



Iceni Academy

Your Choices
KS4 Options Booklet 2021

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Introduction

Welcome to the 'Your Choices' booklet which gives you all the information you will need to make good choices when it comes to your GCSE options subjects.

We know that this is an exciting and perhaps slightly daunting prospect for you as you get your first opportunity to shape your education and your future.

There are many people you can ask to help you with this, including your parents and carers and staff at Icen Academy. You all have a dedicated Personalised Learning Tutor, an excellent Head of Year in Mr Falder and a range of brilliant subject teachers who will all be happy to make sure you make the right choices for you. You can also talk to other teachers including the Senior Leadership Team: don't forget that Miss Staniforth runs the options process in the Academy, and Ms Turner is an absolute expert as our SENCo. We also have the benefit of having an independent Careers Adviser - Mrs Downing. If you would like an appointment with her, please speak to your Personalised Learning Tutor.

By making the right decisions now, it will ensure that you enjoy your time with us and achieve the best results you can. Your success in Year 11 will pave the way for the next steps in your education at the age of 16.

At Icen Academy we want you to succeed, gaining the 'currency' you need to make your next steps in life. We also want you to develop your 'character' and 'culture' so that you can leave the Academy feeling proud of all of your achievements, not just the academic ones, and move on to the courses, training and careers that will enable you to realise your dreams - whatever they may be.

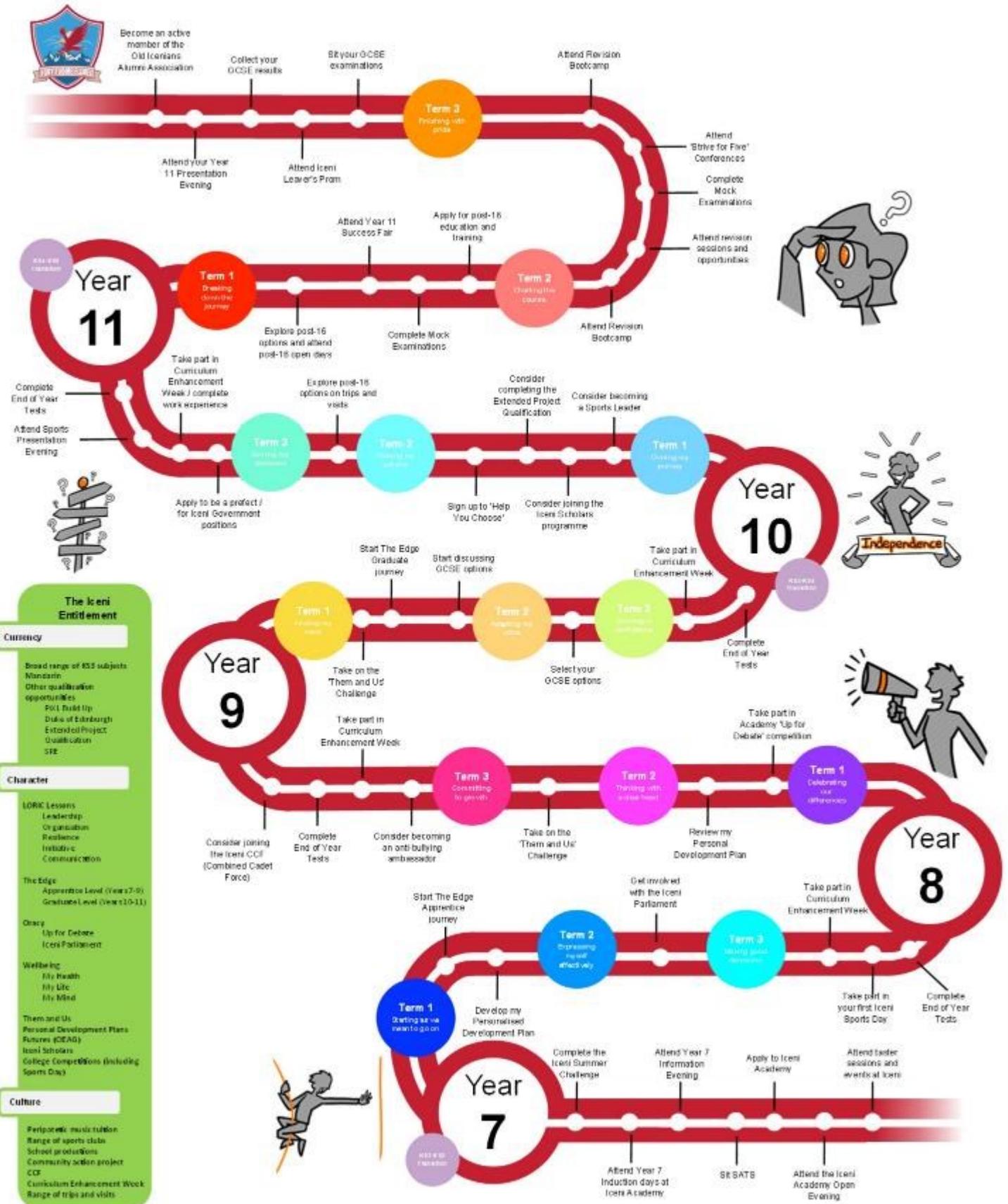
We are already looking forward to working with you in the next two years to help you achieve your potential. As Icen's #Team23, you have some really exciting times ahead of you!

You can find a digital copy of this booklet, alongside the web form you will need to complete in order to select you options, at <https://icnimethwold.attrust.org.uk/options-process-2021/>.

Please note:

All information is subject to change including subjects offered, exam boards etc. at the Academy's discretion. All information was accurate and up to date at the time of publication.

The Icení Learning Journey



The Iceni

At Iceni Academy, we pride ourselves on offering a broad and balanced curriculum to our students, and we are determined to offer each and every student a curriculum that suits their individual needs, while complying with national recommendations and guidelines. We are proud to offer an extensive range of options subjects covering many subject areas, allowing students to experience a range of subjects that interest them.

Over the past few years, the government has introduced the concept of the 'English Baccalaureate' (EBacc). The EBacc is not a pathway in its own right, but is a combination of academic subjects that the government wants to encourage more students to take. The EBacc consists of:

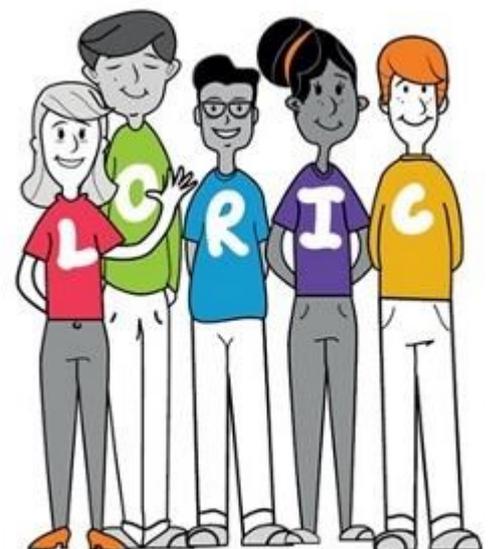
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- A Modern Foreign Language
- History or Geography

At Iceni Academy, we value these subjects as part of our broad and balanced curriculum, and so we will ask all students to select one subject from History or Geography. We would also like to encourage most students to take a Modern Foreign Language. The skills a student learns as part of GCSE French or German puts them in very good standing in the global jobs market, as well as giving them valuable communication skills they can use in many aspects of their lives.

In addition to these choices, we offer students two free choices, allowing them to personalize their curriculum to aid with post-16 education, employment and training pathways, future careers or, indeed, to allow students to study subjects they find interesting.

Alongside qualifications—the currency our students leave us with—Iceni Academy also bring character and cultural development of our young people to the fore. We believe that in order to be well-rounded and successful citizens, students must have had an education and followed a curriculum that is far wider than just the GCSEs they study. Through our character development work, featured on page 3 in our Iceni Learning Journey, you can see the myriad other opportunities your child will have access to in the next two years.

To help facilitate this, your child will also spend 30 minutes a day with their Personalised Learning Tutor, following a programme of activities that will help build your child's leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication skills. From the start of Year 10, your child will be able to have these skills formally recognised through the Character Development Platform.



Curriculum

The Options Offer

All students at Icen Academy will select up to four options subjects. These are selected from three groups of subjects, or option blocks, as follows.

Option A (choose one)
 History
 Geography

Option B (choose one)
 French
 German
 Build Up

Option C & D (choose two*)

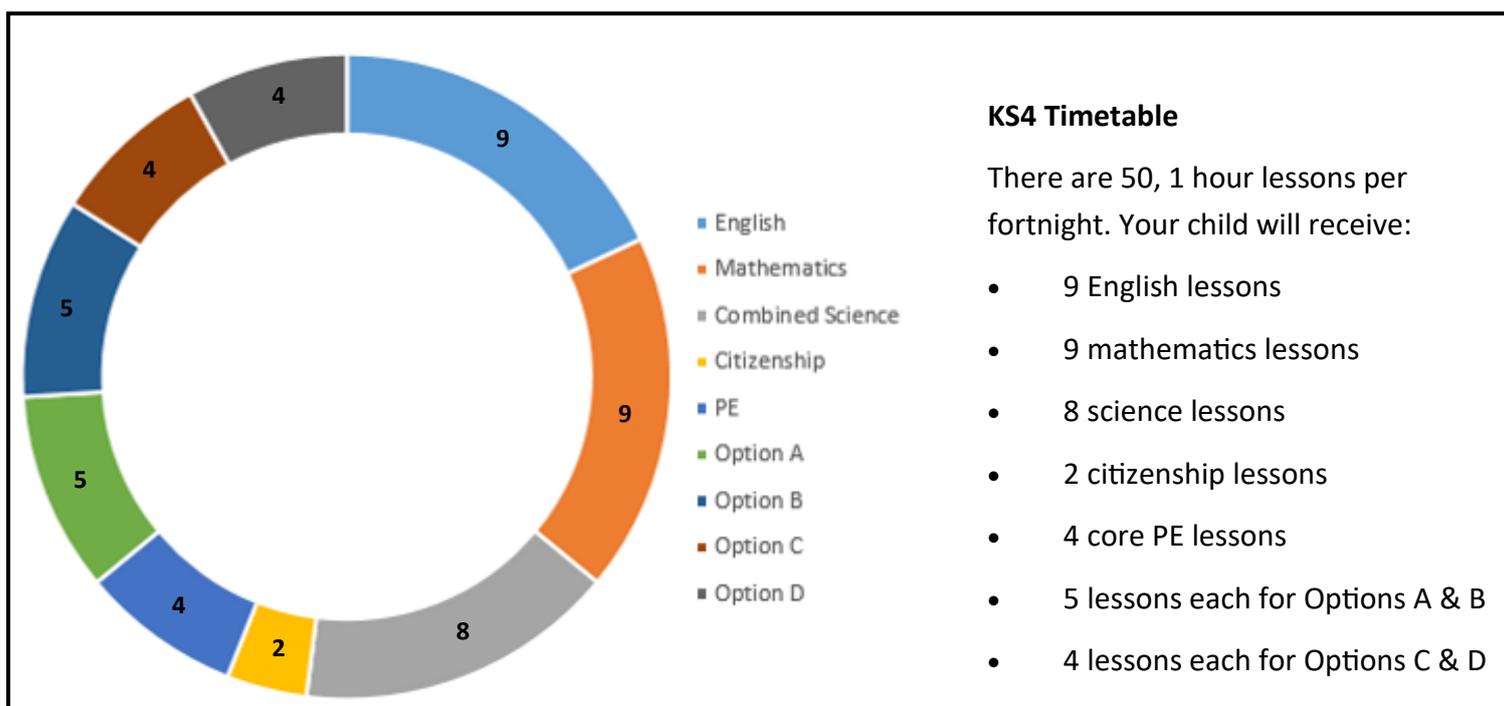
Art and Design	History
Build Up	ICT
Computer Science	Mandarin
Design & Technology	Media Studies
Drama	Music
Food Prep. & Nutrition	GCSE PE
French	Religious Studies
Geography	Statistics
German	Triple Science

The Core Offer

All students at Icen Academy will study:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs)
- GCSE Citizenship Studies
- PE (non-examined)

*Students will be asked to select five subjects from this selection and rank order them to show the one they would most like to do. Which subjects run will depend upon the numbers of students selecting those subjects.



KS4 Timetable

There are 50, 1 hour lessons per fortnight. Your child will receive:

- 9 English lessons
- 9 mathematics lessons
- 8 science lessons
- 2 citizenship lessons
- 4 core PE lessons
- 5 lessons each for Options A & B
- 4 lessons each for Options C & D

Here are some of the most Frequently Asked Questions, answered. If your question is not listed here, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Academy.

Frequently Asked

Where can I get more advice or support?

Speak to your Personalised Learning Tutor, Head of Year (Mr Falder), subject teachers, Miss Staniforth and Mrs Downing, our Careers Adviser, if you would like more advice and support.

When do I find out what subjects I have been given from my choices?

You will find out this information prior to the end of Year 9.

Is there setting at GCSE?

English, maths and science will continue to be set. Options subjects are taught in mixed ability groups.

How do I know if I would be good at a subject?

Speak to your subject teachers or the teachers you know have taught that GCSE before to find out more information. Look carefully at the information in this booklet: look at what the subject involves and how it is assessed.

How do I make my options choices?

Visit the form linked from <https://icenimethwold.attrust.org.uk/options-process-2021/> and follow the instructions. This must be completed no later than Friday 26th February 2020.

Can I choose the same subject twice?

No. If you make the same choice twice you will be asked to reselect. It will not increase your chance of being allocated that subject. Please do not pick the same subject in different options blocks (e.g. History in both blocks A and C/D).

Can I do two languages / two humanities subjects?

Yes. You can choose humanities and languages subjects in the free choice blocks (Blocks C and D) as well as in Blocks A and B.

Will I get all of my first choices?

While the majority of students do get their first choices, we do have to allocate a significant number of back-up choices, so it is important you select back-up choices that you are willing and able to do.

Questions

Will the exam boards/ specifications change?

We reserve the right to change exam boards and qualification details. All information was correct at the time this booklet went to print. We will ensure you and your parents/ carers are informed if any changes are made.

Are all the qualifications GCSEs?

Yes - all subjects are GCSEs or equivalent qualifications, such as ICT which is a Cambridge National qualification. This equips you with applied knowledge and associated practical skills.

Do I have to take a language?

Yes, most students will be expected to study a language as language qualifications are increasingly important in today's global society. They are also valued by universities and employers. There is a third option available: Build Up. This is not a GCSE course. You can read more about Build Up on p14.

How many GCSEs will I study?

Most students will study towards ten GCSEs, with those choosing the Build Up pathway studying nine instead.

If I start a subject and later realise that I have made a mistake, what can I do?

This happens to some students every year. There is only the first half term when we are able to look at requests for changes and make them if we can. Sometimes subject groups are full and students are unable to move but we do our best to help. By the end of the first half term of the autumn term, we have to stop making any changes as you will have missed too much work to begin a new subject.



English Language

'The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page' - Saint Augustine



The English Language course develops your reading and writing skills. The final exams will test:

- Your ability to retrieve information from a range of different texts.
- Your ability to comment on the overall structure of a text
- Your ability to analyse a writer's use of language.
- Your ability to compare the content of two different texts.
- The overall structure of your writing: how well you can plan and paragraph.
- Your ability to use different types of sentences.
- The breadth of your vocabulary
- Your accuracy with spelling and grammar.

There are two papers which ask you to look at different types of text.

Paper 1 asks you to read and comment on an extract of fiction and write a piece of descriptive or narrative writing.

Paper 2 asks you to read and comment on an extract from non-fiction text and write to present your viewpoint on a topic.

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
<p>Non-exam assessment: spoken language endorsement</p> <p>You will be asked to present a talk on a topic of your choice followed by answering questions linked to your topic.</p> <p>This endorsement is worth 0% of the GCSE but is reported separately on your results certificate.</p> <p>Your endorsement is marked on Fail/ Pass/ Merit/ Distinction criteria.</p> <p>This unit is marked internally and externally moderated by the exam board.</p>		<p>Exam Paper 1: Creative Reading and Writing: written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE Section A: Reading one literature fiction text Section B: Writing • descriptive or narrative writing</p> <p>Exam Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives: written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE Section A: Reading one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text Section B: Writing • writing to present a viewpoint</p>	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
English Language	AQA	8700	www.aqa.org.uk

GCSE English Language equips students for further study at sixth form and university. It is also provides vital skills for life and work by developing students' ability to understand the written word with clarity and communicate their own views with precision. These skills are relevant in all career paths and essential in many.

Director of Faculty: Miss Staniforth

English Literature

'Once you have read a book you care about, some part of it is always with you.' - Louis L'Amour



The English Literature course will test the following skills:

- Comprehension skills: how well can you infer information about plot, character, events and settings?
- Critical Reading: how well do you consider different ways of interpreting a text? Does the historical context of a text help you come to your own informed opinion?
- Analytical skills: how well can you analyse how writers use language, form and structure.
- Comparison skills: how well do you compare and contrast texts that you have studied.

Over the course of year 10 and 11, you will study the following texts in full:

- Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
- An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley or Pigeon English by Stephen Kelman
- Macbeth by William Shakespeare
- Poetry 'Power & Conflict' Anthology by Various Poets

External Assessment

Exam Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19th Century novel (A Christmas Carol)

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes - 40% of Lit GCSE

Section A: Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B: The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Exam Paper 2: Modern Text (An Inspector Calls or Pigeon English) and Poetry - written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes - 60% of Lit GCSE

Section A: Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B: Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C: Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
English Literature	AQA	8702	www.aqa.org.uk

GCSE English Literature equips students for further study at sixth form and university. It also provides vital skills for life by developing students' ability to understand the world around them and communicate their views with precision. These skills are relevant in all career paths and essential in many. Studying literature gives students the opportunity to engage with a very broad range of ideas and perspectives on issues as diverse as personal relationships, war, ambition, politics, friendship and many others. Studying literature allows students to develop skills of understanding and empathy. It brings the opportunity for students to expand their thinking by considering the situations and experiences of people beyond the current scope of their own lives.

Director of Faculty: Miss Staniforth

Mathematics

'Wherever there is number, there is beauty.' - Proclus



The mathematics course builds on the maths you have learned during Key Stage Three.

The course covers six main topic areas:

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

Throughout the course, you will be working towards the following assessment objectives:

AO1 - use and apply standard techniques

AO2 - reason, interpret and communicate mathematically

AO3 - solve problems within mathematics and in other contexts

External Assessment

Exam Paper 1: Non-calculator

33.3% of GCSE

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.

Exam Paper 2: Calculator

33% of GCSE

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.

Exam Paper 1: Non-calculator

33.3% of GCSE

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.

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Mathematics	Edexcel	1MA1	www.pearson.co.uk

GCSE Mathematics equips students for further study at sixth form and university. It also provides vital skills for life with a wide array of careers relying on a person having a good level of mathematics.

Director of Faculty: Mrs Edwards

Citizenship Studies

'Citizenship is the chance to make a difference to the place where you belong.' - Charles Handy



Citizenship Studies provides you with the opportunity to understand key citizenship issues and develop a practical understanding of what it means to be a citizen today. You will acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to think critically and play a positive role in public life. The qualification covers:

Life in modern Britain

- What are the principles and values that underpin British society?
- What do we mean by identity?
- What is the role of the media and free press?
- What is the UK's role in key international organisations?
- How can citizens make their voices heard and make a difference in society?

Rights and responsibilities

- What laws does a society require and why?
- What are a citizen's rights and responsibilities within the legal system?
- How has law developed over time, and how does the law protect the citizen and deal with criminals?
- What are the universal human rights and how do we protect them?
- How do citizens play a part to bring about change in the legal system?

Politics and participation

- Where does political power reside in the UK and how is it controlled?
- What are the powers of local and devolved government and how can citizens participate?
- Where does political power reside: with the citizen, parliament or government?
- How do others govern themselves? How can citizens try to bring about political change?

Active citizenship

- Citizenship action - the actions of others
- An investigation - taking citizenship action

External Assessment			
Paper 1 (50% of GCSE) Active citizenship Politics and participation		Paper 2 (50% of GCSE) Life in modern Britain Rights and responsibilities	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Citizenship Studies	AQA	8100	www.aqa.org.uk

Citizenship Studies has the power to motivate and enable you to become more thoughtful and go on to be an active citizen. You will gain a deeper knowledge of democracy, government and law, and develop skills to create sustained and reasoned arguments, present various viewpoints and plan practical citizenship actions to benefit society. You will also gain the ability to recognise bias, critically evaluate argument, weigh evidence and look for alternative interpretations and sources of evidence, all of which are essential skills valued by higher education and employers.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bedford

Art and Design

'Creativity takes courage.' - Henri Matisse



Why study GCSE Art and Design?

Art and Design equips you with the skills to enjoy, produce and engage with the visual arts throughout their lives, and it has immense value as a GCSE subject. GCSE Art and Design provides the opportunity for you to explore both contemporary and historical sources of art, craft and design first hand through, for example:

- visiting museums, galleries, art shows and fairs
- experiencing audio-visual productions, including still and moving imagery
- their surroundings and environments
- take an individual approach to their art, craft and design making
- develop the skills of selecting their best and most appropriate work for presentation.

You will be required to actively engage in the creative process of art, craft and design in order to develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

Course Information

The GCSE covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments and you will have the opportunity to experiment with different media in order to explore your strengths and preferences. There are a wide range of options and you may choose to work in several areas; the main aim being to develop visual language skills and to build a comprehensive portfolio of work.

Drawing is an explicit requirement in GCSE Art and Design, and students will be expected to use drawing to support the development process within their chosen area(s) of study. However, students are not required to demonstrate technical mastery of drawing skills unless this is appropriate to their chosen area(s) of study. Rather, we want to see all students using mark-making as a way of developing and expressing their ideas.

Internal Assessment

All units are internally assessed and externally moderated by the exam board.

Component 1 - Personal Portfolio (60%)

From centre-set theme(s) in consultation with students, you will produce a portfolio of work demonstrating knowledge, understanding and skills, and comprising supporting studies and personal response(s)

Component 2 - Externally Set Assignment (40%)

The culmination of the GCSE course, students create a piece from an externally-set theme. The Academy will devise a period of preparatory study in which students create preparatory studies and you will then have a 10-hour sustained focus period in which to produce personal response(s)

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Art & Design	Edexcel	1FA0	qualifications.pearson.com

Students achieving a good grade at GCSE can continue their studies at A level, which can lead to study at a Foundation Course in Art and/or a degree in various areas of Art and Design, for example Architecture, Interior Design, Product Design, Fashion, Photography, Graphic Design and Fine Art. There are also many careers that a GCSE in Art & Design can help you access, including: Practising Artist, Community artist, Exhibition Organiser, Arts Administrator, Lecturer, Art Consultant, Gallery Manager, Researcher, Curator, Teacher, Image Retoucher, Art Therapist, Arts Conservationist, Studio Manager, Gallery Technician, Artist Assistant, Art Handler, Writer/Critic, Gallery Education Officer, Animation, Fashion Communication and Promotion, Games Art and Design, Illustration, Fashion, Games Development, Interior Design, Textile Design, Architecture, Film and Moving Image Production, User Experience Design, Graphics, Photography, VFX, Acting, Fashion Marketing and Business.

There are 3 Million jobs in the creative economy and growing twice as fast as the rest of the UK workforce. That's 1 in 11 jobs in the UK.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bate

Build Up

'Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going.' - Jim Rohn



Whilst Build Up will not give you a GCSE, it might be the choice for you if you want to:

- Further develop your skills in English, maths and science in a real world context, helping you to work towards Grade 4 in these subjects
- Improve yourself by choosing pathways that will help you develop the skills you'll need once you've left school

Build Up is an exciting programme that 17,000 other students in the UK are working towards, and can help you improve your:

- Attendance
- Engagement
- Behaviour
- Work ethic
- Self belief
- Self confidence
- Inspiration
- Motivation
- Knowledge

It also gives you:

- Records of your learning, including certificates
- A focus on the future
- A chance to personalise your own learning

During the programme, students could follow three core modules: Teach Me English, Teach Me Maths and Teach Me Science. You will then be able to select pathways through the programme to help you prepare for life after Iceni Academy, including:

- Build Me
- Motivate Me
- Organise Me
- Support Me
- Guide Me
- Prepare Me
- Connect Me
- Being Me
- Healthy Me

Each time a you complete a module, you will receive a certificate that you can take with you to college and work interviews.

We want to 'Build Up' all of our students to success, and this is where the Build Up programme will help.



Design and Technology

'Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works.' - Steve Jobs



Why choose Design and Technology?

The 2016 World Economic Forum in Davos listed the ten skills workers will need to acquire by 2020. Design and Technology provides experience in all of those skills: complex problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity, people management, coordinating with others, emotional intelligence, judgement and decision making, service orientation, negotiation and cognitive flexibility. As part of the course we will cover graphics, resistant materials, electronics, product design, textiles and systems and control.

Design and Technology will allow you to:

- Understand what people want
- Create fantastic designs using new tools, materials and processes
- Make brilliant products using CAD, CAM and 3D printing
- Work in teams and individually
- Develop empathy and a connection to others
- Understand materials
- Understand how things work
- Have the freedom to be creative
- Design and make real things
- Solve real-world problems
- Future proof your prospects
- Have control over your life and environment

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
Non-exam assessment - 50% of the qualification Marked internally and externally moderated A sustained design and make task, assessing your ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, investigate and outline design possibilities • Design and make prototypes • Analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology 		Written exam - 50% of the qualification Tests your knowledge and understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical principles • Design and making principles Test your ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology 	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Design and Technology	AQA	8464	www.aqa.org.uk

Design and Technology is vital to the economy, with areas such as fashion and textiles, the creative industries and engineering contributing massively to our futures. We need to make the world better, safer and cleaner and the UK leads in designing and developing new processes and products that lead to this.

You could go on to study Design and Technology at Level 3 and beyond, opening up options for higher education and jobs in the design and creative sectors.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bate

Drama

'Giving voice to characters that have no voice - that's the great worth of what we do.' - Meryl Streep



Why choose drama?

Choose drama if you want to develop:

- Focus
- Confidence
- Memory skills
- Concentration
- Self-esteem
- Conversation
- Social skills
- Presentation skills
- Negotiation skills
- Leadership skills
- Creativity
- Imagination
- Literacy
- Written analytical skills

Is this subject for me?

- Do you enjoy expressing yourself in an active and practical way?
- Do you like working in a group?
- Are you prepared to contribute your ideas and take on board those of others?
- Do you like exploring serious issues by putting yourself in other people's shoes?
- Are you able to focus and sustain your concentration?
- Do you want to create and perform your own drama work?
- Are you able to approach serious emotional drama with maturity?
- Do you want to study plays written by other people?
- Are you prepared to sit a written examination at the end of Year 11?
- Do you prefer being assessed practically?

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
Devising drama - 40% of the GCSE Assesses: The process of creating devised drama Your performance of devised drama (as either a performer or designer) Your ability to analyse and evaluate your own work You will produce a devising log (worth 60 marks) and a practical performance (worth 20 marks). This component is marked internally and externally moderated.		Written Exam - 40% of the GCSE Assesses: Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre Your study of one set play Your ability to analyse and evaluate the work of live theatre makers Practical performance - 20% of the GCSE Performance of two extracts from one play Marked by an external examiner who visits the Academy	

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Drama	AQA	8261	www.aqa.org.uk

Drama builds skills for life, including your confidence and communication skills. These skills are vital in all walks of life and all jobs you may go on to do. In 2013, the Russell Group of universities asked FTSE 250 companies what the two most important qualities were that they looked for in an employee. The two most common answers were teamwork and communication - both skills which you will build throughout GCSE Drama. You could also go on to study drama further at Level 3 and beyond, and ultimately take up a job in the creative and theatre sectors - not just as an actor but also in design, production, marketing, front of house, writing... with a GCSE in Drama, the possibilities are virtually limitless!

Director of Faculty: Miss Staniforth

Food Preparation & Nutrition

'Cooking is the ultimate giving.' - Jamie Oliver



Why study Food Technology?

An understanding of food science and nutrition allow us to make better informed decisions about diet. Food preparation knowledge and skills will allow us to facilitate lifestyle choices and turn those ideas into amazing foods to eat and drink.

Course Content

Learners should be given the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of the following six areas of content:

- Food commodities
- Principles of nutrition
- Diet and good health
- The science of food
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
<p>Non-Examined Assessment - 50% of the GCSE Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Assessment A scientific food investigation which will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food. Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Assessment Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food. These assessments will be based on a choice of tasks released by Eduqas annually.</p>		<p>Written Exam - 50% of the GCSE The Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition consisting of two sections both containing compulsory questions and will assess the six areas of content. Section A: questions based on stimulus material. Section B: structured, short and extended response questions to assess content related to food preparation and nutrition.</p>	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Food Preparation & Nutrition	Eduqas		eduqas.co.uk
<p>Career Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chef / Cook • Nutritionist • Dietitian • Dietetic Specialist • Food Service Manager • Health Educator 			
<p>Director of Faculty: Mr Bate</p>			

Geography

'Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future.' - Michael Palin



Why Study Geography?

Geography enables you to develop an in depth and varied understanding of the world around you. It allows you to feel empowered that you are aware of the ever changing nature of places and how interconnected human and physical processes are in shaping our world.

It is full of exciting case studies like the cereal killer café in London, tourism in Jamaica and the vibrant favelas of Rio de Janeiro. This knowledge of the places around you will spark a want to explore these places for yourself.

What Will You Study?

The course is split into these 9 sections. These topics will allow you to understand the physical processes that shape the land we live on and how humans are living in limbo of destroying and saving our world.

No geography course would be complete without field trips to see all this theory in action. In Year 10-11 an overnight trip will take place to London to see how as a city it's being regenerated and gentrified and of course the famous beach field trip where ice creams and fish and chips are a must.

External Assessment

Paper 1 – Living with the physical environment	1 hour 30 minutes	35%	The challenge of natural hazards The living world Physical landscapes in the UK
Paper 2 – Challenges in the human environment	1 hour 30 minutes	35%	Urban issues and challenges The changing economic world The challenge of resource management
Paper 3 – Geographical Applications	1 hour 15 minutes	30	Issue evaluation Fieldwork Geographical skills

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Geography	AQA	8035	www.aqa.org.uk

The options after geography really are surprising, it's not just being a geologist or a teacher (although they are fabulous careers). At college/6th Form and university you can delve into all the topics covered in your GCSE's in more depth and detail. This could open up passions, therefore careers such as being an urban planner for the cities of the future or working with charities and organizations to help combat poverty is some of the most disadvantaged areas of the world.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bedford

History

'Study the past if you would define the future.' - Confucius



Why Study History?

History is a magnificent subject and worth studying simply because it is such an interesting and varied course. However, it is the only subject that enables you to delve into the past with the intention of moving forward into the future as responsible citizens of the world; intent on avoiding the previous mistakes of others. If only more of the world's leaders had studied it in an attempt to understand the attitudes and values of others! It has been the most popular subject at GCSE here at Iceni for a number of years and the results have consistently been amongst the best in the Academy. Last year and the year before they were the best, with students not only achieving the highest proportion of grades 9-7 and the most progress in the Academy but in the Trust as an entirety, which consists of ten secondary schools across the country. This is partly because it is taught by people who will demand the most from you, people who are passionate about the subject, prepared to give quality feedback on how to improve and to go the extra mile to ensure you get the most from your talents.

What will I study?

Paper 1: This based upon a thematic study of medicine in Britain 1250-present, (including Black Death, the Renaissance, germ theory of disease, cholera and high technology medicine of the C20th) and a study of the historic environment, located on the British sector of the Western Front in World War One. A Field Trip to the World War One battlefields of Belgium and France will be available to support enrich students' understanding will be available to all Year Nine students selecting History GCSE. This will assess both knowledge and understanding and their interpretation of sources. This topic will be studied in the first part of Year Ten.

Paper 2: This addresses firstly an exciting new unit on Elizabethan England. This focuses on the challenges of ruling as a single woman, the Spanish Armada, poverty, education and leisure and the discovery and early colonisation of America. The second section examines the American West 1835-1862, where students will study the Plains Indians, the development of the Great Plains, including some of the great gunfights from history and finally conflict with the native peoples, ending with the destruction of their way of life. The examination assesses their knowledge and understanding exclusively. The American West is studied in the second part of Year Ten and Elizabethan England in the first part of Year Eleven

Paper 3: This is another new unit and students will primarily study US involvement in Vietnam and the Civil Rights movement and how African Americans achieved equal rights in the USA in the 1950's and 60's. The examination will test not only knowledge and understanding but also interpretations of History, in addition to a source based analysis. This will be studied in the final part of Year Eleven.

External Assessment

The GCSE History course will be the new Edexcel specification 1H10. Students will study four topics in preparation for three examinations.

Paper 1	1 hour 15 minutes	30%	Medicine in Britain 1250-present & The British sector of the Western Front, injuries treatment and trenches
Paper 2	1 hour 45 minutes	40%	Early Elizabethan England 1558-88 The American West 1835-1895
Paper 3	1 hour 20 minutes	30%	The USA 1954-75-Conflict at home and abroad

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
History	Edexcel	1H10	qualifications.pearson.com

History is an academic discipline rightly highly prized by higher education establishments, whatever subjects you go on to study post sixteen. It is part of the EBacc and bucket two of Progress Eight. Around 50% of lawyers are actually History graduates, whilst many GCSE students from Iceni have gone on to study an A Level in the subject. Other careers closely related to History are journalism and any job that deals with people, such as Nursing, Social Care, the Civil service, Business and a plethora of others.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bedford

ICT - Creative iMedia

"The Web as I envisaged it, we have not seen it yet. The future is still so much bigger than the past." - Tim Berners-Lee



Why study ICT?

- Technology and ICT is constantly used in everyday life.
- The majority of jobs require you to have ICT skills.
- Allows you to use software that you may not normally use.
- Encourages you to be creative

Course Information – what you will study:

Unit R081:

- Understand the purpose and content of pre-production
- Be able to plan pre-production
- Be able to produce pre-production documents
- Be able to review pre-production documents

Unit R082: Creating digital graphics

- Understand the purpose and properties of digital graphics
- Be able to plan the creation of a digital graphic
- Be able to create a digital graphic
- Be able to review a digital graphic

The other two units still need to be selected but these could cover, design a multipage website, creating a digital animation, designing a game, 2D and 3D characters, storytelling with a comic strip, creating interactive multimedia products.

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
Three controlled assessments, worth 25% of the qualification each: R082 Creating digital graphics TBC TBC		Written exam - 25% of the qualification This unit will enable learners to understand pre-production skills used in the creative and digital media sector. It will develop their understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques that form part of the planning and creation process.	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Cambridge National in Creative iMedia	OCR	J817	www.ocr.org.uk

Most jobs use ICT and the skills you will learn will be very useful when you go to college or 6th form.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bate

Media Studies

'Film recognises neither time nor space, only the limits of man's imagination.' - Nicholas Ray



We are all immersed in the media. We consume and interact with the media everyday of our lives when we use the internet, watch films, play video games, listen to music, use social media, see adverts, watch TV or streaming services, read magazines or listen to the radio. We take the media for granted, but do we really know what it is, what it does or how it affects us?

Studying the media will give you knowledge and understanding of this hugely important and powerful part of your life.

The course can be broken down into 3 areas of study:

Media Texts

The things produced by media organisations:

Websites, social media platforms, music videos, TV programmes, films, video games, newspapers, magazines etc.

Media Audiences

The people who consume media products - *us* - watching, reading, hearing, buying, playing, posting etc.

Media Organisations

The people who produce and control most media content: Who they are?
what do they do? who are they run by? what is their function?

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
Component 3: Creating Media Products Non-exam assessment 30% of qualification (Coursework - producing your own media product)		Component 1: Exploring the Media Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 40% of qualification Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 30% of qualification.	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Media Studies	Eduqas		eduqas.co.uk

GCSE Media Studies equips students for further study at sixth form and university. It is also excellent preparation for many career paths including those in ICT, journalism, marketing, advertising, gaming, TV and Radio and all the creative arts.

Director of Faculty: Miss Staniforth

Modern Foreign Languages

'The limits of my language mean the limits of my world.' - Ludwig Wittgenstein



In GCSE French, German or Mandarin, you will study:

- Identity and culture: me, my family and friends; technology in everyday life; free-time activities; customs and festivals
- Local, national and international areas of interest: Home town, neighbourhood and region; social issues; global issues; travel and tourism
- Current and future employment and study: my studies; life at school/ college; education post-16; jobs, careers and ambitions

The benefits of learning languages are:

- Learning a language makes your brain work more quickly, improving your cognitive and sensory processing
- Language speakers are better communicators, sharper editors and writers. Language speakers also develop a better ear for listening.
- Learning a language improves your memory. Multiple language speakers are better at remembering lists or sequences and patterns.
- Using language skills makes us good multi-taskers, because we learn how to easily switch between different systems of speech, writing and structure. We understand our own language better.
- 75% of the world's population does not speak English at all - so there are huge benefits of speaking a native language when travelling
- Over 1/3 of businesses want people specifically for their language skills - multilingual employees can expect a 20% increase in salary in certain jobs
- There are mental benefits of language learning, too - students who study a foreign language for 4 or more years out-perform their classmates in exams.

External Assessment

There are four exams in GCSE French, German or Mandarin, each worth 25% of the qualification.

Listening: Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language

Reading: Understanding and responding to different types of written language

Speaking: Speaking exam completed with the class teacher using photo card, role play and general conversation

Writing: Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes

These exams can be taken at foundation tier (Grade 1-5) or higher tier (Grades 4-9).

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
French / German / Mandarin	AQA	8658 / 8668 / 8673	www.aqa.org.uk

A GCSE in a language is vital if you want to go on and study the language in 6th Form, but it is much more than just a qualification. It could be the start of a life of travel and exploration. Languages can provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. Learning a language develops your communication skills, vital for success in the world of work and gives you a broader outlook on life. Having a GCSE in a language is also increasingly seen as an important entry qualification for university and for many graduate schemes. We also know that employers value languages, as they are becoming more important to make sure we can compete in the global market.

Director of Faculty: Ms Pawsey

Music

'Music is a language that doesn't speak in particular words. It speaks in emotions. It's in the bones; it's in the bones.' — Keith Richards



What does GCSE Music give me?

- Fulfilment
- Confidence and self esteem
- Enjoyment
- Motivation
- Academic achievement
- Independent learning
- Team work
- Performance and presentation skills
- Listening
- Analytical and essay writing skills
- Creativity and self-expression

What is included in GCSE Music?

There are four areas of study covering listening skills, performance skills and composition skills:

- Western classical tradition 1650-1910 (e.g. Haydn, Mozart et. al)
- Popular music (e.g. Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band; Little Shop of Horrors)
- Traditional music (e.g. Paul Simon - Graceland, Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes, You Can Call Me Al)
- Western classical tradition since 1910 (e.g. Copland, Kodály et. al.)

A study and understanding in all of these areas of:

- Melody
- Harmony
- Tonality
- Structure
- Sonority (timbre)
- Texture
- Tempo, metre and rhythm
- Dynamics and articulation

Pre-requisites for the course

You either must:

- Be able to play an instrument to Grade 3 standard or above *or* be a confident singer, willing to work on your voice *or*
- Be willing to learn an instrument or learn to sing well

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
<p>Music performance: 30% of the qualification Two performances, one as a soloist and one as part of an ensemble, as an instrumentalist or vocalist. Marked internally and externally moderated.</p> <p>Music composition: 30% of the qualification Two compositions, one to a brief set by the exam board and a second, free choice composition, with accompanying performance and evaluation. Marked internally and externally moderated.</p>		<p>Written exam: 40% of the qualification Exam paper with listening exercises and written questions using excerpts of music.</p>	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Music	AQA	8271	www.aqa.org.uk

GCSE Music opens the door to further study of music at Level 3 and beyond. You could have a career as a musician, sound technician, community musician, music therapist, teacher, private tutor and myriad other careers in the music industry. Arts and creative industries are also popular, such as working in film, TV, theatre, radio, arts administration or creative education. Many doctors, lawyers and accountants have qualifications in music - music is a highly regarded, academic subject and can help lead to a professional career.

Director of Faculty: Mr Bate

GCSE Physical Education

'You were born a player. You were meant to be here. This moment is yours.' - Herb Brooks



Do you have a love for sports? Are you interested in a career based in sport?

How does the course work?

You will complete two exams. One based on anatomy & physiology and the second based on socio-cultural issues in sport, sport psychology and health, fitness and well being. You will also be assessed in three sports and complete an AEP based on improving personal fitness or skill performance.

Am I suitable for this course?

To excel in this course these are the main attributes you should have:

- You love playing sport and are a member of at least one sports club
- You have a genuine interest in issues sport faces and often read sports news
- You want to investigate the relationship between exercise and its impact on the body and overall health.
- You wish to develop basic training and coaching skills to lead your own fitness or sporting ability.

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
Performance in physical education: 40% of the GCSE total Practical assessment activity - three sports, including at least one team sport and one individual sport Analysing and evaluating performance		Paper 1: 30% of the GCSE total Applied anatomy and physiology; physical training; physical factors affecting performance Paper 2: 30% of the GCSE total Socio-cultural influences; sports psychology; health, fitness and well being.	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Physical Education	OCR	J587	www.ocr.org.uk

Our last GCSE PE results were in August 2016, 76% of our Year 11 students achieved a Grade C or higher (the same as at least a 4 in the current GCSE). **If you show dedication and work hard, you too could achieve this.** This course would enable you to study: Sports Science or the like at College or A-Level Physical Education at a Sixth Form. It will also equip you with basic skills to start a career path working in coaching, sport related medical work such as physio, sports nutrition and personal training.

Director of Faculty: Mr Taylor

Cambridge National Level 1/2 Sports Science

'Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.' - Tim Notke



Do you have a love for sports? Are you interested in a career based in sport?

How does the course work?

You will complete one exam based on 'Reducing the Risk of Sports Injuries'. You will then complete three units of coursework. One based on 'Applying the Principles of Training', a second based on 'Sports Nutrition' and a third based on 'Technology in Sport'.

Am I suitable for this course?

To excel in this course these are the main attributes you should have:

- You have a desire to learn about sport outside of actually playing.
- You have a genuine interest in issues sport faces and often read sports news
- You want to investigate how to improve fitness and how this benefits athletes.
- You wish to develop your understanding of how technology is used in sport and fitness.

Internal Assessment		External Assessment	
Applying principles of training: 25% of the total qualification) <i>Plus two units (worth 25% each) from:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The body's response to physical activity • Sport psychology • Sports nutrition • Technology in sport 		External Examination: Reducing the risk of sports injuries (25% of the total qualification)	
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Sports Science	OCR	J802	www.ocr.org.uk

In August 2017, 93% of our Year 11 students achieved a Level 2 Pass or higher equivalent (the same as at least a 4 in a GCSE). **If you show dedication and work hard, you too could achieve this.** This course would enable you to study: Sports Science or the like at College or A-Level Physical Education at a Sixth Form. It will also equip you with basic skills to start a career path working in careers such as physiotherapy, personal training and performance analysis.

Director of Faculty: Mr Taylor

Religious Studies

'An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.' - Benjamin Franklin



Religious Studies is one of the most important subjects you can study as it:

- Can **break down social barriers** and **prevent hate crimes** as people are more tolerant and accepting of others.
- Enables students to develop knowledge and understanding of religion, **religious beliefs, practices, language and traditions and their influence on individuals, communities, societies and cultures.**
- Gives students time to consider and respond to a range of important questions related to their own **spiritual development**, the development of values and attitudes and fundamental questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life.

Religious Studies is **concerned with the deep meaning that individuals and groups make of their experiences and how this helps them give purpose to their lives.** It provides opportunities to explore, make and respond to the meanings of those experiences in relation to the beliefs and experiences of others as well as to one's own experiences.

RS aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and to achieve. To **promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development** and to prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of the present and the future.

RS contributes to students developing knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes, which are **necessary for their personal fulfilment and development as active and responsible citizens. It promotes British values and understanding of laws and society.**

RS develops the following skills: Empathy, problem solving, logic, crafting arguments, research skills, writing, critical thinking etc.

External Assessment			
Paper 1: The study of religions - beliefs, teaching and practices (50% of the GCSE) Beliefs, teachings and practices from two of the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Catholic Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism.			
Paper 2: Thematic studies (50% of the GCSE) Study of four of the following:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships and families • Religion and life • The existence of God and revelation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religion, peace and conflict • Religion, crime and punishment • Religion, human rights and social justice 		
Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Religious Studies	AQA	8062	www.aqa.org.uk
RS is a recognised subject for all Universities and is highly valued by Oxbridge. This is because of the skills it develops as listed below and tells employers that you are a tolerant individual who is able to understand others and think logically in regard to difficult questions. RE is a sought after qualification for the following careers: emergency services, armed forces, teaching and education, the Civil Service, business management, writing and journalism, law.			
Director of Faculty: Mr Bedford			

Statistics

'An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.' - Benjamin Franklin



How do they predict the weather?

Can you predict the future that well?

Statistics is the study of making good guesses. Making well-reasoned predictions about the future, as well as making justified assumptions about why something has happened, are some of the key rationales in the study of statistics.

GCSE statistics will involve studying probabilities, manipulating datasets, exploring sampling methods and forming scientific hypotheses.

There are five sections to GCSE statistics:

- A: Understanding the importance of the careful planning of a clear strategy for collecting, recording and processing data in order to address an identified question or hypothesis.
- B: Recognise the opportunities, constraints and implications for subsequent mathematical analysis involved in obtaining appropriate data through careful design of primary data collection techniques or through the use of reference sources for secondary data to ensure unbiased research.
- C: Generate data visualisation and understand the mathematics required to derive these visualisations.
- D: Calculate statistical measures to compare data.
- E: Use visualization and calculation to interpret results with reference to the context of the problem, and to evaluate the validity and reliability of statistical findings.

External Assessment

The course will be assessed with 2 x 1 hour 30 min Examinations – both with calculator.

Statistics is also a subject that has both Foundation and Higher tiered exam papers. As with the mathematics GCSE Foundation Tier gives access to grades 1 to 5, Higher Tier gives access to grades 4 to 9.

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Statistics	AQA	8382	www.aqa.org.uk

Statistics are used widely in medicine, business, science, teaching and politics and so having a deep understanding of how to handle and interpret statistics will be advantageous. If you want to study maths at A-Level the Statistics GCSE will be very useful. Of course this could also be true of subjects like: biology, psychology, sociology, geography and government & politics, as they often use statistics to draw conclusions of the world around them and feature within their A-Level courses.

Director of Faculty: Mrs Edwards

Triple Science

'Scientists have become the bearers of the torch of discovery in our quest for knowledge.' - Stephen Hawking



Why study Triple Science?

Science is one of the most important subjects students study, because it gives you the critical thinking skills you need in every subject. Science helps you understand how the world works and will help you build your knowledge base. Studying Science opens a whole world of possibilities as there is so much of variety in what you can learn and develop.

What do you study?

This is 3 separate GCSE courses. You will have 3 GCSEs for Science at the end of the course. You will study:

Biology

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

Chemistry

Atomic structure and the periodic table
Bonding and structure
Quantitative chemistry
Chemical changes
Energy changes
Rate of chemical change
Organic chemistry
Chemical analysis
The atmosphere
Using resources

Physics

Energy
Electricity
Particle model of Matter
Atomic structure
Forces
Waves
Magnetism and electromagnetism

External Assessment

There are six final exams, each lasting 100 minutes. These are equally weighted, worth 50% of each GCSE (e.g. the two biology papers are worth 50% of the GCSE each). These papers are taken instead of the Combined Science papers - there are no additional exams for Triple Science compared to Combined Science. The papers are longer and cover both the combined and triple science content.

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
Biology Chemistry	AQA	8461 8462	www.aqa.org.uk

Science is a Core GCSE that all employers like to see on an application. There are many career paths that require Science

these include:

Health Care

Animal Care

Criminology/Forensics

Sports

Archaeologist

Marine Scientist

Engineering

Lab Technician

Nuclear Scientist

Geophysics

Microbiologist

Product Development

Product Development

Beauty Sector

Soil Scientist

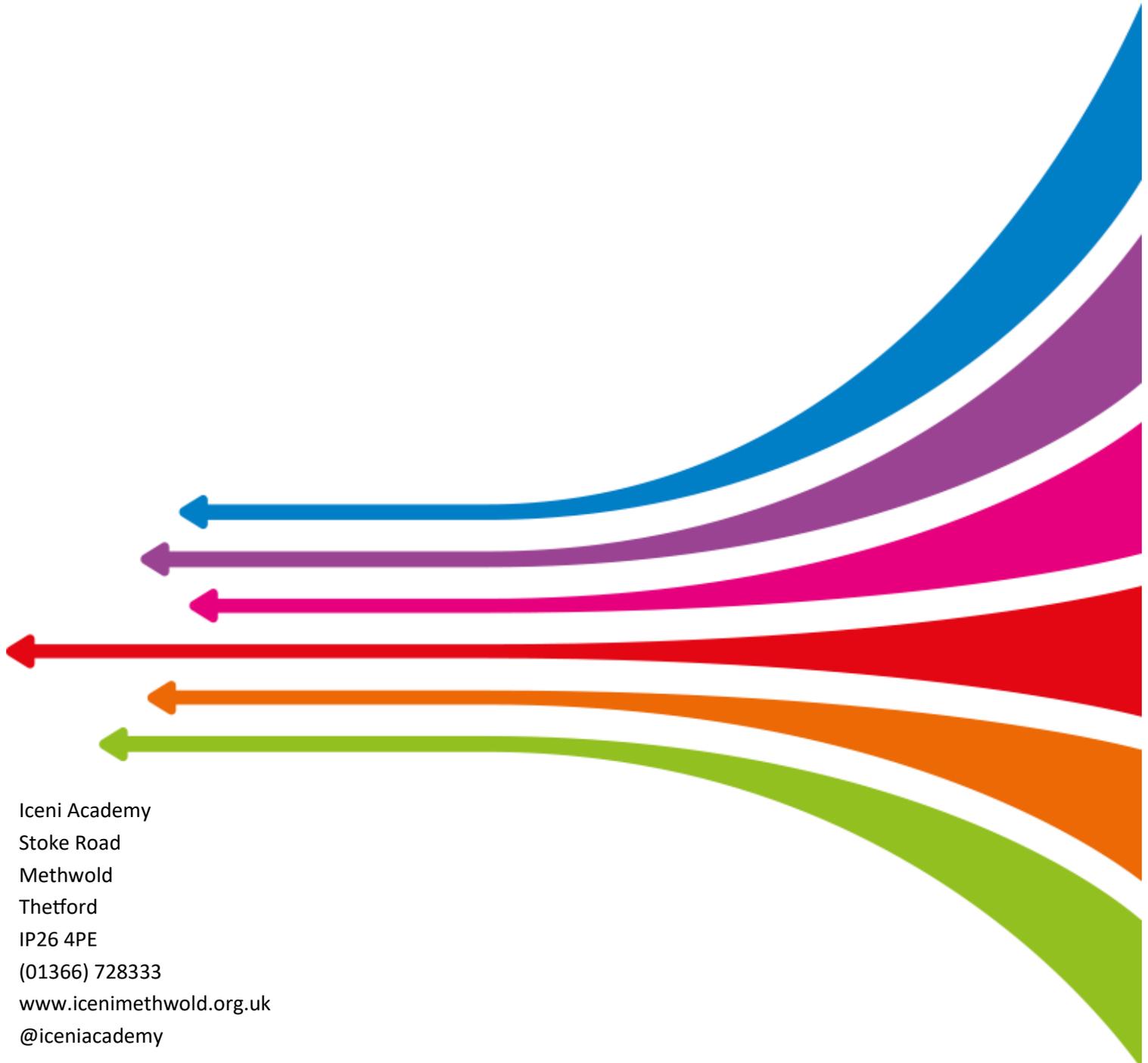
Hydrology

Medical

Vet

Plus many more!

Director of Faculty: Ms Williams



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