



ART AND DESIGN AS/A2



Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Mrs B Scott, Ms E Watt (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements – 2 GCSEs of Grade C or above, one of which is Art

Course Description (AS)

Practical coursework follows the Unendorsed or the Fine Art Syllabus, consisting of drawing, painting, ceramics, 3D, digital photography and other media. The course starts with students spending time improving their drawing skills and their understanding of drawing. We also look at the importance of sketchbook work to develop practical skills and develop ideas; students become critically aware of their own work and the work of others. Projects during the course are tutor-led; these are written to fit the requirements of Unit 1 and Unit 2. Students are encouraged to explore their own ideas and reach an individual outcome to these projects. Art History is linked with coursework, taking the form of art appreciation and a personal study consisting of visual research and 1000- to 2000-word annotated notes.

Course Description (A2)

Practical coursework follows on from that of the AS-Level element. Students start the year further developing drawing skills in connection with their own interests. Students are encouraged to explore their own ideas for Unit 3 with close negotiation with their art tutor to reach individually-set project briefs. To support the practical work in Unit 3 students need to produce either an illustrated critical study with annotation or a 2000 to 3000 word essay. Throughout the course students will be expected to keep a sketchbook of evidence towards preparation and investigation. Gallery visits usually include at least two one-day visits to a major art centre.

ART AND DESIGN AS/A2 (Page 2)

Assessment Procedure

AS

Unit 1	Coursework	60%
Unit 2	Externally set Assignment	40%

(examination conditions for the duration of 8 hours with at least 6 weeks preparation time)

A2

Unit 3	Practical Work and Critical Study	60%
Unit 4	Externally Set Assignment	40%

(examination conditions for the duration of 12 hours with at least 6 weeks preparation time)

Progression

Entry onto a Foundation course is the usual next step for those intending a career in the Art and Design field. Art is also recognised as a valid A-level for the purposes of College and University courses.

Notes

Students taking this course will be required to make a financial contribution to art gallery visits.

Students will also need to build up specialist materials and equipment which they can use at home.

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2010/2011 Results (A2)

Pass Rate:	100%
A*-B:	42%



ADVANCED APPLIED ART AND DESIGN AS/A2



Courses Available

Advanced Applied Art and Design
6 Units equivalent to one A2-Level
12 Units equivalent to two A2-Levels

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Mrs B Scott and Ms E Watt (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements – This is an extension of the A-Level Art and Design Course available to students in negotiation with the Art Department.

Course Description

Applied Art is a course designed to make vocational links with the world of Art and Design. We offer a two-year programme of study starting with students spending time improving their drawing skills and their understanding of drawing. We also look at the importance of sketchbook work to develop practical skills, develop ideas and become critically aware of their own work and the work of others. Students will work initially on set briefs which will explore different areas of Art and Craft (both 2D and 3D), techniques, processes and professional practices, such as health and safety and industrial methods. Students are encouraged to work individually and as part of a team, as would be the case in vocational situations.

During the second year of the course, students will work on individually designed briefs reflecting their personal interests. In the past students have worked in the area of leather craft, metal work, surface textiles and fine art painting and sculpture. Students are expected to explore their chosen materials independently. In the past students have made links with local crafts people including a Textile Artist, a Graphic Designer, a Shoe Maker and a Blacksmith.

ADVANCED APPLIED ART AND DESIGN AS/A2 (Page 2)

Year One Sculpture, Textiles, Graphics,
Set Briefs Fine Art, ICT

Visits - visits are organised to link with set projects. These have included galleries, Leyburn Tea Pottery and the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Students are expected to present information on these visits making creative, practical and professional connections to their own work.

Assessment Procedure

6 Units = 1 A-Level

Units 1, 2, 6, 9, 11 plus one of the following: Units 12, 13, 14 assessed and externally moderated. Unit 6: Develop Set Ideas is externally set and assessed

12 Units = 2 A-Levels

Units 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, 6, 7 – Year 12

Units 8, 9, 10, 11 plus two of the following: Units 12, 13, 14 – Year 13

All units are displayed in an exhibition and internally assessed and externally moderated.

Unit 6 Develop Set Ideas, Unit 7 Produce Set Ideas are externally set and assessed.

Unit 11 Develop and Produce Own Ideas is externally assessed.

Possible Progression

Entry onto a Foundation, HND or Degree course in Art and Design related subjects including Graphics, Fashion, Clothing Industry, Jewellery and 3D Design. Many Colleges are now offering Degree courses in Applied Arts.

Note – Students taking this course will be required to make a financial contribution to art gallery visits; students will also need to build up specialist materials and equipment which they will need to use at home.

**ADVANCED APPLIED
ART AND DESIGN AS/A2
(Page 3)**

- Unit 1: 2D & 3D Visual Language
- Unit 2: Materials, Techniques and Technology
- Unit 3: Visual Communication & Meaning
- Unit 4: Working in 2D
- Unit 5: Working in 3D
- Unit 6: Develop set ideas.
- Unit 7: Produce set ideas.
- Unit 8: Personal & Portfolio Development
- Unit 9: Contextual References.
- Unit 10: Professional Practice
- Unit 11: Develop & Produce Own Ideas
- Unit 12: Fine Art
- Unit 13: Design
- Unit 14: Multimedia

2010/2011 Results (A2)

Pass Rate: 100%
A*-B: 50%



AQA BACCALAUREATE



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Mr M Beer, Mr S Murphy

Course Requirements: This course will be offered to students who have achieved a high level in their GCSE courses.

Course Description

The AQA Baccalaureate is made up of 4 parts:

- 1. Specialist Depth of Study:** 3 A2 Level courses in any combination.
- 2. Independent Learning:** The Extended Project Qualification - a research project to produce an artefact or report in your chosen area of specialism.
- 3. Breadth:** AS Level in Citizenship.
- 4. Personal Development:** 100 hours of enrichment activity inside and/or outside of school over the two years of your course. This covers the three broad areas of Community Service, Personal Development and Work Based Learning. You will keep a web based electronic diary to log your achievements.

This qualification is very highly regarded by Universities and allows students to show their ability in a breadth of courses as well as their independent learning and research skills in their chosen specialist area. Students are awarded a Distinction if they achieve an A or above in the courses involved, a Merit for C or above and a Pass for E or above.

2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
2 Distinctions, 7 Merits, 2 Passes



BIOLOGY AS/A2



Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Ms F Morphet (Subject Leader), Dr H Williets

Course Requirements – GCSE:

Science & Additional Science

Grade B

OR

Biology & Chemistry

Grade B

Maths

Grade B

NOTE: This course is not suitable for students who have studied BTEC Level 2 Applied Science or GCSE Applied Science

Course Description

The course is taught through real-life biology; we start the AS course with an account of Mark, a 15 year-old who had a stroke, and Peter, an adult who had a heart attack. We look at the factors that make it more likely that any of us will suffer from a stroke or heart attack. This allows us to introduce the biochemistry of fats and carbohydrates, along with physiology relating to the heart and circulatory system. Similarly, Cystic Fibrosis is used to introduce concepts including transport across cell membranes, DNA structure, enzymes and protein synthesis. Four topics are studied at AS; (1) Lifestyle, Health & Risk, (2) Genes & Health, (3) Voice of the Genome, (4) Biodiversity & Natural Resources each taking approximately half a term of study, including the practical work. This leaves enough time to do the coursework and to revise for the exams.

The SNAB A2 course covers a further four topics; (5) On the Wild Side (Ecology), (6) Infection, Immunity & Forensics, (7) Run For Your Life (Physiology and Biochemistry of Exercise), (8) Grey Matter. Again, the theory is delivered using real-life situations and it is hoped that by the end of the A2 course students will see the significance of Biology in personal, social, environmental, economic and technological areas and will have the knowledge and practical skills to use in new and changing situations.

BIOLOGY AS/A2 (PAGE 2)

Assessment Procedure

The exams are much like any Advanced Biology exams, but they particularly reward ability to reason biologically and to use what students have learnt in new contexts, rather than just regurgitating huge amounts of information off by heart. Two theory exams account for 80% of the AS mark, with a further 20% for the coursework element. The AS coursework involves students writing a report on a biological issue that interests them or on a place that they have visited. A second aspect of the coursework is teacher assessment of practical skills.

At A2, the marks obtained at AS are carried forward and supplemented by marks from two written exams and marks from their practical investigation - approximately two weeks is spent on a coursework investigation of their own choice.

Progression

Biology can be used as an entry qualification for a wide range of science and non-science courses at Colleges and Universities. Biology is clearly recommended for degree courses in Medicine, Sports Science, Genetics, Food Technology, Environmental Sciences, Biochemistry, Psychology, Biotechnology, Forensic Science and many other biological subjects.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate:	100%
A*-B:	33%



CHEMISTRY

AS/A2

Awarding Body
OCR (Salter's)

Subject staff
Mr L Edwards and Mrs J Dewhurst

Course Requirements – GCSE :

Chemistry or Science **Grade B**

AND

Additional Science **Grade B**

AND

Maths **Grade B**

A curiosity about the material world and the ability to express yourself clearly in writing.

NOTE: This course is not suitable for students who have studied BTEC Level 2 Applied Science or GCSE Applied Science

Course Description (AS)

Chemistry looks at the material world around us. Almost everything that we touch or use is made by chemists, including fibres and dyes in clothes, medicines, agrochemicals, fuels, plastics and metals. Chemists also research new ways of minimising human impact on the environment. The course gives a good grounding in the ideas and models which underlie all of these enterprises. The AS course expands on the chemistry work done in GCSE Science, but also introduces new ideas. About one third of the timetable is allocated to practical work, with many new skills to learn and refine. The 2 AS units are Chemistry for Life (about atomic structure; radioactivity: fission and fusion; chemical equations and amount of substance; the Periodic Table and Group 2 chemistry; and bonding and the shapes of molecules.) and Chemistry of Natural Resources (about halogen chemistry; redox chemistry; Periodic Table – electron configurations and periodicity of ionisation enthalpy; intermolecular dipole bonds; halogenoalkane chemistry; and industrial chemistry.) The coursework is practical-based and represents 20% of the AS qualification. Progress in Chemistry at this level requires good study skills, hard work and determination.

CHEMISTRY AS/A2 (Page 2)

Course Description (A2)

There are a further two theoretical modules building on the topics covered in the AS course (Chemistry of Materials and Chemistry by Design) and a full Chemistry investigation coursework module, which is teacher assessed.

Progression

A post-16 qualification in Chemistry is useful and sometimes essential for University courses in medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine, dentistry and physiotherapy. It is useful for engineering, food technology, geology and, of course, many science-based courses. All Universities look favourably on Chemistry, when taken in combination with arts and humanities subjects. There are many job opportunities for people with qualifications in Chemistry. Chemists work in industries, Universities and in public services such as environmental health or monitoring. Many chemists even work in accountancy or law.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A-B: 100%



CITIZENSHIP

AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Mr M Beer, Mr S Murphy

Course Requirements: The AS course forms part of the AQA Baccalaureate. It will be offered to students who have achieved a high level in their GCSE courses.

Course Description

As a course, Citizenship has elements of Politics, Law and Sociology. It gives an insight into modern day Britain and is broken into the following units:

AS Course

Unit 1 Identity, Rights and Responsibilities

Identity: What does it mean to be British? What is a citizen? Perceptions of being 'British'. How socially diverse is Britain? Are we all equal citizens? Prejudice, discrimination and disadvantage. How can discrimination and disadvantage be reduced?

Rights and Responsibilities: What are my rights and responsibilities? How are my rights protected and supported? The legal framework: protecting the citizen. How do the courts protect my rights?

Unit 2 Democracy, Active Citizenship and Participation

Making a difference: who can make a difference? Who holds power in the UK? The citizen and political power in the UK.

How can I make a difference? How citizens can get involved? Citizenship in action—citizens working together to bring about change.

Active citizenship skills and participation. Becoming an informed citizen. The participating citizen. Being an active citizen.

CITIZENSHIP AS/A2 (Page 2)

A2 Course—This is not a compulsory part of the AQA Baccalaureate and is open to students as a supported self study A2 course.

Unit 3 Power and Justice

What is Crime? The nature of crime and the role of the police. The Crown Prosecution Service and the trial process.

What is Justice? Who makes decisions: judges, magistrates and juries. Sentencing.

Politics, Power and Participation. Who speaks on our behalf? Electing representatives, elections and accountability. The citizen's relationship to those elected.

How is the UK governed? The power and influence of Government. The global village?

Unit 4 Global Issues and Making a Difference

Global Citizenship. Universal Human Rights. Human Rights abuse. Conflict and its resolution. Trade and environmental issues.

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2010/2011 Results (AS)

Pass Rate:	100%
A-B	73%



CoPE Certificate of Personal Effectiveness



Awarding Body

ASDAN

Subject Staff

Mrs R Hill, Mrs G Lambert

Course Requirements—2 GCSE grades of C or higher.

CoPE Level 3 is primarily intended for students in **Post-16 education** and offers an ideal solution to the accreditation of the wider activities frequently undertaken as a central part of the post-16 experience. It can also be used with **Gifted and Talented** groups. Many students considering teaching/medicine/law courses at University take this course to enhance their UCAS application.

Course Description

CoPE provides a framework for the development, assessment and accreditation of generic and wider key skills and wider activities, through a **nationally recognised qualification** at Level 3. The qualification offers imaginative ways of accrediting **young people's activities**. They promote, and allow centres to record, a wide range of personal qualities, abilities and achievements of young people, as well as introducing them to new activities and challenges.

Students choose challenges from the following **six modules**:

- Active Citizenship
- Work Related Activities
- Career Planning
- Global Awareness
- Enrichment Activities
- Extended Project

Students gain **credits** for challenges completed, with two credits awarded for 20 hours of activity, three credits for 30 hours and five credits for 50 hours. Students must gain a minimum of **15 credits** to complete the full qualification, choosing challenges from **at least three** modules.

CoPE Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (Page 2)

Students produce a **portfolio of evidence**, which should demonstrate competence in the Wider Key Skills (Working with Others, Improving Own Learning and Performance and Problem Solving) at Level 3 and the units Planning and Carrying Out Research, Communicating through Discussion and Planning and Giving an Oral Presentation at Level 3.

Assessment

After students' portfolios have been internally moderated, centres must register candidates names for external moderation at least **six weeks** in advance of a regional moderation meeting. ASDAN will issue certificates following successful moderation.

Progression

CoPE at Level 3 has recognition from UCAS and is worth **70 UCAS points** (roughly equivalent to an A grade at AS Level). The qualification offers progression to **Key Skills** at Level 3.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass rate:	100%
A-B:	100%



ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STUDIES

AS/A2



Awarding Body

EdExcel

Subject Staff

Mr S Murphy (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements 5 GCSEs Grade C or higher

You **do not** need to have studied Business before.

Course Description

In Year 12 you will study the following:

Unit 1: Developing New Business Ideas – You look at the skills needed to be successful in business and how new or existing businesses generate their product or service ideas and test them through market research. You will also consider the competition in the market; the economic climate; how the business might be financed and how much revenue the idea might generate.

Unit 2b: Business Economics – You will consider the market that business operates in; how competition in the market and macroeconomic change is likely to affect it and how businesses can seek to minimise uncertainty through their actions.

In Year 13 you will study the following:

Unit 3 – International Business - The aim of this unit is to introduce you to the world of international business and issues which a company trading internationally would have to consider.

Unit 4b: - The Wider Economic Environment and Business - In this unit, you consider why certain markets fail; how government decision making affects the economy and markets in which companies operate, and the income and welfare of private individuals. Students will be able to assess why government economic policy can succeed or fail and why regulation of some markets is necessary.

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STUDIES

(Page 2)

Progression

The world we live in is becoming more global. We are now able to buy goods from anywhere in the world and have them delivered to our front door in days. Is this good or bad? Sure, we can get a variety of products at the cheapest prices but have you thought about how they are produced or the environmental cost in making them?

Unit 1: Developing New Business Ideas	Examination length: 1 hour 15 minutes Section A: supported multiple-choice questions where students write a short justification of why they chose that answer and/or why the other answers are incorrect. Worth 32 marks. Section B: questions based on 'data'. Worth 38 marks.
Unit 2b: Business Economics	Examination length: 1 hour 15 minutes Section A: supported multiple-choice questions where students write a short justification of why they chose that answer and/or why the other answers are incorrect. Worth 24 marks. Section B: questions based on 'data'. Worth 46 marks.
Unit 3: International Business	Examination length: 1 hour 30 minutes Section A: questions based on 'data'. Worth 35 marks. Section B: case study and questions. Worth 45 marks.
Unit 4b: The Wider Economic Environment and Business	Examination length: 1 hour 30 minutes Section A: questions based on 'data'. Worth 30 marks. Section B: decision-making report and questions. Worth 50 marks.

This course will debate these issues and more beside to enable you to be a more informed consumer who is able to predict and react to a changing and challenging future.

Not only that, by following a GCE Economics and Business course, you are well placed to go onto a Business or Economics related degree course or be able to provide you with useful skills for the workplace or even your own business.

Economics and Business Studies links well with History, Psychology, Maths, English and a language A level.

Economics and Business Studies – *it makes you think!*

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A-B: 75%



ENGLISH LANGUAGE AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA (Specification B)

Subject Staff

Ms L Cowan (Subject Leader), Ms L Horsfall, Mrs S Power, Ms P Quick,

Course Requirements: GCSE English Language Grade C

Students taking this Advanced Level should have a lively interest in all forms of human language use in society and should be prepared to read and analyse many kinds of texts and to produce their own original writing for specific purposes and audiences.

Course Description (AS)

The course will include:

- An Introduction to the Study of Language; this is intended as a general introduction to the analysis of all kinds of written and spoken language, including transcripts and recordings and uses a variety of short texts as the basis for study. The study of Language and Social Contexts, including such topics as Language and Gender, Language and Technology, and Language and Power.
- (Coursework) The assessment of students' creativity and control of their own writing for different audiences and different purposes.

Course Description (A2)

At A2 students build on the conceptual frameworks that they have encountered in the AS level to extend their understanding of language production and usage. This involves:

- A synoptic module which helps to develop a detailed knowledge of Language Change over time and Language Acquisition in children, using all the skills and insights learned during the whole course.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AS/A2 (Page 2)

- (Coursework) An in-depth investigation of an aspect of language which is of particular interest to the student, chosen with guidance from the teacher (for example the language of sport or the language of youth culture.)

English Language at this level is not like English at GCSE. Students must be prepared to absorb and use confidently a range of technical terms relating to concepts in language analysis as well as being willing to learn about the grammar of the language. This is a challenge but it is also very rewarding for anyone who has keen interest in how language works in many different fields in our society. It requires a wide range of attentive reading and is not simply focused on any one type of language, although it will obviously encompass aspects of literature too. There is a lot of class and small group discussions as well as individual and paired research.

Assessment is by means of coursework and written examinations. At each level (AS and A2), the coursework counts for 40% of the marks and the examination for 60%.

Progression

This course could lead to the further study of language at University level, but the analytical insights and practical writing skills developed would contribute equally well to the study of many other disciplines in the Arts and Sciences. It would also be very useful in developing communication skills for those intending to seek employment in a wide range of fields where dealing with people is important.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A*-B: 9%

ENGLISH LITERATURE AS/A2 (Page 2)

There is a lot of class and small group discussion to which everyone is expected to contribute. Much on-going work is reading, although written work is set at regular intervals to refine and develop the skills of organisation and expression which students have already worked on in earlier years. If you enjoy reading and talking about what you read, you will find this course enjoyable and rewarding.

Assessment Procedure

By a combination of coursework (40% of the marks) and examination (60%).

Progression

Even if you do not think that you want to go on to study Literature at University, you should still find that the oral, writing and analytical skills that you develop in the course will be of use to you in virtually any field of study or employment.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A-B: 75%



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Mr M Beer, Mr S Murphy and team of staff supervisors.

Course Requirements: The EPQ forms part of the AQA Baccalaureate and is also open as an optional course for students in the summer term of Year 12.

Course Description

The EPQ is worth half of an A2 qualification.

The EPQ is an opportunity to do a project in a subject area in which you are interested. It provides a context for developing critical thinking and project management skills—these are widely transferable, and may be useful in other courses now or at University level. The EPQ assesses your ability to plan, carry out, report on and evaluate a project. It has been designed with university study in mind and is very highly valued by University Admission Tutors as a result.

Assessment Procedure

This is an independent piece of work undertaken in an area entirely chosen by you—it does not have to be in an area covered by the normal school curriculum. It can be a traditional essay, but it can also be a performance or artwork with supporting documentation. You set the project title and produce a written report of around 5000 words or an artefact/performance and a shorter written report of over 1000 words. You provide evidence of the stages of your project process and present your findings formally to an invited audience. Throughout this process you will have the support of your EPQ Supervisor with whom you meet once a week to discuss your progress. They will give you feedback throughout your project and give it the final marks when you complete. The project is marked to the same grading systems as A-Level, but much more important is the way it helps you to develop the skills to succeed at University.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (Page 2)

Examples of Student Projects 2010-11

- What caused the 'Gulf of Mexico' oil spill and can BP survive the disaster?
- The economic downturn; when, where, how and what can we learn?
- Anne Boleyn and the English Reformation
- Prions - are they a risk to humans?
- New Flu viruses and the 2009 H1N1 Swine Flu pandemic; was the Government's response proportional?
- How typical are the Pendle Witch Trials in comparison to other witch trials in Europe during the 17th Century and to what extent do witch trials reflect the religious and superstitious beliefs of that time?
- How effectively did Aristotle explain the western system of the Universe, and to what extent did the Church hinder Galileo in his attempt to dispel that system?
- Genetics and the benefits of Genetic Profiling
- Shear Thickening Fluids: What are they? How do they work? What are they used for?
- Why are some applications successful and some unsuccessful for Drama School?

Progression

The EPQ develops skills that Universities are very keen to see in their students. It is very highly sought after as a qualification and Lancaster University staff support students as part of the course. Students this year have also found that becoming an expert in one particular area has been invaluable at University interviews.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A*-B: 64%



FORENSIC SCIENCE BTEC NATIONAL SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA



Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Dr H Williets, Mrs F Morphet, Mr L Edwards

Course requirements: 2 GCSEs at Grade C or higher.

Potential students should be aware that they will be required to study three other AS-Level or BTEC courses and must meet the individual entry criteria for those subjects.

Course Description

The BTEC National Level 3 Certificate is the equivalent of an AS-Level in Science gained in one year whilst the Subsidiary Diploma is the equivalent of a full A-Level (or 2 AS Levels) gained over two years.

The Certificate will be taught in Year 1.

The Certificate is made up of three compulsory units:

- Unit1 Fundamentals of Science
- Unit 2 Working in the Science Industry
- Unit4 Practical Scientific Techniques

To complete the Subsidiary Diploma three more units will be taken in Y13. These units will be taken from:

- Unit 5 Perceptions of Science
- Unit 10 Using Science in the Workplace
- Unit 18 Genetics and Genetic Engineering
- Unit 20 Medical Physics Techniques
- Unit 22 Chemical Laboratory Techniques
- Unit 32 Forensic Evidence Collection and Analysis
- Unit 34 Criminal Psychology

FORENSIC SCIENCE BTEC NATIONAL SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA (Page 2)

Assessment Procedure

The units are internally assessed.

Progression

The BTEC Certificate can be extended in Year 13 by taking another three units to make up a Subsidiary Diploma equivalent to one full A-Level. The Certificate could also be a first step towards traditional A-Levels, further Applied Science courses or professional training leading to careers in Science.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass: 100%

Distinction: 20%



FRENCH AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Ms P Donworth (Subject Leader), Ms R Hill

Course Requirements: GCSE French Grade B

Course Description (AS)

You will continue to develop the four language skills of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing and, in addition, study French culture and current affairs topics. You will learn from newspapers, magazines, television and radio programmes, DVDs and films. Up-to-date topics will include media, popular culture, healthy living and relationship issues. Spending time in France and/or French speaking countries will be encouraged.

Course Description (A2)

You will continue to develop your language skills and current affairs knowledge and in addition will study aspects of the environment, the multicultural society, contemporary social issues and culture.

Assessment Procedure

Internal tests during the course culminate in the AS examination at the end of Year 12 and the A2 examination at the end of Year 13.

Progression

French can be used as an entry qualification to a wide variety of courses at University or College, as a basis for a Modern Language course or as an element of a Joint or Combined course. Combinations have been as diverse as French and Linguistics, French and Psychology and French and Business Studies. You are invited to take a look on www.language.org.uk and view the possibilities.

FRENCH AS/A2 (Page 2)

Language skills can take you a long way! Many Higher Education institutions now offer students the opportunity to continue their Modern Languages study regardless of degree choice. Students wishing to go into Primary Education or Medicine are strongly recommended to consider including foreign language study in their plans.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate:	100%
A*-B:	20%



FURTHER MATHS

AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Miss S Doyle (Faculty Leader), Mr M Hulzebus (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements **GCSE Grade A**

Students taking up Further Maths are likely to be those with a particular interest and aptitude for the subject. Units studied must have a Further Pure element. Other units studied involve Statistics and/or Mechanics. Further Maths is a subject taken by very few students nationally and is as such highly regarded. The course can only be taken if AS/A2 Mathematics is taken as well.

Course Description (AS)

Students will study three units of work, typically:

- Further Pure 1, Statistics 1 and Mechanics 1.

Course Description (A2)

Students continuing with the A2 course will be expected to have achieved a sound grade in the AS level. Students will study three more units of work, typically:

- Further Pure 2, Statistics 2 and Mechanics 2.

Assessment Procedure

Both AS and A2 are assessed by examinations in January (S1 in Year 12, S2 in Year 13 as well as re-takes) and June (FP1 and M1 in Year 12, FP2 and M2 in Year 13, retakes where required). There is no coursework requirement.

Progression

A qualification in Further Mathematics is useful for progression particularly in courses related to Mathematics, Physics, Statistics, as well as Engineering, but will also be useful in general to give proof of a high Mathematical ability. It is invaluable in seeking employment; a Further Mathematics qualification will stand out as 'special' in any CV.

2010-11 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A*-B: 100%



GEOGRAPHY

AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Mr G Whitaker (Subject Leader), Mrs H Johnson, Mr M Kaye

Course Requirements

GCSE Geography: Grade C or above on the higher tier paper

OR

GCSE Grade C or above in English, Maths and Science

Where a student has not previously studied Geography, each case would be looked at on its merits.

Course Description (AS)

The AS course focuses on contemporary issues within Geography. Two core units of Global Population Change and Rivers and Floods and their Management are taught alongside 2 other units of Health Issues and Coasts. A geographical skills paper tests data handling and field work techniques. Students are encouraged to carry out their own reading and research to build knowledge and skills. Fieldwork is an essential part of the course as a means of learning data collection techniques, data handling, presentation and applying theory.

Course Description (A2)

The A2 course builds on the topics and skills learnt at AS. In A2, students will study geographical themes from Human and Physical Geography. These could include Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards, World Cities or Contemporary Conflicts and Challenges. In A2 Geography, students are no longer required to produce lengthy pieces of coursework. Students are now examined on fieldwork techniques or have the opportunity to research a specific issue to discuss in exam conditions.

Throughout A-Level Geography, students are encouraged to develop skills in data handling, presentation, research and mapping. Many of the skills and techniques used in Geography are invaluable and transferable to the workplace.

GEOGRAPHY AS/A2

(Page 2)

Assessment Procedure

AS

Unit 1 Physical and Human Paper: 2 hour examination

Unit 2 Geographical Skills Paper: 1 hour examination

A2

Unit 3 Contemporary Geographical Issues: 2.5 hour examination

Unit 4A Geographical Fieldwork Investigation: 1.5 hour examination

Or

Unit 4B Geographical Issues Evaluation: 1.5 hour examination

Equipment and Additional Costs

Fieldwork is an essential element in the course and students will be expected to make a financial contribution towards excursions.

Progression

Geography offers routes into both BSc and BA courses in Higher Education.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%

A*-B: 50%



HISTORY

AS/A2



Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Mr M Beer and Ms P Fisher (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements

GCSE History at Grade C or above. However, it is possible to take History at AS/A-Level without having studied the subject at GCSE. The most important requirements are a proven ability to work hard, a sound command of English and adequate general success at GCSE.

Course Description (AS)

During Year 12, you will study two different units, which cover exciting and challenging periods in British and American history:

- The USA, 1945-1973: Pursuing Life & Liberty, and the USA in Asia 1950—1973
- The Changing Position of Women in Britain, 1860-1930

Course Description (A2)

In Year 13, you will study two further periods of history, which build on and develop some of the issues and ideas raised during the Year 12 programme.

- The Changing Nature of Warfare c1845-1991
- From Kaiser to Fuhrer: Germany, 1900-1945

Assessment

At the end of Year 12 you will sit written examinations in the two units you have studied.

The A2 course is assessed by one written examination and two coursework essays.

HISTORY AS/A2 (Page 2)

Progression

History can be used as an entry qualification for a wide range of courses at University or College, including law, business and humanities subjects. It is also a highly regarded qualification by employers in a wide range of areas.

If you have any further questions about the course, please come and speak to either Ms Fisher or Mr Beer.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate:	100%
A*-B:	67%



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

To be confirmed. This course will be dependent on student interest and will not run if numbers are too low.

Course Requirements: GCSE Grade C in ICT. Students should research carefully the difference between this A-Level, which is exam based and involves a high level of theory, and the BTEC National Diploma in ICT, which is coursework based and focuses more on the vocational.

Course Description (AS)

You will learn:

- Problem solving skills developed through using a wide range of hardware and software.
- Interpersonal skills necessary for communicating with others.
- All about the nature of information, its structure, application and implications for its use.
- The role of people, technology and systems in business.

Module 1 Practical Problem Solving in the digital World

- 90 minute exam: some short answers and some structured questions requiring discursive answers

Module 2 Living in the Digital World

- 90 Minute Exam: some short answers and some structured questions requiring discursive answers

Course Description (A2)

Module 3 The Use of ICT in the Digital World.

- 2 hour exam based on pre-released material.

Module 4 Coursework

- Practical Issues Involved in the Use of ICT in the Digital World. Students must produce a report based upon their practical work. This is internally marked and externally moderated.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AS/A2 (Page 2)

Progression

After you have completed your AS or A-Level course in Information and Communication Technology, you may choose to seek employment in the ever-growing Information and Communication Technology related industries, or you may just use the skills you have studied to help you in a business or management career. In general, ICT will be a valuable support to any degree you go on to study and any career you pursue.

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2010/2011 Results

ICT A-Level will be offered for the first time in 2012.



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA



Courses Available

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in ICT (IT Practitioners) - 6 units

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in ICT (IT Practitioners) - 12 units

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

To be confirmed. This course will be dependent on student interest and will not run if numbers are too low.

Course Requirements

2 GCSE grades of C or higher. This course takes up 2 option choices and is worth 2 A Levels. Students should research carefully the difference between this BTEC National Diploma, which is coursework based and focuses more on the vocational and the ICT A-Level, which is exam based and involves a higher level of theory.

Course Description

The Subsidiary Diploma provides an opportunity for students to develop research, graphics design, web animation, web design and much more. The diploma builds on this with a strong multimedia focus.

The BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diplomas/Diploma is a technical, work-related course designed for those wishing to learn how to be professionals in the computing and ICT industries. You will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. As well as learning about the employment area you have chosen, you will develop the skills you need to start a career.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA (Page 2)

The course will enable you to find out:

- how hardware inside the machine actually works and what it's like to install and maintain software.
- what the implications of installing a new computer system are for a business.
- how to manage the security of data and avoid and detect computer crime.
- how to design and develop a range of graphical products to make sure they are user friendly.
- how to design and build a website.

An exciting element of the course is web animation development. This part includes the study of animation techniques and the development of animation components such as graphics, audio, animation and scripting. You will also study the principles and concepts behind animation design and their impact on society as part of your overall learning in all aspects of the profession.

Progression

These qualifications in ICT are recognised for the purpose of application to College and University courses.

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2010/2011 Results

ICT A-Level will be offered for the first time in 2012.



MATHEMATICS

AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Miss S Doyle (Faculty Leader), Mr M Hulzebus (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements: GCSE Grade B in Maths

All students will complete an induction task at the start of the course to familiarise themselves with assumed knowledge for AS level and the demands of the course (organisation, initiative, commitment).

Course Description (AS)

Students will study three units of work:

- Core Maths 1 and 2 and Decision Maths 1.

Course Description (A2)

Students continuing with the A2 course will be expected to have achieved a sound grade on the AS level. Students will study three units of work:

- Core Maths 3 and 4 and either Decision Maths 2.

Assessment Procedure

Both AS and A2 are assessed by examinations in January (D1 in Year 12, C3 and D2 in Year 13 as well as retakes) and June (C1 and C2 in Year 12, C4 in Year 13, retakes where required). There is no coursework requirement.

Progression

A qualification in Mathematics is useful for progression in virtually every Higher Education course. It is also invaluable in seeking employment.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%

A*-B: 88%



MEDIA STUDIES (Creative Media Production) BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA



Courses Available

Level 3 BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma in Creative Media Production
Level 3 BTEC National Diploma in Creative Media Production

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Ms K Garside, Mrs V Lewis, Ms C Filler and Mr M Beer

Course Requirements 2 GCSEs Grade C or higher. This course takes up 2 option choices.

Potential students should be aware that they will be required to study two other AS-Level or BTEC courses and must meet the individual entry criteria for those subjects.

Course Description

In Year 1 of the course, the students will complete a BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma which has the equivalence of 1 A-Level (or two AS-Levels). Students continuing to Year 2 of the course will have the opportunity to complete a BTEC National Diploma which has the equivalence of 2 A-Levels (or four AS-Levels).

Students will study a number of CORE units covering topics such as research techniques for media industries and pre-production techniques. There will also be a selection of specialist units for students to choose from covering a range of topics from film and video editing techniques, writing for television and radio, film studies and many more. This qualification will also give students the opportunity to gain an understanding of employment opportunities, job requirements, and working practices in the media industry. It will enable students to start to build the technical skills and knowledge relevant to the media industry.

**MEDIA STUDIES
(Creative Media Production)
BTEC NATIONAL
DIPLOMA
(Page 2)**

Assessment

This will be based on a range of evidence including presentations, reports, logs, portfolios of evidence and personal development planning. All units of work are internally assessed and graded and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.

Progression

BTEC Nationals are valued by employers and Higher Education (University and College). The course could also be a first step towards professional training, leading to a career in Media. Students last year also successfully applied for Law and Marketing degrees having studied BTEC Media Studies.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass: 100%
Distinction: 25%



OPEN UNIVERSITY MODULES



Awarding Body

The Open University

Courses Available

A variety of modules available to students based on interest, enthusiasm and ability to cope with the course in question. The courses are all undergraduate, distance learning courses through the Open University Young Applicants in Schools Scheme (YASS).

Subject Staff

Mr M Beer, Mr S Murphy

Course requirements

You will need to show that you are coping well with your A-Level courses and have the required level of independence and enthusiasm to succeed with an Open University course.

Course Description

Materials are provided by the Open University, along with a personal tutor. You will be set assignments to complete and given deadlines through the course. The modules are given a weighting that is the equivalent to undergraduate degree level modules.

Progression

Taking an Open University module is a great way to pursue an interest or explore an area that really fascinates you. It is also very highly regarded by Universities looking for students who show a high level of self motivation and an ability to research and study independently.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%



PERFORMING ARTS

AS/A2



Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Mrs S Power (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements: GCSE English Language Grade C

- A Grade C in GCSE Drama, Dance, Art, Music or Performing Arts would be useful, but is not essential.

Course Description (AS and A2)

A-Level Performing Arts is for actors, dancers or drama technicians who wish to further their skills in their chosen area. The course is performance based, rather than theoretical with an accompanying written portfolio.

In the AS units, you will learn about:

- Exploring Skills for Performance
- Planning for an Event
- Performing to a Commission

In the A2 units, you will learn about:

- Employment Opportunities in the Performing Arts
- Advanced Performance Practice
- Advanced Production Practice
- Production Delivery

PERFORMING ARTS AS/A2 (Page 2)

Assessment Procedure

You will be encouraged to demonstrate your skills and talent by being assessed in practical ways with no written exams. You will be assessed solely through portfolio and performance by your teacher. Your work will be moderated by a visiting moderator.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

The GCE in Performing Arts qualifies for UCAS points so if you complete it successfully you could move on to study for a degree or BTEC Higher National Diploma in Performing Arts. You could also go on to relevant employment.

2010/2011 Results

Performing Arts is being offered to students for the first time in 2011.



PHYSICS

AS/A2

Awarding Body

AQA

Subject Staff

Ms K Garside, Ms J Dewhurst

Course Requirements – GCSE :

Science & Additional Science **Grade B**

OR

Maths **Grade B**

Physics **Grade B**

NOTE: This course is not suitable for students who have studied BTEC Level 2 Applied Science or GCSE Applied Science

Course Description

The course is not just aimed at increasing the student's knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts. Apart from providing a basis for further study, the course aims to:

- Develop an understanding of the link between theory and experiment.
- Appreciate how Physics has developed and is used in present day society.
- Recognise the quantitative nature of Physics and understand how mathematical expressions relate to physical principles.

In addition, the A-Level course is intended to encourage students to bring together knowledge of ways in which different areas of Physics relate to each other and to study how scientific models work.

AS-Level

You study two units in the AS, and undertake a practical examination. There is no coursework.

UNIT 1	UNIT 2	UNIT 3
Particles, Radiation, Quantum Phenomena & Current Electricity (40%)	Mechanics, Materials and Waves (40%)	ISA and PSA (20%)

PHYSICS AS/A2 (Page 2)

Course Description A2

For the second year, to convert the AS into an A-Level, three more units are studied, along with a second practical examination.

UNIT 4	UNIT 5	UNIT 6
Waves, Fields and Further Mechanics (20%)	Nuclear Thermal Optional Module (20%)	Practical and Investigative skills (10%)

Progression

A Post-16 qualification in Physics is very respected by Universities and can lead to many different University courses including: Physics, Engineering, Medicine, Technology, Computing and Maths, as well as many other Science and numerate courses.

Physicists are highly sought after in many industries due to their advanced analytical and processing skills.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%

A*-B: 25%



PRODUCT DESIGN

AS/A2



Awarding Body
Edexcel

Subject Staff

Mr M. Greenep, Mr G. Scott (Faculty Manager-Technology), Mr C Scott

Course requirements: GCSE Design & Technology Grade B

It must be stressed that the nature of the work at AS and A-Level is quite different from GCSE. Students will need a flair for the subject and the ability to sketch ideas quickly. The pace of work is significantly greater than at GCSE and the depth and range of theory is much more comprehensive and demanding.

Course Description

Two equally-weighted units at AS

- one internal coursework element
- one external exam-based unit.

Four equally-weighted units at Advanced GCE

- two internal and two external units.

Design and make coursework projects at both AS and A2

Knowledge and understanding of product design and product development

The Edexcel GCE in Design and Technology has been designed to provide opportunities for students to develop their creativity, capability and entrepreneurial skills, to apply knowledge and understanding to a range of technological activities and to develop critical thinking and collaborative skills. In particular, the aims of the GCE qualifications in Design and Technology allow students to:

- develop and sustain innovation, creativity and design and technology
- the capability to recognise constraints and to produce high-quality products

PRODUCT DESIGN AS/A2 (Page 2)

- develop critical understanding of the influences of the processes and products of design and technological activity from a historical perspective and in current practice.
- apply essential knowledge, understanding and skills of design production processes to a range of technological activities and develop an understanding of industrial practices.
- use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to enhance their design and technological capability.
- recognise the social, moral, spiritual and cultural values inherent in design and technological activity and develop critical evaluation skills in technical, aesthetic, ethical, economic, environmental, social and cultural contexts.
- develop as discerning consumers able to make informed choices.
- develop positive attitudes of co-operation and citizenship and work collaboratively.

Progression

Many students progress through Art College and onto a Design Degree; some use product design as a stepping stone into Engineering and Graphic Design. This could include furniture, interior, product, graphic and theatre design.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A*-B: 25%



PSYCHOLOGY

AS/A2



Awarding Body

AQA (Specification A)

Subject Staff

Ms J Holdsworth (Subject Leader)

Course Requirements: GCSE grade B in English Language and C in Maths

No prior knowledge of psychology is needed.

Course Description (AS)

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. It is taught through contemporary topics and contexts.

An introduction for students to Psychology AQA A can be found at <http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/pdf/AQA-2180-W-SG.PDF>.

At AS, there are two units which aim to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the core areas of Psychology (social, cognitive, developmental, biological and individual differences) through a range of topics, chosen for their accessibility and popularity.

In the first unit students study: **Cognitive Psychology** - including memory and eyewitness testimony & **Developmental Psychology** - including early social development, attachment and the effects of day care.

In the second unit students study: **Biological Psychology** - including stress, factors affecting stress and coping and managing stress; **Social Psychology** - including conformity, obedience, independent behaviour and social change; and **Individual Differences** - including definitions of abnormality and approaches to the understanding of abnormality and related therapies. Students will study the application of psychological research methods throughout both units.

PSYCHOLOGY AS/A2

(Page 2)

Course Description (A2)

At A2, the specification offers a range of topic-based options which bring together explanations from different psychological approaches and engage students in issues and debates in Psychology.

In the third unit, **Topics in Psychology**, students will study modules in relationships; gender and aggression.

The fourth unit covers **Psychopathology** (schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, depression) and the different approaches taken by psychologists to further the understanding of the human condition. This unit also includes **Psychology in Action** – here, students choose one contemporary application of Psychology (media psychology, addictive behaviour, anomalous behaviour) to investigate in detail. Students also extend their knowledge, understanding and skills of research design, data analysis, data interpretation and reporting gained at AS; helping them to develop an understanding of the nature of science and the scientific method.

Progression

Psychology is one of the most popular Undergraduate degree courses. It is an accepted qualification for many Higher Education courses. Psychology contributes to many fields including: education; health and social care; medicine; law and some aspects of business.

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2010/2011 Results

Pass Rate: 100%
A*-B: 50%



BTEC SPORT **(Performance and Excellence)** **BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA**



Course Available

BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma and Diploma in Sport (Performance and Excellence)

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Subject Staff

Miss S Morley (Subject Leader), Mr M Harrison, Ms C White

Course Requirements: 2 GCSEs Grade C or higher. This course takes up 2 option choices.

GCSE PE grade C will be a distinct advantage. Students will be interviewed by the PE Department as part of the application process. Potential students should be aware that they will be required to study one other AS-Level or BTEC course and must meet the individual entry criteria for that subject.

Course Description

In Year 1 of the course students will reach BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma. This has the equivalence to 2 AS-Levels. Students continuing to Year 2 of the course will have the opportunity to reach BTEC National Diploma Level—equivalent to 2 A-Levels.

Subsidiary Diploma

Unit 1 Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport

Unit 2: The Physiology of Fitness

Unit 3: Assessing Risk in Sport

Unit 6: Sports Development

Unit 9: Practical Individual Sports

Unit 13: Leadership in Sport

Full Diploma (these units build on those studied at Subsidiary level)

Unit 5: Sports Coaching

Unit 4: Fitness Training & Programming

Unit 8: Practical Team Sports

Unit 18: Sports Injuries

Unit 22: Rules, Regulations & Officiating in Sport

Unit 23: Organising Sports Events

BTEC SPORT (Performance and Excellence) BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA (Page 2)

This qualification will also give students the opportunity to gain an understanding of employment opportunities, job requirements, and working practices in the sports and fitness industries. It will enable students to start to build the technical skills and knowledge relevant to the sports and fitness industries.

Assessment

The programme is assessed through a variety of methods which will include written assignments, practical activities, interviews, presentations and portfolio building which will test the learner's application of knowledge and understanding, development of practical and technical skills, and personal development for occupational roles.

Equipment and Additional Costs

To meet the health and safety requirements and reflect the corporate image of the Physical Education Department, you will be required to purchase a departmental sports top. There may be some additional costs for educational visits and other specialist personal equipment.

Work Experience

Work experience will be gained on a regular basis through visiting schools and delivering practical activities, visits to organisations and visiting lecturers. You will also undertake a block of work experience in an industry placement, for example in a fitness gym or school sports development department.

Progression

Students may choose to go into Higher Education on one of the many degree courses now emerging in sports development or the more established areas of leisure management, sports science/fitness and teaching PE. Other possible career paths may include employment in sporting facilities such as fitness gyms or football development centres, or as swimming instructors or sports and community development officers.

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2010/2011 Results

Sport BTEC National Diploma was offered for the first time in 2010 and, therefore, results will be achieved for the first time in the summer of 2012.