



JOSEPH PAXTON CAMPUS

**Core Curriculum
and
Option Subjects
Booklet
Class of 2023 -25**



CORE SUBJECTS

English Language
English Literature

Mathematics

GCSE Combined Science
or
BTEC Applied Science

Learning for Life



GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Accreditation

AQA GCSE English Language
GCSE Grades 1-9

Aim of the course

GCSE English Language aims to will enable students of all abilities to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19th, 20th and 21st century time periods. Students will also learn to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures.

Course Content

Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A: Reading - reading a literature fiction text in order to consider how established writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers.

Section B : Writing - writing their own creative text, inspired by the topic that they have responded to in section A to demonstrate their narrative and descriptive skills in response to a written prompt, scenario or visual image.

Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Section A: Reading – reading two linked sources from different time periods and genres in order to consider how each presents a perspective or viewpoint to influence the reader.

Section B: Writing - producing a written text to a specified audience, purpose and form in which they give their own perspective on the theme that has been introduced to them in section A.

Assessment

GCSE English is assessed in the summer of Y11.

Paper 1: 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of final grade)

Paper 2: 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of final grade)

Non-examination assessment Spoken Language – separate endorsement (0% weighting of final GCSE grade)

What will be expected of students?

- Students will read a range of texts as reading stimulus and engage with creative as well as real and relevant contexts.
- Students will have opportunities to develop higher-order reading and critical thinking skills that encourage genuine enquiry into different topics and themes.
- Students will develop skills in reading fluently and writing effectively.

Post-16 Transition

Post-16 providers will expect a grade 4 and above in GCSE English Language in order to proceed onto any level 3 course. A student who achieves a grade 1-3 will be expected to participate in additional English study and may not be able to access a Level 3 course until a GCSE English Language Grade of 4 or above has been achieved.

Local Post-16 Providers

Most school sixth forms offer A-level English Language, or a combined course of Language and Literature. Birkenhead Sixth Form College offers A-level English. To pursue this, students would usually be required to achieve at least a grade 5 in English Language GCSE.

For students who don't achieve a grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language, a range of local post-16 colleges in Wirral, Liverpool and Cheshire offer Level 1 and 2 courses to support their vocational learning.



GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Accreditation

AQA GCSE in English Literature

GCSE Grade 1-9

Aim of the course

GCSE English Literature will teach students to develop knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. develop culturally and acquire knowledge of a range of high-quality texts. Studying GCSE English Literature will encourage students to read widely for pleasure and as a preparation for studying literature at a higher level.

Course Content

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

Section A: Shakespeare - students will answer one question on their play of choice.

Section B: The 19th-century novel - students will answer one question on their novel of choice.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

Section A: Modern texts - students will answer one essay question on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B: Poetry - students will answer one comparative question on one named poem **and** one other poem from the anthology.

Section C: Unseen poetry - Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Assessment

GCSE English Literature is assessed in the summer of Y11.

Paper 1 - 1 hour 45 mins (40% of GCSE)

Paper 2 - 2 hours 15 mins (60% of GCSE)

What will be expected of students?

- Literal and inferential comprehension
- Critical reading
- Evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features:
- Comparing and contrasting texts studied
- Write effectively about literature for a range of purposes
- Accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar

Post-16 Transition

Post-16 providers will expect a grade 4 and above in English in order to proceed onto a level 3 course. A student who achieves a grade 1-3 will be expected to participate in additional English study.

Local Post-16 Providers

Most school sixth forms offer A level English and English Literature.

Birkenhead Sixth Form College offers A level English.

Wirral Metropolitan College offers Level 1 and 2 courses to support their vocational learning, if students don't already have a grade 4 or above in English Language.

Note: Not all students will go on to achieve a qualification in English Literature. Entry onto this course is dependent on several factors, including the student's ability level, their chosen post-16 pathway, their attendance level, and their emotional and mental wellbeing at the time of exam entries, i.e. their ability to cope emotionally with the additional stress of an extra qualification.



MATHEMATICS



Accreditation

AQA GCSE Mathematics

Foundation Grades 1-5

Higher Grades 4-9

Aim of the course

To prepare students with the right skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be. It aims to be diverse, engaging and for everyone.

Course Content

Students will study a wide range of topics to develop their skills across the whole field of mathematics.

Topics studied:

Number

Algebra

Ratio, proportion and rates of change

Geometry and measures

Statistics

Probability

Assessment

Paper 1: Non- Calculator Paper (1hour 30 minutes)

Paper 2: Calculator Paper (1hour 30 minutes)

Paper 3: Calculator Paper (1hour 30 minutes)

What will be expected of students

- Students will develop confidence and competence with the content identified.
- Students will be assessed on the content identified.
- Students will be assessed with a mix of question styles. From short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increased as a student progresses through the paper.

Post-16 Transition

Post-16 providers will expect a grade 4 and above in GCSE Maths in order to proceed onto any level 3 course. A student who achieves a grade 1-3 will be expected to participate in additional Maths study and may not be able to access a Level 3 course until a GCSE Maths Grade of 4 or above has been achieved. For students who don't achieve a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths, a range of local post-16 colleges in Wirral, Liverpool and Cheshire offer Level 1 and 2 courses to support their vocational learning.

Local Post-16 Providers

Wirral Met offers courses in Accounting and Professional studies (Level 2-3) and Engineering and Automotive (Level 1-3), as well as the chance to resit maths GCSE.

Birkenhead 6th Form College offers A levels in Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Statistics.



GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE



Accreditation

AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

Aim of the course

The course is designed to introduce students to the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural and man-made world. Students study a range of topics across Biology, Chemistry and Physics that explore the nature and behaviour of natural things and the knowledge that obtain about them. As a practical subject it encourages the development and understanding in Science through opportunities for working scientifically.

Course content

Topics for each of the 3 sciences are:

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Forces
Organisation	Bonding, structure and the properties of matter	Energy
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Waves
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Electricity
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Magnetism and electromagnetism
Inheritance, variation and evolution	The rate and extent of chemical change	Particle model of matter
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Atomic structure
	Chemical analysis	
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using resources	

Assessment

- The course is assessed through two exam papers for each of the three sciences, each exam carries equal weighting.
- The examinations will all be at the end of year 11 and will include questions from the compulsory practical activities, as well as questions on the theory of each subject.

What will be expected of students?

- Good attendance will be essential in order to complete the compulsory practical activities.
- Students will need to be prepared to revise thoroughly at home in preparation for the examinations.

Post-16 Transition

GCSE Combined Science can lead to L3 BTEC Applied Science.
GCSE grade of 5 or above can lead to A-Level Biology, Chemistry or Physics.
Three GCSEs grade 4s including English Language, and two GCSE grade 5s including a Science/Sciences and Maths can lead to a T-level qualification.

Local Post-16 providers

Birkenhead Sixth Form College offers A levels in the three sciences, as well as a T-level in Science (1 T-level = 3 A levels).

Wirral Metropolitan College currently offers L3 BTEC Applied Science.

School 6th Forms offer A-level Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Note: Students will study either GCSE Dual Award Science or BTEC Science. The decision about which course is best is made on an individual basis and dependent on several factors, including the student's preferred learning style, likely post-16 pathway, attendance, and form group.



BTEC APPLIED SCIENCE



Accreditation

Edexcel BTEC

Level 1 and Level 2 First Award in Principles of Applied Science

Aim of the course

The BTEC Applied Science course is designed to introduce students to the basic scientific principles. It is designed to encourage the development of employability skills, including teamwork, independent skills, research skills, and innovation.

Course Content

Students will study four units:

- Unit 1 – Principles of science
- Unit 2 – Chemistry & our earth
- Unit 3 – Energy & our universe
- Unit 4 – Biology & our environment

Assessment

The course is assessed by one external examination of Unit 1 in Year 11 worth 25%, the remaining three units are internally assessed and externally moderated on the quality of a portfolio of evidence produced by the student, this makes up 75% of the final grade.

What will be expected of students?

- No prior knowledge, understanding, skills or qualifications are required before students register for this qualification.
- The course encourages the development and understanding in Science through a range of personal skills.
- Students must have the willingness to develop their investigational skills, study independently, research scientific concepts and report their findings.
- Practical work is also essential in some assignments.

Post-16 Transition

BTEC Applied Science can lead to L3 BTEC Applied Science.

BTEC Applied Science at Distinction Level can lead to A-Level Biology, Chemistry or Physics.

BTEC Applied Science at Distinction Level can also lead to a T level qualification (including three GCSEs grade 4s including English Language, GCSE grade 5 in Maths).

Local Post-16 Providers

Wirral Metropolitan College currently offers L3 BTEC Applied Science.

Note: Students will study either GCSE Dual Award Science or BTEC Science. The decision about which course is best is made on an individual basis and dependent on several factors, including the student's preferred learning style, likely post-16 pathway, attendance, and form group.



LEARNING FOR LIFE (LFL)



Accreditation

WJEC Entry Pathways – Entry Level 3 Certificate in ‘Personal and Social Development’
Basic First Aid
Basic Food Safety and Hygiene

Aims of the courses

WJEC Entry Pathways – Entry Level 3 Certificate in ‘Personal and Social Development’

The aim of this qualification is to give learners the opportunity to develop an understanding of issues contributing to their own and others’ personal and social development.

Basic First Aid

To enable students to have basic first aid skills. This work-related qualification is a good addition to any CV or job application.

This is a one day course and delivered by an outside provider.

Basic Food Safety and Hygiene

To enable students to have basic food safety skills. This work-related qualification is a good addition to any CV or job application.

This course is delivered in school over a number of weeks and assessed via on-line learning modules.

Course content

WJEC Entry Pathways – Entry Level 3 Certificate in Personal and Social Development

Students complete 4 of the following modules to achieve an Award in Personal and Social Development:

- Managing own Money
- Healthy Living
- Preparation for Work
- Working as part of a group
- Community Action

Basic First Aid

Areas covered include the following:

- Asthma
- Choking
- Communication and casualty care
- Fainting
- First Aid kit
- Primary survey
- Recovery position

Basic Food Safety and Hygiene

Module one – Food borne illness, bacteria and prevention

Module two – Contamination, spoilage and prevention of food poisoning

Module three – Personal hygiene and effective cleaning

Module four – Storage HACCP and the law

OPTION SUBJECTS

A - Z

Animal Care

Art and Design

Business Studies

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Health and Social Care

History

Performing Arts

Photography

Sports Leaders Award (SLA)



ANIMAL CARE



Accreditation

Pearson BTEC

Level 1 & 2 Certificate in Animal Care

Aim of the course

The course is designed to provide a specialist work-related qualification. The Pearson BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care has been developed to give learners the opportunity to:

- engage in learning which is relevant to them and will provide opportunities to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.
- achieve a nationally recognised Level 2 vocationally-related qualification.
- progress to employment or apprenticeship relating to the care of animals or to another land-based sector.
- progress to related vocational qualifications.

Course Content

Students will study four units:

- Animal Health
- Animal Handling
- Animal Welfare
- Animal Housing and Accommodation

The units involve a mixture of externally assessed exams, individual research and report writing, participation in practical tasks relating to cleaning and handling animals and visits out of school.

Assessment

Animal Health is externally assessed via a written paper-based exam, as this knowledge and understanding is essential when caring for animals. All other units are assessed on the quality of a portfolio of evidence produced by the student. Each of these units is internally assessed and externally moderated.

What will be expected of students?

- No prior knowledge, understanding, skills or qualifications are required before students register for this qualification.
- Students must be able and willing to attend trips to local farms and be prepared to clean out the animals.
- Students will also need to be able to handle various animals.

Note: Attending trips, handling animals and cleaning out animals are essential aspects of the course. Students should not choose Animal Care if they are uncomfortable around animals or would not be willing to 'muck out' on the farm.

Post-16 Transition

There are lots of courses around Animal Management available at Wirral Met College, Twelve Quays Campus and Reaseheath College in Cheshire.

Apprenticeships are also available at the RSPCA.

School 6th Forms such as at Bebington and Hilbre High also offer Animal Management courses.

ART AND DESIGN



Accreditation

AQA GCSE Art and Design

Level 1 GCSE grades 1-3

Level 2 GCSE grades 4-9

Aim of the course

To learn about Art, Craft and Design and develop skills and creativity through studying a flexible and interesting course, using both traditional and innovative techniques.

Course Content

Students will develop knowledge, understanding and skills across a range of areas concentrating mainly on: drawing, painting, mixed media and traditional 2D and 3D techniques.

Assessment (controlled assessment, portfolio, exam)

Portfolio of Work (Unit 1)

This is set by the centre and is worth 60% of the total marks. Students will select and present materials which show work carried out during their course. The portfolio will take approximately 45 hours of work.

The Portfolio of Work must include **more** than one project.

Externally Set Task (Unit 2)

This is a 10-week assignment that culminates in a 10-hour examination over the course of a week. The final piece of work is produced in the examination week. It is worth 40% of the marks. A choice of questions is used as starting points to inspire students' work. This can start from January in Year 11.

What will be expected of students?

- Students will need to be interested in Art and Design.
- Students will need to research projects and work on new and varied ways of presenting their ideas.
- Students will need to work at home and/or attend extra art sessions, either at lunchtime or after school.

Post-16 Transition

The creative industries are the 4th largest employer in the UK. They include but are not limited to: Interior Design, Product Design, Graphic Design, Illustration, Fashion & Textiles Design, Fine Artist, Television and Stage design and production, Computer games designer, Architecture, Town planning, Web designer, Comic book and Animation.

Local Post-16 Providers

Wirral Met college Art, Design and Media Department offer a wide range of creative, media and Art courses ranging from Level 1,2, & 3 and on to Degree courses.

Birkenhead 6th Form and many school 6th forms offer A Levels in Fine Art, Graphics and Textiles.



BUSINESS STUDIES



Accreditation

Edexcel GCSE Business Studies

Level 1 GCSE grades 1-3

Level 2 GCSE grades 4-9

Aim of the course

You'll start by exploring the world of small businesses through the lens of an entrepreneur.

How and why do business ideas come about? What makes a successful business?

You'll learn how to develop an idea, spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business.

Then you'll move on to investigating business growth.

How does a business develop beyond the start-up phase?

You'll learn about key business concepts and issues and decisions you need to make when growing a business and working in a global business.

Course Content

The course is split into two units:

Investigating Small Business

Spotting a business opportunity

Showing enterprise

Putting a business idea into practice

Making the start-up effective

Understanding the economic context

Building a Business

Growing the business

Making marketing decisions

Making product decisions

Making financial decisions

Making human resource decisions

Assessment

The qualification will be assessed in two equally-weighted exam papers. There is no coursework.

Paper 1 - Theme 1: Investigating Small Business: 90 minutes, 90 marks

(50% of the total GCSE)

Paper 2 - Theme 2: Building a Business: 90 minutes, 90 marks

(50% of the total GCSE)

There are three sections in the paper. Each section is ramped, starting with multiple choice questions, moving to short answer questions and ending with extended writing. Sections B and C are based on real life, relevant business contexts and examples.

What will be expected of the students?

- Interest in the world of business will allow students to fully engage in the course.
- To develop their knowledge outside of the classroom by keeping up with business news.

Post-16 Transition

Level 1 and Level 2 can lead to lots of business-related courses such as Accounting and Business, Business Administration and a variety of apprenticeships, which could then open avenues to a career in Business Project Management, Financial Advisory and Market Research, amongst many others.

Local Post-16 Providers

BTECs and A-Level courses are available at Wirral Met college, Birkenhead 6th Form College and various school 6th Forms. T Levels in Management and Administration are available at Weatherhead High and St Mary's 6th Form College.



GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Accreditation

Eduqas GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Level 1 GCSE Grade 1-3

Level 2 GCSE Grade 4-9

Aim of the course

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

Course Content

The course has been designed to create a balance between practical and theoretical knowledge and understanding. Learners will:

- be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills.
- develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health.
- understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices.
- understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Assessment

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition.

50% of qualification Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes.

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action.

50% of qualification Non-examination assessment: Internally assessed, externally moderated .

Assessment 1: 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: Food Preparation: 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 the exam board annually.

What will be expected of students

- To complete detailed written work on topics such as nutrition, diet and hygiene.
- To enjoy cooking and actively take part in practical sessions.

Post-16 Transition

Level 1 qualification can lead to NVQ Professional Cookery Diploma Level 2, whilst Level 2 leads to Professional Cookery Certificate Level 2. However, a wide range of courses are available.

Local Post-16 Providers

Wirral Metropolitan College has fully licenced training restaurants and kitchens and currently offers a variety of Level 2 and 3 courses, these are through the 'Hospitality and Catering' faculty.

Cheshire colleges South and West offer a range of Level 2 & 3 Hospitality and catering courses delivered in their modern commercial kitchens.



BTEC TECH AWARD LEVEL 1/2 IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



Accreditation

Pearson BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Health and Social Care

Aims of the course

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care is for learners who want to develop knowledge and understanding of the health and social care sector through vocational contexts.

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

Course content

The course is broken down into three separate units:

1. Human Lifespan Development (Non-exam internal assessment)
2. Health and Social Care Services and Values (Non-exam internal assessment)
3. Health and Wellbeing (External assessment)

Assessment

Units 1 and 2 are both internally assessed and each account for 30% of the final grade. Both of these units must be fully completed by April of Year 11.

Unit 3 is an externally-assessed exam and accounts for the remaining 40% of the final grade. This exam is sat early in the Spring term of Y11, with the chance to resit in the summer term if necessary.

What will be expected of students?

- Students will need to be organised and motivated to compile their coursework portfolio as they work through the course.
- Students will need to be prepared to study at home as part of their preparation for the external exam.
- As all three components are essential for progression, students need to achieve all components in order to achieve the qualification.

Post-16 Transition

A qualification at Level 2 can lead to:

- A-Levels as preparation for entry to Higher Education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the Health or Social Care sector.

A qualification at Level 1 might lead to studying at Level 2 in a range of technical routes designed to lead to work, employment, apprenticeships or further study at Level 3.

Local Post-16 Providers

Wirral Metropolitan College and Birkenhead 6th form college offer courses in Health and Social Care.



GCSE HISTORY



Accreditation

AQA GCSE History

L1 GCSE Grade 1-3

L2 GCSE Grade 4-9

Aim of the course

GCSE History will equip you with the skills to take your place in the world as an informed and questioning young adult. You'll never watch the news in the same way again!

Course Content

The course is split into **four** sections covering two main themes:

Understanding the Modern World

Section A Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship

Meet the loose cannon that was Kaiser Wilhelm II, investigate the collapse of Weimar democracy and study the rise of Nazism including topics like the 'terror state', the Hitler Youth and the Holocaust.

Section B Conflict and Tension: The Inter-War Years 1918-1939

Investigate how allied countries balanced the wish for revenge on Germany after WW1 with the desire to build a more peaceful future. Assess the impact of their decisions and study Adolf Hitler's aggressive foreign policy, which ultimately led to another devastating world war.

Shaping the Nation

Section A Britain: Health and the People c1000-present

Follow the twists and turns of medicine through medieval, renaissance, industrial and modern Britain. Study Black Death, surgery in the 'age of barbarism', cholera, germs, sewers and much more blood, guts and gore.

Section B Elizabethan England c1568-1603

Enter the Tudor court for the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign and investigate the extent to which Elizabeth's reign was a 'Golden Age' for Britain.

Assessment

GCSE History is assessed in the summer of Y11.

There are two exams; each paper is worth 50% and lasts 2 hrs. Paper 1 covers the theme of Understanding the Modern World. Paper 2 covers the theme of Shaping the Nation.

Exams consist of short answer questions and longer, essay-type questions.

What will be expected of students

- A genuine interest in the people and events of the past.
- A willingness to think critically and work hard!

Post-16 Transition

L2 History GCSE is widely respected as an academic qualification and will support Level 3 study in A levels like History, Politics, Psychology, Sociology, Geography, Philosophy, RE and Law.

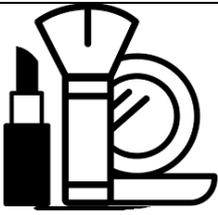
The skills and knowledge gained during History GCSE also support many Level 3 BTEC qualifications.

Local Post-16 Providers

Most school sixth forms offer A level History.

Birkenhead Sixth Form College offers A level History.

Wirral Metropolitan College offers several related BTEC options, e.g. BTEC Public Services Diploma.



PERFORMING ARTS (Technical Award)



Accreditation

WJEC Level 1 and Level 2 Vocational Award

Aim of the course

To develop your performance skills if you are a budding actor, make-up artist or musician. To discover more about behind the scenes work, such as costume design and make-up and lighting. To develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities.

Course content

This qualification is made up of 3 units:

Unit 1: Performing

You will learn the skills and techniques needed to produce a successful performance of an existing work, such as a piece of music or an extract from a play or show. (This unit can be completed through the disciplines of Drama, Music, Music Technology or Musical theatre - which includes dance.)

Unit 2: Creating

You will learn how to create and refine your own original work in performing arts such as a piece of drama, make-up design or composing music.

Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

You will learn about areas of performing arts industry that need to be considered when responding to a commission, and will consider these when coming up with and pitching your own idea.

Assessment

Both units 1 and 2 are internally assessed, which means that they are marked by our staff and then checked by the exam board. These each account for 30% of the final grade.

Unit 3 is externally assessed, which means it is sent to the exam board and marked by their examiners. This unit accounts for the remaining 40% of the grade.

What will be expected of students?

- It is essential that students have an interest in the performing arts.
- Students will have to commit to practising outside of lessons in order to reach the high standard of performance skills that are expected for this subject.
- There is no formal exam so students will have to manage their workload and complete the required assessments gradually through the course.
- Students will need to support each other and respect the different disciplines that each individual may choose.

Post-16 Transition

Students who achieve a Level 1 can proceed to Level 2 in a variety of Performing Arts BTECs and GCSEs e.g. BTEC Music. As well as our Further Education Colleges in the Wirral, students can audition to study at LIPA 6th Form or other specialised settings. Students who achieve a Level 2 can proceed onto Level 3 courses, if they have 5 Level 2 passes in other subjects.

Local Post-16 Providers

Wirral Metropolitan College currently offers UAL Music and BTEC Creative Media.

Some school 6th Forms offer A Level music and A Level theatre studies.

Birkenhead 6th Form College offer A Level Drama & Theatre Studies and BTEC Music Digital Production.



PHOTOGRAPHY



Accreditation

AQA GCSE Photography

Level 1 GCSE grades 1-3

Level 2 GCSE grades 4-9

Aim of the course

To learn about photography and design and develop skills and creativity through studying a flexible and interesting course, using both traditional and innovative techniques.

Course Content

Students will develop knowledge, understanding and skills of the fundamental elements of photography and digital media. Students will explore different areas of photography and digital editing through varied schemes of work and off site workshops. This course will require students to be able to understand a level of technical processes and language.

Assessment (controlled assessment, portfolio, exam)

Portfolio of Work (Unit 1)

This is set by JPC staff and is worth 60% of the total marks. Students will select and present materials which show work carried out during their course. The portfolio will take approximately 45 hours of work. The Portfolio of Work must include more than one project.

Externally Set Task (Unit 2)

This is a 10-week assignment that culminates in a 10-hour examination over the course of a week. The final piece of work is produced in the examination week. It is worth 40% of the marks. A choice of questions is used as starting points to inspire students' work. This usually takes place in the Spring term of Year 11.

What will be expected of students?

Students will need to be interested in Art and Design and Photography. They will need to research projects and work on new and varied ways of presenting their ideas. Students will need to work at home and/or attend extra photography sessions, either at lunchtime or after school, in order to develop their skills.

Post-16 transition

The creative industries are the 4th largest employer in the UK. They include but are not limited to: Freelance photography, Forensic photography, Fashion photography, Sports photography, Press photography, Digital media enterprises, Layout and Graphic design.

Local Post-16 providers

Wirral Met college Art, Design and Media Department offer a wide range of photography, media and Art courses ranging from Level 1,2, & 3 and in to Degree courses.

Birkenhead 6th Form and many school 6th forms offer A-Levels in photography and digital media.



AWARD IN SPORTS LEADERSHIP



Accreditation

Level 1 Sports Leaders Award & Level 2 Sports Leaders Award.

Note: These awards are Sport England awards, not exam board qualifications.

Aim of the course

The syllabus is designed to develop generic leadership skills that can be applied to a variety of sports and/or recreational situations, as well as contributing to the personal development of the student. It is a practical qualification in which learners must demonstrate their ability to lead others in simple sport.

Course Content

The course develops skills for life. The qualification is built on the following learning principles:

- Practically applied-learning
- Recognised learning
- Experience through volunteering
- Peer-to-Peer delivery

The following topics are covered:

- Leadership skills for a sports leader
- Plan lead and evaluate sport/activity sessions
- Adapting sport/activity sessions to be inclusive
- Safeguarding sport/activity participants
- Benefits of physical activity to a healthy lifestyle

Assessment (demonstrations lessons and portfolio of evidence)

Award Level 1: complete a one hour demonstration of leadership through teaching a group of learners. This element of the qualification is part of Unit 1; however, the one hour demonstration of leadership must happen at the end of the course, after all of the taught aspects have been delivered.

Award Level 2: is assessed during 10 demonstration hours of leading an activity with the learners planning and leading an accumulative 10 hour sessions. Level 2 also requires a portfolio to evidence their learning throughout the course.

What will be expected of students?

- Students do not need any prior knowledge or skills in sports.
- Students taking the course need to be fully committed to all elements of the practical and written activities required and show an enthusiasm for the subject.
- Students must be able to communicate with others in order to deliver lessons and training activities. The course supports in the development of this essential skill.

Post-16 Transition

The Sports Leaders Award does not provide a direct route to further, post-16 study. Instead, it focuses on developing a range of skills that will complement a wide variety of courses, as well as providing an opportunity to consider further study in fields such as sports coaching.

Local Post-16 Providers

This course is a pre-Level 1/GCSE qualification and will enhance a student's Record of Achievement rather than lead to a higher qualification.

Wirral Met College offers a wide variety of Level 1-3 courses in sports, fitness and outdoor education department, based at the Oval.

Birkenhead sixth form college offers a Sport BTEC level 3 course.