

The West Grantham Church of England Secondary Academy

Year 9 Options' Choices



WELCOME

West Grantham Church of England Secondary Academy are delighted to present your son/daughter with their Key Stage 4 options for the 2022-23 academic year. We recognise that this is a significant and important moment in their educational journey and trust that the information found in this booklet, alongside the expertise and support offered from staff, will guide them into making reasoned and exciting choices that will continue to support their development as learners. We also appreciate that this may well be rather daunting for many students and with that in mind, as always, please reach out for us to best support you with the process.

All staff, regardless of role, have a strong belief that all our students are unique and talented in a variety of different ways. As such, we believe that our curriculum offer has something to suit everyone and marks a very exciting time for both students and staff in the Academy. The curriculum is broad, but at the same time balanced, allowing students to continue to develop key subjects whilst at the same exploring courses that may ignite a passion or interest. Thought has also been given to next steps in reference to life beyond Key Stage 4 and certainly, with possible future careers in mind.

Please read through this booklet with your son/daughter before our Options' Evening on Thursday 19th May. The information contained explains which courses are on offer and will ask relevant questions which all students will need to consider when deciding on their choices.

All of us at West Grantham Church of England Secondary Academy look forward to working collaboratively with you and our students to best support their progress and achievement over the coming years.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the difference between a BTEC and a GCSE?

The Business and Technology Education Council is the British body which awards vocational qualifications. Such qualifications are commonly referred to as 'BTECs'. BTEC qualifications are undertaken in vocational subjects ranging from business studies to construction. BTECs are worth the equivalent of 1 GCSE 9-4 but are assessed differently. Awards are: Pass (C grade), Merit (B grade) and Distinction/Distinction*. At our school, students study Level 2 qualifications, equivalent to a GCSE grade in that subject.

How do I choose the right course?

Students are expected to discuss the courses that are of interest to them with teachers and parents, taking into consideration their areas of strength and interest. Staff will have more in-depth knowledge about the courses on offer and, if anyone needs more information than is contained in this booklet, we strongly encourage you to attend our Options Evening on the 19th May 2022. The more information students have, the more able they are to make the choice that is right for them.

What are EBacc (English Baccalaureate) courses?

The EBacc measures a student's academic performance in their eight best subjects (where they gain the highest grade). These subjects must include maths, English and a minimum of 3 EBacc subjects which are science core, science additional, geography, history and a language. Achievement of these qualifications is considered an excellent pathway to A-Level and Level 3 qualifications.

Which courses are compulsory?

The following subjects are compulsory to study: English (language and literature), maths, science (trilogy or triple) and physical education. All students will complete a religious education GCSE short course with an option to study the full course as part of religion, philosophy and ethics.

How many courses should I choose?

Students should choose 3 subjects in total. All students should choose 1 EBacc subject and those who wish to achieve the full EBacc qualification should include a minimum of 2 EBacc.

Can my child change options once they have started?

No. The demand of level 2 qualifications is such that changing part way through would be too detrimental to their progress.

Are my choices guaranteed?

Whilst we will do all we can to ensure that you get the choices that you want occasionally, if demand for a particular subject is too low to go ahead, then the course may be withdrawn from the curriculum. In addition, if demand is too high for a subject the Academy may need to interview students regarding their suitability for the subject, and other factors may need to be considered such as behaviour records and/or attendance.

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Course Details - Science

Point of contact - Mr. Tom Butt - tbutt@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - AQA/GCSE

AQA Science (Trilogy)

Trilogy is a double award and worth two GCSEs. This will cover a broad range of topics across all three areas of biology, chemistry, and physics, giving students a good foundation in knowledge and an opportunity to develop fundamental skills.

Assessment structure: 100% written examination (6 x 1hr15 written exam papers)

AQA Separate Science

Nationally, the triple science program is regarded as being a demanding course which comprises of the combined science content offered to all students, with extension content. The extension content looks in more details at how our bodies are regulated, the energy changes in chemical reactions and the natural phenomena of how light behaves.

This demanding trio of GCSE subjects will enable students to demonstrate their academic ability and mastery of scientific concepts as well as developing fundamental skills in writing, mathematics, problem solving and practical activities.

Assessment structure: 100% written examination (6 x 1hr45 written exam papers)

Person specification - is this course right for you?

Students should enjoy, and be committed to, both the theoretical and practical work in science.

Students who are part of this course should be prepared for a significant part of their timetable to be filled by science subjects (over 20% of all lessons, 5 lessons per week) and as such should display a strong passion for the subject.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

These courses support the transition from GCSE to A-Level biology, chemistry, and physics. The additional topics introduced through separate science are picked up at the beginning of the A-Levels and enable students to be successful in their studies. Students can go on to pursue careers in medicine, engineering, conservation and ecology, scientific research, and chemical engineering after taking GCSE science.

Course Details - Spanish

Point of contact - Mrs. Hannah Lines - hlines@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Edexcel/GCSE

Spanish is the second most spoken language on the planet, and if you can speak both Spanish and English you can communicate with 80% of the world. In Spanish, our aim is to enable students to communicate effectively and to their full potential using the target language so that they can be part of a global community. As part of the GCSE students cover a range of everyday topics and practice their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing to prepare them for using language in real-life situations. The topics covered include:

Identity and culture,

- Who am I: relationships; when I was younger; what my friends and family are like; what makes a good friend; interests; socialising with friends and family; role models?
- Daily life: customs and everyday life; food and drink; shopping; social media and technology (use of, advantages and disadvantages)
- Cultural life: celebrations and festivals; reading; music; sport; film and television

Local area, holiday, and travel

- Holidays: preferences; experiences; and destinations
- Travel and tourist transactions: travel and accommodation; asking for help and dealing with problems; directions; eating out; shopping
- Town, region and country: weather; places to see; things to do

School

- What school is like: school types; school day; subjects; rules and pressures; celebrating success
- School activities: school trips; events; exchanges

Future aspirations, study, and work

- Using languages beyond the classroom: forming relationships; travel; employment
- Ambitions: further study; volunteering; training
- Work: jobs; careers; professions

International and dimension

- Bringing the world together: sports events; music events; campaigns and good causes
- Environmental issues: being 'green'; access to natural resources

All exams will be taken at the end of Year 11 in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. All contribute 25% each to your final examination grade in Spanish.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

To benefit from this course you need an enjoyment of learning Spanish and a commitment to succeed.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

Through learning a foreign language students practice and develop many skills that underpin success in the world of work. These include speaking, listening and the ability to use tactics and strategies to overcome setbacks and achieve goals. Having a language is seen as a great advantage by employers. Many language graduates go onto work in sectors such as the media, armed forces, tourism and hospitality, customer service, education, and finance as well as the opportunity to work abroad.

Course Details - Geography

Point of contact - Ms. Rachel Atkins - ratkins@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - AQA/GCSE

GCSE (AQA) Geography at West Grantham Academy explores several geographical topics discovering both the geography of the UK and the rest of the world. Geographers will be encouraged to use enquiry learning to develop a deep understanding of the world around them. There is also an opportunity for geography students to undertake field trips to support their learning.

Unit 1- Living with the physical environment

- Natural hazards - earthquakes and volcanoes
- Weather hazards - tropical storms and UK weather events such as the Beast from the East
- Climate change
- Ecosystems including tropical rainforests and cold environments
- UK physical landscape - including rivers and coasts

Unit 2- Challenges in the human environment

- Urbanisation
- Urban issues and challenges including a case study on Rio de Janeiro and Nottingham
- Urban sustainability
- Development including a case study on Nigeria
- Changes in the economy of the UK
- Resource management - including food, water and energy

Unit 3- Geographical applications

- Issue evaluation - this includes looking at materials pre-released by the exam board to allow students to immerse themselves in the issue
- Fieldwork - students must complete two fieldwork enquiries as part of the course and therefore this allows us the opportunity to take the students off site to see some geography in action and develop their fieldwork techniques.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

Geography will appeal to students with a genuine interest in how the world works both in natural and human terms. If you want to understand the planet you live on, the impact it has on our lives and the impact we have on the planet, then geography is the course for you. Geography is also great for students who like to think critically and want to better understand the world they live in.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

Geography is increasingly recognised by universities and employers as the “must-have subject” as it is academically challenging and compatible with any subject combination. There is natural progression through to A Level and universities regard it as a “facilitating subject” for any degree course as geographers are highly skilled, versatile and globally aware. Directly linked degrees include Environmental Science, Urban Planning, Geology, Ecology, Earth Sciences, Anthropology, Archaeology, Economics and Politics. Career choices range from environmental consultancy, town planning, transport planner, tourism, working in the travel industry, market research, conservation, environmental law, local government and green technology. The list is endless as Geography will only ever create opportunities. In addition, the skills gained through studying Geography open up many more avenues. For example, many Geographers also go on to work in Finance as they are deemed to be good with data and have strong analytical skills.

Course Details - History

Point of contact - Ms. Rachel Atkins - ratkins@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - AQA/GCSE

GCSE (AQA) History at West Grantham Academy takes students through a journey of discovery to witness how History is continuously changing the world around us, and how past events have helped shape the society we live in today.

You will study:

- Period studies - Germany 1890-1945
- Conflict and tension between East and West, 1945-1972
- Thematic studies - Britain: health and the people c1000-present
- British depth study - Elizabethan England c1568-1603

Person specification - is this course right for you?

History appeals to people who have an enquiring mind, who want to know about the lives of real people and how their actions have shaped the world we live in today. If you want to answer important questions such as 'why do wars happen?' or 'how have we come to live in a multi-cultural society?', then History will help. If you have an interest in developing a range of handy skills which will help you in the world of work or with further study, then studying History is a great opportunity to do this. You will need to want to develop your communication and written skills, be keen to gain ideas on how to construct an argument and be ready to interrogate and interpret sources.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

History can be studied at A Level and be continued to Degree level and beyond. There are so many different areas that the opportunities for further study are endless and as such there is always several different topic areas which appeal to individuals.

History develops many skills that impress employers. History students are able to reach independent judgements, ask important questions, weigh up the evidence presented to them and write and speak with confidence. This makes them highly desirable in a number of fields. Historians may go on to follow a variety of career paths such as journalism, law, business, politics, archaeology, marketing or teaching.

Course Details - Art

Point of contact - Mrs. Jacqueline Pearson - jpearson@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Edexcel/GCSE

This course gives students the opportunity to produce work that demonstrates the use of formal elements and creative skills.

Students' work will give form to individual thoughts, feelings, observations and ideas.

Students will study the work of others to support and develop their work:

60% coursework and 40% practical exam.

Coursework: All of year 10 and refine in start of year 11: Human Condition Drawing and painting, sculpture, and mixed media. German Expressionism printmaking and The Natural World Photography. The exam question in January of year 11 is supplied by Edexcel.

Units for all above include:

A01 Artists research: develop ideas through investigations demonstrating critical understanding of sources

A02 Media Experimentation: refining work by refining ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

A03 Drawing skills and ideas: record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

A04 Final response: present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

- A personal, creative, and imaginative approach is needed.
- Enjoyment of practical activity is critical.
- Integration of some critical and historical knowledge is required.
- You must be willing to experiment and take risks in your work.
- You must be able to work to deadlines.
- Students will have an interest in studying and/or using art in the future.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

You might go on to study art and design-based subjects further including foundation and degree courses. There are hundreds of art-based career specialisms which can be used in a wide variety of jobs such as illustrator, fine artist, fashion designer, game designer, milliner, graphic designer, art teacher, sculptor, art specialist, gallery curator, art dealer or auctioneer or more general careers that require an element of artistic knowledge such as interior design, product development and visual merchandising.

Course Details - Creative Media Production

Point of contact - Mr. Chris Stanley - cstanley@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Pearson/BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

The Tech Award enables learners to develop sector-specific skills and knowledge of the production processes and techniques that underpin them, across a range of media products using a combination of practical exploration, experimentation, and realistic vocational contexts. They will also develop key skills such as investigating and developing ideas through pre-production, production, and post-production, managing their creative projects, documenting progress of skills and work, responding to briefs, presenting work, and reflective practice. In addition, learners develop employability skills such as teamwork, time management and communication.

This course is split up into 3 components; two internally-assessed, each worth 30%, and one externally-assessed component worth 40%:

Component 1: Exploring Media Products

Learners will develop their understanding of how media products create meaning for their audiences, as well as examining existing products and exploring media production techniques.

Component 2: Developing Digital Media Production Skills

Learners will develop and apply skills and techniques in media production processes by creating a media product from one of the following sectors: audio/moving image, print or interactive design.

Component 3: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief

Learners will apply and develop their planning and production skills and techniques to create a media product in response to a brief.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

This qualification is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work in the Creative Media sector and allows them to make an informed decision about their future learning and career.

This qualification takes a fully practical and skills-based approach to learning and assessment, with no written exam. All components, including the externally assessed synoptic component, are assessed through engaging, open, and flexible set tasks, designed to stimulate creative ideas.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

This Tech Award complements the learning in GCSE programmes such as Design and Technology, Art and Design, and Computer Science. Learners might consider progression to A Levels or to the study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Creative Media.

Course Details - Health and Social Care

Point of contact - Ms. Ruth Allery - rallery@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Pearson/BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

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

The course is run in a three-component structure: explore, develop, and apply. This allows students to build and embed their knowledge, grow in confidence and then put into practice what they have learnt.

- **Component 1 - Human Lifespan Development:**

Learners will explore different aspects of growth and development and the factors that can affect this across the life stages. They will explore the different events that can impact on individuals' physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development and how individuals cope with and are supported through changes caused by life events. This is internally assessed and is worth 30% of the overall mark.

- **Component 2 - Health and Social Care Services and Values:**

Learners will explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of service users. They will also duty the skills, attributes and values required when giving care. This is internally assessed is worth 30% of the overall mark.

- **Component 3 -Health & Wellbeing:**

Learners will explore the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and person-centred approaches to make recommendations to improve an individual's health and wellbeing. This is an externally assessed exam and is worth 40% of the overall mark.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

The BTEC Tech award in Health & Social Care will appeal to students with an interest in working in one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK: Health & Social Care. The course covers some of the fundamental aspects of health and social care and gives learners a broad introduction to a sector that covers a wide range of careers from social care and social work to many different branches of healthcare. The course uses realistic vocational contexts in a way of looking at different healthcare scenarios and analysing them. Learners will explore a range of healthcare conditions and social care needs and will consider how the different health and social care services available can help meet individuals' needs. The Tech Award combines theory with plenty of practical application, giving learners the opportunity to develop key skills relevant to the health and social care sector such as research techniques and measuring physical health, as well as developing their written communication skills. Over the two years, learners will complete realistic tasks and activities that allow them to fully connect knowledge to practice and evidence what they are learning in the classroom.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

On completion of this course, the qualification opens a wide range of progression opportunities, including A levels or a BTEC National in Health & Social Care which can be studied at college.

Course Details - Hospitality and Catering

Point of contact - Mr. Dominic Brown - dbrown@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - WJEC/Level 1/Level 2 Vocational Award (Technical Award)

The course structure has been designed to develop in learners the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they need to take into account to be successful. There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. In this qualification, learners will also develop their food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

Unit 1: The hospitality and catering industry

- Hospitality and catering provision
- How hospitality and catering providers operate
- Health and safety in hospitality and catering
- Food safety in hospitality and catering

Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action

- The importance of nutrition,
- Menu planning,
- The skills and techniques of preparation, cooking, and presentation of dishes,
- Evaluating cooking skills.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

It is most suitable for students as a foundation for further study, providing students with a core depth of knowledge and a range of general and specialist skills that will support progression to further learning and future employment.

This course will appeal to students with an interest in catering and cooking, who are willing to work at a fast pace, are well organised and can work independently.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

Hospitality and Catering is paramount in the development of life skills that will equip students with the ability to provide a better quality of life for themselves. Many of the skills learned are also useful to employers as students must be able to demonstrate responsibility and independence in their approach.

Career opportunities include areas such as Hospitality Catering establishments, Food Manufacture and Product Development, Buying, Retail, Environmental Health, Food Science, Marketing, Teaching, Dietary Advisor and Food Microbiology.

Course Details - Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)

Point of contact - Mr. Stevie Thornton - sthornbton@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - AQA/GCSE

Perhaps more important than ever in an ever changing and turbulent society, we are pleased to introduce Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) as an option subject. This course runs alongside short course RE that all GCSE students partake in and adds additional units to explore topics such as Human Rights, issues of life and death, gender discrimination and sexuality. The course seeks to develop further the skills of debate and analysis students will have started to acquire in KS3. In RPE, we look at the belief, interpretation and practice of Christianity, Islam and non-religious belief systems, whilst also seeking to develop, enthuse and challenge students on philosophical and ethical issues and debates within our society today. The opportunity to get out of the classroom and speak to those of faith regarding belief and ethical topics will also be important to the course.

Short course RE GCSE	Full course RPE GCSE
Christianity: Beliefs and teachings	Christianity: Practices
Islam: Beliefs and teachings	Islam: Practices
Theme A: Relationships and families	Theme B: Religion and life
Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict	Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice

Students will complete two external assessments at the end of Year 11 including specific reference to Christian and Muslim beliefs and practice as well as the application of ethical issues.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

There is no need to be a religious believer to enjoy and be successful at RPE. What you will need however, is the ability to express your own opinions, backed by evidence and to be able to empathise and appreciate other perspectives and points of view. Very rarely do qualifications allow you an opportunity to express your own views, argue with your teachers and be rewarded! If you are someone with an open mind, an interest in big questions and a desire to learn about the people that make up our society, this course may well be right for you.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

In addition to possible studying a combination of religion, theology and philosophy at A-Level, knowledge of other cultures and world religious beliefs can be useful in many jobs where you are working with the public or communities. These could include counselling and social services, marketing, sales and advertising, catering and hospitality, leisure, sport and tourism, retail sales and customer services, education and training, medicine and nursing, and service sector roles such as the police.

Course Details - Sport

Point of contact - Ms. Ruth Allery - rallery@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Pearson/BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

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

The course is run in a three-component structure. Explore, develop, and apply. This allows students to build and embed their knowledge, grow in confidence, and then put into practice what they have learnt.

- **Component 1 - Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity:** Learners will explore the different types of provision of sport and physical activity available for different types of participants, barriers to participation and ways to overcome these barriers to increase participation in sport and physical activity. They will also research equipment and technological advances in a chosen sport or physical activity and how to prepare our bodies for participation in sport and physical activity. This is an internally assessed piece of work and is worth 30% of the overall mark.
- **Component 2 - Taking part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance:** Learners will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on performance, take part in practical sport, explore the role of officials in sport and learn to apply methods and sporting drills to improve other participants' sporting performance. This is an internally assessed piece of work and is worth 30% of the overall mark.
- **Component 3 - Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity:** Learners will be introduced to and develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and the different types of fitness for performance in sport and physical activity. They will also develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing. This is an externally marked exam and is worth 40% of the overall mark.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

The BTEC Tech award in sport will appeal to students with a recognisable sporting ability and an interest in physical activity. This qualification enables learners to develop sector-specific skills such as sports analysis and sports leadership, and personal skills such as communication, planning, time management and teamwork, through a practical and skills-based approach to learning and assessment. It is the starting point of a vocational career that can be continued and extended at college and then, if desired, at university too. You must enjoy taking part in a wide range of physical activities but also be prepared to spend a substantial amount of time in the classroom studying the theory of PE & sport. Lessons are active, challenging and fun. They are based on continual assessment which will give you your final grade at the end of the two years. The final unit is exam based but this is completed before GCSE's take place.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

PE & sport students often go on to study related subjects in further education with many opportunities for careers in the sports industry including coaching and teaching, sports development, gym instruction, physiotherapy, sports journalism and many more.

Course Details - Construction

Point of contact - Mr Wayne Martini - wmartini@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Pearson/BTEC Level1/Level 2 Tech Award

If students are interested in a career in bricklaying or construction, this course will provide the knowledge needed to progress further within their chosen field, alongside the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification in the area.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

This course will appeal to students who have an interest in all areas of construction, and who like problem solving and working with their hands. Students can be offered placements within local businesses and gain experience of working in a construction environment within business working hours.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

Students can continue into further education with this course to pursue a specialism.

There are some great opportunities to progress into apprenticeships and gain hands on experience within local and national organisations, and to gain the skills needed to progress into employment.

PLEASE NOTE - PLACES ON THIS COURSE ARE VERY LIMITED AND MAY INVOLVE AN INTERVIEW

Course Details - Performing Arts.

Point of contact - Miss Chloe Blencowe cblencowerenwick@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Edexcel/ BTEC Level1/Level 2 Tech Award

This course gives students the opportunity to develop their acting skills and techniques. These will range from the use of voice and physical movement, to building characters for performance. Students will work on extracts of published texts and on an extended production where they will learn about the performance industry and other roles within the industry such as set design, costume design, lighting and directing.

Units:

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (internally assessed).

- Investigate how professional performance or production work is created
- Demonstrate understanding of the skills, techniques and approaches used by professionals to create performance/production work.

Component 2: Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts (internally assessed).

- Use rehearsal or production/design processes
- Apply skills and techniques in performance or realisation
- Review own development and application of performance or design skills.

Component 3: Responding to a brief (externally assessed).

- Understand how to respond to a brief
- Select and develop skills and techniques in response to a brief
- Apply skills and techniques in a workshop performance in response to a brief
- Evaluate the development process and outcome in response to a brief

This course is 100% coursework with no examination.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

- A personal, creative and imaginative approach is needed.
- Enjoyment of practical activity is critical.
- You must be willing to experiment and take risks in your work.
- You must be willing to respond to feedback individually and in groups.
- You must be able to work to deadlines.
- Students will have an interest in studying and/or using knowledge of acting, directing or designing in the future.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

A Drama qualification will indicate to any employer that you can work as part of a team, have initiative and good communication skills. For a wide range of career opportunities, you may be asked to make a 'presentation' during your interview and a qualification in Drama can help you in performing with confidence, clarity and engagement. Drama is recognised and encouraged by *universities when making applications*. This course is useful for anyone intending to pursue a career working with people and essential if you are considering a career in theatre, TV, film or media.

Course Details - Music Practice

Point of contact - Mr Rob Charlton - rcharlton@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Pearson/BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

BTEC Music Performance students benefit from taking a hands-on course that gives them a taste of what the music sector is like, as well as the skills and confidence to succeed in their next steps.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

This course is for pupils who want to acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by exploring and developing their musical skills and techniques, and by responding to a music industry brief as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement GCSEs. The qualification will broaden pupils experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

It is ideal if pupils can play an instrument / use a DAW / sing and have basic knowledge of music theory, but not essential.

Component 1 30% - Exploring the Music Industry

Explore different styles and genres of music and take part in practical workshops to understand

- the music creation process
- Learn about the different roles within the music industry
- Investigate relationships between different areas of the music industry

Component 2 30% - Developing Music Skills

- Reflect on your musical progress, and on areas for improvement
- Choose a job role and explore the skills needed to fulfil it
- Develop a range of musical skills
- Apply skills and techniques in a music performance, creation or production

What you will study in Year 11:

Component 3 - Responding to a Music Brief

- Choose an area of the industry that excites and intrigues you (composer, performer or producer)
- Explore the brief and consider possible responses and ideas
- Use relevant resources, skills and techniques to develop and refine musical material
- Present final response, either solo or in a group
- Review and reflect on your approach to the brief

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

The music industry is full of jobs and opportunities, for example ;

Sound technician, Music Producer, Recording Engineer, Artist Manager, Tour Manager, Booking Agent, Music Publicist, Composer, Music Arranger

The choices that a pupil can make post-16 will depend on their overall level of attainment and their performance in the qualification. Pupils who generally achieve at Level 2 across their Key Stage 4 learning might consider progression to A Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects, and/or study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Music or a BTEC National in Music Technology, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a music-related degree.

Course Details -Enterprise

Point of contact - Mr. Rob Charlton - rcharlton@wgacademy.org.uk

Exam board and qualification - Pearson/BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

You will learn about the ideas, mindsets and successes of enterprises and entrepreneurs. You will learn about planning and finance, including cash flows, and how to take a product to market. You will develop an idea for a small enterprise of your own and plan how best to set it up and fund it. You will work with others in order to run a small enterprise, using your knowledge and building your business skills. During the course you will also develop important skills that are useful in any industry, such as problem solving, decision making, innovation, project management, team working and communication.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

You may have an interest in business, and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, how businesses are set up, and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur. This course will help you to understand all this and more. You will be introduced to:

- The world of small businesses.

- What makes someone a successful business person
- The opportunity to develop the key enterprise and financial skills and knowledge necessary to enable you to understand how businesses recognise opportunities, and build on them to succeed

How will you be assessed?

This is a vocational course, most of the work that you complete during the lessons and at home will be assessed by your teacher. You will produce a variety of work including written reports and presentations.

The unit Promotion and Finance for Enterprise is externally assessed. This is an exam lasting 2 hours. In this exam, you will use knowledge and skills developed throughout the course to answer questions which focus on different areas of Enterprise.

The course is split into three components.

Component 1 30% - Exploring Enterprises: you will examine different local enterprises to develop your knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of enterprises and the skills needed by entrepreneurs.

Component 2 30% - Planning for and Pitching an Enterprise Activity: you will individually select an idea for a micro-enterprise activity to plan and pitch. You will individually pitch your business plan to an audience and then use the feedback to review your plan and pitch.

Component 3 40% - Promotion and Finance for Enterprise: you will explore the different promotional methods used by enterprises and the factors that influence how enterprises identify and target their market. You will explore financial documents and how to use them to monitor and improve the performance of an enterprise to make decisions and recommend strategies for success.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

When you have completed the qualification, you will have developed a practical understanding of the enterprise sector. You will also have developed useful skills that are not generally covered in GCSE courses. This will give you a better idea of whether the business enterprise sector is for you and whether it is an area you would like to study further. After you have finished the course, you may want to go on to further study such as A-Levels, BTECs or a mixture of both, in areas such as business, enterprise and entrepreneurship, marketing, computing or IT.

Course Details - Engineering

Point of contact - Mrs Kirsty Kuffour

Exam board and qualification - WJEC/Level 1/Level 2 Vocational Award (Technical Award)

BTEC Engineering is a superb opportunity to get hands-on experience of working within the engineering sector. We have formed a partnership with 6 local engineering companies where you will learn key skills such as CAD design, producing design proposals and solutions, practical engineering skills (such as laser cutting, welding and robotics) and using and testing a prototype.

Person specification - is this course right for you?

This course is for learners who want to gain technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by studying mechanical, electrical/electronic and engineering design as part of their KS4 learning.

The course is split into 3 components and covers four areas of equal importance:

- Development of key engineering practical and engineering skills, such as research, observation, measurement, making, using computer-aided design (CAD) and disassembly.
- Knowledge of key engineering sectors (mechanical, electrical/electronic and engineering design) and the interrelation of each in industry.
- Knowledge of the stages involved in planning and implementing an engineering project.
- Knowledge and skills involved in the investigation of solutions to engineering problems in response to a given brief.

The majority of the assessment is through coursework but there will also be an externally assessed exam at the end of Y11.

All students will spend half a day a week gaining experience in each of the engineering companies; learning on the job and speaking to industry experts about the possibility of joining their apprenticeship programme at the age of 16.

This is an academic programme and students who are lucky enough to take this course will need to be prepared to work hard at all their subjects within school.

This is a unique experience, and we are the only school to offer this opportunity at present.

Further progression - what opportunities could this course offer you?

The UK is regarded as a world leader in engineering, which covers a wide range of exciting and rapidly developing areas such as renewable energy, space, low carbon, aerospace, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. People with engineering skills are always in demand. Between 2010 and 2020, engineering companies are projected to have 2.74 million job openings.

THE WEST GRANTHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND
SECONDARY ACADEMY

