

Pathways

Key Stage 4

2025





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Welcome

Deciding which subjects to study is an important and exciting part of being in Year 9, as it gives you the first real opportunity to choose those subjects that interest you and that will help you on your career pathway. We have structured the options to give you a wide range of subjects to choose from to ensure that you will have a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum experience in preparation for your future.

You now have the opportunity to make a decision on some of the subjects that you will study at the Academy for the next two years. The process of choosing your options is designed to be as simple as possible to enable you to select the subjects that you enjoy, giving you the best chance of being successful during Years 10 and 11. This booklet is designed to help you to make these choices, it contains details of the courses we offer in Key Stage 4.

Students will not be able to change subjects once they have started their studies in Year 10 unless there are exceptional circumstances to support this change. This is why it is essential that you make the right decisions from the very beginning.

Talking through your subject choices with any of the following people is also an essential part of the process:

- Your parents, who know you best
- Other family members or people you see regularly
- Your teachers who can tell you how well you are progressing in the subjects you are studying at present
- Your form tutor
- Any member of the Senior Leadership Team

By selecting courses in this booklet you are choosing subjects that will build upon your strengths over the next two years. The Key Stage 4 courses will be examined in different ways and using a range of examination boards. The decision about which examination board and which type of course you will study will be made by the Academy based on a variety of factors including:

- The makeup of the final class group
- Specification details
- Government approval of courses (this can change mid-course)

All decisions made will support all students to achieve the very best outcomes possible, and to allow the broadest selection of routes to the next stage of their education, whatever that might be.

Timeline

To support the decision, when selecting options we have a series of planned events. The Year 9 options process will launch during the week commencing **Monday 24 February 2025**.

- **Year 9 Assembly Options Launch** to students on **Tuesday 25 February 2025**
- **By Thursday 27 February** students select taster sessions in four subjects, that will take place during week commencing **10 March**

Option choices will be selected online by students through a link on the school website. You will be notified when this facility becomes available.

- **Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 13 March 2025, between 4.30pm - 7.30pm**
- **Year 9 Options Evening on Wednesday 19 March 2025, between 5.00pm - 6.30pm**

Information about options will also be available online via the academy website.

The SENDCo is available for individual meetings for parents of students with additional needs. If you would like a meeting, please contact SEND@southaxholme-iet.co.uk

We aim to confirm individual student choices, for their provisional Key Stage 4 study programme as soon as we have processed all the option forms, this is normally at the start of the summer term.

Whilst we try to ensure that every student gets their first choice, this will depend on levels of demand, availability of staffing and facilities, therefore, some students may have to study their reserve subject choices.

For this reason, we ask you to make your reserve choices carefully. **Students will select a reserve Option in each block.**

Please note should a subject be undersubscribed this may mean this subject will not run.



Pathways

The structure of the Key Stage 4 pathways shows the ambition that we have for all of our students, as well as meeting their individual learning needs. We recognise that our students have different strengths; some students may excel on traditional academic courses whilst others will embrace the opportunity for a more applied or vocational approach to a subject.

We want every student to finish Year 11 with a broad set of qualifications that will take them on to their next stage, whether that is employment, training or Post 16 study. All Level 2 qualifications offered (GCSE and equivalent) can lead to Level 3 study (Further Education / A levels).

All students will follow the core curriculum of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science, Core Physical Education and Core Religious Education / General Studies. The remaining periods on the timetable will comprise of the option subjects. Students should select a **first choice** and a **reserve choice** for each block.

- *Forbidden combination - you cannot select both Geography and History*
- *Spanish - if you select Spanish you must select either Geography or History or Triple Science*
- *If a subject is oversubscribed the following criteria will be applied:*
 1. *Disadvantaged / vulnerable students will be prioritised*
 2. *Randomly allocated*

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4
Geography	Art	Art	Child Development
History	Construction	Computer Science	Construction
Spanish	Geography	Engineering	Photography
	History	Food & Nutrition	Triple Science
	Food & Nutrition	Health & Social Care	Sports Science
	iMedia	Music	Performing Arts-Specialising in Acting
	Engineering	GCSE PE	Performing Arts-Specialising in Dance
	Photography	Religious Education	Business
	GCSE Drama	Sports Science	
	Business	Photography	



How do you choose

Which subjects to study?

- Read all the subject information in this booklet
- Talk to your teachers at Parents' Evening and the Options Evening
- Speak to other SAX students who you know are studying the subjects you are interested in
- Research which subjects you need to study for the post 16 courses and career area you are interested in
- Discuss your choices at home
- Complete the form
- Follow the instructions on the form for making your choice(s)

Some things to think about:

- Don't choose a subject or course just because your friends do
- What are your strong subjects?
- What are your weak subjects?
- Do you enjoy practical tasks? Or research and reading? Or writing essays?
- Are you well organised and able to meet deadlines?
- Be careful not to close any doors at this stage because you may well change your mind about your future career later

The answers to these questions should help with your choices, but you can also talk to your teachers and your parents or carers. If you have any questions about careers, please contact Associate Assistant Principal, Miss Jacklin. If you have any questions regarding the English Baccalaureate please contact Associate Assistant Principal, Mr Atkins. For general questions regarding the options process please contact the Academy.

Enrichment activities

Alongside their academic studies we actively encourage all Key Stage 4 students to continue their involvement in activities beyond the curriculum, as we strongly believe that they will develop students' confidence, drive and initiative, preparing them to enter, succeed and progress in the world of work.

For example: Duke of Edinburgh, extra-curricular drama, music and sport. Continued involvement beyond the curriculum will support student achievement of the South Axholme Pledges which have been designed to develop resilience, readiness and a desire to achieve excellence.

What is the

English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate provides students with a Key Stage 4 curriculum that has a core of academic subjects that are regarded as a desirable foundation for future studies at Post 16. The EBacc suite of subjects link closely with the facilitating subjects at A level which are sought by some universities which is worth bearing in mind when deciding which subjects to study. You do not need to have studied all of these subjects to go to university, but having your GCSE choices steered towards EBacc subjects will help to keep your options open.

EBacc subject requirements:

- English (and/or English Literature)
- Mathematics
- GCSE Sciences; Combined Science or Triple Science / Computer Science
- History or Geography
- A foreign language

The Department for Education have produced the information on pages 10 and 11 about the EBacc for parents and students.

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HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and help keep options for young people open:

- **English language and English literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**
Combined science or 3 single sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Computer science
- **History or Geography**
- **A language**
Ancient or modern

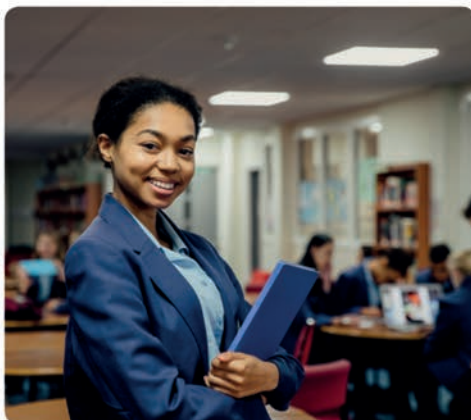
WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.



The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,
August 2017

LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and, while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

"Having language skills under your belt will help make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton

The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

"Young people skilled in the languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce

WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.

Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly — they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.

Learning Support

Throughout Years 10 and 11 support continues to be based on individual needs.

The majority of learning support in Years 10 and 11 takes place within the classroom; either by working with Assistant Teachers, in small groups using resources to support learning such as laptops, or by special examination arrangements. The focus is always on developing independent work habits and self-reliance.

Examination Concessions

Throughout a student's time at South Axholme Academy, evidence will continue to be gathered to ascertain whether any student requires reasonable adjustments/access arrangements for their GCSEs.

Once sufficient evidence is received from their teachers, and we are satisfied this is the student's normal way of working, they will be submitted for testing during Years 10 and 11. The timing of these assessments is delayed until then as the results are only valid for 26 months.

The decision to award concessions for individuals does not rest with the Academy but is decided by the relevant Awarding Body (Examination Board).

Grading of GCSEs

Examinations in reformed English Language, English Literature and mathematics GCSEs were taken for the first time in 2017. These were graded from 9 to 1, instead of A* to G. This new grading system applied to all GCSE subjects from 2019 onwards.

Statistical predictions were used to ensure there was alignment between the new and old grading structures, so that:

- Broadly the same proportion of students achieved a grade 4 and above as previously achieved a grade C and above
- Broadly the same proportion of students achieved a grade 7 and above as previously achieved a grade A and above
- The same proportion of students achieved a grade 1 and above as previously achieved a grade G and above

The government's definition of a "good" or "strong" pass is a grade 5, although a grade 4 may still be considered as a 'standard pass'.

Moving forwards, different Post 16 providers (6th Forms, colleges, apprenticeships) have their own requirements regarding what they consider to be a pass / entry requirement.

It is worth considering where you might want to study after your GCSEs and what you need to achieve to gain a place on the next step of your educational journey.

Other subjects such as BTEC qualifications have a grading system which has an equivalence in point's value.



Core Curriculum

The following pages give an overview of the core subjects that you will study:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science
- Physical Education
- Religious Education



English Language

This exciting course will develop your abilities to communicate effectively in speech and writing and to listen with understanding.

The skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening are of vital importance in many areas. Not only are they essential in many careers, they also underpin successful study at all levels and can add immeasurably to an individual's quality of life.

Within a varied and rich programme which develops both speaking and listening skills as well as reading and writing, you will be given the opportunity to:

- Talk and listen in a variety of contexts and for a range of purpose, adapting to different audiences and situations
- Read critically and apply knowledge gained from wider reading to inform and improve writing skills
- Write for a range of purposes and in a variety of forms using Standard English appropriately
- Use grammar correctly and punctuate and spell accurately
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language

The Spoken Language Endorsement:

- You will listen to and understand spoken language and use spoken Standard English effectively in a wide range of contexts



English Literature

This course will encourage you to become an enthusiastic, responsive and knowledgeable reader. You will be asked to consider the cultural and historical contexts of a range of literary texts and to reflect on a variety of social, political and ethical issues. These texts will include works from the English Literary Heritage including poetry, nineteenth century texts and Shakespeare plays. Developing new skills in critical and analytical reading will allow you to articulate your own views in writing and in discussion, at the same time encouraging you to consider critically and constructively the views of others.

You will be given the opportunity to:

- Read a wide range of classic literature fluently and with good understanding, and make connections across your reading
- Read in depth, critically and evaluatively so that you are able to discuss and explain your understanding and ideas
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often
- Appreciate the depth and power of the English Literary Heritage
- Write accurately, effectively and analytically about your reading, using Standard English
- Acquire and use a wide vocabulary including the technical terminology and other literary and linguistic terms you will need to criticise and analyse texts



Mathematics

Mathematics is a key component in your education and will enable you to:

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context

Many of the topics that are studied will be familiar to you, but these topics are developed and explored further. New topics are also introduced and these are designed to help you to progress and reach your potential. You will also focus on developing skills and processes in order to apply them confidently to problem solving. This is a key element of the course requiring you to make decisions based on sound reasoning and develop strategies which will enable you to apply what you have learned to practical and real-life problems.

The main topics of study are:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change
- Geometry and Measures
- Probability and Statistics

The curriculum is differentiated by your classroom teacher who will personalise the course content for your teaching group and for individual students. Progress will be closely monitored and student movement is discussed on a regular basis at departmental meetings.

Classwork consists of a range of teaching resources and strategies, such as group work, problem solving and the effective use of text books and differentiated worksheets. There is a constant process of assessment in the classroom through the use of questioning and mini whiteboards, as well as regular termly assessments to review progress and inform future planning. Independent learning (homework) is set on a regular basis and we expect all students to complete this. This can either be written or online using your own personal login to the software package Mathswatch. There are a range of support facilities for you outside of the classroom; these include access to computers to complete online homework and access to the Mathswatch site to access video clips to support your learning.

Combined Science

Science will encourage you to be inspired, motivated and challenged. It will encourage you to develop your curiosity about the biological, material and physical worlds and provide insight into and experience of how science works.

You will be able to engage with science in your everyday life and to make informed choices about further study in science and related disciplines and career choices.

During the course you will develop your:

- Knowledge and understanding of science
- Understanding of the effects of science on society
- Understanding of the importance of scale in science
- Knowledge and understanding of the nature of science and of the scientific process
- Understanding of the relationships between hypotheses, evidence, theories and explanations
- Awareness of risk and the ability to assess potential risk in the context of potential benefits
- Observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem solving skills and understanding in the laboratory and other learning environments
- Ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions both qualitatively and quantitatively
- Skills in communication, mathematics and the use of technology in scientific contexts



Core Physical Education

You will participate in two lessons of practical sport and have the opportunity to undertake a variety of roles such as participant, coach and official.

The aim of core physical education is to ensure that you:

- Develop the competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities
- Are physically active for sustained periods of time
- Engage in competitive sports and activities
- Lead healthy, active lives

You will tackle complex and demanding physical activities and get involved in a range of activities that develop personal fitness and promote active, healthy lifestyles.

You will be taught to:

- Use and develop a variety of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in team and individual games (for example badminton, cricket, football, hockey, netball and rugby)
- Develop your technique and improve performance in other competitive sports, for example, athletics
- Evaluate your performance and demonstrate improvement across a range of physical activities to achieve your personal best
- Continue to take part regularly in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs

Core Religious Education

Students will study Religious Education through the general studies and tutor time programme. All students will extend and deepen their knowledge and understanding of religions and worldviews, reflecting local, national and global contexts. Building on their prior learning, they appreciate and appraise the nature of different religions and worldviews in systematic ways. They will use a wide range of concepts in the field of Religious Studies confidently and flexibly to interpret, contextualise and analyse the expressions of religions and worldviews they encounter.

Option Choices

Depending on the most appropriate pathway for you, you will be able to select subjects from the list below. Subjects will be examined at GCSE level or equivalent or Level 1 as appropriate to you and your pathway.

- Art
- Business
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Construction
- Drama GCSE
- Engineering
- Food and Nutrition
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- iMedia
- Music
- Performing Arts - Specialising in Acting or Dance
- Photography
- Physical Education GCSE
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Sports Science
- Triple Science (*this will be in addition to your Combined Science lessons*)

Art

Art is a subject which allows for expression in a unique and personal way. You will have the opportunity to develop in confidence, experimenting with new materials and ideas. Your projects will relate to your personal experiences and your surrounding environments, creating art that is based on your own interests. The course has been designed to allow you to develop knowledge and understanding during the course through a variety of learning experiences and approaches, including engagement with sources. This will allow you to develop the skills to explore, create and communicate your own ideas.

You will demonstrate these skills through the development, refinement, recording, realisation and presentation of your ideas through a portfolio and by responding to an externally set assignment.

You may choose one or more of the following areas to look at in your projects:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Mixed media

You may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas.

Business

Lord Alan Sugar never studied business, but as a business magnate and political advisor he thinks all students now should.

Business explores the contemporary business environment and allows students to problem solve in many different topic areas. You will learn about topics like marketing, managing people, and handling money. These are fascinating areas that show you how companies grow and succeed. You will pick up skills like teamwork, problem solving and planning skills, that are valuable no matter what career you choose. You will also study real live examples of business, making the lessons feel relevant and interesting.

Business is a perfect complement to the humanities subjects like history and geography. It also sits well alongside mathematics and information and computing technology-based studies, particularly if you think you might want to work in business, banking, finance, or law. Across the two years we make application of learning through field trips to enrich learning.

The specific course will be decided when option choices have been selected.



Child Development

The child development course provides students with the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills needed to enter the childcare and other care related professions.

Many different factors affect the development of children. By studying this qualification, you will gain a basic understanding of the needs of a child at different stages of their life. By studying this qualification, you will:

- Gain an understanding of the health and well-being for child development
- Understand the development of a child from one to five years
- Learn how to create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years

The knowledge and skills you develop whilst studying this course will help you to progress onto further study in the care sector and to follow careers in care related professions such as:

- Nursery assistant
- Early years teacher
- Child minder
- Classroom support worker
- Health visitor
- Play worker

The qualification also helps to develop other transferable skills, such as research and communication skills that will be valuable in other life and work situations.



Computer Science

What is Computer Science and why study it?

The jobs of Social Media Manager, App Designer and Cloud Computing Specialist did not exist 15 years ago. Many jobs that will exist by 2035 haven't been invented yet!

The vast majority of us use computers in our day-to-day lives for everything from gaming and communicating by email or on social media, to finding information, paying our bills and shopping. Computer Science gives you more advanced skills so you can make computers work for you. It gives you a wide range of skills you can apply in other subjects and opens doorways to many new and emerging career paths.

Computer Science is learning how computer systems work, from the hardware used to creating a computer and the networks that connect everything together, to the software, such as the apps and programs that users interact with. You also learn the skills to use computational thinking effectively in many situations and Python Programming to help solve problems.

What will I do on the course?

When you study Computer Science at GCSE, it is split into two sections which are both written examinations, each worth 50% of your final mark.

The first section, Computer Systems, involves how a computer works, including hardware and software elements as well as networks and security. You will also learn the concepts of binary and hexadecimal as well as studying ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology.

The second section is computational thinking, algorithms and programming using Python. This also includes Boolean logic, flow charts and pseudocode. You will learn how to apply your knowledge of programming techniques such as sequence, selection, iteration, storing data in arrays and using functions and procedures, to apply them to real-life scenarios in order to find the solution to a problem.

The course encompasses key skills which will equip you for this ever changing digital society. You will gain confidence in working independently and show your resilience and determination to succeed when your code crashes (and it will!), to find other solutions.

Construction

Discover the rewarding world of construction with this hands-on, engaging course designed to equip you with both practical skills and essential academic knowledge. From mastering the art of bricklaying, carpentry, and tiling to understanding the inner workings of the construction industry, this course sets you on the path to a promising future in the trade of your choice.

Build your future

Construction opens doors to a wide range of career opportunities, whether you aspire to be an architect, quantity surveyor, or skilled tradesperson. With endless possibilities, this course offers a foundation for success in the construction industry.

Health and safety meets practical skills

- Learn how to safely and effectively complete bricklaying, carpentry, and tiling projects, contributing 60% of your final grade

Practical and problem-solving expertise

- Gain real-world skills while combining academic knowledge to tackle construction challenges

Career-ready knowledge

- Understand the broader construction industry, including how to plan, budget, and meet deadlines for diverse projects

Course highlights

- Develop expertise in essential trades like bricklaying, carpentry and tiling
- Explore career pathways in construction, from skilled labor to professional roles
- Work on real-world projects that prepare you for the demands of the industry

The perfect start for a career in construction

This course is your gateway to the construction world, offering practical experience, project management skills, and industry insights. Whether you are interested in working on-site or pursuing a professional role, this course lays a strong foundation for your future.



Drama GCSE

GCSE Drama is the study of acting and theatre. You do not have to want to become an actor to take this course as the transferable skills you gain will help you across a wide range of subjects and in your future. Through Drama, you will be creative, reflective and collaborative in a safe controlled space. Students will become more confident, will learn to see situations from different viewpoints and develop qualities that are assets in all aspects of life.

The emphasis on this course is practical work, where students learn through doing. The course will involve public performances to showcase their skills development work, however there is an element of theory that goes alongside the practical learning.

There are 3 components of this course:

- 1 Devising** - How to create a performance using stimulus - documenting and evaluating your process.
- 2 Performance** - How to successfully perform pieces of a professional repertoire.
- 3 Analysis** – How to review performance work (both your own and the professionals) and evaluate the effectiveness of a range of elements that create the production.

You need to be able to work as part of a team, and independently when performing, writing and learning a variety of different scripts, duologues and monologues.

This is an exciting course for those who have a passion for theatre, or for those who love to learn.

You will learn about:

- Movement skills, body awareness, co-ordination and spatial awareness
- Blocking/choreography and interaction with other performers on stage and backstage
- Improvisational skills which are used to develop character or a situation, or to experiment with text- based material and stimuli
- Vocal skills of breath control, clarity, projection, interpretation and characterisation
- Use of text/script and how to interpret narrative, character, style, gestures and timing for performance
- Researching the work of others and selecting relevant influences on your own work
- Evaluating the effectiveness of your own work and that of others in both the process of development and performance
- Rehearsal schedules and techniques
- Exploring how technical and design elements can enhance a performance
- Develop the skills required for performing understanding the importance of rehearsals in the development of these skills
- Prepare, perform and evaluate your performances and take into consideration the needs of the audience

Engineering

Engineering is the practice of using materials to solve technical problems, increase efficiency and productivity and to improve systems.

This course is a fantastic opportunity to learn essential skills in Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Manufacture. Students will gain valuable experience in understanding engineering drawings and developing fitting, milling, and turning skills. It is crucial for them to plan their work effectively, covering aspects like quality control, health and safety, and the timing of each process.

Assessment will take place through two pieces of coursework, alongside an examination at the end of Year 11. In Year 10, students will manufacture a one-off piece that will be formally assessed.

Then, in Year 11 the assessment focus will be on Computer Aided Design (CAD). The final examination will evaluate their knowledge of various topics, including material properties and manufacturing techniques.

For safety, some students may wish to purchase their own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as goggles and gloves, ensuring they are well-prepared for the hands-on elements of the course.



Food Preparation & Nutrition

The Food Preparation and Nutrition course focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure that students develop greater understanding of nutrition, food provenance and working characteristics of food materials. At the heart of the qualification is a focus on developing practical skills and a robust understanding of nutrition.

What skills will I learn?

This is a GCSE course with a strong practical focus. You will master a variety of technical skills and become proficient in the kitchen. In addition, you will develop an in-depth knowledge of feed science, food safety, food choice, nutrition and health. You will also develop transferable skills such as: analysis, evaluation, communication skills, working independently, time management, the ability to interpret information and data.

What will I study?

The Food and Nutrition GCSE will help you to develop a greater understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. This is an exciting and creative course, which will allow you to demonstrate your practical skills and make connections between theory and practice.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

1. Food, nutrition and health
2. Food source
3. Food safety
4. Food choice
5. Food provenance

How will I be assessed?

All formal assessment takes place during Year 11. However, you will complete assessments throughout Year 10 and Year 11.

There will be one examination for this qualification, which will assess your knowledge of the theory behind food preparation and nutrition. The examination will be 1 hour 45 minutes long and this will make up 50 % of the overall grade.

The second part of the assessment will be non-examination assessment (NEA) and will consist of two tasks, involving practical work. This will make up 50% of the overall grade.

Please note that there is a cost implication to this course as you will cook every week. Ingredients for practical work are not provided by the Academy and must be brought from home.

Geography

"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future" - Michael Palin

Studying geography will give you the opportunity to travel the world via the classroom, learning about both natural and social sciences along the way.

If you are interested in the nature of the physical world and our dynamic relationships with it, then geography is the subject for you.

Learn about your place in the world and the factors that have led, and are leading to the changing world around us. Major and urgent current issues such as globalisation, climate change and environmental damage will be discussed, giving you insight into the Earth, its people and the inter-relationships that bind them together.

As well as classroom based learning, you will have the opportunity to develop your investigation skills through fieldwork in exciting locations. We can support you with your studies equipping you with many of the key skills employers and universities value.

There are a huge variety of careers where you can build on the skills you will develop on a geography course including; architect, earth scientist, coastal engineer, social worker, teacher, banker, lawyer, surveyor, estate agent, town planner, travel agent, tv researcher and holiday representative.



Health & Social Care

The health and social care sector is vast and within this field there are a diverse range of career opportunities for healthcare professionals. There are many different factors that affect your health and well-being, from your work life to a balanced diet.

You will learn about life stages and the factors that affect them. You will understand expected and unexpected life events and the impact they will have on physical, social/emotional and socio-economic aspects in an individual's life.

Additionally, you will examine different health promotion campaigns and learn about their benefits to society.

You will learn the essential values of care and the importance of communication and working with individuals in all health and social care and early years' settings.

Many of the topics covered are very relevant to people's lives. The health and social care course is designed to give you the knowledge, understanding and competency needed when considering entering employment in the health and social care sector.

It is designed to allow progression to further education or to follow careers in health related professions such as:

- Nursing (child/adult/mental)
- Physiotherapy
- Midwifery
- Occupational therapy
- Child development/psychiatry

History

"Never forget the importance of history. To know nothing of what happened before you took your place on Earth is to remain a child for ever and ever"

History is the study of the past and how it has influenced our present. You will learn about the choices that our ancestors made, why they made those choices and the impact that this had on the present. Have you ever wondered where our laws come from? Or why the German people elected Hitler as their leader? Examination of the past helps us to answer these questions and to investigate the impact of history upon the world today.

In order to study history, you will need a strong interest in the subject and the ability to work independently and communicate ideas clearly. By studying history in Key Stage 4, you will acquire and develop a wide range of transferable skills which are valued by employers. For example, you will improve your ability to analyse information, develop your written communication, prove you can tackle problems intelligently and express your own opinions.

History at South Axholme Academy covers a broad range of exciting topics:

Crime and Punishment: 1000- present, Environmental study of Whitechapel and Jack the Ripper, The American West, Anglo Saxon and Norman England and Weimar & Nazi Germany.

You will also investigate historical themes including change and continuity, cause and consequence, significance and different interpretations of the past.

The study of history will provide many opportunities for future learning and equip you with the skills needed in a modern educational environment or workplace.

For example, many people who have qualifications in history now work in management positions, including careers in law, teaching, medicine, finance, and journalism. History is also a huge leisure interest and will provide opportunities for work in the tourism and heritage industries.

iMedia

What is iMedia?

The Cambridge National in iMedia is designed to develop knowledge, understanding and practical skills that would be used in the media industry. This encompasses traditional media such as TV/film, radio, magazines and newspapers and also the new media of computer games, interactive media (apps), the Internet and digital publishing (websites).

What will I do on the course?

In iMedia, there are 3 sections to the course. The first is a written examination on the media industry, factors influencing product design, codes and conventions of different type of media as well as research methods, impact on audiences and finally pre-production methods, distribution, legal issues and health and safety.

The skills taught in the first section will be used in the second section, which is coursework based. You are given the details of a client and are asked to design and produce a visual identity for a company along with the digital graphic products they require.

You will use your learning to design logos and colour schemes for their product as well as planning and creating original digital graphics, such as an advertisement.

The final section is also coursework based, we get several options to choose from in terms of what you will produce. We are currently offering comic design; producing a multi-page comic for a client on a topic of the exam boards choice.

You will need imagination and some artistic ability in order to produce digital media products for your coursework. You will need to show determination to work independently, and the desire to succeed by learning to use new software to produce your products.

Music

Music is a multi-faceted subject which involves academic study, creativity and the development of practical skills. The Eduqas GCSE Music course allows development and progression in the areas of performing, composing and appraisal, in order to become a confident, well-rounded musician.

Performing:

- Improving on your instrument
- Development of your music-reading skills and understanding of theory
- Performing solo
- Performing in an ensemble with others
- Understanding of melody and harmony
- Developing on a second instrument, with particular focus on keyboard skills and the voice
- If you do not play a traditional instrument, singing or DJing are both options we can explore

Composing:

- Learning to write music in different styles and for different purposes
- Understanding genres and being able to identify key features
- Understanding the development of music through time
- Create your own music using different approaches, techniques and technology
- Learning compositional techniques and applying them to your own music

Appraisal:

- Listening to music and developing the skills to be able to identify key features and techniques used by the composer
- An in-depth understanding of the development of music from both the western, classical, tradition and popular styles of music
- The ability to critique the music of others and adapt ideas into your own work
- Learn about key composers and musicians who have had significant impact on the history of music and the music industry

The percentage of your GCSE grade linking to appraisal will be determined by assessment, usually in the form of a written exam.

It is recommended that you already have some instrumental experience to take this course, though not essential. It is essential students are having lessons on an instrument, either in or out of school, during your GCSE years to ensure your progress in performance.

Performing Arts

Specialising in Acting or Drama

This is the course to take if you are passionate about Performing Arts. It is a huge help if you have previous performing arts experience but students who are genuinely interested, want to perform, are open minded and above all are enthusiastic can do well on this course.

Skills required:

Performance Skills: You will learn how to improve your technical and expressive skills through analysis, practical workshops and performance. You will learn how to perform within a group and alone

Devising Skills: You will be taught the elements that make an interesting piece of performance in a practical format - learning through exploration. You will have lots of opportunities to make up your own pieces in differing group sizes (e.g. whole class, trios, and solos) and in a variety of styles.

Analysis Skills: The focus of this course is definitely practical, however there is a large quantity of theory work that goes alongside each element. Some of this is completed in lessons and some set for homework, which will build on and further enhance your practical experience. This course is a **BTEC** with three components, two of which are internally assessed and one which is externally assessed.

There are three components on the course:

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30% of your final qualification grade)

Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Performance (30% of your final qualification grade)

Component 3: Responding to a Brief (40% of your final qualification grade)

There will be two options, and you will choose one to specialise in:

Dance: This option will be taught solely as Dance, however, you will analyse musicals for some of the theory lessons. You will explore dance techniques from different dance styles, learn repertoire created by professionals, master how to create an interesting piece of choreography using a variety of stimuli and how to analyse a piece of dance, and the production roles involved in creating the performance production.

Acting: This option will be taught solely as acting; however, you will analyse musicals for some of the theory lessons. You will explore acting techniques from different genres, learn repertoire created by professionals, master how to create an interesting piece of performance using a variety of stimuli and how to analyse a piece of theatre and the production roles involved in creating the performance production.

Photography

Photography offers a modern vehicle for self-expression, encouraging the ability to observe, select and interpret with imagination. Your projects will relate to your personal experiences and your surrounding environments creating art that is based on your own interests.

GCSE Photography not only involves taking part in photoshoots, but digitally manipulating the photos to achieve new outcomes.

The course has been designed to allow you to develop knowledge and understanding during the course through a variety of learning experiences and approaches, including engagement with sources. This will allow you to develop the skills to explore, create and communicate your own ideas.

You will demonstrate these skills through the development, refinement, recording, realisation and presentation of your ideas through a portfolio and by responding to an externally set assignment.

You may choose one or more of the following areas to look at in your projects:

- Portraiture
- Location photography
- Studio photography
- Experimental imagery
- Installation
- Documentary photography
- Photo-journalism
- Fashion photography

You may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas.

Physical Education GCSE

GCSE PE is a course which looks in great detail at:

- Applying anatomy and physiology of physical training
- The socio-cultural influences, sports psychology and health, fitness and well being

At the end of these two units students sit two external examinations which contributes to 60% of the course. The remainder of the course is to write an in-depth Analysing and Evaluation Performance (AEP) coursework task which contributes 10% and the final 30% which is based on the student's practical ability.

Students must be able to demonstrate a high level of competence in three practical activities (some of these activities can be offsite e.g. skiing). A full list of these is dependent upon the examination boards' specification, although all students will participate in a range of activities which will be completed in-school.

The course provides an ideal platform for students who want to pursue A Level Physical Education / Sports Studies at post 16 or who are thinking about a career in elite sport coaching or development.



Religious Studies

Religious Studies encourages students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills to engage in debate and discussion about life in modern society. This includes developing an understanding of both religious and non-religious beliefs.

Religious Studies interweaves with Psychology and Sociology, so will be of relevance to anyone with an interest in people. Students will be encouraged to develop their personal values and beliefs, with an emphasis on critical analysis and the ability to construct balanced and informed arguments within the context of religious, philosophical and ethical awareness.

What will I Study?

Component 1: Religious, philosophical and ethical studies in the modern world.

- Issues of relationships
- Issues of human rights
- Issues of good and evil
- Issues of life and death

Component 2: Christianity - beliefs, teachings and practices.

Component 3: The study of one additional major world faith - beliefs, teachings and practices.

How will I be Assessed?

The course will be examined through 100% examination.

- Component 1 - 50%
- Component 2 and 3 - 25% each

Where can it lead?

Britain is increasingly a multi-cultural, multi-faith society. This course helps you to develop consideration and appreciation for the cultures of others and tolerance for their customs. Also, you will learn to respect the moral duty humans have towards one another and the search for justice and fairness.

Employers are looking for people with an enquiring mind and an appreciation of different viewpoints from which to make a balanced and informed decision. Knowledge of other cultures is advantageous when seeking work involving people.

Religious Studies can help to lead in pathways such as care work, teaching, social work, journalism, publishing, policing, nurse work, health, catering and leisure and tourism (at home and abroad) as well as other jobs which require, at some time, a broader understanding of different cultures and their customs.

Spanish

By continuing to study Spanish you will build on the listening, reading, writing and speaking skills you have already developed throughout Key Stage 3. You will develop your knowledge and understanding of the language and enhance your cultural appreciation of Spain and the Spanish speaking world. You will not only gain the valuable skill of being able to communicate with people from other countries, but you will also improve your English skills as you begin to understand the structure of a language and how the different elements fit together.

Learning a language is a skill that will last you a lifetime. It is the most popular option on adult education courses as people become more aware of the necessity of being multilingual. It is a skill that is appreciated by Higher Education establishments, regardless of which subject you choose to study post 18, and it is a skill that is highly valued by employers with 70% of businesses in the UK acknowledging that their employees lack the language skills required to help their businesses grow.

Apart from learning Spanish, you will also develop other skills: communication skills, listening skills, problem solving, the ability to spot patterns and think logically, enhanced memory skills and the ability to use your initiative. You will also learn that with perseverance comes success and enjoy the sense of pride and satisfaction in succeeding in an area that is traditionally considered difficult. Learning a language is a skill that can lead you into many areas of employment, such as journalism, broadcasting, teaching, sales and marketing, finance, civil service and law.

A language is often considered a good subject to have alongside another subject and many universities encourage their students to study a language as an extra module to a main degree.

The format of the lessons will be similar to those you have already been studying. You will continue to use course books, reading and listening materials that have been produced especially for learners of Spanish and authentic resources that are aimed at native speakers.

You will learn the language through the following themes:

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

You will need to be willing to take an active part in the lessons and not be afraid to take risks and make mistakes. We will expect you to be dedicated and work collaboratively with other people as well as independently. It will be essential to practise your language skills regularly and you must be prepared to work hard to succeed.

Sports Science

This course gives you the opportunity to develop sports sector specific knowledge and skills in both a practical and theoretical learning environment. The focus is on three main areas listed below.

R180: Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions

In this unit, students will learn how to prepare participants to take part in physical activity in a way which minimises the risk of injuries occurring; prepare them to be able to react to common injuries that can occur during sport and physical activity and to recognise the symptoms of some common medical conditions.

R181: Applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance

Students will learn how to conduct a range of fitness tests, what they test and their advantages and disadvantages. They will also learn how to design, plan and evaluate a fitness training programme. This will give them the background knowledge they need to be able to plan and deliver appropriate fitness tests, some of which will be adapted to suit the skills of the sporting activity.

Students will then interpret the data collected from fitness tests and learn how best to feed this back so that participants can go on to make informed decisions about their fitness training.

R183: Nutrition and sports performance

In this unit, students will learn to consider the composition of healthy, balanced nutrition. They will consider the necessity of certain nutrients and their role in enabling effective performance in different sporting activities. The knowledge gained will be used to produce an appropriate, effective nutrition plan for a performer.

This course will give you an excellent foundation to make informed choices at post 16 should you have an interest in pursuing an A level course or alternative level 3 sports course.

Triple Science Biology

Biology is the science of living organisms (including animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms) and their interactions with each other and the environment.

The study of biology involves collecting and interpreting information about the natural world to identify patterns and relate possible cause and effect.

Biological information is used to help humans improve their own lives and strive to create a sustainable world for future generations.

You will be helped to understand how, through the ideas of biology, the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas which are of universal application and which can be illustrated in the separate topics.

These ideas include:

- Life processes depend on molecules whose structure is related to their function
- The fundamental units of living organisms are cells, which may be part of highly adapted structures including tissues, organs and organ systems, enabling living processes to be performed effectively
- Living organisms may form populations of single species, communities of many species and ecosystems, interacting with each other, with the environment and with humans in many different ways
- Living organisms are interdependent and show adaptations to their environment
- Life on Earth is dependent on photosynthesis in which green plants and algae trap light from the Sun to fix carbon dioxide and combine it with hydrogen from water to make organic compounds and oxygen
- Organic compounds are used as fuels in cellular respiration to allow the other chemical reactions necessary for life
- The chemicals in ecosystems are continually cycling through the natural world
- The characteristics of a living organism are influenced by its genome and its interaction with the environment
- Evolution occurs by a process of natural selection and accounts both for biodiversity and how organisms are all related to varying degrees

Triple Science

Chemistry

Chemistry is the science of the composition, structure, properties and reactions of matter, understood in terms of atoms, atomic particles and the way they are arranged and link together. It is concerned with the synthesis, formulation, analysis and characteristic properties of substances and materials of all kinds.

You will be helped to appreciate the achievements of chemistry in showing how the complex and diverse phenomena of both the natural and man-made worlds can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas which are of universal application and which can be illustrated in the separate topics.

These ideas include:

- Matter is composed of tiny particles called atoms and there are about 100 different naturally occurring types of atoms called elements
- Elements show periodic relationships in their chemical and physical properties
- These periodic properties can be explained in terms of the atomic structure of the elements
- Atoms bond by either transferring electrons from one atom to another or by sharing electrons
- The shapes of molecules (groups of atoms bonded together) and the way giant structures are arranged is of great importance in terms of the way they behave
- There are barriers to reaction so reactions occur at different rates Chemical reactions take place in only three different ways:
 - Proton transfer
 - Electron transfer
 - Electron sharing
- Energy is conserved in chemical reactions so can therefore be neither created or destroyed

Triple Science

Physics

Physics is the science of the fundamental concepts of field, force, radiation and particle structures which are inter-linked to form unified models of the behaviour of the material universe. From such models, a wide range of ideas from the broadest issue of the development of the universe over time to the numerous and detailed ways in which new technologies may be invented, have emerged.

These have enriched both our basic understanding of, and our many adaptations to, our material environment.

You will be helped to understand how, through the ideas of physics, the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas which are of universal application and which can be illustrated in the separate topics.

These ideas include:

- The use of models, as in the particle model of matter or the wave models of light and of sound
- The concept of cause and effect in explaining such links as those between force and acceleration, or between changes in atomic nuclei and radioactive emissions
- The phenomena of 'action at a distance' and the related concept of the field as the key to analysing electrical, magnetic and gravitational effects
- That differences, for example between pressures or temperatures or electrical potentials, are the drivers of change
- That proportionality, for example between weight and mass of an object or between force and extension in a spring, is an important aspect of many models in science
- That physical laws and models are expressed in mathematical form





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