YEAR 9 OPTIONS PROGRAMME

ORMISTON SWB ACADEMY

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AN OAT ACADEMY

GCSE OPTIONS

Welcome to your GCSE options booklet

Choosing your GCSE subjects is an exciting and important step in shaping your future. The courses you select will help you develop skills and knowledge that will guide you through further education, training, or work. This booklet provides an overview of the subjects available to you, including core subjects and a variety of options to suit your interests and aspirations.

It's important to choose subjects that you enjoy, but also consider how they align with your future goals. Remember, you don't have to make your decision alone—speak to your teachers, careers advisors, and family for guidance.

Core Subjects

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Combined or Separate Sciences)
- Physical Education (PE)

Optional Subjects

- Art (Choose one from the following GCSE's; Fine Art, 3D Design (Architecture) or Textiles Design)
- Business
- Computer Science
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- ICT
- Media
- Music
- NCFE Engineering
- Performing Arts
- Philosophy, Religion & Ethics (PRE)
- Photography
- Physical Education BTEC
- Physical Education GCSE
- Spanish (Modern Foreign Languages)

How to Make Your Decision on Option Subjects

- Think about your interests and strengths: The most successful students are often those who study subjects they enjoy and are good at. Take time to reflect on your hobbies and interests. If you love science, perhaps taking separate sciences (biology, chemistry, and physics) could be a good fit. If you have a passion for creativity, art, music, or drama might be a great choice.

- Consider your future career or further study plans think about your future aspirations: Some careers or university courses require specific GCSE subjects. For example, if you're thinking about a career in medicine, you will likely need to take biology, chemistry, and possibly physics. If you're considering a career in the arts, design, or media, subjects like art, graphic design, or media studies could be more appropriate.

- Research the subject content: Before making your final decisions, make sure you understand what each subject entails. Talk to your teachers, read the course specifications, and find out what the assessments will be like. Some subjects may involve more written exams, while others might have coursework or practical assessments.

- Ask for advice: Don’t hesitate to ask teachers, tutors, and your parents for advice. They can provide insight based on your academic strengths, interests, and future ambitions. Additionally, talking to older students who are currently studying the subjects you're considering can give you a better understanding of what to expect.

GCSE vs BTEC/Vocational Qualifications: What’s the Difference?

- When choosing your option subjects, you might also have the option of studying a BTEC or another vocational qualification. Understanding the differences between GCSEs and vocational qualifications can help you decide which is best suited to your learning style and future ambitions.

- GCSEs: GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education) are the traditional qualifications most students in the UK study. They are mainly exam-based and cover a wide range of academic subjects, such as maths, English, history, and science. GCSEs are generally focused on developing academic knowledge, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

- BTECs and Vocational Qualifications: BTECs and other vocational qualifications, such as Cambridge Nationals, are designed to offer a more practical and hands-on approach to learning. These qualifications are ideal for students who prefer a more applied, career-focused learning style. BTECs cover subjects like health and social care, engineering, sport, and business studies, and are assessed through a combination of coursework, practical assessments, and exams.

Are BTECs or Vocational Qualifications Worth Any Less Than GCSEs?

- BTECs and vocational qualifications are not worth any less than GCSEs. They are accredited by valuable skills and knowledge that can be directly applied in the workplace. Many students choose vocational qualifications because they offer the opportunity to develop practical, industry-specific skills, which can be particularly useful if you are considering an apprenticeship or a career in a technical field.

- Some students may find vocational qualifications better suited to their learning style, as they often involve more practical work and assessment through coursework, which can be a better fit for those who may struggle with traditional exams.

Core Subject

English

GCSE (CORE)

Overview of course

At Ormiston SWB Academy, our English curriculum is aimed at inspiring a love of reading and the written word where students can demonstrate a confident control of Standard English when analysing, crafting, and articulating their ideas.

GCSE English Language

- Reading comprehension and analysis of a range of texts.
- Writing for different purposes, including descriptive, persuasive, and narrative writing.
- Speaking and listening assessments.

GCSE English Literature

- Study of classic and modern literature, including novels, plays, and poetry.
- Analysis of themes, characters, and the context of texts.
- Writing critical responses and essays based on the studied texts.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4, students work towards two GCSES: GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. The GCSE Language curriculum includes:

- Reading, exploring and responding to fiction texts.
- Writing a creative text to demonstrate narrative and description skills.
- Reading, analysing and comparing non-fiction texts from different time periods.
- Producing written texts to a specified audience, purpose and form that expresses clear perspectives.

The GCSE Literature curriculum explores a range of literature including:

- A Shakespeare play: Macbeth
- A 19th Century novel: A Christmas Carol
- A modern prose text: An Inspector Calls
- Power and Conflict Poetry
- Unseen Poetry

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4, students will be assessed using GCSE style questions. There is a non-exam assessment of spoken language.

Further study

A-Level English Language:
- An in-depth study of language use, how it evolves, and its impact on society. Students explore linguistic theory, language analysis, and language in context.

A-Level English Literature:
- Focuses on the critical study of literary works, exploring themes, historical context, and literary techniques in novels, plays, and poetry.

A-Level English Language and Literature:
- A combined course that allows students to study both language and literature, providing a broader understanding of texts and language use.

BTEC Level 3 in Media Studies or Creative Writing:
- These vocational qualifications focus on developing skills in communication, writing, and media production, with a practical approach to storytelling and content creation.

University Degrees:
- Degrees in English Literature, Journalism, Media Studies, Creative Writing, Linguistics, or Communication offer further specialization and open up career opportunities in writing, editing, publishing, and the media.

Vocational Courses:
- Courses in publishing, journalism, or content creation provide practical skills in professional writing, editing, and communication.

Careers

GCSE English opens the door to a wide range of career opportunities that require strong communication, writing, and analytical skills:

- **Writing and Publishing:** Careers in writing (novels, journalism, copywriting, content creation) and publishing (editing, proofreading, book production) rely heavily on skills developed in English.
- **Media and Journalism:** Working in print, broadcast, or digital media as a journalist, editor, or producer involves strong writing and storytelling abilities.
- **Teaching and Education**: A foundation in English can lead to a career as a teacher, trainer, or educational consultant, sharing knowledge of language and literature.
- **Advertising and Marketing**: Creativity and communication skills are crucial for roles in advertising, public relations, and marketing, where writing and persuasion are key.
- **Law**: Lawyers and legal professionals require strong written and verbal communication skills to present cases, draft documents, and communicate effectively.
- **Business and Administration**: Strong English skills are essential in many business roles, such as management, human resources, and customer relations, where clear communication is vital.
- **Creative Industries:** Careers in film, television, theater, and gaming benefit from strong writing, storytelling, and scriptwriting skills.

Need to know

Skills Developed:
- **Reading and Analysis:** Understanding and interpreting different types of texts.
- **Writing:** Developing clear, effective, and creative writing for different audiences and purposes.
- **Critical Thinking:** Analysing themes, characters, and literary techniques in texts.

Further information

For more information about Design & Technology at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Miss H Guttridge.

MATHS
GCSE (CORE)

Overview of course

A good mathematics curriculum is well sequenced, enables pupils to progress and develop a love and confidence for maths. It enables pupils at all levels of attainment to practise fluency, to reason and to think mathematically at every possible opportunity. The OSWBA Maths curriculum holds these principles at heart and aims to give pupils the best possible start mathematically across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.

We have made specific decisions about the types of representations teachers should use, and particular methods that should be taught. By choosing particular representations (such as the number line and algebra tiles) and making their use regular, consistent and clear, we are giving pupils tools with which to think about an abstract subject but, importantly, allowing them the exposure and time to assimilate these structures and become competent with them. The curriculum prioritises critical knowledge and gradually builds understanding over time, interleaving concepts at every opportunity.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4, students will revisit key areas of learning but in a more advanced way. They will, for instance in GM4, revisit angles facts through more complex problems rather than repetition of Key Stage 3.

Again, throughout Key Stage 4, units gradually develop pupils' flexibility of knowledge by interweaving topics wherever appropriate and possible, and by helping pupils to work 'backwards and forwards' in a topic (e.g. the completion tables).

How you will be assessed

Key Stage 4 are assessed throughout the year using skills checks and summative assessments similarly to KS3 but with GCSE style questioning and content. Key Stage 4 pupils are also formally assessed at the end of Year 11, where they will sit three papers: one non-calculator and two calculator papers at either higher or foundation tier.

Further study

Studying GCSE Maths provides a strong foundation for various post-16 pathways. After completing this course, you can progress to:

- A-Level Mathematics: Ideal for those interested in pursuing careers in science, engineering, finance, or technology.
- A-Level Further Mathematics: For students with a strong interest in advanced mathematical concepts.
- Level 3 Core Maths: A practical option for students who want to continue maths alongside other subjects without the intensity of A-level.
- Apprenticeships: Many apprenticeships in fields such as engineering, construction, and business require strong maths skills.
- BTEC or T Level Courses: Courses in IT, business, and engineering often include mathematical applications.

Maths is a subject that underpins many career paths, making it an invaluable qualification for further education and beyond!

Careers

A strong foundation in maths opens the door to a wide range of exciting career opportunities. Potential career paths include:

- Finance and Accounting: Roles such as accountant, financial analyst, or actuary.
- Engineering and Architecture: Including civil, mechanical, and software engineering.
- Data Science and Analytics: Careers in big data, machine learning, or business intelligence.
- Information Technology: Fields like software development, cybersecurity, and AI.
- Science and Research: Opportunities in physics, chemistry, biology, and environmental science.
- Education: Teaching maths at various levels.
- Healthcare: Roles such as medical statistician or health data analyst.
- Logistics and Operations: Planning, supply chain management, and transport analysis.

Maths equips you with critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are highly valued across all industries.

Need to know

- Core Subject: Maths is a compulsory subject at GCSE, forming a vital foundation for many future opportunities.
- Skills Development: You will enhance your problem-solving, analytical thinking, and numerical reasoning skills.
- Progression: A good grade in maths is essential for most further education courses, apprenticeships, and employment.
- Career Gateway: Many careers require strong mathematical skills, including finance, engineering, IT, and science.

Further information

For more information about Maths at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr M Lawrence.

Physical Education
(CORE)

Overview of course

At Key Stage 4, all students continue to participate in core Physical Education as a vital part of their curriculum. While we also offer GCSE PE and BTEC Sport as optional qualifications for students to choose, Core PE remains a compulsory element of every student's timetable.

Core PE is designed to promote a healthy, active lifestyle by encouraging physical activity, teamwork, and overall well-being. Students will engage in a variety of sports and fitness activities to maintain their physical health, develop new skills, and enjoy the benefits of regular exercise.

This non-examined aspect of PE ensures that every student has the opportunity to stay active, reduce stress, and build positive habits that support both their physical and mental health, regardless of whether they choose a formal PE qualification.

What you will be taught

Core PE at KS4 focuses on promoting fitness, teamwork, and lifelong well-being. Students will participate in:

- Sports and Fitness Activities: Including football, netball, badminton, yoga, and circuit training.
- Skill Development: Improving fitness, coordination, and technical skills in a variety of sports.
- Health and Well-Being: Understanding the benefits of physical activity for mental and physical health.
- Leadership and Teamwork: Building communication and leadership skills through team roles and group activities.

Core PE ensures students stay active, develop key skills, and build healthy habits for life.

How you will be assessed

Core PE is non-examined but plays a crucial role in helping students maintain a balanced lifestyle and develop skills that will benefit them well beyond their time at school.

Further study

Although Core PE is not a formal qualification, it provides a foundation for students interested in pursuing further study in physical education, sport, or fitness. Options include:

- GCSE Physical Education: A deeper dive into the science and theory behind physical activity and sports performance.
- BTEC Sport: A practical, vocational course focused on fitness, training, and sports leadership.
- A-Level Physical Education: For students who wish to study the scientific aspects of sport and exercise, such as anatomy, physiology, and psychology.
- Sport and Exercise Science: College-level courses or apprenticeships focusing on the science of sport and fitness.
- Coaching or Personal Training Qualifications: Vocational pathways to work in the fitness or sports industry.

Core PE helps students build the skills, interest, and fitness levels to pursue a variety of sports-related qualifications and careers.

Careers

Core PE helps students develop physical, social, and leadership skills that can lead to a variety of exciting career opportunities in the sports, fitness, and health industries. Potential career paths include:

- Personal Trainer – Helping individuals achieve their fitness goals.
- Sports Coach – Training and motivating teams or athletes to improve performance.
- PE Teacher – Inspiring the next generation to stay active and healthy.
- Physiotherapist – Assisting people in recovering from injuries and improving movement.
- Sports Scientist – Studying how the body performs during exercise to enhance training and recovery.
- Nutritionist – Advising on diets and nutrition for fitness or sports performance.
- Outdoor Activities Leader – Guiding groups in outdoor pursuits like climbing or kayaking.
- Recreational Therapist – Using physical activity to improve mental and.

While Core PE itself is non-examined, it provides the foundation for pursuing further qualifications and careers in the sports and fitness sectors.

Need to know

- Compulsory Subject: Core PE is mandatory for all students at KS4 to promote physical and mental well-being.
- Non-Examined: There is no formal qualification, but participation is essential for a healthy lifestyle.
- Activities Offered: Includes a variety of sports such as football, netball, badminton, yoga, and fitness training to suit different interests.
- Focus Areas: Emphasizes teamwork, leadership, skill development, and personal fitness.
- Benefits: Helps improve physical health, reduce stress, and build lifelong habits for staying active.
- Participation: Students must bring appropriate PE kit and actively engage in all sessions.
- Core PE is designed to ensure students stay active, develop essential skills, and maintain a balanced and healthy lifestyle

Further information

For more information about PE at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr L Paskin

Science (Combined)

GCSE (CORE)

Overview of course

Combined Science is a double award GCSE, covering the core principles of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Students will develop critical thinking, practical skills, and a deeper understanding of how science applies to everyday life. It equips students with valuable problem-solving and analytical skills, preparing them for a variety of future pathways.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4, students Edexcel GCSE course content includes (but not limited to):

- Chemical bonding and rates of reaction
- Electrolytic processes and obtaining metals
- Groups In the periodic table
- Motion, Forces and their effects
- Light and the EM spectrum
- Biological health, coordination and disease
- Plant structures and disease
- Electromagnetism
- Fuels and atmospheric science
- Ecosystems and material cycles

Separate Sciences are offered at GCSE, which cover this base knowledge in greater depth as well as additional content.

How you will be assessed

In GCSE Science (Edexcel), assessment is based on written exams and practical skills:

Written Exams (100%):

- Combined Science: Two exam papers for each subject (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics), each lasting 1 hour 10 minutes.

Practical Skills:

- Practical skills are assessed through exam questions based on required practical activities, testing your understanding of experiments and data analysis.

Further study

After completing GCSE Science, students can pursue a variety of further study options:

A-Level Sciences:
- A-Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Combined Science offers in-depth study of scientific concepts, ideal for those pursuing careers in healthcare, research, engineering, or environmental science.

BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science:
- A practical, vocational qualification focusing on real-world scientific applications, suitable for students interested in technical or laboratory-based careers.

University Degrees in Science:
- Degrees in fields like Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Environmental Science, Forensic Science, or Biotechnology provide advanced study for specialized careers.

Apprenticeships and Vocational Training:
- Apprenticeships in laboratory technology, healthcare, or engineering provide hands-on experience alongside further learning in science-based careers.

Careers

GCSE Science opens the door to a wide range of career opportunities in various fields:

Healthcare Careers:
- Careers in medicine, nursing, dentistry, physiotherapy, and pharmacy all require a strong foundation in science, particularly in Biology and Chemistry.

Engineering:
- Engineers, whether civil, mechanical, electrical, or chemical, use principles from Physics and other sciences to design and build solutions for real-world problems.

Environmental Science:
- Environmental scientists, conservationists, and ecologists work on addressing environmental issues, such as climate change, pollution, and wildlife conservation.

Forensic Science:
- Forensic scientists use scientific techniques to solve crimes, analyzing evidence from crime scenes using Chemistry and Biology.

Technology and Research:
- Careers in computer science, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and research involve applying scientific knowledge to innovate and advance technology.

Laboratory Technician:
- Laboratory technicians work in healthcare, research, or industrial labs, performing experiments, testing samples, and supporting scientific research.

Need to know

Skills Developed:
- Critical Thinking: Analyzing and solving scientific problems.
- Practical Skills: Conducting experiments and analyzing results.
- Numeracy and Data Handling: Interpreting scientific data and performing calculations.

Career Pathways: GCSE Science is essential for further study in A-Level Sciences, university degrees, and careers in healthcare, engineering, research, technology, and environmental science.

Further information

For more information about Science at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mrs A Ellis .

Science (Separate)

GCSE (CORE)

Overview of course

The Separate Science GCSE's allow students with a keen interest in science to study Biology, Chemistry, and Physics in greater depth. These courses provide an excellent foundation for students aiming for high achievement, offering additional knowledge and skills that prepare them for A-level science and beyond. Separate Sciences support aspirations in fields such as medicine, engineering, research, and technology, while fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical expertise.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4, students Edexcel GCSE course content includes (but not limited to):

- Chemical bonding and rates of reaction
- Electrolytic processes and obtaining metals
- Groups In the periodic table
- Motion, Forces and their effects
- Light and the EM spectrum
- Biological health, coordination and disease
- Plant structures and disease
- Electromagnetism
- Fuels and atmospheric science
- Ecosystems and material cycles

Separate Sciences are offered at GCSE, which cover this base knowledge in greater depth as well as additional content.

How you will be assessed

In GCSE Science (Edexcel), assessment is based on written exams and practical skills:

Written Exams (100%):

- Separate Sciences: Two individual exam papers for each subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics), each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes, leading to three separate GCSEs.

Practical Skills:

- Practical skills are assessed through exam questions based on required practical activities, testing your understanding of experiments and data analysis.

Further study

After completing GCSE Science, students can pursue a variety of further study options:

A-Level Sciences:
- A-Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Combined Science offers in-depth study of scientific concepts, ideal for those pursuing careers in healthcare, research, engineering, or environmental science.

BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science:
- A practical, vocational qualification focusing on real-world scientific applications, suitable for students interested in technical or laboratory-based careers.

University Degrees in Science:
- Degrees in fields like Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Environmental Science, Forensic Science, or Biotechnology provide advanced study for specialized careers.

Apprenticeships and Vocational Training:
- Apprenticeships in laboratory technology, healthcare, or engineering provide hands-on experience alongside further learning in science-based careers.

Careers

GCSE Science opens the door to a wide range of career opportunities in various fields:

Healthcare Careers:
- Careers in medicine, nursing, dentistry, physiotherapy, and pharmacy all require a strong foundation in science, particularly in Biology and Chemistry.

Engineering:
- Engineers, whether civil, mechanical, electrical, or chemical, use principles from Physics and other sciences to design and build solutions for real-world problems.

Environmental Science:
- Environmental scientists, conservationists, and ecologists work on addressing environmental issues, such as climate change, pollution, and wildlife conservation.

Forensic Science:
- Forensic scientists use scientific techniques to solve crimes, analyzing evidence from crime scenes using Chemistry and Biology.

Technology and Research:
- Careers in computer science, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and research involve applying scientific knowledge to innovate and advance technology.

Laboratory Technician:
- Laboratory technicians work in healthcare, research, or industrial labs, performing experiments, testing samples, and supporting scientific research.

Need to know

Skills Developed:
- Critical Thinking: Analyzing and solving scientific problems.
- Practical Skills: Conducting experiments and analyzing results.
- Numeracy and Data Handling: Interpreting scientific data and performing calculations.

Career Pathways: GCSE Science is essential for further study in A-Level Sciences, university degrees, and careers in healthcare, engineering, research, technology, and environmental science.

Further information

For more information about Science at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mrs A Ellis.

3D Design (Architecture)

GCSE

Overview of course

GCSE 3D Design (Architecture) focuses on designing, modelling and creating three-dimensional outcomes linked to the built environment. Students explore how form, function and aesthetics work together to shape architectural spaces and structures.

The course combines creative thinking with practical making, encouraging learners to investigate architectural designers, buildings and environments from both historical and contemporary contexts. Students develop ideas through modelling, drawing and construction, refining designs as their work progresses.

This subject is well suited to students who enjoy problem-solving, design, and working with materials to create functional and visually engaging outcomes.

What you will be taught

Students will develop a broad range of architectural and 3D design skills, including:

- Architectural Design Skills: Exploring buildings, spaces and structural forms
- 3D Making Techniques: Model making, construction, assembling and prototyping
- Design Development: Researching, analysing and refining ideas over time
- Drawing and Visualisation: Architectural drawing, sketching, scale models and CAD

Students will learn how design decisions impact function, usability and appearance.

How you will be assessed

Assessment is 100% coursework, split into two components:

Component 01: Portfolio (60%):

- A sustained project showing research, design development, modelling and a final architectural or 3D outcome.

Component 02: Externally Set Task (40%):

- A themed project released in January of Year 11, completed with a 10-hour supervised practical task.

There is no written exam — assessment is based on practical design work and supporting evidence.

Further study

This course provides a strong foundation for further creative study and specialist pathways linked to architecture, design and the built environment, including:

- A Level Art & Design or 3D Design: Develop advanced design thinking, architectural drawing, model-making and conceptual development with greater independence and personal specialism.
- Architecture or Built Environment courses at college: Practical and academic courses focusing on architectural design, spatial planning, materials, sustainability and construction methods.
- Construction, Engineering or Design Technology pathways: Suitable for students interested in how buildings and structures are designed, made and function in real-world contexts.
- Apprenticeships in architecture, construction or design industries: Combining hands-on industry experience with continued training in areas such as architectural technology, surveying or construction design.

The skills developed in GCSE 3D Design (Architecture) also support progression into wider creative, technical and STEM-related subjects.

Careers

3D Design (Architecture) develops highly transferable creative, technical and problem-solving skills that are valued across a wide range of industries. Potential career paths include:

- Architect: Designing buildings and spaces that balance function, aesthetics and sustainability.
- Architectural Technician or Technologist: Supporting architectural projects through technical drawings.
- Interior Designer: Designing internal spaces that meet functional, aesthetic and user needs.
- Urban Planner: Shaping how towns and cities develop, including housing, transport and public spaces.
- Product or Furniture Designer: Designing functional objects using architectural and 3D design principles.
- Set or Exhibition Designer: Creating spaces for theatre, film, museums or events.
- Construction or Design Engineer: Applying design and technical knowledge to the built environment.

Need to know

- This is a design-led subject with a strong focus on 3D modelling and problem-solving.
- Students must be willing to research, experiment, refine ideas and respond to feedback throughout the design process.
- Strong organisation and time management are essential due to the sustained nature of design projects.
- Independent thinking is encouraged — original design development is essential and closely linked to assessment success.

Further information

For more information about Art at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mrs L Forrester.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Art
GCSE

Overview of course

At Ormiston SWB Academy the Art department reflects a broad and inclusive rationale. Through our multi-disciplinary department, we have developed a curriculum that is full of specialisms ranging from Fine Arts (painting, drawing, sculpture) to Applied Arts (Illustration etc.). These disciplines are built into our comprehensive curriculum, delivering challenge and developing our pupil's knowledge and skills.

Our Art curriculum promotes creative risk and allows our pupils to explore the key factors that underpin the whole school values of Character, Organisation, Resilience and Excellence.

What you will be taught

In the OCR GCSE Art and Design: Fine Art course, you will be taught a wide range of techniques, concepts, and skills to help you develop as an artist and refine your individual style. Here's an overview of the key areas you will learn:

- Drawing and Sketching
- Painting Techniques
- Printmaking
- Sculpture and 3D Work
- Mixed Media and Experimentation
- Art History and Context
- Creative Development and Personal Projects

How you will be assessed

The assessment for the OCR GCSE in Art and Design: Fine Art consists of two main components: the Portfolio of Work and the Externally Set Assignment. These components assess both practical skills and your ability to communicate ideas creatively.

Portfolio of Work (60% of the total grade):

- This is a collection of your best work produced during the course. It should show your progress, experimentation, and development of ideas over time.

Externally Set Assignment (40% of the total grade):

- This component consists of a set theme given by the exam board, which you must explore and respond to in your final project.

Further study

After completing your GCSE in Art and Design: Fine Art, there are several pathways you can explore to continue developing your artistic skills and knowledge. Here are some options for further study:

- **A-Level Art and Design:** Further exploration of drawing, painting, sculpture, and independent projects.
- **BTEC Art and Design:** Vocational course with practical assignments and a range of art forms, including digital arts and textiles.
- **Foundation Diploma in Art and Design**: One-year course to experiment with different techniques before specialising in a specific field.
- **Degree Courses**: Undergraduate degrees in Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography, and more.
- **Art College or University**: Specialized education in art-focused institutions for careers in creative industries.
- **Apprenticeships and Internships:** Gaining practical experience in galleries, design studios, or with established artists.

Careers

Studying Art opens up a world of creative career opportunities. It helps you develop essential skills like creativity, attention to detail, problem-solving, and independent thinking—all highly valued in the workplace.

This subject can lead to exciting careers in industries such as:

- Fashion Design
- Textile Design
- Interior Design
- Graphic Design
- Illustration
- Fine Art
- Set and Costume Design
- Photography
- Art Therapy
- Marketing and Advertising
- Craft and Product Design

Many students go on to study Art & Design, or related creative subjects at college or university, leading to roles in design studios, creative agencies, galleries, and even self-employment as freelance artists or designers. The creative industries are thriving, and this subject gives you the foundation to succeed in an exciting and ever-evolving field.

Need to know

- Skills Developed: Creativity, problem-solving, research, time management, and technical skills in a variety of artistic mediums.
- Commitment: Regular homework, sketchbook development, and practice outside of lessons are essential to refine your skills and complete your portfolio to the highest standard.

This course is ideal for students who are passionate about being creative and expressing their ideas visually.

Further information

For more information about Art at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mrs L Forrester.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Business
GCSE

Overview of course

GCSE Business provides students with an insight into the world of business and entrepreneurship. This course explores concepts such as marketing, finance, operations, and human resources, equipping students with the skills and knowledge to understand how businesses operate and succeed. With a focus on real-world application, problem-solving, and decision-making, GCSE Business lays the foundation for further study and careers in the fast-paced and ever-evolving business world.

What you will be taught

Students studying GCSE Business will cover a range of exciting and relevant topics, including:

- **Business Concepts and Entrepreneurship**
  - Characteristics of successful entrepreneurs.
  - Business planning and risk-taking.
- **Business Ownership and Structures**
  - Types of businesses (e.g., sole trader, partnership, limited company).
- **Marketing**
  - The marketing mix (product, price, place, promotion).
- **Finance**
  - Profit and loss accounts and break-even analysis.
  - Budgeting and cash flow forecasting.
- **Operations Management**
  - Production methods and quality control.
- **External Influences**
  - The impact of the economy on businesses.
  - Ethical and environmental considerations.

This course provides theoretical knowledge, preparing them for further study or future careers in the business world.

How you will be assessed

Assessment in Key Stage 4 and 5 is carried out using the exam specification and marking criteria. Students are afforded the opportunity to enhance their outcomes with regular individual actionable feedback. Students will sit two GCSE exam papers at the end of Year 11: Theme 1: Investigating Small Business and Theme 2: Building a Business, with each paper lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Further study

Studying GCSE Business provides an excellent foundation for further education and career development. After completing this course, students can progress to:

- A-Level Business – Delve deeper into business concepts and develop advanced analytical skills.
- Economics – Explore the principles of how economies work and their impact on businesses.
- BTEC Business Studies – A practical, career-focused course that develops workplace skills.
- Apprenticeships – Gain real-world experience while continuing to learn about business operations.
- Finance and Accounting Qualifications – Ideal for students with an interest in numbers and the financial side of business.
- Marketing and Management Courses – Focus on specific areas of interest like brand development or leadership.

GCSE Business opens pathways to a variety of academic and vocational opportunities, helping students build the skills needed for the ever-evolving world of business.

Careers

GCSE Business provides students with valuable skills and knowledge that are highly relevant to a wide range of careers. By studying business, students gain an understanding of how organizations operate, financial management, and effective decision-making. Potential career paths include:

- Entrepreneur – Start and run your own business.
- Marketing Executive – Create and manage advertising campaigns to promote products or services.
- Business Analyst – Help companies improve their processes and solve problems.
- Accountant – Manage financial records and budgets.
- Human Resources Manager – Work on recruitment, employee relations, and workplace policies.
- Project Manager – Lead and deliver business projects on time and within budget.
- Management Consultant – Advise businesses on how to improve their performance.
- Banking and Finance Professional – Work in areas like investment, loans, or customer services.
- Supply Chain Manager – Oversee the production and distribution of goods.

Business skills are in demand in every sector, and GCSE Business can help students develop an entrepreneurial mindset and essential workplace skills.

Need to know

- Course Structure: Students will explore topics such as business concepts, operations, finance, marketing, and human resources. They will develop skills in problem-solving, decision-making, and critical thinking.
- Practical Application: Real-life business case studies will be used to understand how theory applies in practice.
- Skills Developed: Analytical thinking, communication, and financial literacy are key skills gained during this course.
- This course is ideal for students with an interest in how businesses work and a desire to understand the world of commerce.
- Students will sit two GCSE exam papers at the end of Year 11: Theme 1: Investigating Small Business and Theme 2: Building a Business, with each paper lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Further information

For more information about Business at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr M Shaikh. #

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Computer Science

GCSE

Overview of course

Students will develop their computational thinking skills in breakdown complex problems, designing algorithms and developing computer programs that are robust. Pupils will explore the world of Networking and understand how information is shared and the dangers of being a part of a digital world in cyber security.

Pupils will grasp an understanding of computer architecture, exploring the roles of different computer components, the types of software they utilise and the format in which data can be represented.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4 students course content includes (but is not limited to);

Unit 1 – Computer Systems

- System Architecture
- Storage and Memory
- Wired and Wireless Networks
- Network Topologies, Protocols and Layers
- System Security
- System Software
- Ethical, Legal, Cultural and Environmental Concerns

Unit 2 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

- Algorithms
- Programming Techniques
- Producing Robust Programs
- Computational Logic
- Translators anf Facilities of Languages
- Data Representation, Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4 students will be assessed using GCSE exam style questions which are split into two different categories: Computer Systems and Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and out of 80 marks.

Further study

There are a variety of Computer Science courses available at college and university, with career opportunities in; Cyber Security, Game-Development, Software Engineer, IT Technical Support, Computer Programming, Network Manager and many more...

Careers

Studying Computer Science opens the door to a wide range of exciting and rewarding career opportunities in one of the fastest-growing industries in the world. By developing your problem-solving, analytical, and programming skills, you will gain knowledge that is highly sought after by employers in almost every sector.

Computer Science can lead to careers such as:

- Software Developer – Designing and building apps, websites, and software programs.
- Data Analyst – Interpreting data to provide insights that drive decisions for businesses.
- Cybersecurity Specialist – Protecting systems, networks, and data from cyber threats.
- Games Developer – Creating video games for consoles, mobile devices, and PCs.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) Engineer – Developing cutting-edge AI technologies.
- IT Support Technician – Ensuring computer systems run smoothly in workplaces.

The demand for digital skills is increasing rapidly come with strong earning potential and opportunities to work in a variety of industries, from healthcare and finance to media and entertainment.

Need to know

- Skills You'll Develop: Problem-solving, logical thinking, coding, computational thinking, and data analysis—essential skills for the digital age.
- Practical Learning: You will gain hands-on experience in coding languages such as Python, allowing you to build and test your own programs.
- Why Choose It?: If you enjoy problem-solving, creativity, and understanding how technology shapes our world, this course will help you build skills for success in modern careers.

Further information

For more information about Computer Science at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr J Simkiss.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

NCFE Engineering

LEVEL 1/2 TECHNICAL AWARD

Overview of course

At Ormiston SWB Academy our Design technology curriculum is aimed to deliver an inspiring and practical subject, that requires creativity and imagination.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4 Students will be introduced to NCFE Engineering this course includes the following:

External Exam : 40% / 80 Marks / 1 hour 30 minutes

- Content area 1 Engineering disciplines
- Content area 2 Applied science and mathematics in engineering
- Content area 3 Reading engineering drawings
- Content area 4 Properties, characteristics and selection of engineering materials
- Content area 5 Engineering tools, equipment and machines
- Content area 6 Hand-drawn engineering drawings
- Content area 7 Computer-aided design (CAD) engineering drawings
- Content area 8 Production planning techniques
- Content area 9 Applied processing skills and techniques

NEA: 60% / 120 Marks / 18 Hours (Plus 2 hours prep and research time)

- AO1 Recall knowledge and show understanding the emphasis here is for learners to recall and communicate the fundamental elements of knowledge and understanding.
- AO2 Apply knowledge and understanding the emphasis here is for learners to apply their knowledge and understanding to real-world contexts and novel situations.
- AO3 Analyse and evaluate knowledge and understanding the emphasis here is for learners to develop analytical thinking skills to make reasoned judgements and reach conclusions.
- AO4 Demonstrate and apply relevant technical skills, techniques and processes the emphasis here is for learners to demonstrate the essential technical skills relevant to the vocational sector by applying the appropriate processes, tools and techniques.
- AO5 Analyse and evaluate the demonstration of relevant technical skills, techniques and processes the emphasis here is for learners to analyse and evaluate the essential technical skills, processes, tools and techniques relevant to the vocational sector.

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4 students' coursework will be internally moderated followed by external Moderation. The external exam will be externally moderated. For both coursework and examination preparation students will be assessed regularly with end of topic tests.

Further study

After completing a Level 2 Award in Engineering, you have several further study options:

Level 3 Qualifications
- BTEC Level 3 Engineering: An advanced qualification that deepens engineering knowledge in various areas.
- City & Guilds Level 3 Engineering: Focuses on mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering skills.

Apprenticeships
- Engineering Apprenticeships: On-the-job training combined with education in areas like mechanical, electrical, or civil engineering.

T-Level in Engineering
- A vocational qualification focusing on practical engineering skills, equivalent to 3 A-levels.

Higher National Certificates (HNC) and Diplomas (HND)
- HNC/HND in Engineering: Provides technical knowledge for advanced roles in engineering.

Degree Programs
- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering: Options like mechanical, electrical, or civil engineering.

These pathways can help you build on your Level 2 qualification and advance in the engineering field.

Careers

Design Technology opens the door to a wide range of careers in industries that require creativity, problem-solving, and technical skills. This subject develops practical knowledge in areas like design, engineering, and manufacturing, making it ideal for students interested in product design, architecture, engineering, or carpentry.

Design Technology
- Product Designer
- Architect
- Civil Engineer
- Carpenter or Joiner
- Graphic Designer
- Automotive Engineer
- Interior Designer
- Industrial or Mechanical Designer

Need to know

Design Technology
- Skills Developed: You will develop problem-solving, design, and manufacturing skills, as well as an understanding of materials, tools, and processes used in the industry.
- Progression: Design Technology lays a solid foundation for further study in engineering, architecture, product design, and construction.

Further information

For more information about Engineering at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr T Boswell.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

GEOGRAPHY

GCSE

Overview of course

Students will develop their ability to be a sustainable global citizen in an ever-changing world. They will do this by learning about different environments, countries, people, and cultures and understanding why places differ.

As well as theory, Geography incorporate fieldwork to allow students to apply knowledge to the real world, relevant careers education and links to our CORE curriculum.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4 students course content includes (but is not limited to);

- Resource management
- River and coastal landscapes
- Weather and climate
- Global development and changing cities
- Ecosystems
- At Key Stage 5 students course content includes (but is not limited to);
- Globalisation.
- Migration and identity.
- Regenerating places.
- Superpowers.
- Coastal landscapes.
- Tectonic hazards.
- Water security.
- Carbon cycle.

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4 students will be assessed using GCSE style exam questions split into three sections, human, physical and skills (fieldwork and use of figures). Students will complete three exam papers to complete their final GCSE, one of which will be centred around fieldwork.

Further study

GCSE Geography provides an excellent foundation for a variety of post-16 pathways, including:

- A-Level Geography: Deepen your understanding of physical and human geography, global issues, and environmental challenges.
- A-Level Related Subjects: Courses like Environmental Science, Geology, or Sociology that complement geography.
- BTEC Qualifications: Focused options like Travel and Tourism or Environmental Sustainability for practical and career-oriented learning.
- T Levels: Industry-focused qualifications, such as those in Planning, Construction, or Agriculture.
- Apprenticeships: Opportunities in surveying, environmental management, or urban planning.

These pathways can lead to further study at university in fields such as Geography, Environmental Science, Urban Planning, or Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and open the door to a wide range of careers

Careers

Studying GCSE Geography provides students with skills and knowledge that are highly valued in a wide range of careers. Potential career paths include:

- Urban Planner – Designing and managing sustainable cities and towns.
- Environmental Consultant – Advising on environmental policies and sustainability projects.
- Cartographer – Creating detailed maps for industries such as navigation and defense.
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Analyst – Managing and analyzing spatial data for organizations.
- Weather Forecaster/Meteorologist – Predicting and analyzing weather patterns.
- Conservation Officer – Protecting and managing natural environments.
- Teacher/Lecturer – Educating the next generation about geography and the world around us.
- Travel and Tourism Specialist – Planning and promoting travel experiences.
- **International global humanitarian and development projects.
- Energy Sector Analyst – Working with renewable and non-renewable energy sources.

Geography develops transferable skills such as research, data analysis, critical thinking, and problem-solving, making it a gateway to a wide range of exciting and impactful careers.

Need to know

- Geography is a versatile subject that combines science, humanities, and social studies.
- You will study both physical and human geography topics, such as ecosystems, natural hazards, urbanization, and global development.
- Fieldwork is a key part of the course, giving you the opportunity to develop practical skills and explore real-world issues.
- Assessment is through written exams and may include questions based on fieldwork and data analysis.
- Geography develops transferable skills like critical thinking, map reading, research, and problem-solving, which are useful for further study and future careers.
- It complements other subjects like Science, History, and Maths, offering a strong foundation for post-16 study.

Further information

For more information about Geography at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Ms U Siedlecka.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Health & Social Care

BTEC

Overview of course

About 3 million people in the UK work in health and social care. In healthcare, this includes jobs such as doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, healthcare assistants and administrators, while social care roles include care assistants, social workers, occupational therapists and counsellors. Our students study topics and units that allow them to build a wealth of knowledge and understanding for further study and careers while developing a range of transferrable skills.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4, students studying Health and Social Care will cover three key components:

Component 1: Human Lifespan and Development

- Students will explore physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development across the lifespan. This component is assessed through a PSA (Pearson Set Assignment), where students apply their knowledge to real-life case studies.

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values

- Students will learn about the types of health and social care services and the principles of care, including dignity and safeguarding. The assessment is a PSA (Pearson Set Assignment), where students explore how services meet individuals' needs and apply core values in practice.

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing

- This component covers factors affecting health, including lifestyle, nutrition, and mental health. Students will learn how to assess and improve health and wellbeing. The assessment for this component is an exam.

These components provide a solid foundation for further study or careers in health and social care.

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4, students will be assessed through through Pearson set assignments which are marked by us but verified by the exam board. These take place in two windows, December and May deadlines. At the end of year 11 they will sit an exam.

Further study

After completing your GCSEs in Health & Social Care, there are several further study options to explore:

- A-levels: You could pursue A-levels in subjects like Sociology, Psychology, or Biology to build a deeper understanding of human behavior, society, and health sciences.
- BTEC Level 3 Health & Social Care: This vocational qualification offers a more practical, career-focused pathway, providing you with in-depth knowledge and experience for roles in healthcare and social care settings.
- Apprenticeships: If you prefer hands-on learning, apprenticeships in health and social care allow you to earn while gaining valuable experience in areas such as nursing, care work, or social work.

Careers

Studying Health and Social Care at Key Stage 4 provides students with a wide range of career opportunities in various fields. Some potential careers include:

- Nursing (e.g. Registered Nurse, Pediatric Nurse, Mental Health Nurse)
- Social Work (e.g. Social Worker, Child Protection Officer)
- Health Care Assistant
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Counseling and Therapy (e.g. Mental Health Counselor, Art Therapist)
- Midwifery
- Public Health
- Care Home Management
- Healthcare Administration
- Special Needs Education Support

This qualification lays the groundwork for post-16 courses, apprenticeships, or direct entry into the health and social care sector. With further study, you could pursue a variety of specialist roles in healthcare, social services, or education.

Need to know

Skills Developed: This course will help you develop important skills, including:

- Communication: How to communicate effectively with a wide range of people, including patients, colleagues, and service users.
- Problem-solving: Developing solutions for real-world health and social care challenges.
- Critical thinking: Assessing situations and making decisions based on ethical and practical considerations.
- Empathy and Care: Understanding and applying empathy in care settings, making sure individuals' needs are met.

Future Pathways: Health and Social Care is a highly valued subject, providing a pathway into a variety of careers and further education. After completing your GCSE, you can pursue:

- A-levels in subjects like Sociology, Psychology, or Health & Social Care.
- BTECs or Apprenticeships in Health and Social Care, which lead directly to work in the sector.
- Vocational Qualifications such as Level 3 Health and Social Care, which are essential for further study and entry into the healthcare field.

Further information

For more information regarding Health and Social Care at Ormiston SWB, please contact Mrs N Rogers.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

History
GCSE

Overview of course

At SWB we believe that history education is more than just memorising dates and events; it's about fostering critical thinking skills, developing analytical minds, and nurturing responsible global citizens. Our history curriculum is designed to empower students to analyse, make informed judgements, and utilise evidence effectively.

Our history lessons delve into the complexities of historical narratives, teaching students to critically evaluate sources and recognise bias. Our curriculum emphasises the importance of evidence-based reasoning and encourages students to form well-supported arguments based on historical evidence.

Through the study of diverse historical perspectives and experiences, students develop a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity and learn to empathise with individuals from different backgrounds. Lessons explore the ethical implications of historical events, encouraging students to reflect on the lessons of the past and consider their roles as responsible citizens in a modern society.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4 the curriculum is as follows:

- Weimar & Nazi Germany 1919-1939.
- The American West 1835-1895.
- Crime and Punishment & White Chapel 1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900.
- Elizabethan England, 1558-1588.

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4 students will be assessed using GCSE style exam questions within lesson, but will ultimately sit their exams under the following Edexcel specification and papers:

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment.
(Crime and Punishment with Whitechapel 1hr 15 mins)
Paper 2: Period study and British depth study.
(American West & Elizabethan England 1hr 50 mins).
Paper 3: Modern depth study
(Weimar & Nazi Germany 1hr 20 mins)

Further study

After GCSE History, you have several options:

- A-level History: A more detailed study of historical periods, preparing you for university.
- Related A-levels: Subjects like Sociology, Politics, or Geography complement History and broaden your understanding of society and global issues.
- BTEC/Vocational Qualifications: These practical courses in Law, Public Services, or Archaeology can lead to careers in these fields.
- University Degrees: Degrees in History, Archaeology, Political Science, or Law offer career opportunities in education, research, or the public sector.
- Apprenticeships: Gain hands-on experience in heritage, museums, or archival work.

These paths allow you to deepen your knowledge and pursue careers in education, research, or related industries.

Careers

Studying History can lead to a wide range of career opportunities, including:

- Teacher/Lecturer: Teaching History at schools, colleges, or universities.
- Archivist: Working in museums, libraries, or government archives to preserve and manage historical records.
- Historian/Researcher: Conducting research and writing on historical events or periods for universities, museums, or publishing houses.
- Museum Curator: Managing collections of historical artifacts in museums and galleries.
- Conservationist: Working to preserve historical sites, buildings, and monuments.
- Journalist/Writer: Writing articles, books, or documentaries focusing on historical topics.
- Public Relations: Using historical knowledge to help organizations manage their public image or heritage.
- Government or Civil Service: Working in roles such as policy analysis, diplomacy, or cultural heritage management.
- Law: Pursuing a career in law, where historical knowledge can help in research and argument development.
- Genealogist: Researching family histories for clients or institutions.

Need to know

- Course Overview: GCSE History explores key events, movements, and themes from the past, helping students understand how history has shaped the world today.
- Assessment: The course is exam-based with two main exams. You'll be tested on your knowledge, understanding, and ability to analyse historical sources.
- Skills Developed: You'll develop critical thinking, analysis, and research skills, along with an understanding of how to evaluate historical evidence.
- Requirements: No prior knowledge of History is required, but a keen interest in understanding past events and their implications is essential.
- Preparation: Regular revision and practice with historical sources will be key to success in this subject.

Further information

For more information about History at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Miss C Lenton.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

ICT

CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL (VOCATIONAL AWARD)

Overview of course

This course teaches you how to use design tools, understand human-computer interfaces, and apply data and testing when creating IT solutions. You'll gain practical skills in planning, designing, building, and evaluating spreadsheet solutions to meet client needs, as well as developing knowledge of Augmented Reality (AR), including its purpose, uses, and applications across digital devices. The course also guides you through designing, creating, testing, and reviewing AR prototypes, giving you a strong foundation in IT concepts, problem-solving, and transferable digital skills.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4 students course content includes (but is not limited to);

Data manipulation using spreadsheets:
· Design a spreadsheet solution
· Create a spreadsheet solution
· Test and evaluate the solution they have developed.
Using augmented reality to present information:
· Design an augmented reality application
· Create a augmented reality app using specialist software
· Test and review the application against specific requirements.
IT in the digital world:
· Investigate different design tools
· The need for human computer interfaces
· Cyber security
· The need for data and testing
· How digital devices communicate

How you will be assessed

At KS4 students will complete the Cambridge National Level 2 in IT and will be assessed by three units:

- NEA - Data Manipulation Using Spreadsheets worth 60 marks (30%).
- NEA - Using Augmented Reality to Present Information worth 60 marks (30%)
- Exam – IT in the Digital World out of 70 marks the exam is 1 hour 30 minutes long and worth 40%

Further study

After completing GCSE at KS4, students have a variety of options for further study:

- A-Level in Computer Science: A more advanced study of programming, algorithms, and systems design, suitable for students interested in pursuing a career in software development, cybersecurity, or data analysis.
- BTEC Level 3 in IT: A vocational qualification that covers areas like networking, digital communication, and computer systems, offering practical experience alongside theoretical knowledge.
- Apprenticeships: Opportunities to gain hands-on experience in roles such as IT support, web development, or digital marketing while earning a wage.
- University Degrees: Degrees in fields like Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Software Engineering, or Data Science offer in-depth knowledge and open up a wide range of career paths in the technology sector.

Careers

A qualification in ICT opens up a wide range of career opportunities across various industries. Some potential careers include:

- Software Developer: Designing and creating software applications, often working in programming languages such as Java, Python, or C++.
- Web Developer: Building and maintaining websites, focusing on both the technical and creative aspects of web design.
- IT Support Specialist: Providing technical support to businesses and individuals, troubleshooting issues with hardware, software, or networks.
- Cybersecurity Analyst: Protecting computer systems and networks from cyber threats and ensuring data security within organizations.
- Network Engineer: Setting up and maintaining an organization's computer networks, ensuring smooth communication between devices and systems.
- Data Analyst: Analyzing and interpreting data to help organizations make informed decisions.
- Digital Marketing Specialist: Using technology and digital platforms to create marketing campaigns and strategies.
- Game Developer: Designing and developing video games, blending creativity and technical skills in the gaming industry.
- IT Project Manager: Leading and coordinating IT projects, ensuring they are completed on time and within budget.

These roles span many sectors, including technology, finance, healthcare, entertainment, and more, offering exciting and diverse career opportunities.

Need to know

Skills Developed:

- Problem-solving: Applying ICT to solve practical issues.
- Communication: Using ICT tools to present ideas clearly and effectively.
- Technical proficiency: Building a strong foundation in computer systems and software applications.

Further information

For more information about ICT at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr J Simkiss.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

Media

CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL (VOCATIONAL AWARD)

Overview of course

Our Media curriculum aims to equip students with the skills to work in the creative industries, the fastest growing sector for employability. We aim to develop student's transferable skills in idea generation, teamwork, independence, and critical thinking through analysing and producing a range of media products which they engage in on a daily basis.

What you will be taught

The Cambridge National in Creative iMedia provides students with practical, creative, and technical skills to excel in the digital media industry. The course focuses on developing expertise in planning, designing, and creating digital media products while understanding the principles of effective communication and the digital environment.

At Key Stage 4, the content includes (but is not limited to):

- Unit R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry. This includes topics such as
- The media industry & factors influencing product design to appeal to a target audience.
- Pre-Production Planning
- Distribution considerations
- Unit R094: Visual identity and digital graphics enables students to learn how to develop visual identities for clients using industry standard software to create their own graphics.
- Unit R098: Visual imaging. This develops pupils' skills in generating original ideas to create photography and video sequences suitable for a set client brief.

How you will be assessed

Assessment in Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 is carried out using the OCR specification and marking criteria. Coursework and exam units are completed during the course. Overall grading of Pass, Merit, Distinction & Distinction* will be awarded at either level 2 or 3.

This course is perfect for students who are creative, enjoy working with technology, and are interested in pursuing careers in digital media, gaming, or design.

Further study

Studying Media Studies at GCSE can lead to a variety of exciting opportunities for further education, including:

- A-Level Media Studies: Develop a deeper understanding of media theory and production techniques.
- A-Level Film Studies: Focus on film as a form of media, exploring its history, theory, and creative aspects.
- BTEC Level 3 in Creative Media Production: Gain hands-on experience in media production, including film, TV, and digital content creation.
- Cambridge Technicals in Digital Media: A vocational qualification focusing on areas such as journalism, gaming, and marketing.
- Apprenticeships in Media or Digital Marketing: Work and study in the field of media or digital content creation.
- Foundation Diplomas in Art, Design & Media: Broaden your creative skills in media-related disciplines.

These pathways provide students with a strong foundation for university courses, such as Journalism, Film Production, Advertising, or Media Studies, and for entering the media and creative industries.

Careers

This qualification can open doors to a variety of creative and dynamic careers, including:

- Journalist – Reporting on news, current affairs, or specialized topics for TV, radio, online, or print.
- Film/TV Producer or Director – Overseeing the production of films, TV shows, or online videos.
- Graphic Designer – Creating visuals for advertising, branding, or digital content.
- Digital Marketer – Promoting brands and products through online platforms and social media.
- Game Designer – Developing and designing video games and interactive media.
- Advertising Executive – Crafting compelling campaigns to promote products and services.
- Public Relations Specialist – Managing the image and communications of organizations or individuals.
- Web Developer or Content Creator – Building websites or creating engaging digital content.
- Screenwriter – Writing scripts for films, TV shows, or online media.
- Social Media Manager – Creating and curating content to engage audiences online.

Media provides transferable skills like critical thinking, creativity, and effective communication, which are valued across many industries.

Need to know

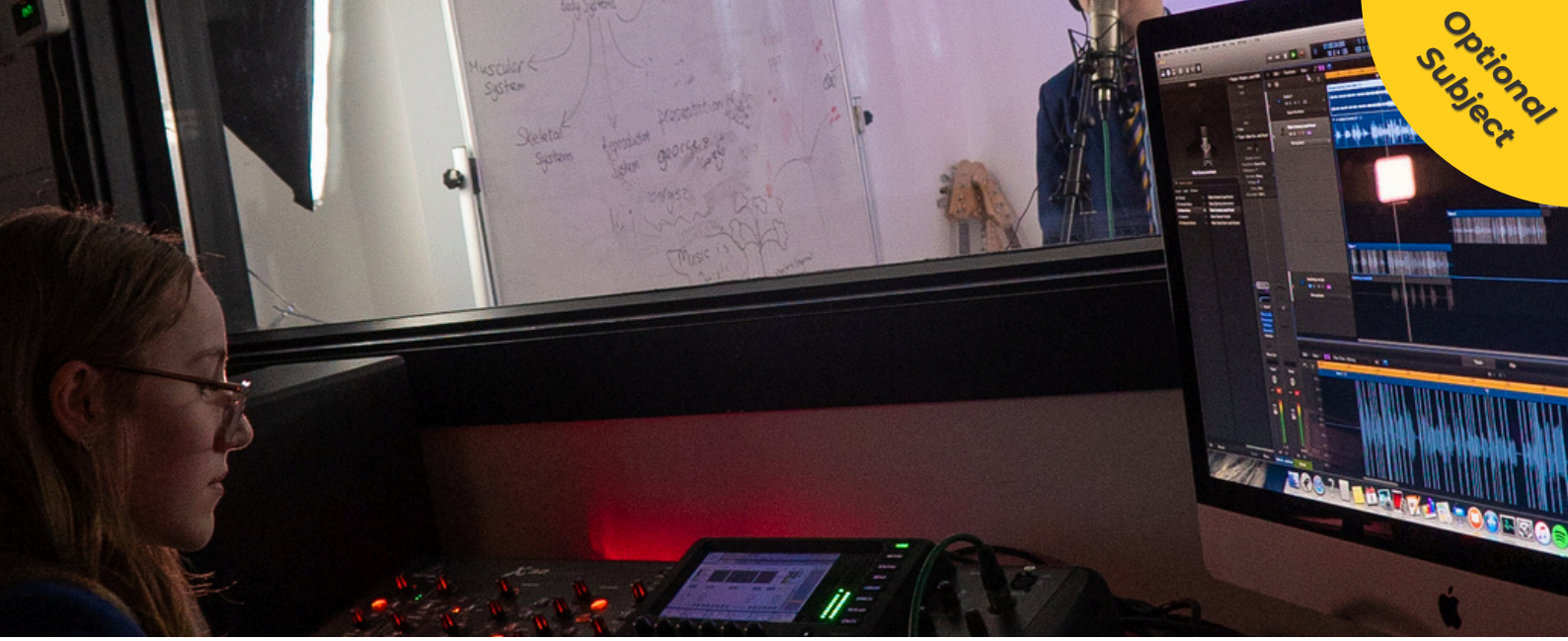
Skills Developed:

- Critical Thinking: Analysing and questioning media content from various perspectives.
- Creative Production: Creating and producing your own media content, including films, advertisements, and websites.
- Research & Analysis: Using academic and practical methods to evaluate and interpret media texts.
- Communication: Articulating thoughts and ideas through written, verbal, and visual forms of communication.

Further information

For more information about Media at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Miss C Rolfe.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.



Music
BTEC

Overview of course

Music lessons at Ormiston SWB Academy support and encourage students to learn a wide range of different musical instruments, through both theory and practical sessions. Students are taught the basic elements of music, simple musical notation and a range of musical techniques from all around the world.

The music department has a diverse range of instruments avaiable to students for use in and outside of lesson time. The Academy even has a fully resourced professional recording studio.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4 students course content includes (but is not limited to);

Solo Musical Performance:
- Students perform individually, developing technical skills and musical expression. Assessments focus on accuracy, creativity, and interpretation of chosen repertoire.

Performing as a Musical Ensemble:
- Students work in groups, improving teamwork, timing, and musical coordination. Performance assessments evaluate collaboration and the collective quality of the ensemble.

Exploring Music Products & Styles:
- Students explore various genres and musical styles, analyzing recordings, performances, and the role of technology in music production.

Composing Music:
- Students compose original pieces, focusing on structure, harmony, and creativity. They may use traditional notation or digital tools, with assessments on originality and development of musical ideas.

How you will be assessed

Students will be assessed through a mix of coursework and practical assessments. The BTEC Music qualification includes both internally assessed units, such as performance-based tasks and creative projects, and externally assessed units, which may involve exams or final performances.

Further study

Students can pursue various pathways after GCSE Music, including:

A-Level Music or Music Technology:
- A-Level Music focuses on performance, composition, and theory, while Music Technology emphasizes music production and digital software.

BTEC Level 3 in Music or Music Performance:
- A practical qualification for students interested in performance and music production, often with a hands-on approach.

Music Conservatories or Specialist Schools:
- Offers intensive training in performance, composition, and conducting, preparing students for professional careers in music.

University Degrees in Music:
- Courses in Music, Composition, or Music Production allow students to specialize in areas such as performance or the music industry.

Apprenticeships:
- Opportunities in sound engineering, event production, and music business provide practical experience in the music industry.

Careers

Studying GCSE Music opens up a wide range of career opportunities in the music industry and beyond. Some potential career paths include:

Music Performance:
- Careers as a soloist, band member, or orchestral musician, performing in live events, concerts, and recordings.

Music Production & Sound Engineering:
- Working in recording studios, live sound production, or behind the scenes in sound design for film, television, and video games.

Music Teaching and Education:
- Teaching music in schools, tutoring, or running private lessons for students of all ages.

Music Composition & Songwriting:
- Composing music for film, television, video games, advertisements, or for popular artists.

Music Business & Management:
- Roles in artist management, music promotion, event coordination, and the broader music industry.

Music Therapy:
- Using music as a therapeutic tool to support mental health and well-being in clinical settings.

Music Journalism & Criticism:
- Writing for music magazines, websites, or blogs, reviewing performances, albums, and trends in the music industry.

Need to know

Skills Developed:
- Creativity: Composing and arranging music.
- Technical Proficiency: Developing instrumental or vocal skills.
- Critical Listening: Analyzing and interpreting music from a variety of genres.
- Collaboration: Working effectively in ensembles and group performances.

Further information

For more information about Music at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr G Kibby.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

Performing Arts

BTEC

Overview of course

The BTEC Performing Arts qualification offers students the opportunity to explore and develop their skills in areas such as acting, dance, and music. This hands-on, practical course provides a creative environment where students can express themselves and gain real-world experience in performance. The BTEC is designed to help students build confidence, teamwork, and technical abilities, while also encouraging creativity and personal growth. Ideal for those passionate about the arts, the course prepares students for further study, professional training, or a career in the performing arts industry.

What you will be taught

In the BTEC Performing Arts qualification, students will cover a range of topics to develop their skills and knowledge in performance. Key areas of study include:

- Performance Skills: Techniques for acting, dance, and music, focusing on physicality, vocal delivery, and stage presence.
- Rehearsal and Performance: The process of preparing for and delivering live performances, including group work and solo performances.
- Theatre and Dance History: Exploration of different performance styles, genres, and the historical context of theatre, dance, and music.
- Creative Practice: Developing original work through composition, choreography, or improvisation, and experimenting with different performance mediums.
- Technical Skills: Introduction to lighting, sound, costume, and stage management for performances.
- The Role of a Performer: Understanding the responsibilities and career options within the performing arts industry.

This qualification provides a well-rounded education in the performing arts, preparing students for both further study and a variety of careers in the industry.

How you will be assessed

Students will be assessed through a mix of coursework and practical assessments. The BTEC Performing Arts qualification includes both internally assessed units, such as performance-based tasks and creative projects, and externally assessed units, which may involve exams or final performances.

Further study

After completing the BTEC Performing Arts qualification, students have several pathways for further study:

- BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts: An advanced qualification that provides a deeper focus on specific areas such as acting, dance, or musical theatre, ideal for those looking to refine their skills.
- A-Levels: Students may choose to pursue A-Levels in related subjects like Drama, Dance, or Music to further develop their academic understanding of the arts.
- University Degrees: A BTEC in Performing Arts can lead to a variety of degree courses at university, including:
  - BA (Hons) in Acting
  - BA (Hons) in Dance
  - BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre
  - BA (Hons) in Theatre Production
- Drama Schools: Specialised institutions offering professional training in acting, dance, or musical theatre, often leading directly into the performing arts industry.
- Apprenticeships and Work-Based Learning: For those interested in entering the industry straight away, apprenticeships in areas like stage management, theatre production, or dance can provide valuable practical experience.

The BTEC Performing Arts qualification offers a strong foundation for both further academic study and professional training in the performing arts sector.

Careers

A BTEC in Performing Arts opens up a wide range of career opportunities in the creative industries. Graduates can pursue careers in various areas of performance and behind-the-scenes roles, including:

- Actor/Actress: Perform in theatre, television, film, or voice acting, bringing characters to life in front of an audience or on screen.
- Dancer/Choreographer: Perform professionally or create and direct dance routines for theatre productions, music videos, or live performances.
- Musical Theatre Performer: Combine acting, singing, and dancing in musical theatre productions, both on stage and in touring companies.
- Stage Manager: Oversee the technical aspects of theatre productions, including stage setup, lighting, sound, and coordinating rehearsals and performances.
- Theatre Director/Producer: Lead and manage the creative direction of theatre productions, making decisions on casting, staging, and overall vision.
- Drama/Dance Teacher: Share your skills and passion for performing arts by teaching others, either in schools, colleges, or privately.

Need to know

- Practical Focus: The course is hands-on and focused on real-world performance, so be prepared to engage in live shows, workshops, and collaborative projects.
- Creativity and Confidence: You'll need to be creative, open to trying new things, and confident in expressing yourself on stage.
- Teamwork: Much of the work involves collaboration, so the ability to work well with others is essential.
- Resilience: Rehearsals and performances can be demanding, so you should be prepared to handle feedback and learn from mistakes to improve your performance.

Further information

For more information about Performing Arts at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr G Kibby

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)

GCSE

Overview of course

PRE promotes respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths and beliefs and encourages pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection.

Students in PRE will develop skills in evaluation, critical thinking, debate and discussion as well as their writing skills when it comes to extended writing and forming a justified conclusion to an argument.

What you will be taught

At Key Stage 4, the curriculum includes:

Sikh Beliefs:
- Key Sikh beliefs, including one God, equality, and the teachings of the Gurus.

Sikh Practices:
- Key practices like the Five Ks, Gurdwara worship, and Seva (selfless service).

Christian Practices:
- Christian practices such as Baptism, Communion, and religious festivals like Christmas and Easter.

Religion and Life:
- Religious views on life issues such as creation, the environment, abortion, and euthanasia.

Relationships and Families:
- Religious perspectives on marriage, family life, divorce, and gender roles.

Crime and Punishment:
- Religious views on crime, justice, punishment, and forgiveness.

Students will also either be studying one of the following themes;
- *Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice*
- *Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict*

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4 students will be assessed using GCSE style exam questions. This will be split into 2 papers, Paper 1: The study of religion and Paper 2: Thematic studies. Each of these papers will be 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Further study

A-Level Religious Studies or Philosophy:
- In-depth study of religion, ethics, and philosophy, focusing on critical thinking and analysis.

BTEC Level 3 in Philosophy or Ethics:
- Practical courses exploring real-world ethical dilemmas and philosophical problem-solving.

University Degrees in Philosophy, Theology, or Religious Studies:
- Specialised degrees exploring philosophical ideas, ethics, and religion in greater depth.

Law and Politics:
- Philosophy and ethics are key in understanding moral dilemmas in law and politics.

Careers

Studying Religion, Philosophy, and Ethics at GCSE opens up a wide range of career opportunities, including:

Law:
- Understanding ethical principles and moral reasoning is essential in law, where making fair and just decisions is key.

Social Work or Counselling:
- The ethical knowledge gained can lead to careers in social work, counselling, or therapy, helping individuals navigate personal challenges.

Teaching and Education:
- Becoming a teacher in religious studies, philosophy, or ethics at secondary or higher education levels.

Journalism or Media:
- Careers in writing or media where critical thinking and the ability to explore ethical issues are essential.

Politics and Public Policy:
- Ethics and philosophy play a vital role in policy-making, human rights, and social justice, making it a strong foundation for political careers.

Psychology or Psychiatry:
- Understanding human behavior, values, and ethical considerations is vital for careers in psychology or psychiatry.

Need to know

Key Components:
- Religion: Students study major world religions, such as Christianity and Sikhism, focusing on beliefs, practices, and religious teachings that shape followers' lives.
- Philosophy: Students explore key philosophical questions, including the nature of reality, the existence of God, and the meaning of life, as well as famous philosophers' views on these topics.
- Ethics: Ethical theories and moral dilemmas are examined, including issues like euthanasia, abortion, crime, punishment, and human rights, encouraging students to think critically about right and wrong.

Skills Developed:
- Critical Thinking: Analyzing complex ideas and ethical dilemmas.
- Debate and Discussion: Forming arguments and evaluating different viewpoints.
- Empathy and Understanding: Exploring how religious and ethical beliefs impact individuals and society.

Further information

For more information about PRE at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Miss H Turner.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

Photography

GCSE

Overview of course

GCSE Photography offers students an exciting opportunity to explore the world through a creative lens. This course encourages students to develop technical skills and artistic expression by experimenting with a variety of photographic techniques and processes.

By combining practical skills with creativity, GCSE Photography allows students to build an impressive portfolio, showcasing their individuality and vision. This course is ideal for those with a passion for visual arts and a desire to tell stories through imagery.

What you will be taught

You will explore the following:

Camera Skills and Techniques

- Exploring manual settings, including aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.
- Experimenting with composition, framing, and depth of field.

Lighting and Studio Work

- Working with natural and artificial lighting to create mood and impact.
- Learning about light sources, shadows, and reflections.

Image Editing and Post-Production

- Using photo editing software like Adobe Photoshop to enhance images.
- Experimenting with filters, cropping, color adjustments, and retouching.

How you will be assessed

Students will be assessed through two main components:

- **Portfolio of Work (60%)**: Students will create a portfolio showcasing their best work, developed over the course of the GCSE.
- **Externally Set Assignment (40%)**: Students will respond to a brief set by the exam board, developing ideas and creating a final piece during a timed practical session.

Further study

Studying GCSE Photography can open the door to various exciting opportunities for further education. After completing this course, students may choose to explore:

- A-Level Photography: A chance to deepen your skills, knowledge, and creativity in photography while exploring more advanced techniques and concepts.
- BTEC Level 3 in Art and Design: A practical, career-focused course that includes photography and prepares students for creative industries.
- Foundation Diploma in Art and Design: A pre-degree qualification that helps students build a diverse portfolio for university applications.

GCSE Photography provides a strong foundation for anyone interested in pursuing creative pathways or careers in visual arts

Careers

GCSE Photography equips students with creative and technical skills that are highly valued in a range of industries. It can be a stepping stone to exciting careers, including:

- Professional Photographer: Work in areas such as fashion, wildlife, sports, portraiture, or wedding photography.
- Photojournalist: Capture news stories and events through compelling imagery.
- Graphic Designer: Combine photography with digital design to create visual content for advertising, marketing, and media.
- Social Media Manager: Create and curate visual content to engage online audiences.
- Advertising and Marketing Specialist: Use creative photography to communicate messages effectively to target audiences.
- Digital Content Creator: Produce visually engaging content for websites, blogs, and online platforms.

Need to know

Key Skills to Develop:

- Camera Techniques: Understand how to use your camera in manual mode, including shutter speed, aperture, and ISO settings.
- Composition: Learn about framing, the rule of thirds, leading lines, and other compositional techniques to create strong, visually appealing images.
- Lighting: Experiment with natural and artificial lighting, and how it affects the mood, depth, and quality of your photographs.
- Editing and Post-Processing: Use software like Photoshop or Lightroom to enhance and manipulate images.

Creative Exploration:

- Themes and Ideas: Develop your own ideas and creative vision, exploring different styles such as portrait, landscape, still life, or abstract photography.
- Research and Context: Explore the work of other photographers and artists, considering how their work influences your own. Understand the cultural and historical context of photography.

Use of Camera

Access to a DSLR camera at home would be beneficial for gaining hands-on experience and improving your technical skills, but it is not compulsory as other devices, such as smartphones, can still be used effectively for the course with proper understanding and practice.

Further information

For more information about Photography at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mrs L Forrester.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

Spanish
GCSE

Overview of course

Studying GCSE Spanish opens the door to exploring a vibrant language and culture while developing valuable communication skills. Through engaging topics like travel, culture, and daily life, students will enhance their speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities. This course not only supports career opportunities in a global economy but also builds confidence and cultural awareness, preparing students for further language study and international experiences.

What you will be taught

- Speaking and Listening: Engage in real-life conversations and discussions on topics such as school, family, and holidays.
- Reading and Writing: Understand and produce a range of texts, including letters, emails, and articles.
- Grammar and Vocabulary: Build a strong foundation in Spanish grammar to construct accurate and meaningful sentences.
- Cultural Understanding: Explore the traditions, customs, and lifestyles of Spanish-speaking countries.

Topics to be studied include;

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and well-being
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

How you will be assessed

At Key Stage 4, students will be assessed through regular knowledge quizzes, extended written pieces and in-class speaking tasks which will prepare them for their four GCSE papers. They will complete four exams at the end of year 11 in the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking.

Further study

GCSE Spanish provides an excellent foundation for continuing language studies and can lead to a variety of post-16 opportunities, including:

- A-Level Spanish: Build on your GCSE knowledge by delving deeper into language, culture, and literature.
- International Baccalaureate (IB): Study Spanish as part of a globally recognised qualification.
- Diploma in Modern Languages: A vocational pathway to enhance practical language skills.
- University Courses: Pursue degrees in Spanish, Linguistics, or International Relations.
- Combined Language Degrees: Combine Spanishwith subjects like Business, Law, or Politics.

Developing your Spanish skills can also support studies in fields like tourism, translation, teaching, and global business, making it a valuable asset for your academic and professional future.

Careers

Studying Spanish opens doors to a wide range of exciting career opportunities, including:

- Translation and Interpretation – Work in international organisations, government, or private businesses.
- Teaching and Education – Teach languages in schools or work as a private tutor.
- Travel and Tourism – Build a career as a tour guide, travel agent, or hotel manager.
- International Business – Use your language skills in roles like import/export management or sales.
- Diplomacy and International Relations – Work for embassies, NGOs, or global agencies.
- Media and Publishing – Translate and create content for international audiences.
- Law and Legal Services – Support international law firms with multilingual cases.

Spanish is a valuable skill in a globalised world, making you more competitive in industries where communication and cultural understanding are key.

Need to know

- Course Focus: GCSE Spanish emphasises developing your skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish, as well as understanding Spanish culture and society.
- Assessment: The course is assessed through four equal exams (25% each): Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.
- Practical Application: You will practice real-life scenarios such as ordering food, giving directions, and discussing hobbies.
- Commitment: Regular practice and revision are key to building confidence in vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.
- Beyond the Classroom: Opportunities to engage with the language through trips, online resources, or local cultural events can enhance your learning.

Further information

For more information about Spanish at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr A Smith.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Optional Subject

Tech Award in Sport

BTEC

Overview of course

BTEC Sport is a practical, hands-on course that introduces students to the world of sports and physical activity. It covers a wide range of topics, including anatomy and physiology, sports psychology, fitness training, and the organisation of sport. The course focuses on developing both theoretical knowledge and practical skills, preparing students for careers in sports coaching, fitness training, sports management, and other related fields.

What you will be taught

In BTEC Sport, students will be taught a range of topics including:

- Anatomy and Physiology: Understanding the body's systems, muscles, bones, and how they function during physical activity.
- Fitness Training: Learning how to plan and implement fitness programs, including understanding different types of training methods and techniques.
- Sports Psychology: Exploring the mental aspects of sport, including motivation, performance, and dealing with pressure.
- Health and Wellbeing: Focusing on the importance of a balanced lifestyle, nutrition, and how physical activity contributes to overall health.
- Sports Nutrition: Understanding how diet affects performance and how to create nutrition plans for athletes.
- Sport and Exercise Science: Studying the science behind sports performance, including biomechanics and the energy systems used during exercise.
- Sports Leadership and Coaching: Developing skills in coaching, leadership, and the organization of sports events or activities.

How you will be assessed

BTEC Sport is assessed through a mix of coursework, practical assessments, and exams.

- Coursework: Written assignments and practical tasks.
- Practical Assessments: Evaluating performance or leadership in sports.
- Exams: External tests on topics like Anatomy and Physiology.

Further study

After completing BTEC Sport, students have several further study options:

- BTEC Level 3 Sport: Offers deeper knowledge and practical experience, focusing on areas such as sports management, coaching, and performance analysis.
- Sports Science Degree: A university course that explores advanced topics in physiology, biomechanics, and sports psychology.
- Sports Coaching and Leadership: Specialised courses focusing on developing coaching skills and leadership in sports environments.

BTEC Sport provides a solid foundation for careers in the sports industry, further academic study, or vocational training in various sport-related fields.

Careers

BTEC Sport opens up a wide range of career opportunities in the sports industry. Some potential career paths include:

- Sports Coach: Coaching teams or individuals, either in schools, clubs, or professional sports settings.
- Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer: Leading fitness classes or providing personalized training plans in gyms or health clubs.
- Sports Psychologist: Helping athletes improve their mental performance and manage the pressures of competition.
- Sports Therapist/Physiotherapist: Treating and rehabilitating injuries, working with athletes to recover and improve performance.
- Sports Manager: Managing sports teams, organizations, or events, including roles like event coordinator or facility manager.
- Sports Development Officer: Promoting sport in the community, working with schools, local clubs, or national organizations.
- Nutritionist for Athletes: Advising athletes on diet and nutrition to optimize performance and recovery.
- Sports Journalist: Reporting on sports events, writing articles, or broadcasting on television or radio.
- Sports Photographer/Videographer: Capturing images or video footage at sports events, working with media outlets or teams.

A BTEC in Sport provides the practical skills, theoretical knowledge, and industry experience needed to pursue these careers, making it an excellent foundation for anyone passionate about sports.

Need to know

- Practical and Theoretical: BTEC Sport combines hands-on activities with academic study, covering both the practical and theoretical aspects of sports and fitness.
- Skills Development: The course helps develop skills in leadership, teamwork, fitness training, and sports performance, preparing you for careers in sport or further study.
- Fitness and Health Focus: The course emphasises the importance of physical health, fitness, and well-being, both for yourself and others.

Further information

For more information about Sport at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr L Paskin.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Textiles Design

GCSE

Overview of course

GCSE Textiles Design is a creative and practical course focused on designing and making textile-based outcomes. Students explore how fabrics, fibres and materials can be manipulated to communicate ideas, messages and personal intentions.

The course encourages learners to experiment, take creative risks and develop original responses inspired by artists, designers and cultural sources. Students will investigate both historical and contemporary textile design, using this research to inform and refine their own work.

Textiles Design is ideal for students who enjoy practical making, creativity, and working with materials in hands-on ways, while also developing strong visual communication and independent working skills.

What you will be taught

Throughout the course, students will develop skills across a range of textile areas, which may include:

- Textile Techniques: Stitching (hand and machine), embroidery, applique, pattern cutting, weaving, knitting, batik, collage and surface decoration
- Design Development: Generating ideas through research, experimentation and refinement
- Materials and Processes: Exploring different fabrics, fibres, dyes, and construction methods
- Creative Investigation: Analysing the work of textile designers and artists to inspire ideas
- Visual Communication: Recording ideas using sketchbooks, samples, annotations and drawings

Students are encouraged to personalise their work and select techniques that best suit their creative intentions.

How you will be assessed

GCSE Textiles Design is assessed through 100% coursework:

Component 01: Portfolio (60%):

- A body of work developed over time, showing research, experimentation, design development and a final textile outcome.

Component 02: Externally Set Task (40%):

- A themed project released in January of Year 11, culminating in a 10-hour supervised practical task.

There is no written exam — assessment is based entirely on practical work and supporting design evidence.

Further study

This course provides a strong foundation for further creative study and specialist pathways within textiles, fashion and design, including:

- A Level Art & Design (Textiles or Fashion): Students develop advanced creative, practical and conceptual skills, producing sustained personal projects with greater independence and specialism.
- Fashion and Textile Design courses at college: Practical courses focusing on garment construction, surface design, fashion illustration, pattern cutting and production techniques.
- Costume, theatre or interior textiles pathways: Suitable for students interested in costume for stage and screen, interior design, upholstery or soft furnishings.
- Art, Design or Creative Media pathways: Textiles skills support progression into wider creative disciplines where visual communication and material exploration are key.
- Apprenticeships in fashion, manufacturing or creative industries: Combining hands-on industry experience with continued training in areas such as fashion production, textile technology or creative manufacturing.

The creative thinking, material understanding and design development skills gained in GCSE Textiles Design support progression into a wide range of creative and vocational routes.

Careers

Textiles Design develops highly transferable creative, practical and problem-solving skills that are valued across many industries. Potential career paths include:

- Fashion Designer: Designing clothing and accessories for commercial or bespoke markets.
- Textile Designer: Creating fabrics and surface patterns for fashion, interiors or industrial use.
- Costume Designer: Producing costumes for theatre, film and television productions.
- Interior Stylist or Soft Furnishings Designer: Designing textiles for homes, hotels and commercial spaces.
- Product Designer: Applying textile techniques to functional and decorative products.
- Fashion Buyer or Merchandiser: Working within retail, trend forecasting and supply chains.
- Creative Technician: Supporting design, production and making processes in creative environments.
- Textile Technologist: Working with materials, sustainability and production processes within the textile industry.

Need to know

- This is a practical, creative subject with regular hands-on making, experimentation and refinement.
- Students must be prepared to research, test ideas, improve work and respond to feedback throughout the course.
- Organisation and sketchbook development are essential and form a key part of assessment.
- Students will work with a variety of fabrics, materials, tools and processes, following safe working practices.
- Independent creativity is strongly encouraged — original design development is essential, and copied ideas will not meet assessment requirements.
- Good time management is important to balance practical work, research and design development.

Further information

For more information about Textiles at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mrs L Forrester.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.

Physical Education

GCSE

Overview of course

GCSE Physical Education (PE) focuses on both theory and practical aspects of physical activity. Students learn about fitness, health, the benefits of exercise, sports psychology, and the role of sport in society. The course includes a 60% theory exam covering topics like training methods, health, and sociocultural influences, and 40% practical assessment where students demonstrate their skills in different physical activities. The course aims to develop students' understanding of health and fitness while encouraging participation in sports.

What you will be taught

In the GCSE Physical Education (PE) course, students will study both theoretical concepts and practical skills. The topics covered include:

- Physical Training: The importance of exercise for health, fitness, and performance. Students will learn about different types of training, principles of training, and methods to improve fitness.
- Health, Fitness, and Well-being: Students will explore how physical activity affects overall health and well-being, including the role of diet, lifestyle, and exercise in preventing illness.
- Sports Psychology: Understanding the mental and emotional factors that impact performance, such as motivation, goal setting, and stress management.
- Socio-cultural Influences: Examining factors that influence participation in sports, including access, inclusion, and the societal impact of sport.

Students will also participate in practical activities, demonstrating their skills in various sports and physical activities, and learning to evaluate and improve their own performance.

How you will be assessed

The assessment for GCSE Physical Education (PE) consists of two components:

1. Theory Exam (60%): This includes a written exam that tests students' knowledge on topics such as physical training, health and well-being, sports psychology, and the role of sport in society.
2. Practical Assessment (40%): Students are assessed on their performance in a variety of physical activities.

Both components contribute to the final grade, combining theoretical understanding and practical application.

Further study

After GCSE PE, students can pursue several options:

- A-Level Physical Education: A more advanced study of sports science, ideal for those interested in careers like sports science, physiotherapy, or teaching.
- BTEC National in Sport: A practical qualification focusing on coaching, fitness, and sports management, perfect for hands-on careers in sport.
- Sports Science Degree: For those interested in the scientific aspects of sport, leading to careers in sports medicine, personal training, or coaching.
- Apprenticeships: Practical training in areas like fitness instruction or sports coaching, offering work experience alongside qualifications.
- Related Courses: Such as physiotherapy or personal training for those wanting to specialise in healthcare or fitness.

These pathways help build a foundation for various careers in sports, fitness, and health.

Careers

After studying GCSE PE, students have a wide range of career options in the sports and fitness industries, including:

- Sports Coach/Trainer: Coaching teams or individuals in various sports, helping them improve performance and skills.
- Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer: Designing fitness programs and providing personal training sessions to individuals or groups.
- Sports Scientist: Working in areas like sports medicine, physiology, or biomechanics to enhance athletes' performance and prevent injuries.
- Sports Psychologist: Helping athletes manage mental health, motivation, and performance anxiety.
- Physiotherapist: Treating sports injuries and helping athletes recover and regain mobility.
- Sports Manager/Administrator: Overseeing sports organizations, events, or facilities, managing budgets, and ensuring operations run smoothly.
- Leisure Center/Club Manager: Managing sports and recreational facilities, planning activities, and ensuring safety and customer satisfaction.
- Sports Nutritionist: Advising athletes on diet and nutrition to optimize performance and health.
- PE Teacher: Teaching physical education in schools, encouraging students to stay active and understand the importance of fitness.

These careers can lead to further education or vocational training, depending on the chosen field of interest.

Need to know

Key Skills:

- Knowledge of different sports and fitness principles.
- Ability to evaluate and improve your own performance.
- Application of sports psychology in real-world scenarios.

Additional Information:

- Regular participation in physical activity will help you in both practical and theoretical aspects of the course.
- Good time management is essential, as both theory and practical work require attention.
- Revision of theory topics will be crucial to succeeding in the exam.

Further information

For more information about Sport at Ormiston SWB Academy please contact Mr L Paskin.

Please note that courses will only run subject to student numbers and safe staffing levels.