



THE
KINGSLEY
SCHOOL

Year 9 Options Booklet
For GCSE 2022-24

Y9 OPTIONS BOOKLET CONTENTS

Introduction and Key Dates page 2

COMPULSORY CORE SUBJECTS

English Language	page 3
English Literature	page 4
Mathematics.....	page 5
Science	page 6
French	page 7
Spanish	page 8

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Fine Art	page 9
ICT/Digital Media	page 10
Business	page 11
Classical Civilisation.....	page 12
Drama and Theatre Arts.....	page 13
Food Preparation and Nutrition	page 14
Geography	page 15
History	page 16
Latin.....	page 17
Music.....	page 18
Physical Education	page 19
Philosophy, Ethics and Religion (PER)	page 20
Textiles	page 21

INTRODUCTION

Over this term you will be making choices as to which subjects you will take at GCSE. Although this can be a difficult and sometimes daunting decision, it is also a very exciting time as it is the first stage of your education over which you have an element of control. You can begin to choose your path in life. However, you do not have to make these decisions alone; you can seek advice and guidance from subject teachers, Heads of Departments, your form tutors, and your family.

When thinking about which options to take, read through this booklet and consider what is involved with each subject. Consider your strengths, weaknesses and areas of interest; ability and motivation are both very important in ensuring success. Consider whether your choices link to a career path that you may be considering; research what the GCSE entry requirements are. Don't worry, however, if you have absolutely no idea which career you may follow; that is perfectly normal. Any decision you make now is unlikely to affect your future study. Most universities and employers look for an all-round education and the core subjects are those that are demanded the most.

Whilst there is an element of choice, all students are required to take the compulsory core subjects and, in addition, to take three other subjects of your choice. We believe this combination provides the breadth of curriculum required by universities and ensures that career options remain very open and accessible.

COMPULSORY CORE SUBJECTS	OPTIONAL SUBJECTS FROM WHICH YOU CAN CHOOSE 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - English Language - English Literature - Mathematics - Science (either 3 separate sciences or Science & Additional Science) - Modern Foreign Language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine Art - ICT/Digital Media - Business - Classical Civilisation - Drama and Theatre Studies - Food Preparation and Nutrition - Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - History - Latin - Music - Physical Education - Philosophy, Ethics and Religion (PER) - French or Spanish - Textiles: Art and Design

Above all, we recommend that you study subjects that you will enjoy most and perform your best in.

KEY DATES IN THE OPTIONS SELECTION PROCESS:

Y9 Virtual Parents' Evening - Tuesday 14th December 2021

Y9 Virtual GCSE Options Evening - Wednesday 12th January 2022

Final options to be submitted - Friday 21st January 2022

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: English Language

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8700

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

- How to select information and analyse fiction and non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st century
- To write clearly and accurately for different purposes

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

- The ability to read, understand and analyse literary and non-fiction texts
- The ability to read accurately, clearly and imaginatively

ASSESSMENT

- Two examinations of 1 hour 45 minutes each

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Students are taught in sets according to their ability and progress in Year 9
- There are no different tiers so all students take the same examinations
- The grading system is from 9 down to 1

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Yes.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: English Literature

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8702

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

You will study:

Drama - A Shakespeare play and a modern play
Poetry - An anthology of poetry from the Literary Heritage and modern poetry
Prose - A 19th century novel

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

The ability to read a variety of texts, understanding meaning and storyline, as well as analysing the language choices a writer makes.

ASSESSMENT

Two examinations:

Paper 1 - Shakespeare and the modern novel (1 hour 45 minutes)

Paper 2 - The modern novel and poetry (2 hours 15 minutes)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Students are taught in sets
- All students take the same papers
- The grading system is from 9 down to 1

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Yes.

MATHEMATICS

EXAMINATION BOARD: Edexcel

COURSE TITLE: Mathematics (9-1)

SPECIFICATION CODE: 4MA1

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

You will extend your knowledge and understanding of the following key areas in mathematics:

1. Number
2. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
3. Algebra
4. Geometry and measures
5. Statistics
6. Probability

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

A good understanding of the skills studied in Years 7 and 8 in the areas of number, algebra, shape and statistics.

A good knowledge of the timetables and key skills as practised weekly in the tests.

A firm grasp of the key skills in algebra.

An ability to use your scientific calculator confidently and accurately.

Problem solving skills.

ASSESSMENT

All students will sit three 90 minute written papers - two calculator papers and a non-calculator paper - at the end of Year 11. Each paper contributes a third of the final grade.

There are two tiers of papers:
Foundation Tier (grades 1 - 5 available)
Higher Tier (grades 4 - 9 available)

The GCSE has a much greater focus on applying skills and solving non-routine problems in mathematical and non-mathematical contexts. This style of question accounts for 25% of the Foundation Tier papers and 30% of the Higher Tier papers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have already begun the new GCSE course during Year 9 lessons. Most students will sit the Higher Tier papers. However, in the interests of candidates, it is essential that they are entered for the tier appropriate to their ability since those who obtain a mark below the minimum required for the award of the lowest grade will be ungraded and anyone not achieving the required standard (grade 4) will need to continue your GCSE mathematics studies in Year 12.

We offer an additional maths qualification (FSMQ) to stretch the most able from Year 10 during Enrichment.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Yes. You will need to achieve a grade 6 or higher to study mathematics at A-level and a grade 8 or higher to study further mathematics A-level.

SCIENCE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: GCSE Combined Science;
GCSE Biology; GCSE Chemistry; GCSE Physics

SPECIFICATION CODE: GCSE Combined Science 8464; GCSE
Biology 8461; GCSE Chemistry 8462; GCSE Physics 8463

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

A broad range of topics drawn from the three science disciplines as well as the application of scientific knowledge to the modern world; practical techniques and the scientific method of carrying out an investigation.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

The study of all three science disciplines is compulsory at Key Stage 4. The aims of all courses are:

- to inspire, motivate and challenge students by following a broad, coherent and practical course of study.
- to allow students to gain insight into and experience of how science works so that they can engage with science in their everyday lives and enable them to make informed choices about further study and career paths.
- to develop skills of planning an experiment, carrying out suitable practical work, drawing conclusions and evaluating the whole experiment.
- to develop understanding of how to communicate ideas using scientific and mathematical language and to use models to explain systems.

ASSESSMENT

We start the GCSE courses in Year 9 and continue into Years 10 and 11. All assessment is by external examination at the end of Year 11. Grading will be on the scale of 1 (low) to 9 (high).

Each student will study either for GCSE Combined Science, which combines elements from physics, chemistry and biology, or for the separate science GCSEs i.e. GCSE Physics, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Biology. Students are placed into sets for these two pathways at the start of Year 10. However, we will monitor progress in the sets and make adjustments where necessary. For GCSE Combined Science, each student will obtain two GCSE grades for their overall performance in all three science disciplines. The grades that they are awarded will either be the same as each other or will be adjacent grades where a student's performance lies between the levels for two grades. Thus an able student could be awarded grades 7-7, a slightly less able student grades 7-6 and a student who had performed to a slightly lower standard would be awarded grades 6-6. These grades are awarded using marks combined from their biology, chemistry and physics papers.

Assessment is by externally-set examination papers in each individual science discipline. There is no coursework or continuous assessment. Students following the separate science pathway will need to cover additional material and will therefore work at an accelerated pace. Students chosen for this course will be those with a particular aptitude for science, as demonstrated by performance in internal examinations or identified by their subject teachers during lessons.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Each student is provided with a textbook for each of the three subjects. These are published by Collins and are written specifically for this course.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Yes.

FRENCH

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: GCSE French

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8658

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

There are three distinct themes across the two year course covering the following material:

Theme 1 – Identity and family Topics covered include: Me, my family and friends, Technology in everyday life, Free-Time activities

Theme 2 – Local, national, international and global areas of interest: Topics covered include: Home town, neighbourhood and region, Social Issues, Global issues, Travel and tourism

Theme 3 – Current and future study and employment: Topics covered include: My studies, Life at school/college, Education post-16

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

The acquisition of vocabulary and rules of grammar are key to success, so a desire to learn and use new structures is essential.

You need to be able to include a range of vocabulary and grammatical structure in both written and spoken work whilst referring to past, present and future events, so the ability to go beyond the basic requirements of a question are useful. Translation into and out of the target language is a new element as is the requirement to produce more spontaneous oral contributions in examination conditions.

ASSESSMENT

All four skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) carry an equal weighting of 25% and are assessed via terminal examinations.

Paper 1: Listening: At Foundation tier, the listening paper is a 35 minute paper (plus 5 minutes reading time) worth 40 marks. At Higher tier, the paper is 45 minutes (plus 5 minutes reading time) worth 50 marks.

At both levels, there will be questions and answer in English AND the target language.

Paper 2: Speaking: The paper consists of preparing a roleplay and a photo card followed by a general discussion which students prepare for 10 minutes. At Foundation tier, they are examined over 7-9 minutes. At Higher tier, the examination last 10-12 minutes.

Paper 3: Reading: At both levels, the paper carries 60 marks. At Foundation tier, the paper is 45 minutes, at Higher tier the paper is 1 hour.

Paper 4: Writing: At both levels, students complete translation and creative writing tasks. The Foundation tier paper lasts 1 hour, carrying 50 marks. The Higher tier paper lasts 1 hour 15 minutes and carries 60 marks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We also subscribe to www.kerboodle.com an online resource created by Nelson Thornes and AQA which gives the pupils access to many online resources. These include a vocabulary builder, grammar practice and extension listening and reading activities. Pupils will receive login details and are encouraged to work on the tasks independently.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Yes.

SPANISH

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: GCSE Spanish

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8698

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

There are three distinct themes across the two year course covering the following material:

Theme 1 – Identity and family Topics covered include: Me, my family and friends, Technology in everyday life, Free-Time activities

Theme 2 – Local, national, international and global areas of interest: Topics covered include: Home town, neighbourhood and region, Social Issues, Global issues, Travel and tourism

Theme 3 – Current and future study and employment: Topics covered include: My studies, Life at school/college, Education post-16

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

The acquisition of vocabulary and rules of grammar are key to success, so a desire to learn and use new structures is essential.

You need to be able to include a range of vocabulary and grammatical structure in both written and spoken work whilst referring to past, present and future events, so the ability to go beyond the basic requirements of a question are useful. Translation into and out of the target language is a new element as is the requirement to produce more spontaneous oral contributions in examination conditions.

ASSESSMENT

All four skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) carry an equal weighting of 25% and are assessed via terminal examinations.

Paper 1: Listening: At Foundation tier, the listening paper is a 35 minute paper (plus 5 minutes reading time) worth 40 marks. At Higher tier, the paper is 45 minutes (plus 5 minutes reading time) worth 50 marks.

At both levels, there will be questions and answer in English AND the target language.

Paper 2: Speaking: The paper consists of preparing a roleplay and a photo card followed by a general discussion which students prepare for 10 minutes. At Foundation tier, they are examined over 7-9 minutes. At Higher tier, the examination last 10-12 minutes.

Paper 3: Reading: At both levels, the paper carries 60 marks. At Foundation tier, the paper is 45 minutes, at Higher tier the paper is 1 hour.

Paper 4: Writing: At both levels, students complete translation and creative writing tasks. The Foundation tier paper lasts 1 hour, carrying 50 marks. The Higher tier paper lasts 1 hour 15 minutes and carries 60 marks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We also subscribe to www.kerboodle.com an online resource created by Nelson Thornes and AQA which gives the pupils access to many online resources. These include a vocabulary builder, grammar practice and extension listening and reading activities. Pupils will receive login details and are encouraged to work on the tasks independently.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Yes.

FINE ART

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: Art & Design: Fine Art

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8202

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

The art department aims to foster talent and encourage independent learning through nurturing creativity and imagination. We hope to help girls acquire the skills and vision to enable them to achieve their highest potential at GCSE and beyond.

The subject is based around an intensive improvement of drawing skills and the encouragement of individual interests. Girls' ideas are structured and supported through private tutorials.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

To embark on a GCSE in art and design girls will need to have a keen interest in the subject and be willing to apply themselves with enthusiasm, effort and commitment.

The course is structured to build on and improve the skills girls have already gained at KS3. By completing research and visiting galleries we aim to develop understanding of aesthetic qualities and an awareness of the importance of art and design in our own and other cultures.

We hope to foster the girls' ability to articulate ideas, feelings and opinions about their work and that of others to assist with self-expression. We also aim to develop powers of visual perception and the exploration of elements in the visual world.

Finally we hope to impart a genuine enjoyment of the subject and a growing sense of self-confidence and self-esteem.

ASSESSMENT

The art and design course that we follow at GCSE is Fine Art specified by the examination board AQA.

The specification comprises two components of practical work. Component 1 is a portfolio of work and Component 2 is an externally set assignment.

Component 1 counts for 60% and Component 2 counts for 40% of the final grade.

Both the 'Portfolio of Work' and the 'Externally Set Assignment' are marked internally and externally moderated. Each unit of work has to adhere to four assessment objectives that are clearly outlined in the AQA specification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained at www.aqa.org.uk

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

A Fine Art GCSE is not a requirement for the A-level course, but it is strongly recommended. Students who do not have a GCSE in Fine Art will be required to submit a portfolio of work that demonstrates a high level of ability in drawing and painting. This is to help the school to assess their suitability for the A-level course.

GCSE EQUIVALENT IN ICT/DIGITAL MEDIA

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

COURSE TITLE: OCR Cambridge National Level 1/2 Certificate in Creative iMedia

SPECIFICATION CODE: J817

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

The Cambridge National in Creative iMedia equips students with the wide range of knowledge and skills in the creative digital media sector. They start at pre-production and develop their skills through practical assignments as they create final multimedia products. There are two mandatory units and two optional units. The mandatory units are:

R081: Pre-production skills

Students are introduced to a range of essential pre-production techniques used in creative and digital media, including client brief, time frames, deadlines, and preparation techniques

R082: Creating digital graphics

Building on the skills and understanding that they have developed in the previous unit, students explore where and why digital graphics are used and the techniques that are involved in their creation. They apply their skills and knowledge in creating digital graphics against a specific brief.

In addition girls will study 2 optional units from a choice of 8, depending on the interests of the group.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

To succeed on this course good practical skills will help girls to understand many of the concepts covered. Girls will need to be creative, logical thinkers and willing to develop the digital skills required for any course they undertake or business role they might have in the future.

ASSESSMENT

One of the optional units is assessed through a written examination and the remaining three units are assessed through the use of coursework tasks provided by OCR.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The skills gained through studying towards this qualification will be applicable in a wide range of career paths and progression routes. It provides an excellent progression route to further study, particularly in computing or IT based qualifications.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

No.

BUSINESS

EXAMINATION BOARD: Edexcel

COURSE TITLE: GCSE Business

SPECIFICATION CODE: 1BS0

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

The Edexcel GCSE in Business is an engaging and inspiring qualification which reflects the demands of a modern and evolving business environment. It is designed to develop commercially minded and enterprising individuals, helping you to succeed in your chosen pathway. The very nature of the subject means it is complementary to any combination of GCSE subjects you choose, regardless of your ultimate career choice.

The qualification is split into two themes:

Theme 1 Investigating a small business

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business

Theme 2 Building a business

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

There are no specific skills or attributes required for the successful study of GCSE Business and the course will develop a broad range of skills which are transferable to other subjects. You will develop a range of business skills, but in addition your written, numerical, analytical and decision making skills will be enhanced.

ASSESSMENT

This qualification is assessed at the end of Year 11 and comprises of two written examinations, one on each theme. Each examination is 90 minutes long.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The skills gained as a result of studying GCSE business will support your post-16 studies as well as providing an excellent progression route to Business or Economics at A level.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

No.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

COURSE TITLE: Classical Civilisation

SPECIFICATION CODE: J199

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

There is great scope within this GCSE to learn about Greek and Roman civilisation.

We will cover two topics:

1. For the thematic study - Comparing women in Ancient Greece with women in Ancient Rome from the time period 3000 BC to 500 AD using literary and visual/material sources.
2. For the literature and culture - The Homeric world including life in the Mycenaean age, and reading sections of Homer's Odyssey about the hero, Odysseus.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

You should be confident at analysing sources (visual and written) and forming your own judgements in a clear manner. You should enjoy reading literature and learning about other cultures.

All the literature we study is translated into English, so no knowledge of Greek or Latin is necessary.

ASSESSMENT

There are two written papers lasting one hour and thirty minutes (worth 50% each); both contain short answer and extended response questions. There is no longer any controlled assessment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The world of the Greeks and the Romans is a widely diverse topic and will suit anyone who is interested in mythology, culture, drama, art, literature or ancient history.

Classical Civilisation can be continued to A-level and many universities offer degree courses in the subject. It is also increasingly appreciated by employers and colleges as evidence of a student's range of interest and ability, and because it displays a wide variety of transferable skills.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

The GCSE is not required to study this subject at A-level.

DRAMA AND THEATRE ARTS

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: Drama

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8261

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

This is a popular option based on practical knowledge of acting and directing combined with technical skills and the academic study of set texts and practitioners.

In Year 10 students will study the work of two theatre practitioners and the genre of Physical Theatre. There will be a detailed practical and written study of a set text which is 'Noughts and Crosses' by Dominic Cooke. The schemes of work also develop the student's character and acting skills, and introduce a range of strategies and approaches to both text-based and devised work.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

Studying drama at GCSE covers the world of the theatre at a specific level and yet the life-long transferable skills gained in this course are fundamental for any career across a range of industries. Please use the link below to view a short video hosted by the Globe Theatre in which leading professional business and industry advisers explain why, for them, drama GCSE offers so much more than a future in the artistic and creative world of work.

ASSESSMENT

The Year 11 course is split into three units:

Unit 1 (40%) is a written exam and is in three parts. The first part is a short series of multiple choice questions based on theatrical terminology; the second is a series of structured questions on the set text and the final part questions based

upon a live production students will have seen during the course. The students will be prepared thoroughly for the written examination by sitting mock and practice papers from the summer of Year 10 onwards.

Unit 2 (40%) is a devised performance, which is prepared in lessons under the guidance of the teacher but allowing for student directing. Students have a choice of specialism: performer, lighting designer, sound designer, costume designer or puppet designer. The performance which is videoed and accompanied by a devising log of supporting written documents are both marked by the teacher and then moderated by an external moderator.

Unit 3 (20%) is a performance of two extracts of a text to a live audience and visiting examiner. Students can choose to perform or create realised designs for the extracts from the published plays. The students will prepare and perform a whole play text for an invited audience in the presence of a visiting examiner. Candidates are assessed on their technical, movement and vocal skills as well as their ability to communicate with an audience.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Theatre visits and workshops are also taken throughout the course. All students taking this course will be expected to keep a working notebook comprising diagrams, diaries of sessions as well as any written tasks given throughout the course.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3DGHtpuV28>

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261>

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

No – it is useful in that the approach to the written preparation and delivery of the coursework is the same, but a genuine interest in and passion for theatre is what is required at A-level.

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8585

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

This GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

Food preparation skills – these are intended to be integrated into the five sections:

1. Food, nutrition and health
2. Food science
3. Food safety
4. Food choice
5. Food provenance

ASSESSMENT

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
100 marks
50% of GCSE

and 50% non-exam assessment tasks as follows:

Task 1: Food investigation

Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Task 2: Food preparation assessment

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

No, but it is preferable.

GEOGRAPHY

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

COURSE TITLE: Geography A (Geographical Themes)

SPECIFICATION CODE: J383

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN? Pupils study three units:

Unit 1: Living in the UK Today

In this unit, studied in Year 10, students consider the physical and human characteristics of the UK. The processes that create and shape its landscape as well as the changing nature of the population through migration and ageing, inequality and the position of the UK in a globalised world economy. They also investigate how people interact with and manage the environment, developing an understanding of extreme weather and flooding as well as the issue of energy in the UK.

Unit 2: The World Around Us

This unit, studied in Year 11, is again a mix between human, physical and environmental geographical themes. The students will investigate the characteristics of the main global ecosystems including tropical rainforests and coral reefs. They will consider the issues of global development, urbanisation and inequality, focussing on Ethiopia as a case study. Last, they will gain a deeper understanding of major global threats to the environment, including climate change and extreme weather, with a focus on tropical storms and drought.

Unit 3: Geographical Skills

This includes both the skills learned in lessons throughout the two year course, from cartographic, numeric, presentation, ICT and written skills, to those learned on the residential fieldtrip where we visit (subject to current restrictions), Nettlecombe Court in Somerset. Here, students will investigate both human and physical contexts. They will be involved in planning data collection techniques, carrying out the fieldwork and choosing appropriate display methods. They will analyse their data and draw conclusions and evaluations from their experiences.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

There are no specific skills or attributes required for studying GCSE geography and it is important to note that geographers are often valued for their good all round skills. At GCSE you will develop not only your map, graph and numeracy skills, but also your written, analytical and decision making skills. The skills you have will be developed further and are easily transferable to other subjects within both the humanities and science spectra as well as to A-level geography.

ASSESSMENT

There is one tier of assessment so all students take the same papers and can access the full range of grades from 9-1. There is no coursework or controlled assessment element in the geography GCSE.

There are three examinations in total, all of which are taken at the end of Year 11. Units 1 and 2 are examined in two 1 hour examinations, each worth 30% of the full GCSE. Unit 3 tests both geographical and fieldwork skills. It is a 1 ½ hour examination and is worth 40% of the total GCSE.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There has never been a more important time to understand the nature of our environment. Geographers are trained to understand issues such as migration, natural processes and hazards, inequality and globalization as well as threats to the environment; all of which are increasingly featured in our news.

GCSE Geography aims to give girls a clear overview of the world in the first part of the 21st century. It strives to develop a sense of 'awe and wonder' so that young people can fully appreciate and learn from the world around them. Many pupils choose to continue their geographical studies in the Sixth Form.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Of course it would make the transition to A-level easier if you have studied geography at GCSE. However, as long as your GCSE grades suggest you would be capable of study at A-level then it is not a requirement.

HISTORY

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: History

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8145

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

There are two main units studied at GCSE, each with two sub-topics:

Unit 1 (Year 10): Understanding the modern world:

Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and dictatorship—which will include a study of the growth of democracy, Germany during the Great Depression and German life under Nazi rule.

Conflict and tension, 1918–1939—which assesses peace-making after The First World War, The League of Nations and the outbreak of The Second World War.

Unit 2 (Year 11): Shaping the nation:

Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day—which covers Medieval medicine, change during Renaissance Britain, medical revolutions and modern-day medicine.

Elizabethan England, c1568–1603—which includes a study of Elizabethan court, life in Elizabethan times, domestic and foreign troubles and the historic environment of Elizabethan England.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

An enquiring mind and curiosity about how people in the past lived, thought and behaved is essential.

The ability to read, understand and use information appropriately will be very useful as well as the ability to express points clearly and with attention to detail.

The ability to understand causes and consequences of key events or developments over time will also aid students greatly.

At GCSE you will develop your source analysis and evaluation skills by making critical use of sources and explaining different historical interpretations.

ASSESSMENT

There are two examination papers, both taken at the end of summer in Year 11:

Paper 1– Understanding the modern world.

Paper 2– Shaping the nation

There will be no controlled assessment for this GCSE course.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students who study history GCSE will be able to engage more purposefully with current affairs as they will be able draw comparisons and links between events of the past and the present. It helps students understand change and how the society we live in came to be. In short, the past causes the present, and so the future.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

If history is not studied at GCSE then other GCSE grades must indicate a strong aptitude for the subject.

LATIN

EXAMINATION BOARD: WJEC

COURSE TITLE: WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1)

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

This qualification will improve your knowledge of the Latin language, enabling you to translate more confidently from Latin to English and the option to translate basic sentences into Latin. You will also be reading Latin Literature in the original language. You will develop and apply critical, analytical and reflective skills to evaluate evidence from a range of sources and pieces of literature. You will also develop research and analytical skills which will empower you to become an independent student and enquirer, equipping you for further study in arts, humanities and sciences.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

You should be able to translate the Latin stories that we are currently reading with a degree of confidence, and enjoy learning and retaining new vocabulary. You should enjoy learning about the ancient world and reading literature.

ASSESSMENT

There are three examination papers.

Latin Language – a paper worth 50% of the GCSE (1 hour 15 minutes) requiring students to translate and answer comprehension questions on a story in Latin.

Latin literature and sources (themes) - a paper worth 30% of the GCSE (1 hour and 15 minutes). The theme will be 'A Day at the Races'. Students will read Latin poems and extracts about chariot racing and about an epic boat race; they will also analyse the authors' literary style.

Roman civilisation – a paper worth 20% of the GCSE (1 hour). The civilisation topics are 'Roman Entertainment and Leisure' requiring students to look at primary sources on gladiators, the theatre, dinner parties and the Roman baths.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Working out the word order and detail in Latin sentences teaches the skills of analysis and precision which are extremely useful in a wide range of careers such as law, medicine, accountancy and engineering so it is a highly regarded subject by universities and employers. Latin will also aid your assimilation of modern languages and improve your English vocabulary and grammar.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

It is essential to take this qualification in order to study the subject at A-level.

MUSIC

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

COURSE TITLE: Music

SPECIFICATION CODE: J356

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Music at Kingsley is a two year course comprising three main components: Performing, Composing and Listening

All three of these components are based on five areas of study:

1. My Music

This is where students learn about their instrument/voice, how it has developed, and what techniques are used.

2. The Concerto through time

This is the study of the Concerto and its development from 1650 to 1910.

3. Rhythms of the World

This is the study of the traditional rhythmic roots from four geographical regions of the world:

India and Punjab

Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East

Africa

Central and South America

4. Film Music

This is the study of a range of music used for films including: music that has been composed specifically for a film music from the Western Classical tradition that been used within a film music that has been composed as a soundtrack for a video game

5. Conventions of pop

This is the study of a range of popular music from the 1950s to the present day, focussing on:

Rock 'n' Roll of the 1950s and 1960s

Rock Anthems of the 1970s and 1980s

Pop Ballads of the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s

Solo Artists from 1990 to the present day

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

In order to take this course students will need to be able to read simple notation and should be competent on at least one instrument/voice, but experience of formal music exams is not compulsory.

Music students are expected to take part in the extra curricular life of the school.

It should be stressed that music is supposed to be fun and, although there is the inevitable exam and coursework, the course is actually very enjoyable and very practical, with the activities tailored to the student's individual strengths.

ASSESSMENT

Content Overview	Assessment	%
Performance on the learner's chosen instrument. Composition to a brief set by the learner.	Integrated portfolio (01 or 02) 60 Marks Non-exam assessment	30% of total GCSE
Ensemble performance. Composition to an OCR set brief.	Practical component (03 or 04) 60 Marks Non-exam assessment	30% of total GCSE
Listening and appraising. A written paper, with CD. Aural recognition and context unheard/unfamiliar music from the Areas of Study 2, 3, 4 and 5.	Listening and appraising (05) 80 Marks 1 hour and 30 minutes written paper	40% of total GCSE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

It is advisable to be currently having lessons on your first instrument/voice, although this need not be in school.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

No.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: Physical Education

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8582

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Throughout the course students will improve and refine their skills in a range of sports, in addition developing a detailed knowledge of rules and tactics.

On the theory side they will study twelve different topics:

1. Applied anatomy and physiology
2. Movement analysis
3. Physical training
4. Use of data
5. Sports psychology
6. Socio-cultural influences
7. Health, fitness and well-being

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

All GCSE physical education students need a good level of physical fitness and to be passionate about taking part in physical activity, not only as a performer but also in taking the roles of both coach and official. They also must have a keen interest in Science and keeping up with current sporting issues in the media. Ideally, they will already have represented Kingsley in several sports and possibly be competing outside of school at district/club/county level.

ASSESSMENT

Practical work breakdown – (40%)

During the two year course students undertake a range of different physical activities from – athletics, badminton, canoeing, cheerleading, circuit training, dance, gymnastics, hockey, netball, squash, skiing, swimming, table tennis and tennis. In addition, they may also use any activities they compete in outside of school e.g football, horse riding, cricket and sailing.

We then select their three highest activities (one team activity, one individual activity and one team or individual activity) for assessment in skills based drills 10 marks per activity and in a full competitive context 15 marks per activity.

One practical activity is assessed for analysis (10 marks) and evaluation (15 marks) of improvement in performance

Theory Work Breakdown (60%)

Students will take undertake two written examinations of one hour 15 minutes

Paper 1 – the human body and movement in physical activity and sport consisting of multiple choice, short and extended answer questions on the following topics

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data

Paper 2 – Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport consisting of multiple choice, short and extended answer questions on the following topics:

- Sports psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Use of data

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

GCSE Physical Education has cross-curricular links with science, history, geography, mathematics, food technology, English and information technology. It provides a very good base from which to undertake Physical Education at A-level which is accepted as an academic A-level by universities.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

No, it is not essential, although a good standard in all science subjects (especially biology) is highly recommended. A-level PE students will need involvement with a sporting activity which takes place with regular training outside of school.

PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS AND RELIGION (PER)

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

COURSE TITLE: Religious Studies

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8062

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

The PER course is divided into two components:

Component 1 which is the study of beliefs and practices of two religions. Students will study the beliefs and practices of Christianity and Sikhism. Here they will look at such philosophical questions as 'what is God like', 'how was the world created' and 'what happens when we die'. Students will then look at the practices of each religion, including types of worship, where they worship and important places of pilgrimage.

Component 2 is the thematic studies. Students will study four themes with philosophical and ethical content. They will study theme A: 'relationships and families' looking at marriage, divorce, contraception and gay marriage. Theme B: 'matters of life' looking at abortion, euthanasia and animal testing. Theme D: 'peace and conflict' looking at violence, war and pacifism and, finally, Theme E: 'crime and punishment' looking at corporal punishment, the death penalty and forgiveness.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

The GCSE offers students the opportunity to express their views and opinions. It is important that they have an interest in the areas studied and a willingness to understand the views and beliefs of others. They must be interested in developing their writing skills and ability to evaluate and express different viewpoints.

ASSESSMENT

There will be 2 exams in Year 11, each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes. One paper on component 1: religious beliefs and practices and one on component 2: thematic studies. Each paper is worth 50% of the GCSE. There is no coursework for PER.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The GCSE offers students the opportunity to develop a wide range of important skills including the ability to think logically, self-expression of ideas in written and spoken form, the ability to analyse problems and to present and justify arguments. Students will research information and are encouraged to use database and word processing which helps develop their IT skills. A wide range of source material is used, including text books, newspapers, video and documentary programmes.

The topics covered and skills developed are useful in careers such as law, medicine, teaching, journalism and social work.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

Although GCSE PER is not essential in order to take the subject at A-level, it is helpful.

TEXTILES

EXAMINATION BOARD: Cambridge International

COURSE TITLE: Cambridge International O Level Fashion & Textiles

SPECIFICATION CODE: 6130

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

By following this theoretical and practical syllabus, candidates cover a range of topics including:

- Use of fabrics, style and choice of clothing.
- Use of patterns, fitting and assembling garments.

The aim is to develop candidates' creative and aesthetic awareness, stimulating an enjoyment in the creative use of textiles. Candidates develop the practical skills essential for further study, which will also last a lifetime. Through their studies, candidates also develop a discriminating and informed approach to the making of textile products, learning how to assess suitability and recognise quality, in the context of fashion and textiles.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU REQUIRE?

You will need to be able to work creatively, showing imagination, and be inspired by fabrics, clothing and textile products. You should be comfortable with practical work and be able to work independently to generate ideas. Patience and organisation are also key to working effectively as the course will require you to produce a portfolio of assessment work.

ASSESSMENT

50% Written Paper 2 hours based on knowledge of fibres, yarns, fabrics and components.

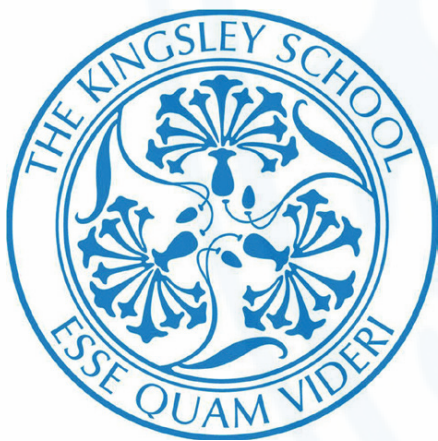
50% Coursework candidates submit two fashion items and accompanying folders containing a range of supporting evidence.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The written examination for this qualification takes place in November of Y11. Coursework is submitted by 31st October in Year 11. The remaining time will be used as appropriate for study of other subjects or projects.

IS THE GCSE REQUIRED TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A-LEVEL?

A GCSE is not a requirement for the A-level course, but it is strongly recommended. Students will be required to demonstrate an ability in practical work and generation of design work.



The Kingsley School
Beauchamp Hall, Beauchamp Avenue
Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire
CV32 5RD

Telephone: 01926 425127
Email: schooloffice@kingsleyschool.co.uk
Website: www.thekingsleyschool.co.uk
Twitter: [@kingsley_school](https://twitter.com/kingsley_school)
Facebook: [/thekingsleyschool](https://www.facebook.com/thekingsleyschool)
Instagram: [/thekingsleyschool](https://www.instagram.com/thekingsleyschool)