Key Stage 4 Options Information Booklet St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

# The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) Curriculum



#### Dear Student,

You are about to enter an important stage in your school life. Over the next two years you will be following a range of examination courses that will provide you with your first school certificates and, hopefully, lead to further success in the Sixth Form and beyond.

In our school we want to provide you with the best possible education. To do this, we set high standards and help you do the very best you can. Our students have enjoyed considerable success in their examinations in the past and we are confident you will maintain this tradition in the future.

Up to now you have been studying a wide range of subjects as part of a balanced curriculum that has provided you with a firm foundation for your GCSEs. In fact, you have followed a range of subjects that has met all of the requirements of the National Curriculum.

In September you will progress to Key Stage 4, where each of the subjects taught have a specification which takes a certain amount of lesson time to get through. This makes it impossible to study an unlimited number of subjects in Years 10 and 11; you need to make some choices.

To reach the best possible solution we make sure you follow courses that you have to do to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum and then we give you a choice of subjects to take up the rest of your time in school. Therefore, some of your subjects will be compulsory (we call them the **core subjects**), and some are optional. The optional subjects may be traditional GCSE and/or vocational qualifications. There is more information about both of these types of qualification later in this booklet.

At St Anthony's we have carefully monitored your progress over the last three years. Looking at the progress you have made in your subjects, particularly how well you have coped with your modern foreign language, we feel the best route for you to take is '**English Baccalaureate (EBacc)**'.

Please read this options booklet carefully, it will give you an overview of the route you will be following and the options you can choose within it. It is an exciting time in your education where you get to make some choices, please make sure that you consider them carefully and follow the advice that is given to you.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs R Maxwell Assistant Headteacher

# What is the EBacc Curriculum?

This curriculum pathway ensures a breadth to the curriculum and aims to help you become a well-rounded student, with skills in a broad range of curriculum areas. It is an ambitious programme of study, comprising of an excellent suite of qualifications to offer variety post-16, and is one which employers and universities hold in esteem.

# What are my options within this route?

You must take the core subjects. As well as this, you must make some choices, and choose **one** '1<sup>st</sup> **choice' subject from each option block**, the blocks are outlined below. From Block A you will pick either history or geography. You will study Spanish or French in Block B. From Block C you can make your own selection. You may opt to study two humanities or two languages using the appropriate Option C choice.

The study of music requires a proficiency in a musical instrument or an ability to sing. If unsure, please discuss your suitability with your music teacher.



# The Core Subjects

#### The core subjects are followed by all students at St. Anthony's. They provide the essential basis for study beyond Key Stage 4.

The courses that you must follow in Years 10 and 11 are:

- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE English Language & Literature
- GCSE Religious Education
- GCSE Combined Science/Triple Science (see below)
- GCSE History or Geography
- Core PE (not examined)

#### **Triple Science Selection**

Teachers and leaders in science have been closely monitoring your progress since you started at St Anthony's. They will use this knowledge and data, including performance in assessments taken in the summer term of Year 9, to inform whether or not you will study triple science. There will be only two classes following the triple science curriculum; everyone else will study combined science. It is important to note that access to A-Level science courses is possible following the study of either combined or triple science, as long as the grades at GCSE are strong enough.

# Types of Qualification – an Overview

### GCSE

- GCSE qualifications are graded using the 9-1 system
- Assessment is usually terminal examination papers; this means that you are assessed purely through written examination papers at the end of Year 11
- In a small minority of subjects, there is a coursework component to the course. This coursework is usually completed under controlled conditions
- The vast majority of GCSE courses require large bulks of knowledge to be recalled and understood

## Vocational

- Graded using the BTEC system (Distinction\*, Distinction, Merit, Pass)
- One BTEC qualification is equivalent to one GCSE qualification
- Assessment of BTEC courses is usually a combination of portfolio work (coursework, often completed under exam conditions) and terminal examination papers
- BTEC courses are often work-related, and are valued by further education institutions and colleges



# **Making the Right Choice**

We are asking you to make choices about which subjects to study in Years 10 and 11. You may not have decided on a career path yet and you are finding your choices difficult. Do not worry about this; you are not alone. Even if you have a good idea now about a future career you may find that you change your mind in the months to come.

In our school we help you through this time in two ways. Firstly, we have designed the options system in such a way that it will give you a balanced choice of subjects that will let you take different career paths in the future, even if you do change your mind. Secondly, we provide you with ongoing careers education throughout Years 9, 10 and 11.

You should choose a subject because you really want do it and not just because your friends have chosen it. Remember, you may not be put in the same class as they are and so you should not let this influence your choices. Also be aware that we cannot guarantee your favourite teacher so do not pick an option because you like your current teacher; it is the subject that matters.

Your parents/carers play an important part in giving you support and guidance. They will have read your school reports and followed your progress very closely, so they are in a good position to give you unbiased advice.

#### What happens next?

When you have finally made up your mind about which subjects to take, you will need to complete an online options form. This will be shared with you soon, and a clear deadline will be set for its return.

Sometimes there is a situation where too few, or too many, students choose a particular subject. If we do not have enough resources to put on extra classes, we may need to use your backup choice. This happens on very few occasions and we try as far as possible to give you what you ask for. We will only use your backup choice if we really need to. If this happens, we will speak to you about the change.

All of the option forms are then processed and the lists given to the Heads of Department who will decide which class you will go into if there is more than one class.



# Your Guide to Key Stage 4 Courses

The following pages give you the details of all of the courses that are available in Years 10 and 11, including the core subjects. Each of the available courses are listed below.

#### **Core Subjects**

- English Language & English Literature
- Mathematics
- Religious Education
- Combined/Triple Science
- Core PE

#### **GCSE** Courses

- Geography
- History
- Computer Science
- Spanish
- French
- Art & Design
- Photography
- Design Technology product design or textiles
- Music

#### **Vocational Courses**

- BTEC Business & Enterprise
- BTEC Sport

You should read this information carefully as it will tell you about what you will study in each course and how it is assessed. These are things that you should take into account when choosing the right course for you.

# Core subject: GCSE English Language & English Literature

All students in Years 10 and 11 study GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature as a two- year linear programme of study. These GCSE qualifications are 100% examination and all examinations take place at the end of Year 11.

#### **GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The GCSE English Language qualification requires students to explore creative reading and writing and engage with writers' techniques, viewpoints and perspectives. The course is 100% examination which takes place at the end of Year 11.

A separate award is made for English Spoken Language skills; the tasks for this award will consist of presenting ideas, responding to questions and feedback, and using Standard English.

Topics covered	Resources available
Explorations in creative reading and writing	
<b>Reading</b> The content will be literature fiction texts from the 20th	A range of stimulus materials will be provided by teachers for the 'Explorations in creative reading and writing' examination.
century or 21st century. The genre will be prose fiction and will include extracts from novels and short stories.	Literature texts studied will be 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> century novels.
Students will read a literature fiction text to consider how established writers use narrative and descriptive	Students will use the academy's online platform, GCSE Pod and BBC Bitesize for homework and revision.
techniques to capture the interest of readers.	Students may also wish to use the materials available on the AQA exam board website:
The focus will be on reading to retrieve information, to analyse language and structure, and to evaluative writers' methods and key ideas.	http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english- language-8700/supporting-resources
Writing	A range of stimulus materials will be provided by
The focus will be writing a narrative or descriptive piece for a specific purpose and audience.	teachers for the 'Writers' viewpoints and perspectives' examination.
Students will demonstrate their narrative and descriptive writing skills.	Non-fiction texts studied will be from the 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> century.
The writing will inspired by the topic responded to in the reading tasks.	Students will use the academy's online platform, GCSE Pod and BBC Bitesize for homework and revision.
A written prompt, scenario or visual image will provide the stimulus for the writing piece.	Students may also wish to use the materials available on the AQA exam board website:
	http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-
	language-8700/supporting-resources
Writers' viewpoints and perspectives	Links to future careers:
Reading	Advertising and Media Executives;
The content will be non-fiction texts from a range of	

different 20th century and 21st century genres.	Journalism;
Genres will include high quality journalism, articles,	Public Relations;
reports, essays, travel writing, accounts, sketches, letters, diaries, autobiography and biographical passages or	Law;
other appropriate non-fiction and literary non-fiction forms.	Social Work;
Students will read two linked sources from different time	Teaching;
periods and genres, and consider how different	Writing;
perspectives or viewpoints are presented to influence the reader.	Librarianship and many more.
The focus will be on reading to retrieve information, to identify different viewpoints, to analyse language, and to compare writers' viewpoints across different non-fiction texts.	
Writing	
The focus will be writing to present a viewpoint for a specific purpose and audience.	
Students will demonstrate their persuasive and argumentative writing skills.	
The writing will inspired by the topic responded to in the reading tasks.	
A written prompt or scenario will provide the stimulus for the writing piece.	

### **GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE**

The GCSE English Literature qualification requires students to read and respond to a range of literary texts. The course is 100% examination which takes place at the end of Year 11.

Topics covered	Resources available
Shakespeare and the 19 <sup>th</sup> century novel Shakespeare	Students will be provided with classroom copies of all literary texts provided.
The content will be one Shakespeare play and students will study the whole text.	The <b>Shakespeare play</b> will be: <i>Romeo and Juliet.</i>
The focus will be on critical reading skills, understanding of explicit and implicit meanings in the play, and evaluation of Shakespeare's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features.	The <b>19<sup>th</sup> century novel</b> will be: <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> The <b>modern drama text</b> will be:
The 19 <sup>th</sup> century novel	An Inspector Calls.
The content will be a 19 <sup>th</sup> century novel and students will study the whole text.	The <b>poetry texts</b> will be from either the 'Love and relationships' or 'Power and conflict' clusters.
The focus will be on critical reading skills, understanding of explicit and implicit meanings in the novel, and evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features.	A range of study materials will be provided by teachers for the examinations.
Modern texts and poetry	Students will use the academy's online platform, GCSE Pod and BBC Bitesize for homework and revision.
Modern texts The content will be a <b>post-1914 drama text</b> and students will study the whole text. The focus will be on critical reading skills, understanding of explicit and implicit meanings the	Students may also wish to use the materials available on the AQA exam board website: <u>http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english- literature-8702/supporting-resources</u> Links to Future Careers:
text, and evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features.	Advertising and Media Executives;
Poetry	Journalism;
The content will be poetry from one of the following clusters: 'Love and relationships' or 'Power and conflict'.	Public Relations; Law;
The examination will also include unseen poetry from the chosen genre and will include poetry written between 1789 and the present day.	Social Work; Teaching;
The focus will be analysis and comparison of the content, themes, structure and language of a range of poetry.	Writing; Librarianship and many more.

# **Core subject:** GCSE Mathematics

Mathematics is studied by everyone in KS4. The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade, 5 is a good pass and 4 is a standard pass.

#### Year 10

Topics Covered	Resources Available
<b>Number:</b> Fractions, Percentages, Decimals, Ratio, Indices and Surds, Standard Form	<ol> <li>The Mathematics Department. Staff are available for any questions or queries about work.</li> </ol>
<b>Algebra:</b> Equations and Inequalities, Sequences, Graphs of Functions, Quadratics	<ol> <li>Students will be provided with a range of resources in lessons as well as revision resources as appropriate.</li> </ol>
Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change: Ratio, Proportion, Speed, Distance and time graphs, Density and Pressure. Statistics: Collecting Data, Displaying Data, Averages, Probability	<ol> <li>After key tasks students will be given a task which focuses on their areas for improvement and gives them the opportunity to respond to their feedback. This will be more detailed for longer assessments.</li> </ol>
<b>Geometry and Measures:</b> Geometry, Area and Volume, Transformations, Pythagoras, Trigonometry, Vectors, Constructions, Measures	<ol> <li>All students have access to the interactive online teaching and learning resources of Hegarty Maths and MyMaths. This includes specific lessons, homework and revision materials.</li> </ol>
During Year 10 pupils will work towards their GCSE in Mathematics.	<ol> <li>Various free websites contain excellent resources for students to use in particular MathsGenie and CorbettMaths are extremely useful.</li> </ol>
Formal key tasks and longer assessments will take place throughout Year 10 on all the content studied.	<ol> <li>All students have access to Sam Learning and GCSE pod both in and outside of school. This has a mathematics topic area to help students with in their private study.</li> </ol>
Sets 1 – 3 will follow Higher initially.	to help students with in their private study.
Sets 4 – 5 will follow Foundation initially.	
Not all tiers of entry will cover all of the above topics.	

#### Year 11

Topics Covered	Resources Available
<b>Number:</b> Fractions, Percentages, Decimals, Indices and Surds, Standard Form	<ol> <li>The Mathematics Department. Staff are available for any questions or queries about work.</li> </ol>
<b>Algebra:</b> Equations and Inequalities, Sequences, Graphs of Functions, Quadratics	<ol> <li>Students will be provided with a range of resources in lessons as well as revision resources as appropriate.</li> </ol>
<b>Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change:</b> <i>Ratio,</i> <i>Proportion, Speed, Distance and Time graphs, Density</i> <i>and Pressure.</i>	<ol> <li>After key tasks and mock examinations students will be given a task which focuses on their areas for improvement and gives them the opportunity to respond to their feedback. This will be more detailed for longer assessments.</li> </ol>
<b>Statistics:</b> Collecting Data, Displaying Data, Averages, Probability	<ol> <li>All students have access to the interactive online teaching and learning resources of</li> </ol>
<b>Geometry and Measures:</b> Geometry, Area and Volume, Transformations, Pythagoras, Trigonometry, Vectors, Constructions, Measures	Hegarty Maths and MyMaths. This includes specific lessons, homework and revision materials.
During Year 11 pupils will continue to follow the GCSE syllabus at either Higher of Foundation level.	<ol> <li>Various free websites contain excellent resources for students to use in particular MathsGenie and CorbettMaths are extremely useful.</li> </ol>
Mock examinations will be used to decide the final tier of entry.	<ol> <li>All students have access to Sam Learning and GCSE pod both in and outside of school. This has a mathematics topic area to help students with in their private study.</li> </ol>
Not all tiers of entry will cover all of the above topics.	<ol> <li>Students can use their dedicated Teams site to access revision materials.</li> </ol>

#### Assessment

This course consists of 3 final examinations in May / June of Year 11. Each paper is worth 1/3 of the overall grade in Mathematics. Paper 1 is a non-calculator paper examination and Papers 2 and 3 are the calculator examinations. Each paper is 90 minutes in length.

#### Future Studies / Careers

With regards to future studies, Mathematics A level is well established at St. Anthony's and St Aidan's 6<sup>th</sup> Form. Students wishing to continue their studies to degree level can choose from a large number of universities and apply their skills in many industries including; Business and Finance, Engineering, Education, Planning and Design, Sciences, Medicine and Health and PE and Sports.

# **Core subject:** GCSE Religious Education

This GCSE takes a distinctive issues-based approach to the study of Catholic Christianity. It integrates a 75% study of Catholic Christianity, with a 25% study of Judaism. Component 1 is entitled Foundational Catholic Theology and Component 2 is entitled Applied Catholic Theology. The course will enable learners to gain knowledge and understanding of two religions: Catholic Christianity and Judaism.

Theme 1: Fou	ndational Catholic Theology (37.5%) Assessment: exam		
	This theme requires learners to consider Catholic Christian and non-religious beliefs about the origins		
Section 1:	and value of the universe and human life.		
Origins and	It covers key themes such as:		
Meaning	• Creation		
	• imago Dei		
	• The Bible		
	This theme requires learners to consider philosophical questions concerning the origins and nature of		
Section 2:	good and evil and different religious answers to the problem of evil and suffering.		
Good and	It covers key themes such as:		
Evil	• evil		
LVII	responses to evil		
	• Jesus		
Theme 2: App	lied Catholic Theology (37.5%) Assessment: exam		
	This theme requires learners to consider religious beliefs about the nature of life and death.		
Section 1:	It covers key themes such as:		
Life and	• death		
Death	• heaven		
Death	• hell		
	• judgement		
	This theme requires learners to consider philosophical questions concerning the nature of criminality		
	and the rationale for punishment. Through a study of teachings and beliefs, questions relating to the		
Section 2:	justifiability of capital punishment will be explored.		
Sin and	It covers key themes such as:		
Forgiveness	• absolutism		
lorgiveness	• Eucharist		
	• evangelisation		
	• forgiveness		
Theme 3: Stu	dy of Judaism (25%) Assessment: exam		
	Nature of the Almighty		
Section 1:	<ul> <li>Shekhinah</li> </ul>		
Beliefs and	Messiah		
Teachings	Covenants		
	Life after death		
	Acts of worship		
	The Tenakh and Talmud		
Section 2:			
Practices	Prayer     Shares		
	Shema		
	Rituals		
	Features of a synagogue		
Careers/Furth	ner Study Links:		
Further Study	: A-level Religious Studies		
Caroora Linka	Law, Nursing, Doctor, Counsellor, Politician, Religious Orders		
Careers LILIKS:	Law, Nurshig, Doctor, Counsellor, Fontician, Religious Orders		

### **Core subject:** GCSE Science (Combined or Triple)

At Key Stage 4 pupils will either take Combined Science or follow the individual sciences (triple) route. Both courses will allow students to study the fundamental scientific concepts and topics outlined below:

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure	Forces
Infection and response	Periodic table	Energy
Bioenergetics	Bonding	Waves
Homeostasis	Quantitative chemistry	Electricity
Inheritance	Chemical changes	Magnetism and
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Electromagnetism

#### **Getting the Choice Right**

It is essential that students are placed onto a course of study that allows them to fulfil their potential and also offer them progression Post-16. Students will be selected for their GCSE Science course based upon evidence from year 9 assessment data in conjunction with the professional opinions of the science staff to direct the students into the appropriate Key Stage 4 course.

Students will be selected for one of the following courses:

#### **AQA GCSE Combined Science**

This course provides students with a good background in the Sciences.

It covers a range of interesting and challenging topics from biology,

chemistry and physics. Students will achieve a double weighted GCSE grade in 'Combined Science'; most students in Year 10 will follow this route.

#### **AQA GCSE Biology, Chemistry & Physics**

This course covers additional material when compared to the 'Combined Science' course and therefore requires more lesson time. Like the combined science course the scientific disciplines are taught separately but unlike the combined science award there are separate GCSEs awarded for each subject. The additional content in this course is more challenging and is therefore only appropriate for students selected by the science department.

#### Assessment

Pupils are both courses will be continually assessed throughout each module by a range of methods including homework and classwork, questioning in class, assessments based on past examination questions and assessments that require an extended writing response.

#### **Post-16 Science Requirements**

Students can go on to study A-level and BTEC Science from either GCSE course, provided they meet the entry requirements. There is no reason a Combined Science student cannot be as successful as a triple award student at A-Level/ BTEC.

#### **Did You Know?**

Success in Key Stage 4 Science will allow you to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics at Post-16, which can lead to thousands of potential careers such as engineering, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, teaching, research scientist, etc.

Physical Education is part of the curriculum for every pupil at St. Anthony's.

#### Pupils in Years 10 & 11 receive two hours of PE per fortnight.

PE lessons form a welcome break from the classroom and offer the opportunity to take part and enjoy a wide range of physical activities. Students are encouraged to develop their skills in both traditional and modern sports with a healthy attitude towards exercise.

With the aim of ensuring all pupils are physically active, pupils will have the opportunity to complete structured modules comprising of athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, dodgeball, football, handball, health related fitness, rounders, trampolining and much more.



#### Remember...

- PE provides you with the opportunity to participate in a competitive and non-competitive environment.
- Your PE lessons are an ideal opportunity to experience both traditional sports and some that are perhaps new to you, to hopefully develop a passion and prepare you for lifelong participation in sport and fitness beyond school.
- PE also allows you to adopt roles other than performance, including leadership, coaching and officiating and through these various responsibilities you can develop skills which allow you to be effective in competitive, creative and challenging situations.

### **Option subject: GCSE Geography**



#### "Why choose geography?"

We believe that you should take Geography because it helps you:

- to understand the environment at a number of different scales
- **to** know your world through fieldwork
- to make decisions that balance environmental and developmental concerns
- to develop a wide range of skills such as presenting arguments or map skills
- to use computers and other technology
- for analysis / presentation
- to understand other cultures throughout the world
- to know where places in the world are ..... without having to use Google

Course Structure	How it's assessed	Percentage of final mark
Paper 1 -Living with the physical environment	Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes	88 marks 35% of GCSE
Paper 2 -Challenges in the human environment	Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes	88 marks 35% of GCSE
Paper 3 - Geographical applications	Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes	76 marks 30% of GCSE
Pre- release resources booklet made available 12 weeks before Paper 3 exam		
Geographical Skills	Skills will be assessed in all three written exams	

#### The subject content is split into four units:

#### **Fieldwork in Geography**

Students need to undertake **two geographical enquiries**, each of which must include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise. The department have visited a number of different places over the last five years including Newcastle, Seaham, Roker, Whitby and Blyth.

#### Who can do Geography?

If you choose geography you must be prepared to work hard! We encourage all of our learners to be independent and thoughtful in their studies. Group work, decision making, mysteries, mind mapping, video making, quizzes and presentations are all part of the package.



### **Option subject: GCSE History**

This course is designed to enable pupils to develop and demonstrate both knowledge of Historical periods and skills. There are no tiered papers in History and therefore a high standard of literacy is required to access the exam papers. The course is examined through three exam papers at the end of Y11.

An outline of topics is provided below. All year 9 pupils will have already studied the first element of the **Medicine Through Time** unit in their History lessons in the Summer term. The topics already covered at year 9, and the further topics studied in year 10 and 11 are outlined below. All content is examined at the end of year 11.

#### **Topics Covered throughout the course**

Thematic study (Paper 1) - Medicine in Britain, c1250-present.

Pupils study ideas about the causes of disease and illness, approaches to prevention and treatment and case studies of key individuals and events throughout time.

#### The Historic Environment (Paper 1)

Pupils will look at the impact of the environment on medicine through a case study of the Western Front 1914-18.

#### British Depth Study (Paper 2)

Pupils will study the following topic in depth:

• Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88

#### Modern Depth Study (Paper 3)

Pupils will study Political, social and economic developments in Germany from 1918-1939 including the impact of World War One, Weimar government and opposition, the rise of Hitler, Nazi Consolidation of power, groups in Nazi Germany and the lead up to World War Two.

#### Period Study (Paper 2)

Pupils will study the relations between the Superpowers during the Cold War, including the origins of the conflict, Cold War crises and why the Cold War ended in 1991.

History leads to a wide variety of careers in the professions (law, education, medicine etc), the civil service, the heritage industry, the performing arts, and the armed forces. Many go on to study the subject at A Level and at University before embarking on a specific career.

For more information, please speak to a member of the history department

#### Why Choose Computer Science

Computer Science is the fastest growing industry affecting business now and will be in the next decade. It is an intensely creative subject that combines invention with excitement. A career in computer science opens up great opportunities for women who want to make a difference all around the world. There are many professional opportunities and the salary is above average.

You will build on your programming skills with Python and investigate the use of other languages to learn how to code efficiently. You will also design mobile apps, write computer simulations and create games. You will study how computers communicate with each other, the best way to construct a network, computer structures, web application concepts, software development, cyber security and mobile technologies. Students will complete this course equipped with the logical and computational skills necessary to succeed at A-level, the workplace and university.

Content Overview	Assessment Overv	iew
Computer Systems 01 This component will introduce learners to the Central Processing Unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It is expected that learners will become familiar with the impact of Computer Science in a global context through the study of the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with Computer Science. Topics covered: • Systems Architecture • Memory • Storage • Wired and wireless networks • Network topologies, protocols and layers • System security • System software • Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns	Computer systems (01) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)	50% of total GCSE
Computational Thinking, Algorithms & Programming 02 This component incorporates and builds on the knowledge and understanding gained in Component 01, encouraging learners to apply this knowledge and understanding using computational thinking. Learners will be introduced to algorithms and programming, learning about programming techniques, how to produce robust programs, computational logic, translators and facilities of computing languages and data representation. Learners will become familiar with computing related mathematics.	Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)	50% of total GCSE

Topics covered:	
• Algorithms *	
Programming techniques	
Producing robust programs	
Computational logic	
<ul> <li>Translators and facilities of languages</li> </ul>	
Data representation	
Programming project:	
Programming techniques will be learnt in Python, HTML and Web Design. The programming skills will be assessed in Unit 2 of the exam.	
A project will be created in 20 hours, this will be not assessed as part of the final GCSE grade.	
Pupils will learn about the Software Development Life Cycle covering	
• Analysis	
• Design	
• Development	
<ul> <li>Testing and evaluation and conclusions</li> </ul>	
Learners will need to create suitable algorithms which will provide a solution to the problems identified in the task. They will then code their solutions in a suitable programming language.	

# **Option subject:** GCSE Modern Foreign Languages – French or Spanish



The Modern Foreign Languages department offers a GCSE in French and/or Spanish in Years 10 and 11. The work you have done in Years 7-9 provides an excellent foundation for success at GCSE if you decide to continue with your learning journey in this language. In the GCSE French and Spanish course, you will study topics such as Identity and Culture; Local, National



and Global Areas of Interest; and Current and Future Studies and Employment. Within these topic areas you will be asked to give your opinions and develop your knowledge and understanding in all 4 language learning skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). The GCSE aims to develop language skills in a variety of contexts and encourage a greater knowledge and understanding of grammar. It encourages a more imaginative and

creative use of the foreign language and offers insight into the culture of the countries where the language is spoken. In an increasingly globalised market, it is essential to develop language learning skills, a skill highly valued by employers. Assessment is in Year 11 and covers the four key skills, each worth 25% of the final exam.

#### Reaching New Frontiers - Did you know? . . .

- 94% of the world does NOT speak English as its main language!
- 1 in 5 UK companies say they are losing business because of a lack of language skills.
- 74% of employers in the UK prioritise applicants who have language skills when recruiting for jobs.
- People who speak languages earn on average 20% more than people who do not.
- Many universities offer the chance to study a language alongside virtually any other course, giving you the chance to study abroad and broaden your horizons.
- Some of the best universities will not even consider applications from students who do not have a Modern Foreign Language GCSE as part of the English Baccalaureate.



#### **Future Studies / Careers**

With regards to future studies, Modern Foreign Language courses at AS and A level are well established at St. Anthony's. Students wishing to continue their studies to degree level can choose from a large number of universities and combine their language with many other subjects including Mathematics, Science, Law, Economics and Business Studies.

#### **Enrichment Activities**

We have a range of enrichment opportunities on the course including MFL

Spelling Bee, Culture Club and Film Club. Pupils may also be offered the opportunity to participate in a study visit to Spain or France during the course.



#### The Study of a Second Foreign Language

Any student who displays a keen interest and talent for language learning, has the opportunity to study a second foreign language (both French or Spanish) at GCSE level. This is an academically challenging but also highly motivating course. Many pupils who study two foreign languages go on to study both languages at A level.

#### **Option subject: GCSE French**

- French is the official language of 29 countries and about 45% of modern English words are of French origin.
- There are around 220 million French speakers worldwide.

**Option subject:** GCSE Spanish

- Spanish is the official language of 21 countries and is now the most spoken language in the USA too.
- There are 493 million native speakers of Spanish worldwide and if you speak English and Spanish, you can communicate with 80% of the world population!

Further information is available from your MFL teacher

# **Option subject:** GCSE Art & Design (Fine Art)

Topics Covered in Year 10	Resources Available
All of the coursework covered in years 10 and 11 forms the Portfolio Unit. This portfolio of coursework is worth approximately 60% of the full GCSE Fine Art certificate.	Examples of the work of a number of given artists will be available in the art room and given by staff in a variety of
Sketchbooks and journals form a large part of the work students produce and these are historically exciting and creative allowing students to explore and develop ideas within their own personal artistic interests.	ways. Teaching and learning is diverse and interactive with students developing an excellent skills base as well as historical context.
Students work in a variety of media, including painting and drawing, print making and photography. This course is very wide and varied meaning the skills taught and developed apply to a variety of different courses and career areas applicable to student's future studies.	All rooms are well equipped with artist's materials including painting, drawing and print making materials should a
Module 1 - Food	student wish to take their ideas into these mediums. IT equipment is also
Students use a wide variety of media to produce work based on the word 'Food'. This project affords students an introduction to the course and its expectations whilst tackling an easily accessible subject matter. Direct observation is key to all projects as well as experimentation and exploration. A personal journey for each student is encouraged, meaning students can choose to interpret the question, type of food used and style of artwork explored. Artists and craftspeople will be used to add context and influence the project. Staff facilitate progress through verbal feedback and formal feedback on a half termly basis. Clear target setting is used and students become proficient at time management and developing work over time.	available to incorporate digital aspects of photography and digital manipulation should this be appropriate to a students' personal development.
A final outcome will be completed at the end of term 1 reflecting the progress made over this project.	
Module 2 – The Formal Elements	
Students use a wide variety of media to produce work based around the theme of 'The Formal Elements.' This can be anything from everyday objects or influences to a broader engagement with local cultures or landmarks. This topic is deliberately broader than the opening theme to allow students a range of different avenues to explore, relevant to their own interest in the Art and Design world. Direct observation is key to all projects as well as experimentation and exploration. Personal artistic style is explored more in this topic, including elements of abstraction and the successful manipulation of painting and drawing materials. A personal journey for each student is encouraged. Artists and craftspeople will be used to add context and influence the project. These are all dictated by students ensuring their interest is sustained, whilst maintaining a clear dialogue with staff about the direction and intentions of their project.	Students begin to specialise with certain materials and a deeper focus on the assessment objectives and criteria are apparent. Students begin to work on any areas which may require improvement to add consistency to their portfolio. Staff feedback and guidance helps identify areas of improvement ensuring students answer the full course comprehensively leading to excellent outcomes and ultimately good final results and grading.
A Final outcome will be completed at the end of each element as well as several potential interim pieces along the way.	

Students are advised on several starting points but this is an opportunity for students to develop and design their own projects completely from scratch. This method of working allows students to focus on a personal topic in which they have a real artistic interest and passion. As before, experimentation and exploration are key as staff facilitate the progress of individual students.

This project runs over the final term of year 10 and the first term of year 11.

A final piece along with several interim pieces should be produced as the project progresses.

Gallery visits (both day and residential) are included in the summer term to give students the experience of seeing Art and Craft first hand. Some of our previous excursions have included The Hepworth Wakefield and The Yorkshire Sculpture Park for year 10, and Edinburgh and Glasgow/London residential visits are open to year 10/11 Fine Art students.

Where appropriate international trips and visits are organised. Previous destinations include Venice, Barcelona, Amsterdam and Paris.

Topics Covered in Year 11	Resources Available
Module 1	
Student's personal Formal Elements projects will continue to be worked on this year as the major piece of portfolio work with a number of students producing more than one final outcome as a result of extensive and in-depth developmental work. The final selection for the portfolio is up to the choice of the student and this often takes place as a discussion between staff and pupils. Coursework is normally competed before the Christmas holidays at the beginning of year 11.	Students have vast resources to work from and a very wide variety of media to help them produce interesting and exciting outcomes, following all four assessment objectives and their own personal targets. By this point students will have a good understanding of the demands of the course and also their potential grade as their coursework draws to a close.
Module 2 - Externally Set Task	
All students are given a choice of exam questions for the Controlled Test. This unit of work makes up the remaining 40% of the course. These questions or topics are set by AQA in early January and form the basis for the work of Module 2 and Module 3 in year 11. The deadline for the completion of the exam unit is usually in April. Students do not sit a formal exam, however, this exam unit and the production of a final outcome must be completed under controlled conditions set down by the exam board. A sketchbook of preparatory work is completed between January and April. Students are then given two full school days off timetable (10 hours altogether) to produce a final outcome in response to their selected exam question.	
Module 3 Some students use this time to complete outstanding areas of their portfolio and others produce smaller mini-projects developing a certain skills base or improving upon an area which needs further evidence or advancement across the whole portfolio.	The course leads directly into A Level Fine Art as well as having strong links to other A Level subjects such as Photography. We often have students who choose to pursue this subject through to degree level and it also informs other university and career choices.

# **Option subject:** GCSE Art & Design (Photography)

Topics Covered in Year 10	Resources Available
All of the coursework covered in years 10 and 11 forms	Examples of the work of a number of given
the Portfolio Unit. This portfolio of coursework is worth approximately 60% of the full GCSE Photography certificate.	photographers will be available in the Art and Photography rooms and given by staff in a variety of ways. Teaching and learning is diverse and interactive
Digital Portfolio's using PowerPoint form a large part of the work students produce and these are historically exciting and creative allowing students to explore and develop ideas within their own personal photographic interests.	with students developing an excellent skills base as well as historical context. All rooms are well equipped with photographic materials including cameras, lighting and backdrops. IT
Students work with a variety of media and materials including Canon DSLR cameras. This course is very wide and varied meaning the skills taught and developed apply to a variety of different courses and career areas applicable to student's future studies.	equipment is also available to incorporate digital aspects of photography and digital manipulation.
Module 1 – Camera Settings and Techniques – Shutter Speed and Aperture	
Students begin by looking at the historical context and development of the cameras and the different settings of the camera that can be manipulated to create the best possible creative outcomes. Students use a variety of manipulation techniques, both physically on the camera and in post-production to edit raw images.	
This project affords students an introduction to the course and its expectations whilst tackling easily accessible subject matter. Direct observation and gathering of primary source imagery is key to all projects as well as experimentation and exploration. A personal journey for each student is encouraged, meaning students can choose to interpret the settings/themes as they please, under the guidance and support of staff. Photographers will be used to add context and influence the project and its stylistic outcome. Staff facilitate progress through verbal feedback and formal feedback across each module. Clear target setting is used and students become proficient at time management and developing work over time.	
A Final series of outcomes will be completed at the end of Module 1 reflecting the progress made linked to Shutter Speed and Aperture.	
Module 2 – Camera Settings and Techniques – ISO (High and Low Key Photography) and Compositional Techniques	
Students continue their exploration of important Camera Settings and Techniques, looking at the role of ISO and Composition in an outcome. Students understanding of editing techniques continues to grow as well as their confidence in using the camera to best effect. Themes	Students begin to specialise with certain media, techniques and processes and a deeper focus on the assessment objectives and criteria are apparent. Students begin to work on any areas which may require improvement to add consistency to their portfolio. Staff feedback and guidance helps identify areas of

<ul> <li>within each of the camera settings or techniques may occur, for example, portraiture through high and low key photography, or landscape work through composition.</li> <li>These can be personlised by students to add interest to the work and improve personal investment. Again, direct observation and the gathering of primary sources is key to all projects as well as experimentation and exploration.</li> <li>Personal style is explored in this topic founded in the roots of selected photographers, including elements of abstraction and the successful manipulation of digital software. A personal journey for each student is encouraged. Photographers and movements will be used to add context and influence the project. These are all dictated by students and staff ensuring their interest is sustained, whilst maintaining a clear dialogue with staff about the direction and intentions of their project.</li> <li>A Final series of outcomes will be completed at the end of Module 2 reflecting the progress made linked to ISO and composition.</li> </ul>	improvement ensuring students answer the full course comprehensively leading to excellent outcomes and ultimately good final results and grading.
<b>Module 3 – The Formal Elements</b> Students are advised on several starting points but this is an opportunity for students to develop and design their own projects completely from scratch. This method of working allows students to focus on a personal topic or topics in which they have a real photographic interest and passion. As before, experimentation and exploration are key as staff facilitate the progress of individual students linked to the formal elements of Photography, starting with Line, Shape/Form and Texture/Pattern.	Gallery visits (both day and residential) are included in the summer term to give students the experience of seeing and gathering photography first-hand. Some of our previous excursions have included a local tour of interesting landmarks including, Tynemouth Priory, Penshaw monument and Durham Cathedral.
This project runs over the final module of year 10 and the first module of year 11.	
A Final series of outcomes will be completed at the end of Module 3 reflecting the progress made linked to Line, Shape/Form and Texture/Pattern.	

Topics Covered in Year 11	Resources Available
Module 1 - The Formal Elements	
Student's personal Formal Elements projects will continue to be worked on this year as the major piece of portfolio work with a number of students producing more than one final outcome as a result of extensive and in-depth developmental work. This module will focus on the formal elements of Space, Colour and Tone	Students have vast resources to work from and a very wide variety of media to help them produce interesting and exciting outcomes, following all four assessment objectives and their own personal targets. Students must invest time outside of class, gathering high quality raw imagery which can then be edited in school and added to portfolio's. By this point students will have a good understanding of the demands of the course and also their potential grade as their coursework draws to

The final selection for the portfolio is up to the choice of the student and this often takes place as a discussion between staff and pupils. Coursework is normally competed before the Christmas holidays at the beginning of year 11. <b>Module 2 - Externally Set Task</b>	a close. Students will also have an understanding of different camera settings and techniques as well as the key formal elements and be able to manipulate them to best effect, achieving quality photographic outcomes.
All students are given a choice of exam questions for the Controlled Test. This unit of work makes up the remaining 40% of the course. These questions or topics are set by AQA in early January and form the basis for the work of Module 2 and Module 3 in year 11. The deadline for the completion of the exam unit is usually in April. Students do not sit a formal written exam, however, this exam unit and the production of a final outcome must be completed under controlled conditions set down by the exam board. A PowerPoint of preparatory work is completed between January and April. Students are then given two full school days off timetable (10 hours altogether) to produce a final series of outcomes in response to their selected exam question.	
Module 3	
Some students use this time to complete outstanding areas of their portfolio and others produce smaller mini-projects developing a certain skills base or improving upon an area which needs further evidence or advancement across the whole portfolio.	The course leads directly into A Level Photography. We often have students who choose to pursue this subject through to degree level and it also informs other university and career choices such as Advertising, Marketing and development of Social Media platforms.

### **Option subject:** GCSE Design & Technology: Product Design or Textiles

At St. Anthony's there are two options within Design and Technology; Product Design or Textiles.

Both of these material areas provide opportunities for students to be assessed in the skills of communication, application of number and information technology. Students are also given opportunities to demonstrate they can work with others, improve their own learning, as well as problem solving.

A common aim of all subjects is to raise awareness of spiritual, moral, ethical, social, cultural, environmental, health and safety and European issues. Citizenship will also feature strongly in all courses. The use of ICT plays a pivotal role in all of the courses offered, in particular the use of CAD/CAM. A greater emphasis is now placed on Mathematics within D&T with 15% of the written examination being devoted to applied Mathematics.

All AQA courses lead onto appropriate AS/A2 or BTEC options which allow for higher qualification in their selected area.

#### **Design & Technology: Product Design**

GCSE Design and Technology: Product Design will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

This GCSE allows students to study core, technical, and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in the field of Product Design (3D Design) in greater depth.

#### **Design & Technology: Textiles**

GCSE Design and Technology: Textiles will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

This GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in the field of Textiles in greater depth.

#### Assessment

Both elements of the course are assessed through one substantial design and make task worth 50% of the final qualification. This NEA (non-exam assessment) will follow a brief set by AQA and released to the learners in the summer term of Year 10. The brief will be related to problem solving in either a real Product Design or Textiles Context.

The written paper examines Core principles of Design & Technology and specialist subject knowledge and makes up the remaining 50%.

## **Option subject:** GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

GCSE Food preparation and nutrition will equip students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and encouragement they need to cook. It will give them the ability to apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

Students will be able to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways, and develop vital life skills so that they can feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously.

Students will gain many food preparation skills – these will be integrated into five sections:

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

#### Assessment

Food Preparation and Nutrition is assessed through two projects worth 50% of the final qualification. The written paper examines the subject knowledge and makes up the remaining 50%.

For further information please see Miss K Wallace or Mrs V Stringer

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."

The AQA Music GCSE course combines academic study with the creativity of performance and composition.

Overview of the Course	How will it be assessed?
Unit 1: Listening and Appraising	
Students will listen to and become familiar with a wide range of musical styles, and will be able to identify features and characteristics of the different styles, as well as the use of the musical elements and devices.	Examination lasting 1 hour 30 minutes, where students answer questions based on unfamiliar listening excerpts alongside extended writing
<ul> <li>They will complete an in-depth study of:</li> <li>Western Classical Tradition 1650-1910 (with a focus on Mozart's Clarinet Concerto)</li> </ul>	questions on Mozart's Clarinet Concerto and Little Shop of Horrors.
<ul> <li>Western Classical Tradition 1910+</li> <li>Popular Music (with a focus on the musical Little Shop of Horrors)</li> <li>Traditional Music.</li> </ul>	(40% of GCSE grade)
Unit 2: Performing Music	
Students will attend weekly vocal/instrumental music lessons on their chosen instrument/voice, and will learn and rehearse a programme of music relating to topics covered in the course.	Performance examination (ir school) where students perform a programme of music lasting for a minimum of four minutes.
	(30% of GCSE grade)
Unit 3: Composing	
Students will learn how to compose in different styles and genres, and for different instruments, with a focus on the elements of music. They will compose two final pieces of music; one to a brief set by the exam board, and one of their own free choice. They will also learn to appraise, explain, describe and justify their compositional ideas.	Two compositions will be submitted, lasting a minimum of three minutes. (30% of GCSE grade)

#### Where will this course lead me?

This course prepares you to continue to A-Level or BTEC Level 3 in Music. It is the ideal starting point for a future career in music or the arts and in preparation for studying music at university. Music is also considered an attractive qualification for those applying for highly competitive subjects at university level such as Medicine, Veterinary Studies and Dentistry as it shows a commitment to wider independent learning. Aside from career prospects in music, the development of a musical talent or interest will provide transferrable skills and disciplines applicable to many other subjects and careers, and will, of course, provide lifelong pleasure.

#### Additional information

To take this course, students <u>must</u> be able to play an instrument or have a talent for singing to succeed. For those who can play/sing a grade 5 standard programme in their examination at the end of Year 11, the highest marks can be achieved.

## **Option subject:** BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise (Level 1 or 2)

This business course has been designed to provide an introduction to the world of business. This qualification will help student to think about the world around them and how the workings of a business will ultimately impact everything. The units covered will develop essential knowledge and skills that students will use to support their A-levels, Level 3 qualifications and future careers. In addition to this, the qualification provides opportunities



for learners to develop their communication, people, enterprise, financial, ICT and organisation skills.

This course could provide a starting point for a route into employment in many of the diverse areas of business, including roles in specialist areas such as law, marketing, finance, customer service or human resources in large businesses, or a more generic role in a small, local business.

The BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise has been designed to help students develop their business skills through practical, skills-based learning.

#### **Component 1 Exploring Enterprises - Coursework**

This unit explores the different types of business and what they do. Students also examine how market research helps businesses to meet customer needs and look at the factors that contribute to the success of business and the skills needed by entrepreneurs.

Assessment: internally assessed assignments (Pearson Set Assignment)

Weighting: 30% of total course

#### **Component 2 Planning for and Pitching an Enterprise Activity**

This unit allows students to extend their knowledge about business and the products and services they sell. It gives them the opportunity to develop their own business ideas, develop their own product, create a business plan and investigate all aspects of setting up a business.

Assessment: internally assessed assignments (coursework)

Weighting: 30% of total course

#### **Component 3 Promotion and Finance for Enterprise**

During this unit, students will develop an understanding of promotion and finance. Students will explore the types of costs that businesses incur and how what they spend affects them - profit or loss! Students will also explore how firms keep financial records and budget for success. Students will also gain an understanding of advertising and the use of promotion in order to generate business success and will advise and provide recommendations to a given enterprise on ways to improve its performance so that it can effectively target its products to its customers.

Assessment: externally assessed task (exam)

Weighting: 40% of total course

For more information, please speak to Miss Prestwood, Miss Britton, Miss Carroll or Mrs Robinson

### **Option subject:** BTEC Technical Award in Sport

The BTEC Technical Award is designed to develop knowledge, skills and experience of sport. The course has theory and practical components. This course is for students who want to acquire knowledge and skills by exploring the different types and providers of sport and physical activity and the equipment and technology available for participation.

Students will have the opportunity to develop applied knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- investigating provisions for sport including equipment and facilities to enhance sport
- planning and delivery of sport drills and sessions
- Fitness for sport including fitness testing and methodology.

Students will explore the different types of participant and their needs in order to gain an understanding of how to increase participation in sport and physical activity. They will develop their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology. Students will undertake practical and classroom-based sessions to develop skills in planning and delivering sports activity sessions.

Component	Component Title	Hours	How Assessed
1	Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity	36	Internally – Externally moderated by Pearson
2	Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance	36	Internal – Externally moderated by Pearson
3	Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical activity	48	External Synoptic exam

Component	Description of Pearson-set Assignment	Assessment time
Component 1: Preparing participants to take part in sport and physical activity	<ul> <li>Internal assignment based assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson.</li> <li>The Pearson-set Assignment will be completed in approximately 5 hours of supervised assessment.</li> <li>30%</li> </ul>	February of Y10
Component 2: Taking part and improving other participants sporting performance	<ul> <li>Internal assignment based assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson.</li> <li>The Pearson-set Assignment will be completed in approximately 4 hours of supervised assessment.</li> <li>30%</li> </ul>	October of Y11
Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity	<ul> <li>This component is an external exam which is marked and graded by Pearson.</li> <li>The assessment is 1.5 hours and is worth 60 marks.</li> <li>40%</li> </ul>	May of Y11

This qualification is graded from Level 1 Pass to Level 2 Distinction \*. The level 2 qualification is the equivalent to one GCSE.

In order to complete this course successfully students must have a keen interest in sport and participate in extracurricular activities in school or as part of a club outside of school. It is essential that students have a keen interest in sport and have aspirations to pursue a career in the sporting sector.

The qualification provides opportunities for Students to develop transferable skills, such as communication, problem solving, research and analytical skills, supporting progression to Level 3 vocational or academic qualifications. After Year 11 students might consider progression to: A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education, study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Sport which prepares Students to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the Sport Sciences or teaching sectors. This qualification can lead to a career in coaching and teaching, outdoor pursuits, professional sport podiatry, leisure management, sports medicine, sports development and sports coaching, sports psychology, sports physiology, sports massage, therapy and rehabilitation, sports dieticians, journalism, sports science, physiotherapy, public relations, administration and management.

For further information please speak to your PE teacher.