



Our Future



Your Future



Your Options

KEY STAGE 4 OPTION CHOICES for 2012

Introduction

Decisions about subject choices for Key Stage 4 are the most important educational decisions you have made so far. This brochure is designed to help in that decision-making process. These choices are not decisions to be made lightly. However you are not alone because there are lots of people to help and support you. You should consult widely to help you make informed choices – for example with Subject Teachers, Academic Tutors, Heads of House and our Connexions Advisor. Parents also have an important role to play in advising students – after all they know you best of all!

Our options have been designed to give you maximum choice and flexibility whilst also ensuring that we equip you with the skills needed for your future careers. We recognise that each of you has differing strengths, interests and learning styles. Our curriculum offer reflects this and allows you to choose a pathway which suits your individual needs so that you can achieve your personal best.

Over the next few weeks read this booklet carefully and start to consider matching your strengths and interests with the subjects on offer. Consider what you will do at the end of Year 11 and how this may affect the choices you make now. Use your time in school to talk to Subject Teachers and your Academic Tutor. You will also have the opportunity for a one-to-one chat with a senior member of staff to offer you further support and guidance.

Due to the importance of these choices, we are also organising an evening to share information with you and talk further about the options which are on offer. **Our Options Evening will take place Thursday 9th February, 2012 from 6.30pm – 8.30pm in the Discovery Zone.** There will be a presentation by myself and Mrs Cooper at 6.30pm in the new Sports Hall. This event will enable you to talk to Subject Teachers and current students about the different courses on offer. Our Connexions Advisor will also be available to assist you with any queries.

After the Options Evening you will need to complete the Options Form and hand this in to your Academic Tutor by Thursday 23rd February, 2012.

It is an exciting time and we hope you find this booklet and whole process useful when making these choices about your future. Good luck in your decision making and remember we are all here to support you. We look forward to seeing you at our Options Evening and discussing your future plans with you.

Janice Fletcher - Headteacher

Michelle Cooper - Deputy Headteacher

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Overview of the Curriculum

In order to enable the school to fulfil the requirements of the curriculum, the teaching day will be divided into six lessons of 50 minutes each, giving a total of 30 lessons per week.

There are certain subjects that are statutory, which every child has to follow, to provide them with the foundations necessary to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed for their future career paths. This is referred to as our Core Curriculum which all students will experience. There are also a range of subjects which students can opt to do depending on their individual preferences, interest and aptitudes. These are referred to as our Option Subjects.

The curriculum structure below shows you the breakdown of the week and the time spent in core and options subjects:

Core Curriculum	Periods each week
English	4
Maths	5
Science	4
Social Studies (RE/Citizenship) OR Learning for Life and Work	2
ICT	1
PE	2
Options Subjects:	
Options A, B, C, D	3

Most students will gain at least 10 full GCSE or equivalent passes. Some will achieve much more as a result of the completion of additional qualifications in core, or because of the option choices made.

Types of Qualifications

There are different types of qualifications available to you. Below is an outline of what they are.

GCSE qualifications

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education. Most GCSE subjects are awarded a grade based upon a combination of written or practical examinations and some coursework. As a result of your two years work you, will be awarded a grade based on a scale of A* - G.

- Grade A* will be awarded to exceptional students
- Grade A the next highest standard
- Grade G the final pass standard
- Grade U Unclassified

BTEC qualifications

BTECs are practical, work related courses. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. One unit in some of the BTEC courses is externally set and assessed. This may be an exam or a controlled piece of assessment.

A BTEC Extended Certificate is equivalent to 2 GCSE grades A* - C. A BTEC First Award is equivalent to 1 GCSE grade A* - C. It introduces you to the employment area you have chosen and provides a good basis to go on to more advanced work-related qualifications.

OCR Nationals

OCR Nationals are exam-free, vocationally related qualifications that take an engaging, practical approach to learning and assessment. Students develop the vital skills needed by today's employers. They focus on ongoing assessment over the duration of the course.

- The OCR National First Award is equivalent to 1 GCSE grade A* - C.
- The OCR National First Certificate is equivalent to 3 GCSE grades A* - C.

Core Curriculum Subjects

To fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum the following subjects will be taught to all students as part of our Core Curriculum.

- **English** will be studied by all students for four lessons per week.
Students will be prepared for the GCSE external examination in English Language and/or English Literature in accordance with their ability.
- **Mathematics** will be studied by all students for five lessons per week to prepare them for GCSE Maths.
Strong Mathematicians may also have the opportunity to do GCSE Statistics.
- **Science** will be taught for four lessons per week.
It will be possible for students to obtain 2 GCSE (or equivalent) certificates. The course covers material in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- **Physical Education** will be taught for two lessons per week.
This will include a wide range of indoor/outdoor sports appropriate to the season and weather. Some accredited opportunities will be available to students where appropriate.
- **Information and Communication Technology** will be taught for one lesson per week.
This will lead to an ICT OCR National First Award, equivalent to one GCSE.

EITHER

- **Social Studies** (Religious Education and Citizenship) will be taught for two lessons per week.
This will lead to a GCSE qualification in Humanities.

OR

- **Learning for Life and Work** (including Religious Education and Citizenship). This will lead to a BTEC qualification in Work Skills.

These subjects are described in more detail over the next 7 pages.

English Language and Literature

Qualification:	GCSE English
Head of Department:	Mrs T Dodd
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study English?

English is a core subject in years 10 and 11 – this means that all students will study the course and achieve either GCSE English or GCSE English Language. Some students may be given the opportunity to achieve GCSE English Literature as an additional GCSE qualification.

What will I learn?

As part of the English course, you will study a wide range of texts – written, moving image and spoken. You will start with a study of media texts – posters, web pages, news articles – and move onto texts taken from the Literary Heritage – Shakespeare, modern poetry and the novel. Speaking and Listening are also important parts of the course, with a range of activities being undertaken. You will analyse the way that spoken language works in the ‘real world’, as well as in written texts, and you will participate in 3 speaking and listening activities.

How will the course be structured?

English Language has 3 units - Unit 1 - English Today, Unit 2 - The Writer’s Voice, Unit 3 - Spoken Language.

English Literature has 3 units - Unit 1 – Understanding Prose, Unit 2 – Understanding Poetry, Unit 3 – Shakespeare and Contemporary Drama.

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 Units in total. You will undertake 2 Controlled Assessments as part of the course. In Unit 1, you will have up to 4 hours to respond analytically to 2 texts that you have studied in lessons and to produce a non-fiction text of your own. In Unit 3, you will be assessed on your ability to participate in 3 speaking and listening activities and also complete a spoken language study as part of your Controlled Assessment. You will also sit 1 external examination in Unit 2, in which you will write analytically about a novel studied in lessons.

What career opportunities are there?

English provides a foundation for your study in all other subjects – both at GCSE/BTEC level and beyond to AS/A levels. You can study A level English Language/Literature at Coppice Performing Arts School. Most – if not all – career paths you may pursue after year 11 will require a good GCSE grade in English.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs T Dodd, Curriculum Area Leader, for more information.

Mathematics

Qualification:	GCSE Mathematics
Head of Department:	Mrs J Booker
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Mathematics/Statistics?

Mathematics is a core subject. It is everywhere around us and students will need to have an understanding of how to calculate accurately as well as be able to work out their own finances. It is used in most jobs and students will need to have an understanding of most topics.

Statistics teaches you to think about how data can help you make decisions and predict how things will change.

What will I learn?

Mathematics: Students will learn how to calculate with and without a calculator, how to use percentages, decimals and fractions, as well as applying these to real life situations. They will study Algebra and how it can be used to solve problems, as well as looking at shape and graphs and using their skills to explain and prove things. Data handling and probability are also included in the course.

Statistics: It is an extension of the data handling and probability work already studied in Mathematics.

How will the course be structured?

Mathematics: Students will have 5 lessons per week and will study all of 3 modules of work. The 3 modules are: Data Handling and Number, Number and Algebra, Number, Shape and Space and Algebra.

Statistics: This is available for some students who are able Mathematicians.

How will I be assessed?

Mathematics: Students will take 3 examinations at either Higher or Foundation tier. Higher exams give grades A* to D with Foundation giving grades C to G. Students will be entered for the tier that fits their ability for that module. The final grade is taken from a total of the best marks for each of the modules.

What career opportunities are there?

Most further education courses require students to have gained a grade C in Maths and Colleges and Sixth Form often require this as an entry qualification. Any job has some part of Maths in it and all prospective employers expect employees to be proficient in Maths.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs J Booker, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Science GCSE

Qualification:	GCSE Science B and Additional Science B
Head of Department:	Mr M Perager
Exam Board:	OCR

Why study the Sciences?

GCSE Science B and Additional Science B make up this Double Award. They identify the activities and experiences you will come across in everyday life, and link these to Scientific ideas and their implications for society. It provides the opportunity to acquire the scientific skills, knowledge and understanding for life as a citizen. It provides distinctive and relevant experience for learners who wish to progress to Level 3 qualifications.

What will I learn?

You will learn through a variety of interesting ideas and experiences to develop scientific explanations and theories. Topics cover all aspects of science from health and fitness to electricity: from using carbon fuels to exploring our solar system. You will develop research skills, the ability to work independently and effective team communication.

How will the course be structured?

You will have 4 lessons a week over 2 years and be expected to cover 2 modules in biology, chemistry and physics for Science B and the same for Additional Science. The modules in Additional Science develop the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired in Science B. Topic titles include Understanding Ourselves (Science B); Living and Growing (Additional Science); Chemical Resources (Science B); the Periodic Table (Additional Science).

How will I be assessed?

Science B: One internally assessed unit (controlled assessment) plus 2 unit exams, each of which is offered in Foundation and Higher tiers. There is no choice of questions and the quality of written communication will also be assessed. Additional Science assessment follows the same pattern. Regular mini tests will be given plus feedback to enable students to improve their grades.

What career opportunities are there?

You will develop many transferable and work related skills that are highly valued by employers. These include the ability to interpret, use and evaluate data, communicate effectively, work as part of a team as well as manage time and learn independently. All areas are open to jobs from journalism to beauty therapy and from horticulturalist to rocket scientist. Successful students will be able to extend their studies to AS/A level.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs L Bennett, Assistant Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Science BTEC

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 First Award in Principles of Applied Science BTEC Level 2 First Award in Application of Science
Head of Department:	Mr M Perager
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study BTEC Applied Science?

BTEC First in Applied Science will provide you with the skills and knowledge that are relevant for aspects of employment within Science organisations or those that use Science. It could help you to succeed in your Science related career or to access Higher Education. You will be encouraged to take responsibility for your own learning, develop work-related skills such as working to deadlines and presenting information effectively.

What will I learn?

The award delivers the KS4 programme of study for Science covering key scientific principles vital to Science and citizens of the future. Topics include investigating properties and reactivity of chemicals, human body and the effect of natural and human activities on the earth. You will investigate energy transformation and research ideas on how the universe is changing. You will study how our bodies function and consider factors which can affect our health.

How will the course be structured?

Students will have 4 lessons each week over 2 years and will be expected to complete 8 mandatory units (6 internal assessed units and 2 x 60 minute external set assessment units).

The First Award is divided into two sections:

- (a) Principles of Applied Science (equivalent to one GCSE).
- (b) Application of Science (equivalent to an additional GCSE).

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on a regular basis by completing assignments based on set BTEC Applied Science criteria for each unit. You will receive feedback and guidance on each assignment. The work will be graded at Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*. It is expected that learners will have completed all units from the First Award in Principles of Applied Science before completing the application of Science Units. Those students who do not satisfy the Level 2 criteria may achieve a Level 1 if they meet the Level 1 criteria for each unit.

What career opportunities are there?

Successful students can progress onto BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Applied Science in Coppice Performing Arts School Sixth Form or College. Students can also progress onto a range of courses for Beauty Therapy Science, Sport Science, Pharmacy Services, Dental Technology, Forensic Science and Medical Sciences. The qualification provides a route to a variety of technician based careers such as Quality Control Analysts, Medical Technician in hospitals, Research Technicians in a Pharmaceutical company or to a variety of apprenticeships in the Science related sector.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mr M Perager, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Social Studies

Qualification:	GCSE Humanities
Head of Department:	Mrs M Harris
Exam Board:	AQA

Why study Humanities?

The majority of students in Years 10 and 11 will follow this GCSE Humanities course which fulfils the government Statutory requirements for Religious Education and Citizenship,(others will follow Learning for Life and Work, see overleaf).

What will I learn?

The AQA course involves students exploring the issues that challenge human societies and extends their understanding of the world around them. Students will learn about contemporary issues such as terrorism, animal rights, euthanasia, migration, discrimination and abortion.

How will the course be structured?

The course covers 4 units over a 2 year period, 2 lessons each week.

The units are:

Culture and Beliefs

Family and Socialisation

The Environment

Prejudice and Persecution

How will I be assessed?

To monitor students' progression, assessments will be taken on a regular basis and graded in line with GCSE requirements. There are 2 external exams based on source information and knowledge gained. The first exam will be based on the first 2 units listed and the second exam covers the last 2 units. There is a written assessment worth 25% of the exam marks. This is carried out under controlled conditions. The subject is provided each year by the exam board and varies each year. Information required for this assessment is provided during lesson times and via homework assignments/research.

What career opportunities are there?

In the world of work, employers look for:

- Someone with an enquiring mind
- An appreciation of different viewpoints on contemporary issues, both local and global
- Someone who is thoughtful, informed and a responsible citizen
- An ability to make a balanced decision

From this course you will achieve all of the above and be able to use these to help you with a wide variety of careers which deal with people. It will also provide a basic knowledge of not just RE and Citizenship but also Sociology, Psychology, History and Geography, which can be used as access for Post 16 study.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs M Harris, Head of Social Studies, or Mr M Graham, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Learning for Life and Work

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Learning for Life and Work
Head of Department:	Mrs S Dulai and Mrs M Harris
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Learning for Life and Work BTEC?

Some students will follow this BTEC course which will provide students with the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills needed to enter employment. You will also cover the statutory requirements for Religious Education and Citizenship.

What will I learn?

You will learn about the workplace environment through a series of projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace scenarios. You will be able to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life. You will also cover topics such as police in the community, prejudice and persecution, rights and responsibilities.

How will the course be structured?

Students will have 2 lessons a week over 2 years and will be expected to complete a number of units to achieve an overall pass grade. All units are related to skills needed in employment. Some of the units covered are searching for a job, interview skills, applying for a job and working in a team.

The Religious Education and Citizenship will be covered through 4 pieces of work, 250 words for each piece. This will lead to a levelled assessment.

How will I be assessed?

All units are assessed by coursework at regular parts throughout the course. There are no examinations. Regular feedback and support will be given to enable students to improve their grades. The overall grading is a pass, based upon successful completion of all coursework. This course is worth 2 GCSE's grade B.

What career opportunities are there?

On successful completion of this qualification, you may progress employment and/or continue further study.

In the world or work, employers look for:

- Someone with an enquiring mind
- An appreciation of different viewpoints on contemporary issues, both local and global
- Someone who is thoughtful, informed and a responsible citizen
- An ability to make a balanced decision

From this course you will achieve all of the above and be able to use these to help you with a wide variety of careers which deal with people.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs S Dulai, Acting Head of Business Studies, and Mrs M Harris, Head of Social Studies, for further information.

ICT

Qualification: OCR National First Award in ICT Level 2
Curriculum Area Leader: Mrs D Walton
Exam Board: OCR

Why Study ICT?

ICT is part of the National Curriculum and therefore all students are entitled to access the ICT curriculum. Computers are used widely in society today and employers now expect school leavers to be ICT literate. ICT teaches skills which will be used throughout your life at home, at work and socially.

What will I learn?

To gain the National First Award qualification students must study and provide evidence demonstrating their knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of areas including:

Unit 1 – ICT for Business

This unit covers safe working practices, internet and email, presentations, desktop publishing, spreadsheets & database applications used in a business context. (Students have already started this unit in Year 9).

Unit 4 – Design & Produce Multimedia Products

This unit requires students to review existing multimedia products, design their own multimedia product, source & store elements to be included in the multimedia product, create the product and test and evaluate the success of the product.

Unit 20 – Creating Animation for the WWW using ICT

This unit requires students to review existing animations then go on to design, create and test their own computer-based animation.

How will the course be structured?

All students will have one lesson of ICT per week over three years (Years 9 – 11). In this time students will produce three units of coursework for external moderation by OCR and this will cover the above listed themes. Students wishing to study more ICT can also select the OCR National First Certificate from their option block(s). All students will have one computer each for the duration of the course.

How will I be assessed?

The units will be assessed on an on-going basis throughout the course. Students will have a feedback booklet in which they will know their progress, 'working at' grade and next steps for improvement. All coursework is graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction. There are no examinations for this course.

A Distinction is worth a GCSE at grade A

A Merit is worth a GCSE at grade B

A Pass is worth a GCSE at grade C

What career opportunities are there?

This qualification is highly relevant to today's employment market as candidates practice and develop skills used in the workplace and gain a real insight into a range of sectors and industries. ICT is relevant to virtually all jobs and careers nowadays and is therefore essential for all students.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs Walton, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

PE

Qualification:	Entry Level Certificate PE
Head of Department:	Miss C Hinton
Exam Board:	AQA

Why study PE?

CORE PE is compulsory. Every student has to take part in at least 2 lessons of PE a week, to develop a healthy and active lifestyle.

What will I learn?

During the two years, students will take part in a variety of sports. They will develop the ability to perform skills in both individual and team sports, how to apply these skills successfully in the game situation, along with learning the rules and regulations of each sport. Students will also develop evaluation skills to assess their own and others' performance. There will also be an option to plan, perform and evaluate their own health related exercise programme.

How will the course be structured?

The certificate will be taught within the 2 core PE lessons that students have per week.

How will I be assessed?

This course is practical based and marks are given across 5 skill areas in 3 activities. There are 3 levels that you can achieve:

Level 1 = 10 points.

Level 2 = 12 points.

Level 3 = 14 points.

What career opportunities are there?

This course will give you additional points, along with your other GCSE's, to enable you to move forward to the next stage of your academic studies.

How can I get further information?

Please see Miss C Hinton, Head of PE, for further information.

Optional Subjects

Making Informed Decisions about your Option Subjects

Students and parents are asked to read carefully through the remainder of this booklet and look thoroughly at the resource material for the different subjects available to choose from. It is absolutely vital that students make good, informed decisions about which subjects to opt for. All options subjects will lead to qualifications but remember, all qualifications **will need to be EARNED through hard work.**

As you read through booklet you should think about the following things:

- What are my strengths and weaknesses which I should take into account?
- What do I want to do in future which may affect the options I choose?
- What is the content of the courses I am about to choose?
- What subjects do I currently do which I enjoy and do well in?
- Are there any new subjects that I have not studied before which look interesting?
- What method of assessment is there? Which method would suit me better?
- Will the subject involve any expense for equipment, materials or trips?

Some Do's and Don'ts:

- **DO** think carefully about your next step.
- **DO** think carefully about your likes and dislikes.
- **DO** choose for yourself - after all you will be taking the course for two years.
- **DO** look at the information in school and check out your options carefully.
- **DO** find out which subjects you'll need to study for the careers you're interested in.
- **DO** ask for help and discuss your options with parents, teachers, and tutors
- **DON'T** choose a subject just because you like the teacher - you may not be taught by them.
- **DON'T** choose a subject just to be with your friends - you may well be in different groups.
- **DON'T** think about "boys' subjects" and "girls' subjects" – all courses are open to you.

You are going to study these options for two years – so make sure you make the right choices for you based on sound information.

Once you hand in your Options Form, your decisions are final.

The 'English Baccalaureate' (E-Bacc) and Raising the Age of Participation

When making decisions about option subjects it is essential that this guidance is considered.

The 'E-Bacc'

The English Baccalaureate was implemented in the 2010 school performance tables published in January 2011.

A student can achieve the 'E-Bacc' by gaining an A*-C pass in each of the following subject categories:

- GCSE English Language (not Literature)
- GCSE Mathematics
- Two GCSE Sciences – either two of the three 'separate' sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) or GCSE Science plus GCSE Additional Science – but currently not Applied Science (which is being phased out) or BTEC Science
- Either GCSE Geography or GCSE History
- A GCSE in a modern or ancient foreign language at Coppice Performing Arts School

The E-Bacc was introduced principally as a measure of (school) achievement and **not** as a qualification, although it is suggested that successful students will receive a certificate. The government has stated that the introduction of this new performance measure is intended to encourage schools to promote "a properly rounded academic education" and as an incentive for schools to drive up the numbers of students opting to continue with independent science subjects, humanities and foreign languages.

Some schools have chosen to make E-Bacc course combinations compulsory for all students. Coppice Performing Arts School recognises however that the E-Bacc combination of courses will not suit all students and therefore will not promote the highest levels of academic attainment for those students.

Our option blocks therefore enable students to opt for GCSE subjects that would allow them to achieve the E-Bacc qualification. This is essential to ensure that the challenge and stretch is there for our students.

We would advise however that for some students the Baccalaureate subjects will not represent the most suitable programme. Of considerably more importance is that students should choose subjects which will allow them to succeed at a high level and which will enable them to develop as increasingly skilled and motivated learners. For many, this will be achieved by choosing subjects in the areas of the arts, technology and vocational subjects.

Raising the Age of Participation

- The government have increased the statutory participation age of young adults.
- Young people will need to continue in education or training until at least their eighteenth birthday.

What does this mean?

- It does not necessarily mean young people have to stay on at school after year 11 and they still may be able to find employment full time if they choose.
- However they will have a choice about how they participate post 16, which could be through:
 - Full time education such as Sixth Form or College
 - Work based learning such as an Apprenticeship
 - Part time education or training if employed or volunteering for 20 hours per week or more

Why is this happening?

- To give young people the opportunity to develop the skills they need for adult life and to achieve their full potential.
- Participating in learning longer means greater skills and qualifications to open more doors and earn more over your lifetime.
- Evidence shows that those who do not participate in education, employment or training at age 16-18 means they are more likely to earn less, have poor health etc...

How does this affect my options?

You need to consider the options you take and what you may want to do post 16 until you are 18.

Art GCSE

Qualification:	GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art)
Head of Department:	Mrs C Tarnawskyj, Mrs S Eva, and Mrs K Chung
Exam Board:	OCR

Why study Art?

If you would like to develop your artistic skills, creativity, imagination and independence then this course could be suitable for you.

What will I learn?

You will learn and develop creative skills, exploring and experimenting with ideas, materials, tools and techniques. You will learn how to produce your own portfolio of work from set starting points. For example a starting point may be to plan and prepare a personal response, exploring a range of media e.g. painting, drawing and printmaking, and by focusing on your observational drawings, development artistic links and creating a final piece.

How will the course be structured?

Students studying the Art GCSE will have 3 lessons a week over 2 years. Topics are aimed at improving students' skills and their knowledge of art, craft and design styles. Students are then given a range of starting points from which they develop preparation work and then a final piece. Unit 1 is 60% of the final mark, produced under controlled conditions. A maximum of 15 weeks is set to complete the coursework. This allows students to create work of their own individual style. Projects have covered areas such as portraiture, still life, fantasy, natural forms, dreamworld, landscape and culture.

The final examination is worth 40% of the final mark. It is a set paper, where candidates produce a personal response to one question. A period of time is given in which to plan and prepare the piece. Students then sit a 10 hour examination over 2 days to produce a final outcome.

How will I be assessed?

All coursework is assessed regularly; you will receive weekly feedback, guidance and support.

Unit 1 Controlled Assessment	60%	100 marks
Unit 2 Final Examination	40%	100 marks

Your work will be assessed on your ability to:

1. Develop ideas
2. Refine ideas
3. Record ideas
4. Present a response

What career opportunities are there?

You will have the opportunity to go onto further study in this subject at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form or College. You may then consider to study a specialism, which could lead towards a specific career path. Careers for example include an Illustrator, Textile Designer, Animator, Graphic Designer, Architect, Theatre Design, Teacher – Primary, Nursery or Secondary, Jewellery Designer/Maker, Product Designer, Surface Pattern Designer.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs C Tarnawskyj, Head of Art, or Mrs S Eva, Head of Art, for further information.

Art BTEC

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 First Award in Art and Design
Head of Department:	Mrs C Tarnawskyj, Mrs S Eva, and Mrs K Chung
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Art?

If you are interested in developing your artistic skills and techniques, then this course could be for you.

What will I learn?

You will learn to grow in confidence and develop a solid understanding of new skills and techniques. The Award covers key knowledge and practical skills, offering flexibility and choice through optional units whilst building an Art and Design portfolio and using ideas to explore, develop and produce Art and Design. You will gain an understanding for drawing, painting, photography and printmaking.

How will the course be structured?

Students studying the BTEC First Award will have 3 lessons a week over 2 years and will be expected to complete 4 units of work. The core units are: Introduction to Specialist Pathways in Art and Design, and Creative Project in Art and Design. You will research and explore different aspects of art, craft and design, from set assignment briefs.

How will I be assessed?

All units are assessed by coursework at regular points through the course. However unit 2 is externally set and assessed through a project and you will receive weekly feedback, guidance and support. All coursework is graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction and is equivalent to 1 GCSE.

A Distinction* is worth A*

A Distinction is worth A

A Merit is worth B

A Pass is worth C

What career opportunities are there?

You will be able to go onto further study in this subject at Coppice Performing Arts School Sixth Form, or College. You may then consider studying a specialism that could lead towards careers such as Illustrator, Textile Designer, Animator, Graphic Designer, Architect, Theatre Designer, Teacher – Primary, Nursery or Secondary.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs C Tarnawskyj, Head of Art, or Mrs S Eva, Head of Art, for further information.

Business Studies

Qualification:	GCSE Business Communication
Head of Department:	Mrs S Dulai
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Business Communication?

If you are interested in the world of work and would like to develop some of the skills needed for the workplace then this may be the course for you.

What will I learn?

You will learn about the business environment through externally assessed exams and a project. Topics you will learn about include how small businesses start-up, investigating how small businesses work and how businesses communicate with each other. You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills which are required for the workplace and skills which will help you with exams. For example you will further enhance your practical skills such as time management and personal organisation; presentation skills such as addressing audiences using a variety of media; interpersonal skills such as communication and group work; cognitive skills such as reflection and review of own and others' performances.

How will the course be structured?

You will have 3 lessons a week.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of external exams and controlled assessment.

Unit 1 is an external examination; 45 minutes with a compulsory multiple choice and objective test questions. This unit is worth 25% of the total GCSE.

Unit 2 is internally assessed under controlled conditions. Students complete one set task which will assess research, investigation, analysis and evaluation skills. This unit is worth 25% of the total GCSE.

Unit 3 is an external examination; 1 hour 30 minutes where questions will comprise of a combination of multiple choices, short and extended answer, data response and scenario based questions. This unit is worth 50% of the total GCSE.

What career opportunities are there?

Having studied Business you will be able to go onto further education at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form, College or through Work Based Learning. Equally, learners will be able to enter employment in careers such as Accountancy and Finance, Administration, Customer Service, Marketing and Retail.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs S Dulai, Acting Head of Business Studies, for further information.

Business Studies

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 First Award in Business
Head of Department:	Mrs S Dulai
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Business?

If you are interested in the world of work and would like to develop some of the skills needed for the workplace then this course may be for you.

What will I learn?

You will learn about the business environment through a series of assignments and external assessments that are based on realistic workplace scenarios. Topics you will learn about include the importance of customer service and monitoring finance within a business. You will also have the opportunity to develop a range of skills which are required in the workplace. For example you will develop your research and organisational skills in order to manage projects effectively. The ability to work independently and in a team to solve problems will be essential.

How will the course be structured?

Students will have 3 lessons a week and will complete 4 units, over two years.

The core units are; Enterprise in the Business World and Finance for Business. There are many optional units which will be chosen to suit the interests and abilities of the students.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by coursework at regular points through the course and there is an external assessment which makes up 25% of the qualification. Regular feedback and support will be given to enable students to improve their grades. The course is graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

A Distinction* is worth A*

A Distinction is worth A

A Merit is worth B

A Pass is worth C

What career opportunities are there?

Having studied Business you will be able to go on to further study in this subject at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form, College or through Work Based Learning. Equally learners will be able to enter employment in careers such as Accountancy and Finance, Administration, Customer Service, Marketing and Retail.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs Dulai, Acting Head of Business Studies, for further information.

Inspire and Explorer

Qualification:	Inspire - Certificate of Personal Effectiveness Level 1 - Explorer Level 1
Head of Department:	Mrs J Turner
Exam Board:	ASDAN/Edexcel

Why study Inspire and Explorer?

Inspire and Explorer gives you hands on experience and skills for life. You will be given an understanding of many different areas.

What will I learn?

You will learn transferable skills that can be used in any job situation. Examples of skills include:

- Working as a team
- Researching and working Independently
- Communicating with others
- Overcoming challenges
- Organisation skills
- Leadership qualities

How will the course be structured?

The Inspire course has 12 challenges to complete and the Explorer course has 24 units to complete. Both of the course units will be built up over two years and are broken down into different tasks and challenges. The units may vary to meet the needs of each individual student. The units are based on different jobs and this can depend on what each student would like to do when they leave school. It is hoped that we will give them a taste of a job that they may be interested in and would like to pursue in the future.

With this course you will not always be in school. Examples of places that you may visit include:

Cinema, Fitness Centre, Travel Agents, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Sunnyside Kennels, Cannock Chase, Residential Visit.

Outside speakers will also visit the school to give you talks and information for some of your units.

How will I be assessed?

For Inspire your completed folder is moderated by a representative from Asdan, which are the awarding body for Inspire. They will assess it to make sure that it is completed to a high standard. For Explorer your completed folder is internally assessed and externally moderated to make sure it is to a high standard.

With both courses there is no written exam, it is all based on course work.

You will be continually assessed to make sure that you are completing the work up to a high standard.

What career opportunities are there?

You will have developed transferable and work related skills that are highly valued by all employers. You could go straight into the job market using these skills or go to college to continue your education to do an apprenticeship or NVQ course.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs J Turner, Head of Inspire and Explorer, for further information.

Dance

Qualification:	GCSE Dance
Head of Department:	Mrs K Dowson
Exam Board:	AQA

Why study Dance?

The intrinsic value of dance is the development of creative, imaginative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacities. GCSE Dance provides you with the skills, technique, fitness and confidence to pursue professional routes in Dance, PE, or Performing Arts.

What will I learn?

The new specification for GCSE Dance offers a greater focus on practical work, with an exciting content informed by professional works and opportunities to participate in workshops, classes and performances with professional artists and companies. The course will enable you to develop technical competence, physical and personal skills, knowledge and understanding of dance as a choreographer.

How will the course be structured?

GCSE Dance will be delivered within 3 lessons a week over 2 years and is made up of practical and theory lessons. Each term, modules will be delivered to improve techniques in a range of styles; choreography projects that explore and synthesise ideas; performance opportunities learning the exposure skills necessary for effective performance and critical appreciation lessons developing critical, perceptual and evaluative skills. You will also look at Dance fitness and have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular classes, workshops and trips.

How will I be assessed?

The 4 compulsory units will be examined in May 2013, with mock exams delivered over the 2 years to monitor progress.

- GCSE Dance Units:
- Practical Exam – 20% of total mark – technical performance of a set study from AQA.
- Performance Exam – 20% of total mark – Performance in duo/group based on a selected professional work.
- Choreography – 40% of total mark – A solo composition and a piece of choreography for a solo/group based on a chosen stimulus.
- Written Paper – 20% of total mark – 1 hour exam focusing on critical analysis of two professional works.

What career opportunities are there?

GCSE Dance provides a route to further study in A Level or BTEC Dance, at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form. Higher Education is also available in a range of degrees in Dance, Performing Arts or PE, as well as vocational or professional training and community activities.

Experience and qualifications in Dance can not only contribute to a host of non-specific Dance careers, but enable you to enter careers in Dance Teaching, Performance, Choreography, Dance Therapy, Community Dance Work or Arts Co-ordination.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs K Dowson, Head of Dance, for further information.

Drama

Qualification:	GCSE Drama
Head of Department:	Mrs R Bourne
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Drama?

If you like working creatively with others and wish to develop interpersonal skills that are vital for today's modern world then this course may be for you. Also, if you have an interest in performing and exploring Drama this GCSE will be ideal.

What will I learn?

The course is very varied and enables students to create original drama based on a theme as well as explore play texts from the point of view of a performer and reviewer. Students will learn how to practically explore themes, devise drama, perform scripts and evaluate both professional and peer performances. They will also learn key social skills such as team work and personal organisation which leads to more confidence and better communication skills.

How will the course be structured?

The course is split into 3 units over 2 years. The first 2 units are internally assessed and involve the students exploring a theme and a play text via practical workshops. They then write 2 responses explaining and evaluating their practical work. In addition to this, all students go on a theatre trip to watch a fantastic professional production and then write an evaluation of their theatre experience. In Year 11, students prepare for their final assessment which is a devised or scripted performance based on a topic provided by the exam board; this is performed in front of a visiting examiner in the Summer term where students are assessed on their use of voice, movement, characterisation, communication and form.

How will I be assessed?

You are assessed on your contribution to practical workshops, your written evaluations and your final performance of a devised or scripted piece.

What career opportunities are there?

You may choose to go on to study Drama at AS/A Level at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form. Employers will be equally impressed by the strong element of team work involved in the drama course and the appeal of this in the work place is wide, covering a variety of careers and jobs, for example work with pre-school age children, teaching or law. More specifically you may wish to enter "the business" and consider a career as an Actor or in the Performing Arts industry.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs R Bourne, Head of Drama, for further information.

French

Qualification:	GCSE French
Head of Department:	Mrs J Francis
Exam Board:	WJEC

Why study French?

- To increase your job opportunities – there is an increasing need for people with MFL qualifications.
- To boost your brain power – using skills of analysis and problem solving.
- To earn you more money – average earnings can be boosted by up to 20%.
- Some universities are insisting on an MFL qualification as an entry requirement.
- It demonstrates the use of transferable skills – communication, team-work, perseverance etc.

What will I learn?

Content will cover 4 broad themes:

- Personal and Social life
- The Local Community
- The World of Work
- The Wider World

How will the course be structured?

You will have 3 lessons a week.

- Year 10 - reinforce and build upon language and structures used at Key Stage 3 e.g. personal information, school hobbies etc with 'practice assessments' on different topics.
- Year 11 – begin controlled assessments in speaking and writing. Prepare for listening and reading exams.

How will I be assessed?

- Exams in Year 11 for Listening (20%) and Reading (20%).
- Controlled Assessments the best 2 pieces are submitted for Speaking (30%) and Writing (30%).

What career opportunities are there?

- Latest research (2008) show 75% of employers want "Language Skills".
- MFL is useful in Business, Administration and Finance, Travel and Tourism, Engineering, and the Construction Industry.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs J Francis, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Geography

Qualification:	GCSE Geography
Head of Department:	Mr M Graham
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Geography?

Do world events interest you? Do you like discovering new places? Do you enjoy finding out about how our planet works? Do you care about our environment?

If the answer is yes to any of these, then Geography is for you.

What will I learn?

This course will provide you with opportunities through fieldwork, and first hand investigation of places, environments and human behaviour. It builds knowledge and understanding of current events from local to global; it develops essential skills for the future including literacy, numeracy, ICT, decision making, thinking skills and enquiry.

How will the course be structured?

There are 4 units:

1. Dynamic planet-focusing on physical geography
2. People and planet – focusing on human geography
3. Making geographical decisions
4. Researching geography through fieldwork

How will I be assessed?

Higher and Foundation papers are available for Units 1 and 2, with resource based questions ranging from short to extended answers. Unit 3 is an exam based on a resource booklet which you use to help you make a decision. Unit 4 is an assessment task which is based on fieldwork.

What career opportunities are there?

Geography is a highly regarded subject both by employers and universities. Careers which involve Geography include knowing about the environment, working with people or making decisions. For example, Civil Engineer, Conservationist, Hotel Manager, Planner, Social Worker, Surveyor, Teacher, Transport Manager or Tourism Officer.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mr M Graham, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Graphics

Qualification:	GCSE Graphics
Head of Department:	Mr M Corcoran
Exam Board:	OCR

Why study Graphics?

If you like problem solving, designing and drawing and making realistic products, this course may suit you. You will develop your understanding of materials, ability to analyse and evaluate commercial products and make informed decisions.

What will I learn?

You will learn how to present design solutions to real everyday problems using a range of drawing techniques including computer aided design. You will use lightweight materials to produce detailed products to illustrate your design solutions. Throughout the course you will be involved in making decisions, considering sustainability and combine skills with knowledge and understanding to design and make quality products using card, paper and light plastic materials.

How will the course be structured?

Students will undertake a number of design and practical tasks leading towards their coursework projects. They will also study design techniques and learn about sustainability in the design and manufacturing processes. Theoretical knowledge and understanding of sustainability and materials, tools and equipment will be taught throughout the 2 year course.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is by 2 coursework projects each worth 30% and by 2 written exams each worth 20%.

What career opportunities are there?

A good qualification in Graphics allows further study to A level in Product Design at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form. It also offers opportunities in a wide range of design, technical and manufacturing careers.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mr M Corcoran, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Health and Social Care

Qualification:	Health & Social Care BTEC Level 2 First Award in Health & Social Care
Head of Department:	Mrs K Pickering and Miss T Ireson
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Health & Social Care?

If you are interested in working with, and helping, a wide range of people this course provides a sound base for developing knowledge and workplace skills.

What will I learn?

You will learn about the wide spectrum of Health and Social Care provision in the United Kingdom. Topics of primary importance are communication skills, dealing with clients/patients in the workplace and barriers which affect access to services. Practical work is also an essential part of the course.

How will the course be structured?

Students will have 3 lessons per week and will complete 2 core units and 2 optional units. The core units are:

- Human Life Span Development - (externally set and assessed)
- Health and Social Care Values

The optional units are:

- Effective Communication in Health and Social Care
- Individual Rights in Health and Social Care

How will I be assessed?

Most units are assessed by coursework at regular points through the course. There is one externally assessed unit (identified above). Regular feedback and support will be given to enable students to improve their grades.

All coursework is graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

- A Distinction* is worth A*
- A Distinction is worth A
- A Merit is worth B
- A Pass is worth C

What career opportunities are there?

Further options include studying BTEC Level 3 Health & Social Care at Coppice Performing Arts school, College or work based apprenticeships. These can all lead into a degree course for Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work. Alternatively employment opportunities from school could include Care Assistant, Nursery Assistant etc.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs K Pickering, Acting Head of Health & Social Care, for further information.

History

Qualification:	GCSE History
Head of Department:	Mr Moren
Exam Board:	Edexcel History B

Why study History?

- History is an interesting and stimulating subject at any age, but provides a real challenge at GCSE level and beyond. It provides students with many vital skills such as allowing them to make a balanced judgement or analyse situations or events.
- History remains very much an academic subject and as such is still highly regarded by businesses, colleges and universities. It provides an ideal preparation for A levels which remain exam-based, rather than coursework-based.

What will I learn?

The course offers a balance of topics which are both interesting and relevant. There are four units:

- Unit 1 - Medicine 1350-2000 – we take for granted our health today and are largely ignorant of the pain and suffering people had to endure in the past.
- Unit 2 - Nazi Germany – who doesn't find Hitler, the Nazis and the Holocaust interesting? Who likes being told what to do and think? You'd hate living in Nazi Germany then! How did all this happen?
- Unit 3 - Britain during the First and Second World Wars – many of your grandparents experienced the Blitz, rationing and evacuation. Learn what it was like for them. How did women's place in Britain change?
- Unit 4 – The Vietnam War – over 58,000 mainly young Americans were killed during the 1960/70s. The average age of the combat soldier was 19 years. Over 300,000 were wounded, a third of whom lost limbs. Why did America get involved in this war and why did it lose?

How will the course be structured?

The course is linear. This means that students will take exams in units 1, 2 and 3 at the end of Year 11. Unit 4 is coursework and will be completed during Year 10.

How will I be assessed?

- Each unit is worth 25% of the total marks.
- Units 1-3 are assessed by examinations, each being 1¼ hours.
- Unit 4 is coursework which is completed mainly in lessons.

What career opportunities are there?

History GCSE is very popular with employers. It shows that the applicant for a job can make balanced judgements and rational decisions. History can make a contribution to many jobs including Teaching, Journalism and Leisure and Tourism.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mr D Moren, Head of History, for further information.

Hospitality

Qualification:	Hospitality BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Hospitality
Head of Department:	Mrs V Bache
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Hospitality?

This course will not only prepare you for work in the Hospitality industry but for any industry where communication, teamwork, reliability and organisation are considered to be desirable qualities.

What will I learn?

You will investigate the whole Hospitality Business as well as develop culinary skills. You will cover a range of things from customer service, service of food and drink, food safety, costing and finance, healthy lifestyles and cultural cuisine, to planning and running an event. There are a range of optional units which can be selected to suit the ability and interests of students.

How will the course be structured?

Students will have 3 lessons a week and students can gain 2 GCSE's if they are prepared to work hard in school and at home. There are a range of tasks students will carry out which would require some extensive personal study and research.

How will I be assessed?

All units are assessed by the teacher at regular points during the course and regular feedback given. There are no exams.

All coursework is graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

A Distinction* is worth A* A*

A Distinction is worth A A

A Merit is worth B B

A Pass is worth C C

What career opportunities are there?

You can work anywhere in the world with this qualification, from a steward on a cruise ship, managing hotels and restaurants or further study to become a chef.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs V Bache, Head of Food, for further information.

ICT

Qualification:	OCR National First Certificate in ICT Level 2
Curriculum Area Leader:	Mrs D Walton
Exam Board:	OCR

Why Study ICT?

Computers are used widely in society today and employers now expect school leavers to be ICT literate. ICT teaches skills which will be used throughout your life. Some students may opt to study this full course in addition to CORE ICT. Those opting for this will cover far more aspects of ICT and will gain the equivalent to three GCSEs rather than one GCSE. This is the best choice if you have a strong interest in ICT or have an ICT related career in mind. Studying a larger number of units will give you greater breadth of this subject.

What will I learn?

In addition to their core ICT study of:

- Unit 1: ICT for Business
- Unit 4: Design & Produce Multimedia Products
- Unit 20: Create animation for the WWW using ICT

students will study the following additional units:

- Unit 2: Web Page Creation
- Unit 3: Digital Imaging – Plan and Produce Computer Graphics
- Unit 6: Spreadsheets – Design and Use
- Unit 7: Databases – Design and Use
- Unit 22: Creating Sound using ICT

How will the course be structured?

In addition to your one weekly core ICT lesson you will have an additional three ICT lessons per week. In these additional sessions you will complete a further five units of study.

How will I be assessed?

The units will be assessed on an on-going basis throughout the course. Students will have a feedback booklet for each unit in which they will know their progress, 'working at' grade and next steps for improvement. All coursework is graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction. There are no examinations for this course. Twice per year an external moderator will visit school to view coursework and agree grades awarded.

A Distinction is worth the equivalent of 3 A /A* grade GCSEs.

A Merit is worth the equivalent of 3 B/A grade GCSEs.

A Pass is worth the equivalent of 3 C grade GCSEs.

What career opportunities are there?

This qualification is highly relevant to today's employment market as candidates practise and develop skills used in the workplace and gain a real insight into a range of sectors and industries. ICT is relevant to virtually all jobs and careers nowadays and is therefore a good choice for most.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs Walton, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information .

Media GCSE

Qualification:	GCSE Media
Head of Department:	Mrs T Dodd and Mrs M Hornby
Exam Board:	AQA

Why study GCSE Media?

GCSE Media gives a full and extensive coverage of the Media – both theory and practice. It gives opportunities to learn about real media and products as well as producing media texts (moving and written) of your own.

What will I learn?

During the course, you will investigate the media industry, researching a variety of media products and how they are produced and ‘consumed’ by audiences. You will then develop your understanding of the industry by producing 3 assignments.

A typical assignment task, for example, may require you to compare the effects created by 2 covers from magazines and then to create your own. Towards the end of the course, you will develop your practical skills by producing a more lengthy media product working through pre-production, production and post-production processes. Typical assignments here include creating a film trailer or a series of TV adverts.

How will the course be structured?

Single Award: Unit 1 Investigating the Media (External Exam)
 Unit 2 Understanding the Media (Controlled Assessment)

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by external examination and controlled assessment.

What career opportunities are there?

Studying GCSE Media will give you the opportunities to progress onto AS/A Level Media Studies, or a Level 3 BTEC at Coppice Performing Arts School Sixth Form. If you are interested in pursuing a career in the Media – perhaps as a Radio Broadcaster, Webpage Designer or Journalist – this course will provide an excellent foundation, giving you insight into how the industry works as well as giving you some practical skills.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs M Hornby, Head of Media, for further information.

Media BTEC

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Creative Media Production
Head of Department:	Mrs M Hornby
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Media?

If you are interested in the world of work and would like to develop some of the skills needed for the workplace then this course may be for you.

What will I learn?

You will learn about the media environment through a series of assignments that are based on realistic workplace scenarios. Topics you will learn about include video, audio and advertising. You will also have the opportunity to develop a range of skills which are required in the workplace. For example you will develop your research and organisational skills in order to manage projects effectively. The ability to work independently and in a team to solve problems will be essential.

How will the course be structured?

The Extended Certificate students will have 3 lessons a week and will complete 4 units of coursework. The core units are; Research for Creative Media Production and Communication Techniques for Creative Media Production.

There are many optional units which will be chosen to suit the interests and abilities of the students, which include; Video Production, and Advertising Production.

How will I be assessed?

All units are assessed by coursework at regular points through the course. There are no examinations. Regular feedback and support will be given to enable students to improve their grades. All coursework is graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

A Distinction* is worth A* A*

A Distinction is worth A A

A Merit is worth B B

A Pass is worth C C

What career opportunities are there?

Having started Media you will be able to go on to further study in this subject at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form, College or through Work Based Learning. Equally learners will be able to enter employment within the Media sector in careers such as television, radio, newspapers, magazines and new media.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs M Hornby, Head of Media, for further information.

Music

Qualification:	GCSE Music
Head of Department:	Mrs N Lacey
Exam Board:	AQA

Why study Music?

GCSE Music offers students the opportunity to develop their performance and composition skills through a wide variety of repertoire. If you have a passion for performance, composition or listening this is the course for you.

What will I learn?

You will learn about practical musicianship through performance, composition and listening tasks. The five areas of study are:

- Rhythm and Metre
- Harmony and Tonality
- Texture and Melody
- Timbre and Dynamics
- Structure and Form

These will be taught through music from the Western Classical tradition, popular music of the 20th and 21st centuries and world music.

How will the course be structured?

The exam components are:

- Performance – a solo and ensemble performance of your own choice which can be either vocal or instrumental – worth 40% of final mark.
- Composition – a composition to be written, recorded and appraised – 20% coursework.
- Listening – a final listening exam worth 20%.
- Integrated Assignment – an AQA set composition to be written, realised and evaluated.

How will I be assessed?

Performance and composition coursework is internally assessed and recorded. Integrated assignment and listening exams are externally assessed. GCSE grade A*-C to be awarded.

What career opportunities are there?

GCSE music is the ideal stepping stone to further study in this subject at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form or College or to a music career in Performance, Music Technology, Composition events or Teaching.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs N Lacey, Head of Music, for further information.

Performing Arts

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts
Head of Department:	Mrs K Dowson/Mrs N Lacey
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Performing Arts?

This course offers students interested in Performing Arts a nationally recognised Level 2 vocationally specific qualification. This is ideal for anyone who enjoys performing and will complement any of the GCSE courses in the three performing arts disciplines. The course provides opportunities to develop a range of performance skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes, essential for successful performance in everyday life.

What will I learn?

The course focuses heavily on practical performance in all three disciplines, namely Drama, Dance and Music. No prior experience in performance in each discipline is necessary but the confidence to have a go is essential. The course will include workshops by specialist staff as well as group and individual performances.

How will the course be structured?

Students will have 3 lessons a week over 2 years and will be expected to complete 3 units of coursework. The core units are:

- Individual Showcase (externally assessed)
- Preparation, Performance and Production

One other unit will be chosen from:

- Acting skills
- Dance skills
- Musical Theatre skills
- Music Performance skills

How will I be assessed?

All units are assessed through performances and coursework regularly throughout the course. There are no examinations, although 1 unit will be externally assessed. Written feedback is ongoing to ensure students achieve their potential. Each unit will be awarded one of the following:- Distinction*, Distinction, Merit or Pass.

A Distinction* is worth A* A*

A Distinction is worth A A

A Merit is worth B B

A Pass is worth C C

What career opportunities are there?

The qualification can lead to Level 3 courses in the Performing Arts but will also give a solid grounding for successful performance in both amateur and/or professional performance careers.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs K Dowson, Head of Dance, or Mrs N Lacey, Head of Music, for further information.

PE GCSE

Qualification:	GCSE PE
Head of Department:	Miss C Hinton
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study PE?

If you are interested in the world of sport this is the perfect subject for you. You will learn about many different aspects of sport which will help you pursue a career in the sporting field.

What will I learn?

You will study many topics that will cover various aspects of sport. Topics will include Anatomy and Physiology, Diet, Fitness and factors that may influence a healthy and active lifestyle. You will also have the opportunity to develop your practical, leadership and evaluation skills through a variety of different team and individual sports.

How will the course be structured?

The course will be delivered through 3 lessons a week. You will have a combination of both theory and practical, with an exam at the end of Year 11.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be on going throughout the 2 years. This will be in practical lessons for every activity, along with leadership and evaluation skills. Also, regular tests within the theory lessons to assess your knowledge and understanding on the topics you are studying.

What career opportunities are there?

There are many career pathways in the sporting world, such as Teaching, Journalism, Coaching, Leisure industry, Referee and Outdoor Education. Studying GCSE PE is a fantastic pathway onto Level 3 study of PE at Coppice Performing Arts School or College.

How can I get further information?

Please see Miss C Hinton, Head of PE, for further information.

PE BTEC

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport
Head of Department:	Miss C Hinton
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study PE?

If you are interested in the world of sport this is the perfect subject for you. You will learn about many different aspects of sport which will help you pursue a career in the sporting field.

What will I learn?

You will study many different aspects of sport within various units. Through a series of assignments and practical sessions you will learn about Fitness testing and Training for Sport, Practical Sport, Anatomy and Physiology and Injury in Sport.

How will the course be structured?

Over the 2 years you will have 3 lessons a week. Within these lessons you will cover 4 units. Each unit includes a number of assignments. However one of these units is externally set and assessed. Each assignment enables you to achieve a Pass, Merit, or Distinction. These equate to a grade at GCSE level. The core units are:

- Health and Fitness for Sport and Exercise
- Practical Sport and Performance

How will I be assessed?

Units are assessed by assignments throughout the course, although 1 is set and assessed externally. Work is graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

A Distinction* is worth A*

A Distinction is worth A

A Merit is worth B

A Pass is worth C

What career opportunities are there?

There are many career pathways in the sporting world, such as Teaching, Journalism, Coaching, Leisure Industry, Referee and Outdoor Education. This pathway allows you to further study BTEC National Award in Sport at Post 16 at Coppice Performing Arts School, or College.

How can I get further information?

Please see Miss C Hinton, Head of PE, for further information.

Resistant Materials

Qualification:	GCSE Resistant Materials
Head of Department:	Mr M Corcoran
Exam Board:	OCR

Why study Resistant Materials?

This subject will help students to develop problem solving skills, as well as an ability to adapt to an ever changing world in which many technologies continue to evolve. You will develop your understanding of materials, ability to analyse and evaluate commercial products and make informed decisions.

What will I learn?

This subject provides the opportunity to develop skills already acquired in Key Stage 3. You will increase your knowledge of working in wood, metal and plastics. You will study industrial practices, including computer aided design and manufacture and learn to evaluate existing products in an informed and sensitive way.

Throughout the course you will be involved in making decisions, considering sustainability and combine skills with knowledge and understanding to design and make quality products.

How will the course be structured?

Students will design and make a number of projects to gain skills, knowledge and understanding of a variety of materials. 2 coursework projects will be required by the examination board which will involve researching, designing and modelling a functional prototype and to manufacture a complete project from a theme set by the exam board. Theoretical knowledge and understanding of sustainability and materials, tools and equipment will be taught throughout the 2 year course.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is by coursework (60%) and examination (40%)

What career opportunities are there?

The study of Resistant Materials would support the study of Product Design or similar at AS/A level at Coppice Performing Arts Sixth Form. This subject is highly valued at Universities and Colleges, or offers many opportunities in the construction and manufacturing industries.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mr M Corcoran, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Science

Qualification:	Triple Science GCSE
Head of Department:	Mr M Perager
Exam Board:	OCR

Why study Triple Science: GCSE Chemistry, Biology and Physics?

By studying the sciences separately you will require and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of each science and its essential role in society. You will gain the scientific skills, knowledge and understanding for progression to further learning. Your KS3 Teacher Assessment Level must be Level 6+.

What will I learn?

You will learn through a variety of interesting ideas and experiences to develop critical approaches to scientific evidence and methods. Topics cover all aspects of each science subject and topic titles include the 'Living Body' and 'Beyond the Microscope,' 'Chemical Resources and Chemistry Out There' and 'Electricity for Gadgets' and 'Focus for Transport'.

How will the course be structured?

You will have lessons over 2 years which will cover 6 modules in each science subject. 4 of these units are common to the Science B and Additional Science units, and the remaining 2 modules extend your knowledge and understanding enabling you to gain a GCSE in the separate Science subjects.

How will I be assessed?

One internally assessed unit (controlled assessment) plus 2 unit exams (for each science). Each exam is offered in Foundation (grades C-G) and Higher (grades A*-D) tiers. There is no choice of questions and written communication is also assessed. Regular mini tests and assessments will enable students to check their learning and help improve their grades.

What career opportunities are there?

You will develop many transferable and work related skills that are highly valued by all employers. These include the ability to interpret, use and evaluate data, conduct practical and investigative work and be aware of risk assessment and health and safety issues. You will also put together reasoned arguments and question assumptions.

The separate sciences provide the most suitable base to move forward to the study of Chemistry, Physics or Biological Science at A/AS level at Coppice Performing Arts School or another College.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mrs L Bennett, Assistant Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Travel and Tourism

Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Travel & Tourism
Head of Department:	Mr M Graham
Exam Board:	Edexcel

Why study Travel and Tourism?

Tourism is the largest industry in the world. If you are interested in learning more about places that people visit and skills needed for the workplace, then this course will meet your needs.

What will I learn?

You will look at all aspects of this exciting and fast changing industry. You will increase your knowledge of how the business operates as well as developing transferable skills, such as in customer service. Students will be expected to go on a number of visits to different places, such as an airport, a theme park, or London.

How will the course be structured?

This is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. 3 units are studied over the 2 years of the course.

How will I be assessed?

All coursework is assessed regularly. There are no final exams. Students have the opportunity to gain GCSE grades from A* - C.

What career opportunities are there?

The course introduces you to the employment area of Travel and Tourism, providing a good basis to progress to higher level qualifications or Advanced Level courses. There are now more jobs in Tourism than any other part of the economy. Careers in Travel Agencies, Airlines, Hotels, Theme Parks are all examples of customer based jobs typical of the industry. Alternatively students use skills and knowledge developed in the course in business which are customer based.

How can I get further information?

Please see Mr M Graham, Curriculum Area Leader, for further information.

Travel to Learn

A limited number of spaces will be available for students who are more suited to a **Level 1**, practical, work related qualification at The City of Wolverhampton College.

This will involve a **big** commitment from the individuals involved as they will **travel independently** to College one day a week.

The qualifications on offer are NVQs – National Vocational Qualifications which require students to demonstrate practical skills as well as write up their theoretical knowledge.

The courses on offer subject to demand are:

- Horticulture – Level 1
- Motor Vehicle – Level 1 Award in Vehicle Fitting Operations
- Child Studies – Foundation Level 1
- Performing Engineering Operations – NVQ Level 1
- Hair – NVQ Level 1
- Beauty – NVQ Level 1

For more details on these individual courses please collect an additional booklet, available from Mrs Cooper. If you have an interest in this you need to see **Mrs Cooper individually** who will assess your suitability.

KEY STAGE FOUR OPTION CHOICES FOR 2012



NAME: _____

TUTOR GROUP: _____

- You need to choose two subjects in each of the four option blocks. You need to identify which subject is your first choice and which is your second choice.
- As we are a Performing Arts school we recommend you choose at least one subject from any block which has an asterisk * by it.
- We will work hard to meet your first choices wherever possible. If we are unable to meet your first and second choice the Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Cooper, will discuss it with you.
- Some courses may not run - for example if there are insufficient students it may be removed.
- The deadline for completion of this form is **Thursday 23rd February**. Hand it in to your **Head of House**.

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D
History GCSE (E-Bacc)	French GCSE (E-Bacc)	French GCSE (E-Bacc)	History GCSE (E-Bacc)
Drama GCSE *	Music GCSE *	Drama GCSE *	Geography GCSE (E-Bacc)
Resistant Materials GCSE	Graphics GCSE	Triple Science GCSE	Media GCSE
ICT OCR National First Certificate (3)	PE GCSE/BTEC (1)	Graphics GCSE	Dance GCSE *
Business GCSE/BTEC (1)	Health & Social Care BTEC (1)	Health & Social Care BTEC (1)	Art GCSE/BTEC * (1)
Travel & Tourism BTEC (2)	Hospitality BTEC (2)	Media BTEC (2)	ICT OCR National First Certificate (3)
		Performing Arts BTEC* (1)	
	Travel to Learn – please turn overleaf if you are considering this option		
INSPIRE/EXPLORER (counts as Block A-D)			

(The number in brackets indicate the number of GCSE Equivalents the BTEC/OCR qualifications are worth. All GCSE subjects are worth 1 qualification).

My Choices:

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D
First Choice _____	First Choice _____	First Choice _____	First Choice _____
Second Choice _____	Second Choice _____	Second Choice _____	Second Choice _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

TRAVEL TO LEARN

Travel to Learn is one day a week (Option blocks B and C) at The City of Wolverhampton College where students will **travel independently** for 2 years to complete a Work Related Learning Course. Students should have SATs level 3/4 to do these Level 1 qualifications. Level 1 qualifications are equivalent to GCSE grades D-G. The options below are available subject to demand and you need to choose a 1st and 2nd choice.

Horticulture – Level 1

Motor Vehicle – Level 1 Award in Vehicle Fitting Operations

Child Studies – Foundation Level 1

Performing Engineering Operations – NVQ Level 1

Hair – NVQ Level 1

Beauty – NVQ Level 1

First Choice _____

Second Choice _____

There is an additional application form to complete in the separate Travel to Learn booklet which will be submitted to The City of Wolverhampton College. You will also attend an induction and interview at College to see if you are suitable for these Level 1 courses.

Please see Mrs M Cooper individually if you are interested in opting for Travel to Learn.