



Ash Manor School

YEAR 9 OPTIONS BOOKLET 2020-21

Aspire & Achieve



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Welcome

April 2020

Dear students, parents and carers,

Year 9 Curriculum 2020/2021

I am pleased to welcome you to the Year 8 into 9 options booklet. The purpose of the booklet is to prepare your child for the process of choosing the subjects they wish to study during the course of Year 9 – the foundation year for Key Stage 4. The next year will be the most important so far in shaping the potential future direction in your child's life. At Ash Manor School we take this responsibility and challenge very seriously and look forward to working in partnership with you and your child to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

We wish to offer students the opportunity to start to shape their own curriculum at this early stage, potentially spend more of their time studying subjects that they particularly enjoy and in some cases try new courses. The content of the Year 9 courses will not be the GCSE programme and students will be free to choose their GCSE subject options during the spring of Year 9. With the exception of Modern Foreign Languages and Computer Science, study of a particular subject in Year 9 will not be a prerequisite for future access to the corresponding GCSE course in Year 10.

I am confident that the information you receive will help you support your child through the process of choosing appropriate subjects to study over the next year. We have published this booklet for all Year 8 students and their families to inform you of the essential course information.

In order to provide the foundations for success it is important that your child chooses options they are happy with. We understand, however, that there will be requests to change subjects as the reality of Year 9 unfolds. This is only possible within the first few weeks of the academic year so if your child does wish to discuss any doubts, they will need to approach me as soon as possible. I cannot guarantee that a change will be possible, however we will aim to accommodate student preferences.

Yours faithfully



Mr T Clouston
Assistant Headteacher



The Year 9 Curriculum at Ash Manor School

During Years 7 and 8 students will have studied a broad and balanced range of subjects. These subjects are part of the National Curriculum and they have laid firm foundations for further studies in Year 9.

As your child moves into Year 9 and towards the start of their GCSEs, they have the opportunity to continue to study a broad and balanced curriculum. At the same time your child can complement this by choosing option subjects that interest them and prepare them for starting their GCSE subjects in Year 10.

This booklet tells you and your child about the subjects and courses they will be studying in Year 9.

It contains information about:

the subjects and courses that your child **must** do

the subjects and courses your child can choose to do

It also contains a choices form to complete with your child's preferences. This must be completed and signed by a parent or carer and handed in by the deadline.

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum subjects are studied by everyone up to at least the end of Year 9.

These are:

English Language and English Literature

Mathematics

Science

French or Spanish – **the language you study in Year 8 will also be studied in Year 9**

A Humanity (History or Geography)

Core Physical Education

Personal Development and Citizenship

PSHE

Information about what your child will study in these subjects is shown in the first section of this booklet.

Option Choices

At Ash Manor School we recognise that every child learns differently, and have designed our curriculum taking account of this. Your child will have the choice of five option subjects.

Please note we reserve the right to withdraw any of these option choice subjects if there are insufficient numbers.

The Core Subjects

Subject	Lessons per fortnight
English	10
Mathematics	10
Science	9
French / Spanish	6
A Humanity	4
Core PE	4
PSHE	1

The curriculum content for Religious Studies, Personal Development and Citizenship will be delivered through our Personal Development Days and as part of our tutor and assembly programme.

The Option Subjects

To complement the core subjects and to enhance the curriculum, your child will choose five option subjects from the following.

Subject	Lessons per fortnight
Art and Design	4
Computer Science	4
Dance	4
Drama	4
Food and Nutrition	4
Geography	4
History	4
Media Studies	4
Modern Foreign Languages – French or Spanish	4
Music	4
Physical Education	4
Product Design	4
Religious Philosophy and Ethical Studies	4
Textiles	4

How do I decide?

Your child must choose whether they would prefer to continue their study of History or Geography during Year 9. Your child must then choose four additional subjects that they would like to study over the next year. If they would like to continue to study both History and Geography then please make this selection.

In making their decision regarding their choice of subjects there are many important factors to consider:

- Which subjects give me most enjoyment and satisfaction?
- What sort of career do I want?
- What qualifications will I need?
- How do I get them?

Making the right choices

There are a number of people who can assist and advise you about appropriate choices and progression. Staff emails are available on the school website. These are:

- **Your form tutor** – who know you as an individual student in the school.
- **Your subject teachers** – who provide an objective assessment of your ability in their subjects.
- **Your parents and carers**
- **Heads of Department**
- **Heads of House**
- **Mr Milner** – Deputy Headteacher
- **Mr Clouston** – Assistant Headteacher

Important things to consider

- Do consider if this subject is needed for a particular career.
- Do keep your options open; don't try to specialise at this stage but aim for a good balance of subjects.
- Do work to your own strengths and choose appropriate subjects.
- Do not choose a subject because a friend is choosing it; there is no guarantee that you will be in the same teaching groups.
- Do not choose a subject because you like your teacher; again, there is no guarantee that they will be teaching your group next year.

Options Process Timeline

Wednesday 22nd April:

Deadline for completed forms and emailed to options@ashmanorshool.com

Friday 26th June:

Option choice confirmation issued to students and parents/carers via Schoolcomms.

Thursday 3rd September:

Year 9 courses begin.

Friday 2nd October:

Final option subject change deadline. Students will not be able to change courses after this date.



Core Subject Information

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English	7
Mathematics	8
Science	9
French	10
Geography	11
History	12
PE (Core)	13
Spanish	14



English Language and Literature

Why study this subject?

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature afford all students exciting, vibrant learning opportunities as well as essential skills that underpin all aspects of the curriculum.

Students develop confidence as readers, writers and public speakers as well as becoming independent and mature thinkers, able to explore a wide range of texts with sensitivity, precision and focus.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

We follow the Edexcel syllabus at GCSE for both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Over the course of Years 9-11 students will have the opportunity to study:

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde – Robert Louis Stevenson

Macbeth – Shakespeare

The Woman in Black – Susan Hill

Edexcel Poetry Anthology – various poets

Students will also read and analyse both fiction and non-fiction texts whilst also having the opportunity to create their own.

How and when will I be assessed?

Assessment is ongoing throughout the terms with regular opportunities for reflection and improvement.

At the end of every half-term, students will complete an assessed piece.

At the end of the year there will be an exam, with GCSE exam style questions, to assess your knowledge and understanding so far in the course.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

English in Year 9 is a diverse and challenging subject to study. As well as regular reading of a range of texts, annotations, analytical writing, imaginative and transactional writing, students will have opportunities to convert texts to film, to debate, to transform text types and to prepare formal presentations.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

An open mind, determination and a willingness to excel.

Highlighters are useful.

Students will need to purchase a copy of The Woman in Black and Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde during Years 9-11 – copies will be available to purchase from school, at a discounted price wherever possible.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

English is essential for any and all career paths. It is particularly useful for careers in Publishing, Journalism, Film and TV, Advertising, Law, Teaching and Marketing.

Is there anything else I need to know?

English is a compulsory subject and will require a positive attitude and a dedication to your studies. In order to succeed, you must be willing to read widely and write enthusiastically. The work is challenging, but rewarding.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss Whitfield by email: cwhitfield@ashmanorschool.com



Mathematics

Why study this subject?

Mathematics is an exciting subject that is used in a huge variety of professions and industries.

Students develop logical thought processes to solve problems and are encouraged to show their method clearly, extending knowledge to incorporate algebraic manipulation and geometrical theorems in addition to sophisticated analysis of statistical tables.

This subject is highly regarded for Higher Education and lends itself to many career opportunities.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

We follow the Pearson Edexcel syllabus at GCSE which is assessed at Higher and Foundation level and it is made up of six topic areas:

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

How and when will I be assessed?

As we work through the topics there will be reviews and progress checks which will identify to you any areas of concern, for students to focus on in future lessons or as part of home learning.

Each term there will be a tiered exam, with GCSE exam style questions, to assess your knowledge and understanding so far in the course.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Problem solving is at the core of everything we learn in mathematics. You will learn how to apply what you have learnt to a wide range of contexts. This will enable you to develop skills such as logic, data handling, spatial awareness, accuracy and good communication.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

It is necessary for all students to have a scientific calculator. We recommend the Casio fx-83GTX or similar. Please contact the main office if you wish to order a calculator through school.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

GCSE Mathematics is taken at the end of Year 11 and each tier of entry consists of 3 exams, each lasting 90 minutes. Two of the exam papers permit a calculator and the other is a non-calculator paper. There is no controlled assessment. A good mathematical background is necessary for all walks of life. Furthermore, these are examples of mathematics careers:

Engineering: your training in mathematics will prepare you to quickly learn specific issues in a new field, and your creative problem solving skills will be a strong asset to an engineering firm.

Cryptography: from the Secret Service to a smaller company specialising in commerce on the web, the demand for mathematicians that can understand the number-theoretic issues in cryptography is great.

Actuary: among the highest-paid professions are actuaries, who compute the statistics behind life insurance using tables of predictive data.

Finance: most financial companies hire mathematicians to study financial models and make predictions based on statistical evidence.

Management: management consulting firms look for individuals who can quickly source the root of a problem, and find creative and effective solutions, and critically choose from among many options.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Mathematics is a compulsory subject and will require a positive attitude and a dedication to your studies.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss. Williams by email: hwilliams@ashmanorschool.com

Science

Why study this subject?

Science is designed to develop and inspire future scientists and provides a good scientific grounding. Our world is constantly changing and evolving; Science and how it relates to the real world, is a fascinating subject to students of all abilities and aspirations. The course we follow encompasses the study of all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Biology

Key Concepts
Cells and Control
Genetics
Natural Selection
Health and Disease
Plants
Animal coordination and control.
Exchange and Transport in Animals
Ecosystems

Chemistry

States of Matter
Separating Substances
Atomic Structure
The periodic Table
Ionic Bonding
Covalent Bonding
Types of Substance
Rates of Reaction
Fuels and Earth Science

Physics

Introduction to Physics
Forces
Energy
Waves
Refraction and Reflection
Radioactivity
Electromagnetic Spectrum
Electromagnetism

How and when will I be assessed?

Students will complete Progress Checks (PCs) during the course of each topic and will also complete summative assessment at the end of each unit. This will identify any areas of concern for students to focus on in future lessons, or as part of home learning. The assessments are tiered and consist of exam style questions.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Students will complete a number of practical activities that focus on 'How science works'. Core practical activities will be introduced and completed throughout the course. This style of work will be implemented into assessments, as questions will be asked on how to work scientifically. This will include: planning, recording results, analysing data and making conclusions whilst evaluating the quality of work.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

We recommend all students have and use a scientific calculator (Casio fx-83 or similar) as soon as possible, to allow them to become familiar with their calculator.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

GCSE Combined Science is studied during Year 9 to be completed by the end of Year 11, with exams taken at the end of Year 11. There are no controlled assessments though students are required to complete core practical activities which must be recorded.

All students who follow the combined route will complete their studies with two Science qualifications. The Triple Science course is aimed at those pupils who have already shown a good grasp of science, a keen interest in science and are capable of extending their knowledge. Students who complete triple science will complete their studies with three science qualifications. The choice is made in Year 9 whether to study triple or combined science and students will begin studying triple science in year 10.

Science can help you make sense of the world, to assist your understanding of current issues and develop transferable skills that are necessary throughout life. Science enables students to develop an enquiring mind, problem solving skills, good communication, data handling, computer literacy and team working. Students become more aware of the importance of science in their everyday lives as well as becoming more socially and environmentally informed.

A good scientific background is necessary for most walks of life and can lead to a multitude of careers, including medicine, astrophysics, research, engineering and many more. Acquiring science skills enables students to make their way in the real world, in the home, in the workplace, in the community and on the planet. We aim to motivate our students, encourage scientific curiosity, reinforce scientific thinking and enable all our students to enjoy and succeed in science.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Science is a compulsory subject and will require a hard working attitude in order to be successful.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Hales or Mrs Michibata by email nhales@ashmanorschool.com / emichibata@ashmanorschool.com

French

Why study this subject?

The study of French in Year 9 will develop your practical communication skills and add an international dimension to your studies. Important language skills have been developed through Years 7 and 8 and Year 9 aims to build upon these through an introduction to higher level vocabulary and structures enabling you to communicate with the real world as well as developing the skills that you need in order to be a successful language learner. Students will begin by recapping key grammar areas and French phonics in order to build a strong foundation for language learning experience in preparation for GCSE.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Students will begin to cover topics from the GCSE course from the following three areas:

1. Qui suis-je? – Who am I? (Family, Friends, Role Models)
2. Le temps des loisirs – Leisure time (Hobbies and Activities)
3. Jours ordinaires, jours de fête – Ordinary days, celebratory days (festivals and celebrations)

How and when will I be assessed?

At the end of every unit, students will complete an end of unit test which builds from the very first topic through to the end of the year. This will identify any areas of concerns for students to focus on either in future lessons or as part of home-learning.

At the end of Year 11, students are assessed in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing and is broken down into the following proportions:

Listening	-	35 minute examination (25%)
Speaking	-	10 minute examination (25%)
Reading	-	45 minute examination (25%)
Writing	-	1 hour examination (25%)

The GCSE course is 100% exam based and does not include any controlled assessment or coursework

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Students will have access to “real-life” materials and will develop skills in order to communicate effectively in the target language through both the written and spoken mode. Students will develop the ability to identify key structures and vocabulary and manipulate them for another context. This course will look at a variety of multimedia resources including poems, songs, raps, stories, texts and social media forms such as tweets and blogs.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

French dictionary	}	Available to order via Ash Manor School
French revision guide/workbook		
French verbs book		

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language. It's a multilingual world – not everyone speaks English. 94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. 75% of the world does not speak English at all. Languages can of course be used in language-specific careers such as teaching, translating or interpreting but they are also useful in many jobs from reception to top level management or law and can often be the deciding factor between candidates as well as in business trades where more and more companies are trading abroad with link companies. As well as being useful for work, travel and tourism, a language can also help to improve literacy and gain an insight into other cultures and traditions around the world.

Is there anything else I need to know?

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language that goes to his heart”. (Nelson Mandela)

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Roberts by email: redmonston@ashmanorschool.com

Geography

Why study this subject?

The world around us is constantly changing. Geography helps us answer the questions which hold the key to the future of our dynamic and developing world. Every day, Geography is all around us, impacting upon and relevant to all of our lives.

Studying Geography encourages you to ask questions. It will develop communication skills and is an excellent vehicle for embedding team work and collaborative working. Analysis skills and the use of ICT and GIS will be used and students will be inspired to become well rounded, global citizens.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

We study both Human and Physical topics with skills and fieldwork incorporated into the syllabus.

- The challenge of natural hazards (risk, tectonics & weather)
- The living world (ecosystems around the world)
- Physical landscapes in the UK (coasts and rivers)
- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management (food, water & energy)

How and when will I be assessed?

Throughout the course students will complete termly assessments with GCSE style questions for each topic studied. This will highlight any areas of concern for students to focus on and to identify areas of need for further revision and study.

Students will also extensively practice exam style questions as part of both their class work and home learning. Students will be encouraged to use the GCSE mark schemes to peer and self-assess their work as well as receiving teacher feedback to ensure that they are familiar with the exam board expectations.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

The Geography department work hard to ensure that lessons are active and engaging, bringing the outside into the classroom wherever possible to make the learning real and relevant. Group work and practical investigations are tied into topics regularly and students will use a range of maps, photographs and graph based resources throughout their geographical studies.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

We recommend that all students have a calculator as part of their everyday equipment which will be used to support geographical skills, analysing and presenting data. Please speak to the Main Office if you wish to order a calculator through school.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

The GCSE Geography exams are sat at the end of Year 11. There are three exams in total, one focusing on human geography, one on physical geography and the final exam being enquiry and fieldwork based. There is no controlled assessment. Geography is an academic study which is well recognised by colleges, universities and employers. Geography gives you a good foundation for working with people as well as problem solving, planning and presenting.

Career opportunities with Geography are extensive and with an ever changing and developing world, knowledge of physical and human interactions will put Geographers in pole position.

Geography is brilliant for any future careers that involve travel, culture, the environment, planning and collecting or interpreting data. The legal and business world also love the practical skills that Geographers develop. Popular careers include:

*Conservation
*Surveying
*Sustainability

*Waste and water management
*Town or transport planning
*Tourism

*Aviation
*Weather and forecasting
*Environmental planning

*Armed forces
*Police

Is there anything else I need to know?

www.geography.org.uk / www.nationalgeographic.com / <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035>

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mr Fishwick by e-mail: tfishwick@ashmanorschool.com



History

Why study this subject?

History is a fascinating and academic subject that allows you to understand how the society and world we live in has been formed.

This course will look at a part of human history that should be understood by all. Events like the Second World War changed history, warfare, geography and politics on an unimaginable scale. This course will give you a good understanding of this conflict. Characters like Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin, Winston Churchill, John F Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. have had a profound effect on the lives of millions. This course will help understand why these people are so significant today.

In this course you will develop the knowledge and skills that are essential for a well-rounded education.

Studying History in Year 9 develops the skills and knowledge which are useful for those interested in taking History or Ancient History at GCSE.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

The Year 9 course will cover the following units of study:

- Tyrants through History – the Roman Emperor Nero through to Hitler (a development study)
- The Holocaust – persecution of minority groups by the Nazis
- World War II – key events, issues and developments in warfare
- The Cold War – superpower relations and atomic warfare

How and when will I be assessed?

At the end of each unit there will be an assessed piece of work that builds on the knowledge and skills gained in that unit as well as all other content learned throughout the year. All assessments are designed to prepare students for GCSE exams.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

History lessons will allow students to work with a wide range of sources in a variety of ways. There will be the opportunity to handle original artefacts, study film clips, analyse photographs and understand written accounts.

The emphasis in History lessons will be on active learning and a wide range of strategies will be used such as debates, presentations, group work, simulations and role-play, in order to carry out historical investigations.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

No.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

History is a well-respected qualification and is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities. The study of History gives students an understanding of the world that they live in as well as the ability to evaluate a wide range of sources and information.

The study of History deals with real people that lived in the past and helps us understand what motivated these people. Therefore, History helps you understand the human mind and modern society.

The department offers two GCSEs for study in Years 10 and 11 – GCSE History and GCSE Ancient History.

History is a subject that can lead to a wide range of careers in law, politics, journalism, business, heritage management, teaching and management.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The Year 9 History curriculum includes content and skills needed for both GCSE History and GCSE Ancient History.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss Worboys by email: eworboys@ashmanorschool.com



Core Physical Education

Why study this subject?

Physical fitness and an appreciation of the benefits of exercise are a vital part of modern life; studying PE and participating in the range of sports on offer will develop an understanding and enjoyment of sport and physical activity.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Students will participate in a variety of sports such as football, rugby, netball, fitness, badminton, basketball, dance and gymnastics. They will consider the techniques and requirements of each sport and work on improving the skills they already have in each discipline. The fitness suite is also used for Year 9 lessons, which brings an exciting alternative to team and individual sports.

How and when will I be assessed?

Students are assessed at the end of each module.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Participation in sport is the key component in the lessons along with the intention to improve their level of performance. Peer and self-assessment and feedback will be a regular part of the lessons and teachers will give ongoing, formative feedback.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

Students are required to bring full Ash Manor School PE kit to every lesson.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

The course will be a good stepping stone towards GCSE Physical Education, developing a greater depth to the knowledge of sport and the areas that surround it.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Every student participates in Core PE.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mr Hill by email ahill@ashmanorschool.com

Spanish

Why study this subject?

The choice to study Spanish in Year 9 onwards will develop your practical communication skills and add an international dimension to your studies. There will be an introduction to higher level vocabulary and structures enabling you to communicate with the real world as well as developing the skills that you need in order to be a successful language learner. You will begin by covering the basics such as the alphabet, numbers and phonics (sounds) as well as grammar essentials in order to build a strong foundation for your language learning experience.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Students will also begin to cover topics from the GCSE course from the following three areas:

1. Desconectate – Disconnect yourself (Holidays and Past Travels)
2. Mi Vida en el Insti – Life in school (School Past and Present)
3. Mi Gente – My people (Family, Friends, and Role Models)

How and when will I be assessed?

At the end of every unit, students will complete an end of unit test which builds from the very first topic through to the end of the year. This will identify any areas of concerns for students to focus on either in future lessons or as part of home-learning.

At the end of Year 11, students are assessed in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing and is broken down into the following proportions:

Listening	-	35 minute examination (25%)
Speaking	-	10 minute examination (25%)
Reading	-	45 minute examination (25%)
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The GCSE course is 100% exam based and does not include any controlled assessment or coursework

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Students will have access to “real-life” materials and will develop skills in order to communicate effectively in the target language through both the written and spoken mode. Students will develop the ability to identify key structures and vocabulary and manipulate them for another context. This course will look at a variety of multimedia resources including poems, songs, raps, stories, texts and social media forms such as tweets and blogs.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

Spanish dictionary	}	Available to order via Ash Manor School
Spanish revision guide/workbook		
Spanish verbs book		

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language. It's a multilingual world – not everyone speaks English. 94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. 75% of the world does not speak English at all. Languages can of course be used in language-specific careers such as teaching, translating or interpreting but they are also useful in many jobs from reception to top level management or law and can often be the deciding factor between candidates as well as in business trades where more and more companies are trading abroad with link companies. As well as being useful for work, travel and tourism, a language can also help to improve literacy and gain an insight into other cultures and traditions around the world.

Is there anything else I need to know?

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language that goes to his heart”. (Nelson Mandela)

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Roberts by email: redmonston@ashmanorschool.com



Non-Core Subjects

You can choose four of the following subjects:

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Art and Design	16
Computer Science	17
Dance	18
Drama	19
Food and Nutrition	20
Media Studies	21
Music	22
Physical Education	23
Product Design	24
Religious Philosophy and Ethical Studies	25
Second Modern Foreign Language – French	26
Second Modern Foreign Language – Spanish	27
Textiles	28



Art and Design

Why study this subject?

Art is an exciting subject that is used in a huge variety of professions and industries. Students develop their creativity, practical skills, knowledge and understanding of a variety of artistic movements and media.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

In Year 9 we aim to address the GCSE assessment objectives in our course. The focus will be primarily on Portrait and is designed to incorporate all skills needed at GCSE: looking at in-depth drawing and mark making, painting and printing to a higher level allowing students to confidently access GCSE art in Year 10.

How and when will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed using the GCSE assessment criteria and grading system of 9-1

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Through the units of work you will experiment with a variety of art media, such as drawing, collage, print and other processes enabling you to meet all four Assessment Objectives.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

We provide all equipment that you need, however they need to have a 2B pencil and a rubber.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

GCSE Art is completed over two years (10 and 11). Throughout this time you will complete a portfolio of work NEA 1 and at the end of Year 11 you will complete NEA 2. This is an externally set task and forms the exam element of the course.

A good creative background is useful as a basis for many careers, such as;

photographer, artist, graphic designer, computer games designer, interior designer, architect, animator, illustrator, web designer, product designer, sculptor, teacher, fashion designer

KS4: We follow the AQA syllabus at GCSE which is assessed at National level and is focused on 4 Assessment objectives:

- AO1 = Develop ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources.
- AO2 = Refine ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media and processes.
- AO3 = Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions.
- AO4 = Present a personal response demonstrating meaningful and analytical understanding.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Come and look at current Year 9 folders and art work around the department.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Wilson by e-mail: jwilson@ashmanorschool.com



Computer Science

Why study this subject?

Computer Science has become a very high-profile subject over the last few years. The ability to program computers is a very valuable skill. Computing is of enormous importance to the economy, and the role of Computer Science as a discipline itself and as an 'underpinning' subject across Science and Engineering is growing rapidly.

Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. For example, businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals. This is even more so in the gaming, mobile and web related industries and GCSE Computer Science has been designed with this in mind.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

The principles of Computational thinking (Abstraction, Decomposition and Algorithmic thinking)

Designing creating and refining algorithms within Python

Using Sequence, Selection and Iteration to complete a given scenario

We will also look at the ethical use of computers relating this to driverless cars, medicine and the environment.

How and when will I be assessed?

Half-termly assessments using GCSE criteria and grade boundaries

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Problem Solving, Python, Spreadsheet Design, Database Design, Ethical use of Computers, Legal Structure and Copyright

Will I need any special / different equipment?

All will be provided.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

If you want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science it provides a superb stepping stone to some of the following:

- applications programmer
- games programmer
- information systems manager
- information technology consultant
- multimedia programmer
- software engineer
- systems analyst
- systems designer

Is there anything else I need to know?

No.

Where can I get further information?

For more Information please contact Mr Coomber by email: scoomber@ashmanorschool.com



Dance

Why study this subject?

This subject is a foundation year for GCSE Dance and will give you the chance to gain valuable knowledge and preparation for the study of the subject in Year 10.

Students who select Dance in Year 9 will get the opportunity to develop essential skills and techniques required to improve both their knowledge and understanding, and performance qualities, in a range of Dance styles.

If you enjoy dance and/or have an interest in entering the Performing Arts industry in the future then you will enjoy and succeed in this option.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

The course is a combination of practical Dance and the study of dance styles as well as laying the foundation for the theoretical and analytical knowledge required by GCSE Dance. The course will cover different genres of dance and choreography.

You will also study the choreographic process and the preparation and production process. You will learn about key elements and features of different dance styles and physical, interpretative and stylistics qualities required to become a good performer.

How and when will I be assessed?

The assessment is through practical Dance performance, analysis of your own and others' work, and their understanding of how to improve performance as well as through GCSE style theory questions.

40% Theory

30% Choreography

30% Performance

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

You will be expected to learn teacher led dance sequences and also be able to create your own choreography and perform to an audience in a variety of styles.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

Ash Manor PE kit.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

As this is a practical dance option, it will lead onto Level 2 courses involving the Performing Arts, including GCSE Dance, BTEC Performing Arts and many more.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Students who study Dance in Year 9 are encouraged to attend extra-curricular Dance clubs and take part in school shows.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Ms Bailey by email: abailey@ashmanorschool.com



Drama

Why study this subject?

Drama is a highly practical, creative and challenging subject offering students the chance to develop their presentation skills, grow in confidence, promote self-awareness and learn to work as a team. Students consistently achieve success in Drama and when it comes to interviews or leadership opportunities; the way you come across and your ability to work with other people successfully will make the difference between you getting the job or not. A fun, exciting subject, it will help you achieve and become more than you ever thought you could

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

In preparation for Level 2 BTEC Drama, students will take part in teacher-led workshops, scripted scenes and devised group performances, where they will assess both the work of modern and traditional practitioners as well as the skills and techniques used to create a variety of theatre styles. Students will, additionally have the opportunity to watch live and some recorded performances based on various styles and evaluate the effectiveness of a variety of performances throughout Year 9.

How and when will I be assessed?

Students are assessed at the end of every half term through an assessed piece. Students work will be filmed with many opportunities for students to give and receive feedback. This will help students who are considering working towards the BTEC qualification in Year 10.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

At the start of the course, students will learn different acting techniques in order to deliver monologues and look at Macbeth monologues, which is a text they study in English in Year 10. Later, students take part in teacher-led workshops focusing on a variety of styles and techniques needed in a variety of theatre productions.

Through smaller performances and rehearsals, students will identify their current skill level and plan how to improve. There will also be the opportunity for trips and workshops to review the work of others. We will also look at the provision for live theatre in the area and talk with venues about the opportunities to present and perform locally.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

The department will provide all equipment and resources necessary for students who wish to take Drama.

There is a Performing Arts uniform available for students and it is recommended that those who are seriously considering taking Drama further into GCSE purchase this uniform. It allows for mobility and modesty in this physically active subject. In all cases, students in skirts should bring shorts or leggings to put on underneath their uniform.

Students who study Drama in Year 9 are encouraged to attend extra-curricular Drama clubs and take part in school shows.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

Drama is not just about wanting to become an actor and is now recognised as a great asset for all careers that involve working with other people.

These can include: PR, advertising, journalism, sales, business management, teaching, speech therapy and social work as well as all aspects of work in the theatre and film industry. Time management, self-discipline and the ability to honestly reflect on your work are sought after personal qualities and Drama will develop them all.

Drama will help students acquire skills in working with others, problem-solving and communication, and will develop their imagination, creativity and concentration. These skills are in great demand and are recognised and highly valued by employers and colleagues. Drama in Year 9 will equip students very well for pursuing BTEC Level 2 in Years 10-11

Is there anything else I need to know?

The Year 9 Drama curriculum covers all the skills required to be successful for the end of Key Stage 3 developing towards the beginning of Key Stage 4.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Howells by: e-mail khowells@ashmanorschool.com



Food & Nutrition

Why study this subject?

Food and Nutrition aims to equip learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. If you enjoy working in a kitchen and engaging in practical lessons then this is the subject for you. This is a great foundation if you are interested in taking Food and Nutrition at GCSE or would just like to learn an essential life skill and be able to cook for yourself.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Food and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. You will build on your previous knowledge gained in Years 7 and 8, to develop your practical skills by making more complex products.

How and when will I be assessed?

The strands of assessment are:

- Demonstration of technical skills
- Research & investigation
- Knowledge & understanding
- Analysis & evaluation

These are undertaken through various tasks.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Cookery skills including weighing, measuring and preparation of ingredients; knife skills, preparing fruits and vegetables, using different equipment and cooking methods. You will also prepare, combine and shape different foods, as well as make different sauces, tenderise and marinate foods, make different doughs, use different raising agents and set different mixtures. There will be an element of theory linked to the practical tasks to build the foundations for those wishing to pursue this subject at GCSE

Will I need any special / different equipment?

For practical tasks you will need the required ingredients or for a nominal fee the school can provide these. Some students may qualify for a subsidy, see Miss Barot for further details.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

The skills you develop through the study of Food and Nutrition will support your study of a wide range of other subjects. In terms of subject knowledge, the nutrition and health elements may particularly complement the study of science, Physical Education and Health and Social Care. Studying food can lead to careers in food science, nutrition, catering, hospitality, food marketing, design and development.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Look at current Year 9 books in 110 and 111 and speak to current students who do Food & Nutrition.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss Barot by e-mail: mbarot@ashmanorschool.com



Media Studies

Why study this subject?

GCSE Media Studies is an exciting, creative and academic course allowing students to explore a wide range of media texts analytically, as well as developing their own skills as producers of media texts.

Students develop the confidence to become sophisticated interpreters of a range of media texts, as well as honing their own creative identity.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

We follow the AQA syllabus at GCSE and the Year 9 course offers a solid foundation for progression on to GCSE Media Studies

Over the course of Year 9 students will study a wide range of moving image, digital and print texts, both analytically and in their own creative responses.

How and when will I be assessed?

Assessment is ongoing throughout the terms with regular opportunities for reflection and improvement.

At the end of every half-term, students will complete an assessed piece of analytical writing.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Students will be analysing print, digital and moving image texts in addition creating their own print and digital texts. They will be equipped with the fundamental skills in creation and analysis required to succeed at GCSE Media Studies.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

An open mind, determination and a willingness to excel.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

The Media is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK affording a wide and ever changing range of career paths. Media Studies provides a solid foundation for understanding the key concepts that power the industry as well as igniting the creative drive and ambition essential to succeed in this exciting and challenging sector.

Media Studies in Year 9 will equip students very well for pursuing GCSE Media Studies in Years 10-11.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The Year 9 course provides students with an excellent foundation for GCSE Media Studies in Year 10, however it is not necessary to have studied Media Studies in Year 9 to select it as an option in Year 10.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss Whitfield by e-mail: cwhitfield@ashmanorschool.com



Music

Why study this subject?

Music is an exciting, challenging and popular subject, offering creativity, skill development and the ability to work in a number of different situations.

It provides excellent opportunities for students to develop a range of performance, composition and listening skills, combining technical development and musical creativity.

Through studying music and music technology, students are encouraged to be imaginative and so develop independence and confidence.

The skills learnt are invaluable for later on in life: working effectively as part of a team, as an ensemble and being able to present to other students, are the tools you need to be successful in an interview or to effectively carry out a job.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Topics covered in Year 9 Music encompass the range of skills required to be successful in GCSE Music. Units of work incorporate performance, composition and listening activities in a fun, engaging and practical way. Examples of topics covered include: Reggae, Brit-pop, Song writing, Composition and Minimalism. In these topics students have the opportunity to explore elements of music performance, ensemble playing and music technology.

How and when will I be assessed?

There are two types of assessment in Music: mid-term and end of unit. Each student will be assessed in the middle of the unit by having their work recorded and feedback given. They will then again be assessed at the end of the unit and be given a final grade for that piece of work.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Activities in Music are broad. They incorporate music performance, music composition and listening tasks. In Year 9 students also study Music Technology in depth, using Cubase. This professional software package facilitates students with the tools in which to create music with freedom and expression. Exposure to this in year 9 is the perfect stepping stone to composition in year 10 and beyond. Alongside classroom teaching students will have access to a range of extracurricular ensembles including, Choir, KS3 Rock and Pop band and Pop funk and Soul band.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

The department will provide all equipment and resources necessary for students who wish to take Music. Any student wishing to rehearse or practice at home may wish to invest in hiring or buying a musical instrument. However, the music department does have a number of musical instruments that students can use for rehearsals as required.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

Music at Year 9 is the first step towards studying GCSE Music in Year 10. Music also sets you up well for other subjects as it teaches you vital skills in group work and presentation. Careers are wide-ranging – it's more than just performing on stage! Working in the studio as an engineer, producer and technician are all careers linked to music as well as more traditional music roles such as teaching music and music therapy. Music also promotes the skills required for many other roles outside of the subject due to the practical nature of the course.

Is there anything else I need to know?

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/music/gcse/music-8271 / www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zmsvr82

Where can I get further information?

For more Information about Music please contact Mr Carter by e-mail: jcarter@ashmanorschool.com



Physical Education

Why study this subject?

Physical Education is a fantastic subject to study at GCSE level, it is very thought provoking and challenging. The course could lead you into a career in sport and also gives you the opportunity to look in detail at how the human body works for athletes.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

As a Year 9 option, you will study a range of GCSE PE theory topics from the full specification as well as some of the practical sports on offer. Theory topics include:

- Principles of Training
- Muscles and Bones
- Movement analysis
- Components of Fitness
- Sport Psychology
- Participation rates.

How and when will I be assessed?

At the end of every unit, students will complete an end of unit test. This will identify any areas of concern for students to focus on in future lessons or as part of their home learning.

Students will also be assessed practically to ensure that they are meeting levels of performance within the skills element of the specification.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

As the new GCSE PE course is predominantly theory based (60%), the course will follow a similar theme. You will spend lots of time in the classroom studying the various topics, but there will of course be a practical element to help with the (40%) controlled assessment.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

School PE kit is essential, as is full stationary equipment and it is highly recommended you attended an extra-curricular club.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

GCSE PE has many links to the working world after school. Jobs such as PE teacher, physiotherapist, gym manager, fitness instructor and many more. The course has links to biology, physics and food technology.

Is there anything else I need to know?

BBC GCSE Bitesize website has some good content, allowing you to see what you can expect. The AQA exam board are also well resourced online so that you can look at the specification and other resources.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mr Hill by email: ahill@ashmanorschool.com



Product Design

Why study this subject?

Product Design prepares students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students learn from the wider influences on design including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively to identify and solve real problems through designing, applying technical and practical skills, to make different products. Studying Product Design not only provides you with a foundation to continue your study at GCSE but also equips you with essential life skills.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

You will build on your previous knowledge gained in Years 7 and 8, and will experiment to develop techniques and practical skills further. You will learn designing and making principles which will assist you to make your own products. You will specialise in working with timber but will gain knowledge of working with other materials. You will also learn to use Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM).

How and when will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed using the GCSE assessment criteria and grading system of 9-1.

The strands of assessment are:

- AO1 = Critical understanding – Investigating the work of others
- AO2 = Creative making – Development of own ideas using a variety of materials
- AO3 = Reflective recording – Recording ideas
- AO4 = Personal presentation – Presentation of your own ideas and outcomes.

These are completed within the projects undertaken throughout the year.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Activities are projects based on a set brief. Research will be to gain an understanding of existing products and to collect inspiration material. Design ideas are generated and then developed through modelling and testing to produce creative solutions to problems identified. Products are made with the outcome being analysed and evaluated.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

All materials and equipment are provided in Year 9.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

Product design can lead to a vast array of exciting careers that include product designer, technologist, inventor, engineer, retail buyer, visual merchandiser, product manager and product developer.

Is there anything else I need to know?

If you have any questions regarding Product Design, please visit the DT workshop 036 to take a look at some of the current Year 9 folders and practical work.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss Barot by e-mail: mbarot@ashmanorschool.com.



Religious Philosophy and Ethical Studies

Why study this subject?

Religious Studies at GCSE covers philosophical perspectives within Buddhism and Christianity and four contemporary ethical themes including Relationships and Families, Life Issues, Peace and Conflict and Crime and Punishment, ensuring students have a diverse choice of intriguing subjects to explore. Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards ethical and religious issues. Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture and values.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

In Year 9 students will learn about Humanist beliefs and ideas of reality based on 'The Truman Show'. We also lay the foundations for GCSE by studying Christian and Buddhist beliefs in more depth, including a Religion and Drugs, Animal Rights, and Medical Ethics GCSE modules. Finally we look into ideas about social changers and what motivates them and then more in depth Buddhism in preparation for Year 10. This wide range of topics helps develop students' interest and understanding of RS.

How and when will I be assessed?

Assessment is at the end of each topic. It is set out in a GCSE style with the focus on preparation for answering questions at GCSE including skills in assessing knowledge, analysis and evaluation.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Debating, discussions, presentations, watching excerpts from films and written analysis are activities used in the topics studied. Students will develop their analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these will help prepare them for further study at GCSE, A Level, University and also in the workplace within whatever career they choose.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

Just your brain, a pen and an open mind!

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

GCSE Religious Studies is highly valued by universities as it prepares the students to think critically and base their opinions on facts and evidence. This will help with further study at sixth form and university and in the workplace where they will work and deal with people of different cultures and beliefs. This can be very useful for a wide variety of careers such as police or armed forces, the caring professions (e.g. doctors, nursing, and social work), teaching, aid work, legal work, government and local council.

Is there anything else I need to know?

You do not need to be religious to study this subject, just an open enquiring mind and a willingness to listen to others' perspectives.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Miss Moore by email: smoore@ashmanorschool.com

Second Modern Foreign Language - French

Why study this subject?

The study of French in Year 9 will develop your practical communication skills and add an international dimension to your studies. Important language skills have been developed through Years 7 and 8 and Year 9 aims to build upon these through an introduction to higher level vocabulary and structures enabling you to communicate with the real world as well as developing the skills that you need in order to be a successful language learner. Students will begin by recapping key grammar areas and French phonics in order to build a strong foundation for language learning experience in preparation for GCSE.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Students will begin to cover topics from the GCSE course from the following three areas:

1. Qui suis-je? – Who am I? (Family, Friends, Role Models)
2. Le temps des loisirs – Leisure time (Hobbies and Activities)

Jours ordinaires, jours de fête – Ordinary days, celebratory days (festivals and celebrations)

How and when will I be assessed?

At the end of every unit, students will complete an end of unit test which builds from the very first topic through to the end of the year. This will identify any areas of concerns for students to focus on either in future lessons or as part of home-learning.

At the end of Year 11, students are assessed in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing and is broken down into the following proportions:

Listening	-	35 minute examination (25%)	Reading	-	45 minute examination (25%)
Speaking	-	10 minute examination (25%)	Writing	-	1 hour examination (25%)

The GCSE course is 100% exam based and does not include any controlled assessment or coursework

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Students will have access to “real-life” materials and will develop skills in order to communicate effectively in the target language through both the written and spoken mode. Students will develop the ability to identify key structures and vocabulary and manipulate them for another context. This course will look at a variety of multimedia resources including poems, songs, raps, stories, texts and social media forms such as tweets and blogs.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

French dictionary
French revision guide/workbook
French verbs book

} Available to order via Ash Manor School

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language. It's a multilingual world – not everyone speaks English. 94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. 75% of the world does not speak English at all. Languages can of course be used in language-specific careers such as teaching, translating or interpreting but they are also useful in many jobs from reception to top level management or law and can often be the deciding factor between candidates as well as in business trades where more and more companies are trading abroad with link companies.

As well as being useful for work, travel and tourism, a language can also help to improve literacy and gain an insight into other cultures and traditions around the world.

Is there anything else I need to know?

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language that goes to his heart”.
(Nelson Mandela)

Will my child miss out on parts of the curriculum having not studied this language in KS3?

No. The MFL curriculum for Y9-11 at AMS is designed to help support pupils who are taking a new language in Y9. Pupils starting a new language in Y9 will be placed in the same set as one another with the goal of enabling this group to make accelerated progress. Lessons and sequences of work will be planned and delivered by the teachers accordingly and, over the three years of the course, the pupils will cover the entire GCSE curriculum in great depth.

There will also be an expectation on pupils to ensure that they take the requisite measures to access the curriculum through extended homework, use of the AQA Grammar and Translation Book and use of websites that their teachers will direct them to.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Roberts by email: redmonston@ashmanorschool.com

Second Modern Foreign Language - Spanish

Why study this subject?

The choice to study Spanish in Year 9 onwards will develop your practical communication skills and add an international dimension to your studies. There will be an introduction to higher level vocabulary and structures enabling you to communicate with the real world as well as developing the skills that you need in order to be a successful language learner. You will begin by covering the basics such as the alphabet, numbers and phonics (sounds) as well as grammar essentials in order to build a strong foundation for your language learning experience.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

Students will also begin to cover topics from the GCSE course from the following three areas:

1. Desconectate – Disconnect yourself (Holidays and Past Travels)
2. Mi Vida en el Insti – Life in school (School Past and Present)
3. Mi Gente – My people (Family, Friends, and Role Models)

How and when will I be assessed?

At the end of every unit, students will complete an end of unit test which builds from the very first topic through to the end of the year. This will identify any areas of concerns for students to focus on either in future lessons or as part of home-learning.

At the end of Year 11, students are assessed in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing and is broken down into the following proportions:

Listening	-	35 minute examination (25%)	Reading	-	45 minute examination (25%)
Speaking	-	10 minute examination (25%)	Writing	-	1 hour examination (25%)

The GCSE course is 100% exam based and does not include any controlled assessment or coursework

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Students will have access to “real-life” materials and will develop skills in order to communicate effectively in the target language through both the written and spoken mode. Students will develop the ability to identify key structures and vocabulary and manipulate them for another context. This course will look at a variety of multimedia resources including poems, songs, raps, stories, texts and social media forms such as tweets and blogs.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

Spanish dictionary
Spanish revision guide/workbook
Spanish verbs book

} Available to order via Ash Manor School

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language. It's a multilingual world – not everyone speaks English. 94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. 75% of the world does not speak English at all. Languages can of course be used in language-specific careers such as teaching, translating or interpreting but they are also useful in many jobs from reception to top level management or law and can often be the deciding factor between candidates as well as in business trades where more and more companies are trading abroad with link companies.

As well as being useful for work, travel and tourism, a language can also help to improve literacy and gain an insight into other cultures and traditions around the world.

Is there anything else I need to know?

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Will my child miss out on parts of the curriculum having not studied this language in KS3?

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There will also be an expectation on pupils to ensure that they take the requisite measures to access the curriculum through extended homework, use of the AQA Grammar and Translation Book and use of websites that their teachers will direct them to.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Roberts by email: redmonston@ashmanorschool.com



Textiles

Why study this subject?

Are you interested in fashion, textiles and design?

You will learn something new and exciting each lesson based around textiles. The lessons will give you the freedom to design and develop your own creativity. You will have the opportunity to develop an individual style or direction based around textile design and textile art.

This is a great foundation if you are interested in taking a Textiles or Art specialism at GCSE.

What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?

This course is now taught as an Art GCSE you will experience and experiment with a range of more complex skills and techniques in Textile Design.

Students will be researching and finding out about traditional textile techniques, such as tie-dye and batik and try out new skill such as trapping and free hand embroidery. Students will have the opportunity to explore how these techniques are used in modern design.

In preparation for GCSE we use and follow the AQA syllabus which is assessed at National level and is focused on 4 Assessment objectives:

- AO1 = Develop ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources.
- AO2 = Refine ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media and processes.
- AO3 = Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions.
- AO4 = Present a personal response demonstrating meaningful and analytical understanding.
-

How and when will I be assessed?

Through GCSE assessment objectives 1-4 and graded 9-1 on the GCSE scale through a portfolio of work.

What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?

Technical and practical skills which include printing, weaving, embellishments and advanced sewing machine skills. You will have the chance to create individual textile pieces through various workshops and activities. You will have the opportunity to create your own simple fashion garment or interior piece.

Will I need any special / different equipment?

All materials and equipment are provided in Year 9 for the workshops and projects.

The future: what GCSE and future careers does this link to?

GCSE Art is completed over 2 years (10 and 11). Throughout this time you will complete a portfolio of work (NEA 1) at the end of Year 11 you will complete NEA 2, this is an externally set task and forms the exam element of the course.

Textiles would help to access a wide variety of exciting and varied career opportunities. This could include fashion design, interior design, fashion marketing and buying, fine art, fashion illustration, graphic art and design, illustration, museum director, monogram artist, fashion promotion, photography, painting restoration, printmaker, sculpture, set design, costume design.

Is there anything else I need to know?

If you would like to see past work/portfolios please see Mrs Wilson.

Where can I get further information?

For more information please contact Mrs Wilson by e-mail: jwilson@ashmanorschool.com



Notes

Ash Manor School
Manor Road
Ash
Surrey
GU12 6QH

Telephone: 01252 353900
Email: information@ashmanorschool.com
www.ashmanorschool