



THE WELLS  
ACADEMY

# Options Booklet Year 9 to 10

2024 / 2025

# Welcome

## Dear Students and Families

The options process marks a significant moment where you begin to shape your academic path for Years 10 and 11. It is an exciting opportunity to explore subjects that align with your passions, interests and future career aspirations. We urge you to review this booklet in detail, as the choices you make will play a pivotal role in the next steps of your educational journey.

Take the time to reflect on your interests, considering the subjects that bring you joy. Success is often linked with enjoyment and opting for subjects that you genuinely enjoy will not only make the journey more fulfilling but will also enhance your chances of succeeding.

Beyond personal enjoyment, take time to consider your future career aspirations. Assess how the courses offered align with potential career paths, ensuring your choices lay a strong foundation for your professional journey ahead.

While considering courses, pay attention to the methods of assessment. A course's structure may significantly impact your learning experience so select an assessment style that resonates with your strengths. Some students excel in exams while others prefer coursework where marks are awarded on projects that are completed over time.

Remember, teaching staff might change due to timetabling updates so it's important to focus on the subject matter rather than the teacher when making your selections. Engage with your interests and speak to your teachers for valuable insights into the courses. We are here to help guide you.

Mr Lawlor oversees our options process. Following our Options Evening, where you'll gather essential information from teachers, you'll have the opportunity to express your initial preferences. Later on in the academic year, you will formally choose your options and receive confirmation of the courses you'll embark on in Years 10 and 11.

This booklet is your companion to help you make an informed choice for your future!

**We wish you all the best!**



**Mr. G Coles**  
Principal



**Mr. A Lawlor**  
Senior Assistant Principal

# Subject: BTEC Art and Design Practice

Exam board: Pearson



## What will I do on this course?

The opportunity to explore a variety of equipment, techniques, and processes. For example: **Drawing and mark making, 3D & product construction, photography, digital & graphics media, and fashion & textiles.**

Experiment with a range of media which includes: **Ink, charcoal, pastels, paint, clay, wire, fabric, card, wood, glass, photography & digital media.**

Research and study historical and contemporary contextual sources (**artists, photographers, and craft practitioners**).

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

- An interest in **drawing and visual imagery**.
- A curiosity to **create 2D/3D** artwork.
- **Maths/English/ICT skills** – The use of measuring devices to help scale your work.
- Written **annotation** will be required to explain thought processes and analysis of artist work.
- Photoshop and other editing software for image manipulation.
- **Creative thinking** and **problem solving**
- **Developing concepts** or **design ideas** as part of the progression of your work.
- Conveying an experience or **responding to a theme**.
- **Research skills** - finding information for a purpose.
- Organisational skills – organising your time and reviewing.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1: Creative practice in art and design

Controlled assessment coursework tasks  
60% of BTEC

### Component 2: Responding to a brief

Written and practical examination  
40% of BTEC

## What careers is this good for?

Freelance artist/designer, teaching, architecture, illustration, games design, fashion design, gallery curator, makeup artist, ceramicist, interior design, advertising, theatre, T.V. and prop/set design, photographer or digital artist.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mrs Billson**

[gbillson@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:gbillson@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: Cambridge Nationals Enterprise and Marketing

Exam board: OCR



## What will I do on this course?

You will learn about business in a local, national and global context.

### The themes we will study are:

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences
- Growing a business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

- **Assignment writing skills** - ability to write informatively and concisely.
- **Research skills** - finding information and presenting it in a variety of ways.
- **Communication skills** – working and cooperating with others.
- **Organisational skills** – organising your time, reviewing your work and progress.
- **Examinations** – written examination skills are needed for 40% of this course.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Unit R067: Enterprise and marketing concepts

Written examination

40% of CNAT

### Unit R068: Design a business proposal

Controlled assessment coursework tasks

30% of CNAT

### Unit R069: How to market and pitch a business proposal

Controlled assessment coursework tasks

30% of CNAT

## What careers is this good for?

This course will prepare you with the knowledge of business in local, national and global contexts. This course will also give you an understanding of how to set up and run a small business.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mr Philips**

[aphilips@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:aphilips@thewellsacademy.org)

**Mr Hussan**

[ihussain@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:ihussain@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: GCSE French

Exam board: Edexcel

## What will I do on this course?

Develop **communication skills** and proficiency in speaking and understanding French.

**Confidence** in expressing yourself and sharing your ideas. Focus on **literacy skills** and understand how to form sentences, write texts and use French independently. **Cultural knowledge** of France and French speaking countries.

This GCSE is suitable for students who are interested in developing their language skills and gaining cultural knowledge of France. This could lead to further study or work in a variety of careers and countries.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

A desire to learn to speak French and an interest in languages, travel and other cultures.

**Linguistic skills** – you will be developing your own confidence and fluency in French.

**Communication skills** – you will be expressing yourself and giving opinions in French.

**Commitment** – independent learning is key to success and you will need to learn grammar concepts and vocabulary.



## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

Listening examination  
25% of the GCSE

### Component 2

Speaking examination  
25% of the GCSE

### Component 3

Reading examination  
25% of the GCSE

### Component 4

Writing examination  
25% of the GCSE

## What careers is this good for?

Hospitality, accountancy, tourism, flight attendant, pilot, publisher, translation and diplomatic services, business, customer services, education, international aid worker, teacher, diplomat, the Armed Forces.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

Mrs Poland

[epoland@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:epoland@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: GCSE Geography

Exam board: AQA



## What will I do on this course?

Examine and learn about:

**Physical features of the world:** ecosystems, a UK environment, rainforests, hot climates, climate change, rivers, coasts, weather and tectonic hazards.

**Human features of the world:** population growth, development gap, economic development, UK resources, food as a resource, urban challenges and issues.

**Application of geographical skills:** Fieldwork visit and geographical enquiry.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

An interest in the world around us.

**Map skills** – you will be using maps to identify locations and describe landscapes.

**Problem solving** – this will be required to solve geographical problems such as climate change and coastal erosion.

**Teamwork** – investigation of specific topics in teams to deepen subject knowledge.

**Communication** – you will present findings of investigations carried out.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

1 hour and 30 minute exam  
35% of GCSE

### Component 2

1 hour and 30 minute exam  
35% of GCSE

### Component 3

1 hour and 30 minute exam  
30% of GCSE

## What careers is this good for?

Cartographer, commercial surveyor, weather analyst and presenter, environmental consultant, tourism, development surveyor, teacher, pilot, town planner, landscape architect, politician, astronomer, international aid worker, risk analyst, nature conservation officer.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mrs Poland**

[epoland@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:epoland@thewellsacademy.org)

**Ms Tideswell**

[htideswell@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:htideswell@thewellsacademy.org)

**Mrs Green**

[cgreen@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:cgreen@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: Cambridge Nationals Health and Social Care

Exam board: OCR



## What will I do on this course?

During the examined unit students will learn about four topic areas. These include rights of individuals when using care settings, person-centred values and the effects on the individual when not applied, importance of effective communication and how to protect service users and service providers in health and social care settings.

In the first coursework unit students will explore the growth and development of an individual from childhood to the older adulthood life stage

The second coursework unit requires students to plan and deliver creative and therapeutic activities to a small group of individuals.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

**Research skills** - finding information and presenting it in a variety of ways.

**Communication skills** – working and co-operating with others.

**Organisational skills** – organising your time and reviewing your work.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Unit R032: Principles of care in health and social care settings

Written examination  
40% of CNAT

### Unit R033: Supporting individuals through life events

Controlled assessment coursework tasks  
30% of CNAT

### Unit R034: Creative and therapeutic activities

Controlled assessment coursework tasks  
30% of CNAT

## What careers is this good for?

Community development, worker, health promotion specialist, health service manager, nurse, counsellor, dietician, health and safety adviser, occupational therapist, social worker and healthcare.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

Miss Hurrell

[mhurrell@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:mhurrell@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: GCSE History

Exam board: Edexcel



## What will I do on this course?

Gain knowledge and understanding of various historical periods in order to discuss, analyse and critically evaluate key events and interpretations.

Learn how to use a range of source material to comprehend the significance of events and people within the historical context.

Develop communication and writing skills to form your own viewpoints about the past and clearly explain and express informed judgements with confidence.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

An interest in understanding how the past has occurred and a fascination of why historical developments help to inform the present and future.

**Literacy skills** – you will be writing extended answers on various topics.

**Communication skills** – you will be discussing and explaining your views and judgements both in speech and writing.

**Emotional skills** – you will be studying sensitive periods of history and so empathy towards others and maturity is required.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

1 hour and 15 minute exam  
30% of GCSE

### Component 2

1 hour and 45 minute exam  
40% of GCSE

### Component 3

1 hour and 20 minute exam  
30% of GCSE

## What careers is this good for?

Journalism, entrepreneurship, research, management, politics, law, teaching, education, archaeology, travel and media.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mrs Poland**

[epoland@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:epoland@thewellsacademy.org)

**Mr Berhane**

[bberhane@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:bberhane@thewellsacademy.org)

**Mr McGarry**

[cmcgarry@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:cmcgarry@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: Vocational Award Hospitality and Catering

Exam board: Eduqas



## What will I do on this course?

The examination unit of the course enables students to gain and develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the hospitality and catering industry including provision, health and safety, and food safety.

In the coursework unit learners will gain knowledge and understanding of the importance of nutrition and how to plan nutritious menus. They will learn the skills needed to prepare, cook and present dishes. They will also learn how to review their work effectively.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

- An interest in the food and cooking industry.
- Practical skills - you will be expected to prepare a range of basic and complex dishes.
- Problem solving - you will be required to plan, prepare and cook a 2 course meal within a specific timeframe.
- Research skills - finding out information about appropriate nutrition for specific groups of people and suitable recipes to meet their needs.
- Organisational skills - organise your time when cooking and completing coursework tasks.
- Evaluation skills - evaluate your practical work.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Unit 1: The hospitality and catering industry

Written examination

40% of Vocational Award

### Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action

Controlled assessment coursework tasks

60% of Vocational Award

## What careers is this good for?

Catering manager, chef, restaurant manager, dietician, environmental health officer, nutritionist, personal trainer, food scientist/technologist and butcher.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Ms Chattaway**

[lchattaway@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:lchattaway@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: Cambridge Nationals Sport Science

Exam board: OCR

## What will I do on this course?

- Learn how to prevent and treat sporting injuries.
- Learn how different medical conditions can affect sports performance.
- Apply the principles of training to fitness and skills development for sporting activities.
- Apply knowledge of good nutrition to improve sporting performance.
- Understand how the body systems change and develop in response to physical training.

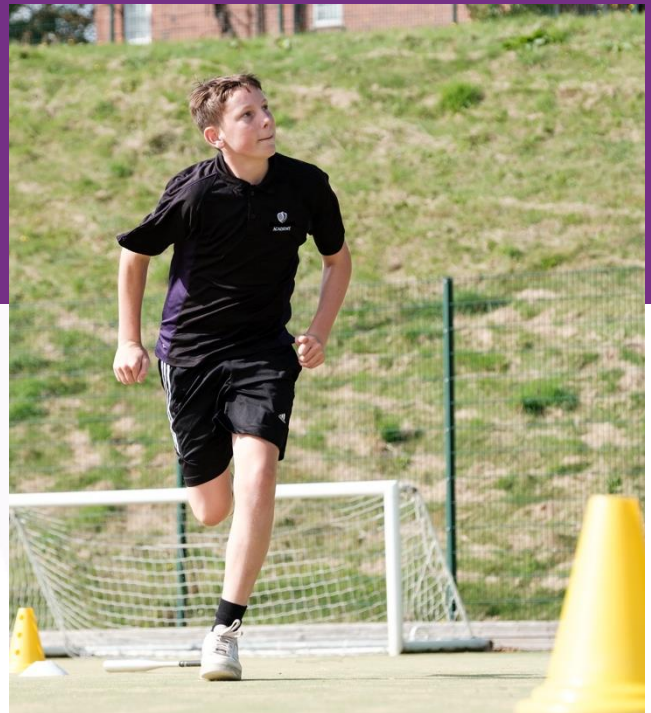
## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

**Research skills** - finding information about a variety of topics using books, articles and the internet.

**Analysis skills** – analyse results from fitness tests, evaluate the effectiveness of treatments for sporting injuries and methods of training for different aspects of fitness and skill development.

**Thinking skills** – use knowledge learned to create a fitness programme to improve fitness and skills development, produce a nutrition plan, to improve sports performance.

**Organisational skills** – organising your time to meet deadlines, organise your work so that it is coherent.



## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Unit R180: Reducing the risk of sports injuries

Written Examination

40% of CNAT

### Unit R181: Applying the principles of training

Controlled Assessment

20% of CNAT

### Unit R183 Nutrition and sports performance

Controlled Assessment

20% of CNAT

## What careers is this good for?

Physiotherapist, fitness instructor/personal trainer, sports scientist, psychologist, dietician, coach/teacher, Armed Forces and public services, e.g. police force or firefighter.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mr Phillips**

[aphillips@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:aphillips@thewellsacademy.org)

**Mr Slack**

[kslack@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:kslack@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: GCSE RE

Exam board: Edexcel



## What will I do on this course?

Gain knowledge and understanding of the Muslim and Christian faiths in order to discuss, analyse and critically evaluate key beliefs and interpretations.

Learn how to use a range of sources of wisdom and authority to comprehend the significance of rules and beliefs within each religion.

Develop communication and writing skills to form your own viewpoints about the philosophical and ethical dilemmas covered and addressed by each religion.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

An interest in understanding how religion has impacted the development of the human race and a fascination of how religious revelation has contributed to philosophy and ethics

**Literacy skills** – you will be writing extended answers on various topics.

**Communication skills** – you will be discussing and explaining your views and judgements both in speech and writing.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

Written exam: Christianity  
50% of GCSE

### Component 2

Written exam: Islam  
50% of GCSE

## What careers is this good for?

An understanding of religion and why people believe what they do will help you in practically every career path. Journalism, public service, teacher, police, law, business, politics, social services.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mrs Poland**

[epoland@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:epoland@thewellsacademy.org)

**Mr Hashim**

[thashim@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:thashim@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance)

Exam board: Pearson

## What will I do on this course?

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject.

This course recognises the role of dance in young people's lives and students will study a range of dance styles and style fusions. Apart from the solo performance, they can choose any style in which to perform and choreograph, providing it meets the assessment criteria.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

Students wishing to study dance should have a passion and interest for dance. They should be prepared to perform and choreograph work for other performers. Additionally, students need to analyse and evaluate dance performances within a written examination.



## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

Internal assessment  
30% of BTEC

### Component 2

Internal assessment  
30% of BTEC

### Component 3

Responding to a brief  
40% of BTEC

## What careers is this good for?

A dance qualification is the perfect route to a career in the arts sector working as a dancer, choreographer, teacher or lecturer. It is also an excellent gateway qualification to a range of sectors, including: business, charity, event management, law, leisure, marketing, media, sales and teaching.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mrs Oliver**

[coliver@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:coliver@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: GCSE Drama

Exam board: AQA



## What will I do on this course?

Our GCSE Drama course offers students the opportunity to explore drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention. Students will create, perform and respond to drama informed by their theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre.

The subject content for GCSE Drama is divided into three components: understanding drama, devising drama and texts in practice. For the practical units students choose to work as performers or designers (design students may choose lighting, sound, set, costume or puppets).

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

To be a successful student of GCSE Drama, you should have an interest in drama and theatre and be willing to work collaboratively within a small group.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

Written examination  
40% of GCSE

### Component 2

Devised performance and written log book  
40% of GCSE

### Component 3

Scripted performance  
20% of GCSE

## What careers is this good for?

A drama qualification is the perfect route to a career in theatre, television, film and the wider creative industries. It is also an excellent gateway qualification to a range of sectors, including: business, charity, event management, law, leisure, marketing, media, sales and teaching.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Miss Pearson**

[jpearson@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:jpearson@thewellsacademy.org)

**Ms Hylton**

[ahylton@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:ahylton@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: BTEC Music

Exam board: Pearson



## What will I do on this course?

Developing and applying the musical knowledge, understanding and skills set out in our BTEC qualification will enable you to form a personal and meaningful relationship with music. You will be encouraged to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities.

The subject content is divided into the three components:

- Exploring music products and styles
- Music skill development
- Responding to a music brief.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

To be a successful student of BTEC Music, you should have an interest in music as well as music performance and composition.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

### Component 1

Internally assessed assignment  
30% of BTEC

### Component 2

Internally assessed assignment  
30% of BTEC

### Component 3

Externally assessed task  
40% of the BTEC

## What careers is this good for?

A music qualification is the perfect route into the music industry and the wider creative industries. It is also an excellent gateway qualification to a range of sectors, including: business, charity, event management, law, leisure, marketing, media, sales and teaching.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Miss Hutchinson**

[ahutchinson@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:ahutchinson@thewellsacademy.org)

**Ms Hylton**

[ahylton@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:ahylton@thewellsacademy.org)

# Subject: **Separate Science**

Exam board: AQA



## What will I do on this course?

Students following this course receive a separate GCSE grade in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students must complete the course for all three Sciences and are not able to select which Sciences they study.

Students learn through a mixture of theory and practical lessons in the same way as they would if they were following the Combined Science route. The Separate Science course covers the same units as Combined Science, but in a lot more depth, with more mathematical content required for full understanding of these units. Physics GCSE also has an extra unit, which covers Space.

The Separate Science course has a more substantial practical element, and students complete twenty-eight required practical activities. These required practicals are assessed across each of the six exam papers.

## What sort of skills do I need to be successful on this course?

- A real love for Science! The Separate Science course is very knowledge rich and can prove challenging due to the timetabled hours and the rigour of the course.
- Determined, motivated and strong work ethic.
- An ability to analyse and evaluate information to a high degree. Higher tier GCSE Maths is preferred.
- Understand and make informed judgements about Science-based issues.
- Conduct practical and investigative work and be aware of health and safety.

## How is the course assessed and graded?

**GCSE Biology Component 1: Topics 1-4**  
50% of GCSE

**GCSE Biology Component 2: Topics 5-7**  
50% of GCSE

**GCSE Chemistry Component 1: Topics 1-5**  
50% of GCSE

**GCSE Chemistry Component 2: Topics 6-10**  
50% of GCSE

**GCSE Physics Component 1: Topics 1-4**  
50% of GCSE

**GCSE Physical Component 2: Topics 5-8**  
50% of GCSE

## What careers is this good for?

Separate Science is an ideal platform for students who wish to continue Science at A level and continue to a Science based career across a variety of fields. Most Post-16 providers require a minimum Grade 6 in the Science subject that you are wishing to take at A level.

## Who can I speak to for more information?

**Mrs Mason**

[dmason@thewellsacademy.org](mailto:dmason@thewellsacademy.org)

## Notes:

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