



Exmouth  
Community  
College  
Academy Trust

# Key Stage 4 Curriculum Guide 2024-2026

Inspiring individuals to

*achieve more*

than they ever thought possible



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# Introduction

One of the most critical and exciting phases in a young person's development is between the ages of 14 and 19 years. It is the first time they have some control over their education and can start to delve deeper into those subjects in which they have a love of learning. It is the period where they capitalise on their earlier learning and prepare for adult life and employment. We think it is really important students continue with a broad and balanced education to keep their options open for future opportunities in an ever changing world. The choices made are important in providing our young people with the right knowledge, skills and qualifications to both widen and support their choice of further study/employment in later years.

Students need to be adaptable, reflective and work well independently and as part of a team. Securing a job is highly competitive for young people and good qualifications in the core subjects are vital.

If you know students who have been through our process before, you may notice some changes to the offer for you. Evaluation of how recent Key Stage 4 students have managed their courses, alongside new legislation and guidance from the Government, have led us to adapt our curriculum offer in Years 10 and 11 in the following ways:

- Additional time has been given to the study of English, Mathematics and Science.
- All students will take English Literature as well as English Language qualifications.
- Additional time has been given to the study of each selected option subject.
- **It would be recommended for those intending on applying to more competitive destinations after school to select one language and one humanity from the group of English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects**, namely: French, Geography, History, Latin or Spanish. For many students, the best option will be to select the combination of subjects which leads to the EBacc – detailed later in the booklet.
- All students at ECC follow the full Religion, Philosophy and Ethics curriculum and most students will be entered for the full GCSE qualification.

The growing importance of securing a GCSE grade 4 or above in English and Mathematics is clear. Failure to do so can be a barrier for entry onto many courses or careers after College. It is now compulsory for all students without these qualifications to continue to study English and/or Mathematics, for as long as they are in education.

# Changes to the Grading of GCSEs

September 2015 saw the introduction of the first new GCSE courses, starting with English Language, English Literature and Mathematics. September 2016 brought in new GCSEs in Sciences, Performing Arts and EBacc subjects and all remaining reformed courses began in September 2017.

Alongside the new subject syllabi is a new method of reporting results, moving from a lettering system of A\*→G to a numerical scale of 1→9, where 9 is the highest grade and grade 1 is the lowest.

Over the past eight years of the reformed GCSEs, it has become clear that there is no direct equivalence between the number grades and the old letter grades. What is apparent is that many 6<sup>th</sup> form institutions expect minimum Grade 5s to access level 3 qualifications. As mentioned previously, it is important all students aim to achieve a Grade 4 or above in English and Mathematics. Those students who do not, will need to continue further study of these core subjects in Post 16.

1 – 9 Grade System
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

A Grade 9 is awarded to the top 20% of the highest 5% of the marks achieved nationally in a subject that academic year.

# The Process

As a College, we will do everything possible to support and guide your child through this important process so that their study programme is balanced and meets their needs.

The curriculum will be explained to students through a series of assemblies and there will be an Options Evening on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024 when staff from each subject will be on hand to talk about their subjects and answer any queries. The students will also have 1:1 interviews with their tutors or a senior member of staff, to which you as parents are warmly invited. These take place between Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

At the back of this booklet you will find an Individual Learning Plan which you may want to take some time filling in with your child; it will help them consider their choices at GCSE and which direction they may like to take later in their lives, remembering at this stage it is important to keep as many choices open as possible. The plan will help to inform their 1:1 interview.

**Our expectations** for all students are very high. In Key Stage 4 we expect extra maturity in the application to learning and independent study. We expect all students to demonstrate integrity in their lessons, aiming to be their best and helping others to achieve this also. We do aim to contact parents as early as possible if students are struggling, either in their studies or, in terms of their attitude to learning. If, as a parent, you have any concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Key Stage office.

**Changing options** is very difficult because of the disruption that it causes due to the large amount of content that has been missed and the possibility that classes are full.

You will receive confirmation of which option subjects students have been allocated in May. If a student wishes to make a change after that point, they have until the end of the Summer Term to provide a letter from home detailing their request and reason for changing. If there is space in a class and the swap works on the timetable, we will make changes until the end of the Summer Term.

***After this point, no more changes to options will be allowed unless under exceptional circumstances.*** It is therefore vital that students think very carefully about their choices and, even if they think they already know what they want to do, I would urge them to read through this booklet and bear in mind how the options chosen might affect the choices they have in both Post 16 and Post 18 studies, apprenticeships and world of work.

# Key Dates

## 8<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 9 Progress Evening

An opportunity to talk to subject staff about your child's progress and the possibility of further study in each of their current subjects. Parents/Carers and students will be invited into the College in a return to face to face meetings.

Progress reports will be emailed home at the end of the Autumn Term.

## Assemblies

The GCSE curriculum will be explained to students through a series of Friday assemblies.

- 7<sup>th</sup> December - Options Assembly with Mr O'Rourke
- January 2024 - non Key Stage 3 subject presentations
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January - Year 9 Options Evening. This will include a presentation and the opportunity to ask questions about the process and subjects (if submitted in advance).

## 26<sup>th</sup> January – 10<sup>th</sup> February – Student Interviews

Each Year 9 student will have a 10 minute interview with their tutor, or another senior member of staff, at which they complete their options choices form. Parents are warmly invited to attend virtually. Booking for this will open in early January.

	Date	Tutor Group
January	Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mr O'Rourke
	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	09AEK and 09MC
	Tue 30 <sup>th</sup>	09JAW and 09KM
	Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>	09SB and 09ACH
February	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup>	09GM and 09MM
	Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	09FEW and 09VJ
	Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	09NMR and Ms Leslie
	Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	09MSP
	Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	09PS

Once ALL student choices have been made, work will begin on timetabling the choices to check for any clashes and the potential need for using the reserve choice.

By the end of May, letters will be sent home detailing your child's subject offer for Year 10.

After this date, any request to change option choices will need to be sent in writing by a parent or guardian to your child's Head of Year. Option changes are not normally allowed after the start of Year 10 in September.

# What Choices Do I Have To Make?

## Options subjects

You will be able to choose 3 option subjects.

Read what combinations of subjects are possible.

Care is needed to choose the correct options to keep choices open to you in later studies and the world of work.

Some subjects offer GCSE as well as other vocational courses, such as BTEC or Technical Awards. Be guided by the staff in these departments which type of course would be likely to give you the best outcome.

Although we endeavour to give all students their first choices, this is not always possible. Subjects that attract very small numbers of students may not run. Other courses have a limit to the number of students they can take. Make sure you let your tutor know your priority order of subjects at your meeting with them and identify a reserve choice of subject.

All students have started work towards the Double Award Combined Science course in Year 9. The topics covered are common to both the Double and Triple Award. Those students demonstrating high academic achievement, good work ethic and who enjoy the sciences will be considered for the Triple Award Separate Sciences.

## Making your choices

There is a great deal to think about when deciding which subjects to take:

- *What are your strengths and weaknesses?*
- *What subjects do you have a love of learning in?*
- *How are the different subjects' type of assessment and style of learning likely to match your strengths?*
- *Would you cope well with more or less coursework?*
- *What sort of choice of career or Further Education would you like?*

# A Question of Balance . . .

You will follow a course including GCSEs or their equivalent in English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Religion, Philosophy & Ethics and Science. There are also compulsory programmes in Physical Education and PSHE. To complete your course of study you will need to choose at least 3 other subjects. These are summarised on the forms at the back of the booklet. Details of each course can be found later in this booklet.

Your choice depends very much on your individual skills and strengths, hopes and plans. However, you should think very carefully about keeping a balance of subjects to ensure that you have a wide range of choices, skills and experiences; this is especially important if you are not sure at this stage what you want to do after Year 11.

## ***Please Remember:***

- *Make any choice sensibly and carefully, based on information and not just on 'likes and dislikes'*
- *Discuss your choice with several people, but make your own decision*
- *Think about yourself as a student*
- *Have good reasons for your choice of subjects in terms of your learning and future choices*



# Choosing Your Subjects

Whichever option subjects you select, you will take GCSE courses in:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
- Science – Double or Triple Award

In addition, all students will take Core PE and PSHE (Lesson 42).

All students will make three choices from the Option Subjects offered.

## English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate, or EBacc, is a Government measure of which qualifications students are taking at GCSE. The EBacc consists of English Language and Literature, Mathematics, the Sciences, a Humanity (Geography or History) and a language. Choosing subjects to study the EBacc is available to all students. For some, considering more competitive destinations after school such as entry into Russell Group Universities, this will be essential. For other students, they may be less suited to these subjects and want to focus their choices elsewhere. While we do not insist that all students study the EBacc, we do ask that everyone choose one subject from: French, Geography, History, Latin and Spanish. This will leave two free choices which may come from this list or elsewhere.

Staff will be able to talk you through any queries you may have at coursing interviews.

# The Key Stage 4 Curriculum Structure

The Curriculum is in two parts, which fill up the 26 period week.

## THE CORE CURRICULUM

All students **must** take these subjects.

*English (Language and Literature)*

[4 periods a week]

*Mathematics*

[4 periods a week]

*Science – Double or Triple Award*

[5 periods a week]

*Religion, Philosophy & Ethics*

[1 period a week]

*Core Physical Education*

[1 period a week]

*Lesson 42: Personal, Social & Health Education including sex and careers education*

[1 period a week]

## THE OPTION SUBJECTS

Students may opt for subjects from the following choices:

**(a)** Computer Science, French, Geography, History, Latin or Spanish

**PLUS**

**(b)** Two other free choices

Each option subject is studied for 6 periods per fortnight.

# Who Can I Talk To?

## Friends and Relations

Your parents and other relatives will want you to make sensible choices. They might not know about the subjects in detail but they will be able to ask really good questions and make you think. Your friends are in the same position as you and might have found out information or had ideas which are useful to you. However, be careful that you do not make choices because of your friends. Even if you choose the same subjects as a friend, you will not necessarily be placed in the same group.

## Teachers and Tutors

Your subject teachers will talk to you in lessons about subjects in Years 10 and 11 and will have discussed your progress at the Parents' Evening. They are also a good source of information if you have a specific query and can give you an idea of how your ability matches the demands of the course in question. Your tutor has better knowledge of your overall progress and can therefore give you sound advice about the balance of subjects and how you will respond to the work in Years 10 and 11.

## Careers Advisers

Apart from Modern Languages, History and some Technology subjects there are no option subjects for which you must have a GCSE to be allowed onto an A-Level course. This means that it is very difficult for you to make a serious mistake when choosing your Year 10 subjects. However, if you have a particular career in mind, you might wish to talk about your choices. You could visit the Careers Library or talk to a member of the Careers Team. Ask your Head of Year for more details.

# Our and Your Responsibilities

As a College, our aim is to help all students maximise their potential in whatever form that might be. This will enable all Exmouth students be well prepared to, not only lead a fulfilling working life, but also to play an active and positive role within their community.

***We will do all we can to help students succeed.*** However, the earlier that students realise theirs is the greatest responsibility, the more successful they will be. Clearly parents also have a vital role to play in supporting their children, through both this decision making process and over the next two years of Key Stage 4. It is very important students realise that you value their education and so rewarding students where you see good results and effort can be very motivating. There are many ways in which parents can support their children.

## ***Parents can help by:***

- Taking an interest in their child's work
- Looking at exercise books
- Checking and signing their child's diary
- Buying revision guides
- Ensuring their child has a quiet place to work
- Helping their child to organise their time out of College
- Encouraging 100% attendance
- Attending Parents Evenings
- Contacting the College if they have any concerns

## ***Students need to:***

- Attend College every day, be punctual and come with the correct equipment
- Work consistently throughout Years 10 and 11
- Complete all work, including coursework, on time
- Work positively and co-operatively with your teachers
- Ask for advice if you have difficulties
- Be well organised and plan your work and time effectively
- Broaden your skills and experiences by taking advantage of the clubs and activities available to you at the College or locally

## ***We will help you succeed by:***

- Getting your tutor to oversee your studies and progress throughout Years 10 and 11
- Having high standards and expectations matched by a well-qualified and committed staff
- Giving you Target Grades to work towards
- Ensuring that work is regularly marked and students are aware of how to improve
- Providing the Lesson 42 [Personal Development] programme, which will help you to improve your study skills, organisation and career planning
- Providing access to careers advice
- Providing access to the Library Resource Centre and ICT facilities after College
- Writing a reference on your academic achievements and your personal qualities

# CORE SUBJECTS

**ALL students must take these  
subjects**

# English & English Literature

<b>Qualification:</b>	2 GCSEs	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs E Perry – Director of English		
<b>contact:</b>	emily.perry@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Everyone studies English and Literature in Key Stage 4.

## What does the course involve?

Opportunities are offered to speak and listen in a range of situations. You will also write for a wide variety of purposes and audiences. In Literature you will study a range of prose, poetry and drama texts from different time periods.

## How will my work be assessed?

Candidates will be assessed by terminal examinations for both qualifications. There is no longer a coursework component, although students do complete a Spoken Language assessment which is assessed by the class teacher.

We follow the AQA specifications for both English and Literature and performance is graded from 1-9.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

'A' level English Literature or English Language is taught at Post 16. To study English Language you will need a 5 and to study English Literature, you will need a 6. Most A-level courses require you to have at least a Grade 5 in English Language at GCSE and some require a 6.

# Maths

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
	Foundation tier (F) grades 1-5; Higher tier (H) grades 4-9		
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs R Gee – Director of Maths		
<b>contact:</b>	rebecca.gee@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

All students study Mathematics to GCSE level.

## What does the course involve?

Mathematics is taught in a variety of ways; whole class teaching, group work, individual work, investigations, problem solving and using ICT. Successful Mathematics students enjoy tackling puzzles, solving problems and learn from their mistakes.

The course is a continuation of the GCSE course you started in Year 9 but will build on the knowledge and skills you have developed since the start of Year 7. It will pick up from the point you reached at the end of July 2021.

The three Mathematics attainment targets are:

- *Use and apply standard techniques (A01)*
- *Reason, interpret and communicate (A02)*
- *Solve problems within Mathematics and other contexts (A03)*

## How will my work be assessed?

For GCSE Mathematics, a 100% terminal rule applies. Students will follow this linear course where they will be externally examined in May/June of Year 11 on two calculator papers and one non-calculator Paper.

Students will be entered at Higher or Foundation level. Level of entry will be finalised and made in February of Year 11.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

You will normally need to achieve within new grades 7-9 to continue on to 'A' level Mathematics. Mathematics is a fundamental skill required across many areas of employment, for example: Economics, Medicine, Engineering, Accountancy, Teaching, Child Care, Hairdressing, Fashion, ICT and Environmental Studies.

# Combined Science - Double Award

<b>Qualification:</b>	2 GCSEs	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
Foundation tier (F) grades 1-5; Higher tier (H) grades 4-9			
<b>For more details:</b>	Miss H Miles – Director of Science		
<b>contact:</b>	henri.miles@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Science is a compulsory subject at GCSE level across the UK and the majority of students will study the double award course. Students will be awarded 2 GCSE grades in Science where the two grades will always be one grade apart, e.g. a 5-5 or a 5-4. The grades are determined by taking an average of the six exams from the course. As the grades are determined from an average across the three sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), stronger sciences can increase the overall average.

Students will be entered at Higher or Foundation level. Assessments throughout the course will decide the level of entry for students and a final decision will be made in the February of Year 11. Higher tier grades of 6 or higher, will be suitable for students wanting to take an 'A' level in a Science subject at Post 16 at Exmouth College. You will study Science for five periods a week.

## What does the course involve?

The combined Science GCSE involves the study of the three sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and builds on the knowledge you have learnt in Years 7-9. You will be encouraged to develop an informed interest in Science and its impact on everyday life. Through practical work, you will learn about scientific method and the need to work safely. You will be required to carry out twelve specified practical investigations per academic year and these will be assessed through questions on the written papers.

## Subjects Covered

All the exams are 75 minutes in length and are equally weighted at 16.7% of the GCSE grade

- Biology paper 1:** Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response and Bioenergetics
- Biology paper 2:** Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution and Ecology
- Chemistry paper 1:** Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table, Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry and Chemical and Energy Changes
- Chemistry paper 2:** The rate and extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere and using Resources
- Physics paper 1:** Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter and Atomic Structure
- Physics paper 2:** Forces, Waves and Magnetism and Electromagnetism

All written papers contain multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

Grades 6-6 or higher in science and a grade 6 in Mathematics are required for entry to academic science 'A' level courses; Biology, Chemistry and Physics.



# Science - Triple Award

<b>Qualification:</b>	3 separate GCSEs	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
	Foundation (F) tier – grades 1-5; Higher (H) tier – grades 4-9		
<b>For more details:</b>	Miss H Miles – Director of Science		
<b>contact:</b>	henri.miles@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Students that study separate sciences at GCSE will be awarded with three GCSE grades/qualifications. Triple award science is no more difficult than double award science, it does through need you learn and understand a much larger amount of information. This course is for those students who have a great interest in science, a determination to succeed and perhaps be looking towards studying at the highest level in the future. All sciences must be studied and students must be able to demonstrate good knowledge and understanding in all three sciences. We would usually expect to enter students for the higher tier as the majority of students studying triple award are seeking grades of 6 and higher. The course will have five lessons a week and there may be a requirement to attend further sessions.

## What does the course involve?

The same content as the double Science award is studied with additional content to allow a greater depth and breadth of understanding in the three sciences. Through practical work, you will learn about scientific method and the need to work safely. You will be required to carry out twelve specified practical investigations per academic year and these will be assessed through questions on the written paper.

## Subjects Covered

All exams are 105 minutes in length and are equally weighted at 50% of each science.

<b>Biology paper 1:</b>	Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response and Bioenergetics
<b>Biology paper 2:</b>	Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution and Ecology
<b>Chemistry paper 1:</b>	Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table, Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry and Chemical and Energy Changes
<b>Chemistry paper 2:</b>	The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere and Using Resources
<b>Physics paper 1:</b>	Energy, Electricity, Particle Model of Matter and Atomic Structure
<b>Physics paper 2:</b>	Forces, Waves and Magnetism and Electro-magnetism

All written papers contain multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

To study a science subject at 'A' level, a grade 6 or higher in the individual science and a grade 6 in Mathematics are required to continue studying this subject in Post 16.

# Religion, Philosophy & Ethics

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs L Lowe – Head of Religion, Philosophy & Ethics		
<b>contact:</b>	lisa.lowe@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

At ECC all students follow a five-year curriculum in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics. We are very proud that in our modern, diverse society this means that all our students are entered for the full course AQA GCSE qualification Religious Studies A. Some students may then choose to study Philosophy at 'A' level. Religion, Philosophy and Ethics is a highly valued subject for a variety of career pathways from Law to the Police Service to Human Resources.

## What does the course involve?

The course covers the following areas of work:

- The beliefs and teachings of **Christianity**
- The practices of **Christianity**
- The beliefs and teachings of **Islam**
- The practices of **Islam**
- **Crime and Punishment** (for example, the treatment of criminals and the death penalty)
- **Religion and Life** (for example, the origins of the universe and animal experimentation)
- **Relationships and Families** (for example, the purpose of marriage and the nature of different types of families)
- **Religion, Peace and Conflict** (for example, exploring whether or not war is ever justified and the ethical issues surrounding the use of nuclear weapons).

Emphasis is on the experience of religion in the lives of believers today and also on topical issues and religious responses to them. Students are also expected to develop and express their own views, as well as show an understanding and appreciation of the views of others. Much thought and discussion goes on within this subject.

It is a thought provoking and challenging GCSE that will develop not only their knowledge and understanding of the world but also assist in improving their wider study skills.

## How will my work be assessed?

The course is assessed by **exams** only. No coursework is required.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

This course is a perfect foundation for Philosophy at 'A' level but can also be helpful when considering many other subjects at Post 16.

# The Compulsory Core Curriculum PSHE & PE

## PSHE – Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

Here at the College, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) education is delivered through a programme called 'Lesson 42'. The number 42 is significant in Douglas Adams' 'The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy'; it is the answer determined by the supercomputer, Deep Thought, to the 'Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe and Everything.'

We feel this is fitting, as PSHE is a broad subject which covers many areas that will prepare our students to understand the world around them. Lesson 42 is delivered, primarily, by our form tutors but we also work hard to ensure that assemblies, outside speakers and production companies, as well as drop-down days, provide a wealth of further experiences for our students. Across all Key Stages, PSHE education can be split into three key strands: 'Health and Wellbeing', 'Relationships' and 'Living in the Wider World.'

## Physical Education

During Year 10 and Year 11 all students are expected to take part in Physical education. The lessons will build on their skills, knowledge and understanding developed in KS3. It is entirely a practical course and will be assessed throughout Year 10 and Year 11 by your engagement in lessons.

The main focus is that students are active and experiencing a lesson of physical activity that will help with keeping the body systems fit and healthy, improving concentration, reducing stress and anxiety, improving retention of new information and improving problem solving skills.

Students will cover a range of practical activities following a pathway approach, including: Invasion, rackets, netball, health and fitness and outdoor and adventurous activities. Students will be taught in ability groups to provide optimum learning for one period a week. It is essential therefore that high attendance/participation is required and the correct PE kit is worn.



# OPTION SUBJECTS

Where there is a choice of a GCSE, BTEC or Technical Award course, please be guided by your subject teachers

# Art & Design\*

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b> Edexcel
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr J Perry – Head of Art & Design	
<b>contact:</b>	jon.perry@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk	

## Is this course for me?

GCSE Art and Design builds on the knowledge and skills developed in Key Stage 3, and gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity through the development of personal projects.

This popular subject allows artists to experiment with a broad range of techniques and media, including drawing and painting, printmaking, three dimensional processes and photography. The Art Department is a friendly, productive and supportive environment, and many students in Key Stages 4 and 5 choose to spend much of their free time working in our spaces, where they can use the materials and equipment and receive help and advice from the Art staff and other students.

*\*Please note that there are 4 different Art & Design courses – students may only choose 1*

## What does the course involve?

Students record their ideas using a range of methods in response to a given theme. Our students are highly motivated and prepared to experiment with a variety of materials, media and techniques. Sketchbooks are used extensively to draw, sketch, record ideas, make notes and produce a range of exciting, creative outcomes.

Throughout the course, students are given opportunities to further their skills with workshops, visits and trips. In previous years, Key Stage 4 students have visited St Ives to experience the Barbara Hepworth sculpture garden and Tate gallery. Overseas trips for students considering Art at 'A' level have included New York, Venice and Barcelona. Work produced as a result becomes coursework or examination preparation for the final timed test and invariably improves the student's final grade.

## How will my work be assessed?

The course is assessed using four assessment objectives:

- How your ideas develop over a project, and link to research
- How you experiment with and select appropriate media, techniques and processes
- How you record ideas and observations, through visual and written work
- How you present your outcomes

Coursework makes up 60% of the student's final grade, 40% is decided by the externally set assignment, which occurs in Year 11.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

'A' level Art and/or Photography.

# Business

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	Edexcel
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr J Simon – Business Studies Co-ordinator		
<b>contact:</b>	john.simon@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- Communicating and explaining your ideas
- Thinking creatively and making decisions
- Working with numbers to solve business problems
- Learning about the world of business through real and relevant local and International brands

Then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you!

## What does the course involve?

The course will start by exploring the world of small businesses through the lens of an entrepreneur. How and why do business ideas come about? What makes a successful business? You will learn how to develop an idea, spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective, manage money and see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

You will then move on to investigating business growth. How does a business develop beyond the start-up phase? You will learn about key business concepts and issues and decisions you need to make when growing a business and working in a global business. You will learn about meeting customer needs, making marketing, operational, financial and human resourcing decisions and explore how the wider world impacts the business as it grows.

## How will I be assessed?

- 100% exam based with no non-exam assessment
- Two equally weighted components of 1 hour and 45 minutes, worth 90 marks each
- The assessment will use a mixture of question styles such as multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions
- After this qualification you will understand the world of business and have developed skills in:
- Making decisions and developing persuasive arguments
- Creative and practical problem solving
- Understanding data, finance and communication

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

There is an Edexcel 'A' level course available in business studies at Post 16.

# Business – Enterprise & Marketing

<b>Qualification:</b>	Level 1-2 Certificate	<b>Course:</b>	OCR
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr J Simon – Business Studies Co-ordinator		
<b>contact:</b>	john.simon@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- Communicating and explaining your ideas
- Thinking creatively and making decisions
- Working with numbers to solve business problems
- Blending coursework with an examination

Then the course is the right subject for you!

## What does the course involve?

Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing encourages you to develop the skills and applied knowledge you'll need in the business and enterprise sector. It's a vocational qualification, equivalent in value as a GCSE and contains both practical and theoretical elements.

**There are three mandatory units:**

Unit R067: Enterprise and marketing concepts

Unit R068: Design a business proposal

Unit R069: Market and pitch a business proposal

## How will my work be assessed?

Assessment overview

### Key units for this qualification:

M = Mandatory	Students must achieve this unit
E = External assessment	We set and mark the exam
N = NEA	You assess this and we moderate it

Unit no.	Unit title	Unit ref. no. (URN)	Guided learning hours (GLH)*	How are they assessed?	Mandatory or optional
RO67	Enterprise and marketing concepts	R/618/5877	48	E	M
RO68	Design a business proposal	Y/618/5878	36	NEA	M
RO69	Market and pitch a business proposal	D/618/5879	36	NEA	M

\*GLH is the approximate time that the teacher will spend supervising or directing study time and assessment activities.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

There is an Edexcel 'A' level course available in business studies at Post 16.



# Computer Science

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	OCR
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr J Quinn – Head of Computing & ICT		
<b>contact:</b>	jake.quinn@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

The course is designed to develop valuable thinking and programming skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace. It also aims to give a deep understanding of computational thinking and how to apply it using the Python programming language.

It is a rigorous and academic subject, hence qualifies as an EBacc qualification. It can be challenging and requires a high level of study commitment. Girls often underestimate their abilities in computing and it is a government target for more to study this.

## What does the course involve?

Conducting an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on 'behind the scenes'. As part of this you will investigate computer programming, which many learners find fascinating. Topics that are covered by this course include:

### **J277/01 Computer Systems**

- System Architecture
- Memory and Storage
- Computer networks, connections and protocols
- Network Security
- System Software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital Technology

### **J277/01 Computational thinking, algorithms and programming**

- Algorithms
- Programming fundamentals
- Producing robust programs
- Boolean logic
- Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

## How will my work be assessed?

- 50% Computer systems – written examination
- 50% Computational thinking, algorithms and programming – written examination

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

This is an excellent stepping stone into any course particularly 'A' level Computer Science course. The emphasis on problem solving and logic makes this a good pathway into a range of 'A' level courses that require these qualities for success as well as the BTEC Level 3 course in ICT.

**Web page:** <https://ocr.org.uk/Images/558027-specification-gcse-computer-science-j277.pdf>

# Dance

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs A Phillips – Head of Dance		
<b>contact:</b>	amy.phillips@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject, which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. Performance and choreography play an integral role in the course and provide opportunities to study a wide range of styles and genres of dance. The critical appreciation of professional dance is also central to developing students understanding of different styles and cultural influences.

## You will:

- Perform dances by developing your physical, technical and expressive skills, reflecting the choreographic intention.
- Create original dances developing your knowledge, skills and understanding of choreographic devices using a range of ideas to communicate an intention.
- Develop your appreciation of dance through critical analysis, interpretation and evaluation of professional dance works and your own work.

## Course Summary:

### **Component 1: Performance and choreography**

**Performance:** worth 30% of GCSE (non-exam assessment)

- Perform set phrases through two taught solo performances (totalling 1 minute in duration)
- Perform in a duet/trio (3½ min in duration)

**Choreography:** worth 30% of GCSE (non-exam assessment)

- Solo or group choreography: solo (2 - 2 ½ min) or group dance for 2 - 5 dancers (3 - 3½ min)

**Component 2: Dance appreciation:** worth 40% of GCSE assessed as a written exam: 1.5hrs

**Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills**

- Critical appreciation of your own work
- Critical appreciation of professional works

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

- At grade 4 or above, GCSE Dance qualifies towards further study in any other subject at Post 16.
- 'A' Level Dance
- BTEC Dance or Performing Arts at level 2 or 3
- Dance training at vocational dance schools and conservatoires
- Apprenticeships

## Enrichment

- Theatre trips
- Workshops
- Opportunities to work with our partner dance company 'Chhaya Youth Dance'
- Performance opportunities
- Performance in our annual dance production



# 3D-Design Technology\*

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs S Browne – Head of Design & Technology		
<b>contact:</b>	sarah.browne@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Are you creative? Do you like solving problems and enjoy making things? Then GCSE 3D-Design and Technology is the ideal subject for you.

You will learn a wide range of practical based skills, theory and technical understanding. All of which will give you valuable skills and knowledge for your chosen career or further education, whether that is in engineering, design, carpentry or the creative industries or similar. You will work independently and in groups, developing communication and thinking skills, valued by the business world. You will be able to use your imagination, knowledge and creativity to design and make innovative products, solving genuine problems. We have great facilities and learning environments with a wide range of tools and machinery allowing you to work in woods, plastic, metal and CAD/CAM.

*\*Please note that there are 4 different Art & Design courses – students may only choose 1*

## What does the course involve?

This is a highly creative and practical course where you will develop skills in exploring, creating and making. You will produce a selection of high-quality products using resistant materials and learn how to communicate your ideas to others. You will learn a wide range of skills including:

- Presenting design ideas and creating a portfolio
- CAD/CAM
- Joining and construction techniques
- Product designing and making

Over the two years, you will produce a range of outcomes and practical work and record it in a creative portfolio of work by drawing, using photographs and experiments. You will work through a wide range of skill based tasks each ending in a product for your 2-year portfolio.

You will continue to develop and extend the skills you have developed in this course and become adept at designing and creating your own unique outcomes. Themes could include 'Urban Inspiration', 'Nature', 'Unconventional Materials and Structures'.

## How will my work be assessed?

- **Component 1:** Worth 60% - A portfolio including a sustained project that shows your intentions of a design from start to finish.
- **Component 2:** Worth 40% - Externally set assignment consisting of a sustained project preparing for and resulting in a 10-hour Practical under supervision.

### What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

This qualification is recognised by colleges and universities and would be a great foundation for 'A' levels, especially our very popular Art, Textiles and 3D courses and all of the arts. The course could lead on to a full range of careers within the creative, product design, architecture and 3D-design industry.

Come join our team in this exciting adventure!

# Drama & Theatre Studies

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr J Turner – Head of Drama		
<b>contact:</b>	jez.turner@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

For students choosing GCSE Drama, this is an exciting and rewarding course in which you will learn and develop a wide range of skills and understanding. Through careful research, creative cooperation, critical analysis and practical exploration you will develop the necessary skills and understanding to be able to achieve highly in this subject.

**What does the course involve?** There are three components to this exam:

- **Understanding Drama** - Students will be expected to attend performances organised by the department as part of the requirements of the course and answer 3 questions in the written exam.
- **Devised Work** - The devised work must contain both elements of improvisation and script – extracts from plays, verse or prose and be of original work. Students will be expected to keep a devising log based on the practical work.
- **Texts in Practice** - This is a practical module in which students prepare, perform and evaluate two script extracts for performance.

## How will my work be assessed?

### Understanding Drama – worth 40% of GCSE

This is 1hr 45 min written examination. This is worth a maximum of 80 marks and is sat at the end of the course in Year 11.

Over the next two years you will have plenty of practical and theoretical opportunities to develop the necessary skills and understanding to answer the three compulsory sections of the written paper:

- Section A:** Multiple choice questions relating to theatre terminology (4 marks)  
**Section B:** Four questions on a given extract from a chosen set play (44 marks)  
**Section C:** One question about a single live production you will see (32 marks)

### Devising Drama – worth 40% of GCSE

This is a practical module in which you will be given opportunity to develop your devising skills. Using a given stimulus you will develop a group performance for examination. The emphasis is very much on your development so a maximum of 60 marks are awarded for your devising log and 20 marks for your devised performance.

### Texts in Practice – worth 20% of GCSE

This is a practical module in which you will develop and produce two script extract performances for examination. There is a maximum of 20 marks for each of the performances.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

GCSE Drama is a natural pathway into Post-16 Theatre and Performing Arts for those students who wish to develop both their skills and a deeper level of theoretical understanding. The benefits of this subject are vast as the communication, team building and academic skills you will acquire will be paramount in a variety of careers to include: Law, Social Services, Teaching, the Armed Forces as well as the Performing Arts industry itself.

# Engineering

<b>Qualification:</b>	Level 1-2 Certificate	<b>Course:</b>	OCR
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr K Greaves – Design & Technology Department		
<b>contact:</b>	kristan.greaves@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Do you have an interest in design and the world around you? Do you like problem solving and developing real life solutions? Do you have the ability to be creative and apply mathematical thinking to problems? If so, then engineering could be the course for you.

## What does the course involve?

The Cambridge Nationals in Engineering Manufacture will encourage you to:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Engineering Manufacture, including manufacturing processes, engineering materials, manufacturing requirements and developments in engineering manufacture.
- Develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations.
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the engineering, manufacturing, process control sector and more widely.
- Plan manufacturing production through practical experience of manufacturing for one-off products and manufacturing in quantity.
- Determine the sequence of operations required, recognising hazards and risks so that control measures can be implemented for safe working.
- Interpret engineering drawings to facilitate manufacture, using a range of tools and equipment, including Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines.

**Year 10:** Students will familiarize themselves with working in an Engineering Workshop, they will learn how to safely use all the tools & equipment such as the centre lathe, milling machine and gain important bench skills needed to progress. They will also begin on their first piece of NEA coursework R015 Manufacturing a one-off product this is set by the exam board and this will be submitted in the summer term.

**Year 11:** Students will begin the second piece of NEA coursework R016 Manufacturing in Quality. In order to succeed in this they will be taught how to draw using Computer Aided design programs and how to manufacture using the Computer Aided manufacturing machines such as the CNC Plasma cutter, CNC Milling Machine or Laser cutter.

## How will my work be assessed?

- **Internal assessment:** A portfolio of evidence from the two units of work. This will be graded by centre staff and externally moderated by the exam board.
- **External assessment:** Exam externally graded by the exam board. Learners must be successful in both types of assessment to achieve the qualification.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

Level 2 Engineering/Product Design 'A' level

# Food & Nutrition

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs J Bowden-Williams – Design & Technology Department		
<b>contact:</b>	Jo.bowden-williams@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

The new 'Food Preparation and Nutrition' GCSE is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills.

It would appeal to students who are genuinely interested in food and enjoy practical work. The majority of the course will be delivered through practical experiences. Students taking this subject need to be sufficiently well organised to bring ingredients to College on a regular basis.

## What does the course involve?

The majority of key learning will be covered in Year 10; students will extend their subject knowledge and learn new practical skills. The course will cover the following sections: Food Preparation Skills including:

Knife skills	Preparing fruit and vegetables	Use of the cooker
Use of equipment	Cooking methods	Prepare, combine and shape
Sauce making	Tenderise and marinate	Dough
Raising agents	Setting mixtures	General practical skills

- Food, Nutrition and Health
- Food Safety
- Food Science
- Food Provenance
- Food Choice

Students will begin Task 1 of the non-examination assessment at the start of Year 11. They will complete this in the Autumn Half-Term. They will complete Task 2 in the Spring Term.

## How will my work be assessed?

Component	Weighting
Single written examination (1 hour 45 minutes)	50%
Non-exam assessment: <b>Task 1: The Food Investigation (10 hours of class time).</b> <i>(A choice of three given, e.g. investigate the use of raising agents in baked products).</i>	15%
<b>Task 2: The Food Preparation Assessment (20 hours including one three hour period).</b> <i>(A choice of three given, e.g. plan, prepare, cook and present a range of dishes, using a variety of skills, from the Mediterranean culinary tradition. Present three final dishes.</i>	35%

## What can this lead to?

The course covers basic life skills and is intended to be useful as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for all students. It also links to a wide range of future careers including those in the food industry, catering and health and fitness.

# French

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs C Gibbon – Head of Modern Foreign Languages		
<b>contact:</b>	chloe.gibbon@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

All kinds of jobs require languages. Languages open doors – both in the UK and abroad, to meeting people and can introduce you to new experiences. A language can enhance your career opportunities and many former students have gone on to university courses which have a language element e.g. Law with French. Certain universities require you to have a language at GCSE. The Head of Education at the Premier League says “Being able to speak another language opens up a world of opportunities to play and coach in football leagues across the globe.” To study French as a GCSE, students must have studied French in Year 9. If you would like to broaden your horizons, then this is the course for you!

## What does the course involve?

A GCSE course. The four skills tested are: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course covers a variety of topics based on real life situations, for instance, a visit abroad, leisure activities and social issues.

## How will my work be assessed?

**GCSE:** The course awards marks to each of the four skills and will use the new grading structure 1- 9.

## Overview of Assessment:

The new GCSE specification for languages will be linear with all assessments at the end of the course. There will be four final exams in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

All examinations take place at the end of Year 11.			
Paper 1: Listening	Paper 2: Speaking	Paper 3: Reading	Paper 4: Writing
25%	25%	25%	25%
Listening comprehension to be answered in English or non-verbally. Dictation of short sentences.	Three tasks: One role-play. One reading aloud task and short conversation. One photo card.	Reading tasks to be answered in English or non –verbally, Translation from French into English.	Writing tasks including one translation task from English into French.

Year 9 have already started working on some of the topics and grammar on the GCSE syllabus for French. This is to introduce students to the new skills and requirements for GCSE prior to the Options process. You will learn many skills useful in other subjects such as concentration, memorising, spelling accurately, communicating clearly and problem solving.

There is a good selection of material on the internet with interactive activities, practice and revision and we also provide online access to the textbook we use in college.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

‘A’ Level French.

# Geography

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr D Eynon – Head of Geography		
<b>contact:</b>	dan.eynon@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

The Russell Group of Universities included Geography as one of the “Facilitating Subjects” in its guide “*Informed Choices*”. It is a wide ranging subject, with many opportunities to study different aspects within Geography and is a useful gateway to a huge variety of other courses and careers. You will cover many aspects of geography from coasts, managing rivers and dealing with climate change through to the politics of aid, the inequalities of the rich and poor and issues connected with global population change. To successfully enjoy the course, you should have an interest in current affairs and all aspects of geography whether they are environmental or about people.

## What does the course involve?

The course is divided into six main sections, divided into Physical and Human Geography themes.

The Physical Geography includes ‘**The Challenge of Natural Hazards**’, ‘**The Living World**’ and ‘**Physical Landscapes of the UK**’. The Human Geography covers ‘**Urban Issues and Challenges**’, ‘**The Changing Economic World**’ and ‘**The Challenge of Resource Management**’. Topics therefore range from hazards like volcanoes and tropical storms, understanding ecosystems to coastal and river processes whilst also encountering changing cities, issues affecting levels of development around the world and strategies for better managing the world’s resources. It is a fast moving and very topical course that will very often draw from current affairs and events in the news.

## How will my work be assessed?

There will be three examinations, all at the end of the course. There is no coursework or Controlled Assessment in GCSE Geography. Paper 1 will cover all of the Physical Geography topics, Paper 2 the Human Geography topics and Paper 3 is a skills examination. Paper 3 will include sections based on making use of some of the geographical skills developed during the course, a section in which a decision will have to be made and justified based on evidence provided whilst testing the skills developed on the **fieldwork** activities which form a vital part of the course.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

‘A’ level Geography is a popular and successful option in Post 16. Geography can also assist students as they study other fields and, like the subject, these can be varied and diverse. Geographers can combine with courses like Sociology, Politics, Economics or Psychology. Equally, many combine the subject with vocational subjects like Leisure and Tourism and Business Studies. However, there is also a significant science element to Geography and many combine the subject with Chemistry, Physics or Biology. In addition, like all humanities subjects, Geography requires people to scrutinise and evaluate evidence and these skills transfer well to other courses like English or Media.



# Graphic Communication \*

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Miss J Franklin – Design & Technology Dept		
<b>contact:</b>	Julie.franklin@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

*Are you...*

- Creative by nature?
- Interested in Graphic Art?
- Interested in Photography, Photoshop and Print?
- Interested in creating something you could be proud of?
- Looking to develop making skills?
- Interested in designing your own original posters, magazine spreads and logos?

*Then this is the course for you!*

*\*Please note that there are 4 different Art & Design courses – students may only choose 1*

## What does the course involve?

This is a highly creative and practical course where you will develop skills in exploring, creating and making. You will produce a selection of high quality products using graphic techniques and learn how to communicate your ideas. You will learn a wide range of skills including:

- Hand-rendered working methods
- Digital Photography
- Print making
- Illustration
- Photoshop

Over the two years you will produce a range of outcomes and practical work and record it in a creative portfolio of work by drawing, using photographs and experiments. You will work through a wide range of skill-based tasks each ending in a product for your 2 year portfolio.

You will continue to develop and extend the skills you have developed in this course and become adept at designing and creating your own unique outcomes. Themes could include, Urban Inspiration, Beliefs and Nature.

## How will my work be assessed?

- **Component 1:** Worth 60%: Portfolio including a sustained project that shows your intentions of a design from start to finish
- **Component 2:** Worth 40%: Externally set assignment: sustained project preparing for and resulting in a 10-hour practical under supervision.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

This qualification is recognised by colleges and universities and would be a great foundation for 'A' levels. The course could lead on to a full range of careers within the graphic and design industry. Come join our team in this exciting adventure!

# Health & Social Care

<b>Qualification:</b>	BTEC Level 1-2	<b>Course:</b>	Pearson
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs A Rawles – Health & Social Care Co-ordinator		
<b>contact:</b>	anna.rawles@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

This course would suit you if you have a genuine interest in working with people within a helping capacity and if you have a caring nature. If being a social worker, teacher, paramedic, carer, occupational therapist, midwife, general nurse, mental health nurse, dental nurse, pediatric nurse, nursery worker or a special needs worker interests you then this course could be for you. These are examples of some of the careers available – there are many more, for example working with the police or in the prison service.

## What does the course involve?

Working in health and social care requires good verbal communication skills as well as good written skills. You will develop these skills with support from your teachers over the duration of the course. The course involves a considerable amount of written work and application to real-life scenarios.

You will:

- Explore how people grow and develop physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially throughout the 6 life stages
- Investigate key milestones of development and key changes that occur throughout the six life stages
- Explore a number of factors that affect human growth and development, such as inherited conditions, substance misuse, dietary choices, exercise and culture
- Show your knowledge of how health care professionals demonstrate the skills, attributes and values when delivering care to individuals
- Interpret physiological and lifestyle indicators and what they mean for a person's state of health; to include knowledge of blood pressure, BMI & pulse
- Recommend appropriate actions for improving a person's health and wellbeing
- Explore the difficulties individuals may face when trying to improve their health and wellbeing

## How will my work be assessed?

You will complete three units over two years. Two course work units and one exam.

Unit	Unit Title	Form of Assessment	Year	Overall Grade	BTEC
1	Human Lifespan Development	Controlled assessments	Year 10	30%	
2	Health and Social Care Services and Values	Controlled assessments	Year 11	30%	
3	Health and Wellbeing	External exam	Year 11	40%	

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

On completion of this course, you may progress to Level 3 BTEC in Health and Social Care; Level 3 BTEC in Children's Play, Learning and Development or Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner

# History

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	Edexcel
<b>For more details:</b>	Miss H Lee-Joy – Head of History		
<b>contact:</b>	Heather.lee-joy@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

A history GCSE helps students develop skills of comprehension and analysis essential to many careers, such as journalism, law, management and administration. The course is constructed around the major ideas in history of change over time, in-depth analysis and the interpretation of the past. If you are interested in finding out the 'Whys?' of our world then this course is for you!

## What does the course involve?

### 'Medicine through Time':

An overview and analysis of how people have understood and practised medicine from medieval times to the present day. There is a special focus on surgery during World War One.

### Henry VIII 1509-1540

An in depth investigation into why and how Henry VIII changed England so much and the impact that those changes had on the country.

### Super power relations and the Cold War 1941-1991

This investigates how countries such as Russia, America and Britain interacted during the Second World War and why the Cold War developed after 1945. It looks at the treatment of Germany after World War Two and how the conflict was finally brought to an end.

### Germany 1918-1939

Charting the rise of Hitler and developments in Germany and Europe, which led to the Second World War and the Holocaust; events which still have a profound effect on our lives.

## How will my work be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of Year 11.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

All of them. History helps develop literacy, understanding, encourages inquisitiveness and empathy. All study requires these attributes. Universities are increasingly looking to offer places to students who have a history qualification. History is offered at 'A' level.

# ICT

<b>Qualification:</b>	Level 1-2 Vocational Award (Tech Award)	<b>Course:</b>	WJEC
<b>For more details: contact:</b>	Mr J Quinn – Head of Computing & ICT jake.quinn@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Are you passionate about technology? Do you like solving problems? Are you curious about all things digital and want to learn some fantastic new skills?

## What does the course involve?

You will develop a number of skills which are attractive to an employer, colleges and universities including:

Communication	Coping with rapid changes in technology
Critical thinking	Time management
Learning independently	Numeracy and data handling
Problem solving	Research
Designing, programming, testing and evaluating software systems	Taking responsibility

**The qualification is made up of two units:**

### Unit 1: 'ICT and Society'

- Explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software in society.
- Investigate how information technology is used in a range of contexts, including business and organisations, education and homes.
- **Assessment:** Written exam, made up of short and extended response questions (worth 40% of final grade).

### Unit 2: 'ICT in Context'

- Gain a working knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, automated documents and images.
- Learn to apply your knowledge and understanding to solve problems in vocational settings.
- **Assessment:** Project work, no exam (worth 60% of final grade).

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

ICT is a good route into the BTEC course in 'Information Technology', either at Level 2 and 3 and is a complementary subject for those intending to study any subject including Computing.

**To find out more about the course, please visit:** [https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/4t0gxiic/wjec\\_l1-2-vocaward-ict\\_spec\\_04-07-2022-e.pdf](https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/4t0gxiic/wjec_l1-2-vocaward-ict_spec_04-07-2022-e.pdf)

# Latin

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	OCR
<b>For more details:</b>	Dr R Prior – Classics Co-ordinator		
<b>contact:</b>	rachael.prior@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

- Studying Latin will not only enrich your understanding of the modern 'Romance' languages that evolved from it (among them Spanish and French), but will also help you to further develop your knowledge of English grammar and vocabulary.
- Latin is held in high regard by both universities and employers. As a rather uncommon GCSE option, lots of employers and university admissions tutors will be intrigued by your Latin GCSE.
- If you would like to develop your knowledge and understanding of the Romans' literature, values, and society, then this is the course for you!

Latin will be offered as a GCSE option during the College day. It will not be offered as a twilight subject. Students must have attended the majority of their Latin lessons in Year 9.

## What does the course involve?

Three GCSE exams:

### **Language (worth 50% of final GCSE grade)**

Students study texts and stories in Latin to build knowledge and understanding of Latin vocabulary and grammar.

### **Verse Literature (worth 25% of final GCSE grade)**

Students read a small selection of Latin poetry and answer questions (in English) on the poems. The theme of this year's poetry collection is *otium*, 'leisure,' with many of the poems celebrating the importance of friendship.

### **Literature and Culture (worth 25% of final GCSE grade)**

Learners study two topics on Roman civilisation and culture and answer questions (in English) on aspects of content, culture, social practices, and values.

## How will my work be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of Year 11.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

'A' Level Classical Civilisation.

# Media Studies

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	WJEC/Eduqas
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr T Stanier – Media Studies Co-ordinator		
<b>contact:</b>	Thomas.stanier@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Studying how the media works and how audiences use and are influenced by media products is more important than ever and this course offers you the opportunity to get involved in this fascinating and ever-changing subject area.

If you are interested in any aspect of the media then this is the course for you! We explore the whole range of media industries from newspapers to video games, advertising to TV. As well as studying exciting media texts you will also get to make your own using professional equipment and software.

## What does the course involve?

There are **two** components to the course:

<b>Controlled assessment:</b> <b>Worth 30%</b>	You will work to a brief to produce a media product to a professional standard. You will have the opportunity to learn how to use DSLR cameras, green screens and lighting rigs as well as developing your skills in using software such as Adobe Photoshop and Premiere. This is one of the few GCSEs where practical production work is still assessed!
<b>Two Exams:</b> <b>Worth 70%</b>	Component 1 exam will explore a broad range of media texts based on examples set by the exam board. You will examine issues of representation and audience in video games, advertising, newspapers and radio. Component 2 allows you to conduct an in-depth study of a television show and a cross-media study of popular music. Both exams are primarily based on material you will have studied before you sit the exam.

## How will my work be assessed?

This qualification has a single level of entry and is graded 1 to 9.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

This course makes a great way to access media and film courses at Post 16 and beyond as well as providing you with knowledge and skills of the creative industries (a growth sector of the UK economy). The course is also useful for those wanting to pursue Photography, Psychology and Sociology at Post 16.

# Music BTEC

**Qualification:** BTEC Level 1-2 (Tech Award)      **Course:** Pearson

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**For more details:** Mr P Stock – Head of Music  
**contact:** paul.stock@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk

## Is this course for me?

If you want to learn more about the Music Industry then this course is for you. You will explore different roles within the Music Industry and focus on **either** creating and performing music **or** creating and producing music. So, you have the option to perform if you want to, but you could choose to use technology instead.

Music Staff will discuss course options with you, making sure that you are on the best course for you.

## What does the course involve?

### Three units:

- **Exploring Music Products and Styles:** Learn about various styles of music. Compile a portfolio of evidence showing your understanding of four styles. The portfolio will include short musical samples (either performed, created or from pre-existing work) along with a commentary about your learning. The portfolio will also demonstrate your understanding of techniques. You can choose three from: performing, multi-tracking, an original song/composition, a remix/arrangement (DAW project) and music for film/media/computer games.
- **Music Skills Development:** Create two musical outcomes from two of the following:
  - Live musical performance
  - Creating original music
  - Music production
- **Responding to a Music Brief:** Choose **either** 'Creating or Performing' **or** 'Creating and Producing'. Demonstrate your understanding of styles and techniques by selecting songs and creating a new interpretation.

## How will my work be assessed?

Two units are internally assessed by your teachers (portfolio of evidence). The final unit is assessed externally by the exam board.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

- BTEC Level 3 in Music
- 'A' level Music

# Music

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	OCR
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr P Stock – Head of Music		
<b>contact:</b>	paul.stock@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

If you enjoy playing a musical instrument / singing and composing your own music, then yes, this course is for you. You will need to be able to sing or play a musical instrument.

Music Staff will discuss course options with you, making sure that you are on the best course for you.

## What does the course involve?

**Performance** - Two performances on an instrument of your choice. You choose the pieces to play. One must be performed with other people. The performances will be recorded in the studio, not performed in front of an audience.

**Composition** - Two compositions. You can use music software to help you compose. The pieces will need to be recorded. One piece will be set by you and the other will be set by the exam board (composed between set dates).

**Listening** - (Written exam)

Students listen to a variety of music and answer questions about it. These topics include:

- Film Music – including music for video games
- Popular Music – e.g. Rock Anthems, Pop Ballads
- Rhythmic Music – e.g. Samba, African, Greek, Bhangra
- Concerto – music from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods

These topics are taught practically and students are expected to participate in tasks set.

## How will my work be assessed?

Controlled Assessment: 60% (Performance 30%, Composition 30%)

Exam: 40%

## What courses can this lead to in Post-16?

Any music course (BTEC / 'A' level).



# Physical Education

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mr S Lowe – Head of Sport & Leisure		
<b>contact:</b>	stuart.lowe@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

*Please speak to your PE teacher to see if this is the most suitable course.*

3 lessons a week – **mainly theory based.**

**You must be performing in 2 sports in competitive situations.**

*If you enjoy:*

- Sport and recreation
- Working hard
- Biology in science
- Developing knowledge and understanding through theory and practical involvement
- Learning about the benefits of sport and exercise
- Improving your own performance in a range of sport
- Or, if you are considering a sports-related career or an 'A' level/Higher Education course, then our GCSE in Physical Education is the right subject for you.
- You must compete regularly in a variety of sports.

The course builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established in Key Stage 3 Physical Education (you will have worked on GCSE theory as part of your lessons). It will give you exciting opportunities to develop your knowledge in many theory based areas. You will be involved in a number of different physical activities (**in core lessons**), promoting an active and healthy lifestyle.

## What does the course involve?

Students will study the theoretical and practical aspects of a number of areas. Students must be aware that this is not solely a practical subject - there is a very large amount of theory in the new course. Even the practical elements will require clarity of thought involving much of the theory content. Students will be asked to work on practical performance in after school clubs and weekend sports.

**The theory areas to be studied are:**

Body Systems Movement Analysis Diet & Exercise Hygiene & Safety in Sport Socio-cultural Influences	Physical Training Use of Sports Data Sports Injuries and Prevention Sports Psychology Health, Fitness & Well-being
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**How will my work be assessed?**

Exam 1 – The Human Body	Exam 2 – Socio Cultural Influences & Well-being
1 hour 15 min 78 marks 30% of GCSE	1 hour 15 min 78 marks 30% of GCSE
40% Practical – <b>You must be assessed in three sports (25 marks for each sport).</b> You will also be assessed on observation and analysis skills in one sport (25 marks)	

**What courses can this lead to in Post 16?**

AS/A2 Physical Education/BTEC National Diploma/BTEC First Diploma in Sport

# Physical Education (Tech Award)

<b>Qualification:</b>	Level 1-2 Award in Health & Fitness	<b>Course:</b>	NCFE
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<b>For more details: contact:</b>	<b>Mr S Lowe</b> – Head of Sport & Leisure stuart.lowe@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk
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## Is this course for me?

The LEVEL 1/2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN HEALTH AND FITNESS has been designed primarily for young people aged 14 to 16 who may wish to explore a more vocational route throughout Key Stage 4 and is equivalent to one GCSE.

## About this qualification

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness is designed for learners who have a genuine interest in developing their knowledge in health and fitness that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the health and fitness sector or progress onto further study.

## Qualification Structure

Learners are required to successfully demonstrate their knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of all eight content areas of this qualification.

## Content areas

1. Structure and function of body systems
2. Effects of health and fitness activities on the body
3. Health and fitness and the components of fitness
4. Principles of training
5. Testing and developing components of fitness
6. Impact of lifestyle on health and fitness
7. Applying health and fitness analysis and setting goals
8. Structure of a health and fitness programme and how to prepare it safely

## What does the course involve?

**UNIT 1:** worth 40% - **EXTERNALLY ASSESSED EXAM** (1 hour 30 min)

**UNIT 2:** worth 60% - **INTERNALLY ASSESSED HEALTH AND FITNESS PROJECT** (22 hours)

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

BTEC National Diploma in Sport L3

BTEC First Diploma in Sport L2

A Level PE

# Spanish

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs C Gibbon – Head of Modern Foreign Languages		
<b>contact:</b>	chloe.gibbon@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

All kinds of jobs require languages. Languages open doors – both in the UK and abroad, to meeting people and can introduce you to new experiences. A language can enhance your career opportunities and many former students have gone on to university courses which have a language element e.g. Law with Spanish. Certain universities require you to have a language at GCSE. The Head of Education at the Premier League says “Being able to speak another language opens up a world of opportunities to play and coach in football leagues across the globe.” To study Spanish as a GCSE, students must have studied Spanish in Year 9. If you would like to broaden your horizons, then this is the course for you!

## What does the course involve?

A GCSE course. The four skills tested are: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course covers a variety of topics based on real life situations, for instance, a visit abroad, leisure activities and social issues.

## How will my work be assessed?

**GCSE:** The course awards marks to each of the four skills and will use the new grading structure 1- 9.

## Overview of Assessment:

The new GCSE specification for languages will be linear with all assessments at the end of the course. There will be four final exams in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

All examinations take place at the end of Year 11.			
Paper 1: Listening	Paper 2: Speaking	Paper 3: Reading	Paper 4: Writing
25%	25%	25%	25%
Listening comprehension to be answered in English or non-verbally. Dictation of short sentences.	Three tasks: One role-play. One reading aloud task and short conversation. One photo card.	Reading tasks to be answered in English or non –verbally, Translation from Spanish into English.	Writing tasks including one translation task from English into Spanish.

Year 9 have already started working on some of the topics and grammar on the GCSE syllabus for Spanish. This is to introduce students to the new skills and requirements for GCSE prior to the Options process. You will learn many skills useful in other subjects such as concentration, memorising, spelling accurately, communicating clearly and problem solving.

There is a good selection of material on the internet with interactive activities, practice and revision and we also provide online access to the textbook we use in college.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

‘A’ level Spanish.

# Textiles\*

<b>Qualification:</b>	1 GCSE	<b>Course:</b>	AQA
<b>For more details:</b>	Mrs S Browne/ Mrs A Pearson – Design & Technology Dept		
<b>contact:</b>	sarah.browne@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk		

## Is this course for me?

Are you...

- Creative by nature?
- A unique stylist who likes expressing yourself?
- Interested in creating your own decorative techniques?
- Interested in creating something you could be proud of?
- Looking to develop making skills?
- Interested in designing your own original fabrics and textile products?

Then this is the course for you!

*\*Please note that there are 4 different Art & Design courses – students may only choose 1*

## What does the course involve?

This is a highly creative and practical course where you will develop skills in exploring, creating and making. You will produce a selection of high-quality products using textile materials and learn how to communicate your ideas to others. You will learn a wide range of skills including:

- Colouring and decorating fabrics to your own design
- Surface embellishment
- Fabric manipulation and construction
- Product designing and making

Over the two years, you will produce a range of outcomes and practical work and record it in a creative portfolio of work by drawing, using photographs and experiments. You will work through a wide range of skill based tasks each ending in a product for your 2 year portfolio.

You will continue to develop and extend the skills you have developed in this course and become adept at designing and creating your own unique outcomes. Themes could include, Urban Inspiration, Nature and Unconventional Materials.

Inspirational Trips: We include inspirational trips during the course, for students to gain primary research and in the past we have visited: the Creative Stitches Exhibition, Eden Project, the Victoria & Albert and London Fashion & Textiles museums.

## How will my work be assessed?

- Component 1 60%: Portfolio including a sustained project that shows your intentions of a design from start to finish
- Component 2 40%: Externally set assignment: sustained project preparing for and resulting in a 10 hour practical under supervision.

## What courses can this lead to in Post 16?

This qualification is recognised by colleges and universities and would be a great foundation for 'A' levels, especially our very popular Art Textiles course and all of the arts. The course could lead on to a full range of careers within the textile and design industry.

Come join our team in this exciting adventure!

# My Individual Learning Plan

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor Group: \_\_\_\_\_

The aim of this document is to help you plan your future choices about education and training. These decisions should be made with the help and support of your parents or carers and the College. In College you should talk to your tutor and subject teachers, you should listen carefully to the presentations that are made to you and you should attend the coursing interview with your tutor well prepared.

**This record is designed to encourage you to think about your educational choices from the age of 14 all the way through to the age of 19.** Try to fill in the boxes as well as you can and, if there are any you can't fill in, think about what you may need to do in that area.

Subjects you enjoy or are good at:

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What type of job would you like e.g. indoors/outdoors, working with people/animals?

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What career or job would you like to do?

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What qualifications does it require?

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# YOUR CHOICES

## CHOOSE 1 SUBJECT from this list

- ☐ Computer Science
- ☐ French
- ☐ Geography
- ☐ History
- ☐ Latin
- ☐ Spanish

## CHOOSE 2 SUBJECTS from this list

- ☐ Art and Design
- ☐ Graphic Communication
- ☐ Textiles
- ☐ Business – Cambridge Technical
- ☐ Business – GCSE
- ☐ Computer Science
- ☐ Dance
- ☐ 3D-Design Technology
- ☐ Drama and Theatre Arts
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Food and Nutrition
- ☐ Geography
- ☐ Health and Social Care
- ☐ History
- ☐ ICT
- ☐ Latin
- ☐ Media Studies
- ☐ Music – BTEC
- ☐ Music – GCSE
- ☐ PE – Health and Fitness
- ☐ PE – GCSE
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ French

For those students considering destinations that are more competitive after school, such as entry into certain courses or Universities, they will be strongly advised to choose a Humanity (History or Geography), a Language, and one free choice.

*\*Please note that there are 4 different Art & Design courses – students may only choose 1*