



EXPLORE THE PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

2021



**THE ARNEWOOD
SCHOOL**

Working Together - Shaping Tomorrow

YEAR 8 GCSE OPTIONS GUIDE

Dear Parent/Carer,

We offer a number of pathways, **this booklet describes the pathways available**. Each pathway has been designed with further continued routes of study in mind. Students have been advised of their pathway via Firefly and have access to the appropriate options form for their pathway.

Both pathways allow students to select up to four GCSE subjects or similar in addition to Core GCSEs (English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Combined Science). Pathway 1 allows students to select GCSE subjects that require a high mathematical ability to access grades 4 and above, pathway 2 allows students to select GCSE subjects and other BTEC, VTCT or vocational GCSE.

Students on Pathway 1 are strongly encouraged to take a modern foreign language. For a student to obtain the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc), they must gain a GCSE grade 4 or better across a core of academic subjects: English; Maths; History or Geography; the sciences (including Computing); and a language. Increasingly some universities are making this a requirement for entry.

Students should arrive at their final choices, taking note of their:

- ability
- interests
- further study at Arnewood Sixth
- career ambitions

I encourage student and parent/carers to contact subject staff with questions about GCSE options following exploring the information pages on firefly.

If there are questions regarding the options process please visit the FAQs section on the KS4 Options website page. There is also an opportunity to book a meeting virtually with myself via "Parent booking" link on the school website on Thursday 28th January.

I would like to thank you in advance for support students and their decisions,

Yours Faithfully,

Mr T Merrick

Assistant Headteacher
Curriculum and Staffing



GENERAL ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

1. Do not rush into a decision. Use the resources and information provided to inform your decision.
2. Watch the KS4 Option presentation on the school website.
3. Make a list of all the careers that would interest you. Discuss these with your parents and your tutor.
4. If you have no idea what course you would like to take at sixteen, or what job you would like to do, make sure that you keep as many career opportunities open as possible by opting for a balance of subjects.
5. Speak to your Head of Year, your form tutor and your subject teachers for advice and listen carefully at the special pathways assemblies.
6. Your initial choices must be made by Wednesday 10th February.
7. Be prepared to discuss your choices with your tutor, your Head of Year, Mr Merrick or Mr Pressnell.
8. Minor changes which fit in with the timetable will be considered by Mr Merrick up until 1st April 2021. After this point changes will only be made in September 2021, if essential.
9. Visit the Arnewood 6th Form website pages to explore possibilities further ahead.





KS4 CURRICULUM

The KS4 curriculum is made up of compulsory and optional elements. The compulsory subjects are prescribed by the National Curriculum. The optional subjects are those that parents and students can choose together.

Compulsory Subjects

The following subjects make up the compulsory KS4 curriculum.

- English and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science
- Personal, Social and Health Skills (PSHE), and religious education
- Physical Education

Core subjects are identified in the subject descriptions in this pack.

DISCLAIMER

This document represents the proposed changes to the current specifications. However, some of these have yet to be confirmed by OFQUAL (Office for Qualifications and Examinations) and so may change. Should you have any questions regarding this, please speak to Mr Merrick.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Centre of Learning, found on each course sheet, or contact Mr Merrick directly at t.merrick@arnewood.hants.sch.uk



PATHWAY 1 - OPTION FORM

Please note that there are limited places on some courses. We will do our best to ensure students are able to study the options they wish to, but this may not be possible. We will contact you if there is an issue.

The deadline for completing the online (Firefly) form is Wednesday 10th February 2021.

1. Please pick **ONE** Option from each column.
 - a. One of your choices **MUST** be bold.
 - b. You **MUST** select at **LEAST ONE HUMANITY** (Geography or History) **AND** are **strongly advised** to select at **LEAST ONE LANGUAGE** (French or German). This will allow you to attain the English Baccalaureate, a status favoured by universities

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Triple Science CCSE	French GCSE	German GCSE	PE GCSE
History GCSE	Geography GCSE	ICT BTEC	Childcare BTEC
Art and Design (not possible with 3D design)	Drama GCSE	History GCSE	Computer Science GCSE
Media Studies GCSE	Food Technology GCSE	Geography GCSE	Philosophy and Ethics GCSE
		Art and Design (not possible with 3D Design)	Music GCSE
		3D Design (not possible with Art and Design)	Food Technology GCSE
		Drama GCSE	

2. If you have any questions or concerns with selecting your options, or if the four options you wish to select do not fit with the options blocks, you should contact to Mr Merrick (t.merrick@arnewood.hants.sch.uk) before the **deadline of Wednesday 10th February 2021**.



PATHWAY 2 - OPTION FORM

Please note that there are limited places on some courses. We will do our best to ensure students are able to study the options they wish to, but this may not be possible. We will contact you if there is an issue.

The deadline for completing the online (Firefly) form is Wednesday 10th February 2021.

1. Please pick **ONE** option from each column in the table. This **MUST** include at least **ONE BOLD SUBJECT** across your 4 options.

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Construction BTEC Hairdressing	Construction BTEC Health and Social Care	German GCSE ICT BTEC	PE GCSE Childcare BTEC
History GCSE	French GCSE	History GCSE	Philosophy and Ethics GCSE
Art and Design <i>(not possible with 3D design)</i>	Geography GCSE	Geography GCSE	Music GCSE
Media Studies GCSE	Drama GCSE	Art and Design <i>(not possible with 3D Design)</i>	Food Technology GCSE
	Food Technology GCSE	3D Design <i>(not possible with Art and Design)</i>	
		Drama GCSE	

2. If you have any questions or concerns with selecting your options, or if the four options you wish to select do not fit with the options blocks, you should contact to Mr Merrick (t.merrick@arnewood.hants.sch.uk) before the **deadline of Wednesday 10th February 2021**.

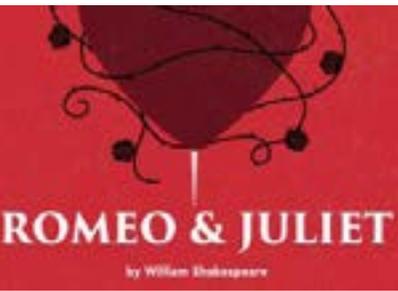




SUBJECTS



ENGLISH LANGUAGE; ENGLISH LITERATURE (EBACC CORE SUBJECT)



Course Outline

All students will follow both the AQA GCSE English Language and English Literature courses (worth two GCSEs). These courses are linear, meaning that students will sit final examinations at the end of Year 11. There is no written coursework/controlled test element.

In English Language, students will develop written and comprehension skills working towards two final examination papers: Paper 1 - Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (responding to a fiction text/writing to narrate or describe); Paper 2 - Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (responding to a non-fiction text/writing to present a viewpoint).

In addition, all students will complete an internally assessed Speaking and Listening presentation. This does not count towards the English Language GCSE total marks but must be completed and is given a separate grade (Distinction, Merit, Pass).

In English Literature students will develop analytical skills working towards two final examination papers which will cover a Shakespeare text, a 19th century novel, a modern text (prose or drama) and poetry.

The department is committed to developing students' skills in reading, writing, comprehension and textual analysis. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for GCSE exams by focusing on building up the skills students need to refine and develop in the first half of the course before concentrating more on exam style and content later on.

Assessment

One tier of entry only. Two terminal exams for English Language (1hr 45 mins). Two terminal exams for English Literature (1hr 45 mins and 2hrs 15 mins). Grades will be awarded from 9 to 1 (9 being the highest).

Qualification Level:
GCSE

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mrs J Preston
j.preston@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
English Language, English Literature, Media Studies AS and A Level

These courses are suitable for any communication-oriented profession such as the media, teaching, law, journalism and administration.



SCIENCE, COMBINED (EBACC CORE SUBJECT)

Qualification Level:
GCSE

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mr P. Grant

p.grant@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Biology, Chemistry and Physics, AS
and A Level.

This will support careers in
Medicine, Engineering and any
career that requires
logical thinking.



Course Outline

Students will follow the Combined Science course which will lead to two GCSE qualifications.

The Combined Science GCSE will include the study of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The Biology topics include: cells, transport systems, health, disease and the development of medicines, coordination and control, photosynthesis, ecosystems, inheritance, variation and evolution.

The Chemistry topics include atomic structure and the periodic table, structure, bonding and the properties of matter, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical changes, chemical analysis, earth and atmospheric science.

The Physics topics include: energy, forces and motion, waves in matter, light and electromagnetic waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, the particle model of matter and atomic structure.

Assessment

Assessment is by terminal examinations only. There are 6 papers: 2 Biology; 2 Chemistry and 2 Physics. Each will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each exam lasts for 1hr 15.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION (CORE SUBJECT)

**Qualification Level:
Compulsory lesson**

**Pathways to success
Performance, Leadership
and Recreation**

**Contact Teacher:
Mrs J Ballantyne**

j.ballantyne@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

BTEC Sport Level 3; Physical
Education, AS and A Level
Sport and leisure industry, travel
and tourism, teaching.



Course Outline

Students, within this compulsory element of Physical Education, will be moved into pathways that best suit their abilities and interests. These will be studied in depth throughout Key

Stage 4. Students will be taught to develop, select and apply skills, evaluate their own and others' performances as well as being shown the principles of health and fitness. They will be given the opportunity to undertake a variety of roles such as performer, coach, choreographer, leader and official.

Students will learn how to remain healthy and fit and it is hoped they will have the confidence to pursue sports activities out of school and in later life. All students must provide correct clothing for the sports that they undertake.

Assessment

No external assessment.



PSHE AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES (CORE SUBJECT)

Course Outline

The Religious Studies and PSHE course will be taught on a rotation cycle in years 9 and 10. PSHE will continue in year 11. Both subjects play a key role in preparing students for their adult life.

Religious Studies

Please note that this compulsory course should not be seen as a replacement for the full course GCSE examination (please see separate details for Religion, Philosophy and Ethics GCSE). This is particularly the case where students have an interest and aptitude for the subject.

Students will study two units in Years 9 and 10. The course will build on material covered at Key Stage 3. It covers 'The Problem of Evil' with a project on the Holocaust (year 9) and Medical Ethics (year 10).

Please see Mrs Reece for further details.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education)

In this subject students will gain valuable knowledge, understanding and skills to help them prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The subject is taught through a number of units of work which include:

1. Human Rights
2. Careers
3. Relationships
4. Own and British Values
5. Cars and staying safe
6. Money Management

Students will learn through discussion and practical exploration of important themes and issues. They will be given opportunities to test out their views and beliefs in a safe environment. The subject includes sex and relationships education as well as forming part of students' careers education.

Assessment

Internal Assessment

**Qualification Level:
Compulsory lesson**

Non-examination course

**Contact Teacher:
Mr M Gough**

m.gough@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Both subjects provide valuable transferable skills for further study in the Sixth Form at The Arnewood School. Employers welcome students who are able to engage in these topics as part of work placements or future employment.





ART AND DESIGN

(CANNOT BE TAKEN IN COMBINATION WITH 3D DESIGN)

Course Outline

The aim of the Art course is to encourage students to work independently, responding in a personal way to a given theme. Their ideas should be a response to their experiences and environment. Visits are offered to galleries in the locality and London. Students will experience a wide range of art materials and processes, together with some knowledge of contemporary and historical art and design. Students opting for Art and Design should have a commitment to, and love of, the subject and feel motivated to develop visual language and express ideas by working through projects and assignments.

At Arnewood we study unendorsed art, which could include:

- 3D Fine Art
- Graphics Photography
- Illustration Textiles

When considering whether Art is the right option to take, students and parents need to be aware of the following:

- Students will be expected to attend workshops after school
- This course suits students who are able to work independently
- Students will be expected to buy an A3 sketchbook
- Students are advised to buy an Art pack.

Assessment

Coursework – 60% of the marks

The single coursework unit should include preparatory work, sketch books, logs or journals related to the final piece(s). All assessment objectives must be met in the coursework as a whole.

Controlled Test – 40% of the marks – 10 hrs

Candidates will be required to respond to one starting point. A response to all objectives is required. Starting points will be set by Edexcel controlled conditions. Candidates will be expected to develop their own work to resolve their investigations, producing a final piece or pieces based upon preparatory studies and research.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
Edexcel

Contact Teacher:
Miss A Tyas
a.tyas@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Art and/or Photography,
AS and A Level.

This course will be suitable for careers in graphic design, illustration, fine art, fashion and textiles, architecture, interior design, film and photography, animation and advertising.



SCIENCE, COMBINED (EBACC CORE SUBJECT)

Qualification Level:
GCSE

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mr P. Grant

p.grant@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Biology, Chemistry and Physics, AS
and A Level.

This will support careers in
Medicine, Engineering and any
career that requires
logical thinking.



Course Outline

Students will follow the Combined Science course which will lead to two GCSE qualifications.

The Combined Science GCSE will include the study of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The Biology topics include: cells, transport systems, health, disease and the development of medicines, coordination and control, photosynthesis, ecosystems, inheritance, variation and evolution.

The Chemistry topics include atomic structure and the periodic table, structure, bonding and the properties of matter, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical changes, chemical analysis, earth and atmospheric science.

The Physics topics include: energy, forces and motion, waves in matter, light and electromagnetic waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, the particle model of matter and atomic structure.

Assessment

Assessment is by terminal examinations only. There are 6 papers: 2 Biology; 2 Chemistry and 2 Physics. Each will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each exam lasts for 1hr 15.



Course Outline

In Year 9

Students will be offered an introduction to the Childcare course, which will prepare them for year 10 and 11. They will study health, safety and hygiene; books with children; science and music activities with children and investigate Forest schools. There will be a mixture of practical activities and written studies. At the end of the year the students will be expected to complete an independent research task about childcare settings.

In Year 10 and 11

CACHE level 2 Award in Child Development and Care

This qualification is graded A* - D and is an equivalent to a GCSE qualification.

The Level 2 Award in Childcare is a study of the childcare sector, child development and ways to support development and wellbeing. It includes the following units:

Unit 1 An introduction to working with children 0-5 years olds

Unit 2 Development and wellbeing 0-5 years

Unit 3 Childcare and development 0-5 years (examination)

Assessment

L2 –CACHE assessment tasks internally and externally moderated and one multiple choice exam.

Qualification Level:
ACDC Level 2 Award
Pathway 1 & 2

Examination Authority:
CACHE

Contact Teacher:
Miss Chubb

s.chubb@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Early Years Educator level 2

Early Years Educator level 3

Also careers in the care sector
where communication is key



COMPUTER SCIENCE

Course Outline

A modern course for a modern world

This is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. Students who select GCSE Computer Science will gain an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. As part of this, they will investigate computer programming.

The fun of computer science

Through this study of computer programming, the course will help students develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. It is a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life. In this way, the course will stimulate interest and engagement with technology and technology related careers.

About the course

The course will be a mixture of practical work through computer programming, problem-solving using logical methodologies and theory of computer architecture and networking. Over the three years of the course students will complete three areas of study:

- Paper 1 - Computer systems
- Paper 2 - Data representation and programming
- NEA - Programming project

Sixth Form Study & Careers

World of Work:

Looking to the future (Higher study and the world of work)

Information technologies continue to grow in importance, which will lead to a greater demand for professionals qualified in this area. If learners want to progress to higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science this course provides a superb stepping stone. Students who study GCSE Computer Science and progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have a sound underpinning knowledge of this subject.

Qualification Level:
GCSE / Pathway 1

Examination Authority:
OCR

Contact Teacher:
Mr I Martin

i.martin@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Assessment

Paper 1 exam (50% of the final grade). Written paper.

Paper 2 exam (50% of the final grade). Written paper.



CONSTRUCTION

Course Outline

The BTEC Construction course (equivalent to 1 GCSE) is a 4 unit course, consisting mainly of course-work, with a 1 hour 15 minute examination.

Students will cover work in the following areas through practical work, site visits, case studies and visits from visiting speakers:

- Construction Technology Exam (Core)
- Construction and Design (Core)
- Science and Maths Applications for Construction (Mandatory)
- Exploring carpentry and joinery principles and techniques

Students need to complete all units at either Pass, Merit or Distinction level. A Distinction equates to an A grade at GCSE, a merit equates to a B, and a Level 2 Pass equates to a grade C.

There is one practical unit where there will be a large amount of practical work. Students also need to submit written/portfolio evidence for two further modules. Site visits will be organised to support students learning.

This course can lead to a Post 16 Qualification: BTEC National Certificate in Construction and The Built Environment.

Assessment

Coursework assignments x 3
Examinations x1

Qualification Level:
BTEC First Certificate
Pathway 2

Examination Authority:
Edexcel

Contact Teacher:
Mr P Clarke

p.clarke@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

BTEC National Certificate

This course is equivalent to two GCE A levels and includes a period of work experience in an area of the construction industry.



3D DESIGN

(CANNOT BE TAKEN IN COMBINATION WITH ART AND DESIGN)

Course Outline

The aim of the Product Design course is to inspire students' creativity while problem solving through design. The course offers the opportunity to work with different materials and develop knowledge of different workshop techniques and practices. Students will also learn how to work safely in a workshop environment. There is the opportunity to study a wide range of contemporary and historical designers and design eras.

In Product Design students must show creativity, motivation and a love of designing. This course would suit students who are able to work independently.

The components of the course will entail design and make tasks:

Assessment criteria:

- Develop ideas through investigations
- Exploring Ideas through experimenting with materials and techniques
- Recording ideas, observations and insights as work progresses.
- Presenting a personal and meaningful response

Assessment

Component 1

- A single design and make task chosen from a theme with a portfolio.
- 60% of GCSE

Component 2

- A response to an externally set assignment.
- Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time.
- 40% of GCSE

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Art and Design: Product Design

Contact Teacher:
Mr P Clarke

p.clarke@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Product Design, at A Level.
This course would be suitable for careers in designing, engineering, architecture, graphic design, product design, fashion, furniture making, TV/Film set building, computer design, and other technology-based careers.



DRAMA

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
OCR

Contact Teacher:
Miss T Faramus

t.faramus@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Drama and Theatre Studies, AS and A Level. It is suitable for creative careers, theatre, teaching. Any career which involves communicating, working as a team or presenting.



Course Outline

Students taking Drama can expect a course which is varied and stimulating as well as challenging. The syllabus tests a number of skills: besides acting ability, students must demonstrate that they can research a role or topic, work well in a group, manage their time effectively, reflect upon and evaluate their own work and that of others, and analyse live productions. The assessment of the course includes both practical and written elements.

Drama is challenging and extremely rewarding and students can expect to gain much in terms of self-confidence and teamwork skills, as well as developing their dramatic ability and understanding of theatre and performance.

The study of Drama equips students with confidence and a high level of skill in verbal communication, essential in so many future careers.

Throughout the course students will be expected to perform in front of live audiences, both individually and as part of a group. When working on a practical assessment, students will also be expected to attend after school rehearsals. Students must attend a minimum of two live performances throughout the course.

Universities and employers look favorably upon students who can demonstrate a wide range of skills, and Drama can contribute much towards developing confidence, creativity and skills in teamwork and communication for those who are prepared to work hard at it. It does, however, demand a sensitive and considered approach as the success of group work depends upon the concentration and commitment of every student.

Assessment

Component 1: Devising drama	30% of total GCSE
Component 2: Presenting and performing texts	30% of total GCSE
Component 3: Drama: Performance and response	40% of total GCSE

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Aims and learning outcomes

The GCSE specification in Food Preparation and Nutrition aims to equip students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. Learning to cook will enable them to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways, as well as develop vital life skills that enable them to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously.

In studying cooking and nutrition, students must:

- demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking, using a variety of commodities, techniques and equipment.
- develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical processes as well as the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.
- understand the economic, environmental, ethical, and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices.
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.
- understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Assessment

1 x 1hr 30min exam - 50% of total marks
NEA Tasks (Research) - 50% of total marks

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mr P Clarke
p.clarke@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Careers in the catering industry,
home economists in the food
industry, health visitors,
dieticians, complimentary to
careers in fitness.



FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Aims and learning outcomes

The GCSE specification in Food Preparation and Nutrition aims to equip students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. Learning to cook will enable them to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways, as well as develop vital life skills that enable them to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously.

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- understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Assessment

1 x 1hr 30min exam - 50% of total marks
NEA Tasks (Research) - 50% of total marks

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mr P Clarke
p.clarke@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Careers in the catering industry,
home economists in the food
industry, health visitors,
dieticians, complimentary to
careers in fitness.



Course Outline

The study of a modern language is an important part of the Arnewood curriculum. Students are very strongly encouraged to study a modern language in Years 9, 10 and 11 and several opt to study two languages to GCSE and beyond. A qualification in a modern foreign language is considered essential for some university courses, not only those involving under-graduate language studies.

The course in French concentrates on communicative skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Grades are awarded based upon performance in each of the skills with each skill equally weighted at 25%. Reading, writing and listening will be externally assessed exams. Speaking assessments will be administered at the end of the course in a one-off examination. All skills will be taken at the same tier, namely Higher or Foundation.

In order to achieve their potential students are required to complete ongoing homework tasks, be prepared to participate in communicative tasks and learn vocabulary and grammar regularly.

Assessment

Assessment will be via final examinations in listening, speaking, reading and writing, each with equal weighting.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mrs M Gleave
m.gleave@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
French at AS and A Level.
Italian or Spanish AS Level may be available depending on students' previous knowledge.
Languages can lead to specialist careers such as translation and teaching but linguists are highly sought after in countless professions.



Course Outline

The GCSE Geography course offers students the opportunity to examine many of the issues which are important and, above all, relevant to young people as they grow up in the world today. The problems we tackle are very diverse: for example the impacts of erosion on the local coastline, our response to hazards such as cyclones and the problems of developing countries on an international scale. Students who choose to take Geography will be expected to display a keen interest in such matters and in the topical issues of the day which relate to our work. There will be a balance between the physical, human and environmental aspects of the subject.

There are 3 main components in the course. They are:

Component 1

The Physical Environment – Students will learn about our changing river and coastal landscapes. Furthermore, students will analyse climate change, study issues surrounding cyclones and drought and learn how people help to manage our planet's ecosystems.

Component 2

The Human Environment – This includes students studying the changing nature of our cities, analysing global development and assessing our energy needs.

Component 3

Geographical Investigations and Fieldwork – Students will gain a wide range of map, atlas, cartographic, numerical and enquiry based skills. Furthermore, students will be required to undertake two days of fieldwork based on topics learnt in class.

Assessment

3 written exams at the end of Year 11. There is no coursework.

Paper 1 – Physical Environment; Paper 2 – Human Environment; Paper 3 – Geographical Investigations and Fieldwork Skills.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
Edexcel A

Contact Teacher:
Miss A Gardiner
a.gardiner@arnewood.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
French at AS and A Level.
Italian or Spanish AS Level may be available depending on students' previous knowledge.
Languages can lead to specialist careers such as translation and teaching but linguists are highly sought after in countless professions.



Course Outline

The study of a modern language is an important part of the Arnewood curriculum. Students are very strongly encouraged to study a modern language in Years 9, 10 and 11 and several opt to study two languages to GCSE and beyond. A qualification in a modern foreign language is considered essential for some university courses, not only those involving under-graduate language studies.

The course in German concentrates on communicative skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Grades are awarded based upon performance in each of the skills with each skill equally weighted at 25%. Reading, writing and listening will be externally assessed exams. Speaking assessments will be administered at the end of the course in a one-off examination. All skills will be taken at the same tier, namely Higher or Foundation.

In order to achieve their potential students are required to complete ongoing homework tasks, be prepared to participate in communicative tasks and learn vocabulary and grammar regularly.

Assessment

Assessment will be via final examinations in listening, speaking, reading and writing, each with equal weighting.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

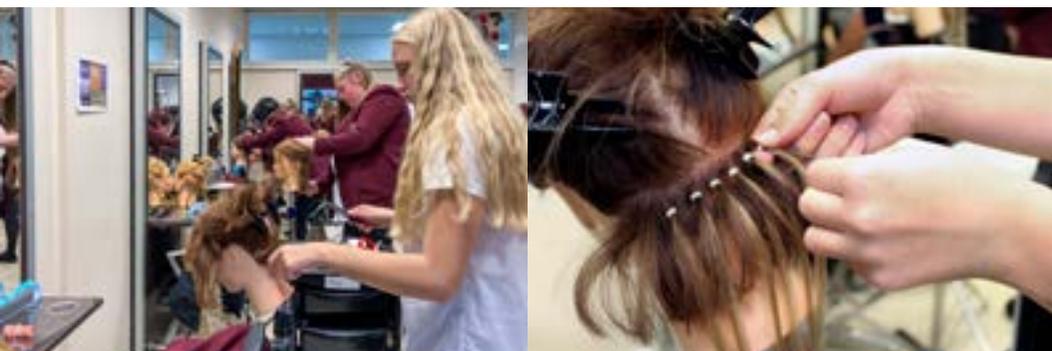
Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mrs M Gleave
m.gleave@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
German at AS and A Level.
Italian or Spanish AS Level may be available depending on students' previous knowledge.
Languages can lead to specialist careers such as translation and teaching but linguists are highly sought after in countless professions.



HAIRDRESSING



Course Outline

VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy (VRQ) (Equivalent to 1 GCSE)

The Level 2 Certificate in Hair and Beauty is a study of the industry and includes the following coursework units:

- Hair and Beauty research project.
- Hair and Beauty science.
- Responding to a hair and beauty design brief.
- Understanding the hair and beauty sector.

Throughout the delivery of these units' learners will:

- Explore and understand career opportunities in the hair and beauty and related industries.
- Be able to produce a research proposal for a hair and beauty project.
- Know the anatomy of the hair and skin, and be able to define a formulation for a hair or beauty product.
- Understand the chemistry of hair and beauty products.
- Be able to develop and present ideas for a hair and beauty design brief.

Assessment

- 3 Assignments.
- 1 written exam.
- 1 Practical Assessment

Qualification Level:
VTCT Level 2 Certificate in
Hairdressing - Pathway 2

Examination Authority:
VTCT

Contact Teacher:
Mrs K. Wilcox

k.wilcox@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
VTCT Level 2 NVQ Diploma
in Hairdressing.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Course Outline

The Level 2 Award in health and social care will equip students with knowledge of people, beginning with birth and the journey through life. This qualification looks at factors that affect health and wellbeing and how to interpret health indicators.

BTEC Level 2 Award in health and social care (Equivalent to 1 GCSE)

BTEC Level 2 Award in health and social care is a study of and includes the following coursework units:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Health and Social Care Services
- Health and Wellbeing.

Exam unit: Human lifespan development

Students need to complete all units at either Pass, Merit or Distinction level. A Distinction equates to a grade 7 at GCSE, a merit equates to a 6, and a L2 Pass equates to a grade 4/5.

Assessment

Three externally moderated assessments and one written exam

Qualification Level:
BTEC Level 2 Award
Pathway 2

Examination Authority:
Edexcel

Contact Teacher:
Miss Chubb

s.chubb@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Level 3 BTEC in Health
and Social Care



HISTORY

(EBACC CORE SUBJECT)

Course Outline

At The Arnewood School we follow the OCR Specification B (Schools History Project). Students study three historical eras (Medieval, Early Modern and Modern) and will investigate three different time scales. At the end of the course they sit three exams on the following topics:

Paper 1: British History (The People's Health 1250-Present day and the Norman Conquest);
Paper 2: World History (The Making of America 1789-1900 and Life Under the Nazis 1933-1945);
Paper 3: History Around Us (The study of a Portchester Castle)

Students will be assessed by a mixture of extended answers and shorter answers. These will assess their historical skills and understanding such as recalling, selecting and organising their knowledge; analysing key concepts and key features; and analysing historical sources and interpretations.

To prepare our students we have designed an exciting and stimulating GCSE Foundation course for students to study from September in Year 9. This will allow students to build on the knowledge and historical understanding they have gained from Years 7 and 8 as well as developing the skills they will need for their GCSE course. The Year 9 Foundation course will cover the following topics:

Autumn Term: Jack the Ripper and the First World War.

Spring Term: Students will begin the GCSE specification.

Assessment

History/Government & Politics, AS and A level
This will support careers in the media, law, business, education, and others.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
OCR

Contact Teacher:
Mr J Kinnison
j.kinnison@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
History/Government & Politics, AS
and A level
This will support careers in the
media, law, business, education,
and others.



Course Outline

Students taking this course will be completing a vocational course taught over 3 years during Years 9, 10 and 11. Students will have 5 one hour lessons every two weeks. Successful candidates will achieve the equivalent of 1 GCSE.

The course is an ideal preparation for a technological world in which ICT touches every part of our daily lives. The course will develop basic practical ICT skills and build on the work completed in Key Stage 3, during Years 7 and 8.

The course is made up of one exam and practical coursework. Key pieces of software are studied, including word processing, databases, spreadsheets, desktop publishing, communications and the Internet. Students will gain skills in working independently and meeting deadlines. They will have the opportunity to consider how IT is used in the work place using real life examples. Units covered are:

Coursework based units:

1. Exploring user interface design principles and project management;
2. Collecting, presenting and interpreting data.

Exam unit:

1. Effective digital working practices.

The course has a high pass rate; since the IT Vocational course has been running 95% of students or more in any one year have passed the course gaining a Pass grade, equal to a GCSE grade 4 or better, including 6, 8 and 9 grades.

Sixth Form Study & Careers

There are few careers in which a practical understanding of ICT would not benefit students. This course will give students to opportunity to move into vocational Post 16 courses before moving, if they want to, into courses at university or college.

Please note: As courses change over time due to the requirements of exam boards. Exam boards and the assessment of any course may be modified.

Qualification Level:
**BTEC Tech Award in digital
 Information Technology –
 Pathway 1 and 2**

Examination Authority:
Edexcel

Contact Teacher:
Mr M Gough
m.gough@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Assessment
 One exam
 Two of units of coursework.



MEDIA STUDIES

Course Outline

The Media Studies course enables students to pursue a range of academic interests and disciplines within the scope of a subject that is of increasing relevance to the world we live in. Taken as an 'enrichment' subject or as a pathway into a particular career path, Media Studies complements a range of other subjects, particularly English, Art and ICT.

The course offers rigorous but accessible learning on a subject that students find to be engaging, creative and fun, including:

- The chance to study across a range of different Media including Music Video, TV, Film, The Press, Social Media and Advertising;
- Extensive and meaningful coverage of media theory and up-to-date media practice and technologies;
- Practical work which integrates theories and concepts;
- Opportunities to learn about real media products and industries.

Assessment

Paper 1 (Written Examination worth 35% of GCSE)- 1 hour 30 minutes

This exam assesses student understanding of Media Language, Industries, Audiences and Representations, focusing on a range of online and print texts, as well as music video. Students complete a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Paper 2 (Written Examination worth 35% of GCSE)- 1 hour 30 minutes

This examination focuses on Media Language and is focused on students' ability to analyse media texts (close-study products) studied in advance of the exam. Section A will be based on a screening from an extract of a television Close Study text. Section B will be based on either newspapers or online, social and participatory media and video games. Non examination assessment (30% of GCSE)

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mr N Jibson
n.jibson@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Media Studies, AS and A Level.
This is suitable for careers in marketing, Journalism, Television Production, Advertising and other media-related occupations.



Course Outline

The Music course is split into three components. These are:

Performing: A minimum of two pieces, lasting between 4 – 6 minutes. One of these pieces must be an ensemble performance of at least one minute duration. The other piece(s) may be either solo and/or ensemble. One of the pieces performed must link to an area of study of the learner's choice.

Composing: Two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by WJEC. Learners will choose one brief from a choice of four, each one linked to a different area of study. The briefs will be released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken. The second composition is a free composition for which learners set their own brief.

Appraising: This component is assessed via a listening examination.

Eight questions in total, two on each of the four areas of study.

Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices; Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble; Area of study 3: Film Music; Area of study 4: Popular Music.

If students like the thought of exploring music at all levels, composing their own musical ideas, listening to many styles of music and developing their instrumental and/or vocal abilities, then Music is a good choice of subject.

Assesment

Coursework - 60% of total marks:

- 1 ensemble recording (instrument or voice)
- 1 solo/ensemble recording (instrument or voice)
- 2 compositions (one free, one to a brief)

Listening exam - 40% of total marks:

- Students will be required to answer eight questions in total, two on each of the four areas of study.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
WJEC/Eduqas

Contact Teacher:
Mr R Elkington

r.elkington@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers

Music (AS and A Level); Music Technology (BTEC)
Suitable for careers in performing arts, media, gaming, teaching, working in the creative arts, and careers requiring self-discipline and preparation, such as law.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course Outline

The Physical Education course offers students the opportunity to develop skills in a wide range of sports and activities and helps to improve personal performance. The course involves participating in a range of practical activities as well as developing the knowledge to improve the student's own ability in these activities. For students who find pleasure in sport, this will therefore be a very enjoyable course. Students receive 5 lessons per fortnight, which will be a mixture of both practical and theory lessons. The two exams at the end of the course will make up 60% of the overall grade and will test knowledge and understanding of the theory element of the course. The first exam (component 1) will be 1 hour and 15 minutes and will test knowledge related to Fitness and Body Systems. The second exam (component 2) will also be 1 hour and 15 minutes and will test candidates' knowledge on Health and Performance. Both exams will involve a variety of multiple choice, short answer and longer essay-styled questions.

Throughout the course students learn and develop new skills and techniques through a range of different activities. The final practical mark is worth 40% of the total grade and students need to offer three practical activities for assessment as a player/performer. Alongside their practical assessments, students will need to complete a written analysis of performance on one of their three sports.

Prerequisite: Students wishing to study GCSE Physical Education will be expected to be showing commitment to school extra-curricular PE clubs and representing the school in competitive sport. In addition to this, students should be taking part in competitive sport outside of school.

Assesment

Theory exams x 2 - 60% of total marks, practical performance – 40% of total marks, including a written analysis of performance.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mrs J Ballantyne

j.ballantyne@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
BTEC Sport Level 3; Physical Education, AS and A Level
This subject will support careers in the sport and leisure industry, travel and tourism, and teaching.



PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

Course Outline

It is impossible to fully understand the world in which we live without an appreciation of the impact of religion and belief. Following a Religion, Philosophy and Ethics course will enable students to study and explore what people believe, both secular and religious.

We have chosen a course which is relevant, engaging and challenging for students. Some of the topics studied include:

- Questions about the existence of God
- The death penalty
- Abortion and euthanasia
- Relationships
- The problem of evil
- Death and the afterlife
- Human rights
- The use and abuse of animals
- Religious Persecution
- Marriage and divorce

Students are expected to think, discuss and reflect upon a wide range of questions raised by these issues over the three years. The course aims to give all students the confidence to express their opinions in a supportive environment, and the ability to listen to others and take their views into consideration. It provides students with the insight that can work to challenge stereotypes, promote cohesion and tackle extremism. We enjoy having speakers into our lessons who are experts in their field to discuss issues with us.

There will be a focus on two world religions. We have chosen Christianity and Buddhism. Here you will study a unit on key beliefs and practices.

This course will provide valuable skills to study this subject at A Level here at The Arnewood School. Please come and chat with us if you would like further information.

Assesment

2 Written Examinations (1 hour 45 minutes each)

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1 and 2

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mrs A Reece
a.reece@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics, A Level at The Arnewood School
This course develops the skills that support careers in social services, medicine, politics, nursing, teaching and the caring professions. Complementary to any of the other subjects and careers.



TRIPLE SCIENCE (ALTERNATIVE EBACC CORE SUBJECT)

Course Outline

This is an option available to all students with a passion for science. The course is made up of 3 GCSEs in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. All three courses provide a firm foundation for studying that subject at A level. This course is taken instead of Combined Science.

Biology provides students with the opportunity to gain a good understanding of:

- Human biology
- Organisms
- Evolution
- The environment.

Chemistry provides students with the opportunity to gain a good understanding of:

- The nature of substances and how they react together
- How our knowledge of chemistry is used in business and industry
- How our use of raw materials as fuels in manufacturing can affect the local and global environment.

Physics provides students with the opportunity to gain a good understanding of:

- The use and transfer of energy
- Waves, radiation and space
- The application of Physics

Assessment

Assessment is by terminal examinations only. There are 6 papers, 2 Biology, 2 Chemistry and 2 Physics. Each will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each exam lasts for 1hr 45.

Qualification Level:
GCSE
Pathway 1

Examination Authority:
AQA

Contact Teacher:
Mr P. Grant
p.grant@arnewood.hants.sch.uk

Sixth Form Study & Careers
Biology, Chemistry and
Physics, AS and A Level.
This will support a range of careers,
such as Medicine, Engineering,
any career that requires logical
thinking.

