



# SHARJAH ENGLISH SCHOOL

# YEAR 9 OPTIONS BOOKLET

**2018-2020**





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# GCSE Option Choices @ Sharjah English School

Dear Parents,

Year 9 students have now reached an important point in their school life where they have to decide which subject options to take for their GCSEs. Before this choice can be made, tutors, class teachers, parents, and students must all work together to ensure that the final choices are the best for each individual student.

We believe that a broad, balanced education is essential and this policy is reflected in our option choice format. Our 'GCSE Option Package' reflects a programme of subjects which will prepare our students thoroughly for future studies in whichever system of education they enter. It will also give them diversity of subject matter, essential for future study and/or employment.

To ensure breadth and balance in each student's individual curriculum, we insist that all students take the core subjects which are English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Double Award Science. In addition to this students will choose four further subjects chosen from the 'Option Choices'.

Students also take Physical Education and a Personal, Social and Health Education course as non-GCSE subjects. The students will study nine GCSE subjects in total.

All students will take the Double Science Award. It is worth pointing out that having the Double Award does not prevent students who may want to follow A Level Sciences or careers such as Medicine. Students wishing to take three science GCSE's, because of the additional timetable demands must understand that this will count as one of their four option choices.

Unfortunately, students cannot take Economics and Business studies together. Students need to choose one or the other. The reason for this is that the exam board considers there to be too many similarities between the two subjects.

Finally, whilst we will do our utmost to provide students with their preferred subjects, we cannot guarantee that this is possible for all. For this reason, all students should select one reserve subject. This must be a subject that the students would genuinely consider studying.

Yours sincerely,

**Darren Cowan**

***Head of Key Stage 4***

## General Certificate of Secondary Education

Examination fees for the various GCSE courses are payable upon confirmation of the examinations being undertaken by a student. It is anticipated that parents will be invoiced at the end of March prior to the examinations being taken. The fees will vary depending upon the particular subject concerned. These variations in the fee structure are due to the nature of the course.

GCSEs are no longer graded A\* - G. The new GCSEs will be awarded numerically from 9 – 1, where 9 is the highest grade and 1 is the lowest. This brings GCSEs in line with equivalent examinations around the world.

In order to understand the comparison between the old GCSE letter grades and the new bands please use the table below (C1 is a high C, C2 a middle and C3, a low C):

<b>Old GCSE Grade</b>	<b>A**</b>	<b>A*</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C1</b>	<b>C2,C3</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>New GCSE Band</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

## **Advice to students before making their choices**

- **Don't** make your decision on the basis of your teacher. There is no guarantee that you will get the same teacher next year.
- **Do** make the decision on the basis of being good at a subject. The quality of grades is important in progression to 6<sup>th</sup> form, colleges and universities. Look closely at the demands of the final exam for each subject when thinking about this i.e. it might be a bad decision to do an essay based subject if you hate writing essays.
- **Don't** make the decision on whether your friends are doing the subject. There is no guarantee you will be in the same class and friendship groups do change.
- **Do** make the decision on whether the subject will help you in a particular career you want to pursue, but also don't worry if you don't know what you want to do at this stage.
- **Don't** make the decision on the basis of a "package" going nicely together. There is really no such thing at this stage and many colleges and universities like students who are good at things in lots of different areas.
- **Do** make your decision on whether you enjoy the subject, enjoy the challenge and feel you learn a lot in lessons.

## **Spelling, punctuation and grammar**

For some GCSE subjects, 5% of the marks for each written paper are allocated to spelling, punctuation and grammar according to the following criteria:

Threshold performance: students spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy; they use a limited range of specialist terms appropriately.

Intermediate performance: students spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy; they use a wide range of specialist terms with purpose.

High performance: students spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with almost faultless accuracy, using a range of grammatical constructions; they also use a wide range of specialist terms with purpose and precision.

## **Homework**

Completion of regular homework will be important for successful progress in all courses. It will be necessary for students to spend between one to two hours each afternoon/evening on homework.

## **Extra curricular activities**

There will be a range of activities available and students should enjoy these activities as much as they did in Years 7, 8 and 9. These additional activities are also looked upon favourably when a student makes their university applications. Whilst activities are important as a release from their academic studies, it is important that they do not interfere with school work

# The Core Subjects



GCSE @

Sharjah English School

# GCSE Combined Science - AQA

AQA  
www.aqa.org.uk



<https://goo.gl/8sYLQ4>

## Course outline

In GCSE Combined Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taught as a double science. This course is worth two GCSE grades in total. All students study this core subject unless they opt for separate science as an option. This then means those students will receive three GCSE grades for their Science GCSEs.

## Course structure and assessment

The topic area studied in the new GCSE Combined Science syllabus are the same as for the separate sciences, although with a little less content. These are detailed on each of the separate sciences pages (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

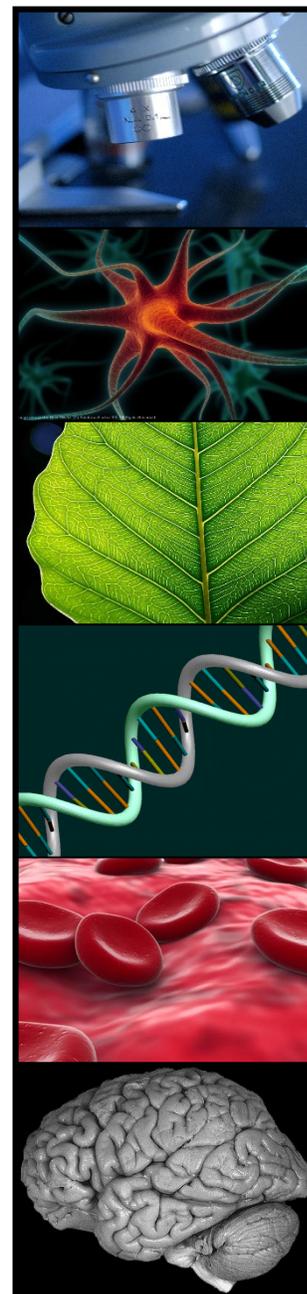
Both higher and foundation tier papers will be available.

## Assessment Criteria

Component	Assessment	%
Six papers – two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each will assess different topics.	Each paper is a 1 hour 15 minute written examination, to include multiple choice, structured closed short answer and open response questions.	16.7% for each paper

## Career prospects

*Biotechnology, Biological Testing, Dentistry, Environmental Conservation, Forensic Science, Independent Research, Medicine, Midwifery, Marine Biology, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Teaching, Veterinary Medicine, and almost any other career.*





<https://goo.gl/obwFn7>

## Course outline

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GCSE English Language aims to develop pupil's skills in reading, writing, and spoken language; to enable them to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately.

In spoken language, pupils will take part in a variety of tasks, including individual presentations, debate, speeches and discussion.

Students will study a wider of fiction, non-fiction and media texts, developing their understanding of the way writers use language, structure and form to achieve effects and influence readers.

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## Course structure and assessment

### Component 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing

- Study selections from a range of prose fiction.
- Develop skills to analyse and evaluate 19<sup>th</sup>-century fiction extracts.
- Develop imaginative writing skills to engage the reader.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

### Component 2: Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing

- Study a range of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century non-fiction texts (including literary non-fiction).
- Develop skills to analyse, evaluate and compare non-fiction extracts.
- Develop transactional writing skills for a variety of forms, purposes and audiences.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

### Assessment criteria

Formal Examination

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| • Paper 1 <b>Fiction and Imaginative Writing</b>       | (40%) |
| • Paper 2 <b>Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing</b> | (60%) |
| • Spoken Language assessment (Separately reported)     |       |
- 

### Career prospects

*A good qualification in English Language demonstrates a level of creativity and abstract thought essential for approaching difficult problems. Being able to read for meaning also allows students to be more efficient communicators and develops interpersonal skills. English Language encourages the development of empathy and requires students to approach texts with maturity.*

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The English language is nobody's special property. It is the property of the imagination.

~Derek Walcott



# English Literature - Edexcel

## Course outline

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The English Literature course is combined with GCSE English Language and students entered for both subjects will be able to gain two GCSE's at the end of the course.

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## Course structure and assessment

### Component 1: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Literature

Through the study of one Shakespeare play and one Post-1914 British play or novel, students will:

- Analyse language, form and structure used to create meaning and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
- Maintain a critical and informed response and demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the text and the context in which it was written.
- Marks will also be given for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar

### Component 2: 19<sup>th</sup>-century Novel and Poetry since 1789

Through the study of one 19th century novel and collection of poetry since 1789, students will,

- Maintain a close language analysis with regard to language, structure and form.
- Explore plot, character and theme, using the critical informed style that was required for component 1.
- Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

### Assessment Criteria

Each component comprises 50% of the total marks awarded.

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### Career prospects

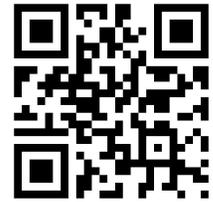
*A grade 5 in English Literature is essential for a student who is intending to study English Literature at AS or A level. Universities and employers also hold this qualification in high regard as it indicates a more sophisticated knowledge and understanding of the language.*

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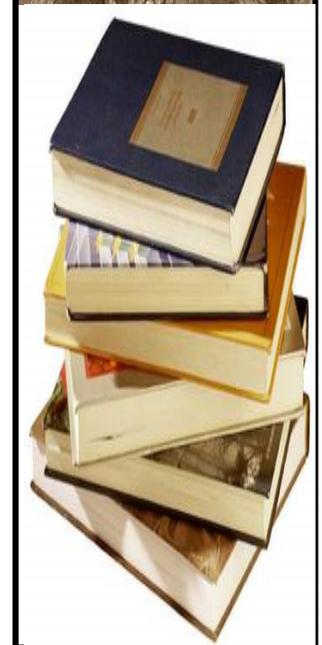
**“I can't imagine a man really enjoying a book and reading it only once”**  
C.S. Lewis

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<http://goo.gl/K6VgJu>



English Literature @

Sharjah English School

# Mathematics – Edexcel A

## Course outline

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The course aims to develop mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding such that students will confidently tackle and solve a range of familiar and unfamiliar problems, including those drawn from real-life contexts and other areas of the curriculum. They will think and communicate mathematically – both logically and creatively. Students will become more fluent in making connections between different areas of Mathematics and its application in the world around us.

***“Mathematics possesses not only truth, but supreme beauty – a beauty cold and austere, like that of sculpture”*** **Bertrand Russell**

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## Course structure and assessment

Three written papers each with an equal weighting of 33.33% of the total GCSE.

Each paper will be 1 hour and 30 minutes, 80 marks are available. There will be one paper where a calculator is not allowed and two papers where a calculator can be used.

## Assessment criteria

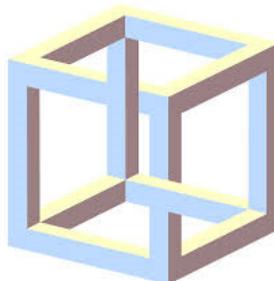
Topics areas assessed are as follows:

- Number
  - Algebra
  - Ratio, proportion and rates of change
  - Statistics and probability
- 

## Career prospects

*A good qualification in Mathematics shows evidence of logical thought processes and the ability to cope with statistical and analytical skills. This core subject is highly valued by most employers and is often required for entry to further or higher education.*

*Possible careers are: accountant, pilot, air traffic controller, architect, banker, CAD draughts person, economist, engineer, financial consultant, stockbroker, research and development, games programmer.*

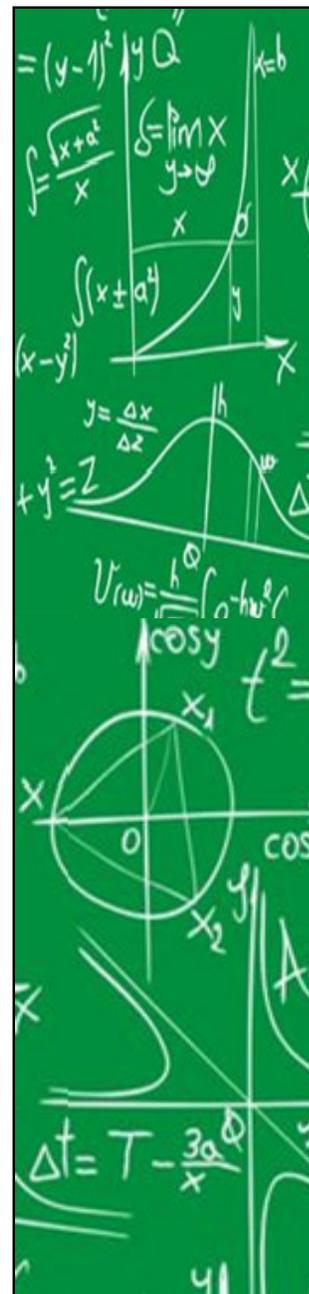


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# The Optional Subjects



GCSE @

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# Art, Craft and Design – Edexcel

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<https://goo.gl/cXp2ja>

## Course outline

Art, Craft and Design complements literacy, mathematical, scientific and factual subjects. It is concerned with developing visual perception and aesthetic appreciation through an understanding of past and contemporary art and design. Students are encouraged to widen their knowledge of materials, practices and technology as a form of communication.

“Creativity takes courage” **Henri Matisse**

## Course structure

### Component 1: Personal Portfolio in Art and Design 60% GCSE

This takes the form of two projects carried out over the two years of the course. The projects are themed and can take the form of work produced in sketchbooks; drawings, photography, paintings etc. Students are expected to spend approximately 45 hours in informally supervised conditions producing their portfolio of work. Unit 1 is internally set and marked through controlled assessment

### Component 2: Externally Set Assignment in Art and Design 40% GCSE

This is an externally set theme and is internally marked. Students are expected to spend approximately 20 hours in informally supervised conditions producing supporting work for their 10 hour controlled examination.

## Assessment Criteria

This is an open entry subject. All students will be required to complete the coursework and exhibit their work. Whether the student views himself or herself as a painter, fashion designer, film-maker or sculptor, the same basic rules of art and design apply and the student must be interested, dedicated and show lots of enthusiasm.

## Career prospects

*Art and Design is recognised as an acceptable qualification for entry to many careers and higher education courses. Further training in Art, Craft & Design can include AS/Advanced GCE, BA, PHD in Art related subjects leading to careers in Architecture, Textiles, Set Design, Photo Journalism, Magazines, Book Jackets Design, Computer Graphics, Painting, Interior Design, Fashion Design, Video & TV, Film Making, Medical Photography, Printing, Picture Editing, Cartoons, Teaching, Curating, Art Therapy etc.*



Art & Design @

Sharjah English School

# Biology (Separate Sciences) - AQA



## Course outline

Biology is at the forefront of many of the most important and exciting current issues, whether it is the effect of global warming and environmental degradation on the planet's flora and fauna; our continuing fight against disease and pathogens; the search for novel life-forms on earth... and elsewhere, and indeed what "alive" means.

Studying Biology at SES will not only introduce you to many of the fundamental biological concepts that underpin the science, but also equip you with the knowledge and ability to question assumptions about the world around you and to take part in the debates surrounding these and many other scientific advances.

## Course structure and assessment

There are 7 topic areas that are studied in the new GCSE biology syllabus.

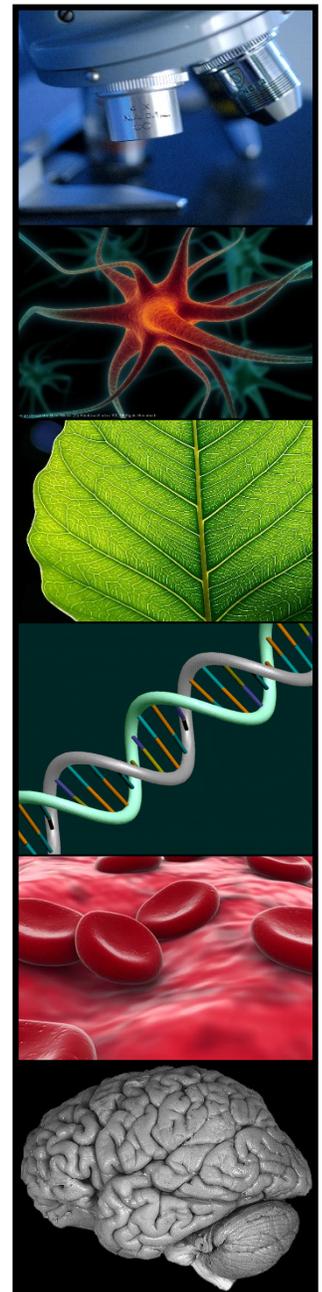
1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

## Assessment Criteria

Component	Assessment	%
Paper 1 (Assessing any content from topics 1-4)	Each paper is a 1 hour 45 minute written examination, to include multiple choice, structured closed short answer and open response questions.	50
Paper 2 (Assessing any content from topics 5-7)		50

## Career prospects

*Biotechnology, Biological Testing, Dentistry, Environmental Conservation, Forensic Science, Independent Research, Medicine, Midwifery, Marine Biology, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Teaching, Veterinary Medicine, and almost any other career.*



**Note: If you opt for triple Science you will do Biology as a separate Science**

# IGCSE Business - Edexcel

## Course outline

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Covering the fundamental concepts of Marketing, Finance, Human Resources, Operations Management and External Environment students develop an understanding of how each function within a business operates and how they join together to form a successful organisation.

**"A business is simply an idea to make other people's lives better."  
Sir Richard Branson**

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## Course structure and assessment

There are two units of study:

Unit 1 – Investigating Small Businesses

Unit 2 – Investigating Large Businesses

Both examinations cover the whole scope of the IGCSE Business course, differing only through the scale of the scenarios used as case studies.

Amongst other things, the course covers:

- the various objectives of a business, changing business environments and the criteria for judging success
- people in organisations, focusing on their roles, relationships and management in business
- accounting and financial information as an aid to decision making
- satisfying customer needs in a changing and competitive international environment
- how organisations use and manage resources to produce goods and services.

## Assessment Criteria

Units 1 and 2 are each worth 50% of the final GCSE mark.

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## Career Prospects

*Traditional career paths include management consultancy, marketing, HR management and accountancy. For those individuals with the necessary desire to succeed, the opportunities for entrepreneurs are limitless.*

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Business



Sharjah English School



<https://goo.gl/fsYP18>

## Course outline

The following topic areas are studied in GCSE Chemistry:

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes
6. The rate and extent of chemical change
7. Organic chemistry
8. Chemical analysis
9. Chemistry of the atmosphere
10. Using resources

Chemistry is fun!— **Joel H. Hildebrand**

## Course structure and assessment

Students will sit two papers for their Chemistry exam.

Paper 1

This paper looks at atomic structure, bonding, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes and energy changes

Paper 2

This looks at the rate of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry, the chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources

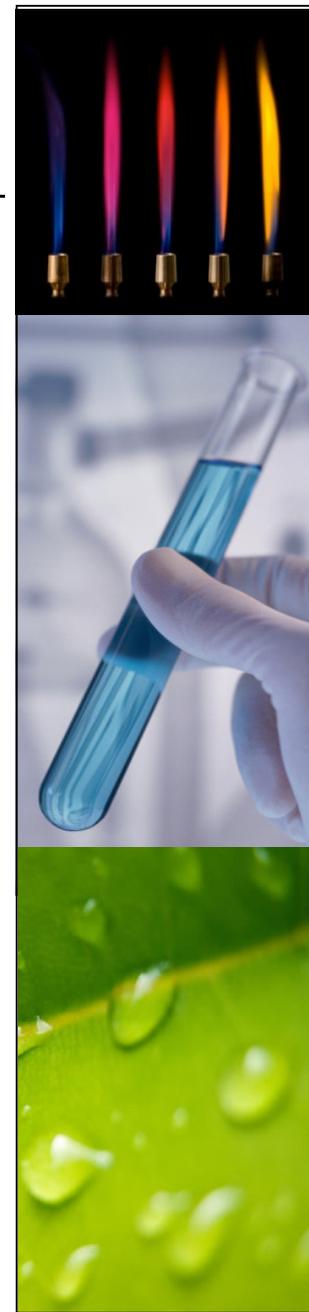
## Assessment Criteria

Paper 1 and 2 are both worth 50% each of the GCSE. In the exam, the papers will be multiple choice, structured, closed, short answer and open response type questions. Both papers are worth 100 marks.

## Career Prospects

*Some of the careers available to chemists are: Analytical chemist, Chemical engineer, Healthcare scientist, clinical biochemistry, Forensic scientist, Nanotechnologist, Pharmacologist, Research scientist (physical sciences) and Toxicologist.*

**Note: If you opt for triple Science you will do Chemistry as a separate Science**



# Computer Science - Edexcel

## Course outline

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“We ALL depend on technology to communicate, to bank, and none of us know how to read and write code. It’s important for these kids, right now, starting at 8 years old, to read and write code.”  
**Will.i.am**

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## Course structure and assessment

### Component 1 Principles of Computer Science (40%)

#### Overview of content

- Understanding of what algorithms are
- Understanding of binary representation, data representation, data storage and compression, encryption and databases
- Understanding of components of computer systems
- Understanding of computer networks, the internet and the world wide.
- Understanding of components of computer systems
- Ethical, legal and ownership issues.

### Component 2 Application of Computational Thinking (40%)

#### Overview of content

- Understanding how to develop program code and constructs, data types, structures, input/output, operators and subprograms.

### Component 3 – Project (20%)

Students will develop a computer program. The content for this component will draw on:

- algorithms, decomposition and abstraction
- design, write, test and refine a program
- data.

#### Assessment criteria

Components (Papers) 1 and 2 (each worth 40%) consist of multiple-choice, short open response, open response and extended open response answer questions.

Component 3 is worth 20% and is an internal assessed project.

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#### Career prospects

*The vast majority of careers in the 21st century will require an understanding of computing. Many jobs that today’s students will have in 10 to 20 years haven’t been invented yet.*

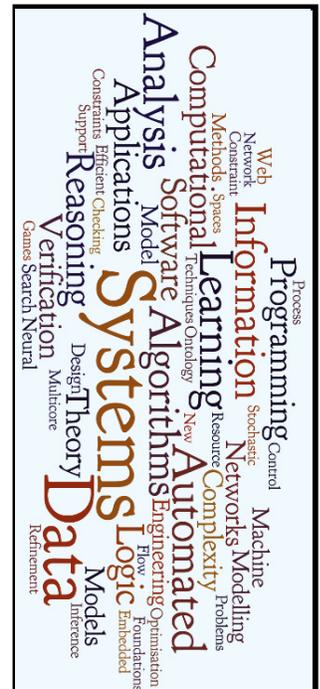
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<https://goo.gl/n1HL66>



Computer  
Science



Sharjah English School

# Design and Technology - AQA

(Formally Product Design and Graphic Products)

## Course outline

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GCSE Design & Technology is concerned primarily with the activity of designing and making of products and systems which are used by and manufactured in an industrialised society. We seek to provide our students with an educational experience which places particular emphasis on the 'holistic' nature of Design and Technology.

Students will gain an understanding of the following areas:

- Creative process (decision making and the resolution of conflicting needs)
  - Manufacturing, including an understanding of industrial systems
  - Communication, research and analytical skills
  - The interrelationship between human and technological factors
  - An appreciation of the fact that design will impact beyond its intended area
  - An awareness of the historical events that have shaped our world
  - An appreciation of the work of others (including professional designers and peers)
- 

## Course structure and assessment

### Unit 1: Theory (50%)

In this unit students will learn the fundamentals of materials, manufacturing processes and design and market influences. This will be assessed in the written examination at the end of the course.

### Unit 2: Controlled Assessment (50%)

This unit consists of a single design and make activity selected from a range of examination board set tasks.

### Assessment criteria

Unit 1 will be assessed in the written examination at the end of the course and Unit 2 will be completed in school where students will be required to complete a single/series of products alongside a portfolio showcasing their design process.

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### Career prospects

*Design Technology as a subject gives the pupils transferable skills and the ability to contribute creatively in any situation. The skills listed above; research, analysis, decision-making and communication are highly valued by employers and lend themselves to all walks of life.*

*The more specialised knowledge and skills can lead to higher education and employment in the following fields: architecture, engineering (civil, electronic and mechanical), design (product, graphic, interior, service) quantitative surveying, design management, software or website design and manufacturing management, to name a few.*



# Drama - Edexcel

## Course outline

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Drama gives students the ability to work creatively unlike any other subject. Students are given the opportunity to work in a wide variety of ways to explore texts and performance and are encouraged creatively, focusing on practical work which reflects twenty-first century practice.

## Course structure and assessment

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### Component 1 - Devising - 40%

Students will create and develop a devised piece from a chosen stimulus. They will perform this piece and analyse their process and performance.

### Component 2 - Performance from Text - 20%

Students will either perform in or design for two key extracts from a performance text.

### Component 3 - Theatre Makers in Practice - 40% (written exam)

Students will study and explore a complete performance text and will complete an evaluation of a live theatre performance.

## Assessment criteria

Component 1 is internally assessed and externally moderated through a portfolio of work and a recording of the final performance. Component 2 is externally assessed by a visiting examiner watching the final performance. Component 3 is an examined component. Students are examined in a 1 hour and 30 minute exam paper which is designed to allow students to show their knowledge of the text studied and how they would realise it in a performance. It also includes a live theatre evaluation.

## Career prospects

*Career opportunities for students who study Drama at a higher level include: the media, theatre, television, radio, the film industry, arts administration, drama therapy, education.*

*Some jobs directly related to a degree in Drama and Theatre might include: Actor/actress, Stage manager, Arts administrator, Drama teacher, Dramatherapist, Television production assistant, Radio presenter or Theatre director. There are also many jobs where Drama and Theatre may be very useful. For example, a Youth & community worker, Personnel manager, Social worker, Journalist, Marketing manager, Charities administrator.*

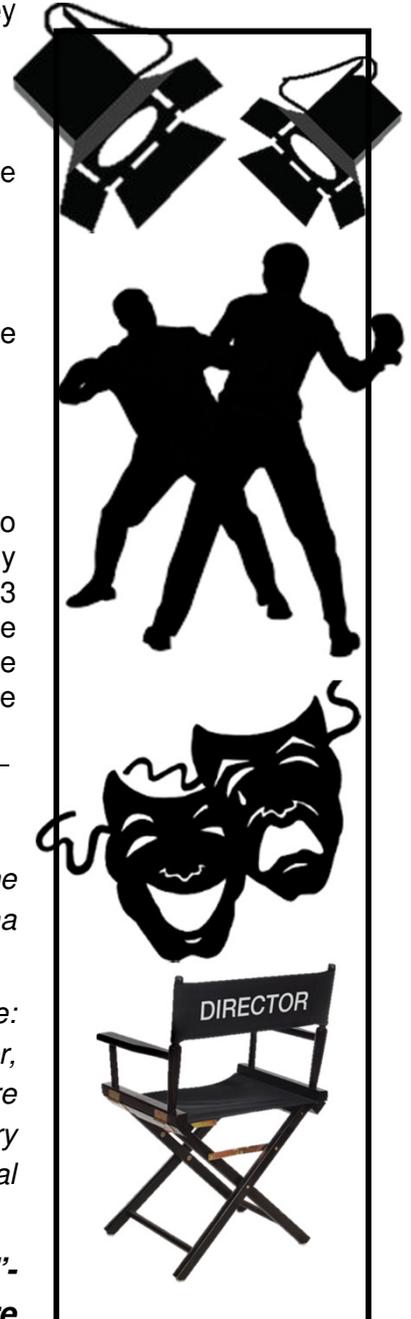
*“All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players”-  
Shakespeare*

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<https://goo.gl/JpX1ug>



Drama @

Sharjah English School

## Course outline

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IGCSE Economics allows students to study decision making on a variety of scales. In Microeconomics we look at the factors which affect what producers make and what consumers buy. In Macroeconomics we study the effects of unemployment and inflation on people in various countries. Finally, in International Economics we examine why people in some countries are wealthier than others and how this is changing. If you want to understand the thinking behind Donald Trump's policies on international trade and healthcare, Economics can help you.

***“An economist is an expert who will know tomorrow why the things he predicted yesterday didn't happen today.”***

***Lawrence J Peter***

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## Course structure and assessment

### Unit 1 – Microeconomics and Business Economics

This unit focuses on the Microeconomic aspects of Economics, those affecting individuals and companies. It covers the concepts of supply and demand, market failure, labour markets, elasticities, business costs and market structures.

### Unit 2 – Macroeconomics and the Global Economy

This unit focuses on the Macroeconomic aspects of Economics, those issues dealt with by governments and nations. It covers the concepts of unemployment, economic growth, inflation, exchange rates, international trade, taxation, government spending, interest rates and globalisation.

### Assessment criteria

Economics is assessed through one 2 hour and 30 minutes examination paper. The contents from units 1 and 2 are assessed here.

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### Career Prospects

*Economics graduates often follow careers in consultancy, banking, international relations, government planning, insurance and charitable organisations.*





## Course outline

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The course concentrates on developing and extending the ability to communicate effectively, building on the grammar, vocabulary and structures covered between years 7 and 9. All students will enjoy increased confidence within the four language skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Students will form an understanding and positive attitude towards the culture and civilisation of Francophone countries.

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## Course structure and assessment

Students take examinations in reading, listening, speaking and writing, each of which is worth 25% of the total mark. All examinations are taken at the end of year 11.

During the two year course, 5 themes are covered:

- Identity and Culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

## Assessment criteria

For paper 1, students are assessed on their understanding of spoken French by one or more speakers. Paper 2 is assessed internally and students are examined on their ability to communicate effectively in French. Paper 3 focuses on their understanding of written French and for Paper 4, students are tested on their ability to write in French.

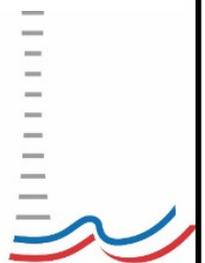
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## Career prospects

*In line with increased globalisation, the ability to communicate in a second (or even third) language will increase a student's marketability. Employers tend to prefer candidates who speak one or more foreign languages. This is certainly true for careers in Import/Export Sales, Banking, Journalism, Broadcasting, Hotel Management, Travel Industry, Engineering and Marketing.*

*French is an official working language in dozens of international organisations, including the United Nations, International Olympic Committee and International Red Cross. It is also the second most frequently used language on the internet.*

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## Course outline

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Geography at GCSE is designed to investigate new ideas and approaches to the study of geography in the 21st century at local, regional, national and international levels. It examines aspects of physical and human geography and their associated processes, including relationships between people and environments as well as current issues of local, national and global importance, such as climate change and sustainable development.

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## Course structure and assessment

### Component 1 – The Physical Environment (37.5% of final grade)

- Topic 1 – Rivers and Coastal Environments
- Topic 2 – Weather Hazards and Climate Change
- Topic 3 – Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Management

### Component 2 – The Human Environment (37.5% of final grade)

- Topic 4 – Changing Cities
- Topic 5 – Global Development
- Topic 6 – Water Resources Management

### Component 3 – Geographical Investigations (25% of final grade)

- Topic 7 – Physical Fieldwork
- Topic 8 – Human Fieldwork

## Assessment Criteria

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through an examination paper. For component 3, students are expected to carry out fieldwork on a river or coastal environment and a rural or urban environment. The component 3 examination is also a written paper that will test the skills students have collected through this fieldwork.

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## Career prospects

The diverse nature of Geography means it is a stepping stone to a whole range of future opportunities. Town planning, journalism and media, teaching, economic planning, engineering, business, ICT, environmental are all careers where geographical skills would be particularly valued.



# History - Edexcel

## Course outline

History at GCSE is designed to help make judgements about the past, think critically when sources of information are presented to us and challenge existing ideas about the world.

The course develops and extends knowledge and understanding of key events, periods and societies in local, British, and wider world history; and of the wide diversity of human experience.

“Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe” (H. G. Wells)

## Course structure and assessment

Unit 1: Thematic Study: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

This thematic breadth study focuses on the development of Medicine from the Middle Ages to the Modern World.

Unit 2: British Depth and Period Study: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 and Superpower relations 1941-91.

The British depth study focuses on a short time span and requires students to understand the complexity of society and the interplay of different aspects within Elizabethan England. The period study focuses on a medium time span of 50 years and requires students to understand the unfolding issues associated with the Cold War

Unit 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39. The depth study focuses on a short time span and requires students to understand the complexity of German society and the interplay of different aspects within it. The course features the problems of Weimar Germany, the rise of Hitler and life in Nazi Germany.

## Assessment criteria

Unit 1, 2 and 3 are written examinations. Unit 1 is worth 30 %, Unit 2 is worth 40% and Unit 3 also 30%.

## Career prospects

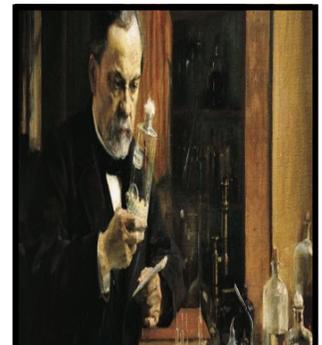
*The study of history sharpens logical, critical, and analytic thinking; providing young people with opportunities to develop a variety of skills that will contribute to their employability, whatever their chosen career. The transferable skills, abilities and attitudes to independent learning developed through the study of history make young people attractive to employers.*

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<https://goo.gl/NKEEik>



History



Sharjah English School



## Course outline

A GCSE in Music touches on many areas of the subject that are not covered in instrumental or singing lessons. Students will learn how to compose for both instruments and voices. They will also learn how to use modern music software like Sibelius, Audacity and Cubase. They will study work by artists and composers such as the Beatles and Haydn.

## Course structure and assessment

**Performing Music (30%)** Students will record 2 final pieces to send to AQA: (1) a solo performance on their main instrument or voice (2) an ensemble performance. For Classical musicians/ singers the ensemble might be a piece such as a duet or a trio. Rock musicians may work on a song with a band. The expected performing standard by the end of Year 11 is approximately Grade 4, however Grade 3 level work is also acceptable. Pieces of approximately Grade 5 standard or above receive extra marks.

**Composing Music (30%)** Students will submit 2 final compositions. One of these will be a 'free choice' in any style or genre. The other will be chosen from a set of briefs set by AQA. This area of the course includes excellent opportunities to learn about modern music technology, including recording and score writing software packages.

**Understanding Music (40%)** Students will sit an examination with recorded music included. It will focus on 3 main areas: The Western Classical Tradition, Pop Music, and Traditional (Folk) Music. Study pieces include Haydn's 'Clock' symphony, and tracks from the Beatles 'Sgt Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band' album. Students will also learn about some of the main aspects of music theory in this area of the course.

## Assessment criteria

In GCSE music, students are assessed on how well they can perform, their own composition and a written examination where their listening and understand skills are tested.

## Career prospects

*The study of music sharpens the mind and is often compared to learning another language. Some examples of careers that music leads students to are as follows: performing, writing, recording, singing, music journalism, film music, the record industry, touring and music education.*

***“Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy”  
Ludwig Von Beethoven***



# Physical Education - Edexcel

## Course outline

The GCSE PE syllabus has both a theoretical (60%) and practical (40%) component, most of the lessons are delivered as interactive theoretical, exciting classroom based lessons.

The academic side of the course is demanding and covers a wide variety of topics taught in two distinct modules: 'The Human Body and Movement in Physical Activity' and 'Socio-cultural Wellbeing and Influences in Physical Activity'.

## Course structure and assessment

Students will experience some practical lessons throughout the course. These will be centered around the components of fitness and will enable them to develop their own personal fitness programme. Students are expected to attend extra curricular clubs and are encouraged to represent school teams and seek additional clubs outside of SES to enhance their performance.

### Module 1 – The Human Body

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Long term & short term effects of exercise upon the;
  - Cardio-Vascular System.
  - Respiratory System.
  - Muscular System.
  - Skeletal System.
  - Movement analysis
- Exercise & fitness components.
- Principles & types of training.

### Module 2 – Socio-cultural Wellbeing

- Socio-cultural influences Well being and influences
  - Influences on a healthy & active lifestyle
- Governing body & educational opportunities.
  - Health, fitness and well-being
    - Nutrition & Diet
    - Sports psychology

## Assessment criteria

Written Assessment through two exams - 1 hour 15 minutes per exam – 60% of the final GCSE Grade.

Practical Assessment through performance - Three sports from the set list from the exam board – 30% of the final GCSE Grade.

Written Non Examined Assessment (coursework) - Analysis of Performance 10% of the final GCSE Grade.

## Career prospects

### Health Professionals

*Dietician, Nutrition, Health and well being, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Sports Massage, Physiologist, Sport Medicine.*

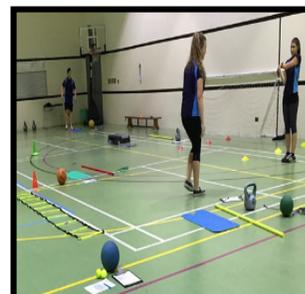
### Sport Professionals

*Teaching, Sports Management, Sports Administration, Sport Marketing, Sponsorship, Sports Events, Sport Agent, Health Club Manager, Sports Coach, Professional Sportsperson, Elite Athlete*

edexcel



<https://goo.gl/cWdch6>



Physical  
Education



Sharjah English School

# Physics – AQA

## Course outline

The specification is designed to give students the tools and concepts they need to be able to construct a scientific approach to solving problems.

Students will learn to ask and answer questions about the fundamental laws that govern natural phenomena.

Students are likely to be engaged by the aspects of the specification that they can relate to their everyday life such as the efficiency of electrical appliances and braking distances as well as larger concepts like nuclear fission and fusion and evidence of the Big Bang.

## Course structure and assessment

Paper 1:	Paper 2:
What's assessed Topics 1 – 4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.	Topics 5 – 8: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics. Questions in Paper 2 may draw on an understanding of energy changes and transfers due to heating, mechanical and electrical work and the concept of energy conservation from Energy and Electricity.
Questions Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.	Questions Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

## Assessment criteria

Paper 1 and 2 are a written examinations of 1 hour 45 minutes. They are worth 100 marks and each make up 50 % of GCSE.

## Career prospects

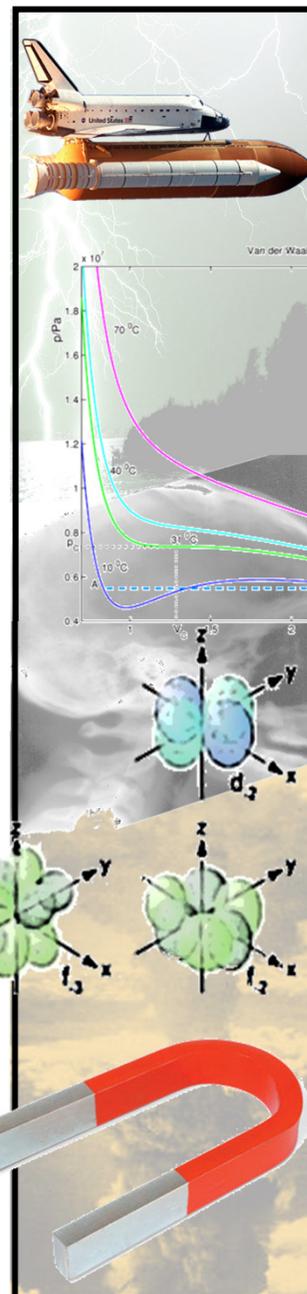
*Accountant, Air traffic controller, Astronaut, Banker, Barrister, Civil Servant, Computer programmer, Defense specialist, Engineer, Geologist, Musical instrument designer, Pilot, Physicist, Politician, Lawyer, Meteorologist, Stockbroker, Teacher and almost any other career.*

**Note: If you opt for triple Science you will do Physics as a separate Science**

AQA  
www.aqa.org.uk



<https://goo.gl/4X7hgA>



Physics @

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