



Options

2015 - 2018

**Helping you make
the right choices!**







Options 2015 - 2018

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My Future at Churchill Community College

This is a really exciting time for you, for the first time in your school career you will be given a choice as to which subjects you would like to study in Years 9, 10 and 11. The information in this booklet is to support you, to make the choice of subjects that are right for you so that you

- ◆ enjoy the subjects you study
- ◆ make good progress in all of your subjects
- ◆ achieve the best possible results at the end of year 11.

We have high aspirations for all of our students and we want Key Stage 4 to provide qualifications that will allow all students to progress to the next stage of their education or training.

Why have we decided to give students a choice in Year 9?

- ◆ The government has changed the National Curriculum, which means that we can be more flexible with teaching and learning time.
- ◆ There are significant changes in the GCSE qualifications that students will study which are being more complex and placing greater demands on students. By providing more time, we will increase the learning opportunities that will support students to achieve their best possible results.
- ◆ Some students have already started to make decisions about the subject that interest and motivate them. By giving students an earlier choice, we believe students will remain more engaged, make greater progress and be even more successful.
- ◆ Reducing exam pressure by spreading exams and assessments across three years.

At the moment many Sixth Forms, college courses and apprenticeship programs ask students for 5 or more A*-C including English and Maths, but from 2016 the Government is changing the expectation around qualifications for young people. The new qualification measures are

- ◆ Progress across 8 subjects (which we are calling Progress 8)
- ◆ Attainment across 8 subjects (which we are calling Attainment 8)
- ◆ The percentage of pupils achieving a C grade or better in both GCSE English and maths

The Progress and Attainment measures require students to do a particular combination of subjects which make up their core curriculum and their option choices and the expectation is that all students achieve their target grade or higher in each of their subjects.



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How will Progress and Attainment affect my choice of subject

We are asking you to make a number of choices

1. Choose four subjects that will be studied in Year 9, 10 and 11.
2. One of these choices **MUST** be **ONE** subject from this group
 - * **Computer Science**
 - * **French**
 - * **Geography**
 - * **History**
 - * **Spanish**

This combination of subjects alongside core subjects will provide you with subjects that make up the Progress 8 measure.

What am I going to be studying in Year 9 and Key Stage 4?

All students will continue to study (this is the CORE Curriculum)

English

Students will complete their Key Stage 3 course and develop their skills ready to start GCSE English courses at the end of Year 9. Students will do GCSE English and English Literature exams in Year 11.

Maths

Students will complete their Key Stage 3 course and develop their skills ready to start GCSE Maths.

Science

In Year 9 students continue to build their subject knowledge in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students then study a combined GCSE in Science.

ICT

This is a one year GCSE equivalent subject which students will complete in Year 9.

Physical Education

Students continue to develop their practical skills in relation to PE throughout Year 9 and into Key Stage 4 in a range of practical areas.

Ethics

In Year 9 students continue to build their subject knowledge in RE to support them with their studies in Year 10.



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Which subjects can I choose?

We want to provide students with as much choice as possible, due to government changes, some qualifications are new and some subjects that have been studied by previous year groups are no longer available.

You MUST choose ONE (or more) subjects from the following; they are all THREE-year courses

- * **Computer Science (GCSE)**
- * **French (GCSE)**
- * **Geography (GCSE)**
- * **History (GCSE)**
- * **Spanish (GCSE)**

In this brochure and on the option form these are all subjects which are listed in **GREEN**

You can choose up to THREE subjects from this list; they are all THREE-year courses

- * **Art (GCSE)**
- * **Business Studies (GCSE or Vocational)**
- * **Design Technology (GCSE)**
- * **Food and Nutrition (GCSE or Vocational)**
- * **Health and Social Care (Vocational)**
- * **ICT (Vocational)**
- * **Music (Vocational)**
- * **Physical Education (GCSE)**
- * **Sport (Vocational)**

In this brochure and on the option form these are all subject which are listed in **BLUE**

- * **Think about the following things when making your choices**
- * **Choose subjects that you will enjoy.**
- * **Choose subjects that you think you will do well in.**
- * **Look at your curriculum as a whole. Will your choices support you Post 16. Do some of your subjects complement each other?**
- * **Choose subjects that build your strengths if you are a practical person choose subjects that allow you to use these skills.**
- * **Do you need to follow certain courses because of career aspirations?**

If you choose unwisely you may not achieve all of the things you are capable of and you could have an unhappy time.

If you choose wisely we hope the next 3 years will be –

Exciting, Challenging, Enjoyable, Rewarding, Unforgettable



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Questions we are often asked by parents

We understand that this is something new and different for both parents and students and you will have some question.

What will my child continue to study?

All students will have a core that includes English, Maths, Science, ICT, PE and Ethics.

How many choices will my child have?

FOUR choices, covering a range of GCSE and vocational courses.

Is my child ready to start a GCSE course?

YES. Like many other schools many of our students begin GCSE courses early and achieve really good results.

Will my child really be doing actual exams in Year 9?

NO, they will do school based exams that will help staff to assess the progress being made in Core and Option subjects. Exam entries will be split over 2 Year 10 and 11 where appropriate which distributes the work load around exam revision for students across 3 years instead of 2 - reducing exam pressure with the aim of improving your child's exam results.

How will my child cope with doing GCSE exams?

We will do this together, as parents you will want to continue to support your child. Our staff have many years experience supporting students through GCSE exams and they will work to prepare your child through what can be a stressful time.

Does my child have to choose a Computer Science, Language and/or a Humanities subject?

YES, students need to achieve a wide range of qualifications in order to achieve the new performance measure Progress 8, which will replace 5 or more GCSEs including English and Maths.

Are there any combination of subjects that my child CANNOT study?

Students cannot do the following combinations:

- * GCSE PE and Vocational Sport
- * GCSE Business and Vocational Business

Can my child study for English Baccalaureate?

YES students have the opportunity to gain an additional qualification based upon their success around a number of GCSE subjects. To achieve a Baccalaureate students have to achieve a C Grade or higher in English, Maths, GCSE Science, GCSE History or Geography, GCSE French or Spanish.

Students are offered this qualification through our option system and would need to choose GCSE History or Geography and GCSE French or Spanish as 2 of their option choices. Students can choose any other subjects to go with this combination.



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What Do I Need to Do Now?

You need to think very seriously about the choices you are going to make. What you choose now will affect your next 3 years at College.

Inside the rest of this booklet is information about the subjects you will be studying. There is also information about the subjects that you can choose from.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FEBRUARY AND MARCH Option Assemblies

A series of short presentations about each of the subjects available as a choice from Subject Leaders.

Monday 21st March Options Evening 6.00 – 8.00pm in the Main Hall

A short presentation about the courses available and the Option process
Subject teachers will be present to answer questions and offer guidance on course suitability.

Wednesday 23rd March

Deadline for Option Choice made via Google Forms

April 2016

Individual discussions with students on Options/Courses as required

May 2016

Students receive final details of options allocated





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The Core Subjects

The information on the next few pages is about subjects which all students will study.

The Core Subjects are:

- * **ENGLISH**
- * **MATHEMATICS**
- * **SCIENCE**
- * **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
- * **IT - ECDL**







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English and English Literature

Description of the course

Studying English is an essential component in the task of preparing our young people to take their places as productive, engaged members of society. Developing reading and writing skills allows our students, in a media saturated society, to become skilled communicators. English and Literature equips them to be able to read and understand a wide variety of different texts, to write clearly, coherently and accurately, using a wide range of vocabulary to express points and ideas convincingly.

At GCSE level, students will study for: GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

GCSE English Language comprises the following examination units:

Paper 1 - Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing. This examination is broken down into two sections. **Section A** requires students to read and answer questions on a literary fiction text. Students need to show that they know how writers can use a range of techniques in order to interest and involve their readers. **In Section B**, students then have the chance to write their own creative text, using the topic explored in Section A. This gives students the opportunity to show that they can create both narrative and descriptive writing. Overall, this paper is worth 50% of the English Language GCSE.

Paper 2 - Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives. This examination is also broken down into two sections. In **Section A**, students will read two linked sources but they are from different times and different styles of writing. They need to write about how the writers have presented a particular viewpoint, to influence their readers. **In Section B**, students will go on to write their own text, to a particular audience with a particular purpose. Students will provide their own point of view on the theme introduced in Section A. Overall, this paper is worth 50% of the English Language GCSE.

GCSE English Literature comprises the following examination units:

Paper 1 - Shakespeare and the 19th century novel. In **Section A** students will answer one question on Shakespeare's play, 'Macbeth'. They will be asked to write about an extract from the play and then make connections to the play as a whole. **In Section B**, students will answer one question on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 'The Sign of Four'. As with Section A, they will be asked to write about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole. Overall, this paper is worth 40% of the English Literature GCSE.

Paper 2 - Modern Texts and Poetry. In **Section A** students will answer one essay question on JB Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls'. **In Section B**, students will answer one question on a named poem which is printed on the examination paper. They will compare this poem with one other poem from an anthology that they have studied, in preparation for the examination. **In Section C**, the focus is on students being able to use their skills to respond to texts they have not seen before: students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Overall, this paper is worth 60% of the English Literature GCSE.



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English and English Literature (continued)

Assessment

Both **English Language** and **English Literature** GCSEs are 'examination only' qualification: there is no longer a coursework element. See above for details of how students assessed. In preparation for final examinations, students will be regularly assessed using examination materials provided by the examination board. Assessments will comprise responses written in a classroom context and also more formal mock examinations. These regular assessments will determine how prepared students are to take the exams and what next steps are needed to improve performance.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

GCSE English is a prerequisite for most Sixth Form and Further Education courses.

Both GCSE courses prepare students to go on to take AS English Literature and A Level English Literature.; AS English Language and A Level English Language; AS and A Level Creative Writing and Critical Thinking and AS and A Level Media Studies.

Possible career routes

An enormous variety of career routes open up, once students have successfully achieved a pass grade for GCSE English.

For those students with a more specialised interest in English, careers in the following areas can be considered: journalism, librarianship, advertising, marketing, publishing, public relations, teaching and administration.





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Mathematics

Description of the course

The GCSE mathematics course requires studying number, algebra, geometry and measures, probability and statistics.

Number and Algebra

- * Working with numbers and the number system
- * Fractions, decimals and percentages
- * Ratio and proportion
- * Expressions and equations
- * Sequences and linear functions
- * Solving problems with algebra

Statistics and Probability

- * The data handling cycle
- * Data collection
- * Data presentation and analysis
- * Data interpretation
- * Probability

Geometry and Measures

- * Properties of angles and shapes
- * Geometrical reasoning and calculation
- * Measures and construction
- * Mensuration
- * Graphical methods

Throughout the course students are given the opportunity to:

Apply their mathematical knowledge, reason and communicate mathematically.

Develop and refine their problem solving strategies and build confidence and skills required to tackle unfamiliar problems.

Develop analytical skills and an analytical attitude to deal with the changing world around us.

Assessment

Students will be assessed externally at the end of the course. They will sit three equally weighted papers each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes (2 calculator papers and 1 non-calculator paper) at either Higher or Foundation level.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

Mathematics GCSE at grade C or above is essential to access higher education courses. The GCSE mathematics course acts as an excellent preparation for studying mathematics and further mathematics at A Level. It will also support study at a higher level subjects such as physics, engineering and technology.

Possible career routes

Mathematics can be found to some extent in almost all professions, making it a worthwhile subject to study. Mathematics can be especially beneficial for professions such as engineering, architecture, computer programming, accountancy and many more.



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Science Combined

Description of the course

GCSE study in the sciences provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They should be helped to appreciate how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas relating to the sciences which are both inter-linked, and are of universal application.

Students will develop curiosity about the natural world, insight into how science works, and an appreciation of its relevance to their everyday lives.

Students will study science over two years and this will be divided up into biology, chemistry and physics units. Examples of modern units are The Development of Medicines, Earth and Atmospheric Science and Space Physics. These will be taught alongside the more traditional aspects of each science specialism for example Cell Biology, The Periodic Table and Electricity.

Assessment

Students will be assessed externally at the end of the course. They will sit GCSE papers in Biology, Chemistry and Physics at either foundation or higher tier. Students will also be assessed on their practical skills in science and this will be integrated into each of the examination papers.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form (Examples of A level or Level 3 courses)

Students will be able to study A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and also Level 3 Applied Science.

Possible career routes

There are endless career opportunities available from studying science, and not all of them are science based!

Career routes for students with a science background include: teaching, medicine, dentistry, forensics, software design, nursing, midwifery and child care, engineering and many more.



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IT - ECDL Qualification

Description of the course

The ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) qualification has been designed to equip pupils with the essential skills to use a computer confidently and effectively, building on existing knowledge and motivating further learning. The course has been a huge success in previous years with a 100% Pass rate and the majority of students achieving a Distinction* grade, the equivalent of an A* at GCSE. We are proud to offer this opportunity to all of our Year 9 pupils and the feedback from students, who have completed the course, is nothing less than fantastic. Students will use ICT in many of their subjects at KS4 and will go on to use them in further education, higher education and their subsequent career, therefore this one year course is an ideal opportunity to develop transferable ICT skills.

Word	PowerPoint	Excel	Improving Productivity
This unit develops your skills in the use of Microsoft Office Word. We looked at over thirty specific skills including advanced skills such as mail merge.	This unit develops your skills in the use of Microsoft Office PowerPoint. There is so much more to this software that meets the eye and one day you may have to present to a room full of people - a perfect opportunity to show off the skills you gain here.	This unit develops your skills in Microsoft Office Excel which is a software specifically designed to handle spreadsheets. From a simple calculator to a modern day accounts system; Excel has many capabilities and you are going to master a wide range of them.	The final unit is comprised of aspects from all of the previous 3 units. It will include a specific scenario that will require you to use all of your skills from the previous 3 units to complete a set of tasks.

Assessment

Assessment for this course is different to any other in the college. After each unit, learners will complete an exam online which will present them with approximately 30 tasks that they need to do on the software being tested. At the end of the test they are given a result straight away. Students who fail are able to re-sit the test until they succeed.

Learners will study each unit for approximately 1 term and will then complete a diagnostic test (This is the exact same as an Official Test, but it is not counted - the learners are simply able to practise, they are then presented with a final score and clear instructions on what they got wrong and how they could have done it). Following this, they will be given time to master the skills they were unable to demonstrate and then sit the Official Test.

Each test result is presented as a percentage. Students must achieve 75% in the first 3 tests to pass and 55% in the final test. The average of all four tests will decide the final grade. 70%(P), 75%(M), 80%(Di), 85%(Di*)

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form (Examples of A level or Level 3 courses)

Skills developed in ECDL are transferable and useful for all Level 3 courses, particularly ICT.

Possible Career Routes

Most career paths now require the use of a computer and MS Office software therefore the list is endless





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Three Year Courses





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Computer Science

Description of the course

GCSE Computing will give you a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works, offering you an insight into what goes on “behind the scenes”. It’s a great way to develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills, which will open up opportunities to you in the future. You will learn about current and emerging technologies, algorithms, and computer programming. You will acquire and apply creative and technical skills, and will develop computer programs to solve problems. You will evaluate the impact of computer technology in society.

You will study the following units

Unit 1 – Computer Systems

This unit covers the following topics:

- * Systems Architecture
- * Memory
- * Storage
- * Wired and Wireless Networks
- * Network Topologies
- * System Security
- * System Software
- * Ethical, Legal, Cultural and Environmental Concerns

Unit 2 - Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

This unit covers the following topics:

- * Algorithms
- * Programming Techniques
- * Producing Robust Programs
- * Computational Thinking
- * Translators and Facilities of Languages
- * Data Representation

Unit 3 - Programming Project

This unit tests your skills in:

- * Programming Techniques
- * Analysing Programming Problems
- * Designing a solution
- * Developing a program
- * Testing your program
- * Evaluating and improving your program

Assessment

Unit 1 & 2 are a written paper (1½ hours) worth 40% of the course each (80% in total).

Unit 3 is an internal assessment sat under exam conditions where you are taught all of the skills you need to successfully complete the different tasks. You will be given support and guidance throughout the research and drafting stages. The NEA (Non-Exam Assessment) is worth 20% of your final grade.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

This course is a full GCSE and is valued by employers and establishments of further study. In particular, this course is ideal for students who plan to go on to employment and/or further education in the field of Computer Science. Examples of courses you may progress onto include A-level ICT, A-Level Computing, CTEC ICT or a Level 3 apprenticeship in an ICT area.

Possible career routes

New jobs in ICT and Computing are appearing all the time - the possibilities are endless! You could be an ICT technician, a website designer, a games designer, a software developer, an ICT teacher, and many more. Computing skills are also closely linked with maths and science, so if your chosen career falls in one of these areas, these skills would be valued.



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French

Description of the course

GCSE French allows students to explore the language as well as gaining an intercultural understanding of francophone countries across the globe. The course focuses on three key areas including identity and culture, global areas of interest and current and future employment. These three units allow students to explore the language and contemporary issues whilst also deepening their understanding of the construction and production of the language through translation and written and spoken work.

Students will develop a range of skills over the three year period including reading, writing, listening and speaking, all of which will be assessed individually as part of their overall GCSE mark.

French learners are also given the opportunity to visit France as part of their studies in Key Stage 4 which not only allows them to explore the French culture but also gives them time to practise and hone their linguistic capabilities in a native environment.

Students who choose to take GCSE French should be dedicated and committed to ensure they are able to make the most progress over the three year period. Computer Science.

Assessment

Assessment at GCSE for French is weighted equally between reading, listening, writing and speaking skills with 25% of the final grade deriving from each area.

Speaking skills are assessed within school with the class teacher whilst the remaining three skills are all assessed at the end of the course as part of the final examinations in year 11.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

GCSE French is a highly sought after academic subject which is recognised by all colleges and sixth forms. Students who gain a good result at GCSE often continue onto study A Level French which can then lead to a wide range of different courses as a large number of courses at university now include a Modern Foreign Language as part of their content. This is often the case for courses such as business, management and travel and tourism.

Possible career routes

French is an excellent subject to study as the skills learned from this course are transferable. Other than the obvious career paths such as translation and interpreting a large number of businesses and organisations look for candidates who have a level of linguistic ability to deal with the international side of their daily work. This can include journalism, business management and finance, travel and tourism and a wide range of other professions.



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Geography

Description of the course

If you study Geography you will develop and extend your knowledge of locations, places, environments and processes. You will also look at the understanding of the interactions between people and environments.

You will develop a range of skills including those used in fieldwork, in using maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and in researching secondary evidence, including digital sources.

A key part of geography is to link your learning to real life examples and you will take part in two fieldwork visits.

Topics you will study include:

Geography of the UK

Physical geography: processes and change

Geomorphic processes and landscape

Changing weather and climate

People and environment: processes and interactions

Global ecosystems and biodiversity

Resources and their management

Human geography: processes and change

Cities and urban society

Global economic development issues

Assessment

All assessment is based on exams at the end of year 11

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

Geography is valued by sixth form colleges and universities. You can continue to study A level Geography as well as other related subjects such as Environmental Science and World Development. Geography links well to a range of other A levels including the Sciences and Humanities.

Possible career routes

Geography is a multidisciplinary subject. This means it does not only restrict you to one career, but instead offers you a whole range of choices. Choice of Geography related careers include: journalism, business, law, accountancy, banking & insurance, town planning, tourism industry, climatology, environmental agencies, resource management and many others.



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History

Description of the course

The current course running in History comprises of two major units of study.

One is a depth study, where you get to zoom in on a period of history and analyse the massive changes that took place for the people at the time. You will learn all about different groups of people and be able to make comparisons between their lives and your own, as well as looking at how they got along (or didn't!) with each other.

The other unit is a study across time, where you get to step back and look at the world from a great distance. You'll see nations rise and fall, wars ravage the planet and diseases wipe out massive chunks of the planet's population all from the safety of your classroom. We currently study medicine, and our studies help us to unravel the mystery of mummies, burst the myths surrounding the bubonic plague and look for hope during the chaos of the Second World War.

You will carry on developing your ability to:

argue, be independent, challenge, dissect, explain, find out, gather evidence, hunt for clues, ignore red herrings, join the dots, knuckle down, link reasons, manage time, note take, organise info, pick out relevant facts, question assumption, rearrange concepts, select ideas, take responsibility, understand the past, verify assumptions, weigh up evidence, x-ray vision (read between the lines), yearn for knowledge, zoom in on events.

Assessment

All assessment is based on exams at the end of year 11

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

A GCSE in History is a really well respected subject at both sixth form and degree level. Many sixth forms and colleges will look to History as evidence that you have good thinking skills, can debate clearly, are able to work independently and make judgements on events. History links in well with English, Geography and Sociology, but can also help you show off the range of your talents when paired with Maths or Science.

Possible career routes

Careers using skills from History include:

- * Law - shows a good ability to put forward an argument
- * Police Force - a good understanding of events and ability to see the bigger picture
- * Journalism - TV and newspapers: lots of presenters studied history
- * Teaching - like the amazing ones you have here at Churchill!
- * Armed Forces - the armed forces love recruits who've studied the past
- * Politics - an understanding of what life is like for others



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Spanish

Description of the course

GCSE Spanish allows students to explore the language as well as gaining an intercultural understanding of Spanish-speaking countries across the globe. The course focuses on three key areas including identity and culture, global areas of interest and current and future employment. These three units allow students to explore the language and contemporary issues whilst also deepening their understanding of the construction and production of the language through translation and written and spoken work.

Students will develop a range of skills over the three year period including reading, writing, listening and speaking, all of which will be assessed individually as part of their overall GCSE mark.

Spanish learners are also given the opportunity to visit Spain as part of their studies in Key Stage 4 which not only allows them to explore the hispanic culture but also gives them time to practise and hone their linguistic capabilities in a native environment.

Students who choose to take GCSE Spanish should be dedicated and committed to ensure they are able to make the most progress over the three year period.

Assessment

Assessment at GCSE for Spanish is weighted equally between reading, listening, writing and speaking skills with 25% of the final grade deriving from each area.

Speaking skills are assessed within school with the class teacher whilst the remaining three skills are all assessed at the end of the course as part of the final examinations.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

GCSE Spanish is a highly sought after academic subject which is recognised by all colleges and sixth forms. Students who gain a good result at GCSE often continue onto study A Level Spanish which can then lead to a wide range of different courses at university as a large number of courses at university now include a Modern Foreign Language as part of their content. This is often the case for courses such as business, management and travel and tourism.

Possible career routes

Spanish is an excellent subject to study as the skills learned from this course are transferable. Other than the obvious career paths such as translation and interpreting a large number of businesses and organisations look for candidates who have a level of linguistic ability to deal with the international side of their daily work. This can include journalism, business management and finance, travel and tourism and a wide range of other professions. It is important to remember that Spanish is an emerging business language and so knowledge of this language is likely to be valued very highly in the years to come.





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Three Year Courses





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GCSE Art including Photography

Description of the course

We are really excited to be able to offer Art, Craft and Design or Photography as GCSE courses. Students will opt for art/photography in the first instance and then we make a decision with students based on skills interests and aptitudes about the right course for them to study to maximise achievement. Art, Craft and Design is a good subject for students to take who enjoy their art lessons and are committed to developing their skills further. It is a fun course but students will have to work hard in class and at home to maximise their potential. It is important to consider a breadth of both academic and creative subjects when choosing options and many of our students relish the different approach to their studies when in art especially if they have a heavily academic, desk based timetable.

The course starts with a period of teacher led skills based lessons which are designed to improve students' knowledge and understanding of drawing, clay, print, paint, sculpture, and image manipulation.

This is followed by a personal project where students get to work more independently, selecting the materials, themes, artists, techniques, and processes (within reason) of their choice. This combination of work makes up the personal portfolio. There is a written aspect within the course where you will have to analyse and evaluate you work and communicate your views on other artist's pieces.

In photography you will firstly learn how to use cameras and photography techniques before experimenting and creating your own work. A large part of the course is based on image manipulation, experimenting with ideas and sources, researching and analysing your own and others work. There will be regular visits to locations outwith the college to obtain primary source material. The written aspect of the course is the same as art and students need to be prepared to analyse, evaluate and communicate their own ideas and opinions often in written form.

Content of both courses

Portfolio work of 45 hours presented for assessment – 60% of the marks.

Externally set exam – 10 hours supervised work – 40% of the marks

Assessment of both courses

GCSE Art and Photography is assessed continually throughout the course. Coursework pieces are assessed separately on a Grade scale of 1 - 9 and then whole projects are assessed on the GCSE matrix to give an accurate reflection of performance. The external exam is 10 hours long however this is nothing to worry about, it is a project of work where you choose a theme from an exam paper. The project itself takes about 8 weeks and the final piece, which is a practical piece of work is produced in 10 hours under exam conditions. These are not consecutive hours but run over a series of days. Teachers can provide input, give feedback and help students right up to the exam itself.



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GCSE Art including Photography (continued)

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

This will provide you with a very good portfolio of varied work showing off skills in all areas in order to progress to AS/A Level Art/ Photography at Churchill Community College, to take to an interview for arts or photography based further education courses at college or indeed to show to prospective employers.

Possible career routes

Possible Art Careers are:

Animator, Art therapist, Art teacher, Arts administrator, Ceramics designer, Community arts worker, Exhibition designer, Fashion designer, Fine artist, Furniture conservator/restorer, Furniture designer, Games developer, Glass blower/designer, Graphic designer, Heritage manager, Illustrator, Industrial/product designer, Interior and spatial designer, Jewellery designer, Make-up artist, Medical illustrator, Museum/gallery conservator, Museum/gallery curator, Museum/gallery exhibitions officer, Photographer, Press photographer, medical photographer, freelance photographer, journalistic photography, Printmaker, Production designer, theatre/television/film, Textile designer, Web designer to name but a few.



Options 2015 - 2018

GCSE Business Studies

Description of the course

GCSE Business Studies introduces students to the world of work and how businesses are run. The focus is on how businesses are set up and then how they can grow. You will be encouraged to consider the practical application of business concepts in the context of events in the business world. You will learn about the issues concerning the setting up and operation of a business, and how businesses engage with stakeholders. You will then learn about the issues that expansion of businesses bring.

You will study the following units:

Unit 1 – Setting up a business

In this unit, you will cover: * Starting a Business Enterprise * Setting Business Aims and Objectives * Business Planning * Legal Structures * Choosing an Appropriate Location for the Business * Marketing * Finance * People in Business * Operations Management

Unit 2 – Growing as a business

In this unit, you will build upon what you have learnt in Unit 1 and consider how the methods of expansion and objectives of larger businesses might differ from smaller businesses. You will learn about choosing the right legal structure for the business, changing business aims and objectives and choosing the best location.

Unit 3 – Investigating businesses

In this unit, you will undertake a business investigation based on what you have learnt in Units 1 and 2. You will research the business and plan a solution to the task you have been given. Finally, you will write up your findings.

Assessment

Presently, Unit 1 is a written paper (1 hour) worth 40% of the course and Unit 2 is a written paper (1 hour) worth 35% of the course. Unit 3 is an internal assessment sat under exam conditions where you are taught all of the skills you need to successfully complete the different tasks. This is worth 25% of the course. Due to planned government changes there may be some changes to how students are assessed and to the course content.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

Students who perform well at GCSE Business Studies can go to study A-Level or a Level 3 BTEC in Business Studies. Colleges may also provide a specialist pathway such as retail and administration

Possible career routes

This course is a full GCSE and is valued by employers and establishments of further study. In particular, this course is ideal for students who plan to go on to employment and/or further education in the field of Business. Popular career pathways include accountancy, law, marketing, human resource management, production, sales and business administration.



Options 2015 - 2018

VCERT in Business

This qualification is designed for those students who want an introduction to business and enterprise. This course will appeal to students who wish to either set up their own business or work for another business. Throughout this course you will learn transferable skills which would be valuable in any employment. This qualification requires learners to work with others either on small tasks or during the final project task. You will also develop your communication skills and will have the opportunity to present your work with others. You will also learn what initiative is and why it is important for an entrepreneur or business person .

Unit 1: This unit aims to give you an introduction to business and enterprise. You will learn about the different types of businesses, including those in the local area. You will also investigate the qualities and skills needed to be an entrepreneur and some of the risks and rewards of running your own business.

Unit 2: This unit aims to give you an insight into market research, and different marketing opportunities and techniques. For example, you will explore the different types of customers a business may have and the techniques they will use to persuade them to purchase a product/service.

Unit 3: This unit aims to provide you with a basic knowledge and understanding of business finance for a new business or enterprise. You will research the different sources of finance you can use to set up and run your business. You will learn how a business manages to ensure they have enough cash to keep running and pay all of their bills. You will also learn how a business calculates profit and the financial records they must keep.

Unit 4: This final unit is where you plan, develop and participate in a business or enterprise project. In your team you will be responsible for carrying out necessary market research and deciding on a product to sell or service to provide. You will have to organise stock and supplies, advertise your business enterprise and then start selling! You will then go on to evaluate the overall success of the project.

Assessment

The assessment for this qualification consists of:

Internal Assessment for units 1, 3 and 4. You will prepare a portfolio of evidence which will be graded by staff as either a pass, merit, or distinction.

External Assessment for unit 2. A brief on a business is set by NCFE and you will need to answer set questions on the business. This is then graded as the internal units but by the examination board

You will then gain an overall grade, depending on how well you have performed across all 4 units. This could either be a pass, merit, distinction or distinction*

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form (Examples of A level or Level 3 courses)

Students who perform well on their VCERT Business course can go to study A-Level or a Level 3 BTEC in Business Studies. Colleges may also provide a specialist pathway such as retail and administration.

Possible career routes

Popular career pathways include Accountancy, Law, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Production, Sales and Business Administration.



ptions 2015 - 2018

GCSE Design and Technology

Description of the course

The GCSE Design and Technology course encompasses a wide range of creative presentation and manufacturing skills as well as in-depth knowledge and understanding of several material disciplines. Pupils discover a broad application of ICT in design and gain a deeper understanding of graphic design, desktop publishing, CAD/CAM modelling, electronics and working with a range of materials. Pupils are encouraged to explore a wide range of materials and manufacturing techniques in the design, development and production of a marketable product or prototype. Using their own research and development skills, pupils will select and interpret a brief set. Pupils set about solving problems, making models, planning production and seeing the design through to final stages of manufacture and assembly. Students will learn about “good design” and how to communicate their ideas through drawing, modelling and Computer Aided Design (CAD). Students will foster individual flair, creativity and logical thinking To encourage initiative, self-motivation and enterprise.

Sustainability, design movements and influential designers of our time will constitute an important part of the course and students will learn how products are manufactured and marketed.

Design and Technology is a creative, fun and challenging subject to study, it compliments many other subjects such as Maths, Science, Art and Business Studies. Students will enjoy the practical side of the subject, but will be expected to complete as much written and design work during the course.

Assessment

1. A written exam paper.
2. A Controlled Assessment task from a selection provided by the examination board.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

This qualification can provide students with the foundation to progress onto studying A Level Product Design which will further develop your understanding as you possibly consider a career in the subject. This will also provide you with a platform to enrol in a college to complete apprenticeships in many practical careers including engineering, plumbing, joinery, electrical and the building trade.

Possible career routes

A wide range of career paths stem from Design and Technology. The most common areas include; Product Design, Furniture Design, Industrial Design, Architecture, a range of Engineering Fields; Civil, Automotive and Mechanical, and practical trades such as; Joinery, carpentry and mechanics



ptions 2015 - 2018

GCSE Food and Nutrition

Description of the course

Food is a vital part of our daily lives and is essential for life. Food Preparation and Nutrition develops your knowledge and understanding of nutrition, healthy eating, food preparation, hygiene, cooking techniques, and sensory characteristics.

The course is divided into the following key areas of study:-

- * **Food commodities - understanding food and it's function**
- * **Principles of nutrition**
- * **Diet and good health**
- * **The science of food**
- * **Where food comes from**
- * **Cooking and food preparation**

This subject blends both practical work and theory to create an interesting, relevant course. Examples of products students have made this year include:

- * **Curries**
- * **International Breads – Naan, Pitta**
- * **Pavlovas**
- * **Profiteroles**
- * **Bread**
- * **Italian Themed Dishes – Lasagne, Cannelloni, Tiramisu**

Assessment (details for some subjects may be limited but provide as much information as you can)

This course is assessed through a mixture of Controlled Assessment some of which is practical based, and an examination.

Controlled Assessments will focus on a theme given by the examination board, which students will have to research and produce a range of dishes which meet the set criteria.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

- * BTEC Level 3 Hospitality

Links to :-

- * BTEC Level 3 Health & Social Care
- * BTEC Level 3 Sport

Possible career routes

- * Nutritionist * Dietician * Chef * Catering Industry * Teacher * Environmental Health * Food Styling
- * Home Economist * Nurse



Options 2015 - 2018

BTEC Award - Health and Social Care

Description of the course

Health and Social Care is an interesting course, which covers many varied topics.

You will learn about how people grow and develop from birth until old age, communication, working in a care setting, development, play, diet and nutrition. Throughout the course you will be required to produce a range of information which will support your learning eg reports, videos, newspaper articles and websites.

Over the year you will study four units of work, these focus on themes:-

1. **Human Lifespan Development - Exam Unit**
2. **Values in Health and Social Care**
3. **Promoting Health and Wellbeing**
4. **The Impact of Nutrition on Health and Wellbeing**

Due to the wide range of topics covered in this course, there is something that will interest everyone.

Assessment

- * Health and Social Care is assessed through a mixture of portfolio tasks (3 units) and one examination (Human Life Span Development).
- * You will have one opportunity to resit the exam unit.
- * You will achieve one overall grade which could be Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

- * BTEC Level 3 Health and Social
- * A Level Health and Social Care
- * Early Childhood Studies

Possible career routes

Health and Social Care is such a versatile course that it opens the doors to many career paths for example:-

- * **Nursing** * **Midwifery** * **Teaching** * **Social Work** * **Care Worker** * **Play Manager**



Options 2015 - 2018

ICT and Digital Applications

Description of the course

The ICT & Digital Applications course is for students who want to pursue an interest in the creative side of Information Communication Technology and how digital applications are used to produce digital merchandise for businesses across the world. This course differs hugely to the other ICT and Computing courses that we also offer. As you are probably aware, all pupils in Year 9 will study ECDL which looks at developing each students' skills in the use of the Microsoft Office Suite. These skills will be hugely beneficial and transferable to the ICT & Digital Applications course where students will gain an in-depth understanding of professional website design software and how to plan, design, develop, test and evaluate web products.

You will study the following units

Unit 1 - Developing Web Products

This unit looks at how websites have been used to change the face of advertising, promotion and sales forever.

You will learn how to creatively compose web products that work seamlessly together to produce an eye-catching, attention-grabbing website.

You will demonstrate your ability to plan, design, build and test a web product in a practical computer-based exam.

Unit 2 - Artwork & Imaging

We have all seen an image where we have thought... "Photoshop". Well this unit gives you all the knowledge and skills you need to be able to make your own flawless images using Photoshop and other digital graphic editing software.

Images are edited all of the time, whether it is for advertising, fashion, music, interior design or computer games. You will demonstrate your ability to create effective images and graphic products through your own Image Portfolio.

Assessment

Unit 1 of this qualification is assessed through a practical examination. This means that the exam board set a task that students will complete on the computer. It will then be sent to the exam board straight away to be marked. This unit is 50% of the overall grade.

Unit 2 of this qualification is a summative project which students will work on over the duration of the course. This project will bring together everything that is taught over the duration of the course. This will be marked by the student's teacher and moderated by the exam board. This unit is 50% of the overall grade.



ptions 2015 - 2018

ICT and Digital Applications (continued)

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

This qualification provides a broad and solid foundation for further study of various aspects of creative computing, such as graphic design, web design, computer games design and interactive media. It supports progress to courses within further education, including: GCE in Media: Communication and Production, Level 3 BTECs in Creative Media Production, Level 3 BTECs in IT, Level 3 Principal Learning in Creative and Media, and many more.

Possible career routes

With so many businesses now using computers to design, advertise and sell products, there are endless opportunities for careers in Creative IT. Taking a creative route will lead you into careers such as game design, web design and graphic design. There is also a long list of apprenticeships ready and waiting for you as businesses want to snap up the latest talent, they want the next generation of IT experts!



Options 2015 - 2018

BTEC Award in Music

Description of the course

BTEC Music allows learners to develop their musical skills and understanding to a much higher level. Through the units studied you will develop your performance and instrumental skills, understanding of how the £billion music industry works and how to be part of it, how to create, write and compose music, how to perform it live and how to record it in a studio. As well as looking at the practical and performance elements of music, you will also learn about the digital and technological side to music too.

As well as instrumental lessons, performance workshops and performance opportunities, you will study a number of units:

The Music Industry: There are 1000's of possible jobs in the music industry and this unit will teach you about what they do, and how they all work together to provide us with some of the best entertainment around.

Planning A Music Product: Ever wondered about how a gig or festival actually takes place? Well now you'll find out as you plan, promote and perform in your very own music concert.

Introduction To Music Performance: Develop your practice and performance skills and learn how to put on a great show for an audience. Learn your favourite songs and a whole host of songs you never even knew existed too.

Introduction To Live Sound: Learn about all of the equipment needed to put on a gig, or make a music recording. How it all works, how it connects and how to use it safely will all be covered in this hands on unit.

Introduction To Sequencing/Composing: Loads of music is created digitally these days, with as much technology on your mobile phone as a top of the range recording studio had only 15 years ago! Learn how to use this to write and compose your own music and songs, from the initial idea, to the finished product.

Assessment

The assessment process for Music is a mixture of internally assessed coursework and an external exam. Your work on the Music Industry unit will be assessed in a 1 hour BTEC exam. All other units are assessed through coursework, demonstrations and performances. A wide variety of ways for you to show off your skills and understanding of all of the topics studied.

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

Students who achieve well in BTEC Music can go on to study Level 3 Music or A-Level Music Technology. These in turn can then lead to degrees in Music or Performing Arts courses.

Possible career routes

professional musicians, session musicians, instrumental teachers, music teachers, music producer, songwriter, composer, broadcaster, music journalist, light/sound technician, promoter, venue manager.



Options 2015 - 2018

BTEC Award in Performing Arts

Description of the course

This course is ideal for students who either want an introduction into the Performing Arts, or develop their existing Performing Arts skills further. Through the Units studied, and tasks engaged in, learners will develop all round performance skills along with building confidence, collaboration and independence, all of which are transferable skills into any future education, job or career.

Learners will take part in various workshops, learn about the vast amount of careers and opportunities available through a performing arts qualification, and as you would expect, take an active role in many performance opportunities.

There are 4 units you will study throughout the year in Performing Arts.

These are:

Individual Showcase: This gives you the opportunity to experience applying for and auditioning for a role in the Performing Arts industry. You will select your preferred performance type, either acting, singing, dancing or musical theatre (a combination of all 3), perform 2 audition pieces and write a letter of application to a college.

Preparation, Performance & Production: Throughout this unit you will learn all about what goes on before a show takes place. You will look into character and story developments and develop group performance material that you will perform as a class for an audience.

Dance Skills: This unit will help you develop your timing, coordination and flexibility, all through a series of dance workshops, lessons and performances. Tailored to suit the needs from beginners to the most experienced, you will learn about the requirements of street, jazz and contemporary dance.

Acting Skills: Through various workshops you will learn how to develop as an actor/actress. You will discover the importance of facial expressions, the way you move on stage, how to perform different accents and learn how to perform well in anything from the funniest of comedies to the most serious of dramas.

Assessment

The assessment process for Performing Arts is a mixture of internally assessed coursework and external assessments.

Individual Showcase has two aspects to it. The performed auditions will be filmed under controlled conditions, and the letter of application will be written under controlled conditions in a computer room. These are both then sent away to be marked.

Preparation, Performance & Production, Dance Skills and Acting Skills are all assessed in Churchill through coursework. Each unit will have aspects of performance to them, along with written work that supports your learning and understanding of each topic.



Options 2015 - 2018

BTEC Award in Performing Arts (continued)

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

Students who achieve well in BTEC Performing Arts can go on to study Level 3 Performing Arts/Music or A-Level Drama/Music. These in turn can then lead to degrees in performing or music courses.

Possible career routes

Further careers from studying this course can be careers in performing arts, theatre work, costume design, hair & makeup, set and prop design and production, sound or light engineering, teaching, workshop delivery, drama therapy and many more. Many people continue to develop as performers outside of other careers in local and amateur productions.



Options 2015 - 2018

GCSE Physical Education

Description of the course

GCSE PE is more than just a normal qualification. PE has the potential to develop so many important skills that will help any individual succeed in life after school. Why choose it? Well GCSE PE will teach you about the importance of living a healthy, active lifestyle which, for those that do will be fit, healthy and confident. Students will develop teamwork and leadership skills, which will increase confidence and self esteem and develop a resilience to overcome any challenge thrown at us.

The course includes two exams and assessment in 3 practical activities, including team and individual sports. Therefore, are you good at a particular sport. If the answer is 'yes' then this course is right for you. However, are you prepared to develop skills in some chosen sports and if the answer is 'yes' and you have a passion for PE and Sport then again this course is for you.

GCSE PE has become slightly more challenging but the outcomes and opportunities the course provides will be much greater. You will learn about the human body, and how it works as well as analysing movement and how you can make athletes better performers. You will also be able to learn about how to improve and maintain fitness, plan fitness programmes and understand about physical training. This links closely to how we live a healthy lifestyle and the psychology behind sport and exercise and the impact on performance

Assessment

Practical Grade: 40% of your overall grade is reflected in your practical performance from 3 activities which must come from one individual sport, one team sport and one other activity as well as a personal exercise programme where you must plan, perform and analyse the effectiveness of the programme.

Theoretical Grade: 60% of your overall grade is reflected in your theoretical performance during an external exam, which is assessed through two written examinations. Examination one includes the concepts of anatomy and physiology, movement analysis and physical training. The second exam focuses on health, fitness and well-being, sports psychology and socio-cultural influences

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

This qualification can provide with the foundation to progress on to studying A Level PE and/or Sport at BTEC National Level 3 which will further develop your understanding as you possibly consider a career in sport and exercise. This will provide you with a platform to enrol in a college or university to achieve a degree which is suitable to you.

Possible career routes

Sports Physiotherapist, Sports Coach, Official, Fitness Instructor, PE teacher, Sports Development Officer. Events Manager, Sports Psychologist. Sports Analyst. Sports Journalist



Options 2015 - 2018

BTEC Award in Sport

Description of the course

In this course you will improve your knowledge and performance in an individual activity and team sport, learn the principles and practices which lead to good performance and how fitness can be improved. In addition you will learn to lead sporting activities that can develop a range of important life skills which will develop your confidence and levels of self esteem and gain a sense of team spirit.

The First Award in Sport is a nationally recognised qualification which can lead to further study in PE and Sport including Sport at BTEC National Level 3 and/or A Level PE which will further develop your understanding as you possibly consider a career in sport and exercise.

Assessment

To achieve this award you will study four modules over a one year programme and complete a number of assignments ranging from written assignments, presentation, podcasts, designing web pages and leading practical sports sessions and delivering to peers. Assignments are tailored to the individual needs and therefore can be presented in a personalised way.

Modules delivered as part of this qualification include:

- * Fitness for Sport and Exercise – assessed through an external online exam at the end of a unit
- * Practical Sports Performance – predominantly assessed through practical performance in two sports
- * The Mind and Sports Performance – assessed through a range of assignments
- * Leading Sports Performance – assessed through planning, delivery and evaluation of two practical sessions

Possible routes to College/Sixth Form

This qualification can provide with the foundation to progress on to studying A Level PE and/or Sport at BTEC National Level 3 which will further develop your understanding as you possibly consider a career in sport and exercise. This will provide you with a platform to enrol in a college or university to achieve a degree which is suitable to you.

Possible career routes

- * Sports Physiotherapist
- * Sports Coach
- * Official, Fitness Instructor
- * PE teacher
- * Sports Development Officer
- * Events Manager
- * Sports Psychologist
- * Sports Analyst
- * Sports Journalist

Option Choices for Key Stage 4

Making YOUR Choices

You need to choose a different subject from each of the **FOUR** option columns below.

Remember you must choose

* **ONE** or more of the **BLUE** subjects


* Up to **THREE GREEN** Subjects

The colours of the subjects relate to the colours of each section of the Option Brochure.

<u>Option Column 1</u>	Option Column 2	Option Column 3	Option Column 4
History	Computer Science	Geography	Geography
Art	French	Art	Spanish
Business Studies	History	Design Technology	Business Studies
Food and Nutrition	Spanish	Health and Social Care	Design Technology
Ict	Performing Arts	Music	Food and Nutrition
PE	Pe		Sport

Please think really carefully about your choices.

- * To make your Option choices, this will be done via google forms, either on your IPad, smartphone or computer.
- * The form can be accessed via either by URL or QR code
- * You will be asked to make your FOUR choices.
- * You must only submit the form once.

Type the following URL into Safari		Scan this QR code using a QR code reader
https://goo.gl/S8QdjF	OR	

Please note, for a small number of students it may be necessary to discuss second choices, if student numbers mean we have to close a subject or there are too many students choosing a subject for us to be able to staff or resource.

DEADLINE FOR ALL CHOICES – WEDNESDAY 23rd APRIL, the form will not be available after this date.



Churchill Community College

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