



# Options

## Booklet 2019

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A guide to the courses and qualifications available to Year 9, 10 and 11 students

# Your Pathways to Success

Dear Year 8 Student,

Options time is an important point in your education, as it is here that you get to choose some of the subjects that you will study for the next three years. We know that it can be a difficult time because there are a lot of questions that you might have: Which subject is right for me? What if I don't know what I want to do at all? Rest assured that we will help you to make choices about your future learning that are right for you.

This booklet and the options process are designed to make this time less worrying for you and your parents/carers. They will help you to start making decisions about your learning and to choose subjects that suit your aspirations, skills and needs.

Please use all the information available to you: this booklet; advice from teachers; your Personal Tutors and your parents. All of these people know you in some way and may be able to suggest whether they think a subject would suit you as a learner. You will also be working on this in tutor time and may already have some firm ideas.

The deadline for submitting your Options Form will be **18th March 2019**. The completed form should be given to your Personal Tutor.

We hope that the information allows you to make the right choices that will see you succeeding over the next three years and beyond.



Mr Fitzgibbon  
Principal

# What is Key Stage 4?

The curriculum at Key Stage 4 consists of a mixture of Essential Learning and Additional Learning. Students will be able to choose subjects for their Additional Learning according to their strengths and interests. They will be guided through their choices by subject teachers, tutors and other staff to ensure that their choices are appropriate.

The Key Stage 4 (KS4) curriculum reflects the National Curriculum requirements - [www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-secondary-curriculum](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-secondary-curriculum) - and the curriculum policy of the school.

We want to offer as much individual choice as we can, so that students can follow courses they need for interest and their future career paths. However, there are also certain constraints and requirements that govern students' choices: the following pages explain what these are.

We urge that all students opt for a broad and balanced curriculum. Whilst all GCSEs have equal status, they do stress different skills and ways of learning. When making choices students must balance their skills and learning styles in order to keep options open for later life, such as choosing college or A level courses.

## Essential Learning: What does everyone do?

All students are taught a core programme which we refer to in this booklet as Essential Learning. These are the subjects and skills that are statutory for all children aged 14-16, with the addition of English Literature, which we feel is important too, and is studied by everyone.

Essential Learning comprises:

- ◆ English
- ◆ English Literature
- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ Science
- ◆ PE

# What Are My Choices?

This booklet takes you through the Core Curriculum subjects (Mathematics, English, Science and PE) which are mandatory and will provide you with a broad and balanced subject base.

After the Core Curriculum subjects, you will have a number of options (depending on your pathway). You will find information about all of the subjects on offer next year.

It is important that you enjoy learning. We want you to pick courses that you find interesting, play to your strengths and develop your skills. You should consider carefully how these choices will affect your future at OHA and beyond. Many courses of study will link directly into sixth form courses.

## What Are The Different Pathways?

There are three KS4 curriculum pathways: **Purple**, **Blue** and **Black**. You will be guided onto one of these pathways based on your academic performance in Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8). Students and parents will be informed of their pathway before they make their option choices. The different pathways are designed to give every student the best possible chance of success in KS4.

### PURPLE PATHWAY

If you are on this pathway you will study the three separate sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics at GCSE. Students placed on this pathway will have one period less of Mathematics and English per week to ensure there is adequate curriculum time for the separate sciences. Placement is therefore dependent on Mathematics and English predictions and whether a student can afford to lose a period of Mathematics and English. You will then have three options:

Option 1 – Geography, History, Spanish, French or Computer Science (these are called English Baccalaureate subjects).

Option 2 – Any subject from Option block A.

Option 3 – Any subject from Option block B.

### BLUE PATHWAY

If you are on this pathway you will study The AQA Science Trilogy Pathway. This counts as two separate GCSEs. You will then have three options:

Option 1 – Geography, History, Spanish, French or Computer Science (these are called English Baccalaureate subjects).

Option 2 – Any subject from Option block A.

Option 3 – Any subject from Option block B.

### BLACK PATHWAY

If you are on this pathway you will study The AQA Science Trilogy Pathway. This counts as two separate GCSEs. You will also study Geography at GCSE. You will then have two options:

Option 1 – Any subject from Option block A.

Option 2 – Any subject from Option block B.

## How do I indicate my option choices?

Study carefully the subject information that follows and be sure to understand what you are taking on. Discuss your options with your parents/carers and teachers to make sure you are making the right decisions. You and your parents/carers can request an interview to finalise your choices if necessary. Once you have made your final choices complete the option form and return to your form tutor.

## Can I change my mind later?

When you have made your choices, numbers have to be balanced in teaching groups and then the timetable is prepared. This is a long process and it cannot be readily changed. Occasionally, a few changes are permitted in the first few weeks of the Autumn Term, but only when numbers allow this.

## Will I automatically secure a place on my first choice courses?

Not necessarily, for three reasons:

- The range of subjects offered now, at the planning stage, may have to be modified because of staffing or other constraints. Due to the wide curriculum offer, there is usually one or two subjects that do not attract the necessary number of students to be financially viable. Each year group is different, so at this stage we do not know which subjects are likely not to run. That is why it is very important to think carefully about second choices.
- It may be necessary to limit numbers for safety reasons and for access to equipment.
- Students' levels of attainment and progression in Year 8 will be taken into consideration before confirmation of final choices.

## Which targets will I be set?

Your Minimum Expected Grade will be based on entry levels that you came to the Academy with from primary school, as well as your progress in Key Stage 3. This will then be matched with estimates from the Department for Education for students of your ability and we will expect you to match or out-perform students of similar ability nationally.

Option Block A	Option Block B
Geography Spanish Religious Studies Fine Art Art - Photography Industry Skills Drama Music Technical & Performance Animal Care Health & Social Care Psychology Food Business	History Computer Science French Fine Art Textiles Industry Skills Hair & Beauty Dance Music Technical & Performance Animal Care Food Digital Media

**Please note you can only take one 'Art' option.**

# Top Tips for Choosing Subjects

**You should remember these:**

## **Dos**

- ◆ DO choose subjects which you like
- ◆ DO choose subjects at which you are successful
- ◆ DO choose subjects which you may need for a career or further education
- ◆ DO find out everything that you can about the subject before you choose it. Once you have started a subject we expect you to stick with it
- ◆ DO talk to the people who know you
- ◆ DO listen to the advice your subject teachers give you

## **Don'ts**

- ◆ DON'T choose a subject just because your friend has chosen it
- ◆ DON'T choose a subject just because you like - or dislike - a particular teacher, they may not end up teaching you

## **What happens once options have been chosen?**

- ◆ All options forms have to be handed to your tutor by **18th March**
- ◆ You will meet with Mr Denker if there is a significant problem with your choices
- ◆ In **April** you will get a letter with your confirmed Options



# Some Advice for Students

## Who decides what I study?

Basically, **YOU** do.

We want you to choose the subjects that you want to do. Everyone is happier that way. But you need to think things out very carefully and remember all these points.

Firstly, you must consult:

- ◆ Your parents
- ◆ Your teachers
- ◆ Your Personal Tutor
- ◆ Your Head of Year or Raising Standards Leader

Secondly, you must check any particular requirement of the course. You will not be allowed to begin any option course if your lower school work indicates that you will not benefit from it.

Thirdly, you should think whether the option subjects you are choosing NOW fit in with what you will need for a FURTHER EDUCATION or CAREER choice in the future.

## To help you to choose:

To help you with all of these different considerations, your form tutor will recommend you for a particular 'pathway'; in other words, a particular range of subjects and choices, which will fit your aspirations, achievements and potential. Once you have been recommended for a particular pathway then the option choices for this pathway will be shared with you and you can discuss them with your parents, teachers and your Personal Tutor.

Each student in Year 8 has also had the opportunity to discuss their careers pathway with an independent careers advisor.

You can also speak to Mrs Heath our Careers Advisor. and request an appointment with by visiting her office. If your parents/carers would like to contact Mrs Heath too, they can email her at [zheath@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:zheath@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

All of these people will have a very good idea of your abilities and the subjects that will give you a broad set of skills that you will need for future success.

If you already have a particular career in mind, check the suitability of your subject choices. Your teachers or careers adviser will be able to help you.

# Core Subject

## English Language

Director of English: Mr P Lovatt

Contact: [plovatt@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:plovatt@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: AQA

### Why is this a core subject?

It is the most commonly-quoted qualification for jobs, courses and promoted posts in the country. That is why it is compulsory.

### What will I study?

GCSE English Language presents students with challenging texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. The texts, which cover a range of genres and types, are used to assess students' ability to understand, analyse and synthesise information.

### What skills are required?

Students need to be able to read independently and give a critical response to the texts they have studied. They will develop their ability to write clearly for different audiences and purposes, and be able to speak and listen in a range of contexts.

### How will I be assessed?

Students take two examinations for English Language which assess their understanding of how writers use techniques to engage readers, and how different writers present a similar topic over time.

### What are the career opportunities?

A qualification in English can lead to a variety of careers including: Administration, Journalism, Law, Marketing, Teaching and many more. English teaches essential communications skills that are valuable and highly sought by employers.

# Core Subject

## English Literature

Director of English: Mr P Lovatt

Contact: [plovatt@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:plovatt@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: AQA

### Why is this a core subject?

It is the most commonly-quoted qualification for jobs, courses and promoted posts in the country. That is why it is compulsory.

### What will I study?

In English Literature students study *Macbeth*, *A Christmas Carol*, *An Inspector Calls* and a range of *Conflict* poetry.

### What skills are required?

Students will need to be able to read independently and give a critical response to texts they have studied. They will develop their ability to write clearly for different audiences and purposes, and be able to speak and listen in a range of contexts.

### How will I be assessed?

Students take two examinations for English Language which assess their understanding of how writers use techniques to engage readers, and how different writers present a similar topic over time.

### What are the career opportunities?

A qualification in English can lead to a variety of careers including: Administration, Journalism, Law, Marketing, Teaching and many more. English teaches essential communications skills that are valuable and highly sought by employers.

# Core Subject

## Mathematics

Curriculum Leaders: Miss Vasey and Ms Whiston

Contact: [avasey@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:avasey@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

[nwhiston@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:nwhiston@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: AQA

All students study Mathematics. It is one of the fundamental subjects underpinning all sciences and technology. We want students to see the learning of Mathematics as a lifelong experience, which will help them to approach situations with confidence. We want them to appreciate that Mathematics will be useful outside the classroom and can also be used to help other GCSEs.

### What will I study?

In Mathematics the course comprises of six key areas: Number, Algebra, Geometry and measures, Probability, Statistics and Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change. Functional Mathematics is at the core of all the work covered and is reflected in the terminal exam.

### What skills are required?

Students will acquire and use problem-solving strategies that will enhance mathematical techniques and methods in every day, real life situations. They will learn to reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions. Students will develop their ability to interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

### How will I be assessed?

The examination will consist of three papers at the end of the course. One is a non-calculator paper and the other 2 are calculator papers. Grades 1 to 5 are available at Foundation Tier. Grades 4 to 9 are available at Higher Tier.

### What are the career opportunities?

A qualification in Mathematics encourages students to develop a positive attitude towards mathematics, improve their confidence levels and to recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives. It prepares students to make informed decisions about the use of technology, the management of money, further learning opportunities and career choices.

# Core Subject

## Science Trilogy

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Young

Contact: ryoung@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

Science is a core subject along with English and Mathematics. Science is important because it is useful for everyday life as well as being a compulsory requirement for many college courses. Science helps to explain the wonders of the world and also develops problem solving and thinking skills. Many careers require Science such as Medicine, Marine Biology, Sports Science and Physiotherapy.

### What will I study?

The initial modules of each Science GCSE have a clear focus on scientific literacy, where students consider critically the issues and choices raised by technology and science.

The course then focuses on scientific explanations and models, providing students with an insight into how scientists develop scientific understanding.

Finally students deepen their understanding of science explanations, how science works and the study of elements of applied science, with particular relevance to professional scientists.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Application of number
- ◆ Information Technology
- ◆ Working with others
- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Practical skills in analysing, interpreting and evaluation evidence

### How will I be assessed?

Each GCSE is assessed externally by AQA, and consists of six 75 minute written exams offered at Higher and Foundation Tiers.

Each exam is worth 16.7% of the total 2 GCSEs.

Practical skills are assessed by the teacher through 16 specific experiments.

### What are the career opportunities?

The skills developed by students who study Science are highly valued by employers and are not just limited to science related careers. A recent survey found that 92% of all firms employed people with good STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) skills. Achieving good Science GCSE grades also meets the entry requirements of many university courses.

# Core Subject

## Triple Award Science

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Young

Contact: ryoung@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

Triple Science allows you to gain three GCSEs in science and you will study each discipline (biology, chemistry and physics) in more details. If you enjoy and have a clear interest in science, want to go onto student Science at AS/A level and beyond, this option will suit you.

### What will I study?

The initial modules of each Science GCSE have a clear focus on scientific literacy, where students consider critically the issues and choices raised by technology and science.

The course then focuses on scientific explanations and models, providing students with an insight into how scientists develop scientific understanding.

Finally students deepen their understanding of science explanations, how science works and the study of elements of applied science, with particular relevance to professional scientists.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Application of number
- ◆ Information Technology
- ◆ Working with others
- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Practical skills in analysing, interpreting and evaluation evidence

### How will I be assessed?

Each GCSE is assessed externally by AQA, and consists of two 105 minute written exams offered at Higher and Foundation Tiers.

Each exam is worth 50% of the total 2 GCSEs.

Practical skills are assessed by the teacher through 16 specific experiments.

### What are the career opportunities?

The skills developed by students who study Science are highly valued by employers and are not just limited to science related careers. A recent survey found that 92% of all firms employed people with good STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) skills. Achieving good Science GCSE grades also meets the entry requirements of many university courses.

# Core Subject

## Physical Education

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Rowlinson

Contact: arowlinson1@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specifications: AQA and OCR Nationals

At key stage 4, PE lessons remain compulsory across all schools and academies across the UK. The ultimate aim of the PE curriculum at OHA is to provide our students with a lifelong affinity for fitness and health, coupled with a knowledge and confidence to access opportunities for personal and professional development in sport.

### What courses are on offer?

Each student will be offered one of two routes:

AQA GCSE PE or OCR National in Sports.

### What will I study?

The courses will run over a 3 year period.

**GCSE** is divided into two units, theory and practical:

Unit 1: The Theory of Physical Education - 60% of the total GCSE

Unit 2: Practical Performance in Sport - 40% of the total GCSE

The **Cambridge Nationals** in Sport Science offer students the opportunity to study key areas of sport science including anatomy and physiology linked to fitness, health, injury and performance; the science of training and application of training principles, and psychology in sport and sports performance.

### How will I be assessed?

GCSE is assessed externally by AQA, and consists of two written exams papers and a practical moderation.

Cambridge National are assessed via one externally marked written exam paper and 3 units of coursework.

### What are the career opportunities?

The skills developed by students who study Physical Education are highly valued by employers and are not just limited to sport related careers. A recent survey found that 92% of all firms employed people with a good range of skills. Achieving good GCSE or equivalent grades also meets the entry requirements of many university courses.

# Option

## Spanish

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Fleet

Contact: sfleet@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

Spanish GCSE is a linear qualification and consists of four components; Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

### What will I study?

This is a 3 year course. Year 9 includes an introduction to the GCSE content and requirements with revision of many KS3 features, further knowledge and language skills are acquired through a clear route of progression, building on grammar and topic content at each stage.

Topics include: Travel & Tourism; Customs & festivals in Spanish speaking countries; Relationships & family; Jobs, career choices & ambitions; Technology in everyday life; Environmental & Global issues, and Free Time Activities.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ Good grades at Key Stage 3 Spanish and English Language
- ◆ Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- ◆ Focused and determined attitude to learning
- ◆ Good literacy skills.

### How will I be assessed?

GCSE Spanish has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. Students will sit all their exams at the end of the course.

- ◆ Unit 1: Listening; worth 25% of the final mark either at Foundation or Higher level
- ◆ Unit 2: Reading; worth 25% of the final mark either at Foundation or Higher level
- ◆ Unit 3: Speaking; 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier) 25% of GCSE
- ◆ Unit 4: Writing; Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier) 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier) 25% of GCSE

### What are the career opportunities?

Translator, Interpreter, Language Teacher, Linguist, Tourism & Leisure, French Law, Finance, Public Sector, international organisations such as the UN & EU institutions, food and drink and the ability to communicate in another language.

# Option

## French

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Fleet

Contact: [sfleet@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:sfleet@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: AQA

French GCSE is a linear qualification and consists of four components; Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

### What will I study?

This is a 3 year course. Year 9 includes an introduction to the GCSE content and requirements with revision of many KS3 features, further knowledge and language skills are acquired through a clear route of progression, building on grammar and topic content at each stage.

Topics include: Travel & Tourism; Customs & festivals in Spanish speaking countries; Relationships & family; Jobs, career choices & ambitions; Technology in everyday life; Environmental & Global issues, and Free Time Activities.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ Good grades at Key Stage 3 French and English Language
- ◆ Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- ◆ Focused and determined attitude to learning
- ◆ Good literacy skills.

### How will I be assessed?

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. Students will sit all their exams at the end of the course.

- ◆ Unit 1: Listening; worth 25% of the final mark either at Foundation or Higher level
- ◆ Unit 2: Reading; worth 25% of the final mark either at Foundation or Higher level
- ◆ Unit 3: Speaking; 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier) 25% of GCSE
- ◆ Unit 4: Writing; Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier) 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier) 25% of GCSE

### What are the career opportunities?

Translator, Interpreter, Language Teacher, Linguist, Tourism & Leisure, French Law, Finance, Public Sector, international organisations such as the UN & EU institutions, food and drink and the ability to communicate in another language.

# Option

## Geography

Curriculum Leader: Mr Davis

Contact: idavis@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

This exciting and relevant course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them. Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

### What will I study?

- ◆ Living with the physical environment
- ◆ Challenges in the human environment
- ◆ Geographical applications
- ◆ Geographical skills

### What skills are required?

Mathematical, cartographic, mapping and statistical skills are embedded in the qualification to develop learners' competence in using a wide range of geographical investigative skills and approaches. Learners will develop the ability to represent geographical data using a range of cartographical and graphical techniques. They will also develop skills of analysis when interpreting a variety of maps, graphs, photographs and data sets.

### How will I be assessed?

Living with the physical environment: **Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes**

This unit is concerned with the dynamic nature of physical processes and systems, and human interaction with them in a variety of places and at a range of scales.

Challenges in the human environment: **Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes**

This unit is concerned with human processes, systems and outcomes and how these change both spatially and temporally

Geographical applications: **Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes**

### What are the career opportunities?

The fact that Geography provides students with an awareness of where they live makes it a desirable subject. Geography is looked upon favorably for careers in accountancy, teaching and areas of planning. It is also very useful in areas of work such as geology, transport networks, travel agencies, National Parks, forestry, agriculture, oil and gas exploration and overseas aid.

# Option

## History

Curriculum Leader: Mr Cork

Contact: lcork@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: Edexcel

GCSE History will develop and extend knowledge and understanding around specific events/themes in local, British, and wider world history.

By engaging in historical investigations, learners will become more independent, critical and reflective thinkers. As historians, students will develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, interrogate source material and evaluate the interpretations offered on events that have shaped our world as we understand.

### What will I study?

- ◆ Medicine in Britain, c1250-Present *and* Medicine on the Western Front, 1914-18.
- ◆ Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1060-1088.
- ◆ The American West, c1835-1895.
- ◆ Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939

### What skills are required?

**AO1:** Knowledge and understanding of key features and characteristics of the periods studied.

**AO2:** Explain and analyse historical events and periods through addressing second-order concepts such as cause and consequence.

**AO3:** Analyse, evaluate and use contemporary sources to reach supported conclusions on the past.

**AO4:** Analyse, evaluate and make judgments on interpretations of the past.

### How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1:** Medicine in Britain, c1250-Present *and* Medicine on the Western Front, 1914-18. (52 Marks, 30%, 1hr 15mins)

**Paper 2:** Anglo-Saxon and Norman, 1060-1088/The American West, c1835-1895 (64 Marks, 40%, 1hr 45mins)

**Paper 3:** Weimar and Nazi Germany (52 Marks, 30%, 1 hour 20 minutes)

### What are the career opportunities?

History will allow students to develop a wide range of transferable skills which can be applied to many different careers. These include fields such as:

- ◆ Journalism
- ◆ Law
- ◆ Teaching

# Option

## Fine Art

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Campbell (Miss Foster - Maternity Cover)

Contact: [amillward@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:amillward@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

[kfoster@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:kfoster@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: Edexcel

During the GCSE Fine Art course students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring both 2D and 3D media, techniques and processes. This will include drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media, design and 3D media. Due to the fine art nature of the course drawing is a key skill that must be demonstrated throughout the course.

Critical Studies is an important aspect of the course and students are required to write critically about the work of artists and their own work.

### What will I study?

During the initial phase of the course students will develop skills and confidence in using both 2D and 3D techniques. They will then use their skills and critical studies in producing two projects towards their coursework portfolio.

In Year 11 students will be set an external task by the examination board. They will be given time for research and experimentation before 10 hours under examination conditions to produce a final outcome.

### What skills are required?

A good drawing ability when recording from observation is a necessity.

Writing is a compulsory element, therefore students must be willing to express their thoughts and ideas both visually and through writing.

Students must be prepared to work independently at home to develop artwork. It is an advantage for students to have their own art materials

### How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Portfolio of work worth 60% of final grade

Component 2: Externally set assignment worth 40% of final grade

### What are the career opportunities?

Creative industries such as Fine Artist, Ceramicist, Fashion Designer, Photographer, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Web Designer, Beautician, Product Designer, Advertising Creative, Community Arts Worker, Art Teacher, Art Therapist.

# Option

## Photography

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Campbell (Miss Foster - Maternity Cover)

Contact: amillward@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

kfoster@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

During the GCSE Photography course students will experience a variety of digital photography techniques and processes. They will develop knowledge of the camera and its capabilities, understand the formal skills in photography and experience both traditional and new technologies including image manipulation using ICT.

Critical Studies is an important aspect of the course and students are required to write critically about the work of artists and their own work. Recording ideas using drawing techniques is also part of the course.

### What will I study?

During the initial phase of the course students will develop their technical skills in using a camera, lighting and importance of composition. They will then use their skills and critical studies to produce two projects towards their coursework portfolio.

In Year 11 students will be set an external task by the examination board. They will be given time for research and experimentation before 10 hours under examination conditions to capture and develop their final imagery.

### What skills are required?

An interest in Photography and enjoyment of drawing.

Writing is a compulsory element, therefore students must be willing to express their thoughts and ideas both visually and through writing.

Students must be independent learners and willing to take their own photographs both in and outside of school. It is an advantage for students to have their own digital camera and access to ICT at home.

### How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Portfolio of work worth 60% of final grade

Component 2: Externally set assignment worth 40% of final grade

### What are the career opportunities?

Photography based careers include fashion, documentary Fine Art, Publication, Wedding photographer. It could also be a benefit in creative industries such as Fine Artist, Ceramicist, Fashion Designer, Photographer, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Web Designer, Beautician, Product Designer, Advertising Creative, Community Arts Worker, Art Teacher, Art Therapist.

# Design & Technology: Hospitality & Catering

Curriculum Leader: Miss Elson

Contact: [selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: Edexcel

The course is designed to encourage students to be able to develop and make a range of food products, using a variety of ingredients and techniques. Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities covered during the course. Students will also look at areas of the Hospitality sector, safety and hygiene practices for Food products. They will also be taught about Food nutrition and peoples dietary needs.

## What will I study?

Year 9 will act as a foundation year where students will be able to develop skills in all key areas of Food through undertaking a variety of practical tasks. Activities will focus on areas such as investigation, and development, as well as production planning and Food tasting. In years 10 and 11 students will use the skills that they have learned to work towards a final major project based on a set exam board design brief.

## What skills are required?

- ◆ An interest in Food.
- ◆ Good practical, organisational and hygiene skills.
- ◆ A participation in KS3 Food Technology lessons.
- ◆ Payment towards the ingredients for practical tasks

## How will I be assessed?

- ◆ Externally set Controlled Assessment (Includes developing and testing recipes and producing a written folder) worth 60%
- ◆ Externally set written exam worth 40%
- ◆ Eduqas Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering

## What are the career opportunities?

A range of careers include being a chef, nutritionist, dietician or a job in the catering and hospitality sector.

# Option

## Design & Technology: Textiles

Curriculum Leader: Miss Elson

Contact: selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: Edexcel

The course is designed to encourage students to be able to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques. Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities covered during the course. Outcomes could be a range of products made from natural, synthetic and blended fibres.

### What will I study?

Year 9 will act as a foundation year where students will be able to develop skills in all key areas of design through undertaking a variety of practical tasks.

In Years 10 and 11 students will use the skills that they have learned to work towards a final major project based on a set design brief.

NB – Students are expected to know CORE elements within the Design and Technology family such as Timbers, Systems and Metals.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ An interest in Textiles and Fashion
- ◆ Good practical skills
- ◆ Good design skills
- ◆ A knowledge of textiles products

### How will I be assessed?

- ◆ Externally set Controlled Assessment (Which includes the manufacture of a practical piece and a folder) – 50%
- ◆ Externally set written exam – 50%
- ◆ Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology (9-1)

### What are the career opportunities?

Fashion Designer, a Machinist, Stylist, Costume Designer, Retail Buyer, Dressmaker, Sales Manager.

# Option

## Design & Technology: Product Design

Curriculum Leader: Miss Elson

Contact: [selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: Edexcel

The course is designed to encourage students to be able to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques. Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities covered during the course. Outcomes could be a range of products made from resistant materials.

### What will I study?

Year 9 will act as a foundation year where students will be able to develop skills in all key areas of design through undertaking a variety of practical tasks.

In Years 10 and 11 students will use the skills that they have learned to work towards a final major project based on a set design brief.

NB – Students are expected to know CORE elements within the Design and Technology family such as Fabrics, Systems and Metals.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ An interest in Product Design.
- ◆ Good practical skills.
- ◆ Good drawing skills.
- ◆ A basic understanding of products and how they work

### How will I be assessed?

- ◆ Externally set Controlled Assessment (Which includes the manufacture of a practical piece and a folder) – 50%
- ◆ Externally set written exam – 50%
- ◆ Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology (9-1)

### What are the career opportunities?

Product Designer, Architect, DT Teacher, Engineer, Technician, Graphic Designer. Trades such as an Electrician, Plumber and Joiner.

## Industry Skills

Curriculum Leader: Miss Elson

Contact: [selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:selson@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: BTEC Edexcel Tech Level Engineering

You will look at a range of areas involved in Engineering and Construction such as:  
The Engineered World In this unit, you will discover the world of engineering. You will investigate the processes used to manufacture modern products within different engineering sectors. You will also study some of the new developments in materials and engineering technology that have an impact on life today – or will have in the very near future.

Construction focuses on the development of underpinning knowledge in the industry. You will gain an understanding of the essential aspects of the industry covering principal topics of health and safety and sustainability along with an insight into trades such as painting and decorating, brickwork, plumbing and electrics.

### What will I study?

This will be studied as 2 BTEC LEVEL 2 qualifications. BTEC qualifications are recognised by employers and education institutions providing a good progression route into more advanced qualifications. This means that the students will gain 2 BTECs for the one course.

### What skills are required?

- ◆ Good practical skills.
- ◆ Good drawing skills.

### How will I be assessed?

The course involves the delivery and completion of a number of units. There are four core units, one of which is a written exam, one is an online exam and three being optional.

### What are the career opportunities?

Construction could take you into a number of exciting career paths such as architect, civil engineer, quantity surveyor, building surveyor, project manager, builder, plasterer, joiner, painter and decorator, tiler, foreman.

Engineering could take you into a number of exciting career paths such as electrical engineering, Civil and Structural engineering, Computer engineering, Aeronautical engineering.

# Option

## Dance

Contact: lrandall@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Contact: kspellman@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

The course will run over three years and will set out the essential content for the qualification of GCSE Dance. It represents a comprehensive and creative scheme that allows students to gain relevant skills, knowledge and understanding of Dance that can be applied to the required work in the assessment units.

The course is designed to cover all the main requirements that contribute to the Dance form and allows students to appreciate what is needed to communicate meaning through Dance and performance.

### What will I study?

#### **Component 1: Performance and Choreography 60% of the GCSE**

This is the practical element of the course where students gain an understanding and explore both performance and choreography. Students will partake in both a solo performance and a duet/trio performance. For their individual choreography, students will work as a soloist, or in a group.

#### **Component 2: Dance appreciation 40% of the GCSE**

This is a written exam paper taken at the end of the course. Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills, critical appreciation of own work and critical appreciation of professional works. The paper carries a maximum of 80 marks

### What skills are required?

Students will work imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts, generating, developing and communicating ideas. They will consider and explore the social, historical and cultural context of professional dance works. They will develop a basis for their future role as active citizens in employment and society in general, as well as for the possible further study of Dance.

### How will I be assessed?

This is a practical course which is supported by theory. Assessment is continuous throughout and students will build a working portfolio as we move through the three year course. Component 1 will be internally assessed, evidenced via camera and teacher observation. Component 2 is externally assessed.

Component 1: Performance 30%, 40 marks. Choreography 30%, 40 marks. Overall 60% of GCSE. Component 2: 80 marks, 40% of GCSE

### What are the career opportunities?

GCSE Dance provides a suitable foundation for further study within the industry through progression on to further qualifications. This course will be perfect for students who want to develop subject specific skills and communication skills of all kinds. The course will allow them to develop their theory and performance skills or follow the teaching pathway.

# Option

## Drama

Contact: lrandall@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Contact: kspellman@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: AQA

The course will run over three years and will set out the essential content for the qualification of GCSE Drama. It represents a comprehensive and creative scheme that allows students to gain relevant skills, knowledge and understanding of Drama that can be applied to the required work in the assessment units.

The course is designed to cover all the main requirements that contribute to the Drama form and allows students to appreciate what is needed to communicate meaning through Drama.

### What will I study?

#### **Component 1: Understanding Drama 40% of the GCSE**

This is a written exam paper taken at the end of the course. Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre by studying one play from a choice of six. The paper is divided into three sections and carries a maximum of 80 marks.

#### **Component 2: Devising Drama (practical) 40% of the GCSE**

Students must work collaboratively as members of a performance group taking the role of a performer. Performers will create a performance devised from a stimulus. Students produce a written log to accompany their practical performance. The written log holds a maximum of 60 marks, the practical piece holds a maximum of 20 marks.

#### **Component 3: Texts in Practice (practical) 20% of the GCSE**

This unit introduces students to the content of plays written for the theatre. They will learn how to interpret a play in various ways and understand how a play works in performance. They will perform extracts from an existing play.

### What skills are required?

Students will work imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts, generating, developing and communicating ideas. They will consider and explore the impact of social, historical and cultural influences on drama texts and activities and develop a basis for their future role as active citizens in employment and society in general, as well as for the possible further study of Drama.

### How will I be assessed?

This is a practical course which is supported by theory. Assessment is continuous throughout and students will build a working portfolio as we move through the three year course.

Component 1 and 3 are externally assessed, component 2 will be internally assessed, evidenced via camera and teacher observation.

Component 1: 80 marks, 40% of GCSE

Component 2: written log 60 marks, practical 20 marks, 40% of GCSE

Component 3: 40 marks, 20% of GCSE

### What are the career opportunities?

GCSE Drama provides a suitable foundation for further study within the industry through progression on to further qualifications. This course will be perfect for students who want to develop subject specific skills and communication skills of all kinds. The course will allow them to develop their theory and performance skills or follow the teaching pathway.

## Business Enterprise

Contact: [jclee@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:jclee@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Contact: [lmariott@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:lmariott@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: BTEC

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is to review an enterprise idea that includes:

- ◆ The development of key skills that prove aptitude in planning an enterprise activity, including market research, planning, carrying out financial transactions, communication and problem solving
- ◆ The knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, such as the features and characteristics of enterprises and entrepreneurs, and the internal and external factors that can affect the performance of an enterprise.

### What will I study?

The course is made up of three components: two internally assessed and one that's externally assessed.

The three-block structure, explore, develop and apply, has been developed to allow students to build on and embed their knowledge.

### What skills are required?

This qualification builds on the content, knowledge and skills developed in the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study for Computer Science. Students should be encouraged to keep up-to-date with emerging technology as part of their learning experience.

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is designed so that students can build on what they learn, and develop their assignment skills, as they move through the course.

### What are the career opportunities?

A Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects. Can lead to the study at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, which prepares them to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the business sector.

## Digital Information Technology

Contact: [jclee@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:jclee@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: BTEC

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment, including:

- The development of key skills such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces, creating dashboards to present data.
- Project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct
- The skills, processes and attitudes in the sector, such as how different user interfaces meet user needs, how organisations collect and use data to make decisions, cyber security and legal and ethical issues.

### What will I study?

The course is made up of three components: two that are internally assessed and one that's externally assessed.

The three-block structure, explore, develop and apply, has been developed to allow students to build on and embed their knowledge.

This allows them to grow in confidence and then put into practice what they have learned.

### What skills are required?

This qualification builds on the content, knowledge and skills

developed in the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study for Computer Science. Students should be encouraged to keep up-to-date with emerging technology as part of their learning experience

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is designed so that students can build on what they learn, and develop their assignment skills, as they move through the course.

### What are the career opportunities?

A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects. Can lead to the study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in IT, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the digital sector.

## Computer Science

Contact: abascombeprice@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: OCR

This is a course that has real relevance in the new technological age; particularly given the increasing use of smartphones and tablets using applications or 'Apps'. While students will no doubt have some knowledge of computers and even some experience of programming; do they really understand how it works? Do they know what the processor chip really does? Do they know how the App was made or how Siri software or even a Furby works?

This course will provide an in-depth understanding of how technology works and looks at what happens in the parts of a computer that cannot be seen. Students will develop their skills in computer programming, using Python, App Inventor and Scratch.

### What will I study?

The GCSE Computer Science course covers the fundamentals of computer systems, such as hardware and software and students will carry out practical investigations by solving problems using programming languages. A vital skill in this subject is being able to apply, knowledge, solve problems, analyse and evaluate findings.

### What skills are required?

The qualification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established through the Computer Science elements of the Key Stage 3 programme of study. The content has been designed not only to allow for a solid basis of understanding but to engage learners and get them thinking about real world application.

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is designed so that students can build on what they learn, and develop their assignment skills, as they move through the course.

### What are the career opportunities?

Students can progress to level 3 qualifications, such as the GCE A-Level Computer Science/ Applied IT or an IT/Computer Science apprenticeship.

Information Technology/Computing continues to have a growing importance. This means there will be a bigger demand for professionals who are qualified in this area: Software Development, App Developers, Website Developers, Games Design, Computer Security, IT Technicians.

## Religious Studies

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Mallard

Contact: amallard@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: WJEC

Studies aims to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism. It offers opportunities for students to engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth and their influence on human life. It will enable them to construct well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments. It will also reinforce that religious traditions in Great Britain are diverse.

### What will I study?

The course content covers:

**Component 1** – 50%

Religions, Philosophical and Ethical studies in the Modern World

Study of four themes; Relationships; Life and Death; Good and Evil; Human Rights.

**Component 2** – 25%

Study of Christianity; Beliefs, teachings and practices.

**Component 3** – 25%

Study of a world faith: Beliefs, teachings and practices

### What skills are required?

- ◆ Have an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to studies
- ◆ Analyse and evaluate beliefs and practices in religions
- ◆ Students will need to consider different points of view on important issues in the modern world

### How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 – 2 hour examination 50%

Paper 2 – 1 hour examination 25%

Paper 3 – 1 hour examination 25%

### What are the career opportunities?

Religious Studies is a diverse subject which can lead into many career routes. It is highly valued in Further Education with degrees in Law, History and Art, as well as many others. Higher Education establishments consider it an asset when applying for any public sector jobs, e.g. Police, Nursing, Civil servant and child care.

## Psychology

Contact: [jharris1@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:jharris1@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: AQA

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and how it influences our behaviour. It is about understanding what makes people tick and how this understanding can help us address many of the problems and issues in society today.

The course introduces students to the fundamentals of Psychology; looking at how and why people do things, and the evidence behind these claims. This course in particular focuses on how thought processes influence behaviour and how social situations affect a person's behaviour.

Through taking GCSE Psychology, students will develop skills in critical analysis and independent thinking and will carry out and learn how to conduct scientific and ethical research on human participants.

### What will I study?

#### **Unit 1: Cognition and Behaviour.**

Memory, Perception, Development and Research Methods

#### **Unit 2: Social Context and Behaviour.**

Social Influence, Language, Thought and Communication, Brain and Neuropsychology, Psychological Problems

### What skills are required?

Candidates must have an interest in people and why people behave the way they do. They must be able to analyse text and theories, and also question why. Due to the nature of the course, good English, Maths and Science skills would also be desirable.

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is 100% examination. There are two examination papers each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes.

The examination questions include multiple choice, short answer and essay based questions.

### What are the career opportunities?

Psychology would allow you access to study a range of subjects at College and University, such as: Psychology, Sociology, Global Studies, Forensics, Criminology and Law. In the field of work you could work as a psychologist, in the healthcare industry, personnel management, marketing, criminal justice, teaching, and sales.

## Option

### Health and Social Care

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Walters

Contact: [nwalters@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:nwalters@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification: BTEC

Health and Social Care is an exciting vocational BTEC award that is based on real life. Topics covered are relevant to the world of work, in particular the care sector. Students taking this option need a mature and responsible attitude towards learning as independent study and research into social issues such as drugs, poverty and personal relationships are an important part of the curriculum. As a subject discipline, Health and Social Care (HSC) combines elements of sociology, biology, nutrition, law, and ethics.

Study of this subject at KS4 will complement GCSE study through providing an opportunity for practical application alongside conceptual study. There are also strong opportunities for post-16 progression in this sector.

#### What will I study?

Students will complete 3 components (units):

- ◆ Human Lifespan Development
- ◆ Health and Social Care Services and Values
- ◆ Health and Wellbeing

Qualification of the award is reliant upon completion of all controlled assessments – coursework and exam components.

#### What skills are required?

- ◆ An interest in Health & Social Care sectors
- ◆ Ability to work independently on assignment briefs and research tasks
- ◆ Good practical skills
- ◆ An ability to organise time and controlled assessment in order to meet strict deadlines
- ◆ Ability to complete **written** assessments

#### How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of internally and externally assessed units. Building on the rigorous assessment standards expected of BTEC qualifications, the new BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care includes an externally assessed synoptic paper (exam) making up 40% of the award. There are also two internally assessed coursework components that are completed under controlled conditions.

#### What are the career opportunities?

Opportunities to work within the Health & Social Care sectors could include jobs such as: Nurses, Midwife, Doctors, Dentist, Social Worker, Teacher, Carer, Child Minder, Dietitian, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Surgeon and many more.

# Option

## Music

Curriculum Leader: Mr Johnson

Contact: mjohnson1@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: BTEC

### What will I study?

The course includes two core units that form the fundamental knowledge and understanding of music principles, followed by a selection of five optional specialist units from which a further two are chosen.

Core Units - Music Industry/ Managing a Music Product

Optional specialist units:

Introducing Live Sound Internal, Introducing Music Composition, Introducing Music Performance, Introducing Music Recording & Introducing Music Sequencing

### What skills are required?

No prior qualifications are necessary

- ◆ Good organisational skills
- ◆ Ability to work in a team
- ◆ Confident communicator
- ◆ Creative thinker

### How will I be assessed?

The assessment procedure will comprise of Internal assessment (Coursework) and external assessment (Exam). Each assessment will be graded a Pass, Merit or Distinction. Each unit that the learner completes will have grading criteria to follow and a number of tasks to complete. The First Award is worth One GCSE to the student.

### What are the career opportunities?

Careers could include: Performance- i.e. Session player/Music Business, Agent, Manager/ Music Technology – Sound/Light Engineer/Music Education – Teacher, Lecturer etc.

## Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy

Contact: [afitzgibbon@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk](mailto:afitzgibbon@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk)

Specification:

This qualification is a vocational level 2 qualification. It has been developed for learners aged 14-16 with an interest in hairdressing and/or beauty therapy. It aims to support young people to:

- ◆ develop a broad understanding of the hair and beauty sector
- ◆ develop significant knowledge which spans the entire vocational sector and related industries
- ◆ develop academic and study skills that will support progression within the hair and beauty sector and more broadly, across the range of sectors.

### What will I study?

As well as developing knowledge and skills in researching, science, business, marketing and design, learners will develop further skills which will support them into further study, including:

- ◆ Critical thinking and being reflective on self-performance and work produced
- ◆ Use of initiative, planning and researching skills, self-management, self-motivation and the ability to work independently
- ◆ Innovation and creativity
- ◆ Application of knowledge and understanding to real life examples and businesses
- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Communication skills - verbal, written and visual.

### What skills are required?

An interest in hairdressing and/or beauty therapy.

### How will I be assessed?

This course is theory based, it is made up of 75% assignment based coursework and 25% exam.

### What are the career opportunities?

This qualification can lead to exciting opportunities within fashion and media industries:

- ◆ Salon stylist/colour technician
- ◆ Beauty/Spa therapist
- ◆ Photographic work for magazines
- ◆ Television/ Media make-up
- ◆ Films/Theatre work
- ◆ Working on cruise ships
- ◆ Salon owner
- ◆ Make-up artist

## Animal Care

Contact: afitzgibbon@ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk

Specification: BTEC

### What will I study?

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment, including:

- Animal health
- Animal handling
- Animal welfare
- Animal housing and accommodation
- Principles of animal behaviour

### What skills are required?

- ◆ An interest in the Animal Care sectors
- ◆ Ability to work independently on assignment briefs and research tasks
- ◆ Good practical skills
- ◆ An ability to organise time and controlled assessment in order to meet strict deadlines
- ◆ Ability to complete **written** assessments

### How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of internally and externally assessed units. Building on the rigorous assessment standards expected of BTEC qualifications, the BTEC Award in Animal Care includes an externally assessed synoptic paper (exam) making up 40% of the award. There are also two core units and two optional units that will be assessed through internal and external synoptic assessment.

### What are the career opportunities?

Opportunities to work within the animal care sector for example equestrian, animal handling and animal health, work with the RSPCA and other animal organisations involved in the protection of animals and many more