

Year 8 Options Process 2018: Key Dates

January: Options Assembly for Year 8 students to introduce the Options Process.



16 January: Parents Information Evening about the Options Process.



W/C 22 January: Options Booklets issued to students via their Mentors.



January/February: Mentors support Year 8 students to complete pages 7 and 8 of Options Booklet to consider the subjects they enjoy, are good at and might be interested in for GCSE.



25 January(8a/b) & 1 February (8c/d) Year 8 Parents Evenings

A chance to meet with subject teachers to discuss current progress and suitability for GCSE.



Taster Sessions (During February/March)

During lessons some subjects will put on taster sessions to allow students to experience what a GCSE lesson in that subject is like and give them more information about their subject.



Monday 26 Feb – Friday 16 March

Students have an Options Meetings either with Mr Bailie, Mr Plester, Mrs Brake, Mrs Allton, Mrs Diaz, Mrs Pettman or another member of staff to discuss their choices and to ensure students have made appropriate ones for them and to hand in their fully complete & signed options form.



Friday 23 March: All options forms must be with **Mrs Allton** by this date.

Introduction

Dear Parents/Carers and Student,

This Options Guide is intended to help you choose, from the optional courses available, what you will study throughout Year 9, 10 and 11. It also gives information about the core and compulsory subjects which you must study such as Mathematics and English.

In Year 9-11 all students will study:

- *English Literature and Language*
- *Mathematics*
- *Science (Double or Triple)*
- *French or Spanish (according to which you study in Year 8)*
- *PE (core non-examined)*
- *PSHE (core non-examined)*
- *RE (core non-examined)*

In addition, you will need to select 3 further subjects from the optional courses.

Over the next few weeks you will need to think carefully about what to choose and why. This guide contains a timeline of activities and events to support you in this process, including assemblies, information in lessons and discussions with a range of staff from mentors and current subject teachers to senior teachers. There are also a number of activities in this guide which will help you to research and carefully refine your ideas and plan and make your decisions.

Students will follow their chosen subject throughout Years 9, 10 and 11. Therefore it is appropriate at this point to specialise in subjects which match interests and ability, and possible future career and educational aspirations.

N.B: Due to the choices that students make, some courses may require modification. Therefore, it is possible that not all courses may run, particularly if student uptake is low. Every effort will be made to allocate the highest preferences, however, in an open system we cannot guarantee this.

The options form and evaluation of the process are at the back of this booklet. These will need to be completed and brought to your options interview of discussion. Forms will then be handed in to Mrs Allton via mentors by 23 March.

Contents

Year 8 Options Process 2018 Key Dates	2
Introduction	4
Getting Started : First Steps: Subjects	7
Getting Started : Second Steps: How do I learn best?	9
Getting Started : Third Steps: What questions should I be asking?	11
Getting Started : Choosing My Options To Do Checklist	12
Getting Started : Things to Find Out! My Research Shopping List	13

Compulsory / Core Subjects	Qualification	Page
English Language and Literature	GCSE	17
Mathematics	GCSE	19
Science	GCSE	21
French	GCSE	23
Spanish	GCSE	25

Option Subjects	Qualification	Page
Art - Fine Art	GCSE	29
Art - Photography	GCSE	31
Business Studies	GCSE	33
Drama	GCSE	35
Engineering	BTEC	37
Food Preparation and Nutrition	GCSE	39
Geography	GCSE	41
History	GCSE	43
Mandarin	GCSE	45
Music	GCSE	47
Product Design	GCSE	49
Philosophy and Ethics (Religious Studies)	GCSE	51
IT (Interactive Media)	VCERT	53
Computing	GCSE	55
GCSE PE	GCSE	57

Personalised Options Form	60
Student and Parent Feedback Sheet	62

Some advice from last year's Year 8 students from Finham Park 2 School about the options process

I thought the Options Booklet was a great source of information. I liked the opportunity to talk through my ideas with my mentor.

Understand what your grades are and you're good at in Year 8. You'd do a lot better if you enjoy the subject and are good at it.

The option system helped me to focus more on my school work!

Don't be stereotypical!
Product Design isn't just for boys. It's a girls subject too.
Drama isn't just for girls.
It's a boy subject too.

Don't pick an option because your friends are choosing it. You probably won't end up in the same class. Research a course properly before you choose it.

Getting Started

First Steps: Subjects

Making good options choices means you will need to think carefully about:

- 1. What you are like as a learner
- 2. What subjects and courses you like
- 3. The questions you should be asking about the optional subjects available
- 4. What subjects might help you in the future

What subjects do I have to do?

What subjects do I like?	Why?

What subjects do I do well in?	Why?

What subjects don't I like?

Why?

What new subjects I'd like to try

Why?

Getting Started

Second Steps: How do I Learn Best?

It is important to choose subjects that interest and motivate you.

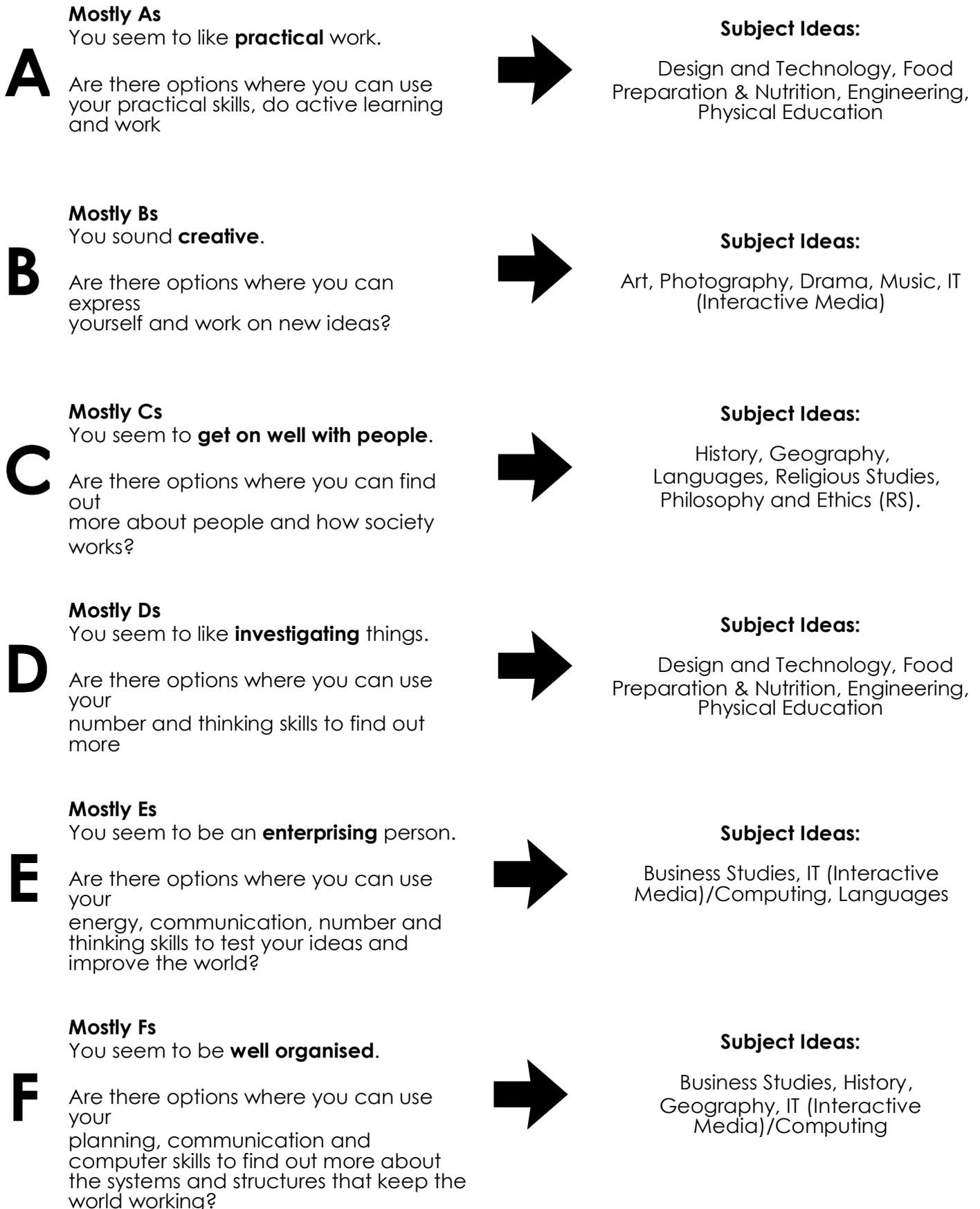
With your parent/carer and/or your mentor do the quizzes below to find out the areas that

I learn best by....

- Seeing and reading
- Listening and talking
- Being active and doing
- Doing projects
- Doing tests and exams

I learn best by....

A	D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Building things<input type="radio"/> Being active and working outdoors<input type="radio"/> Making and fixing things<input type="radio"/> Using tools and machines<input type="radio"/> Solving problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Finding out how things work<input type="radio"/> Doing experiments<input type="radio"/> Researching and testing ideas<input type="radio"/> Designing a new computer game<input type="radio"/> Doing calculations
B	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Designing and presenting things<input type="radio"/> Being on television<input type="radio"/> Writing a book<input type="radio"/> Playing in a band<input type="radio"/> Doing a makeover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Organising social events and activities<input type="radio"/> Buying and selling things<input type="radio"/> Running a business<input type="radio"/> Entering competitions<input type="radio"/> Campaigning
C	F
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Helping people<input type="radio"/> Sorting out arguments<input type="radio"/> Showing people what to do<input type="radio"/> Looking after people<input type="radio"/> Doing voluntary activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Making plans<input type="radio"/> Using a computer or calculator<input type="radio"/> Arranging things over the phone<input type="radio"/> Putting CDs/DVDs into the right order<input type="radio"/> Organising your money



Getting Started

Third Steps: What questions should I be asking?

1. Would the subject/course suit me?
2. What types of assessments am I most successful with?
3. How are subjects assessed and will that suit me?
4. How much homework will I get?
5. How would I manage the workload?
6. How much practical work is there?
7. Is there fieldwork? What will this involve?
8. Is there anything I will need for this subject?
9. Who can help answer my questions and/or give me advice?
10. Which teachers should I talk to?
11. Do I have any ideas about which subjects I might want to study at Sixth Form, College and/or University?
12. Do I have any ideas about possible careers? Which subjects might help with these?

Choosing My Options To Do Checklist

I have

- o Read through all of this Option Booklet carefully
- o Checked which subjects are compulsory
- o Completed the preparation activities in the Getting Started section with my mentor and/or parents/carers
- o Looked at my progress check to see which subjects I might be best suited for
- o Discussed my ideas with my parents/carers
- o Discussed my ideas with my mentor
- o Asked my teachers if they think it would be a good idea for me to take their subject
- o Researched optional subjects carefully
- o Identified the teachers I need to see
- o Researched what is needed for my future career, college course or university course
- o Filled in the choices form at the back of the options booklet including my name; my preferred choices; a reserve choice; my signature; my parents' signature(s)
- o Chosen subjects that give me a balanced range of subjects to study and will keep my options open in the future
- o Noted when, where and who my options interview will be with
- o Got my options booklet with me at the options interview

My Options Interview

Date: _____

Time: _____

Who: _____

Where: _____

Things to Find Out! My Research Shopping List

With your parent/carer and your mentor discuss the things you need to find out and list these below

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

Compulsory Core Subjects

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Why study English?

English is compulsory throughout your GCSE years. It is, however, a subject allowing you to not only hone your skills of reading, analysis, writing, speaking and listening, but also provides you with the opportunity to unleash your creativity! It of course also gives you an excellent grounding for your life outside of school, developing your ability to write formally and present yourself in a confident manner.

What will I study?

You'll study a wide range of authors and texts, ranging from very modern novels such as *The Maze Runner* to more traditional poets such as Keats and of course Shakespeare. We also prepare you for your GCSEs by looking closely at non-fiction texts such as magazines and websites.

Who would this course suit?

English really is for everyone.

How will I learn?

As a vibrant team of English specialists we ensure lessons include a wide range of activities including group and pair work, more traditional exam preparation and of course drama opportunities. We pride ourselves on constantly updating our schemes to keep lessons fresh and fun.

How will my work be assessed?

English Language	% of GCSE	Length of Exam
Paper 1 - Explorations in Creative Writing, Reading and Writing	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 2- Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
English Literature		
Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19 th century novel	40%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 2 – Modern texts and poetry	60%	2 hours 15 minutes
Spoken Language - This is assessed by your class teacher. You will receive a grade 1-9 from the exam board but it does NOT contribute to your overall GCSE grade.		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Clearly English provides you with many life skills as well as helping you become more critically minded. You'll find yourself 'reading' the world around you – whether it's a film you're watching, a new computer game you're enjoying or perhaps the blog you're reading – English will ensure you think carefully about the way artists put their pieces together. If you're thinking of studying English in the future, it becomes an excellent foundation for careers in Education, Law, Journalism, Psychology and many more.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mrs Kidman - r.kidman@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE MATHEMATICS

Why choose GCSE Mathematics?

Because of the importance of Mathematics in everyday life, GCSE Mathematics is compulsory. One of the key objectives is that all students learn Mathematical and Numerical skills that will help them succeed beyond the classroom. The GCSE Specification has been designed to test students' knowledge and mastery of Mathematical techniques. Our set one students will be given the opportunity to study Level 2 Further Mathematics alongside their GCSE Mathematics.

What will I study?

There are 5 main areas of Mathematics- Number, Ratio and Proportion, Algebra, Shape and Statistics.

There will be a big emphasis on problem solving and mastery of skills during the course. Level 2 Further Mathematics goes into topics above the GCSE Specification, building on the knowledge gained from the GCSE course.

GCSE Mathematics- Edexcel 1MA1

Level 2 Further Mathematics- AQA 8360

Who would this course suit?

All students must study GCSE Mathematics.

How will I learn?

Throughout the course you will have opportunities to do individual and group work; you will learn key skills for life and the beauty of Mathematics in the real world. We will cater for different learning styles and aim for every student to make significant progress and to leave school with the tools they need for success.

How will my work be assessed? See over the page.

Examinations	Length	When
GCSE Mathematics		
Paper 1 - Non Calculator Paper (33.33%)	1.5 hours	Summer 2020
Paper 2- Calculator (33.33%)	1.5 hours	Summer 2020
Paper 3- Calculator (33.33%)	1.5 hours	Summer 2020
100% of overall mark		
Further Mathematics		
Paper 1 – Non Calculator (40%)	1.5 hours	Summer year 11
Paper 2 – Calculator (60%)	2 hours	Summer year 11
100% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Mathematics is useful in all Science subjects as well as subjects like Geography. A Level Mathematics is a suitable qualification for any student achieving a grade 7 or higher. Any student who does not achieve a grade of 5 may be required to re-sit by their further educational institution. Also look out for post-16 courses such as Core Mathematics that will build upon the GCSE content and help students taking subjects with significant mathematical content.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Miss Macdonald - s.macdonald@finhampark2.co.uk
 Mr Bailey- r.bailey@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE SCIENCE & TRIPLE SCIENCE (non-core option)

Why choose Science GCSE?

Science is a compulsory course.

Science can help to explain the world in which we live. It is part of our daily lives and it provides technologies that have had a great impact on our society and the environment. Advances in technology and science are transforming our world at an incredible pace. Your future will see leaps in technology we can only begin to imagine. Being 'science literate' will not just be an advantage but an absolute necessity.

A scientifically literate person should be able to question, and engage in debate on the evidence used in decision-making. Science teaches a wide range of key skills, many of which are essential for everyday life and future careers.

What will I study?

The AQA Science GCSE investigates:

The Fundamental Ideas in Science (Year 9)

Biology – How genes operate at a molecular level to develop characteristics that can be seen.

Chemistry - Why elements are the building blocks of chemistry.

Physics - How energy can be transferred and the use of kinetic theory to explain the different states of Matter.

Year 10 Course

Biology - Human anatomy and how humans cope with disease.

Chemistry- Investigate the rate and extent of a chemical change.

Physics - How the observed red-shift provides evidence that the universe is expanding and supports the 'Big Bang' theory.

Applications of Science (Year 11)

Human Biology - Delve into the fossil records showing how organisms arise, flourish, and after a time become extinct.

Chemistry- Be introduced to Chemical Analysis and Organic Chemistry.

Physics - Discover how radioactive substances emit radiation from the nuclei of their atoms all the time.

How will my work be assessed?

The decision about which route you follow will be determined by your progress and assessment scores by the end of Year 9. Whichever route you follow we will put a strong emphasis on you being actively involved in your own learning. Skills in interpreting scientific information and communicating scientific ideas are strongly encouraged.

Examinations		Length	When	Controlled Assessment / Coursework / Portfolio
GCSE Biology			All exams Summer Year 11	There is no controlled assessment, however there are integrated practical's into day-to-day teaching which will be assessed within the examination papers.
Paper 1	50%	1 hour 45 minutes		
Paper 2	50%	1 hour 45 minutes		
GCSE Physics				
Paper 1	50%	1 hour 45 minutes		
Paper 2	50%	1 hour 45 minutes		
GCSE Chemistry				
Paper 1	50%	1 hour 45 minutes		
Paper 2	50%	1 hour 45 minutes		
GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy				
Paper 1 Biology	16.70%	1 hour 15 minutes		
Paper 2 Biology	16.70%	1 hour 15 minutes		
Paper 1 Chemistry	16.70%	1 hour 15 minutes		
Paper 2 Chemistry	16.70%	1 hour 15 minutes		
Paper 1 Physics	16.70%	1 hour 15 minutes		
Paper 2 Physics	16.70%	1 hour 15 minutes		

How will I learn?

You will investigate topics using experimental work and interactive online homework. You will also have access to a range of primary and secondary sources, textbooks, ICT, podcasts, online tutorials, the Internet, simulations and your teacher!

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Science qualifications can lead to careers in a huge range of scientific disciplines:

Medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, pharmacology, food science, environmental sciences, marine biology, agriculture, biochemistry, engineering (genetic, chemical, structural, electrical, electronic, mechanical). There are more people employed in the UK chemical sector and related jobs than in any other sector of the UK economy.

It also prepares you for vocational courses after 16 as it focuses on skills considered as essential in industry: Information handling, communicating ideas, flexibility, teamwork, tolerance, problem solving and evaluating solutions.

As well as this, many universities and employers look on the sciences as valuable GCSEs to have, not only because of their versatility, but also because of the logical manner in which scientists think and explain problems with which they are presented.

A good grade in Mathematics GCSE is also important if you want to study any of the sciences at a higher level.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Miss Devlin - c.devlin@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE FRENCH

What will I study?

AQA GCSE French is a newly revised course which started in September 2016. There will be exams in listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of Year 11. 25% of marks for each skill.

Who would this course suit?

This course would suit students with an interest in learning a language and improving their communication skills. In addition, it would be useful to those students who might wish to possibly work abroad and/or work for international companies.

How will I learn?

You will practise the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in a variety of different contexts using up to date authentic materials and engaging resources. You will have the opportunity to complete GCSE exam-style activities and receive regular feedback on your progress. Many of you will have the chance to participate in a visit to France.

How will my work be assessed?

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Listening 25%	F 35 mins H 45 mins	Summer Year 11	None		
Speaking 25%	F 7-9 mins H 10-12 mins				
Reading 25%	F 45 mins H 1 hour				
Writing 25%	F 45 mins H 1 h 15 mins				
100% of overall mark					

How can I use this course after Year 11 / in the future?

This course is designed to enable students of all abilities to develop their French language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence. A language GCSE qualification makes you very employable as you show many skills and will have a greater awareness of what is happening in the world around us. There are lots of jobs that are directly related to languages or other careers where employers will want you just because of the skills that you have learnt and the person that you must be to have studied a language. It prepares you should you wish to study French at A Level and if you go on to study French as a main or subsidiary subject at Degree level with the option of working in France for a year.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Zafar- h.zafar@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE SPANISH

What will I study?

AQA GCSE Spanish is a newly revised course which started in September 2016. There will be exams in listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of Year 11. 25% of marks for each skill.

Who would this course suit?

This course would suit students with an interest in learning a language and improving their communication skills. In addition, it would be useful to those students who might wish to possibly work abroad and/or work for international companies.

How will I learn?

You will practise the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in a variety of different contexts using up to date authentic materials and engaging resources. You will have the opportunity to complete GCSE exam-style activities and receive regular feedback on your progress. Many of you will have the chance to participate in a visit to Spain.

How will my work be assessed?

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio
Listening 25%	F 35 mins H 45 mins	Summer Year 11	None
Speaking 25%	F 7-9 mins H 10-12 mins		
Reading 25%	F 45 mins H 1 hour		
Writing 25%	F 45 mins H 1 h 15 mins		
100% of overall mark			

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

This course is designed to enable students of all abilities to develop their Spanish language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence. A language GCSE qualification makes you very employable as you show many skills and will have a greater awareness of what is happening in the world around us. There are lots of jobs that are directly related to languages or other careers where employers will want you just because of the skills that you have learnt and the person that you must be to have studied a language. It prepares you, should you wish, to study Spanish at A Level and if you go on to study Spanish as a main or subsidiary subject at Degree level with the option of working in Spain for a year.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Zafar- h.zafar@finhampark2.co.uk

Optional Subjects

FINE ART GCSE

Why choose Fine Art GCSE.

Studying GCSE Fine art at Finham Park 2 will give you the opportunity to access many diverse courses in Higher Education and a vast number of career routes. You will develop personalised, creative and exciting portfolios over the course, developing a diverse range of visual work using multiple methods. You will experiment with a variety of traditional, experimental and high-tech artistic processes, tools, and techniques. Students can enjoy working through many artistic processes during the course and all students develop highly creative and personalised work. These personal outcomes are interwoven and scaffolded with related contextual, historical and cultural references from a vast number of artists times and cultures as well as contemporary and current links. Work can reflect history and tradition or move in to current contemporary and cutting edge ideas.

What will I study?

EDEXCEL GCSE in the discipline of Fine Art: You will respond to given titles and themes in a personal way. The themes are carefully chosen but are not definitive and discussion for even greater personalisation is considered once we are confident you know the assessment objectives. Learning activities are related to a mix of artistic genres and styles of art. You will learn to analyse and personally respond to other designers or artists. You will learn to appreciate specific artistic techniques in context of given themes gaining a varied skill base on which to explore and refine further. This will include workshops and access to knowledge of many artistic methods including: drawing, painting (watercolour, acrylic and possibly oil for advanced students), printmaking (mono, lino, dry-point etching, wood cut and collagraph) mixed media and experimental media, sculpture (ceramics, wire, wood, wicker, casting, plaster, cement , instillations , object based and other, light and lens based media (photography, video, animation and digital arts including access and workshops in Photoshop cc 2018 and studio lighting).

Who would this course suit?

If you enjoy creating, developing ideas and problem-solving, combining traditional and modern art materials and linking cross curricular themes to your own ideas, this is the course for you. Students will need to enjoy engaging in artistic techniques and learn best through responding to practical and visual demonstrations. Annotation (writing) is required to explain development work.

How will I learn?

You will analyse and respond to the work of artists and designers from a variety of cultures and nations from around the world. Students will learn from other artists by responding to their work through the primary skill of observation. You will personally interpret different styles of art by creating images in direct response to different styles of art. You will learn by analysing and comparing artists. All students will develop an appreciation of how to justify decisions through written commentary, evaluation, and annotation. All written work is in support of your visual outcomes. Students will be encouraged to justify critical comments when discussing their own work and or the work of others.

Art trips: You will have the opportunity to experience at least one of our art trips.

How will my work be assessed?

You will be given regular verbal and written feedback. Targets will all relate to the 4 assessment objectives. You are marked out of a total of 72, and each of the 4 assessment objectives is worth 18 marks.

Examinations (Unit 2)	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
UNIT 2 - Year 11 end final exam board examination	10 hours	Summer Year 11	Y9 Controlled assessment CWK portfolio	5 hrs	July Year 9
			Y10 controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	July Year 10
			Y11 controlled assessment CWK port folio	10 hrs	Dec Year 11
40% of overall mark			60% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

GCSE level Fine Art will give you the opportunity to go on to study AS, A2 and Diploma level art courses at post 16 level. After their A Levels, many art students go on to study art at foundation level, or specialist Degree level courses. Many Fine Art students go on to study Architecture, Design, Motor Vehicle Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration and Art History. There are a vast number of careers in the visual arts; it is one of the fastest growing industries in the UK.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Talk to Ms Pendergrast- h.pendergrast@finhampark2.co.uk

Visit the GCSE Fine Art course exam board web site: www.edexcel.co.uk

GCSE ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Why choose A GCSE in Photography?

GCSE Photography will give you an exciting opportunity to develop a personalised visual folder using techniques and concepts of colour and black and white photography. All GCSE photography work is now digital. You will respond to set themes through artists and photographers over time. You will be encouraged to combine many photography techniques including hand rendering images, and using image manipulation software tools in Photoshop.

Who would this course suit?

If you enjoy using a camera, taking photos, and you are eager to learn the applications of digital photography and image manipulation techniques then you will love this course!

What will I study?

AQA GCSE in Art & Design in the discipline of Photography: you will be given titles and themes to work on. All work and learning is portfolio based- much of this is also digital and we use Google Share so students can access their work at home and this allows all marking to be seen as it happens. All photography students will create a digital logbook folder as well as photographic outcomes and experiments responding to the set themes. This will also include hand rendered pages and occasional sketches and mixed media or instillation work as desired. You will study the work of historic, modern, and present day photographers. You will learn how to critically analyse their work. You will understand the formal elements through photography and you will study contexts, ideas, and meanings behind their work. You will get to produce your own ideas and use cameras, studio and lighting equipment, and Photoshop to achieve them. Finished final pieces will be printed and mounted or made into suitable artworks. Display boards will also be created as well as the printed and bound versions of your digital work books.

How will I learn?

You will analyse the work of many photographers, artists, and designers from a variety of historic and contemporary cultures. You will respond directly to their work, through the primary skill of recording observations through the medium of Photography. You will regularly compare how photographers take shots and design or create photographs. You will record written commentaries, evaluations, and annotations in your folder to support and give context to all visual work outcomes. You will learn to develop creative, logical work sequences and justify decisions related to research and selection of imagery. You will learn how to use cameras and how to compose images. You will to use Photoshop and digital programs to enhance, edit and produce digital outcomes.

Art trips: you will have the opportunity to experience at least one of our art trips.

How will my work be assessed?

You will receive regular written and verbal feedback and targets related to the 4 course assessment objectives. Your work will be marked out of the 4 assessment objectives.

Examinations (Unit 2)	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
UNIT 2 - Year 11 end final exam board examination.	10 hours	Summer 2020	Y9 Controlled assessment CWK portfolio	5 hrs	July Year 9
			Y10 controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	July Year 10
			Y11 controlled assessment CWK port folio	10 hrs	Dec Year 11
40% of overall mark			60% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Photography at GCSE level can help you access AS, A2 and Diploma level courses at post 16 level. Many photography students go on to study foundation courses, or specialist Degree level courses such as Photography, Architecture, Design, Motor Vehicle Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, and History of Art. There are numerous job careers in the visual arts, and this is one of the fastest growing industries in the UK.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mrs Pendergrast - h.pendergrast@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE BUSINESS

Why choose Business GCSE?

No matter which route you follow, the business course can help you prepare for further and higher education such as AS/A2 Levels, BTEC and NVQ courses. You will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of team. A GCSE Business course could lead to work in a business-related profession such as accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry.

All the business rooms are equipped with internet-linked PCs. You will be encouraged to use them to help carry out your research, to present your assessed work and to produce presentations.

What will I study?

EDEXCEL Course Structure:

The new GCSE specification was published in September 2016.

You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity, and turn that into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved. After understanding how small businesses are run your focus will be on larger businesses and the strategies businesses use to grow their business and make it profitable. There will be elements of Marketing, Production, Finance and Human Resources included in the course. You will understand how these different functions work in a business and their objectives.

There will be a lot more focus on the Finance aspect of a business where you will learn how to create cash flows and analyse break even graphs. The course will be challenging with some aspects of A Level finance included such as average rate of return.

The exams will expect you to write essay style answers using analytical skills and be able to conclude your answers with your opinion and be able to justify it. Unlike previous years there will be no controlled assessment in GCSE and there will be examinations at the end of Year 11.

Who would this course suit?

If you enjoy:

- communicating and explaining your ideas
- thinking creatively and making decisions
- working with numbers to solve business problems
- learning about the world of business through research and investigation

You'll need to learn and apply your knowledge of key terms for the exam units. You will need to be confident in maths as you will be expected to perform calculations and construct graphs. You will need at least grade C in Maths and English.

Business Question:

Which of these companies is **not** listed on the Stock Exchange?

- (a) John Lewis
- (b) Marks and Spencer
- (c) Barclays Bank
- (d) Tesco

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

You may decide to study a Business Studies course at A Level or College or choose an apprenticeship. The skills developed on the courses (giving presentations, gathering research, producing balanced written arguments and financial calculations) will help you in any future job or even to set up your own business. Many students go on to study business related degrees such as Management, Marketing, Human Resources and Accounting.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Zafar- h.zafar@finhampark2.co.uk

You can also look at the exam board information here:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/Business/Business/Pages/default.aspx>

GCSE DRAMA

Why choose Drama GCSE?

Drama is all about helping you to become an expert communicator.

Through practical lessons you will learn how to become a **leader** as you organise your own performances and **direct** your peers. You will develop your **research** and **presentation skills** as you explore the world of theatre and you will learn how to **perform with confidence, projection and skill** to engage an audience.

You will look at a range of exciting scripts and explore thought-provoking issues such as war and mental illness. You can even choose to learn about the technical aspects of theatre by designing lighting, sound or costumes for a play.

What will I study?

Year 9

We will teach you all the skills you need for your GCSE. Throughout the year you will work in a group to create a play of your own about war using Physical Theatre, movement, comedy and naturalistic acting. You will also perform a scripted play of your choice to rehearse and bring to life for an audience.

Year 10-11

Unit 1 – You will devise (create) a piece of drama about a topic or issue that interests you. You will be marked on this practical work and a written response to this.

Unit 2 – In groups you will select, edit, and rehearse 2 script extracts of your choice. This is then performed in front of an examiner. Alternatively, you can select the technical option and present your ideas in either lighting, sound, or costume.

Unit 3 – This is a written exam in which you will explore a full play script. You will also go to the theatre to watch a live performance and then will write a theatre review of how effective you thought it was.

This course would suit you if you...

Enjoy drama and want to develop your communication skills further.

Have an enquiring mind and would enjoy exploring and analysing play scripts.

Enjoy the opportunity to lead others and develop your team building skills.

Are interested in how to engage an audience.

Are an innovative thinker and want to bring your creativity to life.

How will I learn?

By devising short performances and bringing scripted pieces to life. You will explore exciting issues using a range of resources such as scripts, poems, newspapers, images, music, ICT, DVDs, the Internet and your teacher-in-role!

Viewing live theatre to learn from the experts and see different theatre styles in action.

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Unit 2 Performance to examiner	2 Hour	Year 11	<i>Devising Theatre and Portfolio</i>	<i>In lesson time</i>	Year 10
Unit 3 Written Exam	1.5 Hour				
60% of overall mark			40% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

We strongly advise students wishing to take A Level Drama to have studied Drama GCSE.

We can help you to:

- Become an expert communicator and public speaker.
- Show employers you can work in a team and have excellent leadership skills.
- Develop outstanding presentation skills.
- Develop your analytical skills.
- Create, lead, organise and perform in plays to a live audience.
- Improve your problem solving skills.
- Become an innovative thinker.

What jobs can it lead to?

GCSE Drama:

Helps you to understand people. It is therefore useful in the 'people professions', e.g. Teaching, the Health Service, Social Work and Personnel.

Teaches enquiry skills which fit jobs which find out information – TV Researcher, Investigative Reporter, Market Research, and Police.

Enables you to learn how to analyse and argue your point in verbal and written work - essential for roles such as Lawyers, Administrators, Politicians and Journalists.

Teaches skills such as organising, project managing and the directing of others - e.g. Teaching, Project Manager, Events Coordinator, and Operations Manager.

Builds knowledge of the theatre both on-stage and back-stage - Actor, Director, Producer, Lighting/Set/Sound/Costume Designer

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Miss O' Donnell - r.odonnell@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE ENGINEERING

Why choose BTEC Engineering

This course gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the engineering sector. It gives learners the opportunity to develop a range of personal skills and engineering techniques.

Engineering units of study have been selected that are essential for successful performance in working life.

What will I study?

Students are provided with the knowledge and skills required to operate manufacturing tools and equipment used to make products from the requirements of a design specification. Students will develop their understanding of the processes and systems required to transfer a design concept into a product.

A practical approach to teaching and learning will provide students with knowledge in engineering Technology and develop critical thinking, creativity and dextrous skills through engaging practical experiences.

This course is a mixture of both written assignment work and practical work which will also include CAD/CAM produced practical pieces. The selected units of study focus on topics relating to industry and the world of Engineering.

Who would this course suit?

This course is aimed at learners who wish to study the processes involved in manufacturing new engineered products. If you are interested in the materials and processes and the way in which things work then this could be the course for you.

How will I learn?

This course will enable students to develop the skills and understanding required to carry out a range of engineering tasks and is based around both practical and written work.

In Year 9, students will learn and develop their knowledge and a variety of skills by completing a series of short projects. This will encompass traditional practical, making skills, computer aided design and manufacturing skills as well as knowledge on engineering in industry today, materials and industrial processes. Lessons are kept as varied as possible and where theory work can be delivered by making and doing they are done so.

In Year 10 and 11 students will start their written assignments for assessment which will pull together their learning from Year 9 as well as develop this knowledge further so as to apply it into different scenarios and briefs.

How will my work be assessed?

Assessment is by the production of a portfolio of work for the following three units: Investigating an Engineering Product, Health and Safety in Engineering and Computer-Aided Engineering.

The Engineered World unit is assessed by a written examination paper.

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
The Engineered World 25%	1 hour	Year 11	Investigating an Engineered Product 25%	Varies	Year 10 Year 11
			Health and Safety in Engineering 25%		
			Computer-Aided Engineering 25%		
25% of overall mark			75% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Due to the nature of the subject, students can use it as a stepping board for numerous career pathways including university courses, straight into work or apprenticeships.

Possible Future University Courses:

Civil Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Architecture, Chemical Engineering, Telecommunications, Robotic Engineering, Electric Engineering

Possible Future Careers or Apprenticeships:

Automotive Industry, Aerospace Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Blacksmith, Electrician

If I want to know more I should ask ...

For more information visit www.qualification.pearson.com

Mr Bown - s.bown@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Why choose GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition?

A brand new specification now brings a keen focus on every essential element of the culinary arts. Do you want to be able to develop classic cooking techniques? Would you be interested in relating complex chemical and biological sciences to everyday foods? If so, the new GCSE in Food Science and Preparation is for you! This course brings the essential knowledge and practical skills together in a new rigorous specification that will develop a deep holistic knowledge of cooking and nutrition as well as the scientific principles that underpin all recipes.

What will I study?

The main areas of the new specification will cover

- **Nutritional needs:** Can you produce a meal for a specific dietary group?
- **Diet related health risks:** The biggest killer in this country is diet related illness, how do we stop it?
- **Food provenance:** Where does your food come from? What is involved in producing it?
- **Technological developments in food:** Where will we get our protein from in the future?
- **Culinary traditions:** Can you master the classic dishes all chefs learn on their way to greatness?
- **The range of factors that influence food choice:** Why do we eat what we eat?
- **Food marketing:** An industry worth billions, but how does it work?
- **Food Science:** What is a colloid? Why does a steak on a barbeque taste so amazing? This module will tell you all of that and much much more.
- **Food safety principles.** Have you ever had food poisoning? This element will ensure it never happens to you or anyone you cook for.
- **Cooking skills:** You will improve all aspects of your cooking from organisation, knife skills to presenting dishes that would sit happily in top restaurants.

How will I learn?

You will combine practical and theory learning. Sometimes cooking entire dishes to learn a skill. Some lessons will involve experimental work. You will be assessed regularly on each area as well as your attitude and application in cooking sessions.

This is a genuinely exciting and investigative cooking course, combining the academic rigour required to succeed in this new GCSE specification with advanced cooking skills that you will have for life.

Who would this course suit?

If you love being in the kitchen, benefit from a disciplined learning environment where every lesson is essential and your effort and skills directly impact not only on the grade you receive but what you eat, then this course would suit you. This course is only for those who care about food; the cooking, the presentation, its provenance. An open minded approach to new flavours, ingredients and cooking methods is essential.

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

The course can lead onto university courses, apprenticeships and careers such as:

Possible Future University Courses:

- Management of Hospitality,
- Food and Culinary Arts,
- Baking Technology Management,
- Hospitality Business Management with Culinary Arts,
- Food and Professional Cookery,
- Patisserie and Confectionery,
- Food Production and Cooking, Nutrition,
- Animal Nutrition,
- Health, Nutrition and Exercise.
- Dietetics
- Sports Nutrition

Possible Future Apprenticeships or Careers:

Caterer, Pastry Chef, Sous Chef, Head Chef, Home Economist, Food Scientist, Dietician, Technical Brewer, Nutritional Therapist, Food Technologist, Teacher, Animal Nutritionist, Recipe Development for Supermarkets and Airlines.

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Written examination – Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition	1 hour 45 mins	Summer Year 11	Non exam-assessment: Assessment 1 – The Food Investigation Assessment Assessment 2 – The Food Preparation Assessment	Non exam-assessment: Assessment 1 – The Food Investigation Assessment Assessment 2 – The Food Preparation Assessment 8 hours 12 hours	Sept – May Year 11

How will my work be assessed?

The course is assessed with 50% non-exam assessment which is split into 2 practical and written non exam assessments. Combined these will take 20 hours to complete and will be carried out in Year 11. The other 50% of the course is assessed through a written examination at the end of Year 11.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Hartshorn- a.hartshorn@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Why choose Geography?

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions which affect our world and understand the social, economic and physical processes which shape our world. Working outside the classroom is a really important part of geography. Whether you go locally or get the chance to travel further away it will be a brilliant opportunity to experience some of the things you have learnt about in class, see things differently and of course have fun.

What will I study? GCSE Geography: AQA

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Natural Hazards, Urban Issues, Living World	Physical landscapes, Economic World, Fieldwork Preparation and Geography skills (Dol-y-Moch)	Resource Management, revision, pre-release exam preparation.

How will I learn?

We will investigate geographical themes using a wide range of resources such as decision making exercises, textbooks, ICT, DVDs, independent research, role playing and practicing for the final exam! We also will be conducting fieldwork at Dol-Y-Moch, a fantastic location for all things geographical.

Who would this course suit?

- If you are interested in the world around you and would like to know more about how it all works.
- If you enjoy problem solving, making decisions and are observant.
- If you love to learn outdoors and explore new places.

How will my work be assessed?

<u>Paper 1: Living in the physical environment (35%)</u>	<u>Paper 2: Living in the human environment (35%)</u>	<u>Paper 3: Geographical applications (35%)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Natural Hazards ● Living World ● Physical Landscapes in the UK ● Geographical Skills <p>Written exam 1hr 30mins</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urban Issues ● Economic World ● Resource Management ● Geographical Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Issues Evaluation ● Fieldwork ● Geographical Skills

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Geography makes you very employable as you have many skills and know a lot about what is going on in the world. Geography will also help you to be more aware of the everyday life and problems of the people who live around you. When you see newspaper items or television reports about a controversial new development, for example HS2, then your geography course will help you make sense of what is going on. Geography will make you a better, more aware citizen. There are lots of jobs that are directly related to Geography or other careers where employers will want you just because of the skills that you have learnt and the person that you must be to have done Geography.

What can I do that goes with Geography?

GCSE Geography goes well with:	Future careers I could choose:
Art & Design Technology	Advertising, Architecture, Cartography, Landscape Design.
Science	Agriculture, Environmental Health, Estate Management, Nature Conservation.
History	Archaeology, Law, Libraries, Museums, Publishing, Journalism.
Modern Languages	Business, Overseas Marketing, Leisure and Tourism.
Maths	Civil Engineering, Meteorology, Mining, Navigation and Photography.
ICT & Computing	Disaster Management, Geographical Information Systems.

You would also be highly eligible for careers in Leisure Services, Sport and Recreation Management, Social and Youth Work, Surveying, Transport Services, Banks, Building Societies, Business, Civil Service, Secretary/PA, Police, Armed Forces, Health Service and Teaching!

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mrs Brake- j.brake@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE HISTORY

Why choose GCSE History?

People who study History are fearless explorers of the past. They investigate past politics, societies, cultures, languages, health, art, education, money, conflicts and more, look at how things have developed over time and connect the dots to understand how we got where we are today. Learning about past events and the people who've influenced history will allow you to understand how the world got to the point it's at now, and how it will continue to develop in the future.

What will I study?

Paper 1 - Warfare and British Society, c1250–Present

A look at how warfare has developed over time, and the key developments in the areas of tactics, weaponry, recruitment, organisation and technology. Students will also review a case study based on how the city of London was affected by the Second World War.

Paper 2 - Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 and Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88.

A study of the Cold War, its origins through to the collapse of the Soviet Union. This is a period of recent history that continues to have a direct impact on how we view the world today. We need only look at the events in the Ukraine, or the political relationship between the USA and Russia to see the importance of this unit of work.

Students will also learn about the Norman invasion of England, from Edward the Confessor to the death of William the Conqueror. This will build upon work students have already done in Year 7, and deepen their knowledge of Medieval history.

Paper 3 - The USA, 1954–75: Conflict at Home and Abroad

Where our course actually begins: the struggle for Civil Rights in the USA. This depth study focuses on the journey black Americans made from segregation, through Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X to the 'equality' reached in the 1960s. Also in this unit, students will study the Vietnam War, a conflict that defined a generation, and will look at the war itself, through to how it affected life back in the USA.

This course will suit you if ...

- If you have an interest in the world around you, if you enjoy finding out what is happening in the world and why it is the way it is.
- If you are interested in people, their story and their motivations.
- If you have an enquiring mind, and like investigation and finding out why things happened.
- If you are interested in being moved, angered, outraged, surprised and challenged.

How will I learn?

Learning is done through research, note taking, DVDs, presentations, group work and source investigations. A high priority is given to making you better, more independent learners, so equipping you for life at A Level and beyond.

How can I use this career in my future?

Apart from studying a wide range of exciting historic periods, you'll learn a range of academic skills that will help you with A Levels and future work.

These include:

- excellent communication and writing skills
- how to construct an argument
- research and problem skills
- investigation and problem-solving skills
- analytical and interpretation skills

Both employers and universities regard History as a very valuable qualification. With your analytical, writing, debate and detective skills, you'll be primed for a huge range of careers in Law, Politics, Management, Medicine, Business, Marketing, Journalism, Economics, Crime Enforcement, Teaching, Academia, Insurance, Social Research, Archaeology and Curation.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Ludgate - m.ludgate@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE MANDARIN

Why choose GCSE Mandarin

This is an optional subject which focuses on the Mandarin language and Chinese culture. Students will build on what they have learnt during their Year 7 and 8 Enrichment courses.

What will I study?

AQA GCSE Mandarin was a newly revised course in September 2017. There will be exams in listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of Year 11. 25% of marks for each skill.

Who would this course suit?

This course would suit students with an interest in learning a language and about Chinese culture in addition to improving their communication skills.

How will I learn?

You will practise the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in a variety of different contexts using up to date authentic materials and engaging resources. You will have the opportunity to complete GCSE exam-style activities and receive regular feedback on your progress. You will learn to write characters and use Pinyin.

How will my work be assessed?

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Listening 25%	To be confirmed	Summer 2019			
Speaking 25%					
Reading 25%					
Writing 25%					
100% of overall mark					

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

This course is designed to enable students of all abilities to develop their Mandarin language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence. A language makes you very employable as you have many skills and will have a greater awareness of what is happening in the world around us. There are lots of jobs that are directly related to languages or other careers where employers will want you just because of the skills that you have learnt and the person that you must be to have studied a language. This course will prepare you should you wish to study Mandarin at Pre-U (A Level equivalent), and if you go on to study Mandarin as a main or subsidiary subject at Degree level with the option of working in China for a year.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mrs Wang - ju-hsuan.wang@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE MUSIC

Why choose GCSE Music?

Music improves and enriches the life of every human being. GCSE Music gives you the chance to explore the music we hear around us so you can enjoy listening to music more, perform music better and write your own music. The course combines practical skills with academic theory and will introduce you to music you have not heard before. You will be able to create music in whichever style you enjoy the most.

If you are already learning an instrument, GCSE Music is an excellent course to take as it complements and builds on the skills taught by instrumental teachers.

What will I study?

The Eduqas Music GCSE is made up of 3 different sections:

1. Performing (30%) – Perform at least 2 pieces on an instrument of your choice (6 minutes in total). One must be an ensemble piece, the remaining piece(s) can be either ensemble or solo. One piece must be linked to an area of study from section 3 below. You will submit a final recording of your pieces in Year 11. The standard required is roughly equivalent to a grade 4 exam in an instrument so you will need to aim to be at this standard by the end of Year 11.
2. Composing (30%) – Compose 2 pieces of music (6 minutes in total); one of which must be in response to a brief set by the exam board, the second can be in a style of your choice, both submitted in Year 11.
3. Listening and analysing (40%) – You will study music covering a range of musical styles and periods, including classical, film music and rock and pop. You will cover two set works (a piece by Mozart and a pop song) and be tested on some pieces you have not heard before.

This course would suit you if ...

- You love listening to music.
- You enjoy the creative challenge of composing your own pieces of music.
- You are open to learning about different kinds of music and are willing to dig deep into the theory behind various styles of music.
- You are already learning an instrument or are keen to learn one next year.
- You have the ability to be self-disciplined and committed to practising on your instrument.

How will I learn?

The Music course has a strong practical emphasis but requires you to develop understanding of music theory through the practical exercises. Through guided listening and performing, you will understand how music is composed and will apply these techniques to your own pieces of music.

You will need to have individual or group lessons in an instrument in order to be able to prepare for the performance element of the course. In Year 10 and 11 the school offers a free 20 minute lesson on one instrument taken within school from a choice which includes guitar, piano/keyboard, voice, strings, brass, woodwind, drum kit, etc.

How will my work be assessed?

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Component 3 – Appraising 40%	75 mins	Summer Year 11	Component 1 - Performing 30% Component 2 - Composing 30%	Approx 20 hours for each; within lessons	By Easter Year 11

How can I use this course after Year 11 / in the future?

We **strongly** advise students wishing to take A Level Music/Music Technology to study Music GCSE.

- Excellent preparation for careers in the Music industry, e.g. Composer (for music studio, films, games, special events etc.), Sound Engineering, Session Musician, Musical Theatre, Orchestras.
- More and more opportunities are opening up in the field of Music Therapy where music is used to aid recovery from physical and mental illnesses.
- The skills of performance and composition that you learn will enrich your whole life. Being able to play an instrument enables you to perform in bands, orchestras, choirs, musicals and much more.
- Develops skills of pattern recognition which is essential in many careers including Engineering, Scientific Research and Banking.
- Develops creativity and the ability to continue complex, abstract and extended tasks through to completion which is a skill much sought after in numerous industries.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Hunter - j.hunter@finhampark.co.uk

GCSE PRODUCT DESIGN

Why choose Product Design: 3D Products

Product Design prepares you to participate in tomorrow's rapidly changing world. You learn to think and intervene creatively to improve quality of life. We will teach you about the design process and the skills you will need to turn your designs into products. You will be able to give practical solutions to real problems and see how your work relates to real life. Product Design will teach you how to be an independent, autonomous learner who can take responsibility for planning and organising your work, and be able to evaluate it in a reflective and critical manner. You will learn how to work practically, individually and with others and have the satisfaction of successfully completing a practical project.

What will I study?

Core Technical Principles – New and emerging technologies, energy storage and generation, modern and smart materials, systems approach to designing, mechanical devices, materials and their working properties

Specialist Technical Principles – Selection of materials and processes, forces and stresses, ecological and social footprint, scales of production, sources and origins, using and working with materials, stock forms, types and sizes, specialist techniques, surface treatments and finishes.

Designing and Making Principles – Investigation, primary and secondary data, environmental, social and economic challenge, the work of others, design strategies, communication of design ideas, prototype development, selection of materials and components, tolerances, material management, tools and equipment and techniques and processes.

Who would this course suit?

If you are interested in the products we use and have thought about how you could design better or more attractive solutions, then you would find this course both useful and inspiring. If you would also like to present your design proposals in a professional manner, then you will find this course equips you with the necessary skills. A comprehensive 'design and make' task takes up a large part of the course and involves careful consideration with regards to time management.

How will I learn?

In Year 9 and 10, students will learn and develop a variety of skills by completing a series of short projects. These will enable them to experience the iterative design process from start to finish. During this year, students will also develop their independent learning skills by experimenting with different methods of how to create final outcomes and products. Theory work and preparation for their GCSE examination will take place in these 2 years with concepts and content introduced to students through a variety of practical making lessons, designing and drawing lessons as well as pure theory based lessons. Students complete their non exam-assessment during the course of Year 11.

How will my work be assessed?

The course is assessed with 50% non-exam assessment which is a single design and make project. It should take approximately 30 - 35 hours to complete. Students can choose a project from a list set by the exam board. The other 50% of the course is assessed through a written examination at the end of Year 11.

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Paper 1 50%	2 hours	Summer Year 11	Non exam- assessment 50%	35 hours in lessons	Sept – May Year 11
50% of overall mark			50% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

Students can use this course as a stepping board for numerous career pathways including university degrees, apprenticeships or going straight into work.

Possible Future University Courses:

Illustration, Fashion, Product Design, Civil Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Architecture, Performance or Stage Design, Scenography and Costume Design.

Possible Future Careers or Apprenticeships:

Product Designer, Automotive Industry, Aerospace Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Architect, Fashion Designer, Web Designer, Stage/Performance Designer, Costume Design, Lighting Designer and Designer.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

For more information visit www.aqa.co.uk and search for the AQA Product Design GCSE: 3D Products

Mrs Allton - l.allton@finhampark2.co.uk

Mr Bown - s.bown@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES: PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS AND HINDUISM

Why choose the GCSE Full Course Option?

Philosophy, Ethics and Hinduism focuses on some of the 'big issues' we face throughout our lives. Topics include:

- God and belief – why do people believe in God? Why do others not believe?
- Religion and Science – are these two things directly opposed? Can you be religious and a scientist?
- Death and the afterlife – what happens to us when we die?
- Good and evil – why is there suffering in the world? Why do bad things happen to good people?
- Religion and medical ethics – how far should medicine be allowed to go? Are abortion and euthanasia right or wrong? Should we be allowed to clone humans?
- Religion, poverty and wealth – How come there is so much poverty in the world? What can we do about it?

What will I study?

WJEC EXAM BOARD

What Does This Syllabus Involve?

You will study the beliefs, teachings and sources of wisdom of Christianity and Hinduism for the first half of your GCSE.

You can then choose to study 1 or both of those religions in more depth in 1 or 2 of the following ways:

- through studying their practices, ways of life and forms of expression in detail
- through a thorough study of religious texts
- by studying how the teachings of 1 or both religions inform their thinking on philosophical or ethical issues

Who would this course suit?

Anyone! Philosophy, Ethics and Hinduism cover issues that affect all of us, no matter who we are or what we believe. You do not have to be religious to do this course-, just open- minded, willing to think outside the box and look at things in a new way.

How will I learn?

The course itself is taught in a lively and varied way, including lots of discussion and debate on a wide variety of moral issues which affect the individual and the whole world.

How will my work be assessed?

At the end of the three year course, students will take written exams.
There is no coursework involved.

Examinations	Length	When
<u>Component 1:</u> Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World. Candidates will study the following four themes. Theme 1: Issues of Relationships, Theme 2: Issues of Life and Death, Theme 3: Issues of Good and Evil, Theme 4: Issues of Human Rights	Written examination: 2 hours- 50% of qualification. All questions are compulsory.	Summer Year 11
<u>Component 2:</u> Study of Christianity. Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity.	Written examination: 1 hour- 25% of qualification.	
<u>Component 3:</u> Study of a World Faith Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Hinduism.	Written examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification <i>3 exams – 4 hours in total</i>	

How can I use this course after Year 11 / in the future?

This GCSE will encourage you to develop skills in thinking, evaluation, discussion and debate. It gives you the opportunity to practise oral skills as well as written ones.

As well as being something that is enjoyable to study and a good way for you to explore some very important issues, Religious Studies is a qualification that is seen as valuable by many different people. Employers or colleges will see that students with this GCSE are able to think and study independently, organise work to deadlines and are mature individuals who appreciate other beliefs and points of view.

All manner of careers see Philosophy and Ethics as a good qualification to have – from the medical profession to teaching, social work, the police force, journalism and travel to name but a few.

What further study can I move on to?

Students can go on to study Philosophy and Ethics at AS and A Level. From there you could take your study as far as a degree in Religious Studies, Theology or Philosophy.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Miss Johnson - h.johnson@finhampark2.co.uk

Mr Ludgate- m.ludgate@finhampark2.co.uk

V CERT Interactive Media (NCFE)

Why Study Interactive Media?

All students at Finham Park 2 study EITHER ICT or Computing in Years 9 – 11. Students are selected for both subjects, depending on the progress they make on the different ICT/Computing topics in Year 8. Most students will do ICT, which favours a more practical approach to learning and focuses on the use of application software to create solutions to problems. Learning will also focus on how ICT is used in different contexts, such as within the home, in the business world and within society in general.

This will be a new course for September 2017 and final decisions are still being made regarding the choice of specification.

What will I study?

There are 4 units in the V Cert course:

Unit 01 - Investigate interactive media production

Unit 02 - Plan and prepare for an interactive media product

Unit 03 - Development and production of an interactive media product

Unit 04 - Present and promote an interactive media product

These will be assessed through building up a portfolio of class work in lessons and homework, plus a big project to be completed in Year 11 that draws on all the skills learned to select the right techniques to make a final piece of work.

Who would this course suit?

Anyone who has an interest in how websites, apps and other interactive media are created. You may think you'd like to work in this area when you leave education or you may just be interested in learning new skills. You definitely do not need to have high-levels of programming skills (e.g. Python) as this will not be the focus of the V Cert course. This course will connect technology, art and design skills.

How will I learn?

The lessons will be very practical and you will build up a collection of work in different forms including research, typed explanations, diagrams and practice projects. You will need to be consistent so that your work is always at a high level as it can all be assessed.

How will I be assessed?

60% of the final grade comes from the portfolio built up through class work which will be assessed by your teacher and then externally checked.

40% of the final grade comes from a 15 hour (3 day) assessment project which will be marked by someone from the exam board.

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

This course could lead you to a future career in Web Design, App Programming or something else that has not been invented. It will help you to think in a design oriented way and to work through big projects in a structured way without panicking. It will help you understand the way that advertisers and technology companies use consumers like ourselves.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Rogers- j.rogers@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE COMPUTING

Why Study GCSE Computing?

Your Computing teacher will be on the lookout for students who demonstrate a superior set of skills including; Problem solving, Logic, Ability to program in Python, Spreadsheet Quizzes, Touch Develop, Kodu and Scratch. This course will help you understand how computers work in a much deeper way than most people - from the apps and websites we use, to the precise detail of what is going on inside the CPU and RAM hidden away inside the box.

What will I study?

The OCR GCSE Computing covers...

Computer systems:

This is a theory based unit which is assessed by a written paper in Year 11. The paper is a mix of short and long answer questions – some of which will require students to write program code. Topics will include Networks, Hardware, Software, Storage, Systems and so on.

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming:

This is another exam based unit which will be taught through the medium of programming. The exam will be on paper and will require students to be able to understand how to solve problems without a computer in front of them. Topics will include: Algorithms, Programming, Logic, Data representation etc.

Programming Project:

This is a controlled assessment piece that will need pupils to solve a particular problem using their programming skills. The piece is worth 20% of the overall mark and will take them around 20 hours to complete. Students will be working independently or with their peers and teachers so will need to have developed a suitable skill set.

Who would this course suit?

GCSE Computing suits learners who are confident mathematicians and have already developed an interest in computing beyond that of an “end user”. You will most likely be experimenting with your own programming and extending on what you have already learnt in your KS3 Computing lessons. This course will interest critical thinkers and those who enjoy solving challenging problems independently. It will suit students who want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of computer science and will find it a superb stepping stone. If you have done well and enjoyed the more ‘technical’ parts of KS3 Computing, then this is the course for you.

How will I learn?

A lot of the learning will be done through developing programming skills, especially in Year 9. Applying ideas learned in class into working code, debugging and solving errors and testing thoroughly are vital to understanding the concepts. There will also be theory to learn in class and at home as well as practicing being able to successfully answer exam questions.

How will my work be assessed?

Two exams in Year 11, each 1 hour and 30 minutes, each worth 40% of the course.
One programming project that takes 20 hours in class time and worth 20% of the course.

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

If you take a GCSE in Computing and then go on to study the subject at A Level or at university, you'll have an advantage over fellow students who are picking up the subject at these higher levels. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field. The course is also an excellent preparation if you want to study or work in areas that rely on the skills you'll develop, especially where they're applied to technical problems. These areas include Engineering, Financial and Resource Management, Science and Medicine.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Roger- j.rogers@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Why choose Physical Education GCSE?

Physical Education provides students with the knowledge and understanding of how to live a healthy and active lifestyle, enabling them to make informed choices about their own physical development. Students can choose from a variety of roles and activities in which to participate in physical activity. Students will learn how to analyse and evaluate performance and suggest effective plans for improvement.

What will I study?

In Year 9 GCSE PE, students will be assessed in a variety of different sporting activities. In theory lessons students will be studying various aspects from the OCR course, including: anatomy of physiology, benefits of exercising, psychological benefits of exercise and methods of training.

Who would this course suit?

This course would suit students who regularly compete in physical activity outside of school. We would hope that students choosing the course will be competing for school teams, regularly attending sport OOSH and possibly being involved in sport outside of school.

How will I learn?

In Year 9 all students will take their GCSE PE in **core games time**. Lessons will consist of one theory (classroom based lessons) and three practical based lessons. Students will study a variety of different sporting activities as well as developing their knowledge and understanding of key theoretical areas connecting to sports performance. On completion of Year 9, successful students will need to decide if they want to explore GCSE PE further at Years 10 and 11. This will fall outside of their core PE lessons and will take up one of their options.

How will my work be assessed?

In Year 9 all students will also be assessed for their practical ability throughout the year. At the end of each term students will complete an assignment and test based around the theory learning content.

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
Exam One: Applied Analysis & Performance and Physical Training	1 Hour	Summer Year 11	Practical Sport (3 different sports) - 30% Coursework -10%	Over two years	Summer Year 11
Exam Two: Socio-cultural influences Sports psychology Health, fitness and well-being	1 Hour				
60% of overall mark			40% of overall mark		

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the future?

As well as being the ideal preparation for the A Level Physical Education course, GCSE Physical Education allows for progression to related vocational qualifications in Sport and Exercise Sciences. The course develops the transferable skills and key skills that employers are looking for and can lead to a wide variety of employment opportunities. This can include further training in areas such as Recreational Management, Leisure Activities, Coaching, Officiating, the Fitness Industry, the Armed Forces and the Civil Service.

If I want to know more I should ask ...

Mr Hudson- m.hudson@finhampark2.co.uk

Mrs Coltman- k.coltman@finhampark2.co.uk

YEAR 8 OPTIONS CHOICE FORM 2018- CHOOSE 4 subjects

Name..... Mentor Group.....

All students will study: Mathematics, English, Science*, core PE, RE, PSHE and French or Spanish (dependent upon language studied during Years 7 & 8- and if suitable).

Humanities - You MUST choose at least 1 from this group	
Subject	Please tick the selected subject
Geography	
History	

Art or Technology - You MUST 3 options from this list.	
Please number them in order of preference e.g. 1, 2, 3	
Subject	Please tick the selected subject
Art – Fine	
Art - Photography	
Business Studies	
Drama	
Engineering (BTEC)	
Food Preparation & Nutrition	
Mandarin	
Music	
D&T: Product Design	
Philosophy & Ethics (RS)	
IT (Interactive Media)	
Computing	
GCSE PE	
Triple Science	

Reserve Choice (From any section) <hr/>

Signature of student
.....

Date.....

Signature of parent/carer
.....

Date.....

Signature of senior staff
.....

Date.....

Please note: STUDENTS MUST BRING THIS FORM WITH THEM TO THEIR OPTIONS INTERVIEW

YEAR 8 OPTIONS PROCESS

Student and Parent Feedback

To help us improve the options process we would value your feedback and suggestions. Could you please complete this feedback sheet and hand it in with your options choices form at the options interview.

Write the number that best applies:

1 = Strongly Agree 2 = Agree 3 = Disagree 4 = Strongly Disagree

Question	Score	Comments
1. The information in the options booklet was useful, clearly presented and easy to understand		
2. The parental Options Evening was useful and informative.		
3. The options assembly for students was useful.		
4. Meeting with school staff was useful e.g. mentor or Leadership Team		
5. Information in lessons from teachers was useful.		
Are there any further comments you would like to make that will help us improve our Options process?		

