



Dame Elizabeth  
**CADBURY**

# 'Options 2021'





# Welcome to your Options Booklet!

In this booklet, you will find the information you need to help you to begin to make the exciting decisions about the GCSE and BTEC Awards you will study from Year 10 onwards.

The booklet contains information about:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Science
- GCSE History
- GCSE Geography
- BTEC Sport
- GCSE French
- GCSE Spanish
- BTEC Creative Media
- BTEC Sport
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- GCSE Design & Technology (either Resistant Materials or Textiles route)
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Drama
- BTEC Performing Arts (Dance)
- GCSE Physical Education
- GCSE Psychology,
- BTEC Health & Social Care
- GCSE Statistics
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Art and Design
- BTEC Music Technology

Although you'll find this Options Booklet jam-packed with information about the courses we offer, and the potential university courses and careers they could lead to, nothing beats talking to your teachers! Please spend time talking to your teachers about the courses, finding out all the information you need to.

**Mr M Dunn**  
**Head Teacher**

**Mr Ali**  
**Deputy Head Teacher**  
Curriculum and Behaviour



**Name of course: GCSE English Language**

**Examination board: AQA**

**Faculty Leaders: Mrs R Atton and Mr T Hutton**

**Faculty Leaders' email: r.atton@decschool.co.uk t.hutton@decschool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed:**

**100% examination**

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

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

**Section B: Writing**

- descriptive or narrative writing

**Assessed**

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

**Paper 2: Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives**

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

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

**Section B: Writing**

- writing to present a viewpoint

**Assessed**

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

**Spoken language**

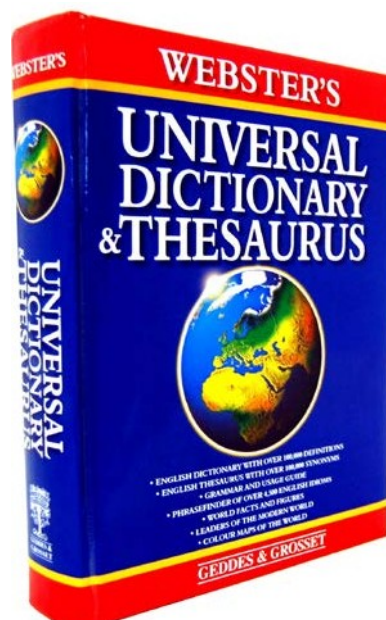
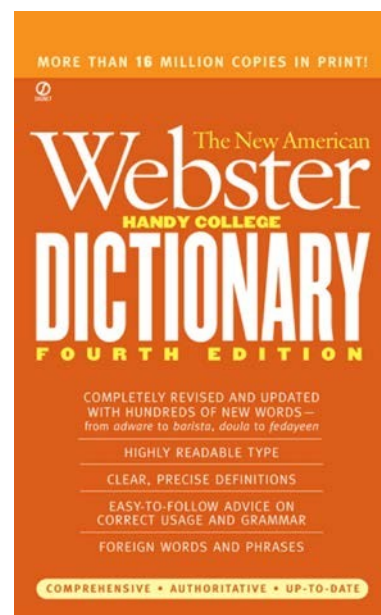
**Outline of course:**

The English Language specification is designed to inspire and motivate students to explore different elements of language. The two examinations are centred around challenging non-fiction and fictional texts. Students will be working to develop their interpretational and analytical skills over the course of the GCSE by reading a range of texts that have shaped and inspired generations of authors. The reading element will act as a springboard for students to develop their own writing and voice, with numerous opportunities for students to write a plethora of different texts from blogs to broadsheet articles.

Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:

Where to start? ..... **every** job will require some elements of English, but here are some for English lovers

- Digital copywriter
- Editorial assistant
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Lexicographer
- Magazine journalist
- Newspaper journalist
- Publishing copy-editor/proof reader
- Writer
- Academic librarian
- Advertising account executive
- Advertising copywriter
- Arts administrator
- Primary school teacher
- Records manager
- Secondary school teacher
- Social media manager
- Blogger



Name of course: GCSE English Literature

Examination board: AQA

Faculty Leaders: Mrs R Atton and Mr T Hutton

Faculty Leaders' email: r.atton@decschool.co.uk t.hutton@decschool.co.uk

How the course is assessed:

100% examination

Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Prose

What's assessed

- Shakespeare plays, Macbeth
- The 19th-century novel, Jekyll and Hyde

How it's assessed

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



Paper 2 Modern Text and Poetry

What's assessed

- Modern prose or drama texts; An Inspector Calls
- The poetry anthology; Power and Conflict Poetry
- Unseen poetry

How it's assessed

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

Outline of course:

English Literature is a challenging course that is focused on students' ability to personally engage and critically evaluate texts. The beauty in this qualification is that students are able to engage with such a wide range of texts: Shakespearian tragic heroes; devilish Victorian villains; timeless plays and poetry from different places and time. This is one of the only courses that allows students to form their own opinions and rewards students for their personal responses. We can guarantee that it will introduce you to characters and stories that will stay with you long after you've left school.

Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:

- Writer
- Academic librarian
- Secondary teacher
- Lecturer
- Book critic Film critic
- Director/screen writer
- Theatre manager
- Screenwriter
- Historian
- Publisher
- Marketing



**Name of course:** GCSE Mathematics  
**Examination board:** Edexcel  
**Faculty Leader:** Miss E Raine  
**Faculty Leader email:** e.raine@decschool.co.uk



**How the course is assessed:**  
100% exam, two tiers: higher/foundation, 3 papers  
**Paper 1:** non calculator 1hr 30 mins  
**Paper 2:** calculator 1hr 30 mins  
**Paper 3:** calculator 1hr 30 mins

**Outline of course:**

Within GCSE Mathematics, topics are taught in progressively greater depth over the course of Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, GCSE outcomes may reflect or build upon subject content which is typically taught at Key Stage 3.

GCSE Mathematics provides a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It's also one of the best subjects to develop your analytical, research and problem-solving skills. Not only will studying maths help give you the knowledge to tackle scientific, mechanical, coding and abstract problems, it will also help you develop logic to tackle everyday issues like planning projects, managing budgets and even debating effectively.

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

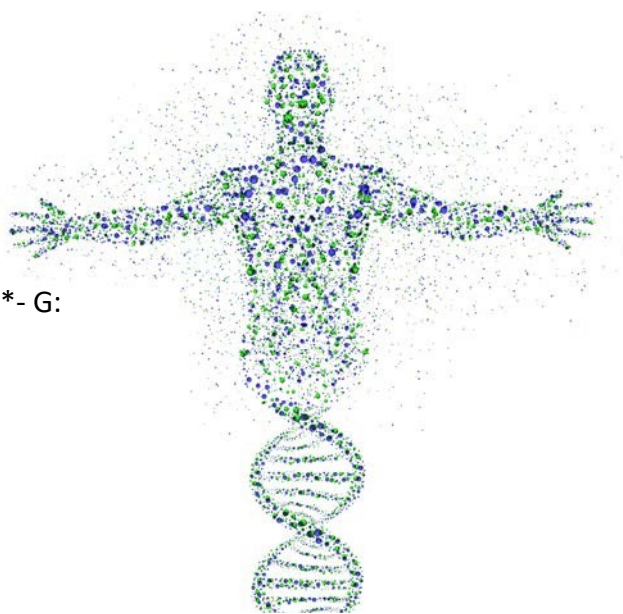
GCSE Mathematics leads really well onto the following qualifications:  
GCE AS or A Level Mathematics and GCE AS or A Level Further Mathematics  
Level 3 qualifications, such as GCE in Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Economics, Geography, Psychology and Sociology  
Vocational qualifications such as a BTEC in Business

**Studying these subjects can lead to careers in the following:**

- Economics
- Business Analysis
- Accountancy
- Sciences (biology, chemistry and physics)
- Psychology
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Teaching/lecturing
- Medicine/doctor
- Operational research



**Name of course:** GCSE Combined Science  
**Examination board:** Edexcel  
**Faculty Leader:** Mr B Feenan  
**Faculty Leader email:** b.feenan@decschool.co.uk



**How the course is assessed:**

- There will be a new **9–1** grading system, replacing A\* - G:
- **Foundation tier** will cover grades 1 -5
- **Higher tier** will cover grades 4 - 9.

**Six examinations** [sat at the end of Year 11]

which count for 100% of the students' grade:

2 x Biology Papers [1 hour and 10 minutes *each*]

2 x Chemistry Papers [1 hour and 10 minutes *each*]

2 x Physics Papers [1 hour and 10 minutes *each*]

**Outline of course:**

**Biology Paper 1:** Key concepts in biology; Cells and control; Genetics; Natural selection and genetic modification; Health, disease and the development of medicines

**Biology Paper 2:** Plant structures and their functions; Animal coordination, control and homeostasis; Exchange and transport in Animals and Ecosystems and material cycles

**Chemistry Paper 1:** Key concepts in chemistry; States of matter and mixtures; Chemical changes and Extracting metals and equilibria

**Chemistry Paper 2:** Groups in the periodic table; Rates of reaction and energy changes and Fuels and Earth science

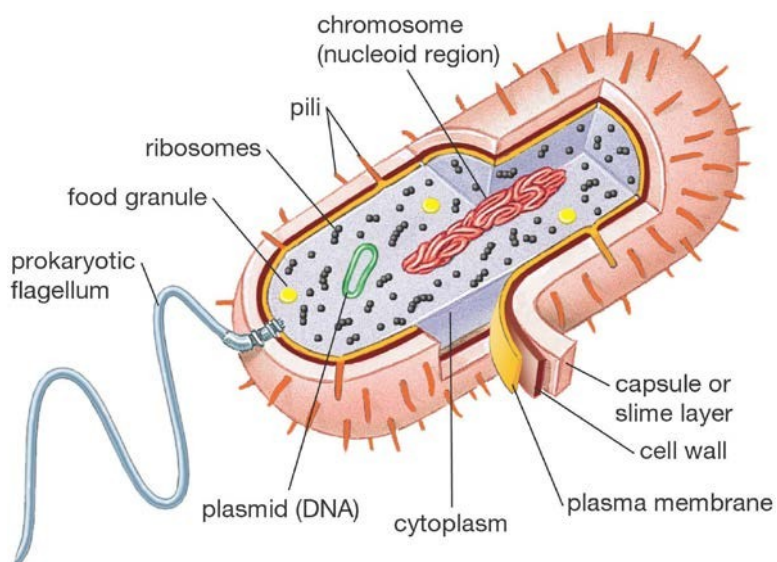
**Physics Paper 1:** Key concepts of physics; Motion and forces; Conservation of Energy; Waves; Light and the electromagnetic spectrum and Radioactivity

**Physics Paper 2:** Energy - Forces doing work; Forces and their effects; Electricity and circuits; Magnetism and the motor effect; Electromagnetic induction; Particle model and Forces and matter

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

Science opens up a world of exciting career opportunities including:

- Engineering
- Astronomer
- Doctor
- Midwife
- Nursing
- Aviation
- Marine biologist
- Vet
- Forensic Scientist
- Pharmacist
- Psychologist



**Name of course: Triple Science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics**

**Examination board: Edexcel**

**Faculty Leader: Mr B Feenan**

**Faculty Leader email: b.feenan@decschool.co.uk**



### **How the course is assessed:**

For each GCSE...

- There will be a new **9–1** grading system, replacing A\*–G:
- **Foundation tier** will cover grades 1–5
- **Higher tier** will cover grades 4–9.

**Six Examinations** [sat at the end of Year 11] which count for 100% of the student's grade:

2 x Biology Papers [1 hour and 45 minutes *each*]

2 x Chemistry Papers [1 hour and 45 minutes *each*]

2 x Physics Papers [1 hour and 45 minutes *each*]

### **Outline of course:**

#### **GCSE Biology:**

**Biology Paper 1:** Key concepts in biology; Cells and control; Genetics; Natural selection and genetic modification; Health, disease and the development of medicines

**Biology Paper 2:** Plant structures and their functions; Animal coordination, control and homeostasis; Exchange and transport in Animals and Ecosystems and material cycles

#### **GCSE Chemistry:**

**Chemistry Paper 1:** Key concepts in chemistry, States of matter and mixtures; Chemical changes and Extracting metals and equilibria

**Chemistry Paper 2:** Groups in the periodic table; Rates of reaction and energy changes and Fuels and Earth science

#### **GCSE Physics:**

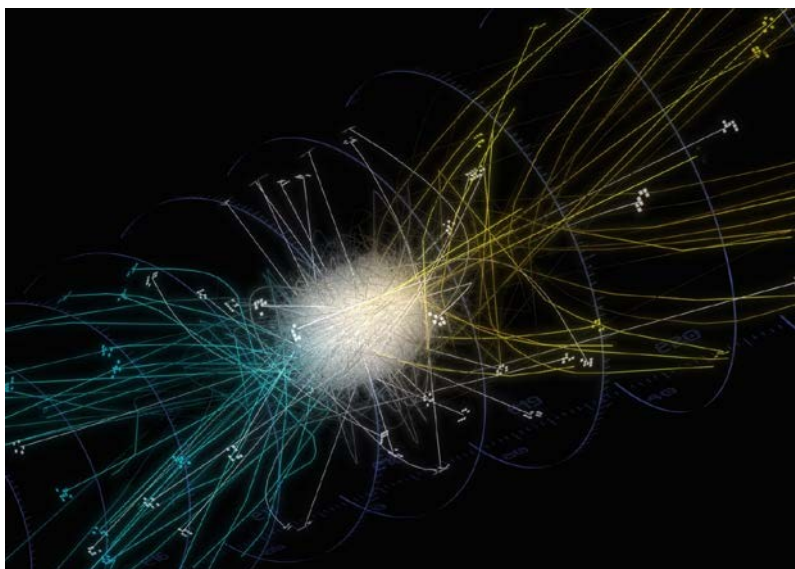
**Physics Paper 1:** Key concepts of physics; Motion and forces; Conservation of Energy; Waves; Light and the electromagnetic spectrum and Radioactivity

**Physics Paper 2:** Energy - Forces doing work; Forces and their effects; Electricity and circuits; Magnetism and the motor effect; Electromagnetic induction; Particle model and Forces and matter

### **Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

Science opens up a world of exciting career opportunities including

- Engineering
- Astronomer
- Doctor
- Midwife
- Nursing
- Aviation
- Marine biologist
- Vet
- Forensic scientist





**Name of course: GCSE Geography**  
**Examination board: AQA**  
**Faculty Leader: Mrs N Delaney**  
**Faculty Leader email: n.delaney@decshool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed: 100% Exam**

**Paper 1 Living with the physical environment: 1 hour 30 minutes**  
88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology (SPaG))  
35% of GCSE

**Paper 2 Challenges in the Human environment: 1 hour 30 minutes**  
88 marks (including 3 marks for SPaG)  
35% of GCSE

**Paper 3 Geographical applications: 1 hour 15 minutes**  
76 marks (including 6 marks for SPaG)  
30% of GCSE

**Outline of course:**

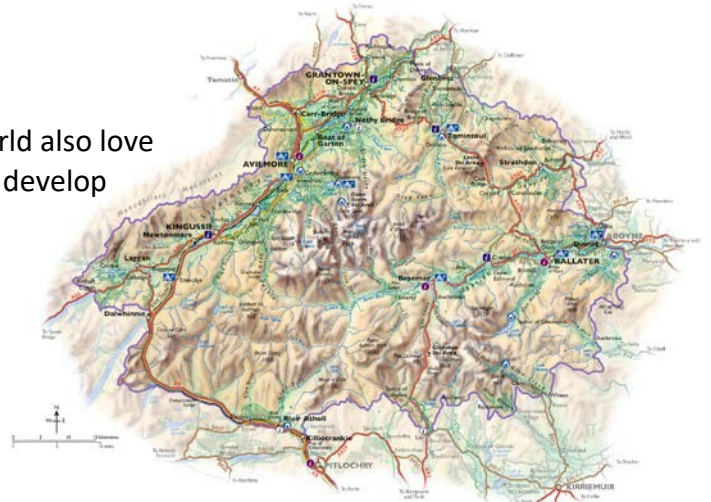
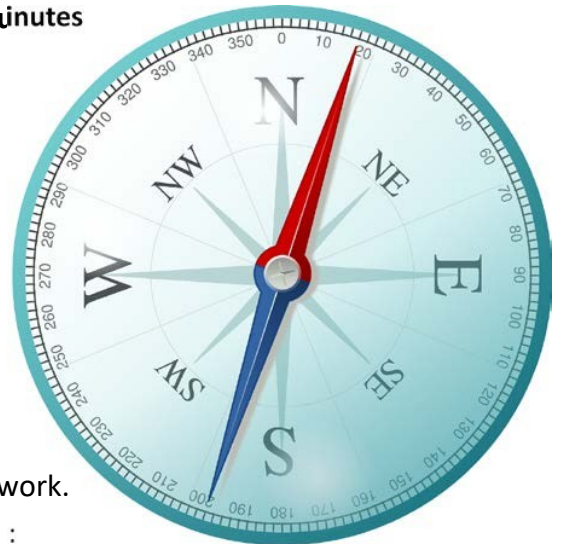
The subject content is split into three units:

- 3.1 Living with the physical environment
- 3.2 Challenges in the human environment
- 3.3 Geographical applications including 2 opportunities for fieldwork.

Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:  
Geography is great for any kind of career that involves the environment, planning, or collecting and interpreting data.

Popular careers for people with geography qualifications include:

- Town or transport planning
- Surveying
- Conservation
- Sustainability
- Waste and water management
- Environmental planning
- Tourism
- Weather forecasting
- Armed forces
- Police
- Government
- Research organisations, law and business world also love the practical research skills that geographers develop
- Secondary teaching
- Social Research



**Name of course: GCSE History**  
**Examination board: AQA**  
**Faculty Leader: Mrs N Delaney**  
**Faculty Leader email: n.delaney@decschool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed: 100% exam**

**Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World: 2-hour exam**

84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar  
50% of GCSE

**Paper 2: Shaping the Nation: 2-hour exam**

84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar  
50% of GCSE

**Outline of course:**

The GCSE History content comprises the following elements

One period study: Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and dictatorship.

One thematic study: Health and the people C 1000 until the Present Day

One wider world depth study: Conflict and Tension 1919 through 1939

One British depth study including the historic environment: Norman England C1066 through 1100



Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:

- Law
- Politics
- Public sector
- Business
- Marketing
- Journalism
- Economics
- Teaching
- Academia
- Insurance
- Social research
- Archaeology and curation:
  - Museums
  - Galleries
  - Archives
  - Libraries



# GCSE French

**EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel



**EXAM BOARD WEBSITE:** [www.edexcel.co.uk](http://www.edexcel.co.uk)

**COURSE CODE:** 1FR0

**CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT/EXAM WEIGHTING:** 100% examination

**FACULTY LEADER :** Mrs V Lopez - [v.lopez@decschool.co.uk](mailto:v.lopez@decschool.co.uk)

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The GCSE French course consists of four units based on the following skills:

- speaking
- listening
- reading
- writing

Key Subject Aims: Pupils will develop their listening and reading comprehension skills as well as the ability to speak and write in the foreign language. They will learn more about the societies and culture of the countries where French is spoken.

## **ASSESSMENT:**

The new GCSE for languages:

- Do not contain any controlled assessments
- It is 100% externally assessed by the exam board
- Assessment will take place at the end of Year 11
- Offers tiered papers and 25% assessment weightings per skill

Assessment tasks include:

- Short translations from and into the target language
- Target language questioning then the listening and reading paper
- Authentic literacy text in the reading papers
- Themes linked to identity and culture, local, national, international and global areas of interest, future study and employment.

## **SUITABILITY:**

The course is suitable for people who wish to have the ability to step inside the mind and context of another culture. Without the ability to communicate and understand a culture on its own terms, true access to that culture is barred. These language courses are intellectually challenging and are a good foundation for both work and leisure - a necessary attribute for citizens in a global economy. Languages are part of the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and complement other subjects such as Geography, History and Business Studies. They are also highly regarded by Universities, and increasingly valued by business.

## **CAREERS/JOBS:**

This course supports any careers which require face to face and written communication with international companies. Those wishing to move into careers in business, industry, languages, education and any career which requires study at University level should consider a GCSE in a foreign language.

# GCSE Spanish

Exam Board: Edexcel



Exam Board Website: [www.edexcel.co.uk](http://www.edexcel.co.uk)

**COURSE CODE: 1SP0**

**CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT/EXAM WEIGHTING: 100% examination**

**FACULTY LEADER : Mrs V Lopez - [v.lopez@decschool.co.uk](mailto:v.lopez@decschool.co.uk)**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The GCSE Spanish course consists of four units based on the following skills:

- speaking
- listening
- reading
- writing

Key Subject Aims: Pupils will develop their listening and reading comprehension skills as well as the ability to speak and write in the foreign language. They will learn more about the societies and culture of the countries where Spanish is spoken.

## **ASSESSMENT:**

The new GCSE for languages:

- Do not contain any controlled assessments
- It is 100% externally assessed by the exam board
- Assessment will take place at the end of Year 11
- Offers tiered papers and 25% assessment weightings per skill

Assessment tasks include:

- Short translations from and into the target language
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## **CAREERS/JOBS:**

This course supports any careers which require face to face and written communication with international companies. Those wishing to move into careers in business, industry, languages, education and any career which requires study at University level should consider a GCSE in a foreign language.

**Name of course: GCSE Art and Design**  
**Examination board: OCR**  
**Subject Leader: Miss Banner**  
**Subject Leader email: s.banner@decschool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed:**

**Unit 1:** Portfolio 60% of overall grade

**Unit 2:** Externally set assignment from OCR 40% of overall grade

All units are assessed on: Developing art skills through the use of material experimentation, focused technique lessons, artist research, designing and making final pieces.

Externally set task. In Year 11, students will study an externally set task set by OCR that challenges their skills and knowledge. Students will research, develop, design and make and finally undertake a 10-hour exam in the art room. Students will be assessed on the quality of their ideas, research, technique and processes whilst creating their final piece.

**Outline of course:**

**What is the course about?**

GCSE Art and Design is designed to build on the skills you and knowledge you developed at Key Stage 3, and take them to a new level.

As an art student, you will explore different materials and techniques including drawing, painting, printing and sculpting. You will also research, study and investigate the work of many other contemporary and historical artists.

**What skills will I develop?**

GCSE Art allows you to build and develop creative and imaginative skills that can be applied to most professional sectors. You will learn how to experiment, take risks, design and develop technical skills in the field of Art and Design.

You will explore traditional art making processes as well as more contemporary techniques, relevant to today's art world.

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course: Further Education**

Successful completion of GCSE Art can lead you to AS/A2 Art Courses and Level 3 Diplomas, Art Foundation courses at sixth forms, colleges and university.

**Career**

**Opportunities**

Studying Art at GCSE does not mean that you are only suited to become an artist.

Employers will be able to see that you are able to think creatively and make creative solutions to interesting problems.

**Possible jobs and careers**

- include: Fine artist
- Graphic designer
- Gallery curator
- Games designer
- Illustrator
- Photographer
- Theatre set designer
- Movie designer
- Furniture designer
- Clothing designer
- Photography
- 



**Course: BTEC Tech Award Health & Social Care**  
**Exam board: BTEC - Pearson**  
**Subject Leader: Miss N Hawtin**  
**Subject Leader email: n.hawtin@decschool.co.uk**



**How the course is assessed:**

3 Units of work will be covered, two are internally assessed, and one is an examined unit.

**Unit 1:** Human lifespan development- internal

**Unit 2:** Health and Social Care Services and Values- internal

**Unit 3:** Health & Well-being- externally examined unit.

The qualification has three components that focus on the assessment of knowledge, skills and practices. These are all essential to developing a basis for progression and therefore learners need to demonstrate attainment across all components in order to achieve the qualification. The components are strongly interrelated and they are best seen as part of an integrated whole rather than totally distinct study areas.

**Components 1 and 2** are assessed through internal assessment. This style of assessment promotes deep learning through ensuring the connection between knowledge and practice.

The components focus on:

- knowledge and understanding of human growth and development
- knowledge and understanding of how people deal with major life events
- knowledge and understanding of health and social care services
- practical demonstration of care values
- together with the ability to reflect on own performance.

**Component 3:** Health and Wellbeing requires learners to assess an individual's health and wellbeing and use this assessment to create a health and wellbeing improvement plan.

The design of this external assessment ensures that there is sufficient stretch and challenge,

The external assessment is based on a key task that requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole qualification in an integrated way.

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

- Social work
- Early year's education
- Primary school teacher
- Nursing
- Midwifery



**Name of course: BTEC Performing Arts Dance**  
**Examination board: Edexcel**  
**Faculty Leader: Mr J Smith**  
**Faculty Leader email: j.smith@decschool.co.uk**



**How the course is assessed:**

Video evidence of class work and dance assessments and a written log book of ongoing self-evaluations.

**Outline of course:**

Throughout the course 3 units are studied:

Unit 1 Individual showcase. For this unit you prepare a letter of application and 2 solo dance pieces to be performed at a mock dance audition. This unit allows you to develop not only letter writing skills but also develop your choreography and performance skills. This unit is externally assessed.

Unit 2 Preparation, Performance and Production. This is an exciting unit based around creating a musical theatre piece to be performed to primary school children. You will need to work as a group to explore, develop and shape ideas for the performance. You will take part in preparations for the performance that are appropriate to your role to ensure everything is ready for the opening night. This might include attending rehearsals, production meetings, developing sessions and get-ins and fit-ups.

Unit 4 Dance skills. Throughout this unit you will focus on both jazz and contemporary dance styles. Lessons will be based around developing your technique in both styles, as well as developing: accurate reproduction of choreography, coordination, flexibility and posture accurate interpretation and reproduction of the dance style musicality, awareness of and relationship to other dancers.

You will then perform your dances to an invited audience to showcase your hard work!

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

- Professional dancer
- Dance teacher PE teacher
- Sports/Dance coach
- Fitness instructor
- Sports promotion
- Sports therapist
- Exercise physiologist
- Bio-mechanist
- Sports dietician



**Name of course: BTEC Sport**  
**Examination board: Edexcel**  
**Faculty Leader: Mr J Smith**  
**Faculty Leader email: j.smith@decschool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed:**

The course comprises of 4 units. Unit 1 will be an external exam. Units 2, 5 & 6 are coursework based. Assignments are completed under controlled assessment conditions. Students build knowledge in preparation for the assignments and then have a set period of time to produce the final piece of course work for assessment. Work can only be assessed ONCE.

**Outline of course:**

During the academic year each student will undertake a minimum of six physical activities. Over the 3 year course pupils will complete the following units:

**Unit 1:** Fitness for Sport and Exercise. This looks at the components of fitness, fitness testing, the principles of training and methods of training.

**Unit 2:** Practical Sports Performance. This looks at skills and tactics in sports, performance analysis, and detailed rules and regulations.

**Unit 5:** Training for Personal Fitness. This looks at personal information for fitness training, how to plan and conduct a 6-week fitness program, and a detailed review.

**Unit 6:** Leadership in Sport: This looks at the attributes of effective leaders, planning and leading a sports activity and reviewing a sports activity.

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

- PE teacher Sports
- coach Fitness
- instructor Sports
- therapist
- Exercise physiologist
- Sports dietician
- Sports scientist
- Ground facility operative





**Name of Course: GCSE Business**  
**Examination Board: Edexcel**  
**Faculty Leader: Mr M Hughes**  
**Faculty Leader email: m.hughes@decschool.co.uk**



**How the course is assessed:**

The course consists of two external examinations:

- **Theme 1:** Investigating a small business  
Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
- **Theme 2:** Building a business  
Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes

**Outline of course:**

The specification consists of the following themes:

**Theme 1 Investigating a Small Business**

Theme 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

**Content**

Theme 1 comprises of five topic areas

- Topic 1.1. Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Topic 1.2. Spotting a business opportunity
- Topic 1.3. Putting a business idea into practice
- Topic 1.4. Making a business effective
- Topic 1.5. Understanding external forces

**Theme 2: Building a business**

Theme 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. Theme 2 also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

**Content**

Theme 2 comprises of five topic areas

- Topic 2.1. Growing the business
- Topic 2.2. Making marketing decisions
- Topic 2.3. Making operational decisions
- Topic 2.4. Making financial decisions
- Topic 2.5. Making human resource decisions



**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course**

Further Education

You can take 'A' level courses in Business Studies, Economics and Accounts.

**Career Opportunities**

With a qualification in Business Studies you can access careers in:

- Accountancy
- Marketing
- Human Resources and Law

and it will give you an understanding of how all businesses work.

Name of course: GCSE Computer Science

Examination board: OCR

Subject Leader: Mr O. Hanson

Subject Leader email: o.hanson@decschool.co.uk

How the course is assessed:

External Exam 1 – Computer Systems – 40% of the total GCSE

External Exam 2 – Computational Thinking – 40% of the total GCSE

Controlled Assessment – Programming Project - 20% of the total GCSE

Outline of course:

**Year 9**

- September to December, students to learn examination content to Exam 1 and sit a past paper at the end.
- January – July, students will learn and practice Python programming which will be needed for the Programming Project. During this time student will have revision/refresher lessons on the content they covered (in the Autumn) for Exam 1.

**Year 10**

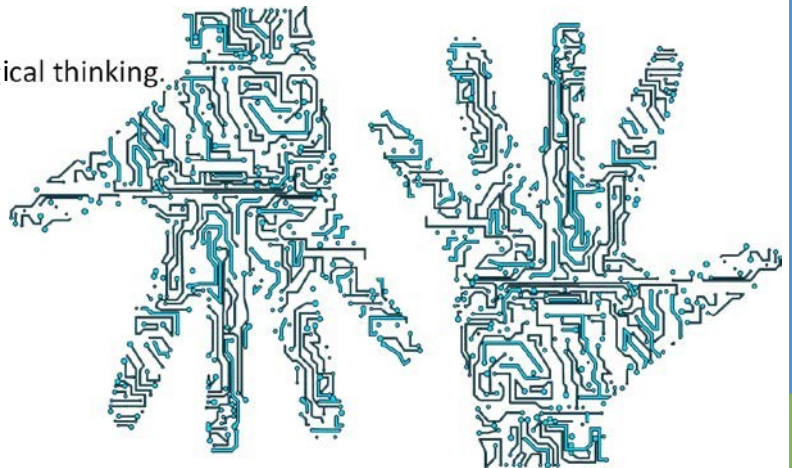
- September to December, students to learn examination content to Exam 2 and sit a past paper at the end.
- January – July, students will revise and practice Python programming which will be needed for the Programming Project, there will be practice (past Controlled Assessments) Controlled Assessments to prepare them for this, which will be sat at the start of Year 11. During this time student will have revision/refresher lessons on the content they covered for Exams 1 & 2.

**Year 11**

- September to November, students will complete the Controlled Assessment (20% of the total GCSE)
- November to May, students to revise examination theory to prepare for sitting the two external exams in May/June.

Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:

- Programming,
- IT Technician
- Gaming
- Anything to do with Computers and logical thinking.



**Name of course: GCSE Drama**

**Examination board: EDUQAS/WJEC**

**Faculty Leaders: Mrs R Atton and Miss S Green**

**Faculty Leaders' email: r.atton@decschool.co.uk s.green@decschool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed:**

### **Component 1: Devising Theatre**

Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated 40% of qualification. Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by EDUQAS.

Learners must produce:

- a realisation of their piece of devised theatre
- a portfolio of supporting evidence
- an evaluation of the final performance or design.

### **Component 2: Performing from a Text**

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner for 20% of qualification. Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the centre. Learners participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.

### **Component 3: Interpreting Theatre**

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

40% of qualification

Section A: Set Text

Section B: Live Theatre Review

### **Outline of course:**

GCSE Drama is a new qualification offered at Dame Elizabeth. The new drama room, and specialist teachers means that this is the course for budding performers. Drama is an exciting, inspiring and practical course. The specification promotes involvement in and enjoyment of drama, as performers and/or designers. Additionally it provides opportunities to attend live theatre performances and to develop skills as informed and thoughtful audience members.

Through following this specification, learners will be given opportunities to participate in and interpret their own and others' drama. Learners have the option to work practically as performers and/or designers in Components

1 and 2. Learners will investigate a practitioner or genre of drama, work collaboratively to develop ideas to communicate meaning and experiment with dramatic conventions, forms and techniques to produce and realise a piece of original theatre. They will also have the opportunity to participate in the performance of an extract from a play text. Learners will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of drama, including their ability to interpret texts for performance, in a written examination.

### **Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

- Actor
- Director
- Theatre Manager
- Production
- Screen writer
- Critic
- Writer
- Educational psychologist
- Drama therapist
- Costume and production design
- Teacher
- Playwright
- Broadcasting
- Charity worker



**Name Of course: GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**Exam board: EDUQAS**  
**Teachers: Mr R Nines and Miss S Williams**  
**Faculty leader emails: w.ali@decschool.co.uk**



How the course is assessed:

Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century

- Written examination: 2 hours
- *50% of qualification*
- A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge

This component draws on knowledge gained since Year 7 and will include:

- Design and technology and our world
- Smart materials
- Electronic systems and programmable components
- Mechanical components and devices
- Materials

Pupils are required to study all of the content in these five areas, to ensure they have a broad knowledge and understanding of design and technology and that they are able to make effective choices in relation to which materials, components and systems to utilise within design and make activities.

Pupils will then develop In-depth knowledge and understanding of one further area. For pupils choosing the Textiles route this material will be Fibres and Fabrics; for those choosing the Resistant Materials route the materials will be wood, metals and plastics.

Component 2: Design and make task

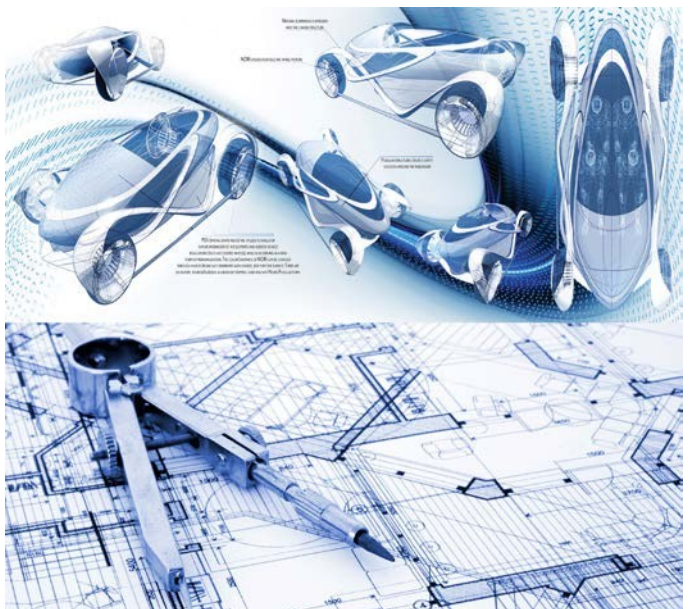
- Non-exam assessment: 35 hours
- *50% of qualification*
- A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge

The NEA task is a design brief set by the exam board at a later date. The task will allow students to display their practical skills to design and make a practical product using fibres and fabrics, or wood, metal and plastics. They will produce a sketchbook of evidence to support their creation alongside a formal portfolio.

Outline of the course: Further develop your designing and making skills using a range of materials and techniques to produce a wide range of products leading to the production of your final product in Year 11.

Potential career pathways:

- Building trades
- Motor vehicle maintenance
- Engineering
- Product design
- Interior design
- Fashion design
- Fashion retail



**Analysis**  
**Software**  
**Systems**  
**Information**  
**Machine**  
**Computational**  
**Theory**  
**Learning**  
**Data**  
**Algorithms**  
**Applications**  
**Models**  
**Networks**  
**Design**  
**Model**  
**Process**

**Name of Course: BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production**  
**Examination Board: Pearson**  
**Faculty Leader: Mr A Whittingham**  
**Faculty Leader Email: a.whittingham@decschool.co.uk**



### Outline of Course:

The creative media sector is a dynamic, growing and rewarding sector to work in, with new opportunities arising continually. The UK's creative industries as a whole are now worth over £84 billion per year to the UK economy. Working in the creative media industry involves a wide range of practical processes, skills and techniques – from broadcast media to increasingly interactive products and platforms. As digital technology continues to evolve, media techniques have become more sophisticated and media products are becoming more advanced. However, what has not changed is that media products still have the power to enthrall, intrigue and affect audiences.

The course will cover a number of aspects, such as analysing film trailers, film posters, websites and Superhero films, understanding the production techniques involved. Following on from learning about these techniques, students will put them into practice to demonstrate they can produce an effecting moving image product, which will take the form of a short horror film. Finally, students will be given a scenario in which they must discuss audiences, consider research and produce a moving image product to meet the needs of the brief.

The course is made up of two coursework components, internally marked, and one external assessment:

**Component 1: Exploring Media Products (30%, Internally Assessed Assignment)**

- Aim: learn about the sector and investigate media products across the following sub-sectors:
  - audio/moving image (TV programmes, films, video shorts, animations, radio broadcasts)
  - publishing (newspapers, magazines, books, e-magazines, comics)
  - interactive (websites, mobile applications, mobile games, video games, online games).

**Component 2: Developing Digital Media Production Skills (30%, Internally Assessed Assignment)**

- Aim: develop technical skills and techniques in the chosen discipline of moving image products (short films)

**Component 3: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief (40%, Externally Assessed)**

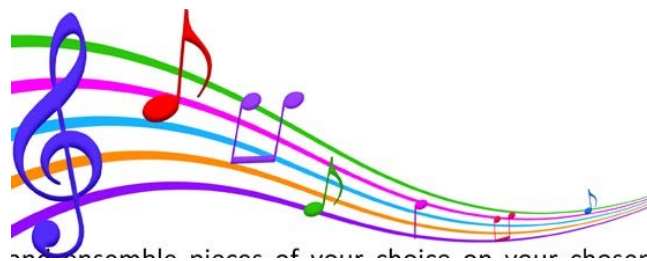
- Aim: apply digital skills and techniques by responding to a digital media brief.

### Potential Career Pathways:

- Any number of potential jobs in the huge media industries market, including:
  - TV/Film Producer
  - Media planner
  - Event organizer
  - Market researcher
  - Broadcast journalist
  - Multimedia specialist
  - Programme researcher
  - Website developer
  - Games designer



**Name of course: GCSE Music**  
**Examination board: OCR**  
**Faculty Leader: Mr C Siddel**  
**Faculty Leader email: c.siddell@decschool.co.uk**



**How the course is assessed:**

**CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT 60%**

**Performance Coursework:** You will perform solo and ensemble pieces of your choice on your chosen instrument or voice.

**Composition Coursework:** You will compose two pieces of music: a piece for your chosen instrument or voice; and a piece set by the examination board.

**EXAMINATION 40%**

**Listening Exam:** A 1 hour and 30-minute exam which tests your knowledge and understanding of the genres of music studied within the four Areas of Study

**Outline of course:**

Music GCSE explores a wide variety of musical genres through listening, performing and composing. As a musician, you should be willing to listen to and appreciate all styles of music, be able to perform confidently in front of others on a chosen musical instrument or voice, and enjoy creating and composing music of your own. It is vital that you feel confident to perform as an instrumentalist or vocalist and that you are prepared to practise your chosen instrument/voice at home as well as in school.

The course is split into three sections:

- **LISTENING:** The listening aspect of the course is divided into four Areas of Study: Rhythms of the World, The Concerto Through Time, Music for Film, Conventions of Pop. Within these areas you will study music in a wide variety of musical styles and genres.
- **PERFORMING:** You will prepare and perform solo and ensemble performance pieces. You can perform on your chosen instrument or as a vocalist (singing, rap or beat boxing)
- **COMPOSING:** You will compose two pieces of music. One for your chosen performance instrument/voice and one set by the examination board

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

There are many options open to you once you have achieved GCSE music. You may wish to continue down the traditional route and study for an 'A' level. Alternatively, you may choose to study a BTEC or Diplomas in areas such as Music Technology or Performing Arts. This study can lead on to university or a music college education.

There are a whole range of careers available in the music industry. These include:

- Performers
- Composer
- Working as a musician in HM Forces
- Music journalism
- Music therapy
- Sound engineering
- And all areas of music production.



**Name of course: GCSE PE**  
**Examination board: Edexcel**  
**Faculty Leader: Mr J Smith**  
**Faculty Leader email: j.smith@decschool.co.uk**

**How the course is assessed:**  
40% practical performance including  
10% coursework  
60% written exam

**Outline of course:**

- You will look at the factors underpinning physical activity and sport performance.
- You will investigate applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis and physical training so that you can use this knowledge to analyse and evaluate performance and devise informed strategies for improving and optimising your own practical performance.
- You will develop your knowledge of the contribution that physical activity and sport make to health, fitness and well-being and how these can impact on their own performance.
- You will be introduced to sports psychology, with a focus on skill development, through relevant practice, guidance and feedback, and then apply this to your own learning in practical situations in order to improve your performance.
- Key socio-cultural influences that can affect people’s involvement in physical activity and sport will also be considered.

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

- PE teacher
- Physiotherapist
- Sports coach
- Fitness instructor
- Sports promotion
- Sports therapist
- Exercise physiologist
- Bio-mechanist
- Sports dietician
- Sports scientist
- Ground facility operative



**Name of course: GCSE Psychology**  
**Examination board: OCR**  
**Subject Leader: Miss N Hawtin**  
**Subject Leader email: n.hawtin@decschool.co.uk**



**How the course is assessed:**

The course is assessed solely through examination with two examinations at the end of Year 11, both weighted at 50%. Each examination lasts 1 hour and 30 minutes, and is a combination of short and medium tariff questions, with an extended essay question.

**Outline of course:**

The GCSE Psychology course covers a range of topics and acts as an exciting introduction to Psychology. Pupils will study topics such as criminal psychology, the psychology of memory, psychological problems such as schizophrenia and clinical depression, neuropsychology, social influence, human cognitive development, sleep and dreaming in addition to research methods (study of the scientific method within psychology). Key pieces of research within these areas will be studied and critiqued in addition to core theories within these fields.

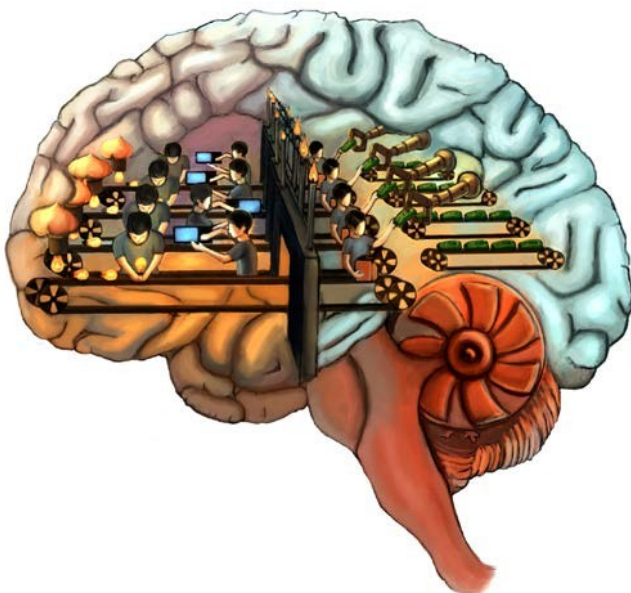
Pupils will develop skills of analysis, evaluation, essay writing and data handling, and will be expected to apply some areas of mathematics to the study of research methods.

Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:

Psychology is a scientific subject in which pupils develop key skills such as analysis, language and data handling that are applicable in almost any chosen pathway; it is a sought after subject because of this. Psychology at GCSE level prepares pupils well for study at A-level, and also for pathways in education, business, advertising & marketing, health care, and social work.

**Some pupils may choose to pursue:**

- A career within psychology working in the field of research
- Education
- Mental health
- Sport psychology
- Forensic (criminal) psychology





**Name of course: GCSE Statistics**  
**Examination board: EdExcel**  
**Faculty Leader: Miss E Raine**  
**Faculty Leader email: e.raine@decschool.co.uk**



**How the course is assessed:**

The course is assessed solely through examination with two examinations at the end of year 11, both weighted at 50%. Each examination last 1 hour and 30 minutes, and is a combination of short, medium and extended response questions.

**Outline of course:**

Every day we are faced with stacks of facts and figures. It is nearly impossible to consider each fact individually, so we use Statistics to deal with complex and large groups of data. Statistics are numbers that describe, or summarise, groups of other numbers. We live in the information age where we understand a great deal about the world around us. Much of this information was determined mathematically by using statistics. When used correctly, Statistics helps us to identify trends in the past and can be useful in predicting what may happen in the future. You should have already used statistics in your lessons already, particularly in mathematics.

For example:

- Collecting data: making a survey or questionnaire about what eye colour, height or favourite food from your classmates. You then may have to group this data into boys versus girls or age
- Calculating averages: working out the mean, mode and median
- Representing data: drawing pie charts, bar charts, line graphs, and frequency polygons
- Probability: working out the chances that you will pick a classmate who likes the same food as you.

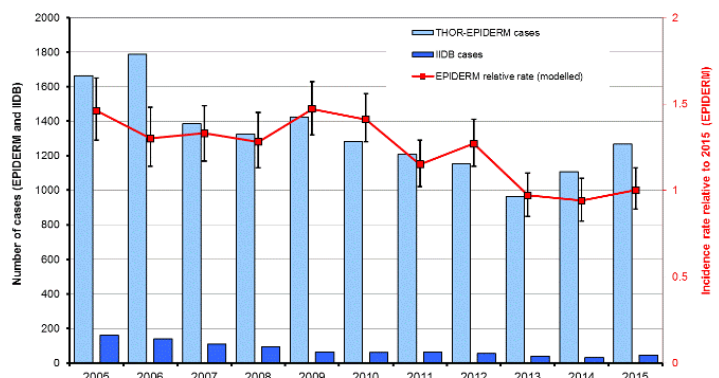
You will find that the statistical process of asking a question, getting appropriate data, analysing and representing the data and then drawing conclusions is very similar to the process of a scientific investigation. Science uses a lot of statistics in drawing conclusions. You will also find statistics used in different ways in geography, history, citizenship, psychology, economics, business studies and many other school subjects.

**Potential career pathways that could lead on from this course:**

Choosing GCSE Statistics leads really well onto the following qualifications:

- GCE AS or A Level Mathematics and GCE AS or A Level Further Mathematics
  - Level 3 qualifications, such as GCE in Biology, Economics, Geography, Psychology and Sociology
  - Vocational qualifications such as a BTEC in Business
- Studying these subjects can lead to careers in the following:

- Economics
- Business Analysis
- Accountancy
- Sciences (biology, chemistry and physics)
- Psychology
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Teaching/lecturing



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Dame Elizabeth  
**CADBURY**

**Mr M Dunn**

**Headteacher**

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