

Forge Valley School

KS4 Pathways 2018



SUBJECTS

Key Staff

Mr Barker

KS3 Assistant Head

Mrs Cooke

Careers

Mr Watson

KS4 Assistant Head

Core Subjects

» GCSE Science

Mr Holloway

» GCSE English

Ms Mason

» GCSE Mathematics

Mrs Osborne

Options

» GCSE Art & Design

Mrs Bird & Mrs Crookes

» GCSE Business Studies

Ms Archer

» GCSE Computing

Mr Tingle & Mrs White

» CiDA (Certificate in Digital Applications)

Mr Tingle & Mrs White

» BTEC Dance

Mrs Elsmore

» GCSE Design Technology

Mr Taylor

» GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Miss Bates

» GCSE Geography

Mrs Walker, Mr Hobbs & Mr Twigg

» BTEC Health & Social Care

Mrs Bowler & Mrs Siddall

» GCSE History

Mrs Hart

» GCSE Music

Mrs Rushforth

» BTEC Performing Arts

Mrs Rushforth

» GCSE Religious Studies

Miss Devine

» GCSE Sociology

Miss Norton

» GCSE Spanish

Miss Fitzpatrick & Mrs Blythe

» BTEC Sport

Mrs Bowler



Art & Design

GCSE - AQA

Mrs Bird & Mrs Crookes

What will I learn on this course?

You will learn new techniques and skills in a variety of mediums including, clay, felt making, wire and print making. You will learn to discuss, share and develop ideas individually and in small groups evaluate your own work and that of artists. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to create 2D and 3D pieces of work depending on your ideas and vision.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You must be able to produce work from primary and secondary objects, have the vision and enthusiasm for creating ideas and the resilience to hone your research skills. You must have the ability to work independently and be self-motivated.

How will this course be assessed?

Coursework 60% of GCSE mark – you will produce preparation sheets responding to assessment objectives 1-4 given by the AQA exam board and produce final pieces of work to run alongside these. The 60% covers 3 units of work carried out throughout the 2 years of study.

Externally set task 40% of GCSE mark – set by the AQA exam board, a series of ideas/questions in the form of an exam paper will be presented to you. You will choose 1 question to complete. A lead-in or preparatory time is given to complete preparation sheets. This includes research and development of ideas and is then followed by a supervised exam of 10 hours.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

You can continue with Art & Design at Forge Valley 6th Form, or college, at A Level. This can then lead to further study at University and a career within the Arts.

What else do I need to know?

Art and Design GCSE requires a significant amount of work undertaken at home and after lesson time. The Art rooms will be available for you to continue working in after your lessons. You will be expected to research artists and regularly visit galleries.

What our pupils say...



"The lessons are inspiring and fun."

"You can be as creative as you wish."



"We have discussions around artists and artwork to inspire our ideas."



What will I learn on this course?

You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity, and then turn that idea into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money well. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved, as well as learning about how businesses promote themselves and keep their customers happy.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

On this course you will need to master many skills which will be useful throughout your life. Examples of these include working effectively both individually and as part of a team, written and verbal communication skills, presenting information to others, independent research, controlling finances and time management.

How will this course be assessed?

In your final year, you will sit two examinations at the end of the course. Each paper will consist of a mixture of multi-choice, calculations, short-answers and extended answers and will be out of a total of 90 marks.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

There are a wide variety of Post 16 courses available in school, at college and at university for which GCSE Business Studies will provide a solid foundation. Likewise, there are many career choices which will benefit from the knowledge gained and the skills learned. A few examples of these include accounting, marketing, human resources, administration and law.

What else do I need to know?

This course requires pupils to show an interest in current affairs and keep themselves informed of developments in the world of business. Unlike many subjects, this is one which changes on a continual basis.



What our pupils say...

"The finance unit which we are doing now has really helped me with my maths and it's really fun."





Computing

GCSE - Eduqas

Mr Tingle & Mrs White

What will I learn on this course?

This course is split into three main components which cover the following: hardware, problem solving, and the production of a programmed solution to a problem.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You will need to have at least a Level 5 in ICT and Mathematics as well as a passion for programming and all things computerised. This means you may have spent a considerable amount of your own time coding. This includes finding out how hardware and software work in a great detail. You will need to enjoy solving problems and be resilient and motivated when things don't go to plan. People interested in this course are usually already coding and programming in their own time and like the mathematical elements of study.

How will this course be assessed?

- Component 1: Understanding Computer Science: Written examination - 1 hour 45 minutes. 60% of the qualification.
- Component 2: Computational Thinking and Programming. On-screen examination - 2 hours. 60% of the qualification.
- Component 3: Software Development: Non-exam assessment - 20 hours coding project.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

You can go onto study A Level Computing or an ICT/Computing related course.

What else do I need to know?

This is one of the most rewarding subjects if you are willing to commit to hard work and are prepared to go the extra mile. This is not a course for the casual Xbox gamer.

What our pupils say...



"I feel a sense of achievement and pride when my programs finally work as I wanted them to."



CiDA (Certificate in Digital Applications)

Edexcel



Mrs White & Mr Tingle

What will I learn on this course?

Pupils will study two units on the course:

- **Unit 1: Developing Web Products.**
This unit aims to give you the knowledge and skills you need to produce attention grabbing web products using web authoring software, multimedia assets and navigation features. You will demonstrate your ability to design, build and test a web product in a practical computer-based examination set by the exam board.
- **Unit 2: Creative Multimedia.**
You will demonstrate your ability to plan, design, build and test interactive multimedia products through your work on a major project set by Edexcel. This will include the development of an e-portfolio that exhibits your achievements and is, in itself, an effective multimedia product.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You will need to have at least a Level 5 in ICT and Maths. You need to have a passionate interest in technology, gadgets and software both in and out of school. You will be very interested in how things work and can be developed. You will need to be able to work independently as well as in groups.

How will this course be assessed?

The course is 50% (Unit 1) practical exam which is completed in school and is externally assessed and moderated. The remaining 50% (Unit 2) is a summative project which is internally assessed and moderated.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

The course prepares pupils well for the Level 3 BTEC vocational ICT qualifications. In addition it would prepare you for A Level ICT. Homework is set regularly and involves a mixture of computer and paper based activities. You will need to be able to access the Internet either at home, in the CLC or the library.

What our pupils say...



"It's good because I learnt to use a wide range of software."



"It's good because it made me think about modern technology in a different way."



What will I learn on this course?

The BTEC First Level 2 Award in Dance is a high-quality vocational course. The units allow you to explore a variety of topics dance styles and develop a wide range of transferable skills which all employers seek. The course will allow you to develop valuable skills which are relevant to any future career and it will demonstrate to employers that you have a good understanding of the benefits and importance of health and fitness. The skills you will develop include: creating presentations, planning and time management skills, the ability to work to deadlines, planning and delivering a dance show, independent research skills, producing reports, analysing strengths and areas of development, communication skills, organisation skills and team work. The units covered: Unit 4 – Dance skills, Unit 2 – Preparation, Performance and Production, Unit 1 – Individual showcase.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

The BTEC Level 2 Award in Dance provides a practical, real-life approach to learning and will develop specific knowledge and skills to work successfully in the Dance industry and beyond. You will need to manage your time effectively, work within a team, have good organisation skills and be highly self-motivated. The ability to communicate is also essential. Confidence is also required or you must have the willingness to improve your self confidence in order to perform.

How will this course be assessed?

Internal assessment is at the very heart of this course. Unit 2 and 4 of the Award is coursework based and assessed by the tutor(s). Unit 1 of the assessment is externally assessed and you will be required to take a 3 hour assessment to produce a written audition letter.

The assessments will allow you to achieve a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* grade. You are able to track your own grades along the way and set yourself targets to ensure you reach your personal goals. You will be able to present your work in a variety of ways, including: Written reports, log books, practical demonstrations and videos, presentations, interviews or voice recordings and the delivery of practical events.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

The BTEC First Level 2 Award in Dance will open doors to Further/ Higher Education, or allow you to hit the ground running in a new job. The award will help you develop the knowledge and skills to progress in your chosen career, whatever this may be. Through engaging and inspiring activities this qualification will empower you to broaden your horizons in later life and prepare you for the workplace or a dance career.

BTEC Dance

PE Department

Mrs Elsmore



What else do I need to know?

In Year 10 you will have 2 BTEC lessons and 3 in Year 11. This is in addition to the core PE lesson which all pupils have in Year 10 and Year 11. This could mean that you may be required to have your PE/Dance kit for a total of three/four lessons per week at some points throughout the course. However, please be aware that there is the need to study some of the theoretical aspects of the course in a classroom and create the evidence required to complete all units of work ready for submission.

The BTEC course is adaptable and can be tailored to the pupils in the group. There are a range of assessment methods which will allow you to reach the intended learning outcomes. Where possible the department will adapt assignment briefs to ensure all pupils have the greatest chance of success.

Assessment for BTEC is on-going and once a unit is complete you have one 15 day window to re-visit your internally assessed work to make any necessary improvements to your grade. You can currently take the externally assessed unit more than once if you are unhappy with your grade.

What our pupils say...



"Btec Dance is so much fun, it requires dedication and hard work. CT Y12"



"I loved Btec Dance it is very practical and really makes you become a well-rounded successful dancer. Loved every minute. BH Y11 "



Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE - AQA

Miss Bates & Mr Taylor

What will I learn on this course?

Food Preparation and Nutrition makes the best use of our facilities, drawing on our food preparation rooms and IT capabilities. You will focus on practical skills across all aspects of cooking, preparation methods, presentation techniques, hygiene standards, nutritional analysis, dietary needs and how food groups contribute to a healthy diet. You will learn to develop independent practical skills and gain experience on working to time deadlines.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You need to have a desire to cook and prepare food as well as possessing organisational skills, self-motivation, research skills as well as exam and presentation skills. You need the ability to work individually, in pairs and in groups and demonstrate communication skills, through speaking and writing.

How will this course be assessed?

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

- Task 1: Written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words)
- Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence, including a 3 hour practical exam.

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

- 100 marks, 50% of GCSE, Multiple choice questions (20 marks) five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks).

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

It would be the first step to studying food at Post-16. It counts as a relevant qualification for entry to any Post-16 type of education. It also leads to, or contributes towards many other jobs/ careers. You will learn a range of skills that will be relevant throughout your life.

What else do I need to know?

This course does include a balance between food practicals and theory work.

What our pupils say...



"Learn how to create and invent our own recipes."

"Good for life skills."



"You get more insight into foods from around the world."



What will I learn on the course?

Geography looks at the world we live in and asks questions about what is happening and why; from the diverse and dynamic geography of the UK, to exploring the complexities of the planet and the interconnections that take place in the wider world. Can the world cope with a population of over 7 billion people? Are ecosystems really key to our survival as a species? We even get out there to see it for ourselves on Field Visits. We divide the course into three units:

- **UNIT 1** - Living in the UK Today (30% of the total GCSE) – during this unit we will discover the diverse natural landscapes of the UK and examine why the country we live in looks as it does. Why does the UK sometimes suffer from flooding and what is the impact on people and the environment? What affects our weather and how can people both predict and prepare for it? What is the population of the UK and what does this mean for the future? Does everyone have the same opportunities? How are we connected to other countries and how does it affect our daily lives? What will be the impact of 'Brexit' and how will it affect our population and trade patterns in the future?
- **UNIT 2** - The World Around Us (30% of the total GCSE) – this examines questions such as: Why are ecosystems important? What impacts are people having on coral reefs and rainforests? Why is the world's population so unequal in terms of wealth and resources? Why do some people live well whilst others struggle to have one meal a day? What are the environmental threats that face our planet? How can these be tackled?
- **UNIT 3** - Geographical Skills and Field Work Assessment (40% of the total GCSE) – you will be taught a huge variety of skills which will not only enable you to become an expert geographer but will also assist you in other subjects e.g. Science and Maths, and the world beyond school too. You will also get out of the classroom and explore the world around you by conducting field work. There may also be the opportunity to attend a visit overseas.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You need to be interested and inquisitive about the world in which we live. You need good communication skills and enjoy working both independently and as a team. The course will also improve your numeracy, literacy and ICT skills as well as encourage you to problemsolve. In addition, it will provide you with numerous other skills as well as expanding your spatial, environmental and social awareness.



Geography

GCSE - OCR

Mrs Walker, Mr Hobbs & Mr Twigg

If I follow the course where can it lead me?

Anywhere and everywhere! Geography has one of the highest rates of graduate employability, as well as being highly valued by employers both locally, nationally and internationally. It is a subject in its own right, complements other subjects well too and can lead to a whole host of interesting careers; some of which are listed below: Advertising, Architecture, Cartography, Landscape Design, Surveying, Environmental Health, Estate Management, Nature Conservation, Archaeology, Law, Libraries, Museums, Publishing, Politics, Business, Overseas Marketing, Leisure and Tourism, Civil Engineering, Meteorology, Navigation, Photography, Leisure Services, Sport and Recreation Management, Social and Youth work, Transport Services, Banks, Building Societies, Civil Service, Secretary/PA, Police, Army, Health Service and Teaching.

What else do I need to know?

It is important to remember that Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. Think! The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next fifty years than it has ever done before. Our role in the change is more important than ever. Geography explains the changes and helps to prepare people. It is a subject about NOW and the FUTURE. It is a big world out there and geography gives you the chance to understand it.

What our pupils say...



"The Geography field visit was really good fun. I'm now going to Italy on the residential to see Mt Vesuvius and Pompeii"

It's good to learn about places like the 'Dharavi Slums' and the 'One Child Policy.' It makes you realise how lucky we are"



"We look at lots of issues and study people and places from all over the world. This makes it really interesting as it makes you think."

Health & Social Care

BTEC Tech Award



Mrs Bowler & Mrs Siddall

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care is an ideal qualification for those pupils who want a broad background in Health and Social Care or are considering a career in the care profession. Examples of employment which a BTEC in Health and Social Care might lead to include; nursery nursing, social work, care assistant work and working with children. This BTEC course is designed to suit those studying the subject for the first time.

What will you study?

There are 3 components covered across the two years. These are:

- **Component 1** - Human lifespan development. This component will enable learners to investigate how, in real situations, human development is affected by different factors and that people deal differently with life events. This will be assessed by a coursework portfolio.
- **Component 2** - Health and Social Care Services and Values. This component will enable learners to study and practically explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of real service users. This will be assessed by a coursework portfolio.
- **Component 3** - Health and Wellbeing. This component will enable learners to study the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators and how to design a health and wellbeing improvement plan. This will be assessed externally under examination conditions. The questions on the paper will be based on a pre-released case study.

Where will it take me?

Studying BTEC Health and Social Care will provide you with a solid foundation needed to work in this expanding industry. This will be useful if you decide to follow any of the following careers: nursing, childcare, counsellor, social worker, care manager, medicine, psychology, physiotherapy, early years teaching and nursery nursing.

What our pupils say...



"I have enjoyed how we use what we have learnt in a real situation – I have just interviewed my mum and now I am writing about her development in my coursework!"

"We are learning about real people and real jobs."



"It has helped me to gain good knowledge and experience in working with people."



History

GCSE - AQA

Mrs Hart

What will I learn on this course?

Over your two year History course you will understand more about the modern world and learn how Britain was shaped into the country it is today. The course is made up of four units. In Year 10 you will study World War I in 'Conflict and Tension' and the American West in 'Expansion and Consolidation'. In Year 11 you will study 'Britain: Health and the People' and 'Norman England 1066-1100'. Each unit is worth 25% of your overall GCSE grade and is assessed over two exam papers.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

GCSE History builds on skills you already have, such as: interpreting sources, considering both sides of an argument, linking and explaining causes and consequences, analysing change and continuity, justifying your argument and evaluating historical evidence for reliability and utility.

How will this course be assessed?

You will complete two exams at the end of Year 11, each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

History will open so many doors for you into further education and beyond. You will become skilled in asking questions and not taking everything at face value as well as developing empathy of the actions of others. These transferable skills are highly desirable in many different careers that involve using evidence and making decisions such as medicine, business, law, finance, politics and journalism.

What else do I need to know?

GCSE History allows you to focus on topics in depth to gain a more detailed and deeper understanding of how events in the past have led to the ideas, attitudes, values and systems we have today. History enables us to make sense of the world we live in and understand more about what it is to be human.

What our pupils say...



"History has helped me in many other subjects. I have become really good at analyzing different sources of information."

"You should choose History because you always leave with a smile on your face."



"You should choose History because it's the only subject that makes you realise how our environment around us came to be."

Music

GCSE - AQA

Mrs Rushforth



What will I learn on this course?

You will learn to improve your performing of solo and group pieces in many styles of music. You will concentrate on your best/favourite instrument or voice, but you will also get a chance to try some new ones. You will learn to compose in a range of styles and for a number of instruments, using computer software. You will also learn to compose pop music producing a lead sheet. You will learn to analyse and appraise music using technical vocabulary, recognising different elements of music from a wide range of pop, classical and world music. The syllabus covers classical music from 1600-1900, film music, musical theatre, rock, hip-hop, R 'n' B, 60's pop, and music from India, Africa and the Caribbean.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You need to have an enthusiasm for music. You need to already play an instrument, sing to a reasonable standard, or be confident in your ability to pick up these skills very quickly. It really helps, but is not essential, if you can read music or understand some technical musical vocabulary, as these are the things other pupils have found the hardest. You will need to be creative have the ability to solve problems, be resilient and motivated.

How will this course be assessed?

Performing in Music is worth 30% of the qualification. You will choose your best solo and your best group performance which are recorded at various times during the course. You are assessed on two compositions, which are controlled assessments – another 30% of the course. The remaining 40% is a final listening exam, where you hear different extracts of music and you answer questions on the instruments, rhythms and harmonies.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

Some pupils take music to study a broad range of subjects, and as a change from other lessons. Many pupils go on to take music or performing arts at a higher level (A Level or BTEC). There are many careers which music is essential for such as musical therapist, arts administration, music teacher, composer and editor. The skills that you use in making music are very useful for other pathways, you develop great communications skills, self-confidence and resilience. Music is valued by universities for non- music related courses due to the skills it develops.

What else do I need to know?

GCSE music is not an easy option, but can be fun and rewarding. There is “not as much writing” as some other courses, but it is NOT just sitting around with your iPod on!

What our pupils say...



“It's quite hard at times but I enjoy it. It's very different from my other lessons “



“It's great to be able to do a music qualification - I would love to get a job where my main hobby becomes my career”



Performing Arts (Music or Drama)

BTEC Tech Award

Mrs Rushforth

Specification: Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts (Music or Drama)

You will want to study this subject if you have an interest in the performing arts. You may be enthusiastic about drama and/or musical theatre performance and have some interest in the others arts. You do not have to have taken part in much outside school in the field of music and drama (although that might help), but you do have to be prepared to work as a team and to be part of performances throughout the course.

What will I be studying?

You will follow a varied course covering skills mainly in drama and performance, at this stage there is very little focus on backstage or production skills. Learning topics are focused around working scenarios that practitioners face in the performing industry. You will spend the beginning of the course fine tuning your acting skills before moving onto more theoretical based study of practitioners, after this you will learn the detailed aspects of developing a performance to a professional standard. The course concludes by applying everything you have learnt into a final exam performance to fulfil a specific brief based on a vocational scenario.

How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed throughout the two years of the course; each component has to be passed to achieve the full qualification. All the work you do will be a mixture of practical work, written work providing evidence of your study and final performances.

- Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30%)
- Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts (30%)
- Component 3: Performing to a Brief (40%)

The first two components are completed and marked within school and moderated. The final component is an assignment brief provided by the exam board where students must prepare performance material to fulfil the requirements of the brief under exam conditions.

Anything else I need to know?

The course is a tough one, but highly rewarding. You are treated as young adults, venturing into the world of the performing arts, and are expected to rise to the challenge! You may be considering studying the performing arts for A Level and maybe beyond; in which case this course is definitely for you. However, a drama qualification will set you up in so many other ways too. It will increase your confidence, your ability to express yourself and relate to other people. It is a predominantly practical course, but it is a great challenge in terms of your own development.

Religious Studies

GCSE - OCR

Miss Devine & Mrs Silvester



What will I learn on this course?

There are many different aspects to this course which require you to be open minded and analytical.

The course is split into two sections:

- Religious Beliefs, Teachings and Practices (50%)
- Thematic Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) (50%)

Religious Beliefs, Teachings and Practices will encompass what people believe and why do they believe? How does that impact the way they live their life? How could that impact me?

We began the Thematic Studies section in September and have already covered Theme B:

- Theme A: Relationships and Families
- Theme B: Religion and Life
- Theme D: War, Peace and Conflict
- Theme E: Crime and Punishment

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

You will develop the ability to question, evaluate and discuss issues that could affect your life.

How will this course be assessed?

There are two, 1hr 45 minute exams completed at the end of Y11. One exam for Thematic Studies and one for Beliefs, Teachings and Practices.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

The issues studied as part of the course are relevant to anybody and everybody. If you want to study further you can use this course to apply for A Level RS and Philosophy, however, the academic skills developed lend themselves to many subjects. Current pupils sitting the course are looking to apply for careers as diverse as: medicine, armed forces, local government, engineering and teaching.

What else do I need to know?

It doesn't matter whether you have a faith or not; RS GCSE allows you to express, reason and question all opinions.



Sociology

GCSE Edexcel

Miss Norton

What will I learn on this course?

Y10: The sociology of families, the sociology of education, relevant areas of social theory and methodology.

Y11: The sociology of crime and deviance, the sociology of social stratification, relevant areas of social theory and methodology.

For each topic there will be an investigation into the key classical sociologists Durkheim, Marx and Weber. Different sociological perspectives surrounding conflict versus consensus will be assessed, including those informed by feminism, functionalism, interactionism and Marxism. You will read and respond to extracts from sociological texts and learn to critically evaluate, compare and contrast theories and explanations. For each topic area you are expected to demonstrate an understanding of relevant methods and methodological issues, for example the use of official statistics, qualitative and quantitative approaches and the use of mixed methods. You will explore and debate contemporary social issues in order to be able to challenge everyday understandings of social phenomena from a sociological perspective.

How it's assessed

Two written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes each, no coursework; this is 100% exam based subject, that means if you are not willing to put the effort in and do A LOT of revision then this course is not for you.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

Sociology is one of the most popular A level subjects and is a well-established course at Forge Valley. Undertaking the GCSE is an excellent way of getting a head start in this subject, but it will also broaden your understanding of the different social groups in society. You will learn how politics works; so anyone wishing to work closely with the public in the future would do well to take this course.

What our pupils say...



"Sociology has really opened my eyes to the inequalities around the world. I get really angry that there are so many people living in poverty, even here in Britain and it just makes me want to help as much as possible."



Spanish

GCSE MFL

Miss Fitzpatrick & Mrs Blythe



What will I learn on this course?

To develop language skills in a variety of contexts and topic areas in four key skills areas, Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. The course covers a range of topics through which our four skills are practised. For example: healthy lifestyles, holidays, local area and celebrity lifestyles.

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

Studying GCSE Modern Foreign Languages requires hard work and dedication. The subject demands good communication and writing skills as oracy and literacy are key skills necessary to achieve well in this subject. You need to enjoy the language and be prepared to work consistently hard through the two year course.

How will this course be assessed?

The course is assessed through final examinations at the end of Year 11 in the four key skills areas, Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. Each examination is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

If I follow this course where can it lead me?

You can continue with your language at Forge Valley 6th Form, or college, at A Level. If you choose to stop studying the subject at GCSE you will have developed excellent communication skills, which will be recognised by further education institutions or by employers. You will also have the ability to speak a language, which is the second most widely spoken language in the world.

What else do I need to know?

You receive dedicated time with our Foreign Language Assistant to improve your spoken language skills and priority for places on study trips abroad.



"Learning a language broadens your horizons and your understanding of the world. Employers value pupils with foreign language qualifications because it shows they have developed great communication skills."

What our pupils say...

"GCSE Spanish is fantastic because it's actually a fun language and you get to go to Spain."



"You should take Spanish because it will take your international knowledge to a new level. Also it's fabulous!"



What will I learn on this course?

The BTEC First Level 2 Award in Sport is a high-quality vocational course. The core and optional units allow you to explore a variety of topics and develop a wide range of transferable skills which all employers seek. The course will allow you to develop valuable skills which are relevant to any future career and it will demonstrate to employers that you have a good understanding of the benefits and importance of health and fitness. The skills you will develop include: creating presentations, planning and time management skills, the ability to work to deadlines, planning and delivering events, independent research skills, producing reports, analysing strengths and areas of development, communication skills, organisation skills and team work. Units 1 and 2 are core units and have to be completed. Two more units are selected by tutors from Units 3—6:

- Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise
- Unit 2: Practical Sports Performance
- Unit 3: The Mind and Sports Performance
- Unit 4: The Sports Performer in Action
- Unit 5: Training for Personal Fitness
- Unit 6: Leading Sports Activities

What specific skills do I need to succeed on this course?

The BTEC Level 2 Award in Sport provides a practical, real-life approach to learning and will develop specific knowledge and skills to work successfully in the sports industry and beyond. You will need to manage your time effectively, work within a team, have good organisation skills and be highly self-motivated. The ability to communicate is also essential.

How will this course be assessed?

Internal assessment is at the very heart of this course. 75% of the Award is coursework based and assessed by the tutor(s). 25% of the assessment is externally assessed and you will be required to take a 1 hour onscreen test.

The assessments will allow you to achieve a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* grade. You are able to track your own grades along the way and set yourself targets to ensure you reach your personal goals. You will be able to present your work in a variety of ways, including:

- Written reports, graphs, posters, log books
- Practical demonstrations and videos
- Presentations
- Interviews or voice recordings
- Delivery of practical events



If I follow this course where can it lead me?

The BTEC First Level 2 Award in Sport will open doors to Further/ Higher Education, or allow you to hit the ground running in a new job. The award will help you develop the knowledge and skills to progress in your chosen career, whatever this may be. Through engaging and inspiring activities, this qualification will empower you to broaden your horizons in later life and prepare you for the workplace.

What else do I need to know?

This course will run in addition to the core PE lesson which all pupils have in Year 10 and Year 11. This could mean that you may be required to have your PE kit for a total of three/four lessons per week at some points throughout the course. However, please be aware that there is the need to study some of the theoretical aspects of the course in a classroom and create the evidence required to complete all units of work ready for submission.

The BTEC course is adaptable and can be tailored to the pupils in the group. There are a range of assessment methods which will allow you to reach the intended learning outcomes. Where possible the department will adapt assignment briefs to ensure all pupils have the greatest chance of success.

The course is different from a traditional GCSE where pupils cover the content over a two year period and then sit a final external exam. Assessment for BTEC is on-going and once a unit is complete you have one 15 day window to re-visit your internally assessed work to make any necessary improvements to your grade. You can currently take the externally assessed unit more than once if you are unhappy with your grade.

What our pupils say...



"Great! You learn lots of new things about the principles of training in a practical and theoretical way. BG Y10"



"I like BTEC Sport because it's practical and we do a variety of activities to learn the content. LM Y10"



DO !

- ⇒ choose subjects which YOU like, achieve well in and that interest YOU.
- ⇒ read the Pathways information fully.
- ⇒ discuss your strengths and areas for development with your subject teachers.
- ⇒ discuss options with your tutor and your parents.
- ⇒ go to the careers staff for advice.
- ⇒ realise that virtually all courses lead to a certificate qualification.
- ⇒ understand that there are equal opportunities for boys and girls in all subjects.
- ⇒ realise that the decisions you make are important.
- ⇒ try to be sure that you are happy with your choices. You will need to complete the course.



DON'T !

- ⇒ think you can drop subjects. You must do English, mathematics and science.
- ⇒ make your mind up before you know all the facts.
- ⇒ set your heart on one future career.
- ⇒ think you can switch subjects once you have started the course.
- ⇒ choose a course because your friends have done so. Their abilities and interests may be different to yours.
- ⇒ let like or dislike of a teacher influence your choice. It is impossible to say which teacher you will get next year.
- ⇒ choose (or ignore) a subject because of your elder brother's or sister's opinion.
- ⇒ think any subjects are 'soft options'. You will have to work hard for ALL of them.
- ⇒ choose a subject you know nothing about. Find out about it.
- ⇒ listen to advice from people who know nothing about courses at this school.
- ⇒ think some subjects are just for boys or just for girls. ALL are available to both.
- ⇒ make any decision hastily or lightly.
- ⇒ panic! There are lots of people who are willing to help you.

AMBITION - ENDEAVOUR - SUCCESS

Useful Information

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