



Washington
Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



Key Stage 4

Curriculum Options 2022



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Consilium Academies

Key stage 4 information and overview

Students in year 10 and 11 are referred to as being in Key Stage 4. When students reach Key Stage 4 they start to study courses that result in qualifications at the end of year 11. Our curriculum is made up of a range of qualifications. Details around all of our qualifications can be found in this booklet. We have recommended some students study EBacc subjects. However, every child will have the opportunity to follow the EBacc pathway should they wish to.

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

EBacc refers to a combination of subjects that the government encourage students to study. These subjects include English, Mathematics, two Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language, History or Geography. This is not an additional qualification, but is a recognition of the challenging combination of subjects that students have studied. Studying EBacc subjects has been proven to increase examination performance in English and Mathematics. The options sheet insert identifies whether your child should be choosing EBacc subjects. However, all of our students have the right to select courses right for them. We would never exclude a child from or force a child to study the EBacc.

Making a choice

This booklet is designed to support students in making appropriate choices for their KS4 curriculum. When making choices, students should read the course content outlined on each page. This booklet has been designed for the student and parents/carers to keep, you should write any questions around courses and speak to the department staff who will be able to answer those questions. Students need to make a decision based on what is the correct course for them. Students should not make choices based on preferred teachers or to study subjects their friends are interested in. When selecting options students should take their time, think about their own future and seek advice from department staff.

Life beyond year 11

The choices you make will shape your future at Washington Academy for the next two years. However, they will also have an impact on the options available after year 11. This may involve going to sixth form, college, doing an apprenticeship or employment with training. You should be aware of the following:

Level 3 - This is the typical route of study following year 11.

If you wish to complete A levels or technical equivalents, you will need to have 5 GCSEs between grade 5-9. Most often, this includes English and Maths.

For level 3 vocational courses, such as BTEC Diplomas, BTEC Nationals etc, you will need an average of a grade 4 in all subjects.

Level 2

If you achieve 5 GCSEs grade 1-4, you will be able to progress onto Level 2 training courses.

What is next?

- *Read the course information.*
- *Speak to Heads of Department and teachers.*
- *Attend options evening (8th March 2022).*
- *Decide which subjects you wish to study and which courses you will have as ‘reserves.’*
- *Complete and return your options form.*

The curriculum model

Washington Academy carefully timetables the curriculum for Key Stage 4. The curriculum is broken down over a fortnightly timetable as follows:

Subject	Teaching periods per fortnight
English Language and Literature	8
Mathematics	8
Science	9
History or Geography	5
Option 1 or MFL for EBacc	5
Option 2	5
Option 3	5
PE	3
PSHCE	2
Total	50

The following subjects are part of our core curriculum:

English Language

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination 100%

What will I learn?

You will learn to write to describe, narrate, entertain, persuade and argue in an effective way. You will read extracts from fiction and non-fiction and learn how to analyse these to show the writer’s intentions and how they affect the reader.

How will I learn?

The course is essentially classroom based but you will be given the opportunity to develop your skills and knowledge through other media, such as the use of the internet.

You will also have opportunities to discuss your responses to the subject.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

All pupils have a variety of interests and there is scope within the Language course for you to write and share these interests with others. The course enables you to develop the skills you need to understand and analyse a wide range of different texts and write clearly. This course complements your English Literature GCSE and the skills taught are transferable across both courses. You will undertake a speaking and listening assessment, which will lead to a certificate to show how confident you are in speaking to others. This will help you to prepare for interviews in the future.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

The development of language skills is a fundamental part of the education process for all individuals. Elements studied in this course will have an impact on all of your subjects which in turn opens the door to all sorts of opportunities. English Language GCSE is now an essential requirement for movement into further education and training.



English Literature

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination 100%

What will I learn?

You will study a range of texts including Shakespeare, 19th century novels, Gothic and Dystopian fiction. You will also study poetry, plays and non-fiction texts. These texts give you a broad knowledge of literature through the ages and you will learn to understand, analyse and appreciate the authors and their methods of writing.

How will I learn?

GCSE English Literature offers the opportunity to explore texts from a personal perspective and offers an experience of Literature today as well as the English Literary Heritage. You will have opportunities to work with your class members to discuss your responses to key themes from the literature you have studied.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

All pupils have a variety of interests and there is scope within the Literature course for you to write and share these interests with others. A range of texts are included in the course to cater for all tastes. Some texts will be familiar, while others will inspire you as a reader.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

The development of the skills of critically analysing texts complement the skills you develop when studying for English Language. Elements studied in this course will have an impact on all subjects, which in turn opens the door to all sorts of opportunities.

*“I like English because
it helps me to use
my imagination”*

Mathematics

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn?

GCSE Mathematics is a broad and coherent qualification. Students will be encouraged to develop confidence in Mathematics and to recognise the importance of Mathematics in their own lives.

The content has been organised into broad topic areas:

- *Number*
- *Algebra*
- *Ratio, proportion and rates of change*
- *Geometry and measures*
- *Probability*
- *Statistics*

How will I learn?

You will learn how to use and apply knowledge, skills and understanding in practical tasks, in real-life problems and within mathematics itself. You will learn through demonstration, practice, questioning and discussion.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You need to be able to communicate your understanding to others. You will need to be able to work independently and with others. Come willing to learn and we will do the rest!

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

It is essential that everyone can demonstrate competence in mathematics both for continuing in education or for going into employment.

GCSE assessments are tiered within Mathematics into Foundation and Higher.

Foundation grade allows you to achieve grades 1 – 5.

Higher grade allows you to achieve grades 1 – 9.

There are 3 written papers. Each is worth 33.3% of the final grade. Paper 1 is completed without a calculator, Paper 2 and 3 are calculator papers.

All students will study Science. Students must study GCSE Science (Trilogy) unless they opt for Triple Science.

Science (Trilogy)

Qualification: GCSE Combined Science Trilogy
Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn in KS4?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Biology <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cell biology• Organisation• Infection and response• Bioenergetics• Homeostasis and response• Inheritance, variation and evolution• Ecology | Chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atomic structure and the periodic table• Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter• Quantitative chemistry• Chemical changes• Energy changes• The rate and extent of chemical change• Organic chemistry• Chemical analysis• Chemistry of the atmosphere• Using resources | Physics <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forces• Energy• Waves• Electricity• Magnetism and electromagnetism• Particle model of matter• Atomic structure |
|---|---|---|

There are also 16 key practical experiments that students must study.

How will I be assessed?

Six papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each will assess different topics.
Duration: all the papers are 1 hour 15 minutes.
Tiers: Foundation and Higher.
Weighting: the papers are equally weighted. Each is worth 16.7% of the grade and has 70 marks.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Demonstrate a good level of interest and ability in Science.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

A/S & A2 courses including Sciences. Science GCSE is also required for some jobs as a ‘core’ subject (e.g. teaching) even if it is not studied to a further level.

Combined Science draws much of its content from the single science qualifications. You’ll explore exciting topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and sit six exams – gaining the equivalent of two GCSEs. It’s excellent preparation if you want to study science after Key Stage 4.

Some students may prefer to study separate GCSEs in Science. Choosing ‘triple’ science counts as one GCSE option.

Science (Triple Award) – Biology

Qualification: GCSE Biology
Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn in KS4?

- Biology**
- Cell biology
 - Organisation
 - Infection and response
 - Bioenergetics
 - Homeostasis and response
 - Inheritance, variation and evolution
 - Ecology

There are also 8 key practical experiments that students must study.

How will I be assessed?

Two papers: each paper will assess knowledge and understanding from different topics.
Duration: both papers are 1 hour 45 minutes.
Tier: Foundation and Higher.
Weighting: the papers are equally weighted. Each is worth 50% of the grade and has 100 marks available.
Question types: multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Demonstrate a good level of interest and ability in Science.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

A level Biology.

“Biology is wonderful because it is packed with information that gives you a greater insight on how you and the world around you works.”

Science (Triple Award)

– Chemistry

Qualification: GCSE Chemistry

Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn?

- *Atomic structure and the periodic table*
- *Bonding, structure and the properties of matter*
- *Quantitative chemistry*
- *Chemical changes*
- *Energy changes*
- *The rate and extent of chemical change*
- *Organic chemistry*

There are also 8 key practical experiments that students must study.

How will I be assessed?

Two papers: each paper will assess knowledge and understanding from different topics.

Duration: both papers are 1 hour 45 minutes.

Tier: Foundation and Higher.

Weighting: the papers are equally weighted. Each is worth 50% of the grade and has 100 marks available.


Question types: multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Demonstrate a good level of interest and ability in Science.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

A level Chemistry.



“Chemistry is a beautiful and interesting field which gives you real answers to how parts of the world work.”

Science (Triple Award) – Physics

Qualification: GCSE Physics

Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn in KS4?

1. Forces 2. Energy 3. Waves 4. Electricity 5. Magnetism and electromagnetism
6. Particle model of matter 7. Atomic structure 8. Space physics

There are also 8 key practical experiments that students must study over the 3 years which are assessed in their final exams.

How will I be assessed?

Two papers: each paper will assess knowledge and understanding from different topics.

Duration: both papers are 1 hour 45 minutes.

Tier: Foundation and Higher.

Weighting: the papers are equally weighted. Each is worth 50% of the grade and has 100 marks available.

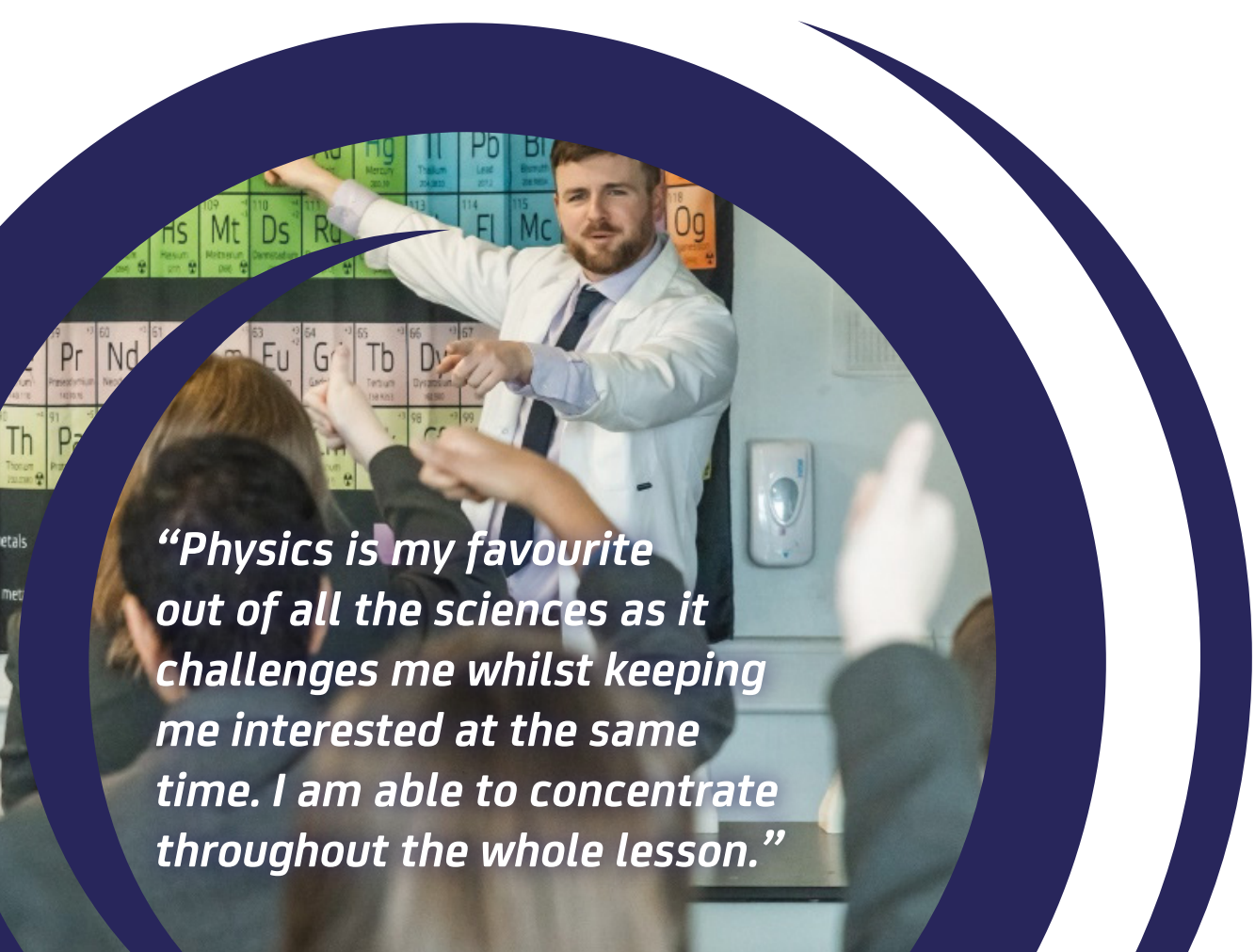
Question types: multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Demonstrate a good level of interest and ability in Science.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

A level Physics



“Physics is my favourite out of all the sciences as it challenges me whilst keeping me interested at the same time. I am able to concentrate throughout the whole lesson.”

All students study History or Geography, or, you can choose to do both!

Geography

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn?

Paper 1 Living with the physical environment:

- *The challenge of natural hazards*
- Topics include: natural hazards, tectonic hazards, weather hazards & climate change.
- *The living world*
- Topics include: Ecosystems, tropical rainforests and hot deserts.
- *Physical landscapes in the UK*
- Topics include: UK physical landscapes, coastal landscapes in the UK and glacial landscapes in the UK.

Paper 2 Challenges in the human environment:

- *Urban issues and challenges.*
- *The changing economic world.*
- *The challenge of resource management*
- Resource management focusing on Global Water Management.

Paper 3 Geographical applications

- *Issue evaluation.*
- *Fieldwork.*
- *Geographical skills.*

How will I learn?


In GCSE Geography you will learn through mix of theory, practical investigations and field trips. You will have the chance to get hands on with Geography alongside classroom learning. Learning will be focused on the development of case study knowledge alongside practical and statistical skill.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

- *Graphical and cartographical skills.*
- *Technological skills, including ICT and GIS.*
- *Problem solving skills.*

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

GCSE Geography is useful not only for future A-Level studies but the geographical applications unit studied can help with apprenticeships and work due to the skills element of the course, for example map skills, fieldwork and data analysis. GCSE Geography can also lead to a range of careers such as Environmental Scientist, Town Planner, outdoor activities, tour guide and many more.



“Geography allows you to gain a greater understanding of the world around you. It will open your eyes to new opportunities and challenges. Topics are always exciting, engaging and fun!”

History

Qualification: GCSE
Assessment: Examination – 100%

- What will I learn?**
- Paper 1 Thematic study and historic environment: Crime and Punishment:**
- *A thematic study (Crime and Punishment).*
 - *Case study of Whitechapel.*

- Paper 2 Period Study and British Depth Study**
- *Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88.*
 - *The American West; 1835-1895.*

- Paper 3 Modern depth study**
- *Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39.*

How will I learn?

We believe in the importance of learning from history. That’s why we have chosen a specification that enables students to study different aspects of the past, so they can engage with key issues such as conflict, understand what drives change and how this can influence the present. You will learn how to use and apply knowledge, skills and understanding in a variety of settings. You will learn through demonstration, practice, questioning and discussion. You will learn to make important connections and comparisons between different aspects of the events and themes studied. You will also learn to describe, analyse and evaluate the important causes and consequences of historical events and situations. You will be challenged to assess the significance of individuals, events, developments and ideas in the history studied and assessed on the use of your source analysis skills.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You need to be able to communicate your understanding to others. Key historical skills you will learn are change and continuity, cause and consequence, significance and being able to analyse evidence. You will need to be able to work independently and with others. Come with enthusiasm and willing to learn, we will do the rest.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

GCSE History is an excellent foundation for going onto study A levels in History and links well with subjects such as Sociology, Politics and Law. Historians are well respected in the job market. They pursue a very wide range of careers including lawyers, detectives and journalists, politicians from the Government front bench to the civil service, broadcasters and publishers. They work in marketing, advertising and public relations, and inevitably, historians make excellent managers, securing successful careers in businesses of all kinds from finance to retail.



If you are on an EBacc pathway you must also study a Modern Foreign Language.

GCSE Spanish

Qualification: GCSE
Assessment: Examination – 100%

- What will I learn?**
- You will expand your understanding and knowledge in the following contexts:
- *School.*
 - *Future Aspirations, Study & Work.*
 - *International & Global Dimension.*
 - *Grammar & structures common to the language.*

Within these themes you will consolidate you language skills and use them to speak and write about a variety of issues that are related to your experiences and interests.

- How will I Learn?**
- *By LISTENING and responding to spoken Spanish.*
 - *By SPEAKING in Spanish.*
 - *By READING and understanding authentic texts (stories, letters, articles etc).*
 - *By WRITING in the target language to communicate your ideas and opinions.*
 - *By LEARNING new vocabulary.*

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

- *An interest in the world around you.*
- *A willingness to try.*
- *Resilience to learn from mistakes.*

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

- *AS/A level.*
- *University degree (can be combined with other subjects).*
- *Many employers reward people with language skills with extra salary because they know they are useful in today’s international business world.*



Art, Design and Craft

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination – 40% / Coursework - 60%

What will I Learn?

An ability to express yourself in a variety of art materials. Skills, such as observational drawings. An understanding of the work of artists, architects, designers and craft persons. Students may be able to specialise in the 'Fine Arts' which could include Painting and Drawing, Print making, Digital Imaging, Photography and Sculpture.

How will I be taught?

Using your technical, research and creative skills you are required to develop your own work by being able to:

- Record observations, experiences and ideas in forms that are appropriate to intentions.
- Analyse and evaluate images, objects and artefacts showing understanding of context.
- Explore ideas using media, processes and resources, reviewing, modifying and refining work as it progresses.
- Present a personal response, realising intentions and making informed connections with the work of others.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Students should be able to use good technical art skills in a range of art materials. You must be imaginative; you will need to develop personal ideas and an independent approach to work. You should have strong visual awareness relating to your surroundings.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

Further studies of art, graphics, or even subjects such as fashion.



Business and Enterprise

Qualification: BTEC

Assessment: 60% external assessment 40% internal assessment

What will I learn?

Understanding of how businesses operate. The units studied below outline the core content of each section of the course:

Component 1 - Exploring Enterprises.

Learners will examine different enterprises to develop their knowledge and understanding of the characteristics and skills needed by entrepreneurs. Assessment for this unit is completed internally.

Component 2 - Planning for and running a business.

Learners will select an enterprise idea to plan for. They will work in small groups to run a micro-enterprise activity. Assessment for this unit is completed internally.

Component 3 - Promotion and finance for enterprise.

Learners will explore the different promotional methods used by enterprises and the factors that influence how they identify and target a market. Learners will explore key financial concepts needed to run a business. Assessment for this unit is a 2 hour external examination.

How will I learn?

You will receive a series of practical and theory lessons.

What skills do I need?

You should be able to use a computer with confidently.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

This course could lead to a successful career in various industries. It could also be a route to study A level/ Level 3 Business.

Computing

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment:

Unit 1 - Computer Systems - Written Paper 50% of the qualification

Unit 2 - Computational thinking, algorithms & programming - Written Paper 50% of the qualification

Why study GCSE computing?

This GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work, how they are used, and to develop computer programming skills.

What will I learn?

The computer systems unit will teach you the theory about a wide range of issues such as hardware and software, databases, computer communications, networking and ethical issues. The programming units will introduce you to algorithms, programming techniques and how data is represented in a computer. You will learn how to write computer programmes using code.

How will I learn?

This two unit course is designed to give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. You will learn through a combination of theory and practical tasks, including writing code.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You must enjoy solving problems. There will be an expectation that you are willing to undertake tasks independently. You will need to be able to think logically.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

If you take a GCSE in Computing you can go on to study the subject at A Level. The increasing importance of Computing means there is a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field.

“I enjoy the puzzle of coding”



Creative Media Production

Qualification: Level 1 or 2 Tech Award in Creative Media Production

Assessment: Examination – 40% Coursework – 60%

What will I learn during the course?

Learners will explore the processes behind creating media products such as TV programmes, newspapers, radio broadcasts, magazines, books, e-magazines, comics, websites, mobile apps and video games. They will look at conventions which attract and engage an audience. They will go on to explore how the industry has evolved and also consider ethical ways of working.

How will I learn?

You will receive practical lessons as well as theory based lessons. You will review existing materials and create your own products. You will complete 2 internally assessed controlled assessments and 1 externally set exam.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

This qualification will be right for you if:

- You enjoy watching TV and movies, listening to music and reading magazines.
- You are good at literacy and have strong ICT skills.
- You want to be able to create imaginative and professional looking media products to engage an audience.
- You are looking to gain IT skills in preparation for entering the workplace.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

Further study of similar courses at Level 2 or 3. Use of the ICT skills required in the workplace.

“It helps you to look at the media we are surrounded by in different ways”

Dance

Qualification: BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts Dance

Assessment: Examination - 75% Controlled assessment - 25%

What will I learn?

- *Develop physical, technical and expressive skills through which students are able to communicate choreographic intention and develop their individual qualities as performers.*
- *Develop skills, knowledge and understanding of choreography through which students are able to communicate ideas, thoughts and meaning drawn from a range of dance styles.*
- *Develop a critical appreciation of dance in its physical, artistic, aesthetic and cultural contexts.*

How will I learn?

You will learn through the following 3 components:

Component 1 - Exploring the performing arts.

In this unit you will get a taste of what it's like to be a professional dancer. You will explore performance styles, techniques and approaches. You will learn the different roles, responsibilities and skills involved in being a dancer. You will perform 3 different styles of dance in a final performance.

Assessment - Video recording of performance and a coursework booklet.

Component 2 - Developing skills and techniques.

You will develop skills and techniques in dance gaining physical, interpretative, and rehearsal skills during workshops and classes. You will apply technical, stylistic and interpretative skills in performances and reflect on your progress and how you could improve.

Assessment - Video recording of performance and a coursework booklet.

Component 3 - Performing to a brief.

In this unit you will consider how practitioners adapt their skills for different contexts, and put this into practice in a performance. You will use the skills you have learnt to come up with ideas for a performance, and build on your skills in workshops and classes. You will perform your dance to a live audience and then evaluate your performance.

Assessment - Video recording of performance for external moderation with Exam Board.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

The course provides a solid foundation for further studies in Dance or Performing Arts.

Drama

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: 70% written assessment and 30% practical assessment

What will I learn?

Students will learn how to perform. However, they will also learn to understand the roles, responsibilities and skills needed within the performing arts industry. Students will consider different performance disciplines. Students will have the opportunity to plan, design and create a play. This includes developing the stage setting, lighting, sound and costumes.

How will I learn?

There is a balance between written and practical work. Students do need to be committed to this subject and may need to spend time after school rehearsing. Students will learn by performing and studying the performances of others. Students will be expected to work with one another throughout this course.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Creativity, teamwork, an ability to reflect and an interest in performing.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

A GCSE in drama can be beneficial for absolutely any career path, due to the transferable skills you acquire. Ultimately, drama can give you the confidence and strong interpersonal skills.

“Drama has brought me out of my shell and made my confidence grow.”

Design and Technology

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination – 50% / Controlled Assessment - 50%

What will I learn?

- *How to design real solutions to design problems in a range of different materials and media.*
- *How to understand and appreciate the design and manufacture of existing products.*
- *How to communicate realistic design proposals using different media and techniques.*
- *How to combine your design and making skills with knowledge and understanding.*
- *The opportunity to apply skills, knowledge and understanding from other subjects such as Art, ICT, Humanities, Maths and Science.*
- *How to develop your graphical capability through activities which involve a range of themes, materials and processes.*
- *Opportunities to develop practical abilities and the confidence to design, make and modify products and systems for different purposes and selecting and using materials effectively.*
- *How to develop ICT design skills to use CAD/CAM during designing and making.*

How will I learn?

You will learn how to design solutions to real life design problems in an industrial context by developing skills that are required to design and make, through task based projects using a combination of materials as well as theoretical components.

Essential Information on the course: (Current Assessment)

- **Unit 1: Written Paper -2 hours - 50% of the total marks.**
- **Unit 2: Controlled Assessment - A design and make portfolio based around solving a real world design problem - 50% of the total marks.**

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

To succeed you will be expected to:

- *Have an interest in finding out how things are designed and manufactured.*
- *Enjoy designing products, modelling prototypes and manufacturing in materials.*
- *Enjoy using CAD/ CAM or ICT based software programmes used to develop products.*
- *Have an interest in designers and their influence on society.*
- *Solving real world design problems.*
- *Investigating how designers and manufacturers operate on an industrial scale.*

This course offers you the opportunity to develop all of these skills as well as evaluating products currently available to the consumer.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

- *To continue in further education such as A Level and Degree level Product Design.*
- *Take an apprenticeship or career in; Advertising, Architecture, Automotive Design, Graphic Design and Illustration, Engineering, Fashion Designer, Furniture and related products, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Product Design, Research and Software Engineer.*

Construction and Designing the Built Environment

Qualification: Level 1/2 Technical award (equivalent to one GCSE)

Assessment: Examination – 25% / NEA - 75%

What will I learn?

The construction industry employs about 10% of the UK workforce and creates the buildings in which we work, live, study and enjoy our leisure time. It also creates the roads, railways, airports and seaports we use to help us travel to those buildings. If someone wants to add an extension to their home, add new office buildings on their land or turn a field into a sports centre, they need to:

- *make sure they meet planning requirements.*
- *use materials and structures that deliver a safe and efficient building.*
- *provide access by road, rail or water.*
- *ensure it can be built within budget.*

Increasingly, society wants construction to be:

- *Sustainable through using materials that are sourced sustainably and sustainable energy sources.*
- *design conscious; providing buildings that are pleasant to look at and use.*

These needs and wants are met through the design of the construction project. You will learn the skills and knowledge required to deliver these needs.

How will I learn?

A Level 1/2 Award in Designing the Built Environment is designed to mainly support learners in schools and colleges who want to learn about the construction industry from the design, construction and planning perspective. It provides learners with a broad introduction to the design sector of the construction industry and the types of career opportunities available. It is mainly suitable as a foundation for further study. This further study could provide learners with the awareness of the work of different types of job roles in the sector such as architects, construction managers, design engineers, surveyors and planning officers. As a result, they may wish to start an apprenticeship or continue with their studies into higher education in order to pursue those job roles.

Essential Information on the course: (Current Assessment)

The qualification is taught through the following units:

- *Planning potential of construction projects (25% Examination).*
- *Drawing construction plans (50% Non-Examination content).*
- *Building structures and materials (25% Non-Examination content).*

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

This structure has been designed to allow learners to develop the understanding and skills related to a range of functional roles in the construction design sector. The units provide an overview of roles such as planning officers, design engineers and architect technicians and how these roles work together to produce construction designs that are fit for purpose.



You will need the following skills required for independent learning and development:

- *A range of generic and transferable skills.*
- *The ability to solve problems.*
- *The skills of project-based research, development and presentation.*
- *The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals in a professional environment.*

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

The successful completion of this qualification, together with other equivalent qualifications, such as maths and sciences, could provide the learner with opportunities to access a range of qualifications including GCE, apprenticeships, vocationally related and occupational qualifications.

These include:

- *GCEs in Physics or Environmental Studies;*
- *Diplomas in Sustainable Construction and Built Environment Design.*
- *Apprenticeships in the various Design, Surveying and Civil Engineering careers of construction.*

Hair and Beauty

Qualification: Level 1/2 in Hair and Beauty
Assessment: Practical, Portfolio and an examination

What I will learn?

In this qualification, students will use hairdressing, beauty therapy and related industries (i.e. retail, leisure, fashion, marketing and media businesses) to develop the skills and attributes needed within the beauty industry.

Themes studied within this qualification include:

- *Understanding the hair and beauty sector.*
- *Hair and beauty research project.*
- *Business enterprise in hair and beauty.*
- *Marketing and promotions in hair and beauty.*
- *Hair and beauty science.*

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You should have a genuine interest in hairdressing and styling.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

Entry to employment or further studies.

Health and Social Care

Qualification: BTEC Level 1/2 tech award
Assessment: Examination – 40% / Controlled Assessment - 60%

What will I learn?

This course gives you the opportunity to study how people grow and develop over the course of their lives, from infancy to old age, and the factors that may affect this, such as major life changing events like marriage or parenthood. You will learn how people adapt to these changes as well as the types of support available to help them. You will also learn about the different health and social care services, and about ‘care values’ and their importance in making sure that the people who use these services get the care they need. You will be able to demonstrate these care values practically. You will develop skills in interpreting data about someone’s state of health in order to design a plan that will allow them to improve their health and wellbeing. This new qualification is the same size and level as a GCSE, and is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about health and social care. This course will give you the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and techniques, and to review your own performance in demonstrating ‘care values’.

How will I learn?

You will carry out tasks during the course. Your teacher will mark these, which will give you an idea of how you are getting on. Towards the end of the course, you will do one larger task, where you use the knowledge, skills and techniques you have learned to design a health improvement plan.

Essential Information on the course: (Current Assessment)

Unit 1 & 2: Controlled Assessment - 60% of the total marks.

Unit 1: Written Paper - 2 hours - 40% of the total marks.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

After you have finished this course, you may want to go on to further study, such as A levels, BTECs or a mixture of both. Alternatively, you might want to find work in the health and social care sector as a trainee or apprentice. Which option is best for you will depend on the grades you achieve both in this qualification and in other qualifications you have taken, what you enjoy doing and any advice you can access about the further learning and training opportunities available in your area.



Hospitality and Catering

Qualification: Level 1/2

Assessment: please see essential information below

What will I Learn?

- How chefs produce food for functions.
- How to cater for different customer needs.
- How to make healthy balanced meals.
- How to cost and shop for ingredients.
- How to produce restaurant quality food.
- You will learn about the catering environment, and the role of individual staff.
- You will also be taught health and safety and food hygiene.

Essential information on the course.

Unit 1 - Catering skills related to food preparation & service. This consists of 1 externally set practical with supporting theory work WJEC tasks - 48 hours in total 50%

Unit 2 - Catering, hygiene, safety and legislation. This is a written examination 90 minutes that contains short answers, structured and free response questions on the catering and hospitality content. 50%.

How will I learn?

You will learn by researching, planning and carrying out practical tasks. You will practice high level cooking skills and understanding the theory behind the cooking methods.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

To succeed you will be expected to:

- Enjoy a challenge, and be prepared to work on your own initiative.
- Show flair for high volume, fast paced catering.
- Planning and organisational skills.
- Provide your own ingredients for many different practical tasks.
- Work independently and sensibly. Be prepared to show initiative.
- Enjoy the subject, and be creative.
- Have a keen interest in food and service.



What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

- Continue in full time education e.g. Catering / Hospitality Diploma.
- Train as a chef/ apprenticeship course.
- Work in the catering or hospitality industry.
- Excellent practical skills.

Music

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: External Examination and Coursework including Performances and Compositions

Assessment: Examination - 75% Controlled assessment - 25%

What will I learn during the two-year course?

This course provides students the opportunity to gain self-confidence and team-working skills through performing, composing and appraising music.

The course covers 4 Areas of Study:

- **Area of Study 1 Musical Forms and Devices**
Music from the Baroque, Classical or Romantic eras.
- **Area of Study 2 Music for Ensemble**
A performance of a piece of ensemble music in either the chamber music tradition, or musical theatre tradition or the jazz and blues tradition.
- **Area of Study 3 Film Music**
A performance of a piece of music used in a film or composed specifically for a film.
- **Area of Study 4 Popular Music**
A performance of any genre of popular music.

The course will extend students' creative skills through composing and performing music and encourages the understanding of the importance of continuous evaluation and refinement in any process.

It also provides a solid foundation for progression to music related courses, including A-level Music, and a career in music professions.

How will I learn?

You will receive lessons on your chosen instrument. You will be taught the skills needed to perform as a soloist and an ensemble musician and you will produce a minimum of two musical recordings. You will be taught the skills needed to compose your own music and you will produce two compositions, one in Year 10 and one in Year 11. You will listen critically to a range of music from different times and places.

30% Performing / 30% Composing / 40% Listening Exam

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You must enjoy making music; performing on an instrument; composing music; listening to a wide range of musical styles and have an interest in the technical/production side of music.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

Music is a highly regarded subject for college/university entrance and plays a significant part in all aspects of the Performing Arts, Television, Radio, Theatre, Film and Music Technology.



“I really love my Music lessons, especially the practical side of it where I can work, and perform as part of a group”

GCSE Photography

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination - 40% / Coursework - 60%

What will I Learn?

A portfolio of work is to be produced during the two year course; this demonstrates your ability to express yourself using a variety of photographic and digital media materials. Assignments are given as starting points but it is expected that an individual approach will be developed with homework and studio shoots. An understanding of the work of artists, architects, designers and craft persons is developed through personal study.

In Year 11 you are given an external assignment that will be 40% of your final grade.

Students may be able to specialise in the 'Fine Arts' which could include Photography, Print making and Digital Media.

How will I learn?

Using your technical, research and creative skills you are required to develop your own work by being able to:

- *Record observations, experiences and ideas in forms that are appropriate to intentions.*
- *Analyse and evaluate images, objects and artefacts showing understanding of context.*
- *Develop and explore ideas using media, processes and resources, reviewing, modifying and refining work as it progresses.*
- *Present a personal response, realising intentions and making informed connections with the work of others.*

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

Students should be able to use good technical skills in a range of materials.

They will be expected to develop personal ideas and an independent approach to their work.

Additionally you will show good visual awareness relating to your studies and surroundings and use tools and equipment in a controlled and safe manner.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

A GCSE qualification in Photography can open up a variety of opportunities in industry including fashion, retail, social media and marketing. It can also lead to Post 16 courses, A Level and degree courses in Photography.



GCSE Physical Education

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: 2 written exams in yr11, 1 practical moderation and fitness testing moderation

What will I Learn?

The qualification is made up of 4 units, these are;

***Component 1 - Fitness and Body Systems**

In this unit you will:

- A) Topic 1: Applied anatomy and.
- B) Topic 2: Movement analysis.
- C) Topic 3: Physical training.
- D) Topic 4: Use of data.

Assessment - a 1 hour 45min yr 11 final exam 36% of the overall course.
There is no resit allowed.

***Component 2 - Health and Performance**

In this unit you will:

- A) Topic 1: Health, fitness and well-being.
- B) Topic 2: Sport psychology.
- C) Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences.
- D) Topic 4: Use of data.

Assessment - a 1 hour 45min yr 11 final exam 24% of the overall course. There is no resit allowed.

Component 3 - Practical Performance

In this unit you will:

- A) One team activity, one individual activity and a free choice from the list published by the Exam Board.
- B) Perform Skills in isolation.
- C) Perform Skills in a competitive/ formal situation.
- D) Review a skills with Questions from the Exam Board for analysis of performance.

Assessment - Internally marked and externally moderated by examiner practical performances worth 30% of final grade.

Component 4 - Personal Exercise Programme (PEP)

In this unit you will:

- A) Aim and planning analysis.
- B) Carrying out and monitoring the PEP.
- C) Evaluation of the PEP.

Assessment - Internally marked and externally moderated by examiner practical performances worth 10% of final grade.

**Both Component 1 and Component 2 make up 60% of the entire course through a final Yr 11 written exams.*



How will I Learn?

Teaching will be predominately classroom based, with a lesser focus on the practical due to the weighting of the elements on the overall grade. However there is also a practical element which allows you to study the skills and requirements for performance in one individual and one team sport. There is very little course work for the PEP, which also has a practical element with it, as you will carry out your planned fitness session.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You will need to arrive to each lesson with the correct kit and equipment (pens etc.) You should be a motivated person who has a keen interest in sport. Attendance at extra-curricular clubs is an advantage.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

This course can be a starting point to a career in the sporting and leisure industry as well as a prerequisite to further education sporting opportunities. It has a high Biological and Anatomy/physiology aspect to it which can be linked directly to A levels.

Religious Studies

Qualification: GCSE

Assessment: Examination – 100%

What will I learn?

Paper 1 - The study of religions: Beliefs, teachings and practices

- Christianity.
- Islam.

Written paper 1hr 45 min - 96 marks (48 marks for Christianity and 48 marks for Islam, plus 5 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)) - 50% of GCSE.

Each question has a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.

Paper 2 - Thematic studies

- Religion and Life.
- Religion, peace and conflict.
- Religion, crime and punishment.
- Religion and family life.

Written paper 1hr 45 min - 96 marks (24 marks for each theme, plus 5 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)) - 50% of GCSE.

Each question has a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.

How will I learn?

- You will learn the skill of analysis to develop your own personal critical thinking skills.
- You will learn the ability to work with abstract ideas and develop your research skills.
- You will learn through questioning and discussion of your own and other beliefs; exploring the reasons why people hold the beliefs that they do and how this impacts their lives.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

- Religious studies challenges your questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling you to develop your attitudes to religious issues.
- Religious Studies allows you to appreciate how religion, philosophy and ethics is the basis of our culture.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

GCSE Religious Studies is an excellent foundation for going onto study A levels in Religious Studies, Sociology and links well with subjects such as History and Politics. Religious Studies can open doors for possible careers such as teaching, the police, counselling, nursing, social work and many more.

“I enjoy studying RE at GCSE because I get to discuss and debate many topics. RE is a very opinionated subject where we learn about controversial topics from crime and punishment to euthanasia.”



Sport Studies

Qualification: Cambridge National Level 2 in Sport Studies

Assessment: External exam and written coursework

Assessment: Examination -75% Controlled assessment 25%

What will I Learn? The qualification is made up of 3 units, these are;

Unit R051 - Contemporary Issues in Sport

In this unit you will cover:

L01 The issues which affect participation in sport.

L02 The role of sport in promoting values.

L03 The importance of hosting major sporting events.

Assessment - Externally marked exam out of 60 marks (40% of overall grade).

R052 – Developing Sports Skills

In this unit you will cover:

L01 Know the personal qualities, styles, roles and responsibilities associated with effective sports leadership.

L02: Be able to plan a sports activity session.

L03: Be able to deliver a sports activity session.

L04: Be able to evaluate own performance in delivering a sports activity session.

Assessment - Video recording of performance in two sports and as an official alongside a coursework booklet.

R056 – Developing Knowledge and Skills in Outdoor Activities & Sports Leadership

In this unit you will:

L01.1 Know about different types of outdoor activities and their provision.

L01.2 Understand the value of participating in outdoor activities.

L01.3 Be able to plan an outdoor activity.

L02.1 Know the personal qualities, styles, roles and responsibilities associated with effective sports leadership.

L02.2 Be able to plan sports activity sessions.

L02.3 Be able to deliver sports activity session.

L02.4 Be able to evaluate own performance in delivering a sports activity session.

Assessment - Video recording of performance in outdoor activities & sports leadership sessions in conjunction with a coursework booklet.

How will I Learn?

Teaching will be both practical as well as classroom based. You will be expected to work independently at times as well as working in groups. Assessment will be a combination of presentation work, modular tests and ongoing practical assessment. A part of your assessment will involve your understanding and application of rules and regulations, including the ability to umpire or referee.

What abilities, aptitudes, skills and interests will I need?

You will need to arrive to each lesson with the correct kit and equipment (pens etc.) You should be a motivated person who has a keen interest in sport. Attendance at extra-curricular clubs is an advantage.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

This course can be a starting point to a career in the sporting and leisure industry as well as a prerequisite to further education sporting opportunities.



The following areas of our curriculum do not lead to a qualification but are important:

PE

You will follow the national curriculum for Physical Education. This is an important area of the curriculum that teaches us how to stay active and healthy.

PSHCE

You will continue to study Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education lessons. This area of the curriculum is bespoke to Washington Academy. It covers a broad topic area that our students need to be successful in our next steps. This includes careers education and guidance, where you will learn more about your future options.





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WASHINGTON ACADEMY
SPOUT LANE
WASHINGTON
NE37 2AA

washingtonenquiries@consilium-at.com
0191 580 4956



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Consilium Academies