Unit 1: Drama Exploration - 30%

This unit is concerned with the use of drama to explore ideas and issues.

Controlled Assessment:

Six hour practical exploration.

Documentary evidence - 2000 words.

Unit 2: Exploring Play Texts - 30%

This unit is concerned with the exploration of a play text.

Controlled Assessment:

Six hour practical exploration.

Documentary evidence - 1000 words

Written response to live theatre - 2000 words

Parents/guardians are informed if a pupil does not hand in an assignment. Homework includes theatre visits, reading, researching, learning lines and rehearsals.

Unit 3: Drama Performance - 40%

Devised or scripted play performed to an audience including a visiting examiner. Students can offer design skills.

The written work arises from the practical work done in class so pupils cannot “catch up” on coursework when they have missed lessons because of absence. However, sometimes it is possible for the teacher to set them an alternative assignment on work they have not missed.

Completed written coursework is essential for examination entry.

(Texts include ‘The Crucible’ by Arthur Miller and ‘Woman in Black’ by Susan Hill)

BTEC First Certificate in Performing Arts (Acting):

Course structure:

The three units to be studied in Drama lessons are:

- Acting (core)
- Performing Scripted Plays
- Devising Plays

Assessment:

Throughout the course students are regularly assessed. They complete a variety of assignments. These are practical assignments and result in a performance which is internally assessed by their tutor and externally verified. The outcomes are pass, merit and distinction. Students may be asked to keep rehearsal diaries, complete video diaries and to answer reflective questions to form an evaluation.

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS—EDEXCEL

In Year 11 the focus switches to economics. The course is called 'Introduction to Economic Understanding' and covers concepts such as external influences, perspectives, risk, government initiatives, growth, control of firms, standards of living and inequality.

At the end of the year students sit a written examination which makes up 50% of the final GCSE.

BUSINESS STUDIES—EDEXCEL

In Year 11 the students study businesses in greater depth. The course is called 'Building a Business'. Areas covered include further marketing, customer needs and the ability to meet them, effective financial management, human resource management and ethical business.

At the end of the year students sit a written examination which makes up 50% of the final GCSE.

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS DEPARTMENT HOMEWORK

Tasks and timings

Homework will be set as one mid topic assessment of some length per half-term, which will be based on or extend the topic content. This could include research using ICT, past exam questions or tasks from the course textbook.

Useful resources (including textbooks and websites/blogs etc)

There is a lot of revision material and support on the department blog;
www.beaumontbusiness.blogspot.com

GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board: Edexcel B

Course Content:

In Year 11, students will be completing Unit 2 of the course which is called 'People and Planet'. This includes learning about population, resources, urban areas, rural areas, global economy and development.

This unit will be externally assessed through a 1 hour, written exam in June of Year 11. This will count for 25% of the final mark.

At the end of Year 11 students will also complete Unit 3 Making Geographical Decision. A pack of resources will be released before the exam and students will study these during lessons and the exam will relate to this material. This will count for 25% of the final mark.

Controlled Assessment: 25% of final mark

For this unit students will complete a fieldwork investigation and report. The title of this will be changed every year by the exam board but students will have the choice of either coastal environments or town/city environments. In September of Year 11, pupils will either complete their data collection on a local day visit or a residential fieldtrip to Norfolk. Over the following 7 weeks students will write up their fieldwork task under controlled conditions. Class time is used to complete the Controlled Assessment in this time period and students are also allowed to complete some aspects of the work at home. It is marked out of 50 across the following areas:

- **Planning** – medium control (students are able to work on this at home)
- **Methods of data collection** - medium control (students are able to work on this at home)
- **Data presentation** – high control (students to complete all of this section in school)
- **Analysis and conclusions** - high control (students to complete all of this section in school)
- **Evaluation** - high control (students to complete all of this section in school)

If students are absent during lessons they will have to attend lunchtime catch up sessions and the same applies to those students who receive extra time in exams. The final deadline will be at the end of November.

Homework

Appropriate homework tasks will be set regularly throughout the course.

HISTORY

Controlled Assessment: Autumn term Year 11
1 unit 25% of final mark

The questions will be based on the topic 'Crime, Punishment and Policing c. 1880—1990. The exam board will set the questions annually to focus on an aspect of this topic.

There are two parts to the history coursework: Parts A and B and it will be completed in controlled conditions in the Autumn Term (Year 11) over 2½ hours. The 2 ½ hours will be subdivided across the term and students will focus on one aspect of the assessment at a time. Students will be provided with instructions regarding the amount of notes and style of plan they are permitted to use in the write up sessions.

Part A

This will be based on the student's knowledge gained in class and through their own extra research. This is an essay style question and the students will have access to this well before the final controlled conditions write up session (1 hour).

Part B

This will be based on students analysing three sources on an issue from the topic in two essay style answers (½ hour and 1 hour). The students are given the sources two weeks before the final controlled conditions sessions. Only one of these sources is allowed outside the classroom.

Examined: Summer term Year 11
1 unit 25% of final mark

Peace War and International Relations 1945 – 1991

The unit follows the course of the Global Cold War led by the USA and USSR after World War II. The students will study 3 key topics:

How did the Cold War develop? (1943 – 1956)

Three Cold War crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia

Why did the Cold War end? The invasion of Afghanistan to the collapse of the Soviet Union.

This exam will focus on the skills of recall, communication, explanation and analysis.

Homework

Appropriate homework tasks will be set regularly throughout the course.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Examination: OCR Level 2 Nationals in ICT

OPTIONAL COURSES:

For pupils who want to gain more experience of ICT they can take an optional course which can lead them to gaining further qualifications in ICT and these courses are:

- **Level 2 OCR National Award in ICT
(equivalent to 2 GCSEs grades A* - C)**
- **Level 2 OCR National First Certificate
(equivalent to 3 GCSEs grades A*-C)**
- **Level 2 OCR National Certificate in ICT
(equivalent to 4 GCSEs A* - C)**

To do this they must achieve a pass or better in the core sections (Level 2 OCR National First Award in ICT). Then they can achieve the equivalent of one, two or three more GCSEs dependent upon the number of further modules passed (this is then added to the core result).

The different modules which may be offered include:

Unit 2 Web Creation

Unit 4: Multimedia Products

Unit 5: Desktop Publishing

Unit 6: Spreadsheets

Unit 20: Creating animation for the www using ICT

Unit 21: Creating computer graphics

Unit 22: Creating sound using ICT

Unit 23: Creating video

Pupils will produce annotated screen shots and printouts as evidence of their work as well as keeping all their work safely stored in their OCR Nationals folder. Pupils will need to be self-motivated to take this course.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: French, German, Italian and Spanish

GCSE Examination Board: - Edexcel

There is now no coursework in Modern Foreign Languages but there will be controlled writing assessment tasks at school during the course. All students will have two oral assessments in Year 11. As seen in the grid below, the speaking and writing components are worth 30% each for the GCSE and the listening and reading only 20% each.

Topic areas:

Common topic areas (listening and reading)	Controlled Assessment themes (speaking and writing)
Out and about Visitor information Basic weather Local amenities Accommodation Public transport Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media and culture • Sport and Leisure • Travel and Tourism • Business, Work and employment • Centre-devised option
Customer Service and Transactions Cafés and restaurants, Shops, Dealing with problems	
Personal information General interests Leisure activities Family and friends Lifestyle	
Future plans, education and work Basic language of the internet Simple job advertisements Simple job applications and CV School and college Work and work experience	

There are four units covered:

Unit	Percentage	Marks	Time
Unit 1: Listening and understanding in French, German, Italian and Spanish	20% of Full Course	40	Externally assessed. Foundation Tier: 25 minutes + 5 minutes reading time. Higher Tier: 35 minutes + 5 minutes reading time.
Unit 2: Speaking in French, German, Italian and Spanish	30% of Full Course	60	Controlled Assessment. Marked by the centre with a representative sample externally moderated. 2 tasks of 4—6 minutes each.
Unit 3: Reading and understanding in French, German, Italian and Spanish	20% of Full Course.	40	Externally assessed. Foundation Tier: 35 minutes. Higher Tier: 50 minutes
Unit 4: Writing in French, German, Italian and Spanish	30% of Full Course	60	Controlled Assessment. Marked by Edexcel. 2 single assessment sessions of no more than one hour. Edexcel or centre-set stimuli.

There are many opportunities in and out of school to supplement the French, German, Italian and Spanish courses using ICT programmes. Pupils should make the most of these together with any sessions they may have with the Foreign Language Assistants and in the Language Laboratory.

The following exchanges and study visits exist:

- German Exchange
- Spanish study visit

GCE AQA French / German AS Level

Unit 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

Written paper 2 hours

70% of total AS marks, 35% of total A level marks

Candidates will answer a range of questions based on approximately 5 minutes of heard material and on a selection of written texts. They will also respond in writing to a question based on one of the AS topics from a choice of three.

The examination will be in June:

Media

- Television
- Advertising
- Communication technology

Popular Culture

- Cinema
- Music
- Fashion/trends

Unit 2: Speaking Test

Speaking Test 35 minutes (including 20 minutes preparation time)

30% of total AS marks, 15% of total A level marks

Candidates will discuss a target-language stimulus card based on one of the AS topics and take part in a conversation covering three further AS topics.

The speaking test will be conducted by an external examiner provided by AQA. It will be at a date set by AQA, no earlier than March.

Healthy Living/Lifestyle

- Sport/exercise
- Health and well-being
- Holidays

Family/relationships

- Relationships within the family
- Friendships
- Marriage/partnerships

Homework

Appropriate homework tasks will be set regularly throughout the course.

MUSIC—Option

Examination Board: OCR

The GCSE Music Course is suitable for all students with an enthusiasm for Music, although the ability to play a musical instrument is desirable. The course gives students an opportunity to explore their instrument, as well as a variety of styles of music that they may not necessarily come across in their regular music-making.

Course Content:

The course is based on **four Areas of Study** which build on topics and knowledge covered in Years 7 – 9.

2. MY MUSIC (AoS1)

Students study their own instrument or voice, focussing on a piece of music written for your instrument.

Students must complete performance, appraising and composition tasks based on your studies, which is all part of controlled coursework.

Homework Policy

Students are expected to practise their AoS1 instrument for at least 15 minutes per day, if not longer, depending on the standard. This should be ongoing throughout the course. This preparation is for their **ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE**.

Autumn Term 1 & 2: Short composition tasks relating Composition 2, in preparation for Controlled Assessment.

Autumn 1 & 2: Short and regular tasks will be set based on Areas of study 2, 3 and 4. This will usually be fact finding/consolidation of analysis in lessons. This will be set every 2 weeks. The Blog will give you further details of this.

Spring Term: Shorter tasks (as above) will be set every 2 weeks for Area of study 2, 3 and 4.

3. SHARED MUSIC (AoS2)

Students explore the relationships and roles of voices in instruments in a variety of ensemble music. The following textures are studied:

- Voice and accompaniment (Romantic song (Lieder) and pop ballads)
- Music contrasting one solo instrument with orchestra/band (Classical concerto/jazz)
- Ensembles (Indian classical music, Gamelan, Baroque and Classical chamber music)
- Large vocal ensembles (the great choral classics, African *a capella* singing)

4. DANCE MUSIC (AoS3)

Students study different types of dance music from across the ages:

- Paired dance (Waltz, Tango and Salsa)
- Group/folk/synchronised dance (Line Dance (American, Irish Jig and Reel) and Bhangra)
- Improvised dance (Disco and Club Dance)

5. DESCRIPTIVE MUSIC (AoS4)

Students study descriptive music from the Romantic period to the present day:

- Programme Music (Symphonic music from 1820 onwards)
- Film Music

Coursework and Examinations:

Unit B351: Integrated Tasks (30%)

A performance, a composition and a commentary, all related to Area of Study 1 (the composition and commentary are all part of controlled coursework, i.e. undertaken under timed conditions)

Unit B352: Practical Portfolio (30%)

A portfolio containing a group performance relating to Area of Study 2, a composition relating to Area of Study 2, 3 or 4 and a log and commentary (composition and log are part of controlled coursework)

Unit B353: Creative Task (15%)

A timed task drawing on understanding gained from an area of study, in which candidates develop a short piece and communicate it, based on a stimulus.

Unit B354: Listening Test (25%)

A written paper, with CD, assessing knowledge and understanding of Areas of Study 2, 3 and 4.

For further information please contact Miss H Doan

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (Philosophy and Ethics)

Examination board: OCR

Syllabus Content:

The course is divided into two sections, Philosophy and Ethics, each comprising of 6 topics.

Ethics:

- 1. Human relationships:** What are the roles of men and women in the family? Is marriage important? Should we keep sex for marriage?
- 2. Medical ethics:** Is abortion ever justified? Do we have a right to end our life? Should we use animals in medical research?
- 3. Poverty and wealth:** What causes poverty? Should we care about others? How should we use our money?
- 4. Peace and justice:** Is it ever right to fight? How should we treat criminals? Why do we punish?
- 5. Equality:** Are men and women equal? Should we forgive? Why are people racist?
- 6. The media:** How is religion portrayed in the media? Why is the media influential? Should we have freedom of speech?

Philosophy:

- 1. Beliefs about God:** Does God exist? What is God like? Does God perform miracles?
- 2. Religious and spiritual experiences:** How do religious people worship? Why do people pray? Why is food and fasting important?
- 3. Death and beyond:** Do we have a soul? What happens after we die? Why do we have a funeral?
- 4. Good and evil:** Who is the devil? Why does evil exist? How can we cope with suffering? Why should we behave morally?
- 5. Reason and revelation:** How is God revealed in the world? Why are sacred texts important?
- 6. Religion vs. science:** How did the universe begin? Are humans more important than animals? Should we look after our planet?

Assessment

There is no coursework or controlled assessment in Religious Studies GCSE. Pupils will sit two written examination papers (one on Philosophy and one on Ethics) each of two hours duration at the end of year 11.

To prepare pupils for the style of the final exam, pupils will set an end of unit test for each topic. They will be expected to revise thoroughly and it will be completed in exam conditions.

Homework

Appropriate homework tasks will be set regularly throughout the course.

The Year 11 Curriculum Enrichment Day Programme 2011-2012

Wednesday 28th September 2011	Skills for Success STEM Workshops
Tuesday 8th November 2011	Moving on PSHCE
Thursday 19th January 2012	Leadership interviews Catch up work Study Day
Wednesday 21st March 2012	House Day
Tuesday 15th May 2012	Exam Leave