



Which direction
will you take?

Key Stage 4 Options Booklet
2019



Peacehaven
Community
School



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Year 8 Options 2019 - Introduction

This is a very exciting time for Year 8 students – choosing the courses that they wish to study for GCSE or other qualification levels. These courses will be studied over the next three years and so it is important that students make informed choices. Factors to consider when making these choices are:

- Does the subject support your plans for the future?
- Are you good at this subject?
- Do you enjoy this subject?

We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to study subjects that will give them the greatest possible range of choices in the future. PCS will provide students with guidance and advice during Year Team Meetings, PSHE lessons and via tutors. We encourage students to discuss their choices with parents, carers and adults within the school to ensure that they are as fully informed as possible before making their options choices.

All students will be interviewed by a member of the Leadership Team to discuss their options choices before the final decisions are published to students and parents.

Changes at Key Stage 4

The government has made a number of changes to the content and assessment of subjects. In August 2019 all GCSE grades will be reported as a number between 1 (lowest) and 9 (highest) as opposed to the former A*-G.

Linear Examinations

All students will now sit exams at the end of their courses as there are no longer any modular examinations taken at stages throughout Years 10 and 11. Some subjects do, however, still have a percentage of their final grade awarded through controlled assessment and portfolio work. The details of these breakdowns is shown in the course information in this booklet.

English Baccalaureate

The EBacc is a measure being used by colleges, universities and employers to judge student achievement, with the emphasis being on a traditional academic curriculum. To achieve the EBacc qualification, students must pass at least 8 GCSEs, including:

- English Language
- Mathematics
- History or Geography
- A modern foreign language

- 4 other GCSEs or high value vocational qualifications

Students may wish to consider this subject format when making the option choices.

Options Return Form

There is an Options Return Form accompanying this booklet which will assist you when discussing the different options that are available. This form is to be completed by the student and signed both by them and yourself to confirm the selections they have made.

Forms need to be handed in to their Tutors no later than 9.00am on Friday 8th February, 2019.

Any questions regarding the options process should be directed to Ms Casterton kcasterton@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk or Ms Fernee jfernee@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk in the first instance

Any questions relating to specific subjects please contact the Subject Leader whose contact details are in this booklet.

Unfortunately PCS cannot guarantee to run an option subject if an insufficient number of students choose it and we are unable to guarantee any combination of options.

Core Subjects - The KS4 core curriculum

All students must study the following subjects throughout Key Stage 4. Students will gain a qualification in some of these subjects, but some subjects do not have a qualification:

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Science (Double or Triple) 2 or 3 x GCSEs

SPHERE (Social, Personal, Health, Religious and Economic Education) - Non-exam

PE - Non-exam

GCSE English Language

Course content

English Language is designed to develop your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. The course will teach you to read fluently in order to understand and analyse a variety of texts. It will also develop your communication skills to enable you to express yourself appropriately and with accuracy. By the end of the course, you will have developed the skills you need to understand and communicate effectively in the adult world. The course will build on the skills you have been learning at KS3. In reading, you will be expected to become an active and critical reader. In writing, you will be expected to develop your vocabulary and the accuracy of your grammar, punctuation and spelling in order to express yourself precisely. In spoken language, you will be expected to listen attentively to others and to express your ideas effectively using Standard English.

Course Structure

You will read and be assessed on high-quality, challenging texts from the 19th to 21st centuries. The texts, across a range of genres and types, will support you in developing your own writing by providing effective models. The texts will include literature and extended literary non-fiction, and other writing such as essays, reviews and journalism (both printed and online). You will develop your skills in critical reading and comprehension, summary and synthesis, evaluation of writers' techniques, comparing texts, producing clear and coherent writing, writing for impact, presenting information

and ideas and responding to others' spoken language.

Homework

You will be set an hour long task each week. The tasks have been carefully chosen to further develop the reading, writing, speaking and listening skills that you are developing in class.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 2 separate exams for this subject)

Course Progression

The course will prepare you for further study in any subject area because it focuses on developing your core reading, writing and spoken language skills.

Possible Careers

English Language students go on to study a wide variety of exciting courses, including Journalism, Publishing, Advertising, Linguistics, Creative Writing, Politics and Law.

Subject Leader- Ms Haywood
lhaywood@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE English Literature

Course content

English Literature is designed to develop your knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. Through literature, you will have a chance to develop culturally and acquire knowledge

of the best that has been thought and written. Studying GCSE English literature will encourage you to read widely for pleasure. By the end of the course, you will have developed the skills you need to appreciate a wide variety of literature. The course will build on the knowledge and skills that you have acquired at KS3. In reading, you will be expected to become an active and critical reader. In writing, you will be expected to develop your ability to write essays about the texts that you have studied.

Course Structure

Your reading will deepen your understanding of literature, giving you the confidence to apply the skills to any text. You will study a range of high quality, challenging texts in detail. These will include at least one play by Shakespeare, at least one 19th century novel, a selection of poetry since 1789 including representative Romantic poetry and fiction and drama from the British Isles from 1914 onwards. You will develop so you can read a wide range of classic literature fluently and with good understanding, and make connections across your reading. You will read in depth, critically and evaluatively, so that you are able to discuss and explain your understanding and ideas. You will develop the habit of reading widely and often and appreciate the depth and power of the English literary heritage. You will write accurately, effectively and analytically about your reading, using Standard English while acquiring and using a wide vocabulary.

Homework

You will be set an hour long task each week. The tasks have been carefully chosen to supplement the work covered in class and to extend your knowledge and understanding of historical and social context.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 2 separate exams for this subject)

Course Progression

The course will prepare you for further study in any subject area requiring extended reading and analytical skills.

Possible Careers

English Literature students have gone on to study a wide variety of exciting courses, including Journalism, Publishing, Advertising, Education, Creative Writing, Politics and Law.

Subject Leader- Ms Haywood
lhaywood@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Mathematics

Course content

This course will develop your numeracy, problem solving, investigation and analytical skills allowing you to apply these skills in everyday life. It will teach you how to break problems down into small steps, spot patterns and analyse data.

Course Structure

During the course you will be studying six strands of Maths:

Numbers

Algebra

Ratio and Proportion

Geometry

Probability

Statistics

Homework

It is recognised that for a student to make expected progress in Maths they need to complete 2 hours of homework a week in Years 10 and 11. Maths GCSE homework allows students to reflect on what they have learnt and check whether they are able to use the skills independently

Assessment

Foundation Students

(expected to achieve grade 1 to 5)

Exam Board: OCR

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 3 separate exams for this subject)

Higher Students

(expected to achieve grade 5 to 9)

Exam Board: OCR

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 3 separate exams for this subject)

Course Progression

A-Level Maths, Sciences, Sociology, Engineering, Accountancy.

Possible Careers

Engineer, Scientist, Statistician, Architecture, Social Scientist.

Subject Leader- Mr Prowse

dprowse@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Science

Course content

There are two different routes available for students, **Double Science** and **Triple Science**. Students start Year 9 by following an 'introduction to GCSE' set of 4 modules, the full GCSE course starts after the Easter holiday. The decision to take 'Triple' occurs at the end of Year 9 and is only normally available to students who have reached a grade 4 by this point.

Double Science. This course teaches you the science you need to make sense of the world around you. It provides you with the skills you need to decide for yourself about science issues that affect you. Double Science will also give you a better understanding of how your world works. You will undertake both practical and theory based activities. At the end of the course you will be awarded two GCSEs.

Triple Science. The module contents are identical to Double Science but at the end of each there will be extra lessons that go slightly deeper into the topic. This route will allow students to obtain separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 GCSEs in total). With Triple Science, students cover the content in almost the same time that other students complete 2 GCSEs. This means the pace and demand

is significantly higher. Separate grades will be awarded for each of the three sciences. For students to be successful they will need to be self-disciplined, highly focussed and furthermore enjoy Science as this is a challenging course.

Course Structure

Double and triple science students will study the same modules, as described below.

Biology You and your genes, Keeping healthy, Food and ecosystems, Using food and controlling growth, The human body, Life on Earth.

Chemistry Air and water, Chemical patterns, Chemicals of the natural environment, Material choices, Chemical analysis, Making useful chemicals.

Physics Radiation and waves, Sustainable energy, Electric circuits, Explaining motion Radioactive materials, Matter.

Homework

Students will have two science teachers. They will each set a piece of homework each week. This will typically be in the form of exam style questions.

Assessment

Double Science

Exam board: OCR

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 4 separate exams for this subject)

Triple Science

Exam board: OCR

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 6 separate exams for this subject)

Course Progression

Many college courses will ask for science GCSEs including A-level Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Science and Physical Education. Please note that although 3 Science GCSEs is desirable to progress onto 'A' levels in the pure Sciences, it is not essential and the Double Science GCSEs provide a solid foundation for 'A' levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Possible Careers

A sound knowledge of the sciences forms a useful background to many diverse and varied careers, for example in the fields of Medicine and Nursing, Forensic Science, Engineering, Veterinary Science and Environmental Monitoring.

Subject Leader- Ms Jessey
cjessey@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

SPHERE (Social, Personal, Health, Religious and Economic Education)

There is no exam associated with this course.

Course content

SPHERE is a programme of learning through which you will acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to manage your lives, now and in the future. It will help you to develop the qualities and attributes needed to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society. It will also help you to apply knowledge and understanding into practical, real-life situations preparing you

for life and the world of work. The course also includes religious education following the East Sussex SACRE curriculum used by all schools in East Sussex.

Course Structure

Topics covered during PSHE will include Identity and Society, Health, Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Work Related and Careers Education, Drug and Substance Abuse, Sex and Relationships, Financial Capability. Skills that will be developed through the lessons are presentation skills, group work, problem solving, debating and organisational skills.

SPHERE is a central part of your education. The program is designed to run alongside GCSE study, giving context and a sense of purpose, so that you make informed decisions about future life choices. Building self-esteem and confidence will allow you to develop a sound philosophy based upon a healthy and responsible lifestyle, which will help you prepare for the challenges that you will face post 16 in the academic and social world.

Assessment

This is a non-exam subject however work will be completed during lessons which will be assessed and graded.

Subject Leader- Mr Ralston
cralston@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

Physical Education

All students will continue to participate in PE lessons, as a non-exam subject, until they leave. The format will follow on from their first 2 years where they will be introduced to different sports and activities, developing skills and understanding the benefits of a healthy life-style. However, in Year 10 and 11 students are able to select a specific "route" that they would like to participate in. Each route is designed for different types of performer and much of the content students experience is designed by the students themselves.

However, in Year 8 students can opt for the NCFE VCERT in Health and Fitness, which is the equivalent to a GCSE, and is taken in addition to core PE.

Subject Leader- Mr Clarke
jclarke@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

Core Subjects - English Baccalaureate

All students must choose whether to study one of the English Baccalaureate subjects of Geography, History, and the language students have studied in Years 7 and 8, or Computer Science as a core subject.

Should students wish to study any combination of these subjects, they should select one in the Option 1 box on the form and the others as Options 2 and 3. In this way, History could be selected as Option 1, and any two of French/Spanish, Geography and Computer Science as options 2 and 3.

GCSE Geography

Course content

Geography is the study of the world and the problems facing our world and how they can be solved. Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically. Carry out fieldwork and independent research. Understand how to use maps, photographs, drawings and graphs. Use evidence to support your decisions.

Course Structure

Unit 1 – Physical Geography; Rivers, Coasts, Climate Change, Tectonic Hazards, Ecosystems, Rainforest, Hot Deserts

Unit 2 – Human Geography; Cities, Global resources, Global development, Uk economics geography

Unit 3 – Geographical Application; You will complete two pieces of fieldwork over the years of study and be examined on geographical skills in this exam.

Homework

Homework is set following the homework timetable. Homework is set twice a fortnight and students should allow 1 hour for each.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Written Exam: Unit 1 - 30%

Unit 2 - 30%

Unit 3 - 40%

Course Progression

A Level Geography, A Level Sciences, A Level Environmental Studies, BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary/Extended Diploma in Travel and

Tourism, A Level Politics, A Level Economics, A Level Sociology

Possible Careers

There are many careers that welcome the skills that Geography gives to an employee. These include: the ability to make decisions and justify choices; to work as a team as well as leadership qualities; the ability to analyse data and identify patterns and trends; to present information suitable for a range of audiences. Careers include: Journalism; Environmental Lawyer; Planning; Landscape architect; Weather Forecaster; Education; Accountancy; Military.

Subject Leader- Mr Ralston
cralston@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk

GCSE History

Course content

GCSE History enables students to learn about key events and people in the past so they have a better understanding of the world today and their place in it. In History you will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the past. Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using historical concepts. Analyse, evaluate and use historical sources to make substantiated judgements. Analyse and evaluate why interpretations of history may differ.

Course Structure

Crime and punishment in Britain c1000-present This thematic study focuses on change and continuity from the Middle Ages to the present day. The key theme is understanding how changes in society have influenced crime and punishment over time.

Crime and Policing in Whitechapel, c1870–1900 In this case study you will develop your source evaluation skills by examining historical documents to investigate crime and policing in Whitechapel, including the infamous case of Jack the Ripper.

Early Elizabethan England 1558-88 Elizabethan England is a fascinating period of British history. In this unit you will study the social, economic, political and religious aspects of Elizabeth's reign including the Spanish Armada, Voyages of Discovery and Mary, Queen of Scots.

Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39 In this modern depth study you will study the legacy of the First World War, the Weimar Republic, Hitler's rise to power and what life was like in Nazi Germany.

Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 This unit covers the relationship between the USA and Soviet Union in the 20th century. You will study the origins of the Cold War, key events such as the Cuban Missile Crisis and why the Cold War ended with the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Homework

Homework is set following the homework timetable. Tasks include consolidating subject knowledge, practising exam skills, extended reading and revision.

Assessment

Exam Board: Edexcel

Written Exams: 100%

(There are 3 separate exams for this subject)

Course Progression

GCSE History is excellent preparation for future academic study such as A Level History, A Level Government and Politics, A Level Law

Possible Careers

History students can follow a variety of career paths. There are careers which use History directly such as Museum and Heritage work, Tourism, Archaeology or Teaching. However, historical skills are also valued in many other careers such as; Law, Policing, Journalism, Politics and Business. All require the ability to study a range of evidence and know how to reach conclusions. History can teach you this.

Subject Leader- Ms Hughes

lhughes@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk

Core Subjects - Languages (optional but recommended)

Although Languages are not a compulsory core subject, all students should consider studying French or Spanish to provide them with a well-rounded education.

GCSE French

Course content

You will learn and understand about French people and their lifestyles. Understand French culture through film, media and literature. Develop your communication skills. Learn how to speak spontaneously in new situations. Learn the skills required for translation. Have the opportunity to partake in a study trip abroad to use your language in context.

Course Structure

Identity and culture: Youth culture, lifestyle, customs and traditions.

Local, national, international and global areas of interest: Home and Locality, French speaking countries, Global sustainability.

Current and future study and employment: Current Study, World of Work, Careers and Future Plans.

Homework

Homework will be set weekly and should take approximately an hour. It will be based on exam style questions, consolidating language introduced in class and using online language tests to secure vocabulary knowledge.

Assessment

Exam Board: WJEC

Speaking exam - 25%

(Role play/discussion/conversation in French).

Listening exam - 25%

(questions from French into English)

Reading exam - 25%

(Reading from French and answering questions in English)

Writing exam - 25%

(Short translations from French into English and English into French/independent writing tasks)

Course Progression

A Level French

Possible Careers

Travel and Tourism, the Foreign Office, Customer Relations, Journalism, Translating, Teaching, Hospitality, International Business.

Subject Leader- Ms Hayhurst

khayhurst@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk

GCSE Spanish

Course content

You will learn and understand about Spanish people and their lifestyles. Understand Spanish culture through film, media and literature. Develop your communication skills. Learn how to speak spontaneously in new situations. Learn the skills required for translation. Have the opportunity to partake in a study trip abroad to use your language in context.

Course Structure

Identity and culture: Youth culture, lifestyle, customs and traditions.

Local, national, international and global areas of interest: Home and Locality, Spanish speaking countries, Global sustainability.

Current and future study and employment: Current Study, World of Work, Careers and Future Plans.

Homework

Homework will be set weekly and should take approximately an hour. It will be based on exam style questions, consolidating language introduced in class and using online language tests to secure vocabulary knowledge.

Assessment

Exam Board: WJEC

Speaking exam - 25%

(Role play/discussion/conversation in Spanish).

Listening exam - 25%

(questions from Spanish into English)

Reading exam - 25%

(Reading from Spanish and answering questions in English)

Writing exam - 25%

(Short translations from Spanish into English and English into Spanish /independent writing tasks)

Course Progression

A Level Spanish

Possible Careers

Travel and Tourism, the Foreign Office, Customer Relations, Journalism, Translating, Teaching, Hospitality, International Business.

Subject Leader- Ms Hayhurst

khayhurst@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk

Optional Subjects

After you have selected your core/EBacc subjects you will have the choice of two further optional subjects. You will also need two reserve choices as we unfortunately cannot guarantee that you will get your first choice of subjects. Please be assured that we will make every effort to allocate students to their first choice subjects and if this is not possible we will talk to the student affected directly.

Please note that due to timetabling issues you are only able to select **one** of the following subjects:

- GCSE Design Technology - Resistant Materials
- GCSE Design Technology - Textiles

GCSE Art, Craft and Design

Course content

This is a vibrant and dynamic subject where students will follow a broad based course exploring practical and critical/contextual work through a range of 2D and 3D processes. Art, Craft and Design will encompass working in Fine Art, Textile design, Three-dimensional design and recording using photography. It is important to be aware that a great emphasis is placed upon students' ability to draw using a range of techniques and for different purposes. Drawing will form the backbone of all units and exams and is a vital skill in this subject. In addition, students will be expected to produce substantial written analysis and evaluations of their work as it develops. The use of specialist vocabulary and terms is essential and must be explicit throughout their portfolios.

Course Structure

Unit 1 - Portraits. Covering all four assessment objectives, students will look at a range of ways that artists use to produce portraits.

Unit 2 - Borderlines. A landscape inspired project using mixed media.

Unit 3 - Body Adornment. Research and visual analysis that leads to the making of a piece of Body Adornment

Unit 4 - Mock Exam This unit will be delivered as a mock exam spread over 12 weeks and culminating in a 10-hour exam in the Summer Term and a 10-hour exam in the Autumn Term.

Unit 5 - Externally set exam. 12 weeks preparation time from January until; ten hour exam in April.

Homework

Homework is normally set weekly, however some larger projects will be set over 2 or 4 weeks. Self-management and commitment is key to producing your best work and ALL tasks will be evaluated for your assessment. A small range of art materials will be required at home to complete your homework tasks and will be available to buy at the start of the course. Alternatively, students can stay to one of our twice weekly art clubs to access materials and gain additional support. Homework is not optional.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Portfolios: 60%

Controlled Assessment: 40%

Course Progression

A levels in: Textiles, Fine Art, 3D design, Photography Graphic Design and Media Design.

Possible Careers

Arts administrator, Community Arts Worker, Exhibition Designer, Fine Artist, Make-up Artist, Textile Designer.

Subject Leader- Ms Elliott

selliott@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk

GCSE Computer Science

This option is only available to students who perform well in their January computing exam, which assesses student's mathematical and logical skills required for the subject.

Course content

Computer Science will give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. You will analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of problem solving. You will be producing algorithms, writing code (using Python) and debugging computer programs. This course will help you develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills.

Course Structure

Unit 1 – Computer Systems. Explore how computer systems work by studying key areas such as systems architecture, memory, storage, networks, system security, system software and a range of ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns

Unit 2 – Computational Thinking. Algorithms and Programming. Demonstrate computational thinking through algorithms and programming, techniques. Produce robust programs using computational logic, translators and facilities of computing languages and data representation.

Unit 3 – Programming Project. A practical assessment which requires students to plan, develop, test and evaluate a computer program which provides a solution to a given problem.

Homework

Homework is set following the homework timetable. Homework takes the form of practical tasks, research and exam questions.

Assessment

Exam Board: OCR

Written Exams: Unit 1 - 40%

Unit 2 - 40%

Controlled Assessment: Unit 3 - 20%

Course Progression

A Level Computer Science or other related computer science/ICT related courses

Possible Careers

Computer science is relevant to and useful in almost all career pathways. Computer Science careers include; Computer Systems Analysts, Software Developer, Web Developers, Database Administrators, Computer Programmer, Software Engineer

Subject Leader- Ms Murray
lmurray@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Dance

It is highly recommended that students have had some prior dance training because of the high demands of the course.

Course content

In Dance you will study performance choreography and the appreciation of dance. You will develop your skills practically as both a performer and choreographer. Dance will provide you with the transferable skills/qualities associated with group work, creative thinking, resilience, self-esteem and leadership. Dance will also enhance your development as a physically educated young person; dance is an area that allows you to use your bodies for expression, communication of moods, ideas and

emotions. There will also be opportunities to develop other areas of the curriculum: dance and poetry, dance and art, dance and science concepts, dance and cultural learning.

Course Structure

Unit 1 Performance and choreography students must perform two set phrases as a soloist (one minute) and in a duet/trio composition that is a minimum of three minutes in duration. Additionally, students will learn how to respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, to choreograph their own complete dance.

Unit 2 Dance appreciation knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills, critical appreciation of own work and critical appreciation of professional works. Students will study six short professional works, which are choreographed by established choreographers. Works will cover a range of styles and style fusions including: ballet, urban, contemporary and dance from other cultures.

Homework

Both practical and theory homework is set. Dance club is one evening after school and all GCSE Dance students are encouraged to attend. GCSE practical homework sessions with teacher guidance and supervision happen regularly.

Assessment

Exam Board – AQA

Practical Assessment: Unit 1 - 60%

Written Exam: Unit 2 - 40%

Course Progression

This GCSE will allow pupils to study Dance at AS and A-level, giving students the skills and experience to better prepare them for the demands of these courses.

Possible Careers

Dance Teacher, Choreographer, Performer, Dance Lecturer or Academic Researcher, Dance Education Specialist, Dance Movement Therapist, Dance Journalist, Costume/Set Design or Dance Producer.

Subject Leader- Ms Tomlinson
ktomlinson@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Design Technology Resistant Materials or Textiles

Course content

This GCSE places emphasis on understanding and applying design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. This qualification focuses on developing practical skills within a particular material area, allowing students to manufacture high quality outcomes. They'll learn about commercial processes and careers in related industries, as well as developing core transferable skills, such as collaboration and communication. This is a modern and relevant qualification, so students can learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices..

Course Structure

Unit 1 – Core technical principles

Unit 2 – Specialist technical principles

Unit 3 – Designing and making principles

Unit 4 – Substantial design and make tasks

Homework

Homework will be based on exam style questions, revision for short tests and research work to complement their school based projects.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Written Exams: - 50%

Coursework: - 50%

Course Progression

A-Level Product design, design based courses, apprenticeships.

Possible Careers

CAD/CAM design, manufacturing, construction work or product design.

Apprenticeships in Engineering, mechanics, carpentry or building trades.

Fashion/textiles designer, clothing/textile technologist, interior designer.

Subject Leader- Ms Bottani

fbottani@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Course content

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure

students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

Course Structure

Unit 01 - Food, nutrition and health

Unit 02 - Food science

Unit 03 - Food safety

Unit 04 - Food choice

Unit 05 - Food provenance

Homework

You will be set an hour long task each week. The tasks have been carefully chosen to supplement the work covered in class and to extend your knowledge and understanding of historical and social context.

Assessment

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Written Exams: - 50%

Practical Assessment 1: - 15%

Practical Assessment 2: - 35%

Course Progression

A Level Food Preparation and Nutrition, Hospitality, Level 1 & 2 NVQ Cookery, Level 1 & 2 City and Guilds Cookery, Apprenticeships.

Possible Careers

Food Nutritionists, Sports Science, Food Technologists, Teaching and Lecturing, Food Writers, Designers, Hospitality

Industry Careers; Chefs, Managers, Customer Service, Food and Drink Service.

Subject Leader- Mr Gates
ngates@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness (PE)

Equivalent to GCSE

Course content

This qualification will show students the benefits of fitness, the main components used to measure an individual's level of physical fitness, how to use the principles of training in a fitness programme, how to prepare, plan and develop a personal health and fitness programme and how a healthy balanced diet affects lifestyles. Students will learn about the functions of the main body systems, how to use different training techniques and methods and the importance of diet and nutrition. They will develop skills by preparing and planning a health and fitness plan, by carrying out fitness tests and evaluating health and fitness plans. The skills that they develop in literacy, numeracy and ICT are essential for the modern workplace along with team working; presentation skills; independent working; working to deadlines and efficient use of resources.

Course Structure

Unit 01 - This unit provides learners with the underpinning knowledge and understanding required for health and fitness. Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of the structure and function of key body

systems. Learners will know and understand the short- and long-term effects that health and fitness activities can have on the body. Learners will know and understand the components of fitness and the principles of training.

Unit 02 - This unit aims to provide students with the knowledge and understanding of how food and physical activity can contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They will learn the importance of diet and nutrition. Students will understand how motivation affects participation in physical activity.

Homework

Students will be expected to complete homework each week. Homework will be based on students' needs and will vary from reading to research and completion of set tasks.

Assessment

Exam Board: NCFE

Unit 1 External written assessment - 40%

Unit 2 Internal assessment - 60%

Course Progression

This course allows students to study A-level, National Diploma and Level 3 certificates

Possible Careers

Coaching, Personal trainer, PE teacher, Sports Therapy, Nutritionist.

Subject Leader- Mr Clarke
jclarke@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

Cambridge Nationals Level 2 in Creative iMedia

Equivalent to GCSE.

Course content

The Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia will equip learners with a range of ICT and creative media skills. It provides opportunities to develop, in context, desirable, transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. Through the use of these skills, learners will ultimately be creating fit-for-purpose creative media products.

Course Structure

Unit 1 – Pre-Production Skills

Unit 2 – Creating Digital Graphics

Plus an additional two units (examples are; creating a website, creating a digital animation or designing a game)

Homework

Homework is set following the homework timetable. Homework takes the form of practical tasks, research and exam questions.

Assessment

Exam Board: OCR

Written Exams: - 25%

Controlled Assessment: - 75%

Course Progression

A level ICT, BTEC level 3 ICT and computing

Possible Careers

The digital media sector is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK. In an increasingly digital world, being competent in ICT and creativity is now considered a valuable skill in most jobs. As well as supporting a range of subject and employment areas, the course also supports progression into employment through apprenticeships in areas such as Digital Marketing or Website design.

Subject Leader- Ms Murray
lmurray@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk

GCSE Music

Course Content

As a musician you will develop the skills needed to play an instrument of your choice (this could also be singing). Throughout the course, you will gain confidence with your skills and learn to play more difficult pieces in a variety of styles as a solo and as part of an ensemble. It is important that you develop a growth mindset with regards to performing in front of an audience. You will also learn to compose your own pieces of music either for your instrument or using mac computers. Your musical appreciation will also develop as you listen to a wide variety of music and understand how it is put together.

Course Structure

Unit 1 - Performance: You will need to submit 2 performances (1 solo and 1 ensemble) for your final coursework. You will have time to perfect your performance, but the final recording will need to be

completed under controlled conditions in 10 hours.

Unit 2 - Composition You will need to submit 2 compositions. The 1st is a free composition using your own ideas in any style and the 2nd is a composition that you have to write from a brief which is given by the exam board.

Unit 3 - Listening to Music You have 4 areas of study (instrumental music, vocal music, music for stage and screen and fusions) and 8 set pieces of music that you have to study. In the exam, you will hear extracts of your set works and will have to answer questions on instruments, texture, tonality, pitch, dynamics etc.

Homework

You will have 1 hour of homework per week. This could be revising key words for test, research or practise homework.

Assessment

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Controlled Assessment: Unit 1 - 30%

Unit 2 - 30%

Listening Exam: Unit 3 - 40%

Course Progression

A level music; A level music technology; diploma in performance, production, event management or performing arts etc (BHASIVC, BIMM, Northbrook, DV8, Lewes etc)

Possible Careers

Musician, recording artist, music teacher, music journalist, sound recording, production, events management, retail, sound engineer...

Subject Leader- Mr Browne
rbrowne@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Art (Drama)

Equivalent to GCSE.

Course content

Focus on developing your drama and acting skills in devising, improvisation, gesture, pace, timing, voice, physicality and script in preparation for performances to a live audience. Develop communication skills by working in groups. You will develop your skills of listening, co-operation and communication. Develop practical skills in generating creative ideas independently. Experience the perfect blend of creative, academic and practical work. It is hard work, fun and requires commitment. You will need good attendance and a willingness to attend after school if required.

Course Structure

Unit 1 – Exploring the Performing Arts

Learners will develop their understanding of the performing arts by exploring the work of three contrasting practitioners and the processes used to create performance.

Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts

Learners will explore and develop their performing arts skills and techniques in practical workshops, and will apply these in rehearsals to prepare for a scripted performance to an audience. Learners keep a detailed workshop and rehearsal log that maps their targets and progress as well as evaluating their practical experience.

Unit 3 – Performing to a Brief

You will work in a group to respond to a brief set by the exam board and will devise

and develop a performance for an audience selecting and using appropriate performance skills and techniques that help you realise your creative ideas.

Homework

Homework is set regularly and will either be practical homework or planning and research.

Assessment

Exam Board: Pearson

Controlled Assessment:

Internal assessment - Unit 1 - 30%

Unit 2 - 30%

External assessment - Unit 3 - 40%

Course Progression

Btec Level 3 Performing Arts, A Level Drama, A Level Theatre Studies, A Level Performing Arts,

Possible Careers

Students who study Performing Arts or Drama are considered to be innovative, confident and successful people who can rise to any challenge and are highly sort after for careers ranging from a career path in the industry, Actor or Theatre Director to a career in Teaching, Presenting, Public Relations Work or Nursing.

Subject Leader- Ms Alborough
jalborough@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Art (Production – Design – Technical Theatre)

Equivalent to GCSE.

Course content

Acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through studying design and technical theatre. In this course there will be equal emphasis on set-design, make-up, lighting and sound design, with students developing practical skills in all of these areas and generating creative ideas independently. This qualification is a perfect blend of creative, academic and practical work. It is hard work, fun and requires commitment. Students should demonstrate a willingness to use their skills to support extra-curricular events.

Course Structure

Unit 1 – Exploring the Performing Arts

To develop as a technician/designer you will need a broad understanding of performance work and influences. This component will help you to understand the requirements of being a technician/designer across a range of performances and performance styles.

Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts

Learners will explore and develop their technical and design skills and techniques in practical workshops and will prepare for these to be realised in performances by the actors. Learners keep a detailed workshop log that maps their targets and progress as well as evaluating their practical experience.

Unit 3 – Performing to a Brief

You will work individually to respond to a brief set by the exam board, taking on a design or technical role as part of a performance by the actors. You will develop and apply your skills and techniques that help you realise your creative ideas.

Homework

Homework is set regularly and will either be practical homework or planning and research.

Assessment

Exam Board: Pearson

Controlled Assessment:

Internal assessment - Unit 1 - 30%

Unit 2 - 30%

External assessment - Unit 3 - 40%

Course Progression

Btec Level 3 Performing Arts, A Level Drama, A Level Theatre Studies, A Level Performing Arts,

Possible Careers

Students who study Performing Arts or Drama are considered to be innovative, confident and successful people who can rise to any challenge and are highly sort after for in a wide range of careers.

Subject Leader- Mr Robertson
mrobertson@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Photography

Course content

This is a vibrant and dynamic subject where students will follow a broad based

course exploring a range of traditional and digital photography. Students will take a creative journey through the process of lens and light-based media. This could include work created using film, video, digital imaging or light sensitive materials, and subject matter such as documentary photography, photo journalism, studio photography, location photography, experimental imagery, installation, and the moving image. Photography will teach you the basics of darkroom use, how to shoot/ develop film, print up your own photos. How to use a digital camera. The word photography can be taken to mean 'a graphic representation with light' therefore drawing will be part of the course.

There will be a cost implication of taking this course.

Course Structure

Year 9 – Introduction to Photography.

Learning to analyse photographic sources and explore the use of camera controls.

Year10 & Year11 - Completion and presentation of Coursework

Homework

Homework is normally set weekly, however some larger projects will be set over 2 weeks. We recommend having your own DSLR camera, but it is not a necessity. Students can also stay to one of our twice weekly art clubs to access materials and gain additional support.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Portfolios: 60%

Controlled Assessment: 40%

Course Progression

A levels in: Photography, Graphic Design, Media Design, Textiles, Fine Art and 3D design.

Possible Careers

Photographer, Commercial photographer, Graphic designer, Magazine features editor, Camera operator, Journalism/ News photography

Subject Leader- Ms Elliott
sellott@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.

GCSE Sociology

Course content

Sociology is the study of human society. It draws on a variety of viewpoints in order to understand the social world around us, in an open and critical manner. It concentrates on the way we make society, what it is and how society shapes us. You will relate this to your own experiences of living in Britain. You will also study how societies have changed over time and how it differs across cultures. By studying Sociology you will develop a wide range of knowledge and understanding about how Sociologists study and understand social structures, processes and issues. You are encouraged to take a questioning approach to evidence and issues, thus developing critical, analytical and evaluative skills. Students should be aware that this is a challenging GCSE. They will need to have strong literacy skills and be confident at writing essays. Students will need to be motivated, independent learners at school and home.

Course Structure

Unit 1 – The Sociological Approach

Unit 2 – Families

Unit 3 – Education

Unit 4 – Crime and Deviance

Unit 5 – Social Stratification

Unit 6 – Sociological Research Methods

Homework

Homework will be set weekly and should take approximately an hour. It will be based on exam style questions, research or the learning of keywords for tests, consolidating learning introduced in class.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA

Written Exam: Unit 2, 3 & 6 - 50%

Unit 4, 5 & 6 - 50%

Course Progression

A Level Sociology, A Level Law, A Level Psychology, A Level Politics

Possible Careers

Lawyer, Doctor, Nurse, Teacher, Social Worker, Health Worker, Childcare, Journalism.

Subject Leader- Mr Ralston
cralston@pcs.e-sussex.sch.uk.