



Barnhill
COMMUNITY HIGH

Year 9 Curriculum Options 2020-21



Overview

- As pupils start Year 9 we want them to start specialising in areas that interest them as well as having a chance to start a GCSE/BTEC course early to get a head start on a professional qualification.
- Please use this booklet as well as advice from your teachers and your report to decide which subject you would like to specialise in and which subject you would like to take as a professional option (you will need a first and second choice for each area)
- Remember that you will have the chance to choose other options for your GCSEs at the end of Year 9 so the choices you make now are not set in stone. You should choose the subjects that interest you and the ones where you think you have the best chance of doing well.

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Art and Design

- Specialising in year 9 provides students with the advantage of exploring an extra module in Fine Art Photography, giving them the platform to study either Art or Photography at GCSE. Students will have the opportunity to explore the photographic process in depth, from the history of photography and dark room practice to digital SLR photography, digital editing and Photoshop techniques. Introduction to these techniques in year 9 will enable students to hone their skills throughout the forthcoming GCSE courses, whilst working with teachers who provide the best knowledge and expertise of the art world. Students will be taught how to use a digital camera and be introduced to the basics of Photoshop, learning to manipulate imagery in a sophisticated fashion. Relevant artists and themes will be researched and analysed.
- First and foremost Art and Photography GCSEs are hugely enjoyable and challenging subjects. These subjects deliver so much more than purely developing your practical use and understanding of media. They enable you to work creatively, to set your own agenda, make independent decisions and to be self-critical. You need to be brave in your judgements, accept criticism and ultimately enjoy success. The Creative industries are currently booming and students who are able to think creatively and work with real independence are in high demand in the jobs market. While either Art or Photography continue to be desirable options for students wishing to pursue creative careers, such as Architecture, Photography, Set Design, Interior Design, Art History or Painting and other Fine Art related professions, the internet has also seen an explosion of exciting, new roles emerge. Many employers now actively seek those who have studied the arts. Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, was fond of saying his success was due to his hiring artists fascinated by technology.
- You should chose this specialism if you are considering doing Art GCSE, Photography GCSE or because you really enjoy viewing the world creatively and learning how to record this successfully.

RE

Pupils who chose this specialism in Year 9 will extend their studies by trying to answer the big questions that humans have been trying to answer throughout history: what is the meaning of life? What happens when we die? Why do bad things happen? Is there a God?

The core of the subject is all about finding out what people believe and why. Students will look at moral issues such as abortion, war and peace, punishment and conscience, as well as the key beliefs, philosophies and ethics of religions. It is a lively and stimulating subject that encourages philosophical thought and develops decision making skills, enabling students to discuss and analyse issues they encounter in their lives, whilst at the same time learning how to respect the rights and responsibilities of others.

You should chose this specialism if you are considering doing RE GCSE or if you are interested in doing Philosophy & Ethics or Politics A-Level. You should also chose this specialism if you want to develop your debating skills, learn to think critically, speak thoughtfully and write clearly – all skills that are important in other subjects and in all future careers.

Music

- Students who choose Music as their specialism in Year 9 have the advantage of studying a topic in more depth. They will take two extra units on the study of modern pieces of music, with performance and / or music technology outcomes. Students will access the new studio, mixing desk and get the very best out of KS3 studies as a platform directly into GCSE. Students will also have access to several key online platforms and in-house resources designed to give all students the best chance to access top grades. All students can receive 1-2-1 individual music tuition as well as class-based tuition if they additionally select music as a specialism. Additionally, specialists are brought into school. This year a musician who has performed with Ed Sheeran did a composition class with some students.
- It is a great pathway to study music later in GCSE or gain enjoyment from more specialist study. Students who go on to study Music at GCSE can have a clear advantage over other students during the UCAS application phase. Classed as an academic subject by the best Universities, and having the same standing as Geography or History, it also shows a more enriched, broader education than choosing just another written subject. Ex-students applying to courses as diverse as Medicine and Engineering have reported positive conversations at interview in having this extra dimension in their studies. Music is a fun and engaging subject, and you should choose this subject if you enjoy learning about how music has evolved, exploring practical creativity, or using technology.
- Those considering Music as a career will also learn it isn't just about "lucky breaks" - music is one of the largest export industries in the UK. There are many thousands of advertised jobs in production, theatre, television, music engineering and radio. Big employers are the BBC, Sky, Gaming Companies, Film Companies and Radio Stations where Music graduates work in fields as diverse as content programming, mixing, sound editing, engineering and development.

Technology

- Pupils who chose this specialism in Year 9 will extend their studies by studying other aspects of 3D design and making, preparing students for the wider skills required for the study of chosen aspects Design and Technology at Key Stage 4. Higher level technical subject knowledge and a more independent approach to designing and learning will be developed, from the writing of client briefs, understanding of a target market, to using this information, creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities, using a range of materials and techniques. Packaging, labelling and instructions are also taught as part of the complete design proposal, while marketing tools, such as advertising and points of sale, can be used to supplement the making experience and help create products which can be evaluated for their commercial viability. Students who intend to study Textiles Technology and Food Technology benefit immensely from this understanding of product design as it provides a solid platform to develop to GCSE.
- A good grounding in Design and Technology is a distinct advantage in any career choice where innovative, creative thinking, problem solving and team work are required. Specifically Design and Technology can lead to employment in such careers as architecture, product design, engineering, manufacturing, graphic design, advertising, fashion design, catering, food science.

INTRODUCTION

- The Edexcel GCSE 9-1 Business course is idea for those students wanting to explore the dynamic and exciting world of business. The design and delivery of the course is perfect for students with little or no prior experience of business. There are two themes, with theme one looking at starting a small business, and then theme two looking at growing a business.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- The very nature of business is forever changing, what happens with technology, innovation, the Stock market and many more can impact how well a business does. This course will equip students with the knowledge and wisdom to start their own business, or work in industry. Every single job role involves some aspect of business, so take the opportunity now to learn all about business!

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- There will be two exams sat at the end of Year 11, for theme one and two. Each exam is 1 hour 30 minutes long, each exam has 90 marks, and they are worth 50% of the course each. There is a mixture of multiple choice, calculation questions, short written answers and extended writing questions.
- Throughout Year 9 and 10 there will be mini assessments using past papers so students will be familiar with the assessment requirements.

BTEC Tech Award in Child Development and Health and Social Care.

INTRODUCTION

- The Level 2 BTEC Tech Award in Child Development at KS4 is designed to provide focused and specialist work-related qualifications in a range of sectors. On successful completion of this course, students may progress to study level 3 Health and Social Care where upon completion they can gain employment or continue their study in University. The essential skills learnt in this subject area are communication, problem solving, ICT and people skills.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- There is a demand for people to work with children in this country, whether it be Foster Care or as Nanny, Nursery Nurse or Child Minder. The sky is the limit as to the number of occupations that can be had from studying this course or progression to higher levels such as Diploma or Degree.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- In this course there are 2 internally assessed and 1 externally assessed units. Centre assessment will be externally verified through the national standard sampling process. The purpose of assessment is to ensure that effective learning of the content of each unit has taken place.
- 75% coursework
- 25% exam

All work is assessed at either Pass (equivalent to C at GCSE), Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. A Level 1 award is available for students who do not achieve one of the above grades.

BTEC TECH Award in Health and Social Care.

INTRODUCTION

- This exciting and challenging course will introduce you to the Health and Social Care sector. By studying for your award you will gain the important knowledge, understanding and skills that are the foundations for working in this area.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- On Successful completion of this course you can study level 3 at the BTEC National Award and move onto work in Care Homes or go on to further studies at College or University to become Health Care Professionals.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- In this course there are 2 internally assessed and 1 externally assessed units. Centre assessment will be externally verified through the national standard sampling process. The purpose of assessment is to ensure that effective learning of the content of each unit has taken place.
- 75% coursework
- 25% exam
- All work is assessed at either Pass (equivalent to C at GCSE), Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. A Level 1 award is available for students who do not achieve one of the above grades.

INTRODUCTION

- In year 9 students will understand how to explore different professional work and develop their analysis skills of professional repertoire. They will be introduced to new professional works and also many dance style such as contemporary, ballet, jazz, hip hop, capoeira and many more. The students will also start to develop their physical and technical skills as a performer. In year 9 students will start to focus on the aesthetic and artistic qualities of dance and the symbolic use of movement to express and communicate ideas and concepts through the interrelated processes of performance, choreography and appreciation. Dance is a powerful and empowering form of nonverbal communication and it is both physical and expressive, which makes it similar to and different from other art forms and physical activities. Dance develops creative, imaginative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacities.
- The practical component of the course enables students to study dance by 'doing' and the anthology of professional works will provide a springboard for the development of creative and engaging practical tasks. The study of the anthology will facilitate the development of students' skills in performance and choreography as well as broadening their knowledge and understanding of dance and ability to critically appraise dances of different styles and cultural influences.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- Dance students will be able to think critically about dance works and compare and contrast their interpretations of the various repertoires; analyse and communicate ideas and arguments effectively; and develop excellent literacy and essay writing skills. They will also develop their physical, technical and performative skills within chosen style.
- Dance is a useful and rewarding subject that can lead to many careers path, for example: chorographer, author, lecturer, artist, dancer, physio therapist, dance psychotherapist, administrator, medical specialist, physical instructor and many more.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Summary:

Component 1: Performance and Choreography

Performance

- • Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately **one minute** in duration)
- • Duet/trio performance (**three** minutes in a dance which is **five** minutes in duration)

Choreography

- • Solo or group choreography – a solo (**two** to **two and a half** minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (**three** to **three and a half** minutes)

Component 2: Dance Appreciation and Dance Anthology

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks

INTRODUCTION

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover the:

- • Development of key skills that prove learners' aptitude in performing arts, such as reproducing repertoire or responding to stimulus
- • Process that underpins effective ways of working in the performing arts, such as development of ideas, rehearsal and performance
- • Attitudes that are considered most important in the performing arts, including personal management and communication
- • Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, processes and attitudes in the sector, such as roles, responsibilities, performance disciplines and styles.

This Award complements the learning in other GCSE programmes such as GCSE Drama and GCSE Dance by broadening experience and skills participation in different types of performance activities, with the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills practically, through project work such as developing ideas and performing for specific audiences.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- Drama is an exciting subject which allows you to be creative, imaginative and analytical. You will learn various dramatic skills and techniques as well as how to devise your own plays, perform scripts and evaluate performances.
- Drama is a fantastic subject which will help you to increase your self-confidence, enhance your team work skills and improve your ability to create, perform and evaluate engaging pieces of drama.
- After completing this qualification, you could go on to do a BTEC Extended Certificate or an AS and A2 Drama and Theatre Studies course. You can go on to teach, perform or direct pieces of Drama or you may decide to use the life skills you've gained, such as teamwork and confidence, to help you in another career.

• HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- You will be taught the following units: • Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30%) • Component 2: Developing skills and techniques (30%) • Component 3: Performing to a brief (40%)
- Most of the course (components 1 and 2) is based on internally assessed projects; one unit is externally assessed by Edexcel (component 3). All work is assessed at either Pass (equivalent to C at GCSE), Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. A Level 1 award is available for students who do not achieve one of the above grades.

INTRODUCTION

- The Social Sciences department believe that every individual pupil can achieve personal excellence. The department's aim is to develop pupils' understanding of people and the diverse societies past and present.
- The department also aims to develop students' understanding of the influence of their setting and environment on human activity by studying a continuum of historical and contemporary perspectives and how society developed alongside these.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. Sociology enables us to understand the structure of society, and connections and patterns in human behaviour.
- The course is designed to give students the opportunity to focus on their own experience of the social world, whilst encouraging them to build on this knowledge by analysing and reflecting on different aspects of society.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- Exam Board: AQA

Paper 1: The sociology of families and education	Paper 2: The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sociology of families• The sociology of education• Relevant areas of social theory and Methodology	What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sociology of crime and deviance• The sociology of social stratification• Relevant areas of social theory and Methodology
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes• 100 marks• 50% of GCSE	How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes• 100 marks• 50% of GCSE

INTRODUCTION

- Students will study 2 compulsory units and 2 optional units:
- Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise: Fitness requirements and training methods used to achieve successful sports performances, lifestyle and psychological factors and their effects on training and performance as well as assessing own fitness levels. This unit will be externally assessed through a one-hour online exam at the end of the unit.
- Unit 2: Practical Sports Performance: Develop knowledge of rules, skills and techniques for one team sport and one individual sport through practical application.
- Optional Units: The final two units will be chosen from seven units all with sport specific focus depending on the needs and make-up of the groups.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- Taking up Sport BTEC will improve your understanding of the theory of sport and you will examine the effects of exercise and training on sports performances. This course is for you if you enjoy learning the theory of sport through written coursework tasks and practical activity.
- Some of the units require the learners to do theory-based activities in order to enhance their learning further. So be aware that over 50 % of the lessons will be in the classroom and you will need you to work independently at home in order to complete all the units. However, there will be a practical element which will involve a mixture of both individual and team sports.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

This course is made up of: • 75% coursework • 25% external assessment.

Each unit is split into mini assignments. Each mini assignment is to be completed by the deadlines given. From this course, you will acquire many skills which include; observation skills, report writing skills, presentation skills and independent learning skills. This will also give you the opportunity to develop a range of physical skills and techniques throughout the course.

There are a variety of tasks designed to be vocational in character and assessed at Level 1, Pass (C), Merit (B), Distinction (A) and Distinction* (A*). Coursework assessment will be provided in the form of presentations, reports, brochures, posters, video diaries and photos.