



Clapton Girls'  
Academy

Est. 1906

# KEY STAGE 4

## CURRICULUM INFORMATION

2 0 2 6 / 2 0 2 7

*Arrive with a dream, leave with a future.*



**TOP 10%**  
**NATIONALLY**  
**FOR PROGRESS AT**  
**KEY STAGE 4**

**ARRIVE WITH A DREAM**

**TOP 25%**  
**NATIONALLY**  
**FOR SIXTH FORM**



# CONTENTS

KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM	4
KEY STAGE 4 SUBJECTS	5
PROGRESSION ROUTES	6
HOW TO MAKE GOOD CHOICES	7
SIXTH FORMERS' ADVICE	8

## COURSES

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CLICK ON A COURSE:

ART & DESIGN: FINE ART	10
BTEC HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	11
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN	12
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: TEXTILES	13
DRAMA	14
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	15
ENGLISH LITERATURE	16
FRENCH	17
GEOGRAPHY	18
HISTORY	19
LEVEL 1/LEVEL 2 CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL CREATIVE IMEDIA	20
MATHEMATICS	21
MUSIC	22
PHYSICAL EDUCATION GCSE	23
RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY	24
SCIENCES	25
SOCIOLOGY	26
SPANISH	27
SUPPORT WITH GUIDED PREFERENCES	28
APPLY ONLINE	29
GUIDED PREFERENCES FORM	30
LEAVE WITH A FUTURE - DESTINATIONS	31



# KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM 2026

The curriculum at Clapton Girls' Academy rests on our core (CAIR) values of compassion, ambition, integrity and resilience. Our students are empowered with the knowledge, skills and independence to meet their potential to thrive in the next stage of their learning and beyond, regardless of starting point. We want our students to have a deep, broad and powerful foundation of knowledge that prepares them to fully engage as global citizens and agents of change.

The government focus is now on students achieving 8 good grades as well as making good progress in a wide range of subjects at the end of Key Stage 4. Our curriculum offer ensures that this is possible for all students.

This booklet explains the curriculum for Years 10 and 11. It contains information on the subjects that everyone studies as well as the three preference subjects that students select.

Parents' Evening will take place **on Thursday 5th February 2026 (4.00pm - 7.00pm)**. This will give parents/carers and students the opportunity to discuss progress with their child's subject teachers.

For any information about Parents' Evening please contact one of the following people:

**Academy telephone number: 020 8985 6641**

**Head of Year 9, Ms Onasanwo: (Ext 213)**

[aonasanwo@clapton.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:aonasanwo@clapton.hackney.sch.uk)

**Assistant Headteacher, Ms Stewart-Parker: (Ext 269)  
responsible for Key Stage 4 Curriculum & Assessment**

[astewart-parker@clapton.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:astewart-parker@clapton.hackney.sch.uk)

The final deadline for submitting your online form is:

**Friday 13th February 2026**

# YOUR KEY STAGE 4 SUBJECTS

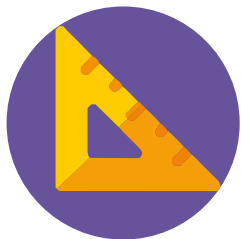
These are the subjects that everyone studies all the way through Key Stage 4. These subjects are central to every pathway.



## ENGLISH

GCSE English Language  
GCSE English Literature

4.5 hours  
per week



## MATHS

GCSE Maths

4 hours per  
week



## SCIENCE

GCSE Combined Science to give 2  
GCSEs or 3 separate sciences to give  
3 GCSEs.

4.5 hours  
per week



## HISTORY GEOGRAPHY SPANISH FRENCH

Everyone studies at least one of these  
4 subjects.

3 hours per  
week



## RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY

GCSE Religious Studies

2 hours per  
week



## PE

It is important for you to stay fit and  
healthy to be successful in your studies.

1.5 hours  
per week



## PSHCE

You will continue to work with your tutor  
on important topics related to healthy  
lifestyles, citizenship, personal safety,  
careers and economic well-being.

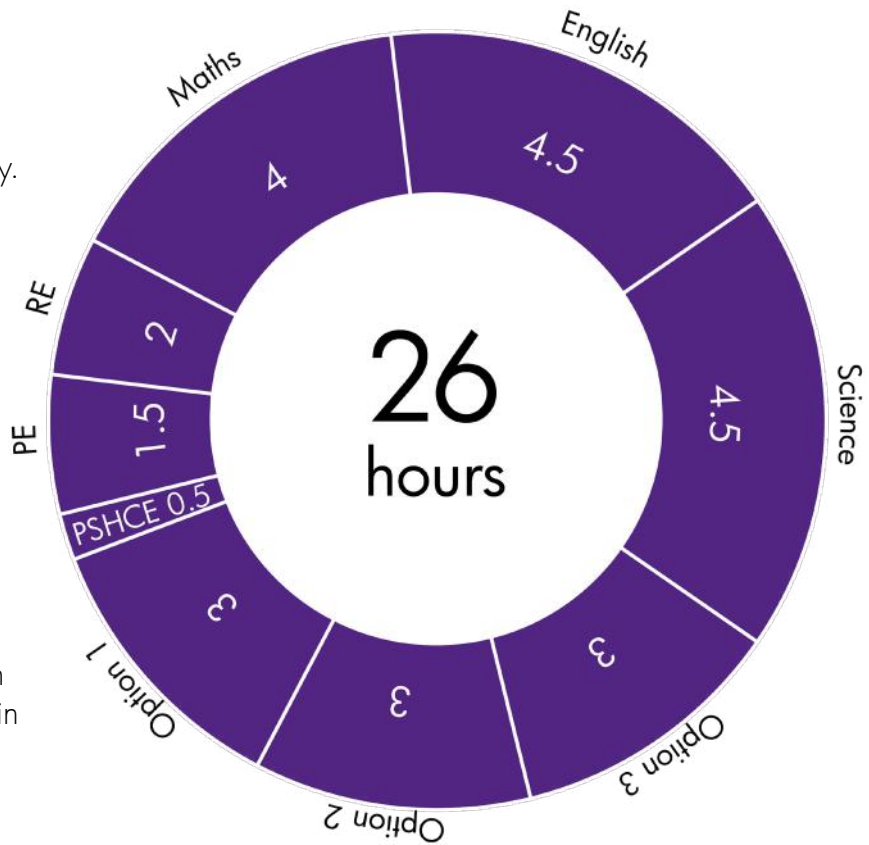
0.5 hours  
per week

## You need to select 3 subjects

- 1: Select one subject each from Block A, Block B and Block C. One of them must be French/Spanish/History/Geography. These are highlighted on the grid on p30.
- 2: You must also nominate one reserve subject.
- 3: You can only pick one **new** subject.

## You can only do one of:

- 1: GCSE Sociology and BTEC Health & Social Care.
- 2: BTEC Business Enterprise / BTEC Health & Social Care / Lv1/2 OCR National in IT.
- 3: Art & Design: Fine Art / Art & Design: Photography
- 4: D&T: Product Design / D&T: Textiles



## PROGRESSION ROUTE

### KEY STAGE 3 Year 9 2026

English Language  
English Literature  
Maths  
Science  
Religion & Philosophy  
French/Spanish/Geography/History  
2 additional subjects

### KEY STAGE 4 Successful Outcome Summer 2028

Up to 10 GCSE grades at 9-5

### KEY STAGE 5 Route

On to an A-level or BTEC pathway at Clapton Girls' Academy

### Successful Outcome Summer 2030

You will have a university place or an apprenticeship. This may be at a Russell Group university.

University / Apprenticeship / Employment

# HOW TO MAKE GOOD CHOICES

## DO:

### **Read this booklet carefully.**

You really need to understand what each subject involves.

### **Talk to your family.**

They know you best and will give you some good advice.

### **Talk to your teachers and tutors.**

They know your strengths and areas for development. They can tell you about the subjects and what learning styles might suit you best.

### **Talk to Year 10 and 11 students.**

Find out from students already studying at GCSE what the subject involves.

### **Talk to students in the sixth form.**

They will be able to advise you about pathways into Key Stage 5 and higher education.

### **Go online.**

You can look at exam information on the academy website.

## THINK ABOUT:

**What do I most enjoy?**

**What am I good at?**

**What do I want to do in the sixth form?**

**Am I more suited to a BTEC or GCSE?**

**What would I like to study at university/apprenticeship level?**

**How will my choices affect my future career options?**

## DON'T:

**Choose a subject because your friends want to do it.**

It is likely that you will not end up in the same class.

**Choose a subject because you like your current teacher.**

You might not get the same teacher next year.

**Choose a subject because you think it will be easy.**

You will need to work hard in all subjects to achieve good grades.

# SIXTH FORMERS' ADVICE

## Hi Year 9

My name is Humeirah. I left Year 13 in Summer 2025.

In terms of GCSEs, my advice is to pick subjects that link to your future aspirations. For example, if you want to go into an art or design-based field (artist, designer) pick creative subjects.

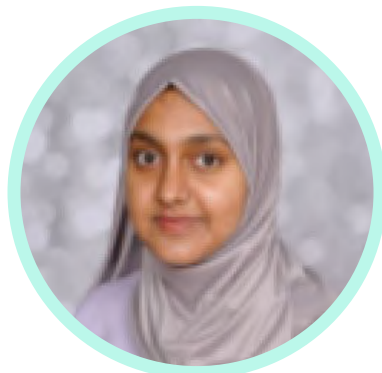
However, having been in your position, I know that it is not always that simple. If you don't know what you want to do in the future, simply pick what you enjoy and have a passion for. Look at your timetable. What are the subjects that make your day interesting and fun? What are the lessons that you are always looking forward to? Those subjects that make you more curious and excited are the ones that you should be picking.

Please do not base your options on what your friends are picking or what subject seems popular. All of my friends picked GCSE History and liked it but I picked GCSE Geography and I am still loving it now at A-level. Everyone is different and there is no 'perfect' selection of subjects. As long as you like the subject and work hard, I am pretty sure that your GCSE years will go smoothly.

Never hesitate to ask for help as some topics may be less straightforward than others - it is completely fine to get clarification!

**Ultimately, this is your choice and only you know your preferences.**

**Good luck!**



# COURSES



# ART & DESIGN: FINE ART

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 1FA0**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**40% EXAMINATION**  
**60% NON EXAM-BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Fine art may be defined as work developed primarily to communicate aesthetic, intellectual or purely conceptual ideas and meaning, rather than to serve a practical or commercial function. For example, work could be the outcome of personal experiences, thoughts and feelings, or simply to observe and record people, places and things in new and unique ways.

Fine art work will demonstrate an understanding and application of formal elements and creative skills, including mark-making. You will use visual communication sensitively and thoughtfully to document your artistic journey and fully support your intentions. [CLICK here for student examples.](#)

### **Component 1: Personal Portfolio**

Two sketchbook projects are completed in Years 10 and 11, with resolved work produced in any media forming a portfolio.

### **Component 2: Externally Set Assignment**

You will have 10 weeks to produce preparatory work (sketchbook) on a theme set by the exam board. The resolved piece is then produced during a timed (10 hour) exam.

In both components 1 and 2, students are required to create work from at least some (or all) of the six disciplines: drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, installation and photography.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be creative, enthusiastic and imaginative.
- be keen to develop skills working in a range of media.
- enjoy visiting museums and galleries and discussing artists' work.
- be willing to review progress and make improvements to your artwork.
- be willing to experiment and take risks in your work.
- be able to sustain an investigation and work independently.

## CGA PATHWAY

### **KS5:**

*A-level Fine Art*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*An A-level in fine art is essential for anyone who wants to follow a creative pathway such as graphic design, photography, fashion, illustration or architecture.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# BTEC HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

**EXAMINED USING PASS, MERIT, DISTINCTION**  
**EXAM BOARD: PEARSON BTEC**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 603/0395/5**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**40% EXAMINATION**  
**60% NON EXAM-BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

BTEC Health and Social Care Level 2 aims to give you a practical understanding of aspects of health and social care for a variety of age groups. You will look at the physical, intellectual, emotional and social needs of people, their rights and how to communicate effectively with them.

The skills learnt in studying the BTEC Health and Social Care will aid progression to further study and prepare learners to enter the workplace in due course. This qualification provides learners with a taste of what the health and social care sector is like, enabling you to make informed choices about your future career. You will also have the opportunity to investigate what

professional health care workers do such as nurses, social workers, midwives and careers working with children.

The course is divided into three components:

**Component 1:**  
Human Lifespan Development

**Component 2:**  
Health and Social Care Services and Values

**Component 3:**  
Health and Wellbeing

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
*BTEC Level 3 Health & Social Care*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*A BTEC in health & social care is useful for courses within the social and health sectors such as midwifery, nursing and social work.*

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be good at independent work and research.
- enjoy working in groups, producing presentations, participating in discussion and taking part in role plays.
- be able to meet deadlines and manage your time well.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:





# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8552**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**50% EXAMINATION**  
**50% NON EXAM-BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

This course will develop your knowledge and awareness of the design and manufacturing industries, advancements in new technology and the materials, products and world around us.

### 1. Design & Making

You will work with clients to identify and solve a real world problem.

- **Year 10:** Mini Design Projects covering different material areas
- **Year 11:** NEA (extensive independent design project decided on by you) worth 50% of your GCSE grade

### 2. Theory Content

You will learn about materials, the work of key

designers and movements, the environment and sustainability, manufacturing processes and lots more.

You will have the opportunity to:

- regularly use advanced workshop machines and processes such as laser cutting, sandcasting, rapid prototyping and more!
- explore and experiment with specialist materials.
- design, sketch, model, make and develop your ideas.
- collaborate with peers and designers.
- attend courses/exhibits at galleries (Design Museum).

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be creative, experimental and thoughtful in your thinking.
- enjoy making and designing.
- have an interest in at least one form of design.
- be independent and take responsibility for your work.
- be keen to communicate and collaborate with others.
- demonstrate good Maths and Science skills.
- be able to draw and communicate your ideas.

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

*A-level Product Design*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*An A-level in Product Design is essential if you want to study Architecture, Product Design, Production Design in theatre/film, Industrial or Interior Design and Engineering. It is also useful for many other creative courses.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: TEXTILES

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8552**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**50% EXAMINATION**  
**50% NON EXAM-BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

This course will develop your knowledge and awareness of the design and manufacturing industries, advancements in new technology and the materials, products and world around us.

### 1. Design & Making

You will work with clients to identify and solve a real world problem.

- **Year 10:** Mini Design Projects covering different material areas
- **Year 11:** NEA (extensive independent design project decided on by you) worth 50% of your GCSE grade

### 2. Theory Content

You will learn about materials, the work of key designers and movements, the

environment and sustainability, manufacturing processes and lots more. You will have the opportunity to:

- regularly use advanced workshop machines and processes such as heat transfer, block and screen printing, laser cutting, sewing and CAD embroidery machines, weaving, knitting and crocheting.
- explore and experiment with specialist materials.
- design, sketch, model, make and develop your ideas.
- collaborate with peers and designers.
- attend exhibitions at galleries and museums.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be creative, experimental and thoughtful in your thinking.
- enjoy making and designing.
- have an interest in at least one form of design.
- be independent and take responsibility for your work.
- be keen to communicate and collaborate with others.
- demonstrate good Maths and Science skills.
- be able to draw and communicate your ideas.

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

*A-level Fashion & Textiles*  
*A-level Product Design*

### HIGHER EDUCATION: *University*

*An A-level in Fashion & Textiles is beneficial to get directly into a fashion school, and can lead to degrees in fashion, interior design, printmaking and textile design, costume design and textile preservation. It is also useful for many other creative courses.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# DRAMA

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 1DRO**  
**ASSESSMENT:**  
**40% EXAMINATION**  
**60% NON EXAM-BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will learn a range of acting, design and life skills through practical workshops - both devising new work and working with published scripts, using improvisation and taking direction to generate powerful performances.

The acting strand of the GCSE involves regular performances and the design strand involves costume, lights, set or sound design.

The course involves:

- devising a play; keeping a portfolio diary; performing (or designing for) 2 extracts of a published play; going on a West End trip; writing a review; studying a play or musical.

- working imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts on ideas - learning to be a team player and to lead.
- exploring the impact of social, historical and cultural influences on drama texts, directors, designers and writers.
- developing and demonstrating competence and talent in a range of practical, creative, written and performance skills.
- learning how to critique and write about live theatre, developing industry level language; and learning how to analyse and evaluate your work and that of others.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be enthusiastic & professional
- be kind and protect the 'safe space' allowing believable, vulnerable acting to occur where students grow, take risks, and expand comfort zones
- be prepared to work well in a team in a variety of roles
- enjoy performing (or designing) and exploring creative talents
- enjoy watching and critiquing the work of others, including professional productions
- have good written and spoken communication skills and willingness to take constructive criticism on stage and off

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

*A-level Drama & Theatre Studies*

### HIGHER EDUCATION:

*University (BA Hons Degree); Drama School (Diploma & BA Hons Degree including acting, musical theatre, stage combat & community theatre); employment outside of the performing arts industry also benefits as studying drama builds confidence and public speaking skills.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE

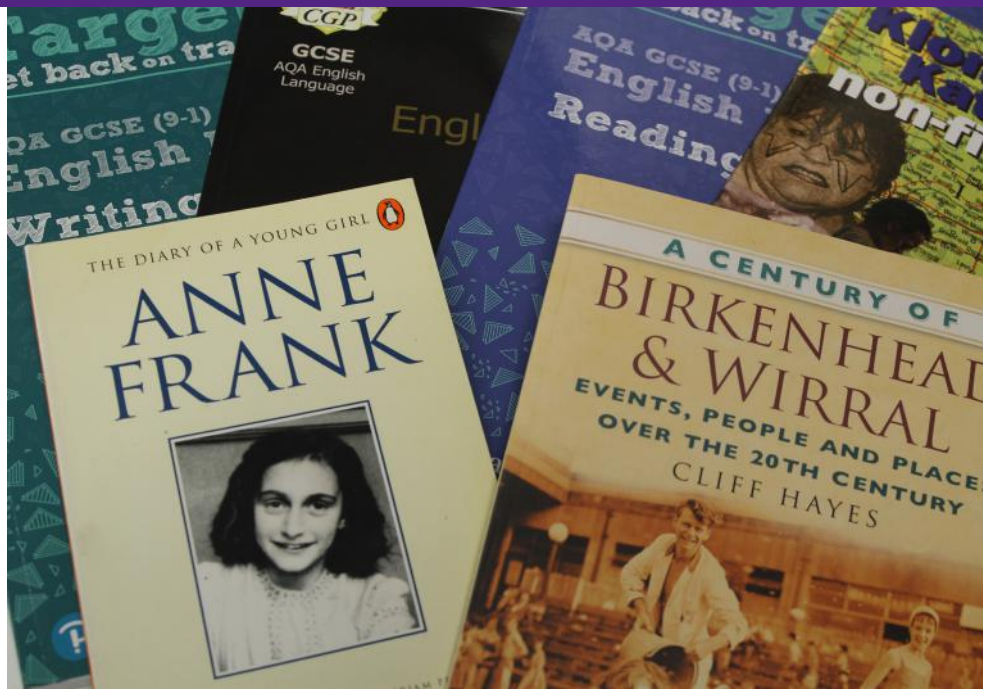




# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8700**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will draw upon a range of texts and engage with creative, as well as real and relevant contexts. You will have opportunities to develop higher-order reading and critical thinking skills that encourage genuine enquiry into different topics and themes.

The texts include literature and extended literary non-fiction and other writing such as essays, reviews and journalism (both print and online).

The critique and appreciation of these texts will help you develop

as a writer in a variety of types of writing.

The course includes a spoken language accreditation. Debate and discussion are a core part of English lessons.

**Paper 1:**  
Explorations in Creating Reading and Writing

**Paper 2:**  
Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
*A Level English Literature*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*As a 'facilitating' subject A-level English Literature will keep many degree courses open to you.*

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- read around the subject in order to acquire contextual knowledge.
- stay abreast of current affairs through commentary and editorial.
- read as much as possible in order to increase vocabulary, improve spelling and develop an 'ear' for language.
- work hard to increase your written technical accuracy (SPAG – Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar).

## FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO:



MS PHILLIPS



# ENGLISH LITERATURE

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8702**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

English Literature is the study of novels, plays and poetry over the last 500 years.

You will learn about exciting texts that expose you to interesting philosophical, moral and intellectual ideas.

You will study a range of literature and learn how to explore and critique unseen poetry. The main texts are:

- Macbeth by William Shakespeare.
- Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson.

- An Inspector Calls by J. B. Priestley.
- an anthology of poetry dealing with the theme of love and relationships written between 1789 and the present day.

This course encourages you to think deeply and communicate your ideas. Essay writing is a key skill you will develop while studying English Literature and class discussion is a key component of the lessons.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- experience a wide range of poetry in order to develop your ability to analyse poetry, particularly the unseen poems.
- memorise quotes and references for 'closed book' exams.
- read widely.
- be able to evaluate and compare key features such as content, theme, structure and use of language.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**

*A Level English Literature*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*As a 'facilitating' subject A-level English Literature will keep many degree courses open to you and will demonstrate your analytical skills.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO:



**MS PHILLIPS**



# FRENCH

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8652**

**ASSESSMENT:  
100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

At the end of the course, you will be able to understand and respond to different types of spoken language, communicate and interact effectively in speech for a variety of purposes, understand and respond to different types of written language and communicate effectively in writing.

You will study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based:

**Theme 1:** People and Lifestyle:

- Topic 1: Identity and relationships with others.
- Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle.
- Topic 3: Education and work.

**Theme 2:** Popular Culture:

- Topic 1: Free time activities.
- Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations.
- Topic 3: Celebrity future.

**Theme 3:** Communication and the world around us:

- Topic 1. Travel and tourism, including places of interest.
- Topic 2. Media and technology.
- Topic 3. The environment and where people live.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have an open mind and an enjoyment of the language and culture of France and French speaking countries.
- be ready to speak lots of French! You should not be afraid of making mistakes or getting constructive feedback.
- be independent and ready to practice your skills outside the classroom: listening to French music, watching French films, reading in French, playing language games.
- have sound literacy skills and get at least 'secure' at the end of your KS3 French course.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
*A-level French*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University - Oxbridge offers every year for Languages*

*An A-level in French is essential for many language courses and is also a good subject to have under your belt as it is favoured by many universities.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# GEOGRAPHY

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8035**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will build on your geographical understanding from KS3 by studying a variety of human and physical topics. You will learn about a wide range of issues and places through case studies. For example, how are transnational corporations affecting Nigeria's economy, what is happening to the Malaysian rainforest and how are people in the Philippines managing the impact of tropical storms?

In this course you will study three main themes:

**Theme 1:** Living with the physical environment (natural hazards, climate change, tropical rainforests and hot deserts, river valleys and coastal areas in the UK).

**Theme 2:** Challenges in the human environment (urban issues and challenges, the changing economic world and the challenge of resource management).

**Theme 3:** Geographical applications (issue evaluation and fieldwork) and geographical skills.

There is a requirement to undertake two separate days of fieldwork which involve practical fieldwork activities.

NB. in order to run the fieldtrips, we will ask that parents/carers contribute to the cost of transport to the fieldwork locations.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have a balanced understanding of physical and human features and processes.
- have a good knowledge of key geographical literacy.
- have a good knowledge of map skills and how to find places.
- have an interest in developments in geography
- both in the UK and in other parts of the world.
- have enquiry and research skills to enable reading around all the topics.
- have an interest in current affairs.
- be able to make geographical decisions and justify your opinion.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
*A-level Geography*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University - Oxbridge offers every year for Geography*

*As a 'facilitating' subject, an A-level in geography will keep many degree courses open to you.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:





# HISTORY

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8145**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

**YEAR 10: Period study on Germany, 1890-1945: democracy and dictatorship.**

You will focus on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century of change.

**Thematic study on Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day**

You will gain an understanding of a vast period of history. Each section of the course covers one event that helped change who held power in Britain from around 1200 to today and charts the spread and development of democracy.

**YEAR 11: Wider world depth study on conflict and tension between East and West, 1945-1972**

You will focus on the causes and events of the Cold War and find out how and why conflict occurred and why it proved difficult to resolve the tensions which arose. This study also considers the role of key individuals and groups in shaping change and how they were affected by, and influenced international relations.

**British indepth study on Elizabethan England, 1568-1603**

You will study the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign indepth focussing on major events from religious, political, social and cultural standpoints and the arising contemporary and historical controversies.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**

*A-level History, A-level Government & Politics*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*An A-level in history can lead to many courses which require evidence of essay writing and critical thinking, such as law, history and politics.*

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding and be able to apply it to key issues.
- demonstrate an understanding of key concepts such as causation, change & continuity, similarity and/difference, interpretations and significance.
- demonstrate historical skills such as source evaluation.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# CREATIVE iMEDIA

LEVEL 1/2

**CAMBRIDGE NATIONALS  
SYLLABUS NUMBER: J834**

**ASSESSMENT:  
40% EXAMINATION  
60% NON-EXAM BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Cambridge National in Creative iMedia will inspire and equip you with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the digital media sector and more widely. You'll design, plan, create and review digital media products to meet client and target audience demands.

### COMPULSORY UNITS

#### **Creative iMedia in the media industry**

In this unit you will learn about the media industry, digital media products, how they are planned, and the media codes which are used to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences.

#### **Visual identity and digital graphics**

In this unit you will learn to how to develop visual identities for clients and use the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics to engage target audiences.

### OPTIONAL UNITS

You will choose one optional unit from the following:

Characters & Comics, Animation & Audio, Interactive Digital Media, Visual Imaging and Digital Games

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

*A-level Computing, BTEC Digital Media (single A level)*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*An A-level in computer science is useful for courses in computing, computer science and the technology sector.*

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be creative and enjoy working with others.
- have the ability to meet strict deadlines.
- be highly motivated and work independently.
- attend creative iMedia intervention clubs to support your learning.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# MATHEMATICS

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
SYLLABUS NUMBER: 1MA1**

**ASSESSMENT:  
100% EXAMINATION**

## Transformations

You need to know:  
• Centre e.g. (5, 4)  
• Scale factor e.g. 2

You need to know:  
• Translate a shape  
• Vector from A to B e.g.  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$  Right/Down

You need to know:  
• Rotate a shape  
• Angle e.g. 90°  
• Direction e.g. clockwise  
• Centre of rotation e.g. (0, 0)

You need to know:  
• Reflect a shape  
• Give the equation of the line

## Ratio

e.g. Divide £240 between A and B in ratio of 3:5  
A : B  
3 : 5 = 8 shares  
One share = £240 ÷ 8 = £30  
A = 3 shares = 3 × £30 = £90  
B = 5 shares = 5 × £30 = £150

• Calculate fraction of quantity  
To find  $\frac{4}{5}$  of a quantity →  $-5 \times 4$   
e.g.  $\frac{4}{5}$  of £20 =  $20 \div 5 \times 4 = £16$

Percentages  
• To increase £12 by 5%  
=  $1.05 \times £12$  (100% + 5% = 105%)  
OR  
= £12 + 5% of £12  
• To decrease £50 by 15%  
=  $0.85 \times £50$  (100% - 15% = 85%)  
OR  
= £50 - 15% of £50

Compound Interest  
(multiplier)<sup>no. years</sup> × Original Amount  
£4000 is invested at 2% for 3 years  
(1.02)<sup>3</sup> × £4000

Fractions  
e.g.  $\frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{10} = \frac{2}{10} + \frac{2}{10} = \frac{4}{10} = \frac{2}{5}$   
 $\frac{4}{5} - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{12}{15} - \frac{10}{15} = \frac{2}{15}$   
e.g.  $5 \times \frac{2}{3} = \frac{10}{3} = 3\frac{1}{3}$   
 $\frac{4}{5} \div \frac{2}{3} = \frac{4}{5} \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{12}{10} = 1\frac{1}{5}$

## Laws of Indices

$2^5 \times 2^3 = 2^{5+3} = 2^8$   
 $7^6 \div 7^2 = 7^{6-2} = 7^4$   
 $(2^3)^2 = 2^{3 \times 2} = 2^6$   
 $2^{-1}$  = the reciprocal of 2 (i.e.  $\frac{1}{2}$ )

Standard Form  
 $2.34 \times 10^4 = 23400$   
 $1.7 \times 10^{-3} = 0.0017$   
 $(2 \times 10^5) \times (3 \times 10^3) = 6 \times 10^8$   
 $(8 \times 10^7) \div (2 \times 10^2) = 4 \times 10^5$   
 $52.6 \times 10^7 = 5.26 \times 10^8$

Inequalities  
 $-3 < x < 4$

Solving Quadratics  
 $x^2 + 7x + 12 = 0$   
 $(x+4)(x+3) = 0$   
 $x = -4$   $x = -3$

Quadratic Formula  
 $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Completing the Square  
 $x^2 + 8x + 3$   
Halve the b value  
 $(x+4)^2 - 4^2 + 3$   
 $(x+4)^2 - 16 + 3$   
 $(x+4)^2 - 13$

Simultaneous Equations  
 $3x + 2y = 9$   
 $x + y = 4$   $\times 2$   
Rule: Signs are same takeaway  
Signs different add  
 $3x + 2y = 9$   
 $2x + 2y = 8$  Take away  
 $x = 1$   $y = 3$

## Expanding Single Brackets

$3(x+2) + 2(x+4) = 3x+6+2x+8 = 5x+14$   
Factorise  
 $3x + 6 = 3(x+2)$   
 $6x^2 - 8x = 2x(3x - 4)$

Expanding Double Brackets  
 $(x+2)(x+4) = x^2 + 4x + 2x + 8 = x^2 + 6x + 8$   
Factorising Quadratics  
 $x^2 + 6x + 8$   
Find two numbers which multiply together to give +8 and add together to give +6  
i.e.  $4 \times 2 = 8$  and  $4+2=6$   
 $(x+4)(x+2)$

Solving Quadratics  
 $x^2 + 7x + 12 = 0$   
 $(x+4)(x+3) = 0$   
 $x = -4$   $x = -3$

Quadratic Formula  
 $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Completing the Square  
 $x^2 + 8x + 3$   
Halve the b value  
 $(x+4)^2 - 4^2 + 3$   
 $(x+4)^2 - 16 + 3$   
 $(x+4)^2 - 13$

Simultaneous Equations  
 $3x + 2y = 9$   
 $x + y = 4$   $\times 2$   
Rule: Signs are same takeaway  
Signs different add  
 $3x + 2y = 9$   
 $2x + 2y = 8$  Take away  
 $x = 1$   $y = 3$

## Quadratic Sequences

3, 13, 27, 45, 67  
 $3 + 10 = 13$   
 $13 + 14 = 27$   
 $27 + 18 = 45$   
 $45 + 22 = 67$   
Haive this number to get the a value  
Sequence: 3 13 27 45 67  
 $2n^2$ : 2 8 18 32 50  
Residue: 1 5 9 13 17  
 $4n - 3$   
 $2n^2 + 4n - 3$

Gradients  
Perpendicular Lines  
 $m_1 = -\frac{1}{m_2}$

Gradient of a line = change in the y direction / change in the x direction  
 $\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$

Midpoints  
 $M = \left( \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$

## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

### This GCSE course:

- meets the Ofqual regulations for GCSE (1-9).
- is available at two levels: Foundation (grades 1 to 5) and Higher (grades 4 to 9).
- knowledge, skills and understanding covered by this qualification are under the following content headings: Number, Algebra, Ratio & Proportion, Geometry and Measure, Probability, Statistics.

- you need to be able to apply your knowledge and understanding to solve problems both within mathematics and other contexts.

### At the end of Year 11 there are:

- three examinations: one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers.
- each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- be able to recall and apply mathematical methods and concepts.
- be able to select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems.
- be able to reason mathematically and draw conclusions.
- be able to interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

A-level Maths, A-level Further Maths, Maths Studies, A-level Economics

### HIGHER EDUCATION: University

An A-level in maths is a much prized qualification, it can open many doors to a variety of courses such as medicine or other science subjects, engineering, economics or courses relating to the business and financial sector.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# MUSIC

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES  
EXAM BOARD: OCR  
SYLLABUS NUMBER: J536**

**ASSESSMENT:  
40% EXAMINATION  
60% NON-EXAM BASED**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will be required to practically apply knowledge and understanding, including musical vocabulary and notation as appropriate to the context, through the skills of performing, composing and appraising.

### There are five areas of study:

- My Music - a study of your instrument.
- The Concerto through Time - a study of European classical music from the 1600s - 20th century.
- Rhythms of the World - a study of music from around the world.
- Film Music - a study of music used in film and the gaming industry.
- Conventions of Pop - 1950 to present day.

### Assessment consists of:

- 60% non-exam
- 40% external exam
- two performances - one solo, one in an ensemble
- two compositions - one based on your solo performance and one based upon a given stimuli
- one seated listening exam 1.5 hours.

Music is regarded as an academic subject by universities and employers. The creative industry is one of the fastest growing and wealthiest sectors in the UK but many musicians also pursue careers in finance and banking, law and consultancy.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have an ability to sing in tune and/or play a musical instrument.
- have an ability to read music notation at a basic level.
- have an open mind to all kinds of different genres of music.
- have good communication skills and willingness to take constructive criticism.
- have an ability to get on with other people.
- attend weekly instrumental/vocal lessons or choir/ensemble in or outside of school.
- be reliable and hardworking.

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

*Students are given the opportunity to take part in extracurricular development. If enough interest is shown in A-level Music the curriculum may be reviewed to include this subject.*

### HIGHER EDUCATION: University

*The ability to play an instrument is favoured by many universities as it demonstrates a variety of skills. Grade 6+ also earns UCAS points, improving opportunities when applying.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE

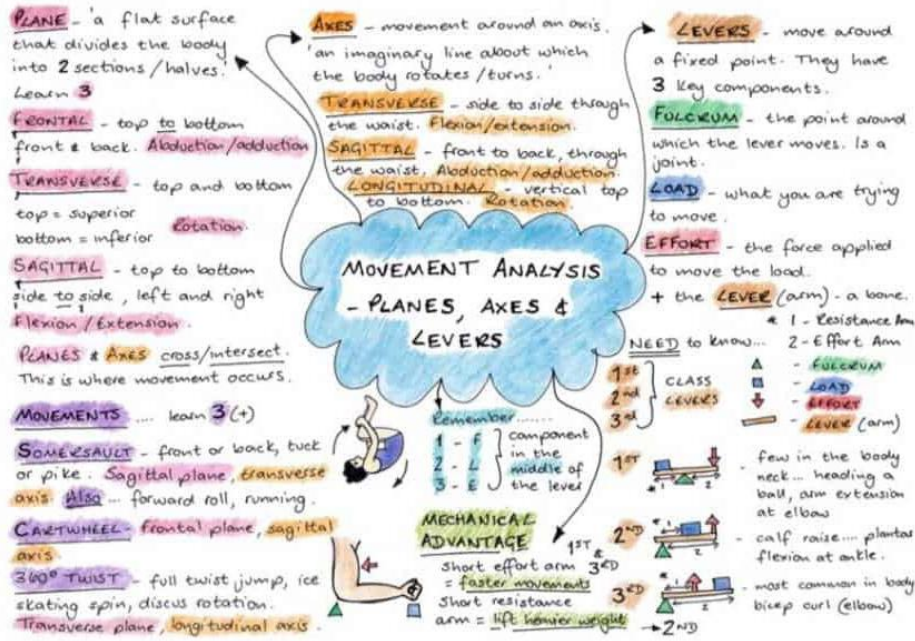




# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 1PE0**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**60% EXAMINATION**  
**30% PRACTICAL**  
**10% COURSEWORK**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

This course requires you to develop your theoretical knowledge and understanding of physical activity and sport in order to learn how to improve performance. There is a strong emphasis on physiological and psychological factors that affect performance, as well as the requirement to perform effectively in different areas of physical activity through developing a variety of skills and techniques. This course also contributes to health, fitness and wellbeing. There is overlap between GCSE PE and many other subjects such as science, maths, PSHCE and health and social care. The course is divided into four components:

**Component 1: Fitness and body systems topics (36%)**  
Applied anatomy and physiology

- body systems and structures; movement analysis – movement and its effect on performance; physical training; use of data.

**Component 2: Health and Performance topics (24%)**  
Health, fitness and wellbeing. Sport psychology; socio-cultural influences; use of data.

**Component 3: Practical Performance (30%)**  
• 3 sports required.

**Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme (10% non-exam assessment)**  
• aim and planning of programme  
• carrying out and monitoring programme  
• evaluation of programme.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have a passion for physical activity and sport and an interest in developing your own fitness and health.
- have good independent learning and critical thinking skills.
- regularly attend extra-curricular clubs in and/or outside of school.
- have a keen interest in physical activity and sport based current affairs.
- be a positive role model who is able to organise and manage your time effectively, committing and contributing to PE and to the school sports programme.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
A-level PE is not currently offered at CGA but GCSE PE is useful for an A-level in biology or BTEC Health & Social Care.

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
University

Studying PE can develop your leadership and teamwork skills. This is helpful to many courses relating to sports, health and fitness, leisure or teaching.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:





# RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8062MA**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. You will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare you for further study.

This GCSE covers two religions, Christianity and Islam in component 1 and six religions in component 2. You will consider different beliefs and attitudes to religious and non-religious issues in contemporary British society.

You will take assessments in the following two components – the study of religious beliefs, teachings and practices; thematic studies.

**Component 1:**  
Beliefs, teachings and practices of the two religions: Christianity & Islam.

**Component 2:**  
Religious, philosophical and ethical studies from four of the following themes:

- Theme A:** Relationships and Families.
- Theme B:** Religion and Life.
- Theme C:** Crime and Punishment.
- Theme D:** Human Rights and Social Justice.

At the end of the course, students take a GCSE in religious studies.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have a knowledge and understanding of relevant teachings from both sacred texts and contemporary religious leaders and organisations.
- understand the diversity of viewpoints that may exist within religions.
- explain the relationship between religious beliefs and teachings and actions in the lives of believers.
- be able to formulate your own opinion on contemporary moral issues.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
*A-level Religious Studies*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*  
*Careers in law; medicine & nursing; medical research; business; politics; international relations; theology*

*As a 'facilitating' subject, an A-level in philosophy and ethics will keep many degree courses open to you due to the critical thinking skills that are embedded throughout the course.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CLICK HERE





# SCIENCES

## EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES

### EXAM BOARD: AQA

- **COMBINED SCIENCE - TRILOGY SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8464**
- **SEPARATE SCIENCE:**
- **BIOLOGY SYLLABUS NUMBER 8461**
- **CHEMISTRY SYLLABUS NUMBER 8462**
- **PHYSICS SYLLABUS NUMBER 8463**
- **EDEXCEL ENTRY LEVEL**

### ASSESSMENT:

### 100% EXAMINATION



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

AQA Science offers an excellent grounding in science across a range of topics in biology, chemistry and physics. There is no controlled assessment, however the course includes regular practical work to enhance learning. We offer four pathways at CGA. The route you take will be decided by the Science Faculty.

**Pathway 1: Combined Science GCSE, (2 GCSEs).** This is the route most students take. The course provides a sound understanding of all three sciences and how it is relevant to our lives. There will be over a term for revision before exams and is a suitable route to sciences in KS5.

The Combined Science pathway is

available at two levels: Foundation Tier (grades 1 to 5) and Higher Tier (grades 4 to 9).

**Pathway 2: Separate Science, (3 GCSEs) individual GCSEs in biology, chemistry and physics.**

This includes all the learning from Combined Science, but with additional content on some of the more complex concepts in the KS5 curriculum. To pursue this route students require a good capacity for independent study.

**Pathway 3: Biology and Entry Level (1 GCSE).** This route

gains each student one GCSE qualification in biology alongside a Science Entry Level qualification. Students focus their time on one GCSE.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have good independent learning and thinking skills.
- regularly practice questions to review science content.
- have a sound awareness of science-based news.
- have sound literacy and reading skills.
- commit, cooperate and contribute in class.
- work well at home on home learning and revision work.

## CGA PATHWAY

### KS5:

*A-level Chemistry, A-level Biology, A-level Physics, BTEC Level 3 Applied Science*

### HIGHER EDUCATION: University

*Science based A-levels and BTECs are essential for places on medicine or medicine and science-related courses such as biochemistry or nursing.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO:



MS MIAH



# SOCIOLOGY

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8192**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

GCSE Sociology helps to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and sociological issues by studying:

- sociological perspectives
- families & households
- education
- crime and deviance
- social stratification
- research methods

Students develop insight into a range of social problems and inequalities and explore theoretical explanations as well as government solutions in the form of social policies, including researching and discussing topics such as an ageing population and its impact on family life; underachievement of working-class boys in education; the rise of

youth crime; poverty; the impact of the gender pay gap at work.

Students develop written and oral skills through essay writing, discussion and debate and strengthen analytical and communication skills by comparing and contrasting sociological perspectives, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions. They also develop numerical skills by analysing and interpreting statistical data through research and gain transferable skills, including how to investigate facts and make deductions; develop opinions and new ideas on social issues; analyse and better understand the social world.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have strong literacy skills to enable you to make notes, summarise texts, answer questions and write essays.
- stay informed and engaged with current affairs e.g. watch and read the news, and be able to apply this to your learning.
- have good questioning skills and a critical mind (be prepared to develop your own opinions and to also have them challenged).
- be prepared to work in different ways e.g. discussions, presentations, research tasks and whole class debates.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**  
*A-level Sociology*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**  
*University*

*A-level Sociology can lead to many courses which require essay writing, critical thinking and research skills e.g. Politics, International Relations, Journalism and Social Work and facilitates careers in a range of sectors including marketing, teaching, community relations, housing, policing, probation and the civil service.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:





# SPANISH

**EXAMINED USING 9-1 GRADES**  
**EXAM BOARD: AQA**  
**SYLLABUS NUMBER: 8692**

**ASSESSMENT:**  
**100% EXAMINATION**



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

At the end of the course, you will be able to understand and respond to different types of spoken language, communicate and interact effectively in speech for a variety of purposes, understand and respond to different types of written language and communicate effectively in writing.

You will study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based:

**Theme 1:** People and Lifestyle:

- Topic 1: Identity and relationships with others.
- Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle.
- Topic 3: Education and work.

**Theme 2:** Popular Culture:

- Topic 1: Free time activities.
- Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations.
- Topic 3: Celebrity future.

**Theme 3:** Communication and the world around us:

- Topic 1. Travel and tourism, including places of interest.
- Topic 2. Media and technology.
- Topic 3. The environment and where people live.

## TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU NEED TO:

- have an open mind and a keen interest in the language and the culture of Spanish speaking countries.
- be ready to speak lots of Spanish! You should not be afraid of making mistakes or getting constructive feedback.
- be independent and ready to practice your skills outside the classroom: listening to Spanish music, watching Spanish films, reading in Spanish, playing language games.
- have sound literacy skills and get at least 'secure' at the end of your KS3 Spanish course.

## CGA PATHWAY

**KS5:**

*A-level Spanish*

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**

*University - Oxbridge offers every year for Languages*

*An A-level in Spanish is essential for many language courses and is also a good subject to have under your belt as it is favoured by many universities.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:





# SUPPORT WITH GUIDED PREFERENCES

## PARENTS' EVENING Thursday 5th February, 4-7pm:

We recognise that one of the most important events to support you with your subject choices is Parents' Evening. You and your parent/carer will be able to discuss your progress in your subjects with your teachers. It is useful to ask your subject teachers questions, even if you are not considering taking their subject; they may be able to offer useful advice about how you can prepare for GCSE/BTEC study.

Before attending Parents' Evening, please talk through your ideas with your parent/carer and spend some time looking at your work with them. This will help you have more productive conversations with your teachers.

## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR TEACHERS:

- What do you think are my major strengths? and areas for development?
- What do you think I would enjoy about taking this subject in Year 10?
- How well do you think I would do at GCSE/BTEC?
- What do I need to do or improve to be ready to start my GCSEs?
- How can I make sure I remember the important information I have learnt so far in KS3?
- How would your subject help me prepare for Key Stage 5 (Year 12 and 13) and future careers or study?

## PEOPLE TO SUPPORT YOU IN SCHOOL

### Ms Stewart-Parker

Ms Stewart-Parker coordinates the Guided Preferences process at school. She is available to help you make your decisions and can answer any questions you have about the process.

### Ms Onasanwo, Ms Grant & the Year 9 Tutor team

Ms Onasanwo, Ms Grant and the Year 9 Tutor team know you very well and are here to help you as you consider what to study next year. They can also direct you to other members of staff in school you might want to talk to.

### Your subject teachers

Your subject teachers will be able to tell you whether you would enjoy and do well in their subjects so you should ask them for more details about GCSEs.

### Heads of Subjects

Heads of Subjects are responsible for different courses, including those GCSE and BTEC subjects you have not studied before. These teachers can provide further information about all courses on offer. You can see who they are on the pages of this guide.



**CLICK TO APPLY ONLINE**

A large white computer mouse icon is centered within a purple circle. The mouse is depicted with a cord extending from the top. The purple circle is set against a light blue background. The text "CLICK TO APPLY ONLINE" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, curving around the top and sides of the purple circle.

Please complete this form online after Parents' Evening on Thursday 5th February unless you have requested a paper copy.

# Guided Preferences Form 2026



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### You need to select 3 subjects

- 1: Select one subject each from Block A, Block B and Block C. One of them must be French/Geography/History or Spanish. These are highlighted on the grid.
- 2: You can only select one subject that you have NOT studied before.
- 3: You must also nominate one reserve subject.

### You can only do one of:

- 1: GCSE Sociology / BTEC Health & Social Care.
- 2: BTEC Health & Social Care / Lv 1/2 Cambridge National Creative iMedia
- 3: D&T: Product Design / D&T: Textiles

	Block A	Block B	Block C
	French	French	Geography
	Geography	Geography	History
	History	History	Spanish
	Spanish	Spanish	Art & Design: Fine Art
	Art & Design: Fine Art	Art & Design: Fine Art	Drama
	Music	D&T: Product Design	Sociology
	GCSE PE	D&T: Textiles	Lv 1/2 BTEC Health & Social Care
	Sociology	Drama	Lv 1/2 Cambridge National Creative iMedia
<b>RESERVE 1</b>			

**Subjects**  
you must include at least 1 x purple subject

Do you read, write or speak another language? If yes, which one? \_\_\_\_\_

Tick the appropriate box:

- Speak fluently
- Read fluently
- Write fluently

The Modern Foreign Languages Faculty will be in touch with you to discuss your heritage language in Year 10. Please note no tutoring is offered for heritage languages.

### Future plans for sixth form

At the moment I would be interested in studying A-levels or BTECs in the following subjects at Clapton Girls' Academy Sixth Form:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The final deadline for submitting your online form is: Friday 13th February 2026



# CLASS OF 2025 DESTINATIONS

## Leave with a future



### Apprenticeships:





# RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES





# CGA Sixth Form experience



SCAN ME



Scan the QR to  
*discover more*

# LEAVE WITH A FUTURE

**follow us!**



@ClaptonGA



@clapton.girls.academy



/ClaptonGirlsAcademy



/ClaptonGirlsAcademy



Clapton Girls' Academy

[WWW.CLAPTON.HACKNEY.SCH.UK](http://WWW.CLAPTON.HACKNEY.SCH.UK)

Laura Place, London, E5 0RB | 020 8985 6641 | [cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk)

