



PATHWAYS

At Key Stage 4



Ken Stimpson
Community School

Name

Pathways 2018

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Compulsory Subjects

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What this brochure is for



1. To outline courses offered.
2. To give specific subject information.

Important dates for you to note:



6 February	Year 9 Pathways Information Evening.
19 February	Year 9 student interviews begin.
2 March	Interviews finish.
7 March	Pathways to success forms returned.
End of April	Letters sent home to confirm KS4 subjects.

The Key Stage Four Pathways to Success Evening on Tuesday 6 February will aim to provide the opportunity for parents and students to:

- Explore key issues relating to the transition from Key Stage 3 to 4.
- Gather KS4 information.
- Ask questions.

If you have further queries about any of the issues in this brochure then please direct them, in the first instance, to your son or daughter's form tutor. If you are unclear about any details of the process of personalising an appropriate curriculum pathway and range of subjects for your son or daughter, then please raise them at the personal interview with a member of the Leadership Team or a Head of House you are invited to attend with your son/daughter, or contact either of us.



Bryan Erwin
Principal



Harinder Boughton
Assistant Principal

1.0 Which subjects do all students study?



The next two years will be an important period in your child's life and will help determine their future education and career. Many students will use their Key Stage Four study as a platform for Post 16 courses at Ken Stimpson Community School.

Key Stage Four work offers an opportunity for a fresh start although you will notice progression in most subjects from work you covered in Years 7, 8 and 9.

1.1 All students will study the following core curriculum:



English	Physical Education
Science – Combined Science or Triple Science	PSHE
Mathematics	Well-being

In addition, Citizenship, Enterprise and Work-related Learning, and Information, Advice and Guidance will be delivered via integration into collapsed PSHE days.

1.2 Which subjects may students prefer to study?



The curriculum pathways, which are illustrated on page 2, indicate the number of GCSEs or equivalent possible within each box. The pages which follow provide more detailed information about the subjects available.

Please Note:

- If a BTEC is recommended, students will not be able to study a GCSE course in that subject.
- For example, if a student chooses BTEC in Business, he/she may not choose GCSE Business Studies.
- Equally, they cannot study, for example, Business Studies more than once by selecting from multiple boxes.

1.3 Vocational Subjects (for example, BTEC or Certificates)



A number of selected students will be invited to take up one of these programmes.

Participation in this programme may include 'in-house' work-related learning. Students will further develop their basic life skills and explore how they are applied in everyday life at home and at work.

Block 1 BTEC Construction RSL Music BTEC Art	Block 2 BTEC Art	Block 3 BTEC Health & Social Care	Block 4 BTEC Creative Digital Production BTEC Construction BTEC Health & Social Care BTEC Physical Education
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Students who are recommended to follow this route will be contacted and invited, with their parents, to discuss the proposal in more detail.

English Language (Core)

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Written Exams 100%

Head of Faculty: Mrs C. Willoughby

Email: C.Willoughby@kscs.org.uk

Core

In English Language students will develop and improve their ability to respond to texts. This involves commenting upon, evaluating and analysing language and structure used by writers to create effect. They will also develop their writing in a variety of styles and purposes, including writing to narrate, describe and argue. There is also a spoken language component, which involves a presentation followed by a discussion. This must be completed to validate the written exams.

Assessment

Exam Only: AQA Exam Board

Two papers: Each 1 hour 45 minutes (each 50% of exam)

Paper 1: 20th century fiction reading (40 marks) descriptive writing (40 marks)

Paper 2: 19th century text and 20/21st century text: Non fiction (40 marks)

Writing to argue (40 marks)

Students will be requested to write about how writers use language and structure for effect and will be asked to evaluate writers' methods. They will also be asked to write for a variety of purposes. They will be marked for content, organization, vocabulary and grammar, including punctuation.

During the spoken language component students will present a topic of their own choice, which will be followed by a five minute discussion.

AQA: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

Progression to Post 16

The department currently offers English Language at Advanced level.

English Literature (Core)

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Written Exams 100%

Head of Faculty: Mrs C. Willoughby

Email: C.Willoughby@kscs.org.uk

Core

Students will read a Shakespeare play, a 20th century British drama, a 19th century British novel and a variety of British poetry, both seen and unseen. They will explore the writers' use of language and structure as well as commenting on the context of the poems and the Shakespeare play. Students will also compare and contrast a variety of poetry.

Assessment

Paper 1: Exam Only: AQA Exam Board

- Shakespeare (Romeo and Juliet)
- The 19th century novel (Christmas Carol)

How it's assessed

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

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B the 19th century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry: An Inspector Calls and Anthology of Poetry.

How it's assessed:

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

Section A: Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B: Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

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

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

Progression to Post 16

The department currently offers English Literature at Advanced level.

Maths (Core)

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Exam 100%

Head of Faculty: Mr T. Hussain

Email: T.Hussain@kscs.org.uk



Core

In GCSE Mathematics, students will continue to develop the skills and knowledge they have gained in Key Stage 3. The topic areas build on the foundations secured in number, algebra, SSM (shape, space and measures) and handling data (including Probability). As we have already started the GCSE in Year 9, it should be a seamless and smooth transition to Key Stage 4.

GCSE Mathematics will be offered at Higher or Foundation Level and every student will be completing the linear course with exams at the end of Year 11. Students need to bring the correct equipment to each Mathematics lesson, including a ruler, protractor, compass and a scientific calculator.

We would like to encourage all of our students to use the GCSE specific website www.hegartymaths.com for assisting them in their learning. It contains over 600 video tutorials on specific mathematics topics that can come up in the GCSE examinations with questions for students to attempt too. This website is ideal for revision as well as for those students who want to get ahead in mathematics and accelerate their progress.

Assessment

The GCSE is assessed through 3 equally weighted exams at the end of year 11. This consists of 1 non calculator paper and 2 calculator papers. All exams are for 1 hour and 30 minutes.

We look to regularly assess students internally through key pieces of work and tests on the various modules that form the scheme of work. Students are in roughly equivalent ability sets and the assessments are used to monitor and track students' progress. In year 11 in particular, we additionally use past papers and practice papers in order to help prepare the students for their final examinations.

Progression to Post 16

The department offers Mathematics and Further Mathematics at A Level as well as Level 3 Core Mathematics.

Science Combined & Triple

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Exams (100%)

Head of Faculty: Mr A. Mantell

Email: A.Mantell@kscs.org.uk

Core

Science at GCSE level builds on the knowledge and skills that have developed during Key Stage 3. The GCSE aims to further develop students' knowledge and understanding of scientific theories and also their ability to apply that knowledge, analyse and evaluate information, in practical and everyday scenarios. It gives students good life skills, regardless of the path they follow.

Changes to the Science GCSEs - When do students take their exams?

The qualifications are linear. This means that all examinations will be taken in the same exam series at the very end of the course of study (usually end of Year 11).

Changes to the grading scale -The existing A*–G scale has been replaced with a 9–1 scale, with 9 being the highest grade awarded and 1 being the lowest grade.

There will no longer be a coursework unit in the GCSEs. Practical work is still a very important part of the science GCSEs, not only to consolidate learning, but also to develop skills in planning, analysing and evaluating. These practical skills will be assessed as part of the written examinations at the end of the course.

Routes through science - There will be a choice of two main routes to science GCSEs, either a two-GCSE Combined Science, or a three-GCSE separate science route (consisting of GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics). We currently follow the Edexcel Combined and separate Science Specifications.

Combined Science - This is a two-GCSE (double award) qualification covering the three science disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students are awarded two grades based on their overall performance across these three disciplines. Combined Science students will sit six exams at the end of the course. There will be two Biology exams, two Chemistry exams and two Physics exams. All exams are 1 hour 10 minutes, and each exam will cover half of the content for that discipline. There will be Foundation tier and Higher tier papers available.

Separate sciences - If separate sciences (or Triple Science) are opted for it will result in three separate GCSEs: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics.

Students will be selected for this course based on their ability, aptitude and attitude to Science. The teaching staff will make a professional judgement as to the suitability of students who wish to complete the more demanding Triple Science option. Students undertaking Triple Science will be expected to complete at least one Science A-level at Post 16.

Due to the greater demand and high level of content, Triple Science is delivered across an option block as well as the standard Combined Science time. Students are awarded individual grades for each GCSE. Separate science students will sit six, 1hr 45 minutes exams at the end of their course.

Progression to P16 - The Science faculty currently offers an A Level qualification in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Citizenship & PSHE

Level: Enrichment

Email: S.McNaughton@kscs.org.uk

Core



Citizenship

Citizenship enables students to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding to be informed, active and responsible members of local, national and global communities.

Citizenship is a statutory requirement of the school curriculum and is embedded across all curriculum subjects. Citizenship learning is factual and conceptual and looks at criminal and civil law, government and politics, electoral systems, the economy, democracy and justice. The focus is to give students the opportunity to address real-life issues and show them how they can make a difference.

Student Voice is an essential part of Citizenship. “Active Citizenship” participation can be through involvement with the Student Council, peer education, buddying and charity weeks. It can also involve contributing articles to the school newspaper, reception duties and activities, and leading events organised for local primary schools; these are but a few opportunities our young people have to make a difference.

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)

PSHE will be delivered through a weekly lesson and via collapsed days throughout Years 10 and 11. Topics will vary according to the needs of the cohort and current topics that we feel are appropriate and would benefit the health and well-being of students in Key Stage 4.

Employability/ Career Preparation

Level: Enrichment

Email: A.Ayre@kscs.org.uk

Core



At Ken Stimpson we are committed to helping prepare our students for their future. Our extensive Careers Education Information and Guidance Programme for Years 7 to Post 16 exposes students to a wide range of employability activities, supported by our business community and Higher Education providers.

During Years 7 and 8 your son/daughter will have taken part in a number of enrichment activities which will have enabled them to explore their interests for their future.

During Year 9 many students will experience a visit to a local university or college, working on projects linked to exploring subject courses. All students will take part in either The National Enterprise Challenge or Guess the Professional, where they will have exposure to local and national businesses whilst working independently and in teams.

During Year 10 every student will experience our three stage Workskills Programme:

1. CV writing workshop;
2. Business networking event;
3. One-to-one mock interviews.

In addition to this we will visit local and national careers fairs. We will also participate in workshops offered by local business. Towards the end of Year 10 students will complete our Futurewise Career Profiling Assessment - an online assessment which produces a report on career families that each student is ideally suited to.

In Year 11 every student will receive a one-to-one interview with an external professional careers adviser alongside receiving support from school staff in planning their future either here at Ken Stimpson, at college or by applying for apprenticeships.

Support in Post 16 is bespoke with students attending university residentials in specific subject areas, taking part in national challenges, law workshops, Young Enterprise and NHS Discovery Days to name but a few.

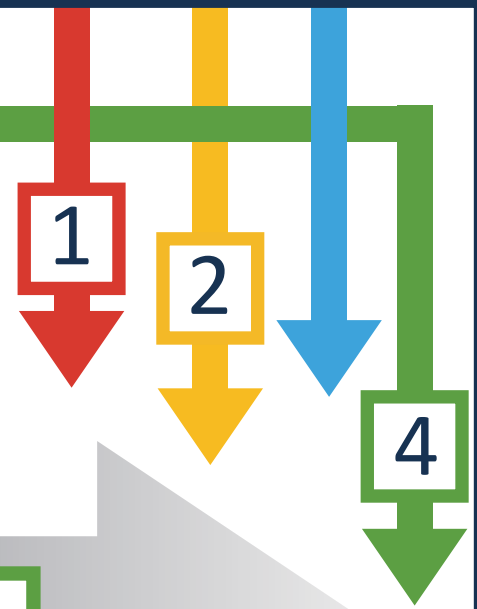
Art and Design

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Coursework 60% | Exam 40%

Head of Faculty: Mrs L. Bamber

Email: L.Bamber@kscs.org.uk



This is an exciting yet challenging course that is ideal if you love art and design. It may be that you want to go into an art and design based career or you may just want to develop your skills in creative thinking. This course is suitable for students of all abilities, we just ask for hard work and enthusiasm. You will be taken on visits to iconic places to get inspiration from real artists. We also intend to run a weekend trip overseas to Paris or Barcelona - iconic cities filled with inspirational architecture and artwork that will inspire your creative journey.

Coursework 60%

You will complete two coursework projects on this course. One of these will be general, working to a given theme in a wide range of materials to develop basic skills.

The first project is based around learning the key skills needed to do well. You will improve your skills in painting, drawing, printmaking and pottery. After a few months you will then make your own selection and work to your strengths.

The second project will be of your own choice, working to your chosen theme and in the materials you choose.

Exam 40%

The exam element is worth 40% of the overall GCSE. This takes place towards the end of Year 11. You will be asked to produce a project which fits into a theme set by the exam board. You will have 20 hours of lessons to develop the project with the support of your class teacher. You will make the final piece in exam conditions in the Art Department over 10 hours. This is usually completed over two school days using the structure of the school day so you still can have breaks and lunches as normal. This exam is not as intimidating as it sounds as you already know what you are going to produce because of all your preparatory work. It is just a case of creating your planned final piece in those 10 hours.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on a regular basis using the assessment objectives below and you will be introduced to a personal tracking system that will enable you to independently monitor the progress you are making over time.

- **Develop** - Investigating artists and developing ideas.
- **Refine** - Refining your ideas through investigating materials, techniques and processes.
- **Record** - Collection of sources and recording them with annotation.
- **Present** - Producing a final outcome that reflects your artists and personal development.

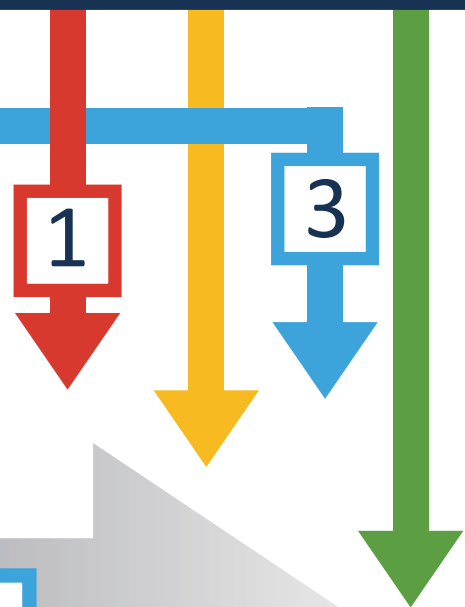
Business

Level: GCSE Business

Assessment: Exam 100%

Head of Faculty: Mr K. Abbott

Email: K.Abbott@kscs.org.uk



It is unlikely that you will have studied business before taking this course but that does not matter. You might have an interest in business and want to start your own one day. Or you might be thinking about becoming a manager and running a large company. You may just have an interest in the business world and finding out about what it is that makes a successful company. This course will cover all of this and more!

What will I learn?

Business Studies is about the world around us. On the GCSE course you will investigate business activity in the public and private sectors and learn about how the major types of business organisation are established, financed and run. You will learn about the different functions within a business, including marketing, accounting, production and human resources and will also explore factors influencing business decision-making, such as laws and the economy. You will not only study business concepts and techniques but also enhance related skills such as numeracy and enquiry.

Year 10 topics

- Business activity
- Ownership and internal organisation
- Marketing
- Human Resources
- Production (Operations Management)
- Financing business activity, financial information and decision making
- Influences on business activity
- The changing business environment
- Laws and regulations
- The economic environment

How will I be assessed?

We study the AQA GCSE syllabus which is an academic qualification and assessed solely through two written examinations, both of which will be sat in the summer examination series. Each paper is 1 ¾ hours and accounts for 50% of the overall marks

Progression to Post 16

The Business Studies Faculty offers a wide range of Post 16 qualifications including AS/A2 Economics, AS/A2 Business Studies, BTEC Nationals in Business and Travel & Tourism, Level 2 BTEC Retail and various qualifications from the London Institute of Banking and Finance (LIBF). Students who have studied the GCSE will find themselves particularly well equipped to progress to A Levels in Business and/or Economics.

Computer Science

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Non-exam Assessment 20% | Exam 80%

Subject Leader: Mr F. Satari

Email: F.Satari@kscs.org.uk



This course gives students a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Students will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology, however this course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many students find absorbing.

This course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of computer science. The increasing importance of information technology means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area.

The course is divided into three parts:

Paper 1 – computational thinking and problem solving

A written examination lasting 1 hour 30 minutes and contributing 40% towards the final GCSE.

Paper 2 – written assessment

A written examination lasting 1 hour 30 minutes and contributing 40% towards the final GCSE.

Non-exam assessment – practical programming

A controlled assessment programming task (20 hours) contributing 20% towards the final GCSE.

This course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills through the study of computer programming, giving students a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life.

Progression to Post 16

You would choose this course if you are interested in developing computer programs and writing code to create applications. You could also choose this course if you are simply interested in how a computer program functions 'behind the scenes'. However, this course is not the same as traditional 'ICT' – you need to be both interested and good at maths to be successful in this qualification.

The faculty would encourage students successful on this GCSE course to consider the Computer Science A Level as an option for Post 16 studies. However, students may decide to consider a Level 3 IT qualification, as a second choice.

Dance

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Practical 60% | Exam 40%

Subject Leader: Mrs J. Purdy

Email: J.Purdy@kscs.org.uk; J.Barben@kscs.org.uk;
H.Clissit@kscs.org.uk

Why study GCSE Dance?

If you have a passion for dance then this course is for you!

If you have interest in the Performing and Creative Arts industry including Musical Theatre then this GCSE will help you acquire the necessary skills to take part in it! GCSE Dance is now much broader whilst still retaining the basics of the old GCSE with a real focus on practical skills.

Assessment

There are three main parts:

Performance - Total component 60% (80 marks)

30% Practical/40 Marks

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute).
- Duet/trio performance (three minutes in a dance which is a maximum of five minutes in duration).

Choreography

30% Practical/40 Marks

- Solo or group choreography (Solo - two to two and a half minutes or a group dance for two to five dancers of three to three and a half minutes).

Non-exam assessment (NEA) marked by the centre and moderated by AQA.

Appreciation

40% of GCSE/80 Marks

Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes

Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills

Critical appreciation of own work

Critical appreciation of professional works

Questions based on student's own practise in performance, choreography & the GCSE Dance anthology

Progression to Post 16

GCSE Dance naturally leads into an A Level or Level 3 course in Performing Arts, Musical Theatre or Dance either here at Ken Stimpson as part of a broader curriculum or further afield in a full-time theatrical course. If you are considering a career in theatre or Dance Schools then this course is essential.



Drama

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Practical 60% | Exam 40%

Subject Leader: Mr T. Fisk

Email: T.Fisk@kscs.org.uk

3

GCSE Drama focuses on widening your understanding and experience of drama through performing, rehearsing and evaluating. You will play many parts in different imaginary situations and will have the opportunity to devise your own work as well as look at set texts. You will develop your improvisation and acting skills to a high level, whilst looking at plays in more detail and examining different ways of bringing a script to life on stage. Drama helps you increase your self-confidence and prepares you to deal with a range of different situations and people.

Component 1: Devising Theatre

Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated contributing 40% of the final GCSE. Students will be assessed on either acting or design.

They 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 WJEC. Students 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 contributing 20% of the final GCSE. Students will be assessed on either acting or design. They will study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the school and participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes contributing 40% of the final GCSE.

Section A: Set Text.

A series of questions on one set text from a choice of five:

1. The Tempest, William Shakespeare
2. The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Bertolt Brecht
3. Hard to Swallow, Mark Wheeller
4. War Horse, Michael Morpurgo, adapted by Nick Stafford
5. DNA, Dennis Kelly.

Section B: Live Theatre Review

One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.

Progression

Students will have the opportunity to go on to study Drama at Post 16 level.

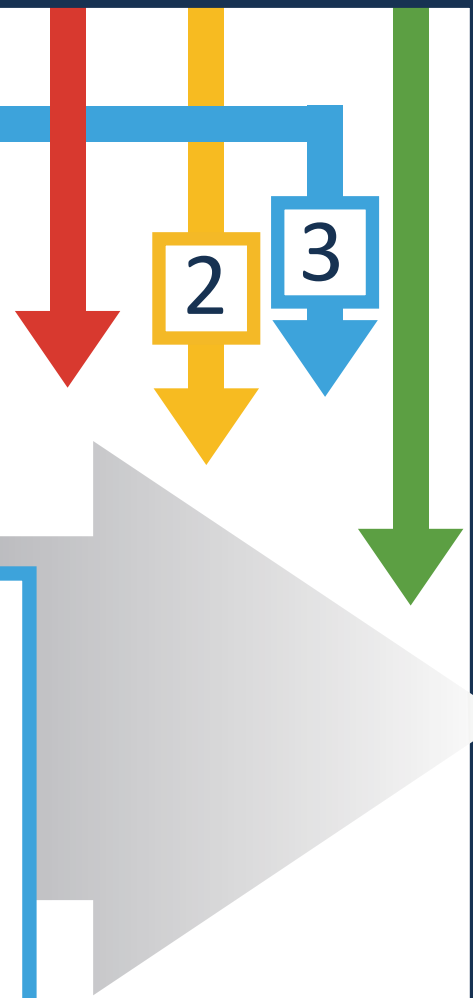
French or Italian

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Exam 100%

Head of Faculty: Miss H. Frith

Email: H.Frith@kscs.org.uk



The Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Faculty offers both GCSE French and Italian. Students can choose to study one or both of these courses, however students must have studied the relevant language during Years 7, 8 and 9. The course is designed to improve on linguistic skills as well as to broaden cultural horizons. The faculty intend to offer trips to France and Italy to support and inspire students in their language-learning journey. Students will gain an important life skill which is viewed very favourably by employers and higher education providers.

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Topic 1: Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Topic 2: Social issues
- Topic 3: Global issues
- Topic 4: Travel and tourism

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

- Topic 1: My studies
- Topic 2: Life at school/college
- Topic 3: Education post-16
- Topic 4: Jobs, career choices and ambitions

Assessment

All four skills (listening, reading, speaking and writing) are weighted equally and are assessed by exam papers at the end of the two year course.

GCSE MFL has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9).

Students must take all four question papers at the same tier.

General information

We expect students to spend 1-2 hours per week completing homework tasks, such as vocabulary learning, grammar exercises, independent study and assessment preparation.

Progression to Post 16

French and Italian are offered at A Level. A number of previous students have gone on to study languages at university.

Geography

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Exam 100%

Subject Leader: Mrs K. Leeman

Email: K.Leeman@kscs.org.uk



This course is designed to offer students the opportunity to study the physical, human and environmental aspects of geography and how these interrelate. Students take an investigative approach to the work undertaken in the classroom and field. The need to develop sustainability is also an important factor which runs throughout the course of study. **The aims of this course are to:**

- Acquire knowledge and understanding of a range of places, environments and geographical patterns at a range of scales from local to global and acquire an understanding of the physical and human processes, including decision making, which affect their development.
- Develop a sense of place and an appreciation of the environment, as well as awareness of the ways in which people and environments interact, the importance of sustainable development in those interactions, and the opportunities, challenges and constraints that face people in different places.
- Develop an understanding of global citizenship and the ways in which places and environments are interdependent.
- Appreciate that the study of geography is dynamic, not only because geographical features, patterns and issues change but also because new ideas and methods lead to new interpretations.
- Acquire and apply the skills and techniques, including those of map work, fieldwork and Information and Communication Technology (ICT), needed to conduct geographical enquiry. Using appropriate geographical knowledge, encourage and enable students to appreciate the significance of people's values and attitudes in their perception of the world and their actions within it.

Your course will be divided into three parts:

- Theme 1: Changing Places and Economies (urbanisation, urban and rural areas of the UK development)
- Theme 2: Changing Environments (coasts, rivers, weather and climate, climate change)
- Theme 3: Environmental Challenges (ecosystems, water resources and desertification)

Exams:

- 1 - Investigation into geographical issues (assesses all three themes) - 1hour 45 Minutes (40% of GCSE)
- 2 - Problem Solving Geography (assesses skills used in all three themes) - 1hour 30 Minutes (30% of GCSE)
- 3 - Applied Fieldwork Enquiry - 1hour 30 Minutes (30% of GCSE)

Your work will include:

Researching using books, ICT and videos; Fieldwork (work outside the classroom and trips); Role-play and discussion; group presentations and writing reports.

Progression

There is the opportunity to study Geography at A level at KSCS, and a number of students go on to study Geography at university.

History

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Exam 100%

Subject Leader: Mrs K. Hackett

Email: K.Hackett@kscs.org.uk

This course offers students the opportunity to study history and its development, including the study of change and cause over a long period of time. Students then study the subject more in depth by looking at key events, people, changes and issues concerning certain periods of history.

The aims of this course are to encourage students to:

- Acquire knowledge and understanding of the human past.
- Investigate historical events, changes, people and issues.
- Develop understanding of how the past has been represented and interpreted.
- Use historical sources critically in their historical context.
- Organise and communicate knowledge and understanding of history.
- Draw conclusions and appreciate that these and other historical conclusions are liable to reassessment in the light of new or reinterpreted objectives.
- Develop an interest in and an enthusiasm for history, and to acquire a sound basis for further historical study. Employers regard History students very highly due to the research process and skills they acquire within the subject.

The course covers four topics:

- The American West
- Early Elizabethan England
- Medicine through time
- Nazi Germany

Your work will include:

- Researching using books, ICT and videos
- Role play and discussion
- Group presentations
- Source analysis (Inference, Comparisons, Reliability, Interpretations and Evaluation)

Progression

There is the opportunity to study History at A level at KSCS, and a number of students go on to study History at University.



Media Studies

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Assessment 30% | Exam 70%

Subject Leader: Mrs C. Willoughby

Email: C.Willoughby@kscs.org.uk



Media Studies is a contemporary and interactive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, analytical, research and communication skills, through exploring a range of media forms and perspectives.

Assessment: Exam (70%) Non-Examined Assessment (30%)

Media One (1hr 30 mins, 35% of GCSE)

Section A focuses on Media Language and Representation in forms such as magazines, advertising, newspapers, social media and video games.

Section B focuses on Media Industries and Media Audiences in forms such as radio, music videos, newspaper, social media, film and video games.

Media Two (1hr 30 mins, 35% of GCSE)

Section A is based on an extract from a television product and assesses depth of theoretical knowledge.

Section B will be based on either newspapers, online material or video.

Non-Exam Assessment - Creating a Media Product (30% of GCSE)

Students respond to one of five annually changed briefs set by AQA. They produce a statement of intent and a media product for an intended audience. This task is assessed by teachers and moderated by the exam board. The task created will use one of the following forms:

- Television
- Music video
- Radio
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Advertising/marketing
- Online and social media
- Video games

Progression to Post 16

After completing this course students have the opportunity to go on to study Media Studies at Post 16 level.

Physical Education

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Non-exam Assessment 40% | Exam 60%

Head of Faculty: Mr N. Hughes

Email: N.Hughes@kscs.org.uk

4

This hugely popular and exciting GCSE offers students the opportunity to combine practical ability with in-depth theory understanding. Students study a range of topics to understand about fitness and how to use this knowledge to improve performance. The GCSE is taught over three weekly units with a 2:1 in favour of practical work.

The theory content covers areas which include: components of fitness; diet and nutrition; long term effects of exercise on the human body; principles of training and opportunities in sport to name a few. Assessment is through two separate exams with theory weighting being 60% of the final grade.

Practically, students develop a multitude of skills over a range of activities. Students taking part in these practical activities are internally assessed against the GCSE criteria. The final assessment takes place over two days through external moderation where students must show their ability in three different practical activities. Considerations when applying for this course must include the ability to compete well in four different practical activities over the National Curriculum range of activities: striking and fielding; net wall; invasion; swimming; dance and outdoor adventure.

Coursework is also a fundamental part of this GCSE. Students are asked to plan and execute their own Personal Exercise Plan (PEP) over a period of time. Using this coursework students are then expected to observe and analyse performances of other students giving detailed feedback. This piece of coursework is also externally verified. Students studying this GCSE subject will also have the opportunity to attend a PE residential which allows them to participate in non-curriculum sports and potentially improve their practical grade.

Assessment

- Practical - assessed in three different practical activities (30% of the final GCSE)
- Coursework - Personal Exercise Plan (PEP) and Analysis of Performance (AOP) (10% of the final GCSE)
- Theory - two written papers (60% of the final GCSE)

Progression to Post 16

Students taking GCSE PE will be encouraged to seek advancements into Post 16. Progression from the GCSE into Post 16 comes in the form of A level PE and also to BTEC Level 3.

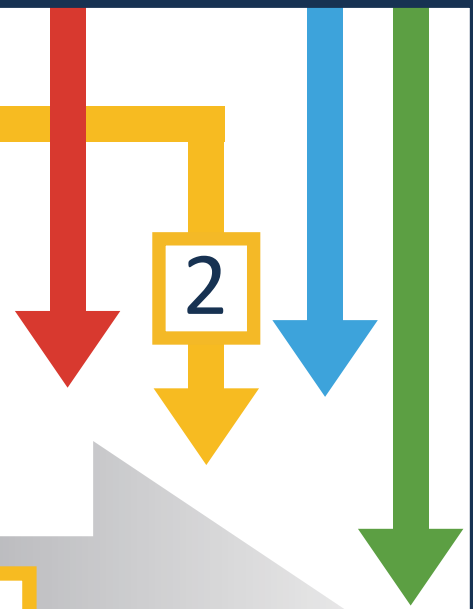
Statistics

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Exam 100%

Head of Faculty: Mr T. Hussain

Email: T.Hussain@kscs.org.uk



Our GCSE Statistics qualification develops skills that you will use in other subjects such as Science and Geography, and reinforces techniques needed for GCSE Maths as well as supporting progression to A level Maths. Real-life scenarios will capture your interest and give you an insight into the importance of statistics in the real world. In brief, the course looks at the collection of data, processing, representing and analysing data as well as probability.

Assessment Structure

The examination is split into two 90 minute papers that focus on the same content and skills. This gives students and teachers an opportunity after the first paper to reflect on the areas they need to work on in order to strengthen performance in the second paper. Each paper is worth 50% of the final grade.

Progression to Post 16

There is the opportunity to study Mathematics at A level at KSCS.

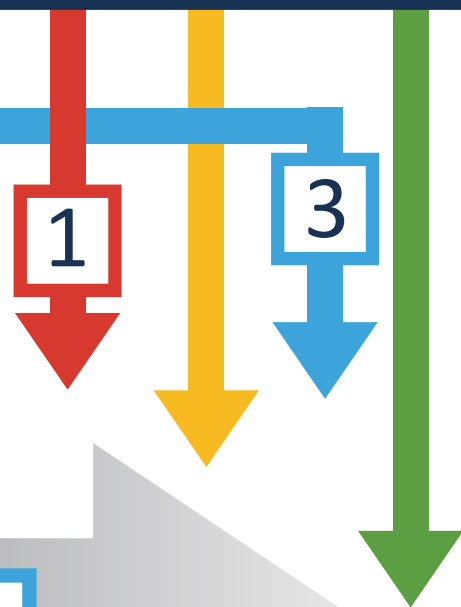
Technical Award in IT

Level: GCSE

Assessment: Internal and External

Subject Leader: Mr F. Satari

Email: F.Satari@kscs.org.uk



This course is ideally suited to learners with a preference for practical, rather than theoretical learning, with a focus on creativity. Learners taking this qualification will study the fundamental aspects required in the three IT occupational areas covered by this specification: creative; data management and technical. They will also study the specific theory and skills required in their chosen occupational area in greater depth, resulting in the creation and evaluation of an IT system.

Learning will take place through a mixture of real life case studies, practical tasks and a study of theoretical concepts, enabling learners to develop their IT knowledge, understanding and skills. Learning will be engaging and take place in a vocational context, allowing the learner to create products or artefacts that demonstrate their ability to put theory into practice.

The course is divided into three parts:

- Unit 1 - Practical skills in IT (Internally Assessed Digital Portfolio) - 30% of Mark
- Unit 2 - Creating IT systems (Internally Assessed Digital Portfolio) - 30% of Mark
- Unit 3 - Fundamentals of IT (Externally Assessed Examination) - 40% of Mark

This course enables students to become independent and discerning users of ICT, able to make informed decisions about its use and aware of its implications for individuals and society. Students will acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT in a varied range of contexts, developing solutions to solve problems and recognising potential risks when using ICT.

You would choose this course if you are interested in the fundamental use of ICT across a broad range of contexts and are considering a career in ICT, business or administration.

Progression to Post 16

The faculty would encourage students successful on this qualification package to consider IT Level 3 as an option for Post 16 studies. However, students may decide to consider the Computer Science A Level as well, for those students interested in computer programming, if they demonstrate exceptional performance on the ICT course.

The BTEC VOCATIONAL SUBJECTS

Information for students



BTEC stands for Business and Technology Education Council. It is a body which was set up in 1983 to validate and accredit high quality vocational qualifications. The council merged with London Examinations and is now owned by Edexcel, the examination board.

BTECs are work-related qualifications suitable for a wide range of students, built to accommodate the needs of employers and allow progression to university. They provide a more practical, real-world approach to learning alongside a key theoretical background. BTECs are recognised by schools, colleges, universities, employers and professional bodies across the United Kingdom and in many countries worldwide.

BTECs have been around for over 25 years and have a very high reputation. They continue to grow and develop.

BTEC Assessment



Students study real-life, work-related case studies and complete projects and assessments, which contribute to achieving each unit studied. The number of units depends on the level and size of BTEC being studied.

In order to complete a unit, students must achieve against a set of outcomes. The assessment criteria address theory with practical exercises. The assessment process is ongoing, so it allows students to analyse and improve performance throughout the course.

The unit and overall results are graded as a Pass, a Merit, a Distinction or a Distinction*.

GCSE equivalence

For a Level 2 BTEC First Certificate:

- a Level 1 Pass is equivalent to 1 GCSE at Level 4
- a Level 2 Pass is equivalent to 1 GCSE at Level 5
- a Merit is equivalent to 1 GCSE at Level 6
- a Distinction is equivalent to 1 GCSE at Level 7
- a Distinction* is equivalent to 1 GCSE at Level 8

It is possible for students to study a Level 1 BTEC qualification, which is equivalent to 1 GCSE 3-1 equivalent pass.

Progression



BTECs allow students to move on to higher education (post 16) and beyond (university). They also allow students to start their career in industry or give them skills to start their own business. They allow students flexibility and choice in what they do.

BTECs in 2018



The school will be recommending many students to study up to two BTECs from the following areas:

Art & Design

Construction

Creative Digital Production

Health and Social Care

Physical Education

RSL Music

Art & Design

Level: BTEC First Award

Assessment: Coursework 75% | Exam 25%

Head of Faculty: Mrs L Bamber

Email: L.Bamber@kscs.org.uk



This is another exciting and yet challenging Art and Design course which is closely linked to the demands of the Art and Design industry. You will be working to real life briefs just as an artist or designer would in industry, for instance creating a piece of art work for a café in Hunstanton or designing and creating a sculpture for an outside children's play area. These briefs will be varied so that you experience a wide variety of art disciplines from the following range of techniques: painting, drawing, sculpture, pottery, textiles, printmaking, computer aided design (Photoshop), set design.

The briefs are very specific with set tasks, so this course is ideal if you like to follow clear guidance and be given specific instructions.

This course is split into two parts:

Part 1 will be completed in Year 10 and the first half of Year 11 and is worth 75%. In this part you will work on a variety of real assignments written and set by the Art Faculty. These assignments will introduce you to specialist pathways in Art and Design. You will explore a wide range of 2D and 3D art forms.

Part 2 will be completed in Year 11 and is worth 25%. This is equivalent to an exam. You will be given an externally set assignment and you will then have a total of 20 hours of lesson time to develop your ideas along with your teacher. At the end of this time period you will create the final outcome in 10 hours of controlled conditions, unaided.

What is this course equivalent to?

- If you complete all of the projects to a PASS standard it will be equivalent to a Level 5 at GCSE.
- If you complete all of the projects to a MERIT standard it will be equivalent to a Level 6 at GCSE.
- If you complete all of the projects to a DISTINCTION standard it will be equivalent to an Level 7 at GCSE.
- If you do not complete all of the projects set to a pass standard but do complete the core projects to core standard you will receive a Level 1 qualification which is equivalent to a Level 4-1 GCSE.

Progression to Post 16

Students achieving a Level 2 BTEC First Award will be well equipped to progress to the BTEC Nationals Art and Design as well as giving a very good start in developing the skills needed to progress to the Applied A level Art qualification.

Construction

Level: BTEC

Assessment: Internal 75% | External 25%

Subject Leader: Mr C. Breen

Email: C.Breen@kscs.org.uk



This course is designed to inspire and enthuse students to consider a career in the construction sector. It gives students the opportunity to gain a broad understanding, knowledge of, and skills in, the construction sector. It supports progression to a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic construction course or an apprenticeship and gives students the potential opportunity, in due course, to enter employment within a wide range of junior job roles across the construction industry.

Qualification

Minimum qualification: Level 1 First Award

Course content

Students must study three core units and one optional unit.

The core units are:

Unit 1: Construction Technology – this unit covers the different forms of construction that can be used for low-rise offices, retail units and homes. Students will develop an understanding of the structural performance required for low-rise construction, and explore how substructures and superstructures are constructed. This unit will be externally assessed.

Unit 2: Construction and Design – in this unit students will develop a broad understanding of the construction industry, the sort of projects it undertakes and the contribution it makes to wider society. They will also look at how client needs can shape the design of a building, and develop their own design ideas to a given brief.

The mandatory unit:

Unit 3: Scientific and Mathematical Applications for Construction – in this unit students will apply scientific and mathematical knowledge, understanding and skills to practical construction contexts. Students will develop an understanding of the scientific principles affecting the performance of construction materials and develop skills to perform mathematical calculations in construction contexts.

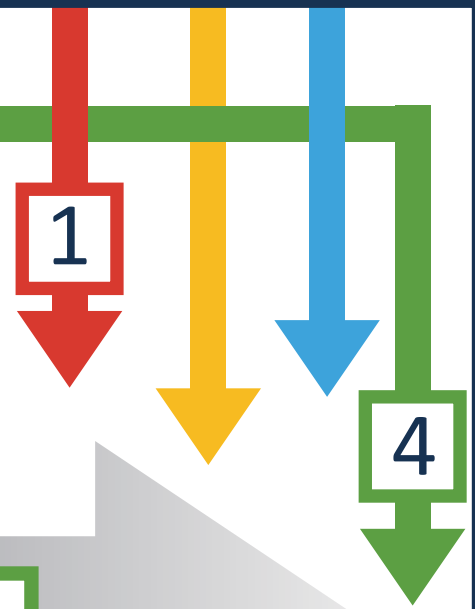
Unit 4: Follows the principles of carpentry and joinery

Assessment approach

Unit 1 is assessed externally

Units 2, 3 and 4 are assessed internally via completion of assignments.

Construction (Continued)



Developing employability skills

One of the main purposes of BTEC qualifications is to help students to progress ultimately into employment. The vast majority of employers require students to have certain technical skills, knowledge and understanding to work in a particular sector, but they are also looking for employability skills to ensure that employees are effective in the workplace.

Students should develop the following skills:

- Self-management
- Teamworking
- Business awareness
- Customer awareness
- Problem-solving
- Communication
- Basic literacy and numeracy
- A positive attitude to work
- The use of IT

Minimum Requirements:

- Successful interview with course supervisor
- Interest in the construction industry, ability to follow instructions and general positive attitude

Progression opportunities

The First Award in Construction and the Built Environment provides the skills, knowledge and understanding for level 2 learners to progress to:

- Other level 2 vocational qualifications
- Level 3 vocational qualifications, such as BTEC Nationals, specifically the Edexcel BTEC Level 3 in Construction
- Related academic qualifications
- Employment within the construction industry

BTEC Creative Digital Production

Level: BTEC Level 2 First Award

Assessment: Internal and External

Head of Faculty: Mr R. Norman

Email: R.Norman@kscs.org.uk

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What will I learn?

Global media corporations are the lifeblood of all industry. Through advertisements, broadcasting, films and audio it is also one of the most diverse and interesting independent industries. Advertising budgets reach billions of pounds and filming/recording/design employs millions all over the globe. Where does that money go and how does it all happen? In the Creative Digital Production course you will look at the broad range of the media industry as well as create your own portfolio of media products.

You will study key areas of the media industry such as visual, audio-visual, audio and text before using these areas to plan, and create, various media products. It can also lead you into further study or a career within the industry.

What can I do next?

With a Level 2 Creative Digital Production qualification you will be able to apply for higher level media-related courses at Post-16 or college (such as a Cambridge Technical or BTEC Level 3).

Further course content

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in Creative Digital Production is broken down into a number of units. These further break down into 'core' units (that have to be studied) and 'optional' units. To complete the qualification you would need to complete the two core modules along with two of the possible four optional units.

The core units are as follows:-

- Unit 1: Digital Media Sectors and Audiences
- Unit 2: Planning and Pitching a Digital Media Product

The optional specialist units allow flexibility, as they can be approached in a holistic way. While core units embed the key skills required to produce a digital project, the optional specialist units complement each other alongside this. These units build on the core units and provide students with an opportunity to develop a wider understanding and appreciation of any two sectors of the creative digital media sector, depending on their interests and motivation.

The optional specialist units span key sectors in media:

- Unit 3: Digital Moving Image Production
- Unit 4: Digital Audio Production
- Unit 5: Digital Publishing Production
- Unit 6: Website Production

Health and Social Care

Level: BTEC Level 1 / BTEC Level 2 Tech Award

Assessment: Internal 60% | External 40%

Head of Faculty: Miss A. Mayfield

Email: A.Mayfield@kscs.org.uk

What are BTEC Tech Awards?

BTEC Tech Awards are intended primarily for students aged 14-16 studying at Key Stage 4. They have a clear progression route to a level 3 course or to an apprenticeship. BTECs are vocationally related qualifications, where students develop knowledge and understanding by applying their learning and skills in a work related context. BTECs engage students in taking responsibility for their own learning, and develop essential work related skills, such as working to deadlines and presenting information effectively. BTEC Tech Awards motivate students, and open doors to progression into further study or the workplace.

The BTEC Tech Award:

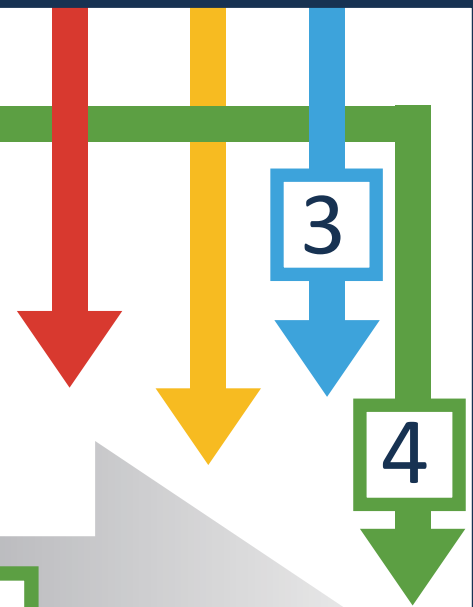
- Is a level 2 qualification; however it is graded at Unclassified, Level 1 Pass, Level 1 Merit, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction*
- Is for students aged 14 years and over
- Is a 120 guided learning hour qualification (equivalent teaching time to 1 GCSE)
- Has 3 units (components)
- Has an external assessment up to 40% of the qualification. Edexcel sets and marks this assessment
- Presents knowledge in a work-related context
- Gives students the opportunity to develop and apply skills in English and Mathematics in naturally occurring, work-related contexts

Students complete two internally assessed units and then a third externally assessed unit to make up the full award:

- Unit 1 - Human Lifespan Development
- Unit 2 - Health and Social Care Services and Values
- Unit 3 - Health and Well being

Progression to Post 16

Having successfully completed the BTEC level 1 or 2 course students could then progress to BTEC Level 3 courses in Post 16.



BTEC Sport

Level: BTEC Level 1/2 National Certificate

Assessment: Internal and External

Head of Faculty: Mr N. Hughes

Email: N.Hughes@kscs.org.uk

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Cambridge Nationals in Sport are targeted at 14-16 year olds in a school environment. They're available as an Award and a Certificate, with the Certificate being the same size as a GCSE. They use both internal and external assessment and meet the DfE's requirements for attainment tables and headline performance measures.

The Cambridge Nationals in Sport Studies take a more sector-based focus, whilst also encompassing some core sport/Physical Education themes. Students have the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge about different types of sport and physical activity, skills development and sports leadership to their own practical performance. They will learn about contemporary issues in sport such as funding, participation, ethics and role models, and sport and the media. Students will develop an appreciation of the importance of sport locally and nationally, different ways of being involved in sport and of how this shapes the sports industry.

Students will be assessed in two mandatory units, and two optional units. All together completion will enable access to a certificate at various gradings of Level 1 or Level 2, Pass, Merit, Distinction.

Assessment of these units is done in various ways, either internally or via an externally set practical, which is administered in school. Unit 1, Contemporary Issues in Sport is assessed by a 1 hour written paper.

Why choose this option?

This BTEC is suitable for students who may not have the practical ability to consider GCSE PE, but who still wish to pursue a career in the sporting/leisure industry. Whilst this course is predominantly theory based, one unit does cover practical performance and this is flexible in terms of which sports can be participated in. The focus will not necessarily be on the performance of the sport, but the technically aspects of the chosen sport.

Progression to Post 16

Completion of this course allows students to progress further by completing a Level 3 in Sport when accessing Post 16 studies.

RSL Level 2 Certificate in Music Technology

Level: RSL Level 2 Certificate in Music Technology

Assessment: Internal and External

Head of Faculty: Mr R Norman

Email: R.Norman@kscs.org.uk



What will I study?

You will learn how Music Technology has changed the world of Music in recent times and also learn how to operate the school recording studio in an appropriate manner.

How will I be assessed?

There are three units:

Unit 1 - Podcast Production - (internally assessed)

Understanding how to create an effective radio show/podcast you will look at all the elements that go into one. You will then have to create a podcast on a topic of your choice and look at the possible ways of broadcasting this over the internet.

Unit 2 - Remixing and Production - (internally assessed)

You will investigate the different styles of remix before learning how these are undertaken. You will then create your own remix of a song.

Unit 3 - Live Sound Recording - (externally assessed)

Controlled assessment – you will work in the Recording Studio, learning how to set-up microphones etc, before using these skills to record a live performance of a band during Year 11.

You will be assessed according to the RSL grading criteria and can achieve a Pass (Level 5), Merit (Level 6) or Distinction (Level 7).

What skills will I need? You must, above all, have a real interest in music and some computer skills. The basic requirement on technology to start has been covered during your time in Key Stage 3 and this gives you the opportunity to expand on this further. You also need to be self-disciplined, as much of the required work is undertaken independently.

What happens in lessons? In RSL lessons you will develop your skills in Music Technology. At the start of the course you will undergo a skills analysis to identify your strengths and weaknesses in Music Technology before using them to create podcasts and remixes. You will then set yourself SMART targets, which you will work on during lessons. At the end of each session you will review your progress and reflect on it in an online blog.

RSL Level 2 Certificate in Music Performance

Level: RSL Level 2 Certificate in Performance for Music Practitioners

Assessment: Internal and External

Head of Faculty: Mr R. Norman

Email: R.Norman@kscs.org.uk



What will I study?

You will learn how to perform effectively on your chosen instrument or voice by setting yourself targets for improvement. You will watch how experienced performers 'do it' before rehearsing a variety of music in different styles, continually evaluating your progress along the way.

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 units:

Unit 1 - Instrumental Study - (internally assessed)

Developing technical ability, dexterity and stamina on an instrument of your choice (includes voice).

Unit 2 - Organising an Event - (internally assessed)

You will work as part of a team to put on a public event. This involves dividing roles and undertaking all the responsibilities for a successful performance.

Unit 3 - Live Music Performance - (externally assessed)

Controlled assessment – you will have 30 hours to rehearse for a 15 minute performance in Year 11.

You will be assessed according to the RSL grading criteria and can achieve a Pass (Level 5), Merit (Level 6) or Distinction (Level 7).

What skills will I need? You must be a confident performer on at least one instrument (or voice) before starting the course.

THERE IS NOT A REQUIREMENT TO BE ABLE TO READ MUSIC OR HAVE PASSED EXAMS ON YOUR INSTRUMENT OR VOICE.

You also need a love of music and to be self-disciplined, as you will be required to work independently during rehearsals.

What happens in lessons? In RSL lessons you will develop your practical skills as a musician. At the start of a project you will undergo a skills analysis to identify your strengths and weaknesses. You will then set yourself SMART targets, which you will work on during rehearsals. At the end of each session you will review your progress and reflect on it in an online blog. Projects can either be solo or ensemble performances.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON KEY STAGE FOUR



How will my work be assessed in Key Stage 4?



There is continuous assessment for some courses.

Coursework



Coursework forms an important part of GCSE courses. It consists of work done throughout the course which counts towards your final examination grade. It may take the form of:

- Classwork
- Homework
- Assignments
- Tests
- Fieldwork
- Projects

Remember that coursework is:

- spread over two years
- a continuous indicator of how you are doing
- helpful to students who perform less well in examinations
- a good preparation for Post 16 work.

Examinations



Most GCSE courses have an examination at the end of Year 11. Our policy is to enter students for all examinations in which we believe they may achieve a recognised grade.

We require that parents pay for entry for students who the school believes will be unlikely to achieve a recognised grade. The criteria for identifying these students are a poor level of attendance (less than 90% in the last calendar year) and the failure to complete coursework. If a `parental entry` student does achieve a pass grade then the cost will be reimbursed by the school.

Process of finalising your Curriculum Pathway



The process will take place as follows:

1. Personal interview



You (hopefully accompanied by your parent/carer) will have an interview with a member of the Leadership Team or Head of House Team; this will be an opportunity for you to talk further about your preferences and career aspirations. Available during discussion will be your target grades, Year 9 reports and other relevant information.

2. Recommendation



The member of staff will make a recommendation of your 'personalised' curriculum package, record it and give you a copy.

3. Deadline



After discussion with your parent/carer, subject and form teachers, a signed copy of the KS4 Curriculum form should be returned to school by Thursday 7 March.

4. Confirmation



In late April a letter will be sent to your parent/carer to confirm the subjects you will be studying in September.

My Pathways 2018

1

2

Block 1

Preference
1 2 3

GCSE Art & Design			
GCSE Business			
GCSE Computer Science			
GCSE Geography			
GCSE Technical IT			
BTEC Art			
BTEC Construction			
RSL Music			

Block 2

Preference
1 2 3

GCSE Art & Design			
GCSE Dance			
GCSE French or Italian			
GCSE Geography			
GCSE History			
GCSE Media Studies			
GCSE Statistics			
BTEC Art			

Compulsory Subjects

English (2 GCSEs)

Maths (1 GCSE)

Science (2 GCSEs)

Leisure/PSHE/Well-Being

3

4

Block 3

Preference
1 2 3

GCSE Business			
GCSE Computer Science			
GCSE Drama			
GCSE French or Italian			
GCSE History			
GCSE Technical IT			
BTEC Health & Social Care			

Block 4

Preference
1 2 3

GCSE Art & Design			
GCSE History			
GCSE Physical Education			
GCSE Triple Science			
BTEC Construction			
BTEC Creative Digital Production			
BTEC Health & Social Care			
BTEC PE			



My Pathways 2018



Complete this form by
7 March 2018

Your details:

Name:

Form:

House:

Signed:

Parent/Carer:

Student:

Date handed in:

Tutor's name and signature:



Your notes...




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