



# KS4 Pathways Guide 2026

St Cuthbert Mayne School

Educating for life in all its fullness – John 10:10

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*“Across the school, pupils behave with respect, kindness and empathy towards each other. Staff nurture and support pupils so that they are able to learn effectively.”*  
Ofsted 2025

# Your Pathways Guide

This booklet will provide you with all the important information about your progression into Key Stage 4.

Hopefully, this booklet will help you make your choice on the right options for KS4 that will, in turn, aid your future progression into Post-16 and beyond! Remember that Form Tutors, Subject Teachers and Career Adviser are all there to help when it comes to talking about courses and examinations.

In this booklet, we will cover the core curriculum (the subjects you have to take) and optional subjects (the subjects you can choose to take). We will also talk you through how grading works, how to choose the subjects that are right for you and future career pathways.

You will be supported through this process by a series of events that are designed to help you make the best choices. See the table below for key dates.

If you have any questions regarding the process, then please do not hesitate to contact your Head of Year or Miss Kingdon.

## Key Dates

January 2026	Key Stage 4 Pathways Booklet issued to students
January - February 2026	Subject Taster lessons/talks will take place during the school day
5th February 2026	Pathways Evening
2nd March 2026	9am deadline for submission of online application forms
June 2026	Students are notified of courses for September 2026
September 2026	Key Stage 4 courses begin

# Message from our Headteacher

Dear Students,

You are approaching an important milestone in your education as you decide which subjects to study at examination level during Key Stage 4. This decision will affect your long-term study and career plans, so it is important to take many factors into account when deciding. This is a good time to remind you that you must be in some form of education or training until the end of the academic year in which you turn 18. We hope that when you complete your GCSE programmes of study, you will remain in our highly successful Sixth Form to continue your studies.

This Pathways Guide outlines the courses on offer at Key Stage 4, so please study the information carefully. Consider the idea that certain combinations of subjects provide a good foundation for further study, leading to broad career groups. At Key Stage 4, it is important not to restrict career options too much as interests often change over the next few years. This is why all students have to study core subjects such as English, Maths, Science, Personal Development, Religious Education and Physical Education.

School staff will know you well by now, and their input will be helpful in making important decisions for your Key Stage 4 courses.

Throughout January and February you will have the opportunity to hear about all the subjects we offer through subject presentations in Ready to Learn time and in your lessons. We will also host a Pathways Evening on Thursday 5th February, which we encourage you all to attend with your parent(s), where you will be able to find out more, and it will support you in making your final choices.

I wish you all the very best during this exciting decision-making process, and please always remember that we are here to support and help you.

Mr J. Down

Headteacher



# KS4 Curriculum

From September 2026, the curriculum will consist of the following at Key Stage 4:

## Core Subjects

English Language GCSE  
English Literature GCSE  
Maths GCSE  
Science GCSE  
Religious Education GCSE  
  
Physical Education - Non Exam  
Personal Development - Non Exam

## Optional Subjects

Art  
Business and Enterprise  
Child Development  
Computer Science  
Design and Technology  
Drama  
Food Preparation and Nutrition  
French  
Hospitality and Catering  
Geography  
History  
Information Technology  
Media Studies  
Music  
Photography  
Sport

The optional subjects include a range of GCSE and Level 2 Certificate qualifications, which are organised into three option blocks. Once we have received students' initial subject choices through the online application process, we use this information to design the blocks in a way that allows as many students as possible to study at least two of their three preferred subjects. The application process will open in February. Each subject is taught for five hours per fortnight.

**There are different courses and pathways to be aware of when choosing GCSE options.**

### GCSEs

These are the most common type of Level 1 and 2 qualifications for KS4 and consist of formal exams and class work rather than a majority coursework-based qualification. These are graded 9-1. Please see the following page for more details on gradings.

### Level 2 Certificates

These are work-related qualifications that are assessed through classroom-based assignments and an external examination. These courses are ideal for students who have a strong interest in the subject area and enjoy this method of learning and assessment. These are Level 2 courses which are graded Distinction, Merit or Pass and are equivalent to 9-4 grades.

**All students need to choose History or Geography, but can do both if they choose.**

# KS4 Grading

Students at Key Stage 4 will study GCSEs and Level 2 Certificates.

The diagram below shows how students are graded in GCSE and BTEC/Vocational subjects. GCSEs use the 9–1 grading scale, with 9 as the highest grade, while BTEC and vocational courses are graded from Pass to Distinction\*. The diagram helps illustrate how these different grading systems compare and how your child will be graded.

## Grading structure

GCSEs	BTEC First Award	BTEC Tech Award
9	LDD*	LDD*
8		
7	L2D	L2D
6	L2M	L2M
Strong Pass → 5		
Standard Pass → 4	L2P	L2P
3	Level 1 Pass	L1D
2		L1M
1		L1P
U	U	U

# Choosing your options

## Choose your subjects wisely

- Try subjects you enjoy and feel you are good at.
- Consider subjects that are useful for future education or career paths.
- Pick subjects that you are likely to work enthusiastically in and succeed at.
- Opt for choices that are balanced and have variety.

## Do

- ✓ Talk to parents, carers, subject teachers, careers staff and students who are in Key Stage 4 and studying the particular subject.
- ✓ Read the subject details in this guide carefully and ask if you need to know more.
- ✓ Opt for a balanced choice of subjects to keep future careers and study options open. A good balance now won't restrict your future options.

## Don't

- ✗ Choose a subject because you like a particular teacher (or avoid a subject because you dislike a teacher) – it's likely you will have a different teacher next year and relationships with your teachers will grow.
- ✗ Choose a subject just because your friends are choosing it. It is a decision about your future and your friends may not be in the same group as you.
- ✗ Be misled by the title of a subject into thinking you need it for a career.

## Things to consider

- Due to similarity in course content, students can only choose one of the following: Food Prep and Nutrition OR Hospitality and Catering.
- Make sure you have thought about your reserve choices.
- St Cuthbert Mayne offers an excellent range of option subjects but these can only run if enough students choose them. We cannot allow classes to be too busy either. We always do our best to provide you with your first choices, but if unable to, we will discuss with you the reasons why and help you to consider your reserve subject options.

# Careers

In Personal Development lessons, students are involved in exploring future career pathways encouraging them to make the most of opportunities that come their way - this is done through our 'Employable Me' programme. Building on this, Year 10 is an exciting year for our students in terms of careers education, and there are some important events throughout this year.

## Work Experience

We offer all our year 10 students the exciting opportunity of experiencing the workplace through a Work Experience placement. Work Experience provides a wonderful opportunity for students to undertake full time work in an environment that differs significantly from school. The purpose of Work Experience is not necessarily for students to decide upon the career which they wish to pursue; instead, the emphasis is on working in the 'real world', understanding how organisations operate, working with different people and having the opportunity to try something new and interesting.

Year 10 students will be guided through this process during tutor time and in their Personal Development lessons. Our work experience placements are all completed through the UniFrog platform where students will be given the chance to create an online application to secure their work placement.

## Careers Fair

Year 10 students will have the opportunity to visit exhibitions in our Careers Fair during the Spring Term. Over 30 employers, universities and other providers will be on hand to offer valuable insights that support students in planning and preparing for future career pathways.

In Year 11 there are several other opportunities to support our students with their Careers Education:

- Post 16 Choices Evening St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form
- Focused one-to-one interviews with an external careers advisor
- Interview Experience is an excellent opportunity for students to take part in a formal interview with local employers. All Year 11 students will be involved in this event which takes place at the Osborne Hotel, and after their interview they are given personalised feedback from their interviewer.
- Opportunity to attend Apprenticeship/Vocational course fayre at South Devon College.



# Core Subjects

# English

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: AQA

English Language and Literature will provide you with key qualifications as they will equip you with essential independent skills in thinking, reading, writing, speaking and listening. These skills are useful in all aspects of modern academic and professional life, from researching briefs and writing professional letters, to developing the ability to discuss ideas and give presentations.

## What you will learn

You will learn to communicate in a variety of Speaking and Listening situations for a variety of different audiences. You will learn the skills of cooperation to work with others to fulfil your potential. You will study a range of different texts including: A Christmas Carol, An Inspector Calls, Macbeth and a range of poems, unseen passages and non-fiction. You will learn how to analyse these texts and write about them in an accurate and thoughtful way.

You will learn how to appreciate the techniques in a range of fiction and non-fiction texts that may inform or persuade the audience. You will learn how to write accurately for different purposes and audiences. You will have the opportunity to write creatively using illustrations as a stimulus for your own ideas. You will be encouraged to become independent in your writing to become accurate and articulate.

## How you are assessed

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade.

### English Language

Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing - Section A: Reading Unseen 20th Century literature fiction extract, and Section B: descriptive or narrative writing.

Paper 2 Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives - Section A: Reading two linked nonfiction texts, one from 19th Century and another modern text, and Section B: writing to persuade.

### Speaking and Listening

Single Formal Presentation followed by answering questions graded with either Pass, Merit or Distinction.

### English Literature

Paper 1 Shakespeare (Macbeth) and 19th Century Novel (A Christmas Carol)

Paper 2 Modern Play (An Inspector Calls) and Poetry (Power and Conflict) and Unseen Poetry.

Students will take the summer exams at the end of Year 11.

## What you can do next

English is one of the first qualifications you are asked about by prospective employers. Many use English grades as a judgement of how effectively you can understand reading, communicate in writing and present yourself in speaking which is essential for all jobs and academic courses.

A pass in GCSE English Literature and Language is often an essential requirement for entry into higher and further education - you will be able to apply many of these skills to your work in other subject areas. At A Level we offer a combined English Language and Literature A Level.

A GCSE in English can open doors to a wide range of exciting career paths, including: Journalism, Professional writing, Publishing, Screenwriter, Advertising, Playwright, Teaching and more.

If you have any queries relating to English, please contact Mr Sykes or Mrs Kirby

# Maths

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: AQA

Mathematics is a core subject within school, providing students with essential skills in problem-solving, logical reasoning and numerical understanding that are fundamental to everyday life; it is also highly prized by employers and further education establishments because it develops analytical thinking, accuracy and the ability to apply knowledge to real-world situations, all of which are crucial for a wide range of careers and academic pathways.

## What you will learn

The course will cover the following content:

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

Learners are set by ability. This is so they can progress at a pace that is challenging to their needs. There will be a mixture of teaching and learning methods including problem solving, group working and independent study.

Revision and consolidation sessions will occur throughout the two-year course and all learners are encouraged to attend. All learners will have a personalised learning checklist which will allow everybody involved to know their mathematical strengths and areas which they could improve upon. This will allow learners to work on specific areas for development.

Home Learning is set regularly. There are also regular assessments throughout the course to identify where individual learners are, and to ensure that their needs are met in order to make progress and achieve at the highest level they can. These will be carried out using in-class assessments and several more formal whole-year group Pre-Public Examinations.

## How you are assessed

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade.

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher. Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5. Higher tier: grades 4 to 9. The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers at either tier.

**Paper 1:** External Exam (80 marks) Non-Calculator Assessment - 1hr and 30 mins

**Paper 2:** External Exam (80 marks) Calculator Assessment - 1hr and 30 mins

**Paper 3:** External Exam (80 marks) Calculator Assessment - 1hr and 30 mins

Students will take exams in June at the end of Year 11

## What you can do next

We offer Mathematics at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form, should you wish to pursue it at A Level.

The entry requirement for many courses and job vacancies include a mathematics grade, depending on what you chose to apply for.

GCSE Maths can open doors to a wide range of exciting career paths, including: Finance and Accounting, Engineering, Sound Engineer, Data Scientist, Meteorologist, Academic Researcher, Statistician and more!

If you have any queries relating to Maths, please contact Mr Harvey

# Science

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: AQA

Science at GCSE is a core subject taken by all students, and includes Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course develops scientific knowledge, practical skills and problem-solving through a wide range of topics and required practical investigations, with time built in for revision and exam preparation. Some students will be given the opportunity to study Triple Science, this will be communicated to you via the science department in September.

## What you will learn

Students will be awarded two GCSEs in Science, which will have results reported such as 5-4, 5-5, 7-6.

Students will learn a series of units that will either be Biology, Chemistry or Physics throughout the year, and should finish their GCSE teaching in February of Year 11. This will give time for us to revise the previous 2 years of Science teaching and learning and prepare fully for the exams in the summer. Students will also complete a series of 21 required practicals across their GCSE in order to enhance their practical skills.

**Biology Topics:** Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and response, Ecology, Inheritance, variation and evolution.

**Chemistry Topics:** Atomic structure and the periodic table, Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes, Energy changes, The rate and extent of chemical change, Organic chemistry, Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere, Using resources.

**Physics Topics:** Forces, Energy, Waves, Electricity, Magnetism and electromagnetism, Particle model of matter and Atomic structure.

Students excelling in science during years 10 and 11 will be taught the broader triple science curriculum during their combined science lessons and entered for these exams in the summer of year 11. These students are able to gain three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

## How you are assessed

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade. Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher. Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5. Higher tier: grades 4 to 9.

2 Biology Exams 1 hour 15 minutes.

2 Chemistry Exams 1 hour 15 minutes.

2 Physics Exams 1 hour 15 minutes.

Students will take the exams in June at the end of Year 11.

## What you can do next

Students studying Combined Science can go on to study A Level Sciences here at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form. The entry grade for A Level sciences is two grade 6s or more in Combined Science along with a Grade 5/6 in higher tier Maths, depending on which sciences students choose to take.

A GCSE in Combined Science can open doors to a wide range of career paths, including: Nursing, Midwifery, Veterinary surgeon, Engineering, Forensic Science, Education, Doctor, Ecologist and more.

If you have any queries relating to Combined Science, please contact Dr Penwill or Mr Stewart.

# Core Physical Education

Students have three hours of core PE over 2 weeks throughout Key Stage 4, in which we offer a wide range of individual and team activities.

## What you will learn

At Key Stage 4, there is a broad and balanced curriculum that provides different sporting opportunities for the students which can involve them undertaking various roles including being a performer, official and/or coach. We strongly emphasize the benefits of leading a balanced, healthy and active lifestyle and encourage the students to take part in activities that will promote lifelong participation.

### Extra-Curricular Physical Education and School Sport

The department provides an outstanding provision of PE and Sport. All students will continue to be provided with opportunities to participate in sports clubs and competition at all levels. Training for these clubs takes place after school. Further provision is offered to students through inter-form competition, District and County fixtures and competitions.

## What you can do next

You can continue your physical education into Sixth Form with our Sports and Physical Activity course. There are many opportunities in this field through apprenticeships and higher education.

A GCSE in Physical Education can open doors to a wide range of career paths, including: Physical Therapy, Personal Trainer, Sports Rehabilitation, Professional Sports Player and Sports Coach.

If you have any queries relating to PE, please contact Mrs Clark or Mrs Evans.



# Personal Development

Personal Development is an important part of the curriculum at St Cuthbert Mayne School. To facilitate the learning of this, we have 'deep learning sessions' throughout the year, where the timetable is collapsed and students spend their time learning about citizenship related topics.

## What you will learn

The Key Stage 4 course examines many of the changes and demands involved in becoming an adult. The opportunities and responsibilities associated with adolescence and adulthood are investigated, and your changing perceptions of society are explored. You will consider many of the conflicts and emotions that teenagers may experience. Much of the Personal Development programme will be integrated into subjects as well.

The course will provide you with a wide variety of information related to careers, the law and other issues. You will be encouraged to discuss in an open way a wide variety of personal and social issues which relate to you as a teenager. Therefore, throughout the course, you will be developing your interpersonal skills such as co-operation, listening and expressing your views.

## What you can do next

Personal Development will prepare you for further education by teaching you about careers, global issues and the law. You can study these areas further with A Levels in Sociology, Psychology or Uniformed Protective Services. Your Personal Development lessons will also help you practice your interpersonal skills which are a must-have for any future career!

If you have any queries relating to Personal Development, please contact Mr Hammond.



# Religious Studies

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDUQAS

The main advantage of GCSE Religious Studies is that it prepares you for life and gives you the skills you will need to make the decisions every adult faces. It helps you develop skills such as understanding, empathy, evaluation and analysis.

## What you will learn

This course will be comprised of three parts. All students will study:

### Part 1 - Christianity

An in depth study of Christianity which will include the following themes:

1. Beliefs and teachings
2. Practices – What Christians do.

### Part 2 - Judaism

An in depth study of Judaism. This will include the following themes:

1. Beliefs and teachings
2. Practices – What Jews do.

### Part 3 - A study of religious, philosophical and ethical issues in the modern world.

Theme 1: Issues of Relationships – including ideas about marriage and family life.

Theme 2: Issues of Life and Death – including ideas about how the world was created, abortion, euthanasia and life after death.

Theme 3: Issues of Good and Evil – including why we are moral, crime and capital punishment, sin, suffering and freewill.

Theme 4: Issues of Human Rights – including social justice, extremism, prejudice and discrimination.

## How you are assessed

Each candidate will be assessed by three written examination papers at the end of Year 11. The teacher will mark class assessments to GCSE criteria which will be graded on a scale of 1 - 9.

There are 2 assessment objectives. AO1 - Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief. AO2 - Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

Students will take the exams in June at the end of Year 11.

## What you can do next

GCSE Religious Studies is excellent preparation for A Level Social Sciences (sociology and psychology), A Level Religious Studies, History and English.

But remember, Religious Studies is a relevant qualification for ANY job which involves working with other people. The UK is a multi-faith society and an understanding of our similarities and differences will help us live and work together peacefully!

Religious Studies can lead to careers in: Social Work, Medicine, Nursing, Uniformed Services, Teaching, Politics and Probation Service.

If you have any queries relating to Religious Studies, please contact Miss Woolway.



# Optional Subjects

# Art

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: AQA

Art GCSE enables you to expand your creative skills. If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, art and design is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects.

## What you will learn

This broad-based course explores practical, critical and contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and media. Students who pick this option find it gives a break from more academic subjects and an opportunity to relax. Like all GCSEs there is lots of work to complete but it isn't hard work. The effort you put in often determines the level you achieve. Students really enjoy working in sketchbooks and showing their creative outcomes to their friends. A resource gathering trip occurs at the start of the course and students in the past have enjoyed going to St Ives and the Eden Project. Students who take this subject often pick GCSE Photography too.

## How you are assessed

**3 units of work to be completed within the duration of the course.**

**Unit 1** - Skills Based Project (Natural Forms)

**Unit 2** - Personal Choice of theme

**Unit 3** - Exam Unit

There is slightly more weighting towards the coursework units that you complete: 60% coursework and 40% exam.

In the first two units you will explore the theme of 'Natural Forms' and a 'Personal Investigation' where you pick your starting point. During the exam unit you will be given several months in order to produce a project. There is a supervised 10 hour exam in which you will complete your final piece/s at the end. There is no written exam for this subject.

**For each unit you will be marked on your ability to respond to the 4 Assessment Objectives.**

AO1 - Research and develop ideas from a range of Artists or Craftspeople. (Marked out of 24)

AO2 - Experiment with a range of materials and techniques. (Marked out of 24)

AO3 - Record ideas through Drawing, Painting and 3D modelling. (Marked out of 24)

AO4 - Present a personal and meaningful response. (Marked out of 24)

## What you can do next

We offer Art A Level here at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form if you were to continue studying with us into A Level. Studying Art at GCSE can lead to careers in: Set Design, Gallery Curator, Teaching, Illustration, Animation, Website Design Architecture, Interior Design, Packaging Design, Art Therapy, and so much more!

If you have any queries relating to Art, please contact Miss Al-Turki or Miss Facer.

# Business and Enterprise

Qualification: BTEC | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: Pearson

Students who choose this course will undertake study with an emphasis on vocational learning. The course is aimed at students who have an interest in potentially setting up their own business in the future, have a general interest in business and enterprise, or wish to progress onto future study.

## What you will learn

This award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on the knowledge, understanding and skills required to research, plan, pitch and review an enterprise idea that includes:

- development of key skills that prove aptitude in planning an enterprise activity, including market research, planning, carrying out financial transactions, communication and problem solving.
- knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, such as the features and characteristics of enterprises and entrepreneurs, and the internal and external factors that can affect the performance of an enterprise.
- attitudes and ways of working that are considered most important for enterprise, including monitoring and reflecting on performance of an enterprise idea and own use of skills.

### The course focuses on three key components

#### Component 1:

Learners will examine different local enterprises to develop their knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of enterprises and the skills needed by entrepreneurs.

#### Component 2:

Learners will individually select an idea for a micro-enterprise activity to plan and pitch. They will individually pitch their business plan for their idea to an audience and then use the feedback to review their plan and pitch.

#### Component 3:

Learners will explore the different promotional methods used by enterprises and the factors that influence how enterprises identify and target their market. Learners will explore financial documents and how to use them to monitor and improve the performance of an enterprise in order to make decisions and recommend strategies for success.

## How you are assessed

### Component 1: (30% of Final Grade)

Internal Assessment through set assignments set by the exam board. Each assignment has 5 tasks.

### Component 2: (30% of Final Grade)

Internal Assessment through set assignments set by the exam board. Each assignment has 5 tasks.

### Component 3: (40% of Final Grade) External Assessment - 2 hours.

## What you can do next

These programmes are designed to give you the skills and confidence to be able to progress onto a Level 3 programme of study, such as A Levels or advanced BTECs and apprenticeships. We offer BTEC Business Level 3 at Sixth Form, if you were to continue studying with us.

A BTEC in Business can lead to a wide range of career paths: Entrepreneur, Marketing Specialist, Public Relations, Media, Law, Accounting, Human Resources, Events Management, Banking and Finance, Economics and much more.

If you have any queries relating to Business and Enterprise, please contact Mr Wright.

# Child Development

Qualification: Cambridge National Level 1/2 | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: OCR

Studying Child Development helps students understand and respect the diverse needs of young children. It builds awareness of children's development and supports students in becoming caring, informed individuals within families and the wider community.

## What you will learn

The course is particularly useful to any student who is considering a career in care, nursing or teaching.

### Unit 1: Health and well-being for child development.

All students will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, and conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.

**Unit 2: Create a safe environment and understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years.** All students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices.

### Unit 3: Understand the development norms of a child from one to five years

All students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. This unit will include researching, planning, carrying out activities with children and observing and reviewing these activities, as well as an understanding of the development norms and the benefits of play in child development.

## How you are assessed

### Unit 1: Health and well-being for child development

Written paper: 1 hour 15 minutes – 80 marks

### Unit 2: Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years.

Centre assessed task and OCR moderated – 60 marks

### Unit 3: Understand the development of a child from one to five years

Centre assessed task and OCR moderated – 60 marks

## What you can do next

The Child Development course allows students to apply to the Sixth Form to study Health and Social Care.

The Child Development course also allows students to pursue careers in: Teaching, Nursing, Midwifery, Health and Social Care and more.

If you have any queries relating to Child Development, please contact Mrs Loader or Miss Harris.

# Computer Science

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: OCR

This GCSE in Computer Science is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages you to develop your understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. You will analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.

## What you will learn

### Component 01: Computer system

Introduces you to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

### Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

You will apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. Then develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

### Practical programming

You will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during this course of study which allows you to develop your skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. You will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02.

## How you are assessed

**Computer systems (01)** - 1 hour 30min written paper - 50% of the overall grade.

**Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02)** - 1hr 30min written paper - 50% of the overall grade.

## What you can do next

From games developer to manager of IT and communications services, you'll have a range of opportunities open to you as a computer science graduate.

Because computing helps hone your computational thinking skills and problem-solving ability, it could be useful for a whole bunch of careers. In job applications, you can use your computing GCSE or A Level to demonstrate these skills.

ICT skills are particularly useful in any office-based job. Since computer science is new, GCSE or A Level computer science could give you an edge on other candidates, since you will have developed creative skills and knowledge that they may not have. Your ability to write programs and manipulate information and content are skills that potential employers may value.

Studying Computer Science can lead to careers as: Games Developer, IT Manager, Communications, Teaching, Software Engineer, Data Analyst, App Designer, Website Designer and more.

If you are considering taking Computer Science, please contact Mrs Gowers.

# Design & Technology

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDUQAS

Design Technology is a subject designed for problem solvers and creative thinkers. Students will be led through the design process and encouraged to identify the wants and needs of a target market, and create new and exciting products to meet those needs.

## What you will learn

Students will have the opportunity to work with a range of materials including: paper, card, wood, metal, plastic, textiles, and smart materials. They will have the opportunity to develop skills and processes such as CAD/CAM, laser cutting and 3D printing alongside a wide range of workshop skills, safely and effectively using a variety of tools and equipment.

This exciting subject offers a unique opportunity for students to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems. Students will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world and be aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology, including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Students will:

- Identify and solve real problems by designing and making products.
- Create new, exciting design ideas through sketching, modelling and prototypes, using imagination, experimentation and combining ideas
- Communicate design ideas using different media and techniques including CAD/CAM
- Be ambitious and open to explore and take design risks in order to stretch the development of design proposals, avoiding clichéd or stereotypical responses
- Analyse and evaluate design decisions
- Identify the wants and needs of a target market
- Work with a range of materials including: paper, card, wood, metal, plastic, textiles, smart materials
- Build a wide repertoire of workshop processes safely and skillfully, including laser cutting and 3D printing
- Participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world
- Consider the costs, commercial viability and marketing of products
- Research influences on design and technology, including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors
- Take part in a design competition with a local Torbay company.

## How you are assessed

### Unit 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century

50% of qualification, written examination: 2 hours. A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing students' knowledge of Design and Technology topics.

### Unit 2: Design and make task 50% of qualification

Non-exam assessment: approximately 35 hours. A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by Eduqas, assessing students' ability to: identify, investigate and outline design possibilities, design and make prototypes, and analyse and evaluate design decisions.

## What you can do next

Students will be able to progress to a Design & Technology related course including A Level and Vocational courses in D&T, Product Design, 3D, Engineering and Architecture. Career opportunities could include: Engineering, Interior Design, Architecture, Carpentry, Electronics, Manufacturing, Mechanics and many more other exciting and rewarding careers!

If you have any queries relating to D&T, please contact Mrs Loader or Mr Laing.



# Drama

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: WJEC EDUQAS

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.

## What you will learn

Through following this specification, you will be given opportunities to participate in and interpret your own and others' drama. You will have the option to work practically as performers and/or designers in Components 1 and 2. You 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 perform a piece of original theatre.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in the performance of an extract from a play text. You will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of drama, including your ability to interpret texts for performance, in a written examination. However, in preparation for this assessment, you will be able to study your chosen text practically as a performer, designer and director.

## How you are assessed

### Component 1 – Devising Theatre 40%

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 WJEC. Students must produce: a realisation of their piece of devised theatre, a portfolio of supporting evidence and an evaluation of the final performance or design.

### Component 2 – Performing From Text 20%

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 40% (1 Hour 30 Mins Written Exam)

Section A: A series of questions on one set text from an actor, designer or directors point of view.

Section B: Live Theatre Review question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.

## What you can do next

Studying Drama can help you to develop transferable skills such as: self confidence, team work, public speaking, communication skills and leadership skills. There are many routes you can take after completing the GCSE in Drama such as further studies within Performing Arts, which we offer here at St Cuthbert Mayne, as a BTEC Extended Certificate which is equivalent to 1 A Level.

Future careers options could include: Acting for Theatre, Designer, Musical Theatre, Teacher, Director, Acting for Screen, Presenting, Drama Therapy and more.

If you have any queries relating to Drama, please contact Mr Waterworth or Mrs Byng.



# Food Preparation & Nutrition

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDUQAS

Food Preparation and Nutrition will give you a good basis on which to build a career in one of the largest, most dynamic and constantly changing industries. The course allows students to progress to food and catering related courses and gives students an understanding of food products, ingredients and cooking methods.

## What you will learn

The course is aimed at 14-16 year olds studying their Key Stage 4 curriculum who are interested in any aspect of food and cookery and in the context of cooking for health.

This course is very practically based and emphasis is placed on self-reliance and a good level of skill; much of the work is covered in a series of practical based projects.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy making food products in a safe and hygienic environment, and who are creative and curious about ingredients, ad keen to develop practical skills while learning new recipes and techniques.

The qualification is appropriate for students who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on practical experiences and through content, including: Food nutrition and health, Food Science, Food Choice and Food provenance.

It is an appropriate course for all students who are looking to develop a significant core of knowledge and understanding of food and nutrition and apply that knowledge in preparing and producing dishes.

Students can only choose one of the following: Food Preparation & Nutrition OR Hospitality & Catering.

## How you are assessed

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade.

### Written paper: Food preparation and nutrition

50% of GCSE 100 marks. Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition. 1 hour 45 minutes.

### Non-exam assessment: (NEA) 50% of the GCSE grade

Food investigation. Students will investigate the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Food practical. Students will plan, prepare and make 3 dishes in 3 hours to demonstrate their skills and knowledge of food preparation and nutrition.

## What you can do next

The course enables students to explore practical cooking skills and understand the science behind food through hands on cookery and experimentation. Students who wish to enter careers in Food Science, Food Technology, Food Manufacturing, Hospitality and Catering, Hospitality, Sports, Dietetics, Nursing or other Health-related occupations may find the course of benefit.

If you have any queries relating to this course, please contact Mrs Loader or Miss Harris.



# French

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDEXCEL

GCSE French course helps students develop confidence in communicating and understanding French in a variety of everyday situations. It equips learners with practical language skills for travel, discussing familiar topics, understanding the main points of spoken and written texts, and talking about future plans. The course also builds cultural awareness and transferable language skills that support further study and future opportunities.

## What you will learn

This course will develop your desire and ability to communicate with speakers of French and understand them in a variety of contexts and for a variety of purposes.

It will enable you to cope confidently with the sort of situations you are likely to encounter on a holiday or short professional trip to a French-speaking country, whether it be on a skiing trip, camping holiday, exchange or business excursion. You'll be able to enter into a discussion about films and other entertainment; you should be able to understand the gist of a news report; and you'll be able to tell someone what your plans are for the future.

The ability to express yourself in another language also enhances your ability to use your own. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of French, and countries and communities where French is spoken; broadening your horizons, developing your cultural knowledge and understanding and fostering transferable skills that will benefit you throughout your future studies and life experiences.

You will look at different themes over the course such as: My personal world, Lifestyle and wellbeing, My neighbourhood, Media and technology, Studying and my future, Travel and tourism.

## How you are assessed

GCSE French is a linear qualification with 100% of assessment taking place at the end of Year 11 (exam).

**There are four components:**

Listening (25%); Speaking (25%); Reading (25%); Writing (25%)

## What you can do next

There are many routes you can take after completing the GCSE in French, such as A Level French, which we offer here at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form, through to a range of degrees in higher education.

Studying a Language can help you to develop transferable skills such as: self confidence, creative thinking, problem solving, and communication skills. These transferable skills are highly sought after by colleges, universities and employers.

Future careers can include: Hospitality, Tourism, Education, Publishing, Advertising, Marketing, Law, Translation, Business, Media, Recruitment and HR.

If you have any queries relating to this course, please contact Mrs Rowbury.



# Hospitality and Catering

Qualification: Vocational Award | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDUQAS

Hospitality & catering will give you a good basis on which to build a career in one of the largest, most dynamic and constantly changing industries. The course allows students to progress to hospitality and catering related courses and gives students an understanding of food products, ingredients and cooking methods.

## What you will learn

The course is aimed at 14-16 year olds who are interested in the Hospitality & Catering Industry. Students will gain a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the hospitality and catering industry including provision, health and safety, food hygiene and safety.

The qualification is appropriate for students who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on practical experiences and through content including:

- Hospitality and catering provision
- How hospitality and catering providers operate
- Health and safety in hospitality and catering
- Food safety in hospitality and catering

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of the importance of nutrition and how to plan nutritious menus. Students will learn the skills needed to prepare, cook and present dishes, and will take part in a number of practical lessons making food products/dishes. Students will develop their practical skills to a competent standard.

Students will also learn about the following topic areas:

- The operation of the front and back of house
- Hospitality and catering provision to meet specific requirements
- Health and safety in hospitality and catering provision
- Food safety
- Preventive control measures of food-induced ill health

**Students can only choose one of the following: Food Preparation & Nutrition OR Hospitality & Catering.**

## How you are assessed

**Unit 1:** Externally assessed through a written examination which contributes 40% to the overall qualification grade.

Duration: 1 hour 20 minutes Number of marks: 80

Format: short and extended answer questions based around applied situations.

**Unit 2:** This unit is internally assessed through controlled assessment. The assessment contributes 60% to the overall qualification grade.

## What you can do next

The course enables students to develop practical catering and hospitality skills while working safely to industry standards. Students who wish to enter careers in Hospitality and Catering, Food Technology, Food Manufacturing, Marketing, Food Science, Sports, Dietetics, Nursing or other Health-related occupations may find the course of benefit.

If you have any queries relating to this course, please contact Mrs Loader or Miss Harris.



# Geography

Qualification: GCSE | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: AQA

Geography provides students with an opportunity not only to develop a detailed subject-specific knowledge and understanding but also to develop proficiency in a wide range of transferable skills. Skills gained on the Geography course include data gathering and manipulation, enquiry work and decision making, independent research, statistical analysis, team work, report writing and summarising, and synthesising information for presentation.

## What you will learn

**Living with the Physical Environment. There are three sections in this unit:**

1. The Challenge of Natural Hazards: Tectonic and weather/climate hazards.
2. Physical Landscapes in the UK: Coastal and River landscapes.
3. The Living World: Ecosystems and their management

**Challenges in the Human Environment. There are three sections in this unit:**

1. Urban Issues and Challenges: World population growth and megacities
2. Changing Economic World: Differences in global development
3. The Challenge of Resource Management: Ensuring a food and water supply

We also need to complete an Issue Evaluation. Pre-seen material will be issued a set number of weeks before the exam. Questions in the exam will be based on the pre-seen booklet.

We are also expected to complete two pieces of fieldwork (in contrasting environments – physical/human). Questions based on the fieldwork will be included in Paper 3.

## How you are assessed

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade.

**There are three examinations:**

**Paper 1:** Physical Environments 1 hour 30 minutes

**Paper 2:** Human Environments 1 hour 30 minutes

**Paper 3:** Issue Evaluation/Fieldwork 1 hour 30 mins

Students will take the exams in June at the end of Year 11.

## What you can do next

Geography at GCSE level provides a wide and varied base for entry into academic and vocational post 16 courses, including A Level Geography which we offer at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form. It can be successfully combined with both arts and science subjects as a foundation for higher or ongoing education. Geography is relevant to a number of specific careers including: Civil Engineering, Ecologist, Hazard Management, Meteorology, Cartography, The Armed Forces, Travel & Tourism.

If you have any queries relating to Geography, please contact Mr Chapman.



# History

Qualification: GCSE | Duration: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDEXCEL

The GCSE History course explores powerful and fascinating moments from Britain and the wider world, helping students understand how societies, governments and people have shaped the world we live in today. The course encourages debate, curiosity and independent thinking, while building valuable skills in evaluation, argument and understanding evidence that support further study and future careers.

## What you will learn

**Paper One: Thematic study and the historical environment (30% of final mark)**

Crime and Punishment in Britain c1000 – present day. Have you ever wondered why we have laws in the UK? How did we decide on what is legal / illegal? How should we punish people who break the law? Who has the right to decide on what is 'right or wrong?'

These are some of the big questions you will analyse in the study of Crime and Punishment. This breadth study of over a thousand years will focus on the thematic investigation of Change and Continuity: how have the concepts of crime, punishment and law enforcement changed and evolved over a millennium? From the midsts of the Dark Ages to the glory of the Enlightenment, from the transportation ships of Australia to the hovels of Whitechapel, from the gallows of the 'Bloody Code' to the ideas of rehabilitation in the 21st century, all learners will have the opportunity to evaluate this fascinating study of History.

**Paper Two: Period Study and British depth study (40% of the final mark)**

- Early Elizabethan England, 1558 - 1588. One of England's most famous monarchs: vain, 'Virgin Queen', victor of the Armada, and notoriously jealous. But just how accurate is this traditional narrative? This study of one of England's most influential monarchs aims to challenge our existing stereotypes of a female ruler who can genuinely claim to have changed the course of history.
- The American West, c1835 – c1895. Today America is the sole 'superpower' of the 21st century. Many historians claim that the 20th century belonged to the USA; the world we now live in has been shaped by American values and ideas. The question is how did this happen?

**Paper Three: Modern Depth Study (30% of final mark) Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1919 - 1939**

How does a democracy die? How can a single politician enrapture a nation and lead them down a path that resulted in one of the greatest atrocities in human history?

## How you are assessed

**Paper 1:** Thematic Study and the Historic Environment. 1 hour 15 minutes exam 30% of the GCSE

**Paper 2:** Period and British Depth study. 1 hour 45 minutes exam 40% of the GCSE

**Paper 3:** Modern Depth Study. 1 hour 20 minutes exam 30% of the GCSE

Students will take the exams in June at the end of Year 11.

## What you can do next

The skills gained through studying History are applicable to many careers. Studying History will help you develop into an independent learner, a critical thinker and a decision maker. All of these personal assets will make you stand out as you progress to A Level, university and/or the workplace. Students who study GCSE History often continue to study History at our Sixth Form, and take English and other humanities subjects alongside it. Careers can include: Civil Service, Historian, Politics, Museum Curator, Law, Journalism, Teaching and Archaeology.

If you have any queries relating to History, please contact Mr Hammond.

# Information Technology

Qualification: Creative iMedia J834, Level 2 | Duration of course: 2 Years | Exam Board: OCR

IT skills are essential for success in employment and higher education and are among the fundamental transferable skills required by employers. This course delivers these skills across the whole range of learning styles and abilities, effectively engaging and inspiring all students to achieve great outcomes.

## What you will learn

You may be interested in Creative iMedia if you want an engaging qualification where you will use your learning in practical, real-life situations, such as:

- developing visual identities for clients
- planning and creating original digital graphics
- planning, creating and reviewing original digital media products.

This will help you to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the media industry. The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:

- thinking about and deciding what is required to be successful
- exploring different options and choosing the best way forward to solve a problem
- exploring and generating original ideas to find imaginative solutions to problems
- selecting the best tools and techniques to use to solve a problem
- appropriate use of media to convey meaning
- use of planning techniques to complete tasks in an organised way which meet deadlines.

This qualification will complement other learning that you are completing for GCSEs or vocational qualifications at Key Stage 4 and help to prepare you for further study.

## How you are assessed

This qualification requires you to complete three units, two are mandatory and one optional unit that will be chosen from the list below:

### Mandatory units:

R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry - Exam

R094: Visual identity and digital graphics - Centre assessed coursework

### Optional Coursework Unit. One of the following:

R095: Characters and comics

R097: Interactive digital media

R098: Visual imaging

R099: Digital games

## What you can do next

GCSE Information Technology provides a strong foundation for students wishing to continue their studies in Sixth Form by progressing to A Level IT or related digital and computing courses. The skills developed throughout the course open pathways into a wide range of creative and technical careers, including web design, app and game development, graphic design, digital illustration and comics, animation, and 3D modelling. Students will also gain valuable problem-solving, design and technical skills that are highly sought after in further education, apprenticeships and the rapidly growing digital industry.

If you have any queries relating to IT, please contact Mrs Gowers.

# Media Studies

Qualification: GCSE | Duration: 2 Years | Exam Board: OCR

With Media Studies being such a big influence on today's society, the ability to analyse and deconstruct media is a key skill. Studying Media is invaluable to any career path that values creativity, teamwork, individual initiative and effective communication skills.

## What you will learn

Across the course we will study different areas of media.

### TV and Promoting Media

#### Section A: Television

If you think that TV hasn't changed much over the years then prepare to be amazed! We look at how far TV Standards have improved not only in terms of technical quality but also narrative, characters and representations too.

#### Section B: Promoting Media

Did you think that films make \$\$\$ just because they were "good"? WRONG! We look into how global film studios spend big money on marketing strategies that become juggernauts. Oh - and then we make some lego stop motion films!

### Music and News

#### Section A: Music

MTV used to be a thing (ask your parents about it. IYKYK). We have a look at two British artists who represent different sides of the music scene: Hip-Hop/R&B and Pop Ballads. Niiice!

#### Section B: The News

No flashy Pictures of C list celebs for this. It's newspapers and online news, with a study of what goes into the news and a study of news values and representations. Fun!

### Non-Examination Assessed ('NEA') Practical Task

We have coursework worth 30% of your final grade in media, and it is practical! We use our cameras, lighting studio, and photoshop on the macs to create original front covers and double page spreads for student magazines. We are sent the brief from the exam board in march of year 10 and we get it all done in the summer.

## How you are assessed

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade.

**Exam:** TV and Promoting Media (35% of your grade)

**Exam:** Music and News (35% of your grade)

**Coursework:** Assessed Practical task (30% of your grade)

## What you can do next

The field of media offers a broad and diverse range of career opportunities, such as media production, camera operation, directing, editing, designing, film making, animation, copywriter, journalism, storyboarding, research, presenting and much more. Whether you are drawn to technical roles, creative storytelling or analytical research, the Media industry provides a dynamic and varied landscape to explore. We offer Media Studies A Level here at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form if you were to continue studying with us after your GCSEs.

If you have any queries relating to Media, please contact Mr Jukes.

# Music

Qualification: GCSE | Duration: 2 Years | Exam Board: EDUQAS

Music is constantly evolving, inspiring creativity and expression in a way that no other subject can. This course is designed to broaden minds and foster a love for all music by bringing theory, listening and composition skills to life.

## What you will learn

You will study different styles and genres of music in order to appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical context and musical language.

The course also allows students to develop their creativity in composing and performing music on an instrument of their choice. In order to take Music GCSE, students should ideally be able to play at a Grade 2 standard in at least one instrument by the end of Year 9.

If you are unsure about this please speak to your music teacher. Pupils should be able to read either basic notation or tablature and confidently play at least one instrument and/or be a confident singer/performer.

You will complete:

- Two compositions
- One solo performance
- One ensemble performance
- 1 hour 30 minute listening written exam.

## How you are assessed

### Component 1 - Performing (30% of final grade)

A minimum of four minutes of performance with one minute as an ensemble performance. This can be as a instrumentalist and/or vocalist and/or via technology.

### Component 2 - Composing (30% of final grade)

Two compositions lasting at least three minutes in total. One of which is a free composition and the other will be to a set brief.

### Component 3 - appraising (40% of final grade)

A 1 hour and 30 minute exam paper with listening exercises and written questions using excerpts of music with unfamiliar pieces and set study pieces.

### Departmental Expectations:

Music is both a highly academic and highly creative subject. It is recommended that you take one-to-one instrumental lessons with a qualified teacher on your instrument or voice (lessons are available so please see your music teacher for more information). You should be passionate about learning an instrument or singing, and open to writing your own music and performing to others.

## What you can do next

The GCSE Music qualification allows you to progress to A Level Music which we offer at our Sixth Form. A GCSE in music could lead to a career in Performance, Recording, Music Production, Music Business, Band Management, Music Journalism, Music Therapy, Teaching and more.

If you have any queries relating to Music, please contact Mr Waterworth.

# Photography

Qualification: GCSE | Duration: 2 Years | Exam Board: AQA

GCSE Photography is a very popular, 100% practical course that follows the AQA Photography specification. There is no written exam, making it an excellent option for students who enjoy hands-on, creative work. The course is designed to complement other subjects and helps students develop a wide range of transferable skills.

## What you will learn

This course will give you a strong understanding of the editing program Photoshop to manipulate and modify images in creative and inspiring ways. The course is very popular and students really enjoy studying a GCSE in this area. Each year students are taken on a resource gathering trip to a city centre to capture the stunning architecture that they then use back in the classroom. You will use a combination of sketchbooks and Digital portfolios and will be guided through the work step by step.

Photography GCSE enables you to expand your creative skills. If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Photography GCSE is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects.

## How you are assessed

This qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 where 9 is the highest grade.

### 3 units of work to be completed within the duration of the course:

**Unit 1** - Skills Based Project (Architecture)

**Unit 2** - Personal Choice of theme

**Unit 3** - Exam Unit

There is slightly more weighting towards the coursework units that you complete (60% coursework and 40% exam).

In the first two units you will explore the theme of 'Architecture' and a 'Personal Investigation' where you pick your starting point. During the exam unit you will be given several months in order to produce a project. There is a supervised 10 hour exam in which you will complete your final images at the end. There is no written exam for this subject.

### For each unit you will be marked on your ability to respond to the 4 Assessment Objectives:

**AO1** - Research and develop ideas from a range of Photographers. (Marked out of 24)

**AO2** - Experimentation through editing and refining images taken. (Marked out of 24)

**AO3** - Produce a range of Contact Sheets and Best Imagery. (Marked out of 24)

**AO4** - Produce a series of final images. (Marked out of 24)

## What you can do next

We offer Photography at A Level here at St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form, if you were to continue studying with us into A Level. With more creative jobs in UK than any other industry, a GCSE in photography can lead on to a career being: Studio Photographer, Wildlife Photographer, Film/Video Editor, Graphic Designer, Press/Journalism, Medical Photography, Fashion Photographer, Architecture, Forensic Photographer and so many more!

If you have any queries relating to Photography, please contact Miss Al-Turki or Miss Facer



# Sport

Qualification: BTEC Level 2 | Duration: 2 Years | Exam Board: PEARSON

This course will be enjoyable for any student who has a keen interest in sport and wishes to develop their understanding of the sports industry. The components covered will give students an insight into sport, its organisation and place in our society as well as developing practical sport and leadership skills.

## What you will learn

Students will explore the range of sports and physical activity provision available for different participant groups, examining barriers to participation and strategies to overcome them in order to increase engagement. They will also research equipment and technological developments in a chosen sport or physical activity, as well as how to prepare the body effectively for participation.

Students will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on performance, take part in practical sport, explore the role of officials in sport and learn to apply methods and sporting drills to improve other participants' sporting performance.

Students will be introduced to and develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and the different types of fitness for performance in sport and physical activity. They will also develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing.

The BTEC Tech Award in Sport is a programme that is intended to introduce students to the sports industry and to develop the practical skills necessary for successful employment in a range of sport and leisure industries.

Students learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

## How you are assessed

The course is made up of 3 components - 2 coursework units weighted at 30% each via Pearson set assignments, and one external exam worth 40% of the final mark. Assignments may take the form of documents, presentations, video evidence, practical demonstrations and sports leadership.

**Component 1:** Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity - Internal assessment (Pearson Set Assignment) with 3 tasks. Externally moderated.

**Component 2:** Taking Part and Improving Other Participants' Sporting Performance - Internal assessment (Pearson Set Assignment) with 4 tasks. Externally moderated.

**Component 3:** Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants' Performance in Sport and Physical Activity - External synoptic exam. Externally marked - 1 hour 30 minutes.

## What you can do next

You can continue studying in this area with the BTEC Tech Award in Sport course at Sixth Form Level. There are many careers that this course can lead on to, including: Physiotherapy, Dietician, Sports Management, Personal Trainer, Sports Analyst, Sports Psychology, PE Teacher and more.

If you have any queries relating to PE, please contact Mrs Evans or Mrs Clark



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Good  
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*"Sixth-form students describe the sixth form provision as a 'family-style setting' where each student is valued. They are positive about the education, opportunities and guidance they receive, which enables them to move on to appropriate next steps."*  
Ofsted 2025



Some students already have a clear idea of their future career aspirations, and this can sadly mean that, for them, a life outside our school community is the right path. Students considering vocational pathways, such as Construction, Animal Care or other specific pathways, may find that an alternative provider is the right choice for them.

Locally, these offers are South Devon High School in Torquay and South Devon UTC in Newton Abbot. Find out more on their websites.

# Notes

# Notes

*“The school has high aspirations for its pupils. Many areas of the curriculum have been successfully redesigned in recent years to increase ambition. As a result, pupils now benefit from a better quality of education than before, allowing them to achieve more highly.”*

Ofsted 2025

Get in touch:  
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