

ARNOLD LODGE

4-18 Co-educational Independent Day School



GCSE INFORMATION & OPTIONS BOOKLET
2021- 2023



Restaurant
Eugène

25€

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GCSEs at Arnold Lodge

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The transition from Year 9 into Year 10 is an important one for pupils. With the changes over the past few years to examinations at GCSE and the move from A*-F to 9-1 gradings, it's more crucial than ever that pupils are prepared for life at GCSE level.

Under the grading system at GCSE, grades 9-7 replaced A*-A, grades 6-4 replaced B-C and grades 3-1 replaced D-F. Where pupils were once looking for A grades, they will now look for Grade 7 and above. Similarly, where pupils would once have aimed for Grade Cs as the 'pass', they will now aim for Grade 4s. Unlike previous years, many of the new GCSE specifications do not include a Non-Examined Assessment unit (i.e. a coursework unit) with the exception of practical subjects such as Drama, Art and Food & Nutrition. Instead, qualifications are awarded based only on examination performance at the end of Year 11.

As we support pupils through Key Stage 4, we will continue to build their happiness, confidence and skills while working with them to encourage their aspirations for the future and prepare them for the rigours of external examination so that they achieve the very best that they can in their GCSEs. Whether a pupil is looking to achieve a full set of grade 7-9s or looking forward to the challenge of gaining 5+ grade 4s, we will be there to enable every pupil to fulfil their potential and our exceptional track record of performance in examinations in recent years is testament to the support and challenge that we provide.

In the summer of 2020 Arnold Lodge celebrated an exceptional set of GCSE results. Of all grades awarded, 13% were at the coveted Grade 9, significantly above national standards, with 37% of all grades at a 7 or higher, 52% at a 6 or higher and our pupils achieved a 100% pass rate including English and Maths.

Most impressively, on average, our pupils achieve 11 grades above their targets set by external testing upon entry to the school, representing the highest ever value added score at Arnold Lodge. This is a significant achievement for the pupils, staff and the wider school community and reflects the academic value added for the pupils at Arnold Lodge across their time at the school and we will support your child to achieve the same academic success.

Selecting GCSE options can be both exciting and daunting but we are here to support pupils every step of the way. I'm confident that between the information contained in this Options Booklet, your child's mentor and your support that pupils will be able to choose the options that suit them best. If you would like to talk anything through, we are here to help, please contact your child's mentor or myself, my door is always open.

Kind regards,



Mrs Bottrill
Assistant Head





KEY INFORMATION

Moving to GCSEs - what should I expect?

You'll really notice a difference in the pace of learning and breadth of subject knowledge from Year 9 into Year 10. Your work will be much more focused on examination skills and, where applicable, on the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) unit. You will take increasing ownership of your learning and, as part of this, you will become used to discussing your target grades and your working at grades to help you focus on how to achieve the best grade that you can.

Target Grades, Working at Grades and Predicted Grades

When studying for your GCSEs, you might hear each of these phrases at different times. It can be a little confusing at first!

- Target Grades are the grades that you have been set from external tests (we use CATs). Our aim will be to help you to meet – and then beat – your target grades.
- Working at Grades are the grades that you are working at in your subjects. Your teachers will assess your classwork, homework and any tests you complete to determine the grade that you are currently working at.
- Predicted Grades are the grades your teachers think you will achieve in your GCSEs based on their knowledge of you, your working at grade and your effort in class. Predicted grades may change depending on your response to particular topics and skills.

Core Subjects...Option Subjects...Pathways!? Help!

It can all be a bit confusing when you first start to think about it. Essentially, there are core subjects which you have to take for GCSE (English, Maths and Science). Option Subjects are the extra GCSEs which you are able to choose to study alongside the core subjects.

Within the core subjects, you are offered different pathways. For English, you can either take English Language and English Literature over two years or you could take English Language only over two years to help you focus on getting the best grade possible. Maths can be taken at either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier. For Science, you have the option of Trilogy Science (2 GCSEs based on combined performance in Biology, Chemistry and Physics) or Separate Science (3 GCSEs where Biology, Chemistry and Physics are all examined separately). Your teachers will guide you on the best pathway for your ability in their subject. For your option subjects, you'll need to pick four subjects (with a fifth as a reserve) that you would like to study. For pupils who find examinations difficult and who would benefit from additional support with literacy and numeracy, you might consider picking three GCSEs and Functional Skills. Please make sure you talk to Mrs Bottrill, your mentor and your teachers about the range of options and pathways available to you.





English Language

Head of Faculty | Miss A Gulliver
agulliver@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: English Language
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Exam: Paper 1 - Creative Reading and Writing 1hr 45 mins
50% of total marks

Exam: Paper 2 - Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives 1hr 45 mins
50% of total marks

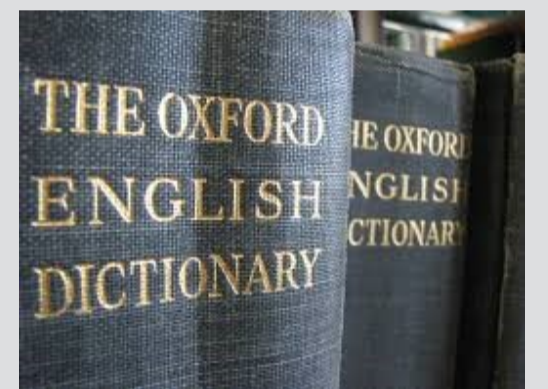
English Language allows students to study both fiction and non-fiction writing. Students will also have the opportunity to develop their own creative and non-fiction writing. It is assessed through two papers at the end of Year 11.

What will we study?

Over the course, you will develop your ability to read fluently, evaluate texts, synthesise information, utilise knowledge gained from reading and to write effectively. Across the course, pupils will study a range of texts spanning the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries and these will come from a range of genres and types. In addition to the reading focus, pupils will learn how to produce clear and coherent texts and develop their ability to write for particular purposes.

Why study English Language?

English Language allows you to demonstrate – and develop – everyday skills. From understanding what you read, to being able to give presentations on complex ideas while maintaining the interest of a crowd, English language gives you some crucial components of your academic skill set. English will help you to be able to read fluidly, to read critically and to develop your grammar, spelling and punctuation.





English Literature

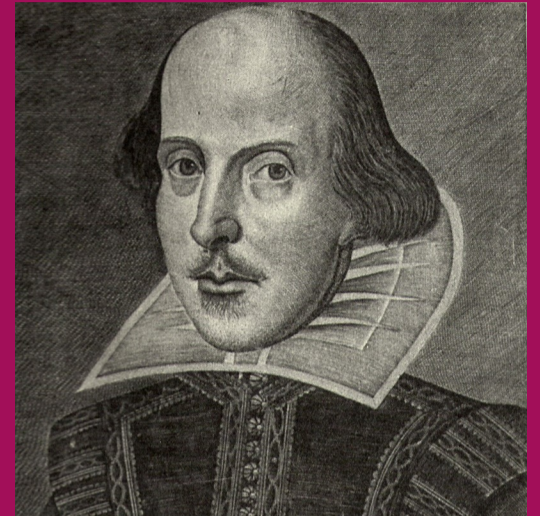
Head of Faculty | Miss A Gulliver
agulliver@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: English Literature
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Exam: Paper 1—Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel
40% of GCSE

Exam: Paper 2—Modern Texts and Poetry
60% of GCSE



English Literature is assessed through two written exam papers. English Literature does not have a coursework component.



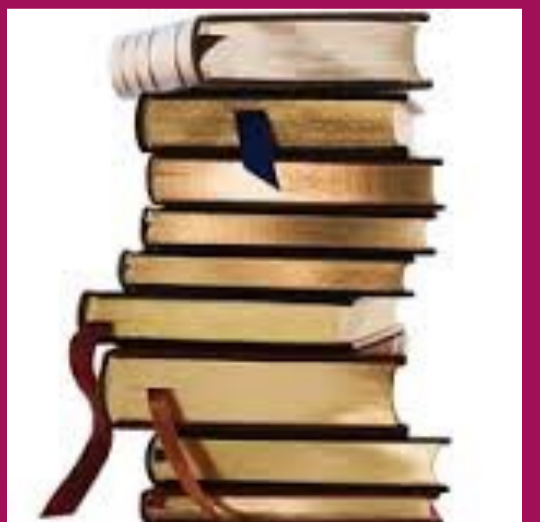
What will we study?

Over the course of the GCSE, you will study a range of texts. These will include one Shakespeare play (choices are *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Tempest*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Julius Caesar*), a 19th Century novel (choices are *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Great Expectations*, *Jane Eyre*, *Frankenstein*, *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Sign of the Four*), a modern text and a poetry anthology. In addition to this, you will develop your ability to analyse an unseen poem.



Why study English Literature?

English Literature requires you to develop skills of written communication and immerses you in a culture of reading. By studying English Literature, you will be given the chance to read a range of different texts and to develop a real love of reading.



Through different literature texts, you will address questions of a moral, ethical and personal nature and develop your own interpretations of the literature studied.



Mathematics

Acting Head of Faculty | Mrs S McKeever
smckeeper@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Mathematics

Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Exam: Paper 1 – Non-calculator	1 hr 30mins	1/3 of total marks
Exam: Paper 2 – Calculator	1 hr 30mins	1/3 of total marks
Exam: Paper 3 – Calculator	1 hr 30 mins	1/3 of total marks

Students will sit either the Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) or the Higher tier (grades 4 – 9). Students must take all three question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series and will be taken at the end of Year 11. Each paper will assess content from any part of the specification and will consist of a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

What will we study?

The specification will be split into the following topics:

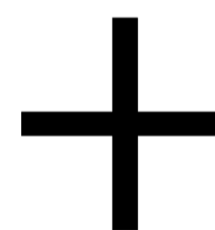
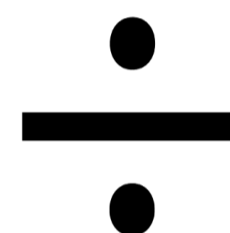
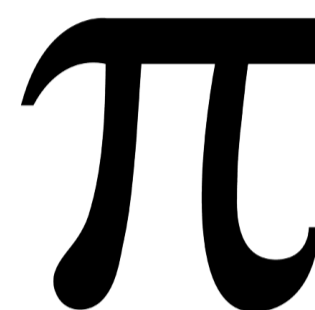
- Number;
- Algebra;
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change;
- Geometry and measures;
- Probability;
- Statistics.

We will start off with the basics and develop problem-solving skills as the course progresses. As well as considering conventional mathematical problems we will look at functional skills i.e. understanding how maths is used in real-life. For pupils aiming to achieve Grades 7 and above, their progress will be complemented by studying for the AQA Level 2 Further Mathematics qualification.

Why study Maths?

Maths is for everyone. It is diverse, engaging and essential in equipping students with the right skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be. Maths is a key requirement for many jobs and a Maths GCSE shows you have an understanding of numbers and the ability to work with them. Through studying Maths you will learn that it is about more than just numbers; it's also about thinking logically and being able to apply the principles you learn to everyday situations.

A secure understanding of Maths is obviously necessary in order to study Maths further! It is also helpful if you wish to go on to study AS or A levels in Science, Economics or Business, or to move on to a technical course such as in Engineering or IT, for example.





Science

Acting Head of Faculty | Mr A Hawkins
ahawkins@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Combined Science: Trilogy. 2 GCSEs awarded

Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Exam: Biology Paper 1	16.7% of total marks
Exam: Biology Paper 2	16.7% of total marks
Exam: Chemistry Paper 1	16.7% of total marks
Exam: Chemistry Paper 2	16.7% of total marks
Exam: Physics Paper 1	16.7% of total marks
Exam: Physics Paper 2	16.7% of total marks

All pupils study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as separate subjects. There are two written papers for each subject, taken in June. Each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes in length, and covers half of the subject content for that subject. There are also 16 required practicals across all subjects which pupils must carry out as standard, as well as many opportunities for practical work throughout the course.

What will we study?

The content of each subject is extremely broad, with a large proportion of the course being delivered through practical activities. The content of each subject is briefly listed below.

BIOLOGY

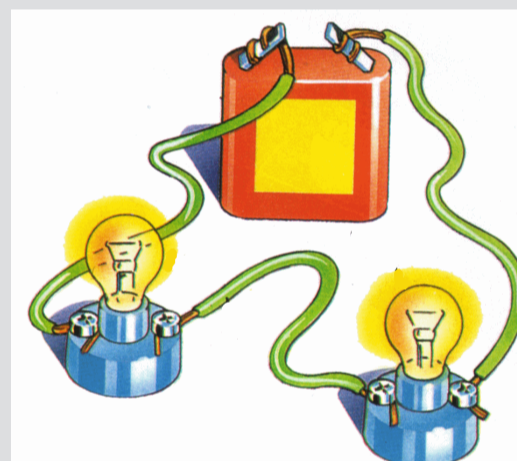
Cell biology
Organisation
Infection and response
Bioenergetics
Homeostasis and response
Inheritance, variation & evolution
Ecology

CHEMISTRY

Atomic structure and the periodic table
Bonding, structure, and properties
Quantitative chemistry
Chemical changes and energy changes
The rate and extent of chemical change
Organic chemistry and chemical analysis
Atmospheric chemistry
Using resources

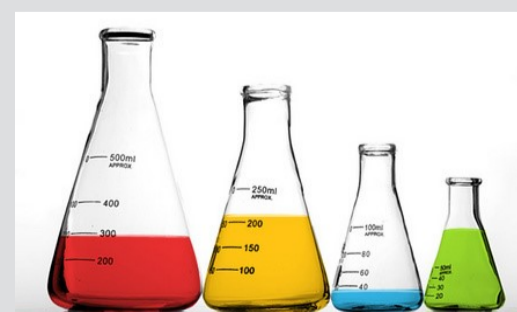
PHYSICS

Forces
Energy
Waves
Electricity
Magnets and electromagnetism
Particle model of matter
Atomic structure



Why choose 'Double Science'?

The Trilogy course covers all of the topics studied in Separate Science, but in a little less depth. It is an ideal choice to provide a firm foundation in the basics of all three Science subjects. Pupils who may not be looking at studying Science beyond GCSE can choose to take the Trilogy route, although it is not impossible to move on to study A-level following this course. This route is also more suited to those pupils who may find the content or mathematical requirement of the Separate Science course challenging.





Science

Acting Head of Faculty | Mr A Hawkins
ahawkins@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Separate Sciences. 3 GCSEs awarded
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Exam: Biology Paper 1	50% of total marks for Biology
Exam: Biology Paper 2	50% of total marks for Biology
Exam: Chemistry Paper 1	50% of total marks for Chemistry
Exam: Chemistry Paper 2	50% of total marks for Chemistry
Exam: Physics Paper 1	50% of total marks for Physics
Exam: Physics Paper 2	50% of total marks for Physics

All pupils study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as separate subjects. There are two written papers for each subject, taken in June. Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes in length, and covers half of the subject content for that subject. There are also 8 required practicals for each subject which pupils must carry out as standard, as well as many opportunities for practical work throughout the course.

What will we study?

The content of each subject is extremely broad, with a large proportion of the course being delivered through practical activities. The content of each subject is briefly listed below:

BIOLOGY

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation & evolution
- Ecology

CHEMISTRY

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure, and properties
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes and energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry and chemical analysis
- Atmospheric chemistry
- Using resources

PHYSICS

- Forces
- Energy
- Waves
- Electricity
- Magnets and electromagnetism
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure



Why choose Separate Sciences?

Separate Science GCSEs allow pupils with an interest in Science, or a particular area of Science, to really flourish in their knowledge and understanding of that subject. Being a practical based subject, it is well suited to those with an inquiring mind, and offers answers to the 'Big Questions'. Separate Sciences is not the option for everyone, the course is fast paced and challenging, with a high expectation of mathematical ability; however for those pupils wishing to continue in their study of Science at A-Level or beyond it provides the perfect foundation.







Art & Design

Head of Faculty | Miss S Crisp
scrisp@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Art & Design
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Unit 1 (96) max- *Portfolio of work* **60% of total marks**
Unit 2 (96) max- *Externally set task* **40% of total marks**

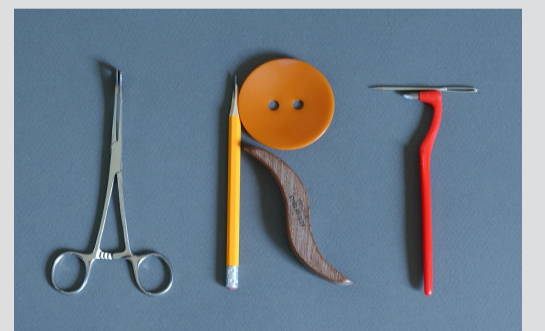
Art is assessed through a portfolio of work which is selected from three major projects completed across the GCSE course. The exam piece is an externally set task which you will be given time to prepare for before producing a final piece over 10 hours of supervised time.

What will we study?

Throughout the course of the GCSE, you will be introduced to new ways of working with media, and develop ways in which to generate and develop your own ideas and approaches, in order to create unique outcomes. You will enhance your skills by experimenting and studying the work of artists and crafts people. You will also have the opportunity to visit galleries and exhibitions, using knowledge gained to enhance your own work.

Why study Art and Design?

Art and Design enables you to develop practical skills, a creative and explorative way of thinking, and allows you to investigate many themes and media. You will produce practical and critical or contextual work, associated with at-least two or more of the following endorsements: Applied Art, Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Textile Design, 3D Design and Photography.





Business

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
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Subject: Business

Exam Board: EdExcel

Assessment Format:

Exam: Paper 1 – Investigating small business (Theme 1)

50% of total marks

Exam: Paper 2 – Building a business (Theme 2)

50% of total marks

Business is assessed by two 90 minute examinations at the end of the course. Each paper is worth 90 marks. The papers are divided into sections A, B and C. Section A is of a generic nature and knowledge-based. Sections B and C are based on case material and require the students to display the higher order skills of application, analysis and evaluation.

What will we study?

The Business course focuses on business activity and the way in which businesses interact with the world around them. Pupils will learn to identify and analyse the challenges that businesses face in a number of contexts. Wherever possible, the learning relates the new concepts studied to real-world business situations.

As well as teaching pupils about the business world, the subject develops skills in analysing both written text and numerical data, in writing for a professional audience and in making reasoned judgments based on evidence.

Why study Business?

The course will raise pupils' awareness of the business world and prepare them to become a part of it when they enter work.

The skills developed in the course translate well into the study of other areas, for example History and Geography, and so it is a good all-round GCSE whether pupils intend to continue its study at A Level or not.





Computer Science

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
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Subject: Computer Science
Exam Board: Cambridge

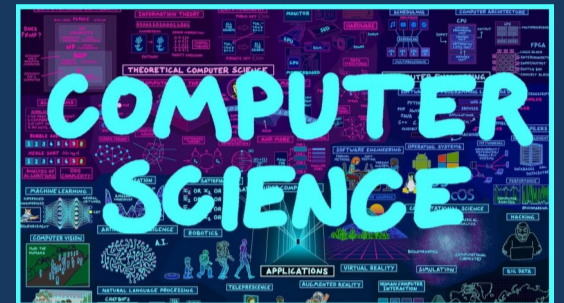
Assessment Format:

Unit 1: Theory Paper

60% of total marks

Unit 2: Problem-solving & Programming

40% of total marks



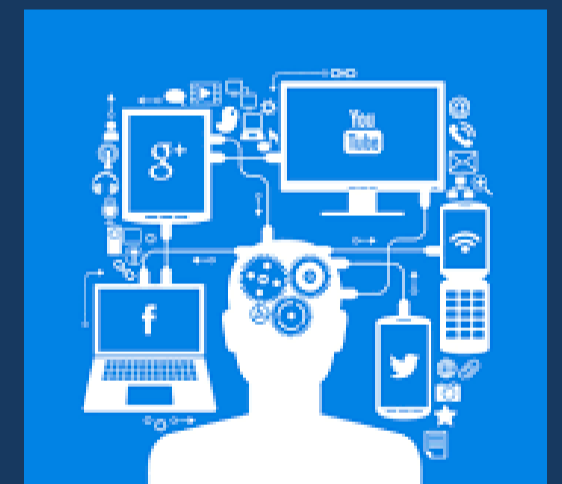
What will we study?

Unit 1: Theory of Computer Science

In the first unit, you will learn about data representation, communication & internet technologies, hardware and software as well as security and ethics.

Unit 2: Problem-Solving & Programming

In the second unit, you will learn about algorithm design and problem solving, programming and databases.



Why study Computer Science?

The digital age needs computer scientists and the skills you will learn are more relevant in the modern work place than ever before. A good foundation in Computer Science will enable you to follow on to a wide range of career paths. Taking Computer Science GCSE will help your knowledge and understanding should you wish to take Computer Science A Level or study Computer Science at degree level.





Drama

Head of Faculty | Miss S Crisp
scrisp@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Drama
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Unit 1: Understanding Drama 40% of total marks
Unit 2: Devising Drama [practical NEA] 40% of total marks
Unit 3: Texts in Practice [practical EA] 20% of total marks

What will we study?

Unit 1: Understanding Drama

In the first unit, you will learn about drama and theatre. You'll study one set play from a choice of six and build up skills of analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers. You may study *The Crucible*; *Blood Brothers*; *The 39 Steps*; *Hansel and Gretel*; *Noughts and Crosses* or *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Unit 2: Devising Drama [practical]

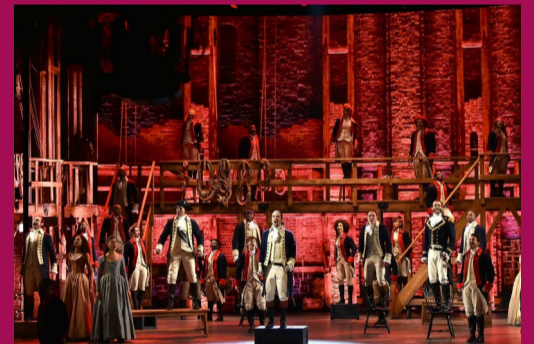
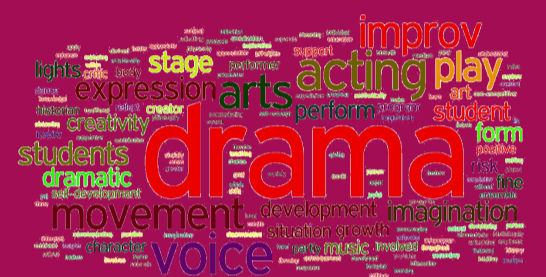
In the second unit, you will undertake a practical assessment that is marked in school and moderated by AQA. You'll need to understand the process of creating drama, understand the performance of devised drama and be able to analyse and evaluate your own work.

Unit 3: Texts in Practice [practical]

In the third unit, you will undertake a practical assessment that is examined externally. You will perform two extracts from one play and can contribute as a performer or designer.

Why study Drama?

As a student of Drama, you'll learn to collaborate with others and think analytically. You'll gain confidence to pursue your own ideas, reflect and refine your efforts. Whatever your future holds, you'll emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills that will be applicable in further studies and the workplace. Plus, it's great fun!





Food & Nutrition

Head of Faculty | Miss S Crisp
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Subject: Food & Nutrition
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Unit 1:	Practical Task	50% of total marks
Unit 2:	Written Paper	50% of total marks

What will we study?

Principles of safety and hygiene, food preparation, cooking and presentation, nutrition and health, food choice and menu planning, food science and investigation, costing, communication and record keeping and environmental considerations.

Both units studied concentrate on food preparation and nutrition. Pupils will undertake scientific investigation, plan meals as well as developing their knowledge and skills. They will also learn how to meet the nutritional needs of different people and learn about food choices.

Why study Food & Nutrition?

A course in Food & Nutrition offers a unique opportunity to develop your knowledge and extend your practical skills in food production.

It will enable you to gain an understanding of Food and Nutrition which will help you to progress to further education.





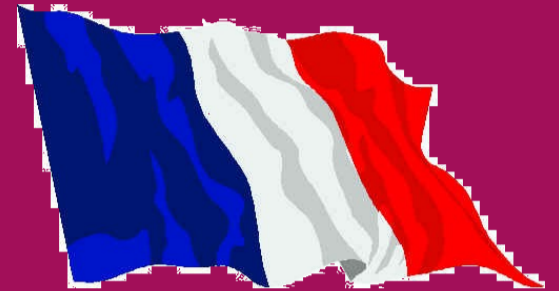
French

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
bmorgan@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: French
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Exam: Unit 1	Listening	25% of total marks
Exam: Unit 2	Speaking	25% of total marks
Exam Unit 3	Reading	25% of total marks
Exam: Unit 4	Writing	25% of total marks



What will we study?

Over the two-year GCSE course, you will revise and then build on the skills, grammar and vocabulary you have already acquired in KS3. The 3 themes are:

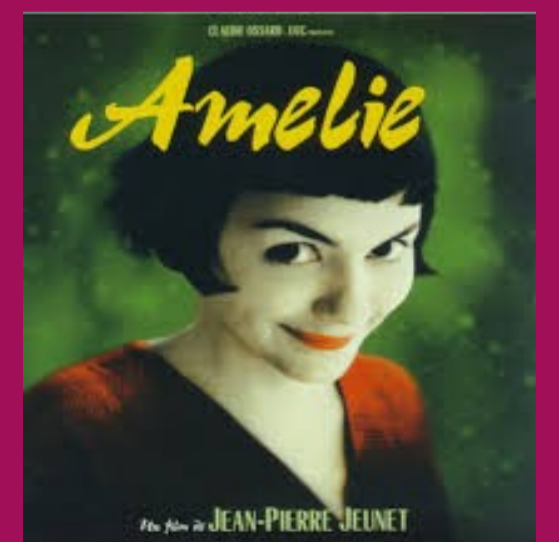
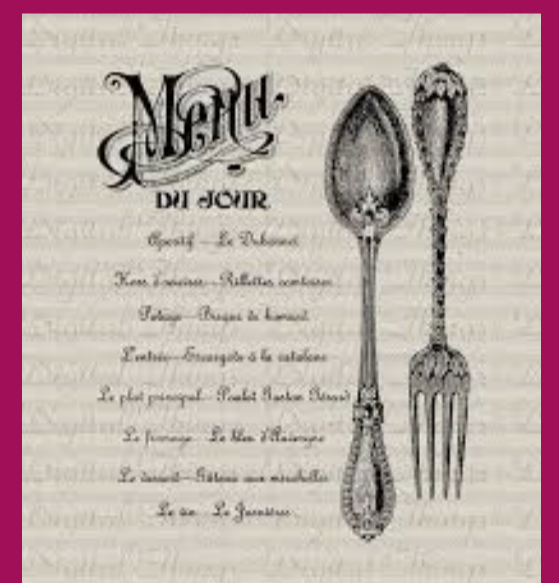
- identity and culture;
- local, national, international and global areas of interest;
- current and future study and employment.

Why study French?

There is something really exciting about actually communicating in a foreign language! You can order in a restaurant, ask for directions, book tickets for the Eiffel Tower, make friends while you're on holiday. Don't be one of those people who assumes everyone will speak English!

The course will also help you to develop your awareness and understanding of francophone countries. You'll even get to learn about the culture in France, for example how they celebrate different festivals and the kinds of foods they eat.

Lastly, this is a difficult but very rewarding subject and is therefore looked on favourably by employers and universities, even if it is not directly related to your course/job, as it proves you have a wide range of skills.





Geography

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
bmorgan@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Geography
Exam Board: OCR B

Assessment Format:

Exam: *Our Natural World*

35% of GCSE

Exam: *People and Society*

35% of GCSE

Exam: *Geographical Exploration*

30% of GCSE



What will we study?

The links, connections and ideas within the eight topics of Our Natural World 01 and People and Society 02 will be brought together for Geographical Exploration 03.

Application of knowledge, understanding and skills will be important in enabling you to question and develop arguments, and a decision making exercise will allow you to become critical thinkers.

Key themes we study at GCSE Geography include Global Hazards (tectonic and climatic), Rivers and Coasts, Ecosystems, Urbanisation, Globalisation and Resource Reliance.



Why study Geography?

Geography bridges the gap between the arts and sciences and so leads to a qualification that links very well with many other subjects. As a traditional subject it remains highly valued by employers, sixth form colleges and universities; indeed, Geography remains the leading subject of graduate employment. It will help you understand the world around you and enable you to gain real skills that you'll find useful long after you've left school.



It will teach you how to collect, interpret and analyse data; how to make decisions and solve problems using a variety of different sources. In addition to learning about the power of natural forces at work on our planet and the UK in the 21st Century you will also gain an understanding of society and how we interact with the physical world, and our subsequent impacts on rivers, coasts and ecosystems.





History

Head of Faculty | Miss A Gulliver
agulliver@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: History
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

EXAM: Paper 1:- Period Studies

- Understanding the Modern World: America 1920–1973
- Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-1972

50% of total marks

EXAM: Paper 2:- Shaping the Nation

- Britain: Health and the People c1000—present day
- Elizabethan England c1568—1603

50 % of total marks

History is assessed through two written exam papers taken at the end of the course (the summer of Year 11). There are two topics assessed on each paper.

What will we study?

In Year 10, you will study the two topics of - Britain and the Health of the People and Elizabethan England. Health is a hugely interesting topic which covers surgery, public health and social reform. When studying the Elizabethan period there will be an opportunity to visit a historical site. The study of this site will be assessed in the summer exam. For students sitting GCSE History in 2021, the site is the English Channel and the location of the battle with the Spanish Armada.

In Year 11, when learning about America you will study such topics from the Great Depression, to the prohibition movement and the rise of the “speakeasies” along with the civil rights movement of the 1960s and the American Dream. When studying Conflict and Tension students will learn about the Cold War: its origins, what life was like for people living in a divided world and the final easing of tensions under Brezhnev and Nixon.

Why study History?

History encourages you to develop skills of analysis, research, literacy and independent thinking which are helpful for a wide range of careers. This can be for anything, but particularly areas such as advertising, marketing, sales or even teaching! History is an interesting subject which is enjoyable to study.





Media Studies

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
bmorgan@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Media Studies
Exam Board: AQA

Assessment Format:

Media is assessed through 2 exams (70%) and one creative coursework element (30%).

Paper 1: Media One

(35%) of total marks

Paper 2: Media Two

(35%) of total marks

What will we study?

We will study a range of media forms including magazines, advertising and marketing texts, newspapers, television, radio, video games, film and online, social and participatory media. We will look at how media texts use a range of technical codes to represent society and construct 'reality' for their audiences. We will also examine the role of media industries and the issues surrounding regulation and control.

Some of the media texts we study are released in advance of the exam. These are called 'Close Study Products' and we will study them in detail.

Creative Coursework Element:

We will have the opportunity to create our very own Media Product. The products pupils can create includes various media forms from videos (a music video or part of a television programme), print products (newspaper or magazine) or online products such as websites.

Why study Media?

Media texts are immersed in everyday life and developing an understanding of the media is crucial to any number of careers.

GCSE Media encourages you to develop your ability to write, edit work, analyse, research, design, edit video and audio and manage a project, all of which are useful and transferrable skills.

Those students who opt to study Media GCSE will find that the analytical skills they develop will support their study of GCSE English Language and prepare them for further study such as Media BTEC or Media A-Level.





Music

Head of Faculty | Miss S Crisp
scrisp@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Music GCSE
Exam Board: Eduqas

Assessment Format:

NEA: Performance

30% of total marks

NEA: Composition

30% of total marks

EXAM: Listening and Appraising

40% of total marks



Why study Music?

Because you love Music! The Music GCSE is a unique course designed for students who are passionate about the subject. It combines practical performance skills with compositional creativity and musical analysis. Music students are always in high demand due to the transferable skills developed throughout the course (commitment, versatility, creativity, academic rigour) and it is because of this that the subsequent Music A-level is deemed a desirable subject for Oxbridge applicants.



What should I know before beginning the course?

Due to the highly practical nature of the course we strongly recommend students are of approximately Grade 2 standard on their chosen instrument / voice at the start of the course and are having lessons with a specialist peripatetic teacher.



What does the course look like?

NEA Performance - 30%

For performance you will have to record two performances of at least Grade 3 standard to submit for coursework. These should be on your own instrument and can be any style of music you like.

NEA Composing - 30%

You will need to submit two compositions. One of these can be in any style you like including any instruments you choose, and the other will be to a range of briefs from the exam board. As well as teaching you how to go about the compositional process, you will also be taught how to use specialist software such as Sibelius, Garageband or Cubase to bring your ideas to life.



EXAM Listening and Appraising - 40%

The Listening exam will be sat in Summer 2023 and covers a broad range of music covering Rock, Classical, Film music, Jazz, Musicals and much, much more! You will be expected to be able to identify key features of each style of music by ear and to be able to write musically about extracts played in the exam, articulating your thoughts on the music with appropriate musical vocabulary.





Music Technology

Head of Faculty | Miss S Crisp
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Subject: Music Practitioner Level 2

Exam Board: RSL

Assessment Format:

Assessment: *Using a Digital Audio Workstation*

30% of total marks

Assessment: *Music Sequencing and Production*

30% of total marks

Assessment (moderated): *Delivering a Musical Product*

40% of total marks



The BTEC course is geared towards a career in music technology, or production giving students a real insight into music briefs and job opportunities that arise in the music industry today. It is an exciting course which most students would find interesting.

What do you need to study on this course?

Unlike the GCSE, the ability to play a musical instrument is not essential for this course. If you do play an instrument or sing, you will have the opportunity to develop these skills and to record yourself. If you do not play an instrument or sing, you can record other students playing, use sounds available on the Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) or use other pre-recorded material.



Recognised qualification:

This is the same level of qualification as traditional GCSEs. The course is fully accredited by OfQual and DfES so pupils can gain the equivalents of A* to C. It is based around 3 units, two internally assessed and one externally moderated.



What will you study?

Music Practitioner enables students to delve into areas of music which they may not have been exposed to before, such as researching into a particular musician/performer or understanding the steps needed to produce a professional sound recording using “industry-standard” equipment. The three main modules that students will study are: 1: Using a DAW (Cubase); 2: Music Sequencing and Production; 3: Delivering a Musical Product.



Why take this course?

The music industry is large and growing quickly, and its technology is changing extremely rapidly. While there are many exciting opportunities within the music sector itself, sound and recording skills are in demand across many other industries. As well as leading to careers in musical performance, those who study the RSL music course often follow music-related careers in broadcasting, journalism, artist management, recording and advertising.

What will you learn from this course?

You will not only have an insight into how modern music is created, but also how audio engineering is used in industries such as Games, TV, Sound Design, Manufacturing and Radio. You will learn to work individually and as part of a group. You will understand the level of effort and dedication needed to succeed in a competitive environment.





Physical Education

Head of Faculty | Mr T Gear
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Subject: Physical Education
Exam board: OCR

Assessment format:

J587/01 Physical factors affecting performance This component will assess:

- 1.1 Applied anatomy and physiology
- 1.2 Physical training

J587/02 Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology This component will assess:

- 2.1 Socio-cultural influences
- 2.2 Sports psychology
- 2.3 Health, fitness and well-being

J587/04 Practical Performances This component will assess: • Core and advanced skills in three activities taken from the approved lists: One must be an individual sport, one must be a team sport and one either individual/team.

J587/05 Analysis and Evaluation of Performance This component draws upon the knowledge, understanding and skills a student has learnt and enables them to analyse and evaluate their own or a peer's performance in one activity.

Written paper: 1 hour 30% of total GCSE (9–1) 60 marks

This paper consists of a mixture of objective response and multiple-choice questions, short answers and extended response items.

Written paper: 1 hour 30% of total GCSE (9–1) 60 marks This paper consists of a mixture of objective response and multiple-choice questions,

Non-exam assessment (NEA) 30% of total GCSE (9–1) 60 marks This NEA will consist of three activities, including at least one 'team' and at least one 'individual' sport from the approved activity lists, all performed in competitive situations.

Non-exam assessment (NEA) 10% of total GCSE (9–1) 20 marks This NEA will consist of a written task that must be produced under controlled conditions.

What will we study?

The course prepares students for the further study of PE or sports science courses as well as other related subject areas such as psychology, sociology and biology. Learners will also develop the transferable skills that are in demand by Further Education, Higher Education and employers in all sectors of industry. PE creates confident, independent thinkers and effective decision makers who can operate effectively as individuals or as part of a team – all skills that will enable them to stand out and effectively promote themselves as they progress through life.

Why study Physical Education?

The PE course allows students to develop their knowledge and physical competency by being actively engaged in a range of physical activities. They will improve analysis skills, particularly in the effectiveness of performance and their understanding of roles such as player, leader and official. This knowledge is underpinned by the importance of involvement in physical activity as part of a healthy active lifestyle. PE allows students to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities such as coaching or officiating awards, teaching, physiotherapy, nutritionist, sports science and psychology.





Psychology

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
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Subject: Psychology
Exam board: OCR

Assessment Format:

Paper 1– Studies and applications in psychology 1 (90 minutes)

50% of total marks

Paper 2– Studies and applications in psychology 2 (90 minutes)

50% of total marks

What will we study?

Year 1 (paper 1)

- ⇒ **Criminal psychology**– This topic focuses on different types of crime including: violent and anti-social offences. The nature/nurture debate within criminal behaviour, focusing on the criminal personality and the social learning theory of crime. Finally, how crime is measured: official statistics and self-report and the changing role of punishment .
- ⇒ **Development**– This topic focuses on stages of development; pre-natal; childhood; adolescence; and adulthood . The development of brain structures and functions; the nervous system; neurons; synapses; and their interaction in development of the brain . IQ tests as a measure of intelligence and finally the changing role of education.
- ⇒ **Psychological problems**– This topic includes an introduction to mental health and the effects of significant mental health problems on individuals and society. Focusing on the biological and psychological explanations of schizophrenia and the biological and psychological explanations of clinical depression. With application to the development of treatments.

Year 2 (paper 2)

- ⇒ **Social influence**– This topic focuses on conformity including majority influence. • Collective and crowd behaviour including pro-social and anti-social behaviour. • Obedience including obeying the orders of authority figures . Are we biological predetermined to conform or are we taught to obey? With application to changing the attitudes towards mental health.
- ⇒ **Memory**– This topic centres on the stages of information processing: input; encoding; storage; retrieval; and output. Types of forgetting: decay; displacement; retrieval failure (lack of cues). The structure and functions of the brain and how the brain works in the formation of memories; – how neurological damage can affect memory; the role of the hippocampus on anterograde amnesia; the frontal lobe on retrograde amnesia; and the cerebellum on procedural memory. With application to advertising.
- ⇒ **Sleeping and Dreaming**– This topic includes the functions, features and benefits of sleep: healthy brain; physical repair; emotional stability; stages of the sleep cycle and when dreaming occurs; the role of the pineal gland and melatonin. The causes of sleep disorders: sleep onset and sleep maintenance insomnia • Endogenous pacemakers; and exogenous zeitgebers; and their role in sleep. With application to the development of treatments for insomnia.

Why study Psychology?

Psychology will give you an understanding of the way people think and why people behave in certain ways. You will learn a variety of skills including critical thinking, improved communication, problem solving skills and a heightened sense of empathy. Furthermore, the discipline is now recognised as a science and will improve your knowledge of the scientific method and biology.

These kind of skills will prepare you for an exciting future with the possibility of a range of fantastic careers: criminal psychologist, teaching, nursing, occupational therapist, marketing and many more. In addition to this, the topics we cover over the course of year 10 and 11 will help you to apply psychology to every day life and includes hot topics such as criminal psychology and psychological problems.

Finally, the most fantastic part about the subject is that studying Psychology helps to bring attention to mental health issues and allows you to act as an ambassador for change. Mental health is something we talk about but still have a long way to go and the skills you learn will help you to start the conversation.





Sociology

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
bmorgan@arnoldlodge.com

Subject: Sociology
Exam board: AQA



Assessment format:

EXAM: Paper 1 - The sociology of families and education (1 hour 45 mins)

50% of total marks

EXAM: Paper 2 - The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification (1 hour 45 mins)

50% of total marks

Sociology is assessed through two written papers which will be taken at the end of Year 11 in June 2023.



What will we study?

Unit 1: The Sociology of Families and Education:

- ⇒ The sociology of families;
- ⇒ The sociology of education;
- ⇒ Relevant areas of social theory and methodology.

Unit 2: The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and social Stratification:

- ⇒ The sociology of crime and deviance;
- ⇒ The sociology of social stratification;
- ⇒ Relevant areas of social theory and methodology.



Why study Sociology?

GCSE Sociology helps students to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification.

Students will develop their analytical, assimilation and communication skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions.



By studying sociology, students will develop transferable skills including how to:

- investigate facts and make deductions
- develop opinions and new ideas on social issues
- analyse and better understand the social world.





Spanish

Head of Faculty | Miss B Morgan
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Subject: Spanish

Exam board: AQA

Assessment format:

Exam: Unit 1	Listening	25% of total marks
Exam: Unit 2	Speaking	25% of total marks
Exam: Unit 3	Reading	25% of total marks
Exam: Unit 4	Writing	25% of total marks



What will we study?

The course covers three themes, which are assessed in all four question papers.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

This includes Me, my Family and Friends (relationships), Technology in everyday life (social media, mobile technology), Free time activities (sport, music, cinema and TV, eating out) and Customs and Festivals in Spain and Spanish-speaking countries.



Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

This covers Home, town, neighbourhood and region, Social Issues (charity/voluntary work, healthy living), Global Issues (environment, poverty and homelessness), and Travel and Tourism.



Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

This incorporates My studies, Life at school, Education post-16 and Jobs, career choice and ambitions.

Why study Spanish?

There are multiple benefits to studying GCSE Spanish. First of all, being able to communicate in a foreign language is a valuable skill that you can use for travelling or in a future international career. It is highly valued by employers and universities, as it is viewed as an academically rigorous subject. It tests a variety of skills and as such improves your ability to communicate verbally or in writing. The course is diverse and covers wide-ranging topics, and teaches you about the wider world and Hispanic culture. Spanish complements a wide range of other GCSE subjects and has many cross-curricular links to subjects such as Geography, Sociology and Media Studies. Furthermore, it is fun!





Functional Skills

SENCo | Miss V Ward
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Subject: Functional Skills

Exam board: AQA (Functional Skills Qualifications)

What will we study?

The curriculum time allocated to Functional Skills is equivalent to one GCSE option choice (three lessons a week).

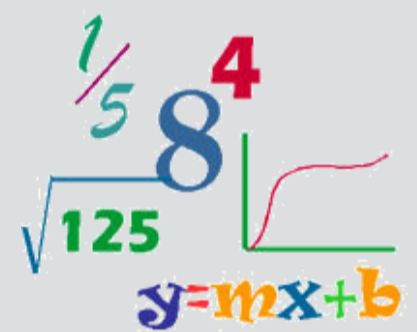
During these lessons, there will be a focus on key literacy and numeracy skills, as well as achieving a nationally recognised qualification in English and Maths. Classes will be small and will take a personalised approach to learning.

Why Functional Skills?

Choosing 4 options - in addition to the core - may not suit all pupils. Indeed, some pupils may benefit from focusing on a narrower range of examined subjects with timetabled support to consolidate their English and Maths skills, which are important components of all subjects. For pupils who have benefited from additional literacy and numeracy intervention across Key Stage 3, Functional Skills ensures that personalised, structured support remains in place. If it is felt your child may benefit from the Functional Skills pathway, we will discuss this with you at the forthcoming Year 9 Options Evening.

Will I get a qualification?

This really depends on what is right for the pupil. For most, we will work towards functional skills qualifications for English or Mathematics. For others, time to catch up on other work and to have support with organisation, revision techniques or wider learning may be more appropriate. To discuss this in more detail, please contact our school SENCo, Miss Ward.



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ARNOLD LODGE

4 - 18 yrs Co-educational Independent Day School

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