

Year 8 Options Booklet



Finham Park 2
2021-22



Year 8 Options Process 2021-22: Key Dates

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



21 January: Information shared with parents about the options process online



Options booklet available online



January/Feb: Year 8 students to complete the first section of the options booklets to consider the subjects they enjoy, are good at and might be interested in for GCSE



28 January – Year 8 Parents' Evening

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



Taster Sessions (online during January/February)

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



w/c 1 February and w/c 12th February – Students have Options Meetings online to discuss their choices and to ensure students have made appropriate ones for them.



26th February: All options forms must be submitted to the member of staff that completed the student Options Meeting

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 (combined and separate)
- French, Spanish or Mandarin (according to which you study in Year 8)
- Geography or History
- 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 your current subject teacher to senior teachers. There are also a number of activities in this guide which will help you to research and carefully refine your ideas, plan and make your decisions.

Students will follow their chosen subjects 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.

All students will have an options meeting where they will discuss the options they want to take. This will be with their mentor, college leader or member of senior staff. It is important that students talk about their option choices with their parents/carers prior to this meeting.

Forms will need to be finally submitted by the 26th February 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Brake
Deputy Headteacher

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Future Aspirations

It is important that you take a broad and balanced set of subjects for your GCSEs. This will help you be as prepared for the world of work as possible. The core subjects already help you do this. When you pick your options, consider how these could help you towards your future goals. To help you do this, you should:

- Talk to your teachers about what careers the subject leads to.
- Attend a meeting with our Careers Advisor, Mrs Evans.
- Use the National Careers website: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk> to find out more.

Don't worry if at this stage you are not exactly sure about what you want to do in the future. Taking subjects you enjoy and find interesting is key.

I am thinking about the following possible careers:

To achieve this goal, I need to:

Subjects that would help me achieve my goal would be:

Getting Started

First Steps: Subjects

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

- 1. What subjects do you enjoy doing?
- 2. What subjects are you doing well in?
- 3. What new subjects might be interesting to take?

What subjects do you like doing? Why?

What subjects are you doing well in? Why?

What new subjects might be interested in? Why?

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. What type of 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 idea about possible careers? Which subjects might help with these?

Choosing My Options – To Do Checklist

I have...

- Read through the Options booklet carefully and checked which subjects are compulsory.
- Completed the preparation activities in the Getting Started section with my mentor and/or parents/carers.
- Looked at my progress check to see which subjects I might be best suited for and discussed my ideas with my parents/carers or my mentor.
- Asked my teachers if they think it would be a good idea for me to take their subject.
- Researched optional subjects carefully.
- Identified the teachers I need to see.
- Researched what is needed for my future career, college course or university course.
- 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/carers signature(s).
- Chosen subjects that give me a balanced range of subjects to study and will keep my options open in the future.
- Noted when, where and who my options interview will be with.
- Got my options booklet with me at the interview.

My Options Interview:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Who: _____

Where: _____

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 develop 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 Carol Ann Duffy, Poet Laureate, to Robert Louis Stevenson, 19th century novelist. You'll read Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde and in the third term, study Shakespeare's Macbeth in preparation for GCSE. We will also prepare you for your GCSEs by exploring a range of articles from newspapers, magazines and websites.

Who would this course suit?

English is really 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?

Examination	Length	When	Formative unit assessments	Length	When
<i>English Language Exam (a mock in preparation for your final)</i>	1 hour	Summer term of Year 9	<i>Two reading and/or writing assessments every half term</i>	1 hour	Every half term

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 study Mathematics?

Because of the importance of Mathematics in everyday life, GCSE Mathematics is compulsory. One of the key objectives is that all students learn Mathematics and Numeracy skills that will help them succeed beyond the classroom. The GCSE specification has been designed to test students' knowledge and mastery of Mathematical techniques.

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.

GCSE Mathematics – Pearson Edexcel 1MA1 GCSE 9-1 Mathematics.

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.

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

Examinations	Length	When	Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
GCSE Mathematics					
Paper 1 - Non-Calculator Paper (33.33%)	1.5 hours	Summer of year 11	No controlled assessment		
Paper 2- Calculator (33.33%)	1.5 hours	Summer of year 11			
Paper 3- Calculator (33.33%)	1.5 hours	Summer of year 11			
100% of overall mark			0% of overall mark		

GCSE Science (Combined and Separate)

Why study Science?

Science is a compulsory subject. 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?

Whichever route you follow to GCSE 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.

How will I learn?

- studying practical and theoretical science through investigation, research and reading
- exploring many new concepts that will allow you to make sense of the world around you
- thinking critically and analysing data and information so you can interpret it thoroughly
- employing your literacy skills to write scientific reports and develop ways to understand and organise a large amount of factual information

Examinations			Length	Controlled Assessment / Coursework / Portfolio
GCSE Biology			All exams Summer Year 11	
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				All exams Summer Year 11
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 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 GCSE's 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.

Combined or Triple science?

In triple science pupils will study each discipline in more detail. Pupils will get 3 separate grades for each of the sciences. Pupils who have a target of 4 and above would be suitable for triple science. It is suggested that a good level in English and maths skills will be required to cope with the demands of Triple Science.

Combined science pupils study the three science and get two grades as an average for the science they have studied.

If I want to know more, I should ask... Mrs O'Neill c.oneill@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE French

Why study French?

This course is compulsory in Year 9 for students who have learnt French in Years 7 and 8.

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 work abroad and/or to 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 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. 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...

GCSE Mandarin - MEP

Why study Mandarin?

This subject focuses on the Mandarin language and Chinese culture. Students will build on what they have learnt during the Year 7 and 8 Mandarin Excellence Programme

What will I study?

AQA GCSE Mandarin is a newly revised course in September 2017, with exams in listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of Year 11.

Who would this course suit?

You have already proved that you can learn characters and cope with the challenges of a very different language and culture. You have had lots of time to absorb the necessary vocabulary and sentence patterns and you now have a further 3 years to secure an excellent grade! Mandarin is one of the "Big Four" languages which are of most interest to employers, as well as being increasingly useful here in the UK. British universities and even schools are very popular with Chinese students and academics, and our tourist industry is increasingly in need of Mandarin specialists to help Chinese tourists feel at home. A good grade for GCSE Mandarin will help your CV to stand out and take you to places you would not otherwise be able to go.

How will I learn?

You will practise listening, speaking, reading and writing in a variety of authentic contexts, including taking part in a four-day residential at a UK university during Year 9. You will have the opportunity to complete GCSE exam-style activities, communicating in more depth about your life as a teenager and about world issues like poverty and global warming. You will also have the opportunity to represent Finham Park 2 at special events and visits

How will my work be assessed?

Paper	Length (Foundation/Higher)	Percentage of overall grade
Listening	F 35 mins H 45 mins	25%
Speaking	F7-9 mins H 10-12mins	25%
Reading	F 45 mins H 1 hour	25%
Writing	F45 mins H 1hr 15mins	25%

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

This course will prepare you well for taking the language further such as through an HSK qualification or if you go to study Mandarin as a main subsidiary subject at degree level with the option of studying in China for a year. In addition, a number of universities now have campuses in China and other Chinese-speaking countries where you can spend a year/a few months studying a non-language degree subjects in Chinese context.

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

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Mr Yin – j.yin@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE Spanish

Why study Spanish?

This course is compulsory in Year 9 for students who have learnt Spanish in Years 7 and 8.

What will I study?

AQA GCSE Spanish is a newly revised course which started this year in September 2016. There will be exams in listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of Year 11 with 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 work abroad and/or to 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	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 Spanish language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence. A language GCSE 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. 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...

Option Subjects

Fine Art GCSE

What will I study?

EDEXCEL GCSE in the discipline of Fine Art: You will respond to given titles and themes in a personal way. 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 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).

Why study Fine Art?

Studying GCSE Fine art 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. You will experiment with a variety of traditional, experimental and high-tech artistic processes, tools, and techniques. 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.

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 in 2019 we travelled to Barcelona and New York.

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 of course final exam board examination.	10 hours	Summer Year 11	Y9 Controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	July Year 9
			Y10 controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	July Year 10
			Y11 controlled assessment CWK portfolio	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...

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

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

GCSE Art Photography

Why study Art Photography?

GCSE Photography gives you an exciting opportunity to develop a personalised visual folder using techniques and concepts of colour and black and white photography. GCSE photography work is now digital. You will respond to set themes through artists and photographers over time. You are encouraged to combine photography techniques including hand rendering images, and using image manipulation software tools in Photoshop and Lightroom. The course covers film and animation and students can go down this route if desired.

What will I study?

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. Students will create a digital logbook folder as well as photographic outcomes and experiments. You will study the work of historic, modern, and present day photographers, learning how to critically analyse their work. You will produce your own ideas and use cameras, studio and lighting equipment, and Photoshop to achieve them.

Who would this course suit?

If you enjoy using a camera, taking photos, making films , video or animation and you are eager to learn the applications of digital photography and image manipulation techniques then you will love this course! There is a one off printing fee each year but this is kept to the minimum and includes the portfolios- printed books , final outcome and practical work and prints.

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 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. Students learn hand manipulation and create outcomes of sculpting using photos- transfers, textiles or mixed media, instillation and projection , the course can be as creative and varied as the students wish to be. 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, last year students went to Barcelona and New York.

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 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.

How will my work be assessed?

You will receive a mark every month, and you will be given regular written feedback and targets related to the 4 course assessment objectives. Your work will be marked out of a total of 72. 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 of course final exam board examination.	10 hours	Summer of year 11	Y9 Controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	Year 9
			Y10 controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	Year 10
			Y11 controlled assessment CWK portfolio	10 hrs	Year 11
40% of overall mark			60% of overall mark		

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

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

GCSE Business

Why study Business?

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.

What will I study?

Edexcel Course structure -new GCSE Specification.

The course is split into two themes:

Theme 1 is investigating small businesses. We will explore enterprise and entrepreneurship, spotting a business opportunity, putting a business idea into practice, making the business effective and understanding external influences on business.

This will be assessed with a written examination at the end of Year 11.

50% of the qualification.

1 hour and 30 minutes.

90 marks.

Theme 2 is about building a business. We will explore growing a business, making marketing decisions, making operational decisions, financial decisions and human resource decisions. This will be assessed with a written examination at the end of Year 11.

50% of the qualification.

1 hour and 30 minutes.

Who would this course suit?

If you enjoy:

- Communicating and explain your ideas
- Thinking creatively and making decisions
- Working the numbers to solve business problems
- Learning about the world of business through research and investigation

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...

Mrs Klym – n.klym@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE Computing

Why study 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, spreadsheets, App Lab, binary numbers and understanding computer hardware. 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 Computer Science (J277) 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:

It is important to apply our programming skills to a real-world problem, which is exactly what this project is about. Rather than making small pieces of code in separate lessons, we have an extended project over several weeks creating a big piece of work that will stretch and challenge you,

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 at the end of year 11, each worth 50% of your GCSE grade.

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 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 Rogers – j.rogers@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE Drama

Why study Drama?

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 costume 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 devise a short performance of your own from a set stimulus using Physical Theatre, movement, comedy and naturalistic acting. You will also study Willy Russell's Blood Brothers and explore performance skills, techniques, theatre makers practice and design.

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 two 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.

Who would this course suit?

Someone who...

- Enjoys drama and wants to develop their communication skills further
- Have an enquiring mind and would enjoy exploring and analysing play scripts
- Enjoys the opportunity to lead others and develop team building skills
- Is interested in how to engage an audience
- Is 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 so it is useful in the 'people professions', e.g. teachers, 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 people like lawyers, administrators and politicians, journalists
- Teaches skills such as organising, project managing and the directing of others - e.g. Teaching, Project Manager, Events co-ordinator, and Operations manager.
- Builds knowledge of the theatre both on-stage and back-stage - Actor, Director, producer, lighting/set/sound/costume designer
- It is also good preparation for A Level – English, Psychology Sociology and Law.

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

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

OCR Cambridge Nationals: Engineering Design

Why study Engineering?

This course gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the engineering world. It gives learners the opportunity to develop a range of personal skills and develop a broad engineering skillset. Engineering units of study have been selected so that it gives a realistic experience of engineering.

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 design process and manufacture of engineered products.

How will I learn?

Students will 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 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

How will my work be assessed?

RA105 25%	<u>Exam</u> To be sat in the January of Year 11, the exam is based on looking at the Client, User, and Stakeholders. Related to this investigations of the design process, design briefs and specifications.
RA106 25%	<u>Product Disassembly</u> Students will be required to disassemble a product and analyse components, parts and related manufacture of the product. Research into products that are already in existence.
RA107 25%	<u>Developing and Presenting Engineering Design</u> Students will be able to present a portfolio of designs based on a product. They will show a range of engineering design techniques.
RA108 25%	<u>3D Design Realisation</u> Students will have the opportunity to produce a prototype of their designed piece of work. This will be out of a range of materials and processes in the workshop.

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

Mrs S Asghar s.asghar@finhampark2.co.uk and Mrs L Trout l.trout@finhampark2.co.uk

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Why study Food Preparation and Nutrition?

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 specification will cover

- **Cooking skills:** You will improve all aspects of your cooking from organisation, knife skills to presenting dishes that would sit happily in top restaurants. You will get to use top of the range equipment; vacuum chambers, sous vide, ice cream machines, pasta makers and a blast chiller are just some of the amazing resource we have
- **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.

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 and desire to work hard 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:

- Food and Culinary Arts,
- Sport nutrition consultant working with teams or individual athletes.
- Hospitality Business Management with Culinary Arts,
- Professional Cookery,
- Patisserie and Confectionery,
- Food Production and Cooking, Nutrition,
- Animal Nutrition,
- Development chef working for supermarkets and food chains. Can you create the next Nando's best seller?
- Dietetics, working with communities to improve their lives.

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.

Assessment	Weighting	What is it?
NEA 1	15%	Science investigation; students to respond to a brief, plan several investigations and interpret data to prove or disprove a hypothesis. This could be around gelatinisation, the plasticity of fats or impeding factors around non enzymic browning. Think Heston Blumenthal and his TV series ' In search of perfection'
NEA 2	35%	Research, plan and cook 3 dishes in response to a brief. Students will have 3 hours to demonstrate as many high skilled elements to their dishes. This is the Masterchef assessment, amazing food looking like it would fit in any Michelin star restaurant.
Component 3	50%	A terminal theory exam that will assess all theoretical knowledge from the course. Great chefs understand how and why food cooks, emulsifies, coagulates, denatures, dextrinises, this exam puts that to the test.

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

Mr Hartshorn – a.hartshorn@finhampark2.co.uk
Twitter: @ecdfp2

Instagram: the_kitchenfp2

GCSE Geography

Why study 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

Natural Hazards, Urban Issues, Living World

Year 10

Physical landscapes, Economic World, Fieldwork Preparation and Geography skills

Year 11

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, videos, independent research, role-playing and practicing for the final exam! We also will be conducting fieldwork to help us prepare for paper 3. Fieldwork gets us out of the classroom and lets us explore the real world. We will explore a range of locations including country parks, city centres and hopefully have the opportunity to go further afield such as to Plas Dol y Moch in North Wales.

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?

<p><u>Paper 1: Living in the physical environment (35%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Natural Hazards ● Living World ● Physical Landscapes in the UK ● Geographical Skills <p>Written exam 1hr 30mins</p>	<p><u>Paper 2: Living in the human environment (35%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urban Issues ● Economic World ● Resource Management ● Geographical Skills <p>Written exam 1hr 30mins</p>	<p><u>Paper 3: Geographical applications (35%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Issues Evaluation ● Fieldwork ● Geographical Skills <p>Written Exam 1hr 15mins</p>
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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, librarian, 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, army, health service and teaching!

GCSE History

Why study 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.

Who would this course suit?

This course will suit you...

- 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 motives.
- 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 a better, more independent learner, so equipping you for life at A level and beyond.

How can I use this course after Year 11/in the 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 and social research.

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

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

VCERT Interactive Media

Why study Interactive Media?

Interactive Media is all around us – phone apps, websites, presentations, adverts and games. In this course you will develop practical skills in creating these kinds of products and building supporting skills like image, audio and video editing. You will also gain an insight into how marketing and advertising is developed.

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 three day exam 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. There will also be a strong focus on being able to write about and explain our choices and to use industry standard ways of working.

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. The V CERT will be accepted as a grade to enter Sixth Form at Finham Park 2 as well as other colleges and sixth forms.

RSL Music

Why study Music?

Learning music is a meaningful and gratifying experience for students. The mixture of creativity, discipline, and communication that music study demands of our students helps them succeed in school, in society, and in life. Music education enhances learning skills, communication skills, creativity, teamwork, discipline, cultural awareness, respect for others, and self-esteem through personal accomplishment.

Research indicates a positive relationship between studying music and developing spatial skills necessary for math and science learning.

What will I study?

Unit Title: Live Music Performance – External Core Unit Code: 202ta

UNIT AIM Through study of this unit learners will engage with a full live performance project including planning, rehearsal, performance, and evaluation. The skills learned within this unit can be directly applied to any future pursuits in the live music industry.

Unit Title: Musical Knowledge – Internal Core Unit Code: 201ta

UNIT AIM The aim of this unit is to build the learner's musical knowledge and give them the ability to articulate their thoughts and feelings about music using the appropriate industry & theoretical language whilst drawing upon knowledge learned within this unit. Learners will study musical styles and the various distinctive traits that comprise them.

Unit Title: Sound Recording – Internal Optional Unit Code: 206ta

UNIT AIM This unit aims to introduce learners to the sound recording process. The purpose of this unit is to enable the learner to develop a plan and undertake the recording of a piece of music. Learners will be shown the skills needed to record effectively and understand the principles behind the recording process. They will be given the opportunity to learn mixing techniques and then apply these to their own recorded work.

Who would this course suit?

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 practicing on your instrument.

How will my work be assessed?

Controlled assessment / Coursework / Portfolio	Length	When
201 ta 202 ta 203 ta	Approx. 20 hours for each; within lessons	February 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 Physical Education

Why study Physical Education?

Are you interested in learning how the body can be trained to be faster, stronger and more able to perform complex skills? Do you regularly participate in sport or attend an activity club after school? Would you like to explore how your mind can be taught to prepare your body for any situation? Do you want to know how to live a healthy and active lifestyle? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, studying GCSE P.E could be an excellent choice for you.

What will I study?

If you choose to study GCSE P.E, you will get an extra 4 lessons of P.E every two weeks.

However, GCSE P.E has recently changed; 60% of your final grade will now be on Sport Science theory. These topics include physical training methods, applied anatomy and physiology, sport psychology, health, well-being and fitness. Furthermore, the remaining 40% of your grade will be from your practical performance, in three sports of your choosing, and coursework. You can choose from over 40 sports to complete your physical assessments.

Who would this course suit?

There is no 'specific type' of person who will suit this course, and students of all abilities and backgrounds have previously selected it. However, there are two vital areas that will help you succeed at this course:

- 1. Physical ability** – Do you play for a school sports team? Do you regularly attend an active OOSHL club? Do you play for a sports team after school or attend an activity club? If the answer is 'no' to these questions, you might find the physical assessment element of this course too challenging.
- 2. Sports Science Theory** – 60% of this course will be based in the classroom exploring interesting Sport Science topics. This requires an active choice to study, revise and complete a range of research projects as homework. If this is not what you are looking for, an alternative GCSE choice might be worth considering.

How will I learn?

In Year 9, your extra P.E lessons will consist of two practical lessons and two theory lessons. In Years 10 and 11, this will change to three theory lessons and one practical to prepare you for your final exams. Your teacher will teach sessions in the classroom, sports hall, fitness suite and on the MUGA. These lessons have been designed to explore the theory content of this course in an engaging, dynamic and progressive manner. Additionally, you will also be taught new sports such as handball and volleyball, while also exploring existing sports in greater depth to prepare you for your physical assessments.

How will my work be assessed?

If you choose GCSE P.E you will be assessed in three key areas: Sports Science knowledge, practical ability and coursework. In Year 9, you will focus on the first two areas and this will last for the whole academic year. In Years 10 and 11 these areas will continue, with the addition of the coursework element of assessment. This coursework is a training program designed to train you, or a person you have selected, to become a better athlete in your chosen sport.

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?

You may progress from this course into A Level Physical Education or any Science A Level course. This would then lead to a range of exciting sport and science related courses to be studied at University. A few professions that might come from these University courses are: Doctor, Nurse, Strength and Condition Coach, Sports Team Coach, Physiotherapist, Dentist, P.E Teacher, Science Teacher, Biologist and Armed Forces/Civil Service.

Alternatively, if you are uncertain which career you are going to pursue afterschool, choosing to study GCSE P.E will teach you how lead a healthy and active lifestyle as you become an adult and venture out into the world.

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

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

GCSE Product Design

Why study Product Design?

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 both 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%	40 hours in lessons	June/July Yr10 – Feb Yr11
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...

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

GCSE Religious Studies

Why study Religious Studies?

The study of religion is increasingly important in a world where religious belief is a driving force behind social and political events. Religious studies allows pupils to engage with some of the ultimate questions about life:

- What is the meaning of life?
- Why do people suffer?
- Are men and women equal?
- Are science and religion compatible?
- Where does life begin?

It allows pupils to be inspired and enquire themselves about issues and questions that have troubled humans for thousands of years. Religious Studies allows pupils to value diversity and multiculturalism, develop critical thinking as well keeping an open mind on issues and debates.

What will I study?

Edexcel Exam Board

What will this syllabus involve?

The course is mainly split into two sections:

Study of religions

You will study the beliefs, teachings and sources of wisdom in Christianity and Sikhism. This will look at how beliefs and practices interact in real life, as well as the deeper philosophical underpinning behind beliefs.

Thematic Study:

Peace and conflict- including the nature of war, the link between war and religion, weapons of mass destruction, and terrorism

Crime and punishment- including the aims of punishment, reasons for crime, the death penalty, treatment of criminals and importance of justice

Matters of life and death- origins of the universe and life, big bang theory, evolution, abortion, euthanasia, animal rights, pollution and the environment, the relationship between science and religion

Marriage and the family - including ideas on marriage and divorce, contraception, homosexuality, gender equality and gender prejudice and discrimination

Who would this course suit?

Anyone! Religious Studies 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 use critical thinking.

How will I learn, and how will my work be assessed?

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

Examinations	Length	When
Area of Study 1: Religion and Ethics . Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Sikhism alongside the following themes: Matters of Life and Death and Marriage and the Family Area of Study 2: Religion, Peace and Conflict . Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity alongside the following	Written examination: 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of qualification. Written examination: 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of qualification <i>2 exams – 3.5 hours in total</i>	Summer Year 11

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. Independent thinking in a logical and rational manner is a life skill that is required in all walks of life. This can help in the future regardless of whether one wants to pursue further study or begin an apprenticeship. All manner of careers see Religious Studies and 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...

Mr Jandhu – h.jandu@finhampark2.co.uk

Year 9 Options Form 2020-2021

Name.....

Mentor Group.....

All students will study: Mathematics, English, Science and French, Spanish or Mandarin (dependent upon language studied during Years 7 & 8)

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

Other Subjects – You must pick 3 from this in order of preference 1,2 and 3	
Subject	
Art-Fine	
Art -Photography	
Business Studies	
Computing	
Drama	
Engineering	
Food Preparation and Nutrition	
Geography	
History	
Interactive Media	
Music	
Physical Education	
Religious Studies	
Product Design	
Separate Sciences	

<p>Reserve Choices</p> <p>(Must be completed)</p> <p>1) _____</p> <p>2) _____</p>

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/carer: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Teaching 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 website information was useful.		
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?		