



EXCELLENCE • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP
KING RICHARD
SCHOOL

GCSE Options

September 2016 - June 2018



We are a unique community where learning and leadership ensures excellence for all



Options: Introduction

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you know, for their first three years at King Richard School all pupils take essentially the same wide range of subjects. This is intended both to lay the foundations of a broad general education and to give pupils at least some experience on which to base their choice of courses in the upper school.

At this stage in their school career, pupils must now decide, from a range of subjects, which together with English, Mathematics and Science will form their GCSE examination courses. The construction of a study programme is very much a matter for the individual and before final decisions are made a good deal of consultation has to take place. It is virtually impossible to put down on paper all the factors involved in making appropriate choices but it is hoped that this booklet will enable discussion to be concentrated on specific needs, interests and aspirations.

In weighing possibilities pupils and parents are advised to keep in mind the following points:

1. The needs of the pupil in the light of future career requirements. Please do consult the careers service based in the school on any matter related to entrance requirements for particular careers.
2. The importance of preserving a reasonable balance between the main subject areas. Our Option Scheme is constructed in such a way as to ensure that each pupil takes a course in the main areas recommended within the National Curriculum but it is still important to choose subjects that will keep as many career doors open for as long as possible.
3. The interest and enjoyment of the subject for the pupil. To choose a course because one likes the subject, all other things being equal, is a perfectly valid reason.
4. The ability and aptitude of the pupil in regard to a particular subject. Here care must be taken as some pupils underestimate their capabilities, whilst others take too casual a view of the difficulties inherent in some subjects.
5. All courses listed are scheduled to run for two years. This means that they cannot normally be completed before the end of June in Year 11. This can create problems in a service environment. If you know that you will be posted during the next two years you should bear the following in mind:
 - a) All MOD Schools in Germany have a similar option system, with additions in the larger Schools; therefore if you are likely to be posted to Germany please seek advice from us so that choices can be made which conform to that pattern.
 - b) If you are to be posted to the UK remember that it is extremely unlikely that our option pattern will be exactly the same but because of the National Curriculum it is likely to be quite similar to the new School. However, it is important to keep subject choices to the most common subjects in order to ensure a reasonable chance of continuity. We will also contact the new School for you if you wish.
6. It will be appreciated that instances can arise where a "perfect" fit in terms of choice cannot be obtained. This is true irrespective of the size of a school but we are confident that the entry requirements for all of the normal range of careers can be gained through our scheme. Indeed, we feel we offer as wide a range of subjects as that offered in most UK Schools.



Options: Questions & Answers

As a Year 9 student, the time has come for you to take part in planning your programme of study for the next two years.

What should I think about?

- What your strengths and weaknesses are.
- Which subjects you enjoy.
- Which subjects you will need in the future without closing any doors.
- What you want to do when you are 16.

Who can help me choose?

- Your parents
- Your teachers in school
- Your Tutor
- Ms S Moloney - The Careers Officer
- Mr R Sproson.

How do I find out what is available?

- Study this booklet carefully
- Talk to all those who can help
- Think carefully for yourself

What do I do then?

In late February we conducted a straw poll of pupils to assess which optional subjects they would like to study for GCSE. The option blocks generated from this process will attempt to give the maximum satisfaction rating possible. As such therefore the option blocks reflect as far as possible pupil and parent preferences, allowing those students who wish to follow the E.Bacc the opportunity to do so and also enabling those who wish to specialise within humanities, languages, creative arts, or technology the opportunity to do so.

It is from these 4 option blocks that the 4 option choices will have to be selected. Therefore, it is vital that the option decision form is completed carefully after much consideration, as this will influence the allowable combinations of GCSE options subjects.

It is also worth noting the following 2 important points when referring to the option blocks:

- Whilst every effort has been taken to allow students to choose their top 4 options there will be some who will be disappointed. It is impossible to give everyone what they want due the large number of permutations of choices made by pupils in the straw poll. We are a very small school and as such can only offer each subject once within the option blocks.
- Just because a course is described here, it does not mean that it will be offered. If only a very few students opt for a course, we may have to withdraw it.



The Careers Adviser Miss S Moloney

Please feel free to consult the Careers Adviser, Miss Moloney, based in the school on any matter related to the options process and career planning. Some students have a clear idea of what they would like to do in the future and how to achieve their goals but many do not and it is also likely that as students' knowledge and experience widens their plans and ideas may change. A discussion with the Careers Adviser about GCSE options and future pathways can be helpful in alleviating any fears students may have about how their current choices may affect their future careers. Miss Moloney will meet with students throughout their GCSE courses to discuss issues including further education, work with training and career planning, parents are welcome to attend all careers interviews and will be advised in advance of scheduled appointments during years 10 and 11.

The Careers Adviser can be contacted on Tel: 25968005 should you or your child wish to speak to her during the options process.

The E.Bacc (or English Baccalaureate)

Two years ago the Government introduced a new measure for schools - the English Baccalaureate (E.Bacc). A student will achieve the E.Bacc if they achieve a grade C or above in English, Mathematics, 2 Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and History or Geography (6 specific GCSE qualifications in total). There is **no certificate** available for students attaining this measure.

At King Richard School, our curriculum provision includes the E.Bacc subjects (a Modern Foreign Language, Double Science or Triple Science, History and Geography); all of which are very popular subjects. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, we would expect students to choose subjects that will allow them to gain the E.Bacc as this offers a solid academic foundation for future study and success.

We are committed to the successful delivery of all of our courses and are rightly proud of the achievements of our students past, present and future.





Changes to GCSEs over the next two years

Current GCSE expectations Standards of work for each grade boundary	New GCSE Expectations / translations.
Standard required to achieve a D grade	Number 3
Standard required to achieve a C grade	Number 4
Standard required to achieve a B grade	Number 5.5
Standard required to achieve an A grade	Number 7
Standard required to achieve an A*	Number 8.5
	New super A* 9

In 2018 GCSE English and Maths and a large proportion of other subjects will be graded 9 - 1 with 9 being the highest grade. In some subjects A* - G grades remain. Each subject has given details of this on their page. The table on this page shows the equivalent in terms of the standard of work required to achieve the new numbered grades. **Grade 5** will be the average age related expectation. This means that GCSE are becoming more challenging

Settling in to Y10

In the first week of the Y10 program students are taken to Troodos camp with their tutors and Head of Year to spend a couple of days looking at the expectations of the school for their GCSE studies, building ambition and teamwork through a variety of challenges and workshops. This is an incredibly useful experience and you will be informed about it towards the end of Y9 or during the induction process at the start of Y10.





Options: Calendar of Events

The following calendar of events is designed to help you stay on track during the options process. If, for some reason, you are likely to miss any of the dates below then please do contact the school so that alternative arrangements can be made.

OPTIONS PROCEDURE 2016

	DATE	DETAILS
1	Feb 9th onwards	Individual Careers interviews with every Y9 student (all parents invited by letter) Interviews start w/b 9 th February.
2	W/b Feb 22nd	Careers lesson looking at different option choices led by Miss S Moloney the island based Careers adviser.
4	Feb 26th	KRS option booklet issued which contains useful information regarding the GCSE curriculum for the school
5	W/b March 7th	Which way now booklets issued on Monday period 1 March 2nd
3	March 18th	Straw poll of option preferences for all Y9 students who will be with us for Y10. From this the option blocks will be determined.
6	April 19th	Options afternoon. A meeting to explain the options procedure and the GCSE curriculum structure at KRS.
7	April 22nd	Student reports to parents
8	May 5th	Y9 Parents afternoon
9	May 13th	Option preferences returned to school. From this the four option blocks will be determined.
10	May 16th	Option blocks determined and option choice forms issued.
11	May 27th	Final student option choices returned to school
12	June 6th	Student option choices confirmed.
13	Sept 1st	GCSE courses start



Options: The Curriculum in Years 10 & 11

The Curriculum for Years 10 and 11 aims to give pupils access to specific skills and bodies of knowledge necessary to prepare them for life as adults, able to pursue responsible and active participation in our society. This curriculum must provide an education related as closely as possible to our counterparts in the United Kingdom. These two years should be seen as an integral unit of study, leading to assessment and the subsequent awarding of GCSE certificates.

The curriculum for each pupil will contain the following elements:

a) Core Curriculum

- English - 8 periods
- Mathematics - 8 periods
- Science (Dual Certification) - 9 periods
- Physical Education - 4 periods
- Religious Citizenship & Personal and Social Education - 1 period

b) Optional GCSE Subjects

4 Optional Subjects - 5 periods per option group





All Subjects

Subject

Core Areas	Page
Mathematics (Core).....	09
English Language and Literature (Core).....	10
Combined Science (Trilogy) (Core).....	11
Physical Education (Core).....	12
Religious Education with PSHE and citizenship (Core).....	13

Optional subjects choice of 4 from the following

Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)	14
Computing.....	15
History.....	16
Geography.....	17
French and German.....	18 - 19
Drama.....	20
Music.....	21
Art & Design.....	22
Physical Education.....	23
D&T: Food Preparation and Nutrition.....	24
D&T: Resistant Materials.....	25
Art and Design: Textile Design.....	26
Business Studies.....	27
RE - Christian Ethics.....	28
Health and Social Care	29



Core: Maths

GCSE Mathematics Grades 9 - 1

EDEXCEL Linear Mathematics (1MA1)

E.Bacc - Yes

The new GCSE will follow the two tiers, first assessment June 2017.

- Foundation tier, where grades 1 up to 5 may be achieved, and
- Higher tier, where grades 4 up to 9 are possible.

The pupils are taught in sets and the level of work is selected to suit their ability. Year 9 NCT results and teacher assessments give excellent guidance as to which set is best for each pupil.

The content of GCSE Mathematics is grouped into the topic areas of Number, Algebra, Ratio, proportion and rates of change, Geometry and measures, Probability and Statistics.

The GCSE will be entirely assessed by three written examinations at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long. Each paper has 80 marks and has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

It is, therefore, essential that each student has their own calculator.

There is no coursework or controlled assessments in this GCSE. This means that “using and Applying mathematics” is now assessed through examination.

The aims and objectives of this course in Mathematics are to enable students to:

- develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

If you wish to have more information about the GCSE Mathematics please visit the EDEXCEL website or contact a mathematics teacher at the school.

Contact: Mr S Peters

speters@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com





Core: English

GCSE English Grades 9 - 1

Examination Board: English Language AQA (4705) - English Literature AQA (9715)

E.Bacc - Yes

All students will be entered for AQA GCSE English Language and English Literature. This will lead to two separate GCSE qualifications. Both courses are assessed entirely by external examinations which take place at the end of Year 11. There will be no Controlled Assessments as in previous years.

A separate grade will be awarded for Spoken Language. This element of the course will be assessed internally. This does not contribute to the award of the final GCSE grade.

Subject Name: English Language

Students will sit two examination papers at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Explorations in Reading and Writing (50%)

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives (50%)

Subject Name: English Literature

Students will sit two examination papers at the end of Year 11

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel (40%)

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (60%)

Spoken Language (for which a separate grade will be awarded)

- Presenting
- Responding to questions and feedback
- Use of Standard English



English Language	English Literature
<p>The course requires students to study:</p> <p>Literary fiction - extracts from novels and short stories from the 20th or 21st centuries focusing on how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers.</p> <p>Narrative and Descriptive Writing - how to produce original narrative or descriptive writing.</p> <p>Non-fiction and literary non-fiction - articles, reports, essays, travel writing, accounts, letters, diaries, reports, autobiography and biographical passages.</p> <p>Writing to present a viewpoint - how to produce original writing which presents a point of view.</p>	<p>The course requires students to study:</p> <p>Shakespeare – Students study one play by Shakespeare from a prescribed list.</p> <p>The 19th Century Novel – students study one complete novel from a prescribed list.</p> <p>Modern Texts – students study either a modern prose or modern drama text</p> <p>Poetry – students study a cluster of poems from an AQA Anthology</p> <p>Unseen poetry – students will be required to develop the skills to answer questions on unseen poetry.</p>

Anyone interested in finding out more can download the draft specifications from the AQA website:

[aqa.org.uk/english for everyone](http://aqa.org.uk/english-for-everyone)

Contact: Mr. J. Purdie

jpurdie@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com

Core: GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)



GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy).

Grade Scale of 17 points (9 - 9, 9 - 8 through to 2 - 1, 1 - 1)

Examination Board: AQA

E.Bacc - Yes



This double award is equivalent to two GCSEs and covers much of the same content as previous GCSE Sciences offered. Summary of Content:

<p>Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell Biology • Organisation • Infection & Response • Bioenergetics • Homeostasis & Response • Inheritance, Variation & Evolution • Ecology 	<p>Chemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table • Bonding, Structure & the Properties of Matter • Quantitative Chemistry • Chemical Changes • Energy Changes • The Rate & Extent of Chemical Change • Organic Chemistry • Chemical Analysis • Chemistry of the Atmosphere • Using Resources
<p>Physics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forces • Energy • Waves • Electricity • Magnetism & Electromagnetism • Particle Model of Matter • Atomic Structure 	<p>Exams</p> <p>Six papers all 1 hour and 15 minutes, two on Biology, two on Chemistry and two on Physics. Each paper worth 16.7% and out of 70 marks. No coursework.</p>

In Science we try to improve student skills so they can use their knowledge and understanding to pose scientific questions and define scientific problems, plan and carry out investigative activities, including appropriate risk management, in a range of contexts, collect, select, process, analyse and interpret both primary and secondary data to provide evidence and evaluate their methodology, evidence and data.

Contact: Mr S Reid

sreid@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com



Core: Physical Education

Not examined

Physical Education in Key Stage 4 develops students' competence and confidence to take part in a range of physical activities that will hopefully become a central part of their lives, both in and out of school.

Our PE curriculum enables all students to enjoy and succeed in many kinds of physical activity. Students will work as individuals, in groups and in teams, developing concepts of fairness and of personal and social responsibility. They take on different roles and responsibilities, including leadership, coaching and officiating. Through the range of experiences that PE offers, students will learn how to be effective in competitive, creative and challenging situations. Discovering what they like to do will help students make informed choices about lifelong physical activity.

Contact: Mr C Thomas

cthomas@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com



Core: RE, PSHE, CITIZENSHIP



Not examined

We aim to enhance and enrich the lives of young people by enabling them to make the most of outstanding learning opportunities within and beyond the curriculum; instilling an appreciation that there are no limits to what they can achieve and developing the attributes needed to successfully shape and respond to the future. Core RE,

PSHE and Citizenship education is delivered during a designated lesson each week and is fully embedded in all aspects of school life.

A five-year plan has been devised to ensure that students do not experience the same content over and over again. Revisions each year are informed by a thorough evaluation of previous practice, including feedback from students, parents, carers and staff. It is a dynamic programme that is continuously reviewed, improved and changed according to the current needs of the students.

The delivery model provides opportunities for a range of different approaches, including specialist teams of nurses, military police and career guidance professionals. This means that provision is sufficiently flexible to meet the individual needs of different students and year groups.

The various aspects of the Key Stage 4 programme are outlined below:

- Parenting
- Sexual Relationships Education
- Enterprise, Money Management & Economic Independent
- Study Skills & Stress Management, Setting Goals & achieving targets
- Careers Education—Specialist Information, Advice & Guidance opportunities
- Rights & Responsibilities, CEOP & E-safety
- Personal Development
- Identity & Diversity
- Prejudice & discrimination
- Contemporary ethical issues and controversial current affairs

Assessment:

The curriculum model aims to meet all individual, group and local needs via this multi-faceted approach. To enable this to work, teachers and students are regularly consulted on the content ensuring flexibility in the material covered and that it is up-to-date and relevant. This fluid, dynamic and evolving model is constantly reviewed and revised to ensure that provision is of the highest quality.

Contact: Mrs C Downham

cdownham@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com



Options: GCSE Separate Sciences



GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry & GCSE Physics

Grade points for each Separate Science 3 x 9 - 1

Examination Board: AQA

E.Bacc - Yes

For those students who have proven ability in Science and are considering a university course or career in the Sciences then the Separate Science GCSEs are recommended. This will mean that they will obtain three GCSE grades covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics, each of which might be a different grade. Separate Science is an option within the core group also comprising Computing and ICT.

As this is a demanding course, it is not a freely available option to all students. Performance in KS3 science and assessments during the start of the course in September 2016 will be crucial determinants as to whether this option is offered or whether a student will be allowed to remain on the course.

<p>Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell Biology • Organisation • Infection & Response • Bioenergetics • Homeostasis & Response • Inheritance, Variation & Evolution • Ecology 	<p>Chemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table • Bonding, Structure & the Properties of Matter • Quantitative Chemistry • Chemical Changes • Energy Changes • The Rate & Extent of Chemical Change • Organic Chemistry • Chemical Analysis • Chemistry of the Atmosphere • Using Resources
<p>Physics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forces • Energy • Waves • Electricity • Magnetism & Electromagnetism • Particle Model of Matter • Atomic Structure • Space Physics 	<p>Exams</p> <p>Six papers all 1 hour and 45 minutes, two on Biology, two on Chemistry and two on Physics.</p> <p>Each paper worth 16.7% and out of 50 marks. No coursework.</p>

The course prepares students for progression onto A/S Level science courses. The development of science in a modern society is essential for economic growth. It increasingly plays a part in our everyday lives. The list of career opportunities is almost endless. They range from the medical profession, i.e. doctor, nurse, pharmacist, public health and dentistry, to construction engineering, chemical engineering and mechanical engineering. Opportunities also occur in computing, electronics, telecommunications and electrical engineering. Scientists also form an important part of the aerospace industry, industrial chemical manufacturing, textiles and the car industry.

Contact: Mr S Reid

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Options: GCSE Computer Science

GCSE Computing Science

Grades 1 - 9

Exam Board: Edexcel

E.Bacc - Yes

From 2015 this course will count as a science option in the E.Bacc measure in secondary school performance tables. This means that a student who sits any three of the four separate sciences (Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Computing Science and achieves a grade 6 or higher in two of them will fulfil the science requirement of the E.Bacc.

Why choose this specification?

The Edexcel GCSE in computing science equips learners with the knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts of this increasingly important subject.

What skills will I learn?

To be successful in this subject you will need to be able to think logically and work methodically through problems in order to design solutions across a range of different contexts.

Aims and objectives of the course?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs
- think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science.

How will I be assessed?

There are two main elements to your assessment:

1. A written paper taken at the end of the course. This counts for 75% of the overall marks.
2. A controlled assessment focusing in on practical programming skills. This counts for the remaining 25%.

Contact: Mr R Murphy

rmurphy@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com





Options: GCSE History

Why study History at GCSE?

History gives you the opportunity to understand the world around you and how it came into being. Studying History also provides you with a wide variety of skills, during the course you will become highly skilled at testing evidence, making judgements and interpreting why people hold the views they do. The History GCSE also provides the opportunity to see people at their very best and their very worst, in their moments of triumph and despair.

What can the study of History lead to?

The study of History can open up a number of doors. It can offer a career as a working historian, further study and a career in academia, journalism, law and a career in education. A wide range of other career options are available due to the transferrable skills acquired during the study of History.

What will be studied?

The History GCSE we offer at King Richard School is from Edexcel. The following areas will be studied:

1. The Development of Medicine since 1250AD
2. The Medicine of the Western Front
3. Nazi Germany 1919 to 1939
4. A study of the American West
5. The Norman Conquest

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 - Thematic study and study of the historical environment (Medicine) - 30% of total qualification - Source and knowledge based

Paper 2 - Period study and British depth study (American West and Norman Conquest) - 40% of total qualification - Knowledge based

Paper 3 - Modern Depth Study (Nazi Germany) - 30% of total qualification - Source based

Contact: Mr R Sproson

rsproson@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com





Options: Geography

GCSE Geography Grades A* - G

Examination Board: AQA 9030

E.Bacc - Yes

Why Study Geography?

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. There are so many ways of learning in geography. It is very practical with opportunities to learn new skills such as modern computer based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques.

You will improve your literacy through your report writing and written work and make practical use of your numeracy skills when you interpret data and construct graphs.

Fieldwork, or working outside the classroom is a really important part of geography. Whether you go locally or get the chance to travel further away it will be a brilliant opportunity to experience some of the things you have learnt about in class, see things differently and of course have fun. There has never been a better time to study geography so make the choice to go places with geography by taking geography at GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues - 37.5%

Paper 2: UK Geographical Issues - 37.5%

Paper 3: People and Environment Issues - Making Geographical Decisions - 25%

What will learn?

Hazardous Earth - *Volcanoes exploding & earthquakes trembling!*

Development dynamics - *The mega rich vs the devastatingly poor...*

Challenges of an urbanising world - *Pollution, Skyscrapers and Rubbish?*

Coastal change and conflict - *Floods, storms and cliffs collapsing!*

River processes and pressures - *Floods, waterfalls and amazing technology!*

Dynamic UK cities - *Places you'll want to visit...*

2 x Geographical investigations - *going out on trips*

1 option from: People and the biosphere, Forests under threat, Consuming energy resources

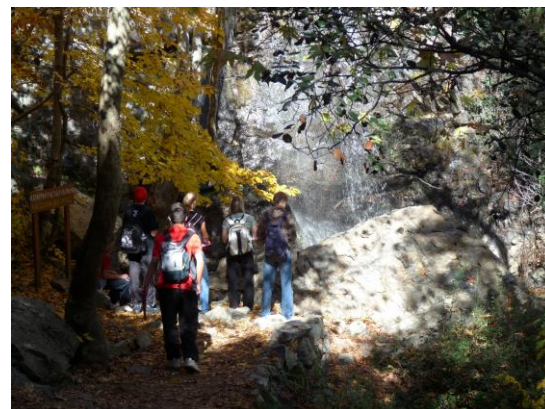


What skills will I need to be successful?

- Atlas and map & Graphical skills - *Maps*
- Data and information research and investigative skills - *ICT*
- Cartographic & Graphical skills - *Graphs*
- Literacy, Numerical & Statistical skills - *English & Maths*

Contact: Mr G Burvill

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Options: Languages

GCSE French and / or German
Grades 1 - 5 (Foundation), Grades 4 - 9 (Higher)
Examination Board French: AQA (8658)
Examination Board German: AQA (8668)
E.Bacc - Yes

Why study a foreign language?

- 94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language.
- It is a multilingual world - 300 languages are spoken in London alone.
- According to recruitment agencies, salaries are 8-20% higher for those with an additional language.
- 60% + of British trade is with non-English speaking countries.
- It can make travel and leisure more exciting and interesting.
- Employers rank foreign language skills as second only to IT when it comes to finding the right candidate, according to a recent survey.

Where will languages take you?

- Translating and Interpreting
- Teaching
- The Armed Forces
- Journalism
- Travel and Tourism
- Retail and Wholesale
- Health & Social Work
- Engineering
- Banking and Finance



GCSE topics include:

Identity and culture

- Me, my family and friends: Relationships with family and friends, Marriage/partnership.
- Technology in everyday life: Social media, Mobile technology.
- Free-time activities: Music, Cinema and TV, Food and eating out, Sport.
- Customs and festivals in French/German-speaking countries.

Local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Home, town, neighbourhood and region.
- Social issues: Charity/voluntary work, Healthy/unhealthy living.
- Global issues: The environment, Poverty/homelessness.
- Travel and tourism.

Current and future study and employment

- My studies.
- Life at school/college.
- Education post-16.
- Career choices and ambitions.

Assessment:

Foundation and Higher tiers are available. At the end of Year 11, pupils sit the following exams:

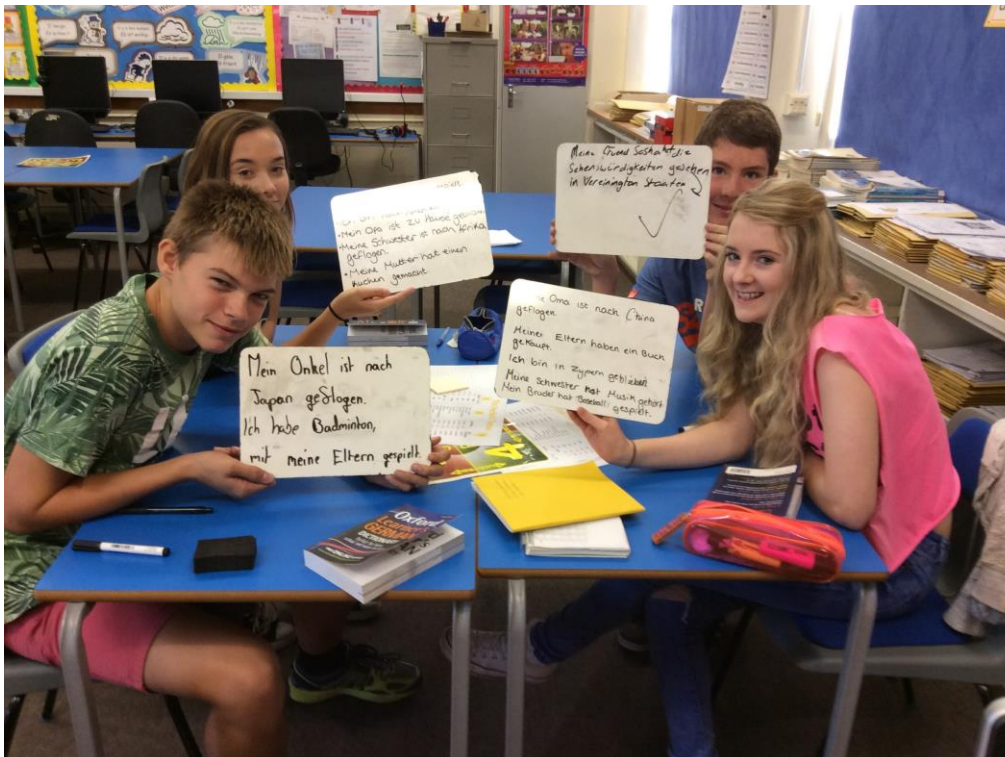
- **Paper 1: Listening**
35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier): 25% of GCSE.
- **Paper 2: Speaking**
Tasks: Role-play, Photo Card, Conversation. Conducted by class teacher. 7-9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time, 10-12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time: 25% of GCSE.
- **Paper 3: Reading**
45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier): 25% of GCSE.
- **Paper 4: Writing**
Tasks include: Writing lists/messages, structured/open-ended writing and translation into the foreign language. 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier): 25% of GCSE.

What sort of pupils do well at GCSE languages?

- Pupils who have a good memory for learning vocabulary.
- Pupils who like to communicate.
- Pupils who are interested in foreign cultures.
- Pupils who understand grammar rules.
- Pupils who want to travel.
- Pupils who scored well in the end of unit assessments in Years 7, 8 & 9.

Contact: Mr J Pointon

jpointon@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com





Options: Drama

GCSE Drama Grades A*- G

Exam Board: AQA (4240)

E.Bacc - No

Why take this subject?

The smell of the greasepaint... The roar of the crowd... If practical performance work appeals to you, join the GCSE Drama class!

But it's not just for would-be actors! A pass in GCSE Drama shows that you are a good team-worker; that you have discipline, commitment and reliability as well as critical insight, analytical skills and an ability to present yourself - all qualities which will stand you in good stead in further education, training or employment.

What's the course like?

GCSE Drama is a mainly practical course, with three elements:

- Creating drama
- Performing drama
- Responding to drama

During the course, students can expect to:

- Take part in practical lessons in stagecraft and individual acting skills.
- Devise and perform their own plays.
- Perform plays from published scripts.
- Learn to analyse the own and others' performances.
- Attend theatre visits to live productions



How is it assessed?

Controlled assessment (coursework) (60%):

Two practical pieces

- In each coursework piece, you will be graded on Progress and Understanding (preparatory work).
- Final presentation (performance or design).

There is no written component in the coursework.

External Assessment (exam) (40%):

Two questions in which you discuss practical work of your own, completed during the course, and live productions you've seen.

GCSE Drama is a demanding course with an emphasis on performance.

Contact: Ms H Field

hfield@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com



Options: Music

GCSE Music Grades A* - G

Examination Board: EDEXCEL (2MU01)

E.Bacc - No



Who is this course for?

The course is for anyone who enjoys:

- Composing and performing music
- Learning an instrument or singing
- Creating music on computers (Sibelius/Cubase)
- Learning about all types of music, including classical, popular and world

GCSE Music develops the basic skills you have learnt in your music lessons:

- You have created music of your own in class and this is developed on the GCSE course as you choose two topics for composition. For example, this could be a popular song and a dance track, a classical piece or some world music. It can be tailored to your own musical interests and strengths.
- You have listened to a variety of music in class and these skills are developed as you study some set pieces taken from the classical, 20th century, popular and world music Areas of Study.
- You enjoy making music, either as a soloist or in a group. The GCSE course encourages you to perform music of your own choosing and in any style, as a soloist and also in a group. To take this course, you must be able to offer at least one instrument/or voice.

What will I learn on the course? You will learn how:

- To improve your performing skills (solo and ensemble)
- How music is constructed from initial ideas through to the finished product during composition tasks
- To analyse music in a variety of styles and discover the social and historical context in which music has been composed over the last 400 years or so.

How will I be assessed?

Performing (30%), Composing (30%), Listening & Appraising (40%)

You will need to play one solo piece and one ensemble (group) piece.

You will need to create two compositions. One of these will be a free choice composition and one will be a composition to a brief set by Edexcel.

You will sit a 90 minute written paper with questions on your prescribed 12 set works.

Questions such as these are asked:

- 'Name the instrument playing the solo'
- 'Give two musical reasons why you like or dislike this piece of music'

What opportunities does this course give me when it I have finished?

If you enjoyed the GCSE Music course, then you can consider an AS and A2 in Music and/or Music Technology and AS and A2 in Performing Arts

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Options: Art & Design

GCSE Art & Design Grades A* - G

Examination Board: EDEXCEL (2AD01)

E.Bacc - No

Students must complete two years' full-time study at Key Stage 4.

Aims of the course:

Students will:

- Develop the skills to investigate, analyse and experiment using art, craft and design.
- Develop their imaginative powers and the skills to express their ideas, feelings and meanings.
- Develop an understanding of the language and conventions of art and design and an understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and society.

What is the course like?

The Art and Design course has been designed to encourage an adventurous and enquiring approach to art and design. Successful students should demonstrate an understanding of past and contemporary art and design practice, and be able to produce artwork that embraces a range of ideas. This GCSE course sets out to reward positively the actual achievements of each student.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment consists of two main sections: coursework = 60% of marks and the externally set assignment = 40% of marks.

Students will be required to complete one unit of coursework, addressing all four assessment objectives. The externally set assignment will consist of a 10 hour timed test based on a single theme. The paper will be given to students in advance of the examination date in order for preparatory work to be completed.

Assessment of all work is internally marked and externally moderated.

Both the coursework unit and the externally set assignment must include a work journal. Homework is regularly set and will form an integral part of the coursework.

It is expected that all students on this GCSE course will have a selection of drawing and painting materials at home.

A more detailed list can be obtained from the Art & Design department.

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Options: Physical Education

GCSE Physical Education Grades 9 - 1

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

E.Bacc - No

GCSE in Physical Education will equip students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values they need to be able to develop and maintain their performance in physical activities. Students will also gain understanding of how physical activities benefit health, fitness and well-being.

How will I be assessed?

There are 4 main components that together form the final assessment

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems

Component 2: Health and Performance

Component 3: Practical Performance

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme

Components 1 and 2 are theory based and account for 60% of the total marks.

Component 3 involves performance in 3 chosen activities from the following (accounts for 30% of the total marks):



- one team activity e.g. football, netball, basketball, badminton etc. one individual activity e.g. trampolining, swimming, golf etc.
- one activity of their choice, either a team or individual activity.

Component 4 involves students' skills in analysing and evaluating performance through a personal exercise programme (PEP) in order to improve/optimize performance in a chosen physical activity (accounts for 10% of the total marks).

What do I need to do to be successful?

1. A sound knowledge of science and sporting activities.
2. Regular participation at a club (e.g.: trampolining, golf, sailing, football will help progress). Understand that the subject involves a large quantity of written work. **Expect regular homework and written examinations.**

All pupils are also expected to act as role models for all other pupils by always having correct kit and equipment, helping at extra-curricular activities. Participation in all school swimming events & sports days is compulsory.

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Options: Food Preparation & Nutrition

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Grades A* - G
Examining Board: WJEC Eduqas
E.Bacc - No

How will I be assessed?

There are two main parts to the overall grade:

1. Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes - 50% of the qualification
2. Coursework - 50% of the qualification. The non-examination assessment is composed of two assessments that are set by WJEC. Learners will be able to select from a choice of two tasks for each assessment.



What skills will I learn?

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

This specification has been designed to create a balance between practical and theoretical knowledge and understanding.

By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will:

- be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment
- develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks
- understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health
- understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
- understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Contact Mrs E Andrew

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Options:

Design & Technology

Resistant Materials

GCSE Resistant Materials Technology Grades A* - G
Examining Board: AQA (4560)
E.Bacc - No



Why study Design and Technology?

This course will help you to understand and appreciate the design and manufacture of products, making you a more discriminating purchaser. It will help you to be creative in your approach and you will use computers to help with your design ideas and in creating products. You will learn about a range of materials. You will gain skills, which will be useful in a wide range of jobs, in further study of Design and Technology and in your personal life.

What projects will I be expected to complete?

In Year 10 you will work through several design and make assignments in order to explore the theory elements of the course and prepare for the external examination, which you will sit at the end of Year 11.

The skills and knowledge you develop will prepare you for your controlled assessment assignment in Year 11.

Typical projects in Year 10 are:

- Using a variety of joining techniques to make a coffee table
- Batch production of an MP3 amplifier and desk tidy
- Metal manufacture techniques to create a candle holder and jewellery
- Heat treatment techniques to alter the properties of metals

The projects listed above along with a range of smaller practical tasks will give you practical experience in preparation for the written examination and also develop manufacturing skills which you will use on the major coursework project.

Homework:

You will be set one theory homework each week and design based tasks when appropriate all via our Moodle VLE.

Assessment:

You will answer questions on one exam paper (2 hrs), which counts as 40% of the overall grade.

Coursework:

This will be worth 60% of your overall result. You will produce a design folio and a prototype product.

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Options:

Art and Design - Textile Design

GCSE Art and Design - Textile Design Grades A*- G

Examining Board: EDEXCEL (TE01)

E.Bacc - No

How will I be assessed?

There are two main parts to the overall grade:

1. Coursework personal portfolio 60%
2. Examination 40% taken at the end of the course



To take this creative course no previous experience is required just an interest and enthusiasm for Textiles and related crafts.

What will I be doing?

You will get the opportunity to explore and experiment with a variety of techniques including printing and painting on fabric, embroidery, tie dye and batik. You will develop your own ideas from a theme, using this as a starting point you will make links to other artists, designers and embrace both traditional and contemporary technologies.

This is an exciting Art and Design GCSE course specifically for those who have an interest in fabrics, embellishment and creative Textiles. Candidates should have a willingness to be imaginative and have an interest in working with fabrics in an artistic way, looking at multicultural and historical textiles will be an integral part of the course.

General Information

The course is a creative course where you will explore and experiment, build practical skills based around all aspects of Textiles. The focus is on soft furnishings fashion and accessories, which encompass the innovative aspects of textiles, rather than concentrating on the functional. A variety of samples will be produced using a wide range of natural and manufactured materials and techniques before producing fully realised responses.

This course consists of a body of coursework accounting for 60% of the marks and an externally set assignment worth 40%. All work produced over the two year course will be assessed and displayed. The emphasis is on recording and developing ideas, experimentation and manipulative skills through the use of colour, materials and construction techniques.

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Options: GCSE Business Studies

GCSE Business Studies Grades 9 - 1

Examining Board: AQA (4133)

E.Bacc - No

The course is designed to encourage students to consider the practical application of business concepts. It will allow students to understand the importance of Business in any community and their own role within it.

The course is delivered by trying to relate theoretical business concepts with real business practice to enable students to develop the skills needed to be successful in the final GCSE examination. Classroom teaching will be complimented by the study of current business news, topical business television programmes and practical business visits to local businesses.

What will be covered?

The GCSE course is a broad based course covering all the main areas of Business Studies including; Marketing, Accounting and Finance, Human Resources, the Legal Environment, Business Planning and Production.

Where can it lead?

GCSE Business Studies is a versatile subject which can lead to a range of opportunities for further study. These include a variety of A Levels including Business Studies, Finance and Economics. It also lends itself to supporting progression into vocationally based courses. It will also help students looking to move into the world of work by developing skills in personal finance, enterprise and communication.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be following the AQA GCSE (4133) Business specification. It is a modular course made up of three units:

Unit 1 - Setting up a Business (40%) (exam)

Unit 2 - Growing as a Business (35%) (exam)

Unit 3 - Investigating Small Businesses (25%) controlled assessment

Controlled assessment will begin in June of Y10 and completed in the first half-term of Y11.

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Options: Religious Studies

GCSE Religious Studies Grades A*- G

Examining Board: EDEXCEL (2RS01)

E.Bacc - No

GCSE Religious Studies is divided into two papers.

The course covers a variety of topics about which all pupils have an opinion, whether or not they are religious. Emphasis is placed on encouraging pupils to question and clarify their own views and equipping them with the reasoning skills to clearly express their own responses to issues. The course is designed to foster personal growth and an awareness of one's responsibilities as a citizen.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written papers

Paper 1 - Religion & Society - Written Paper 1 [1 hour 30 minutes] 50% of the GCSE.

Six topics are identified for study. There will be one question on each topic

Rights and Responsibilities: Current issues such as genetic engineering and cloning will be considered to explore how we make ethical decisions.

Environmental and Medical Issues: Pupils gain knowledge of and reflect upon issues including global warming and pollution and the ethics of medical issues such as infertility treatment and transplant surgery.

Peace and Conflict: Pupils consider the ethics of war, just war theory and the work of the United Nations in resolving conflicts.

Paper 2 - Religion & Life Issues [1 hour 30 minutes] 50% of the GCSE

Six topics are identified for study. There will be one question on each topic

Belief in God: Pupils reflect upon arguments supporting and opposing belief in God, science and religion, miracles and evil and suffering.

Matters of Life and Death: Issues of life after death, abortion and euthanasia will be considered.

Marriage and the Family: Pupils gain knowledge and reflect upon changing attitudes to marriage, divorce, family life and homosexuality.

Religion and Community Cohesion: Pupils will reflect upon how and why attitudes towards the roles of men and women have changed the problems of discrimination and racism and the promotion of racial harmony.

Why choose GCSE Religious Studies?

Religious Studies graduates move into a variety of careers: law, travel, advertising, human resources, diplomacy, publishing, journalism, the media and teaching. Many go on to do postgraduate study or professional training.

You do not need to have studied Religious Studies before.

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Options: Health and Social Care



Examining Board: EDEXCEL (2BC01)

Grades: Pass, Merit and Distinction

E.Bacc - No

Why choose BTEC?

Over the last 25 years, BTECs have helped millions of people develop the skills they need to get on in life. Engaging and inspiring, these work-related qualifications are suitable for a wide range of ages and abilities. BTECs give students the skills they need to either move on to further education, higher education or go straight into employment. In 2010, over 100,000 BTEC students successfully progressed to higher education.

Where will this course take me in the future?

The skills learnt in studying a BTEC First will aid progression to further study and prepare learners to enter the workplace within the health and social care sector. This includes nursing, social work and youth work, working in schools, hospitals, residential and care homes.

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award:

- Is a 120 hour qualification (equivalent in teaching time to one GCSE)
- Has 25 per cent of the qualification that is externally assessed. Edexcel sets and marks these assessments
- Presents knowledge in a work related context

How will I be assessed?

There are 4 units that need to be completed each is worth 25% of the total marks however the two compulsory units must be graded as a pass in order to gain the qualification. There are two compulsory units (Unit 1 and 2):

Unit 1 - Human and Lifespan Development (Externally Marked Exam)

- Explore human growth and development across life stages
- Investigate factors that affect human growth and development and how they are interrelated

Unit 2 - Health and Social Care Values (Internally Assessed Assignments)

- Explore the care values that underpin current practice in health and social care
- Investigate ways of empowering individuals who use health and social care services

Optional units

There are two optional units (we have chosen to complete Units 3 and 4):

Unit 3 - Effective Communication in Health and Social Care

- Investigate different forms of communication
- Investigate barriers to communication in health and social care
- Communicate effectively in health and social care

Unit 4 - Social Influences on Health and Social Care

- Explore the effects of socialisation on the health and wellbeing of individuals
- Understand the influences that relationships have on the health of individuals
- Investigate the effects of social factors on the health and wellbeing of individuals

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