



NEWSOME ACADEMY

Y9 OPTIONS PROCESS



“May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears”



Newsome Academy



As a school we have to meet the challenges of preparing students for jobs that may not yet exist, using technologies that may not yet have been invented, solving problems that we may not even recognise! It is reported that 85% of jobs that will exist 2030 haven't been invented yet. It is therefore increasingly important that we provide our students with the right education to meet that ever-changing challenge.

Year 9 students are about to enter a very important phase in their education. The time is fast approaching when options have to be made which will shape their programme of study in years 10 and 11. Our Key Stage 4 structure has been designed to enable our students to follow a broad and balanced curriculum. All students must follow a GCSE course in English, Maths and Science. Students will also study in the following areas: Core Physical Education, PSHCE, RHSE, RE and careers.

To achieve the English Baccalaureate, students need to achieve grades 4 – 9 in English, Maths, Science, a Modern Foreign Language and either History or Geography. As such, we continue to ensure that the majority of students follow this pathway as qualifications obtained in these subjects can be regarded as high tariff qualifications which support strong applications for top college and university applications and are also valued by employers. Ideally, students need a breadth and balance of subjects in order to ensure as many doors as possible remain open to them in the future.

We also offer alternatives to the EBacc programme for those who have no or little prior experience of language learning or who might find a full programme of GCSEs inappropriate. An alternative curriculum has been established which involves: core subjects, a smaller number of GCSE qualifications, vocational courses and/or a series of short, accredited courses in school. Where we feel an individualised programme would be helpful, we will liaise directly with parents/carers. Similarly, some students may benefit from more personalised timetables involving fewer option choices. These will be discussed with individual students, as appropriate, during the options process.

There remains within our programme the opportunity for choices to be made which reflect the interests and aspirations of the individual student. These choices are made clear on the pages that follow in addition to the presentations and talks which have taken place for students and parents along with the Options taster sessions.

We will endeavour to ensure that all students get their first or second choices, occasionally this may not always be possible. Therefore, we will ask students for their reserve choice of course as an alternative.

As students begin their Key Stage 4 courses, they will notice a considerable change in the pace and nature of their work. The increased demands of courses will become evident from early days in year 10 and it is important for students to adopt effective independent work practices from the beginning of September to meet these demands. Early in the Autumn term, there will be another opportunity for parents/carers and students to find out more about the demands of work in Key Stage 4 and how to support your child through this.

For the moment though, our main priority is to ensure that all our students are effectively guided and supported through the option process of shaping their future in year 10 and 11 and onwards.

Mrs Leanne Morgan

Deputy Headteacher - Achievement

The Options Process

01	CORE Not Optional	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English Language GCSE• English Literature GCSE• Maths GCSE• Science Trilogy (2 x GCSEs)
02	EBacc Options Choose 1 MFL & 1 Humanity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 x Language - French or German• 1 x Humanity - History or Geography
03	Creative & Technical Options Choose 2 subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art- including multimedia, textiles etc./Photography• IT/Business/Religious Studies• Health and Fitness/Hospitality• Music/Performing Arts

- Read through the subject descriptions
- Get in touch with your teachers if you need any further assistance
- Make sure you also select a second and third choice (we will do our best to give you your first or second choice).
- Your options form will be posted in Teams next week. Your team leader will let you know.
- Once you receive the survey link select your choices by the **5th February 2024**.

Art and Design (Art, craft and design)

Qualification: GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, art and design is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects. Art and design is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

If you choose this course it is an excellent general introduction to the study of art, craft and design. You'll look at different approaches to art and use lots of different media, techniques and materials. You are required to study two or more of the titles below:

- Fine art
- Graphic Communication
- Textile Design
- Three-dimensional design
- Photography

How will you be assessed?

There are two components:

- Component 1 Portfolio: produce a sustained project and a selection of further work that represents the course of study. This is worth 60 % of your overall marks.
- Component 2 Externally set assignment: there's a separate externally set task paper for each title. It features seven tasks and you have to complete one of them. You get preparation time, plus ten hours of supervised time. This is worth 40 % of your total marks.

Where will GCSE Art and Design take you?

You can continue your art and design studies at AS and A-level, where the same titles are available. You'll also be able to choose areas of study to specialise in within a particular title. If you don't want to take your art and design studies any further, the transferable skills you gain will still be valuable. You'll develop problem solving, creative thinking, investigation, research, communication and teamwork skills, and gain the ability to develop, refine and present ideas. Employers and universities regard all of these highly.

Can't wait to get started?

Speak to a subject specialist: Mrs Medcalf Head of Design Technology & Art

Photography

Qualification: GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Photography is a great choice. Photography is defined here as the practice of producing images using light-sensitive materials such as photographic film, or digital methods of development and production to create static or moving images. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects. Photography is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

If you choose this course, it is an excellent general introduction to the study of Photography. You'll look at different approaches to art and use lots of different media, techniques and materials. You are required to study in one or more of the titles below:

• portraiture • location photography • studio photography • experimental imagery • installation • documentary photography • photo-journalism • moving image: film, video and animation • fashion photography. You may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas.

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- **Component 2 Externally set assignment:** there's a separate externally set task paper for each title. It features seven tasks and you have to complete one of them. You get preparation time, plus ten hours of supervised time. This is worth 40 % of your total marks.

Where will GCSE Photography take you?

You can continue your Photography studies at AS and A-level, where the same title is available. You'll also be able to choose areas of study to specialise in within a particular title. If you don't want to take your Photography studies any further, the transferable skills you gain will still be valuable. You'll develop problem solving, creative thinking, investigation, research, communication and teamwork skills, and gain the ability to develop, refine and present ideas. Employers and universities regard all of these highly.

Can't wait to get started?

Contact Mrs Medcalf Head of Design Technology & Art



Newsome Academy

Food & Cookery Technical Award

Qualification: Level 1/2

Exam Board: NCFE

According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth-largest industry and accounts for around 10% of the total workforce. The ability to plan, prepare and present food is an essential skill within the hospitality and catering industry and also an essential life skill.

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Food and Cookery is designed for learners who want an introduction to food and cookery that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the food industry or progress onto further study. The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Food and Cookery complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14 to 16 year olds studying key stage 4 (KS4) curriculum who are interested in the food and hospitality sector.

How will you be assessed?

Level 1/2 in Food and Cookery has 2 assessment externally set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment (coursework) and one written exam. During the course, we will cover the following content areas through a range of practical and theoretical activities.

Content area 1: Health and safety relating to food, nutrition and the cooking environment

Content area 2: Food legislation and food provenance

Content area 3: Food groups, key nutrients and a balanced diet

Content area 4: Factors affecting food choice

Content area 5: Food preparation, cooking skills and techniques

Content area 6: Recipe amendment, development and evaluation

Content area 7: Menu and action planning for completed dishes

Important information – due to the nature and required skills of the course, students will be cooking most weeks and there will be an expectation for them to organise and bring in appropriate ingredients. Students will always be given at least 1 week to organise their ingredients before the practical lesson.

Can't wait to get started?

Your teacher and careers advisor will be able to help and support you as you choose the subjects that are right for you to study at GCSE.

Speak to a subject specialist: Miss Cole

Geography

Qualification: GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

This exciting course is based on a balanced framework of physical and human geography. It allows students to investigate the link between the two themes, and approach and examine the battles between the man-made and natural worlds

If you choose this course it is an excellent general introduction to the study of Geography and your understanding of the world around us. Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs).

Living with the physical environment: Discover more about the challenge of natural hazards and the living world, physical landscapes of the United Kingdom and human interaction with them. This unit develops an understanding of the tectonic, geomorphological, biological and meteorological processes and features in different environments. It provides you with the knowledge about the need for management strategies governed by sustainability and consideration of the direct and indirect effects of human interaction with the Earth and the atmosphere.

Challenges in the human environment: This unit is concerned with human processes, systems and outcomes and how these change both spatially and temporally. You will develop an understanding of the factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments; the dynamic nature of these environments that change over time and place; the need for sustainable management; and the areas of current and future challenge and opportunity for these environments.

How will you be assessed?

There are 3 exams at the end of the course:

- Living with the physical environment: A 1.5 hour exam. This is worth 35% of your overall marks.
- Challenges in the Human Environment: A 1.5 hour exam. This is worth 35% of your overall marks.
- Geographical Applications: A 1.25 hour exam based on 2 field work visits and issue evaluation. This is worth 30% of your overall marks

Where will GCSE Geography take you?

Studying geography gives you the opportunity to travel the world via the classroom, learning about both the physical and human environment. You'll understand how geography impacts your life every day and discover the key opportunities and challenges facing the world. You'll also examine the Earth's natural resources and the increasing battles between the man-made and natural world. This knowledge, paired with your essential curiosity, will give you the sought-after transferable skills for success in further education and the workplace.

Can't wait to get started?

Speak to a subject specialist: Mr Carr/ Miss Dunkerley

History

Qualification: GCSE

Exam board: EDEXCEL

History is a vital subject for helping understand the world around us and learning more about ourselves. We are surrounded by our past. Studying History provides us with the knowledge to help us answer questions such as: 'Where do I come from? 'Why am I who I am?' and 'Why do things happen as they do?'

Alongside this knowledge History helps develop important skills such as the development of argument, interpreting the thoughts and feelings of others, and reaching judgements using evidence. A qualification in History provides you with a wide range of skills that can be carried on into further education in many subjects, as well as well respected abilities in the wider world.

To do well in History you will need to:

- demonstrate excellent literacy skills
- be able to write essays and pieces of extended writing
- read and understand different sources of information
- be able to work and research independently

How will you be assessed?

There are three separate exams in GCSE History.
These will all be taken at the end of Year 11:

- Medicine and Health in Britain 1250-present day. This also includes a topic on the weapons and wounds in the First World War.
- Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939.
- Anglo-Saxon and Norman England 1066-1088 and Superpower Relations and the Cold War 1941-1991

Where will GCSE History take you?

History is a traditional and Academic subject and therefore is highly valued by Universities and Professional Occupations. It can open up an almost endless list of opportunities for you in your career, given that a lot of the skills you learn and use within this subject are adaptable (e.g. Debating, decision making, judgement, teamwork, written skills and literacy comprehension.)

Some of the careers this could lead to include (but are not limited to): Lawyer, Civil Servant, Archaeologist, Teacher, Editor, Journalist, Public Relations Officer, Diplomat, Screenwriter, Development Officer, Publisher.

Can't wait to get started?

Speak to a subject specialist: Mr Jones



Newsome Academy

Music

Qualification: BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice

Exam Board: PEARSON

This qualification is the same size and level as a GCSE. It is ideal for you if you would like to learn about the different types of music practice – from composition and performance, to songwriting – and the various musical styles and techniques that are required to create them. You will also develop important practical skills that are vital in the modern music industry, from rehearsing to experimenting with technology, equipment and instruments. The qualification is also for you if you would like to understand more about the music industry. This qualification will offer you the opportunity to build the skills and knowledge needed to progress to further learning, and will also give you an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of music practice.

If you really enjoy music but are not sure whether you have the correct skills, please chat to Miss Cole. This course works with your strengths and therefore

How will you be assessed?

There are three components that you will study over the three years

- Exploring Music Products and Styles - Internal Assessment
- Music Skills Development - Internal Assessment
- Responding to a Commercial Music Brief - External Assessment

Where will BTEC Music take you?

Music BTEC is an excellent introduction to a range of music courses and careers. You could go onto study music at A Level or BTEC (Greenhead College have recently introduced the BTEC Level 3 in Music which can run alongside other A Levels). You could also specialise in Music Technology and Sound Production courses, of which there are many in and around Huddersfield.

Music will give you a range of transferable skills such as communication, self-management, teamwork, application of IT, application of numeracy/literacy as well as performing under pressure, planning, reflection, memory & concentration and physical dexterity.

Can't wait to get started?

Speak to a subject specialist: Mrs Cole



EDUQAS Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance)

Examination Board: WJEC / EDUQAS

What is Eduqas Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance, Musical Theatre)

Designed specifically for schools, Eduqas Tech Award in Performing Arts is an excellent opportunity to study the different aspects of performing arts, The different roles involved in productions, Different styles of dance and techniques, Choreography and performance skills in your own and professional works. This qualification assesses students through assignments and tasks (including performance) rather than traditional exams. This course focuses specifically on the Dance and musical theatre aspect of Performing Arts.

If you really enjoy dance and the Performing Arts but are not sure whether you have the correct skills, please chat to Ms Hinchcliffe.

How will I be assessed?

The course is made up of three components: two that are internally assessed and one that's externally assessed.

Unit 1: Performing - Existing repertoire Musical Theatre - Internally assessed

Unit 2: Creating – Create and refine your own original work - Internally assessed

Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practise – Areas in the industry – Externally assessed

This course is a combination of practical and theoretical work. You will be expected to participate fully in all practical lessons and apply yourself to all coursework assignments that you are given. You must wear the correct dance kit at all times. You will need to be organised and committed to meet all deadlines set. You do not need to be the best dancer or have any dance training but you must be prepared to give your best at all times.

Where will Performing Arts Level 2 qualification take you?

Performing Arts Eduqas level 2 is an excellent introduction to a range of Performing Arts courses and careers. You could go onto study Performing Arts at A Level or Level 3 vocational courses. We have an excellent transition programme with New College who run a level 3 course and we work with them directly at different times throughout the course. Greenhead and other Colleges around Huddersfield offer many relevant courses as next steps.

Performing Arts will give you a range of transferable skills which are valued by Colleges and employers such as communication, self-management, teamwork, application of IT, application of numeracy/literacy as well as performing under pressure, planning, reflection, and Confidence.

Can't wait to get started?

Speak to a subject specialist: Mrs Mitchell



Physical Education – NCFE Health and Fitness

Qualification: NCFE Level 2

Exam Board: NCFE

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on the knowledge and understanding of skills in health, fitness, activity and sport.

Learners will develop: knowledge of the body systems, common sports injuries and technological advances that impact on sport and activity alongside key skills that support their theoretical understanding of the training, nutrition and psychological factors that influence and impact on engagement in sport and activity. Students will also develop an understanding of the underpinning principles of leadership and the physical and psychological benefits for session participants.

Learners will investigate methods of planning, delivering and reviewing sessions for a range of target groups. The qualification builds on and uses the knowledge and skills learned in GCSEs. It has a broad focus on building knowledge and skills, including exploring the impact of technology and psychology on sport and activity. It will complement some aspects of the theoretical approach offered by GCSE Biology and GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition, by allowing learners to apply their knowledge and skills, for example by learning how nutritional habits can impact sport and activity.

How will you be assessed?

Component 1 - Understand the Body and the Supporting Technology for Sport and Activity. This section is internally assessed through assignments.

Component 2 - The Principles of Training, Nutrition and Psychology for Sport and Activity. This section is a written exam lasting 1 hour 30 min.

Component 3 -Applying the Principles of Sport and Activity. This section is internally assessed.

Where will BTEC Sport take you?

This qualification can lead to a wide choice of further education opportunities from A Levels to vocational qualifications at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Sport. Further study at degree or apprenticeships can lead to careers in the field of sport such as coaching, teaching and training or a wide range of jobs in the growing health and fitness industry. It can also compliment other qualifications in similar subjects such as Biology, Physiotherapy and Nutrition. The skills developed in this subject also make learners highly employable, having demonstrated a high level of leadership, teamwork, strategic thinking and communication skills.

Can't wait to get started?

Contact a subject specialist to find out more: Mr Earnshaw/Miss Payne



Newsome Academy

Religious Studies

Qualification: GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

This engaging subject offers the chance to learn about how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture and develop valuable skills that will help prepare students for life after school, in employment or further study in a range of other subjects.

Pupils will study philosophical and ethical studies, covering topics relating to two world religions: Christianity and Islam. Pupils will learn about 4 ethical studies; these include a wide and varied range of subject matter and pupils will explore religious and non – religious responses. Some of the topics that we will study will include exploring the nature of God, the problem of evil and suffering, the importance of religious texts in religion as well as studying religious practices such as important celebrations and pilgrimage.

The GCSE units of work will cover the following components:

- Religion and Life
- Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Religion, Crime and Punishment
- Religion and Relationships
- Christian beliefs, teachings and practices
- Islamic beliefs, teachings and practices

Skills you will learn studying RE:

- Problem solving
- Patience
- Communication
- Attention to detail
- Analytics and critical thinking
- Discipline
- Literacy
- Interpersonal skills
- Abstract ideas, leadership and research skills
- Questioning

How will you be assessed?

Students will complete their GCSE exams in summer 2022; completing two written exams, each worth 50% of their final grade.

Where will GCSE RE take me?

RE compliments many other subjects which can lead to a diverse range of careers. Typical employers of people with an RE qualification include; National and local government, charities, caring professions, legal firms, the NHS, PR, advertising, sales and marketing companies and media companies.

Can't wait to get started?

Contact a subject specialist to find out more: Miss Brocklehurst



Newsome Academy

Business and Enterprise

Qualification: **NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Business and Enterprise**

Exam Board: VCerts

This qualification is designed for learners who want an introduction to business and enterprise that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the business and enterprise sector or progress to further study in Business and Enterprise. It is distinct from GCSE Business Studies, as it encourages the learner to use knowledge and practical enterprise tools to prepare them for business. They will develop significant personal and vocational business skills that can be transferred to further study or employment.

The study of business and enterprise involves understanding key business and enterprise areas such as, legal structures, marketing, market research, operations management, resource planning, human resources, funding, finance and business and enterprise planning. The qualification focuses on an applied study of the business and enterprise sector and pupils will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

VCerts are an alternative qualification to the GCSE qualifications and offer equivalent levels of rigour and challenge of GCSE's. The course is suitable for students who are interested in any aspect of the Business and Enterprise. Students will develop skills and knowledge:

- entrepreneurial characteristics and business aims and objectives
- legal structures, organisational structures and stakeholder engagement
- the marketing mix, market research, market types and orientation types
- operations management
- internal and external influences on business
- research, resource planning and growth for business
- human resource requirements for a business start-up
- sources of enterprise funding and business finance
- business and enterprise planning

How will you be assessed?

Students will complete a total of two units of work. You will be assessed in Unit 1 through an external examination based on the learning outcomes of unit 1, 40% comprising of multiple choice, short answer questions and extended detailed questions. Unit 2 is a synoptic project based on the assessment of the learning outcomes of the unit 60%.

Where will Business and Enterprise take you?

This course compliments many different subjects and can lead to varied career opportunities. Business and Enterprise can lead to careers like: Accountancy, Stock broker, Events planner, Visual Merchandising, Human Resource manager, retail manager, store manager, Logistics expert, Procurement specialist, App designer, Recruitment consultant, Website designer, Marketing consultant, Risk Manager

Can't wait to get started?

Contact a subject specialist to find out more: Miss Dunkerley



Newsome Academy

BTEC Digital Information Technology

Qualification: **BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology**

Exam Board: Pearson

BTEC Digital Information Technology is a challenging and exciting course where learners will develop a wide range of future-proof digital skills. This ranges from User Interface (UI) design & development to Cybersecurity. This qualification will give you a good idea of the type of skills, knowledge and behaviours required to succeed in the modern digital sector and workplace of the future. Having both technical skills and a business understanding is the key to success and this qualification will help to prepare you for this.

The course is suitable for learners who are interested in any aspect of the digital sector or would like to develop a range of useful and transferable future-proof digital skills for use in any other sector.

Students will develop skills and knowledge:

- User interface (UI) design and development
- Use project-planning tools, models and techniques within a digital context
- Using data to analyse trends, patterns and make recommendations
- How to mitigate different types of cyber security threats and the importance of legal and ethical considerations when using modern technologies
- Develop an understanding of what a virtual work environment is and how cloud technologies allow remote teams to work together more effectively

How will you be assessed?

Students will complete a total of three components of work. Component 1 and Component 2 are internally assessed coursework units worth 60% of the qualification, and Component 3 is focused on preparing learners for an externally assessed written exam worth 40% of the qualification.

Where will BTEC Digital Information Technology take you?

This qualification offers fantastic further education and career prospects.

Learners may wish to progress to further study with a BTEC National in IT or Computing at Level 3. They could also progress to a Computer Science A Level or choose to specialise in a specific digital vocation focused on Data Management, Digital Applications or Networks & Cyber Security.

Many employment sectors employ professionals with highly developed digital skills. This includes employment sectors such as: marketing and advertising agencies, broadcasters, charities, government information providers and games publishers. The digital sector overlaps with many other sectors, but careers are generally based in one of the areas listed below:

Game Designer, Animator, Project Manager, Web Editor, Creative Director, Web Developer, Data Analyst, Business Analyst, Test Analyst, Database Administrator and Software Developer

Can't wait to get started?

Contact a subject specialist to find out more: Mr Ahmed



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