



The Petchey Academy

Year 8 GCSE Options 2019 Information for students and parents



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Dear Year 8 Students, Parents and Carers,

I am extremely pleased to be able to introduce the Year 8 Options for 2019. These set out the courses on offer for Year 8 students when they start Key Stage 4 in September 2019.

We hope your child is excited about starting their Key Stage 4 journey. At The Petchey Academy we have always had a 3 year KS4 as we believe it allows students to gain their best possible grades and allows them time to explore and enjoy their subject beyond the exam specification. For students who are already well advanced in their knowledge and skills, the three year Key Stage 4 allows them opportunities for early challenges and time to access the very top grades. For students who progress at a different rate, the additional third year in Key Stage 4 will help to strengthen their potential to gain the best grades within their capabilities.

We believe our Key Stage 4 curriculum is broad and balanced, providing all students with interesting and challenging provisions. We are very keen to personalise opportunities and pathways as much as possible to suit the many and varied skills, talents and interests of our students.

You will notice that there are a large number of subjects on offer beyond the core curriculum. Students will be asked to indicate their preferences for their 'English Baccalaureate' subjects in Block A and Block B, they will then have a wider choice in Blocks C and D. Unfortunately if a course attracts low numbers of students, we may not be able to run it. There also may be oversubscribed courses, in which case the academy will support your child in making alternative choices.

Please read through this information carefully, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to bring them up when you meet with your child's Year Lead (Ms Miller), Academic Tutor or Vice Principal for Curriculum (Miss Blunden) over the next few weeks.

Olivia Cole, Principal



How is the Curriculum in Years 9, 10 and 11 organised?

At The Petchey Academy we have specifically designed our Key Stage Four curriculum to start in Year 9, to ensure your child has three years to be successful in their GCSE (Level 2) subjects. We recognise that success in Key Stage Four is the foundation for your child's future success at Post 16 (Level 3 qualifications) and beyond. Our aim is to provide your child with an outstanding curriculum at Key Stage Four that is both challenging and enjoyable to ensure achieving the highest levels of success. Therefore, it is crucial that your child makes the right GCSE choices in Year 8.

We want our KS4 curriculum to provide your child with choices while at the same time allowing your child to focus on securing the highest outcomes. Therefore, students will focus on achieving the best possible grades in 9 subjects from years 9-11. This includes 5 compulsory subjects and 4 further options. In total, most students will study 9 subjects and will leave with 9 or 10 GCSE or Level 2 qualifications.

Our 'Excelsior' students will be encouraged to achieve a minimum of 9 top grades in these subjects. To complement our traditional "Ebacc" route, we also offer an extremely good range of alternative technical awards. These are practical or vocational qualifications that are equivalent to a GCSE.



Choosing the right options

We recognise the decision of what to study in Key Stage Four is a really important one. We want to support you and your child to ensure the options they choose will challenge, motivate and engage them throughout the next three years.

The decision to study a certain subject should be based on a combination of your child's enjoyment in a particular subject, individual learning style, future career aspirations and their ability to succeed in this subject.

Subject Leads and Academic Tutors can give guidance and advice on the best combination of subject for students at the Options Evening on 27th February or in the interviews in March. In order to ensure that every child has a broad curriculum, certain combinations of subjects won't be permitted, e.g. Technical Award in Food with Food & Nutrition GCSE.

Compulsory subjects

Your child will study 5 compulsory, examined subjects, plus Core PE, which is not assessed:

English Language and English Literature, Maths, Science and RS

Options subjects

In addition to these 5 core subjects, your child will also make a maximum of **4** further option choices to start in September 2019 (Year 9); they should choose **1** subject from each option block.

We encourage our students to leave Year 11 having obtained the English Baccalaureate, or "Ebacc". This means we encourage every student to study either History or Geography and a Language.

School performance tables also record the number of students who secure the combination of GCSEs which make up the English Baccalaureate.

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
History	History	Art	Psychology
Geography	Geography	Food & Nutrition	Business
Spanish	Spanish	PE GCSE <i>or</i> BTEC	Music
	Arabic	Sociology	Drama
Technical Award in Hospitality & Catering	Mandarin	Business	DT
	BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Travel and Tourism.	Computing	BTEC Level 2 in Performing Arts (Dance).
Technical Award in Materials Technology	Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care	OCR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies	
		OR	
		City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Award in Digital Technologies.	

How will students' success be measured?

In 2018 the government introduced the new 9-1 grading structure for GCSE exams:

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
U	G
	U

How the 9-1 grading structure relates to the old A*-U scale

Students at the academy are also assessed using these grade boundaries from Year 7.

How do we feed back on progress to students and parents?

Students will get detailed feedback from teachers on how to improve when their work is marked which parents can see in students' books. Parents should also log in to Show My Homework at least once a week to ensure that all Home Learning is being completed.

Attendance at Parents' Evenings is vital throughout your child's GCSE course in order to ensure that you are aware of how your child is performing and how you can support them to achieve their best possible grade in each subject.

So what happens next?

It is crucial that you read the details about each option subject carefully so you and your child are fully aware of the options available. We will offer further guidance for your child through curriculum evening on Wednesday 27th February 2018 and discussions with Subject Teachers on Wednesday 6th March.

Year 8 Options Time Line

Tuesday 5th February

Year 8 GCSE Options Launch Assembly (for students)

This is an introduction to the options process and the key dates ahead



Wednesday 27th February

Year 8 GCSE Option Evening (for students and parents)

This is a chance to meet KS4 subject teachers and find out about the exciting subjects that are on offer at GCSE



Wednesday 6th March

Year 8 Subject Parents' Evening (for students and parents)

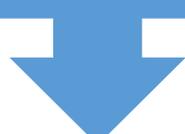
This is an opportunity to meet with current teachers to reflect on progress and seek advice



Monday 11th - Friday 22nd March

GCSE Options Interviews (for students)

Meet with a member of staff to discuss your choices



Wednesday 22nd May

Academic Tutor Parents' Evening + Options decisions published



GCSE ENGLISH

EXAM BOARD: EAAA

Students who'll be most suited:**CORE SUBJECT** – all students will study this**Lesson time per week:**

5 hours. English Language and English Literature will be taught simultaneously in years 9 and 10 to allow students to develop the skills that cross-over these two subjects and to understand how they complement each other.

How is the course assessed?

Linear assessment. 4 exams at the end of Year 11. 2 for English Language and 2 for English Literature

Home Learning expectations

Weekly reading activities linked to either the context of a set text or the form of writing being studied.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Theatre trips. Poetry workshops. The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. In house drama workshops.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

- A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
- Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare
- Animal Farm by George Orwell
- Anthology of poems based around relationships
- 19th Century Non-Fiction extracts
- Skills in Fiction – short fiction extracts

Year 10

- An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley
- Macbeth by William Shakespeare
- Jekyll and Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson
- Anthology of poems based around power and conflict
- Writers' viewpoints and perspectives across a range of non-fiction texts from 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. (Continues into Year 11)
- Explorations in creative reading and writing through studying fiction texts from the 20th and 21st centuries. (Continues into Year 11)

Year 11

- *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley
- *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
- *Jekyll and Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- Anthology of poems based around power and conflict

GCSE MATHS

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL & OCR

Students who'll be most suited:**CORE SUBJECT** – all students will study this**Lesson time per week:**

Five 55 min lessons per week

How is the course assessed?

GCSE Maths is assessed with 3 90 minute exam papers:

- Paper 1 – Non Calculator
- Paper 2 – Calculator
- Paper3 – Calculator
- Each paper is 80 marks

Students will either complete the FOUNDATION (Grades 1 to 5) or HIGHER (Grades 4 to 9) examination papers.

The examination papers will consist of three types of questions:

- AO1 questions – Using and Applying Mathematical techniques.
- AO2 questions – Reasoning, interpreting and communication skills.
- AO3 questions – Solving non-routine problems

Home Learning expectations

Home Learning will reinforce classwork and will be supported by the Collins Connect Online textbook and the MathWatch website.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Annual Pi Day Challenge

What will you learn?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Arithmetic | 9. Constructions |
| 2. Integers, Indices and Roots | 10. Statistics |
| 3. Place Value and Rounding | 11. Equations and Inequalities |
| 4. Fractions | 12. Geometric Reasoning |
| 5. Percentages | 13. Sequences, Functions and Graphs |
| 6. Probability | 14. Transformations |
| 7. Formulae and Expressions | 15. Ratio and Proportion |
| 8. Area, Perimeter and Volume | |

GCSE SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD: OCR GATEWAY

Students who'll be most suited:

The majority of student will study Combined Science A. Students will be selected for Triple Science based on their consistent high achievement in Year 8, to ensure that students are challenged.

Lesson time per week:

5 hours per week

How is the course assessed?

- Exam only
- Both courses will require students to sit 6 exams.

Home Learning expectations

Homework will be in a number of forms; quizzes, exam questions, research tasks, extended writing projects and the odd ambitious construction challenge!

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

In collaboration with our aim to support the increased uptake and attainment of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) you will have the opportunity to partake in a number of exciting opportunities throughout your GCSE course.

Where could this take you?

We offer Biology, Chemistry and Physics A levels and hope that many of our students will embark on a medical, or STEM pathway into our Sixth Form. Whether in the future you want to be a heart surgeon or physical chemist, building spaceships or curing diabetes, we have the pathway for you.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Biology: Cell Structures, What happens in cells, Respiration, Photosynthesis, Supplying the Cell, The Challenge of Size, The Nervous System, The Endocrine System, Maintaining Internal Environments

Chemistry: The Particle Model, Atomic Structure, Purity and Separating Mixtures, Bonding, Properties of Materials, Introducing Chemical Reactions

Physics: The Particle Model, Changes of State, Pressure, Motion, Newton's Law, Forces in Action

Year 10

Biology: Ecosystems, Inheritance, Natural Selection and Evolution.

Chemistry: Energetics, Types of chemical reactions, electrolysis, predicting chemical reactions.

Physics: Static and charge, simple circuits, magnets and magnetic fields, wave behaviour, the electromagnetic spectrum, radioactive emissions.

Year 11

Biology: Monitoring and maintaining the environment, feeding the human race, monitoring and maintaining health, non-communicable diseases.

Chemistry: Controlling reactions, equilibria, improving processes and products, interpreting and interacting with Earth systems

Physics: Work done, Power and efficiency, physics on the move, powering earth.

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

CORE SUBJECT – all students will study this

Lesson time per week:

1 hour

How is the course assessed?

2 exams in which Christianity and Islam

- *Paper 1* Study of religions – you should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs including: beliefs, practices and sources of authority; influence on individuals, communities and societies; similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs.
- *Paper 2* Thematic Studies - Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

Home Learning expectations

- Projects, Research tasks, Poetry
- Developing Literacy: Learn specific vocabulary and read specific styles of texts- some unique to the subject.
- Develop and express an argument persuasively and effectively in writing.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Visits to places of worship
- Philosophy conference
- Contribution by students to STOP week
- Debating & Philosophy club (Excelsior students)

Where could this take you?

GCSE Religious Studies focuses on some of the most important religious, philosophical and ethical ideas and controversies of our time. It requires pupils to develop skills of analysis and argument -building, and an ability to understand radically different viewpoints than their own, skills that strongly support a great many Sixth Form choices, university degrees, and careers.

What will you learn?

Year 9

Christianity: section 1 (beliefs and Teachings)

Islam: section 1 (beliefs and practices)

Philosophy and ethics: section 1 (arguments for the existence of God)

Year 10

Christianity: Section 2 (Practices)

Islam: section 2 (practices)

Philosophy and Ethics: Section 2 (religious Teachings on Crime & Punishment)

Year 11

Philosophy and Ethics: Peace & Conflict

Philosophy & ethics-religion & Life

Revision and Examinations

Useful learning resources

CHP computer Science 9-1

OCR PG Online

GCSE ARABIC

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL

Students who'll be most suited:

Those who already have some background of the language through speaking it at home, attending weekend Arabic classes or studying The Quran at mosque.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours per week

How is the course assessed?

Papers will be tiered, with 25% assessment weightings per skill (listening, speaking, reading, and writing).

Papers will include:

- Short translations from and into the target language
- Some target-language questions in the reading and listening papers
- Authentic stimuli in the reading paper, including literary texts

Home Learning expectations

Students are to learn new vocabulary on a weekly basis. Advanced writing and speaking tasks are to be completed fortnightly.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Possible Andalucía Tour : Seville – Cordoba – Granada

Where could this take you?

Students that want to continue to study Arabic after GCSE will be able to skip the foundation classes offered at other institutes. This will help students to make progress in Arabic studies that they are already taking in classes outside of school.

KS5 Arabic is offered at many institutes.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Topics include:

- Education and school
- Family
- Hobbies
- Career
- Around town

Year 10

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension
- International and global dimension

Year 11

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

Useful learning resources

- Edexcel website
- Arabilicious
- Interlingo

GCSE ART

EXAM BOARD: PEARSONS EXCEL

Students who'll be most suited:

A strong interest, passion and drive is needed to study GCSE Art, as well as a love for expression and problem solving. A diverse approach to drawing and practical skill set is desirable, however, the nature of the course provides support in developing student's technical skills and subject knowledge. Within the course there is emphasis on reflective writing and research into artists, art movements and subject context. An imaginative, innovative and inquisitive mind would serve well. There is a high level of coursework therefore, determination and dedication is essential.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours in lesson, 2-5 hours of home learning

How is the course assessed?

Students will receive ongoing feedback about their progress, home learning and quality of coursework, enabling them to achieve their full potential. This will be assessed against objectives and students will be provided with working at and predicted levels. Coursework (all projects but exam project) = 60 % of overall grade. Exam project = 40% of overall grade.

Home Learning expectations

At GCSE the minimum expectation of home learning per week is 3 hours. High aiming students are encouraged to extend their knowledge through approaching high banded set work and explore classroom topics independently. The nature of the course demands individuality when creating their artwork.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Trips for each project vary between locations, galleries and museums depending on the theme. Students are encouraged to visit exhibitions during free time in order to expand their art awareness.

Where could this take you?

Our Sixth Form A-levels in Art & Design Technology. These subjects support students who wish to pursue careers in Fine Art, Fashion and Textiles, Animation, Architecture, Product Design, Marketing, Merchandising to name a few of the many specialisms within the creative industry.

GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Those with an interest in the business world around them.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- 2 written exams at the end of Y11, each one is worth 50% of your final mark.

Home Learning examples & expectations

- Designing a job description and person specification for your dream job.
- Developing a marketing campaign (4Ps) for a new brand of trainers.
- Analysing the accounts of real business to decide how to invest in the stock market.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Trip to Arsenal's stadium for a workshop of jobs in the sports sector
- Young entrepreneur competition

Where could this take you?

GCSE Business is an excellent route in to studying A-Level Business or BTEC Business at our Sixth Form. GCSE Business is a useful support for those wishing to choose a more vocational option. Nearly all jobs have an aspect of business so this course will also support your more long term career ambitions.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

You will study what business is like in the real world and what purpose it serves.

You will learn the different types of business types (sole trader, partnership, Ltd., Plc. and not for profit.)

You will study business aims and objectives, their purpose and using objectives to judge success.

You will investigate the importance of stakeholders to a business and their impact on business activity.

Year 10

You will study the influences on business such as E-commerce and digital communication, and how globalisation and legislation influence businesses.

You will be able to identify and analyse where there may be a possible trade-off between ethics and profit and learn how the economy (interest rates, inflation and unemployment influences businesses.

Year 11

You will study how businesses recruits and selects its employees and different theories on how to motivate staff in a business.

You will be able explain the benefits of training employees for a business, including increased productivity, ability to deal with changes in technology, production of high quality goods and good customer service.

The marketing mix: price, product, promotion and place (4Ps) and have an understanding of the main features of pricing methods and the impact they will have on a business.

You will investigate the concept of revenue, costs, profit and loss and analyse financial accounts to judge business performance.

GCSE Computer Science

EXAM BOARD: OCR

Students who'll be most suited:

Students who possess strong analytical and logical thinking skills with a passion for coding.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

100% Exam, two written papers and a programming task.

Home Learning expectations

- Coding Challenges
- App Development
- Hacking and Cyber Threats
- How the Internet works

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Trips to Bloomberg
- Teen Tech coding trip
- BBC Microbit Coding Competition
- Lego Robotics Club
- Game designer and App developers visits to school to discuss how to get into the industry

Where could this take you?

- Computing focuses on new, emerging and existing technologies, providing students with a unique experience and knowledge for careers in Computer/Network Support, game design, app design, engineering and programming.
- BTEC Computing
- A-Level Computer Science

What will you learn?**Year 9**

- Systems architecture ,memory and storage
- Wired and Wireless Networks
- Protocols and layers

Year 10

- Systems Software and Security
- Ethical, Legal cultural and environmental concerns
- Algorithms

Year 11

- Programming
- Logic and Languages
- Data Representation

Useful Learning Resources

- CHP computer Science 9-1
- OCR PG Online

GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Students who enjoy applying technical knowledge to their practical skills

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- 50 % controlled assessment
- 50 % external exam

Home Learning expectations

Trips to factories, farms and food markets

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Design Museum trip, inspirational trips to local design studios

Where could this take you?

A level product design

Level 3 Engineering qualifications or apprenticeships

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Students will be enthused and challenged by a wide range of practical activities designed to prepare them for the controlled assessment tasks in year 10 and 11. The Petchey Academy has partnered with the Design Museum in London to provide students with the rare opportunity to design and make a product with the potential to be sold in their gift shop. During this project students will work with industry professionals to develop the subject knowledge and gain real world understanding of the industrial application of the subject. During the first year of this course pupils will have the opportunity to gain a level 2 Diploma in their project management skills.

Year 10

Students will carry out a major innovation challenge, where they will develop skills to enhance their creative thinking and prototyping skills. Students will work autonomously during the controlled assessment task to select suitable tools, processes and materials to develop a commercially viable product that can be used for testing and evaluation purposes.

Year 11

Students will carry out market research on the prototype developed in year 10 and where appropriate research and create suitable advertising or point of sales to aid in the marketing of the new product.

Much of year 11 will be devoted to extending subject knowledge and perfecting the use of a wide range of tools, processes and techniques, including the use of CAD/CAM devices such as the 3D printer, laser cutter and CNC machines.

GCSE DRAMA

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

Students who'll be most suited:

This course is most suited for students who want to have more confidence in creative thinking, working as a team, concentration, communication, ability to analyse and evaluate and to understand a range of issues and ideas in the world around you. It would also be advantageous if you enjoy performing or designing.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- Component 1: Devising (40% of final grade)
 - Teacher assessed/externally moderated (Performance /15 & Portfolio /45)
- Component 2: Text in Performance (20% of final grade)
 - External examiner (Performance /48)
- Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice (40% of final grade)
 - Summer GCSE written exam (/60)

Home Learning expectations

Keeping a drama journal, Learning lines, Fulfilling research on socio-historical context of plays and at times attending after school/Saturday rehearsals

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

At least three trips to the theatre

You will take part in workshops with professional external practitioners for example facilitators from the Hackney Empire.

You will have the opportunity to perform at a professional theatre.

You will have the opportunity to meet and work with HE students from one of London's top Drama schools The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

Where could this take you?

Arts administrator / Broadcast presenter / Film director / Further education teacher / Higher education lecturer / Secondary school teacher / Theatre stage manager
Other pathways chosen by ex-students of Drama include: Law, Media, Teaching, Medicine, Business, Advertising, Catering, Emergency services, Military and Care work.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Introduction to Drama GCSE, DNA by Dennis Kelly, National Theatre Connections, The Connections Project. You will perform a home performance at Petchey and at professional venue Theatre Royal Stratford East. You will keep a portfolio of your journey throughout the project, Face by Benjamin Zephaniah

Year 10

Component 1 Devising, Component 3 Theatre Makers in Practice, An Inspector Calls.

Year 11

Component 2 Text in Performance, Component 3 Theatre Makers in Practice, An Inspector Calls, and Theatre visit in order to answer evaluative questions on a live piece of theatre within the exam.

GCSE ECONOMICS

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Students in top sets for Maths and English with an interest in the world of Economics.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- Two written exams at the end of year 11. Each exam is 1hr 45mins and worth 50% of your final mark.

Home Learning expectations

Students will produce a report how prices are determined in a market using supply and demand and relate this to the FTSE.

Students will investigate wage determination using simple demand and supply analysis and then write a proposal for a new minimum wage figure

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Trip to the Bank of England
- Young entrepreneur competition

Where could this take you?

GCSE Economics is an excellent route in to studying A-Level Economics or Business or BTEC Business at University Gateway.

Nearly all jobs have an aspect of Economics so this course will also support your more long term career ambitions.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Students will study economic activity through the lens of consumers, producers, government and the workings of the global economy. As students go through the course they're presented with opportunities to focus on real-world issues. Students should consider and reflect upon moral, ethical and sustainable issues that arise as a result of the impact of economic activity.

Year 10

Students will use their economic knowledge and skills to investigate national and global economic situations and issues from the last 15 years. Students should also be aware of the policies that governments have used to attempt to manage these situations and issues.

Year 11

Students will develop quantitative skills relevant to the subject content. They should be able to make relevant calculations from economic data and be able to interpret data presented in the form of graphs and charts. Students should be able to recognise the possible limitations of both quantitative and qualitative data.

There will also be a focus on exams skills (both essay and multiple choice questions) and revision of content from year 9 and 10.

GCSE FOOD PREP & NUTRITION

EXAM BOARD: Eduqas

Students who'll be most suited:

It is suitable for students who enjoy developing imaginative, innovative thinking, creativity and independence. It is a suitable qualification for those who want a broad background in this area, those who wish to progress to further education, or for those who wish to learn about healthy eating and nutrition

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- The course is 50 % internally assessed (externally moderated).
- 50% written exam.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Trips are organised to food markets, factories and farms.

Where could this take you?

Food science and nutrition L3 Btec, Apprenticeships in Hotel Management, Professional chefs courses

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Students will build on the practical skills from year 7 and 8 and learn effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment. They will also 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. They will also begin to understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.

Year 10

Students will continue to build on their practical skills understanding and exploring a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

They will study the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, and diet and health choices. They will explore the functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.

Year 11

For the first task students will be required to investigate the working characteristics, function and chemical properties of ingredients through practical experimentation and use the findings to achieve a particular result. They will then produce a report on their findings.

For the second task, they will prepare, cook and present a menu of three dishes within a single session. They will document their planning and evaluation of the dishes.

The remainder of year 11 will be dedicated to revising the content covered in year 9 and 10 and practising exam questions.

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Students with the following attributes: Ability to think critically, Mapping, distribution and location skills, Ability to work independently and as part of team, Has a global perspective, Inquisitive.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

Paper 1 - Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (35% of GCSE)

Paper 2 - Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (35% of GCSE)

Paper 3 - Written exam: 1 hour (30% of GCSE)

Home Learning expectations

- Creating an erupting 3D volcano
- Creating 'top trump' cards for class competition
- Reading current news
- Independent research on case studies
- Short and longer answer exam practice
- Case study fact files

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Kingswood Centre – Norfolk
- Bay of Naples – Italy
- Fieldtrip in local area

In addition to trips, the Geography department offer students the opportunity to apply for the 'Young Geographer of the Year' award, which is a national recognised competition for young and enthusiastic Geographer.

Where could this take you?

With a GCSE in Geography, students can continue further education and complete degrees in areas such as Human Geography; Physical Geography; Environmental or Agricultural Studies; Anthropology. The skills you develop in Geography can lead to many exciting careers including becoming a surveyor; environmental consultant; teaching; town planning; NGOs; charities; travel and leisure industries.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

- Natural Hazards
- Urban challenges and issues

Year 11

- The challenge of resource management
- Completing a skills and mock paper

Year 10

- Physical landscapes in the UK
- The changing economic world
- Fieldwork
- The Living World

GCSE HISTORY

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

Students who'll be most suited:

Those interested about the past, keen to read and enjoying developing their opinions through their written and spoken work.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- The course is 100% exam over 3 papers

Home Learning expectations

Usually focussing on written skills, home learning is an opportunity for your teachers to mark written exam answers and provide you with feedback on how to improve.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

There are a variety of trips that will be running across the three years including the Berlin trip and various trips to museums and exhibitions across London.

Where could this take you?

History skills are invaluable for all exams and careers. History teaching you to think and form judgements based on evidence and interpretations. It encourages you to debate, to develop ideas in written work, to read and critically engage and to learn about fascinating events and people in the past.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

- In semester 1, 2 and 3 you will learn about Nazi Germany; the failure of the post war government, the terror of the Nazi party and the rise and fall of Hitler.
- In semester 4, 5 and 6 you will focus on the development of Medicine in Britain beginning with Medieval Britain and looking right up to modern medicine. You will focus on remarkable people and the changes that have happened.

Year 10

- In semester 1 you will focus on medicine and its developments in WWI. You will investigate the changes that occurred and why so much change happened in this period. Semester 2, 3 and 4 you will focus on Elizabethan England covering a range of aspects from the Spanish Armada to how she shaped religion in this country today.
- In semester 5 and 6 you will have a chance to recap what you have learnt, practising your exam skills and preparing for Year 11

Year 11

- In semester 1, 2 and 3 you will be learning about the Cold War between Russia and America, using historical skills of interpretation and change over the period. Semester 4, 5 and 6 will be time for revision, to fine tune historical knowledge and skills, and to get to grips with the demands of the exams.

GCSE MANDARIN CHINESE

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Say yes to Chinese if you are interested in East Asian languages and cultures. You do not need any prior knowledge of Mandarin to join in year 9.

Did you know?

- The Petchey Academy has been awarded the status of a Confucius Classroom for its excellence of support in celebrating Chinese language and culture. As a Confucius Classroom the Petchey Academy receives extra teaching resources and staffing from the Confucius Institute for Education in China which directly benefits each student's learning experience.
- Chinese language is much easier to learn than people think; it has no tenses, no plurals, no verb conjugations. It is so easy that it is the most spoken first language in the world!

Lesson time per week: 4 hours

How is the course assessed?

All key language skills; speaking, listening, reading and writing, are assessed in the form of an exam at the end of the year 11.

Home Learning expectations

Students will be expected to complete 1 hour of home learning each week. This will often involve developing their Chinese character writing skills and memorisation of new vocabulary.

To support Mandarin learning we use engaging, free language learning software such as Duolingo and Quizlet.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Students who study Mandarin are invited to engage with a rich variety of extra-curricular activities.

- Annual visit to China

Each year we invite students to spend 2 weeks in China both to utilise their language skills and to experience a wealth of Chinese culture, food and history. The Confucius Institute generously support with all costs of the visit within China.

- China Town visits
- Weekly East Asia Culture Club

The Confucius Institute provide the Petchey Academy with Chinese teachers of martial arts, music and crafts, teaching a range of Chinese culture to the students

- Mandarin Speaking Competition

Each year students of Mandarin may participate in the annual British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition. They will meet students from all around the country with the winners awarded a two week holiday experience in China.

GCSE MANDARIN CHINESE CONTD

Where could this take you?

People with Chinese language skills and knowledge of East Asia are highly regarded in the modern world. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons.

Mandarin will add an extra dimension to your personal skills profile which will impress anyone who reads your CV.

China is currently the 2nd largest economy in the world and is the UK's 2nd largest non-EU trading partner. This means that if you are able to speak Chinese you may have employment advantage in the international and London job markets.

Competence in Mandarin could be useful in any career especially: business, international banking, teaching, translation and interpreting, importing and exporting, and the travel and tourism industry.

What will you learn?

Year 9

The focus throughout Year 9 will be on learning a foundation level of vocabulary through different language projects:

- Daily Greetings and conversation
- Chinese characters, numbers and family
- Mask Project: Colours, personalities and directions
- Dragon Project: Body parts, abilities and weather
- Take Away project: Food, drink, opinions and shopping.
- School Life project: Daily routines, subjects and transport



Year 10 & 11

The focus throughout Year 10 will be on developing authentic and spontaneous reading, writing, speaking and listening skills on the following areas:

- Sports and Leisure
- Travel and tourism
- Media and culture
- Business, work and employment

GCSE MUSIC

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Students who enjoy listening to music, performing music (solo/in an orchestra or band) or composing music using music software.

Students who currently learn an instrument or sing confidently, or who are keen to start.

Lesson time per week:

3 plus independent practice on your main instrument/voice

How is the course assessed?

- 40% listening exam on unfamiliar works and study pieces.
- 30% 1 free composition, 1 composition set to a brief.
- 30% Solo and Ensemble (group) performance.

Home Learning expectations

Researching composers

Keyword quizzes

Practice exam questions

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

You will receive free instrumental tuition on an instrument of your choice or voice
Orchestra & KS4 band, Solo lessons/rehearsal, Rewards trips to concerts and shows, STOP week workshops & GCSE conferences, Barbican Music Box Project

Where could this take you?

The skills learned studying music prepare you for any career path as employers are increasingly looking for creativity and communication skills. However this course can specifically lead to studying Music or Music Technology at college or university.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

- You will study in depth two set pieces: Haydn's Clock Symphony, and three songs by the Beatles.
- You will practice as an ensemble and individually to improve your performance skills.
- You will compose a composition in the style of your choice using song writing skills, the music studio and music technology.

Year 10

- You will study traditional music through performance and composition and study music of the 20th century.
- You will complete a solo and ensemble performance and complete a second composition set to one of four briefs.

Year 11

- You will learn about a range of different styles of music including classical music, popular music, traditional music (African, Blues and folk fusion).
- 20th century classical music (minimalism and expressionism).
- You will use music technology to compose your own music.
- You will work individually and in a band to improve your performance skills.

GCSE PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Students who have an analytical and critical thinking style, who like discussion and debate based lessons. Students must like writing essays which examine critical arguments in psychology and who want to develop their knowledge in methods used to produce research in psychology.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- Both exam papers are equally weighted and worth 90 marks each
- Each examination is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.
- Assessment will be through a mixture of question styles such as multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Home Learning expectations

Typical home learning tasks include; essay questions, watching documentaries, collecting information for debates, answering consolidation questions.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

As part of your Psychology course you have the opportunity to participate and attend a range of trips and guest speaker events. You will have the chance to visit a variety of different museums such as the Freud Museum and The Institute of Psychoanalysis.

Where could this take you?

Psychology offers a wide variety of Careers. These include:

Clinical psychologist / Forensic Psychologist / Educational Psychologist / Social workers / Teachers/Lecturers / Counsellor / Psychology researcher / Probation officer

What will you learn?**Year 9**

You will learn about Criminal Psychology, Psychological Problems, Development Psychology and Research Methods. You will examine the different types of crime, and critically evaluate two theories and two studies that provide an explanation for criminal behaviour. You will learn about the cause, symptoms and treatments of two common psychological disorders, Schizophrenia and Depression. You will also be debating key questions within psychology such as "Is our behaviour due to nature or to nurture?"

Year 10

You will learn about Sleeping and Dreaming, Social Influence and Memory. We will take a close look at how people behave when they are in group situations and how and why this is different to if we were acting on our own; specifically looking at the Tottenham Riots. We juxtapose two different theories which explain why we dream and whether our dreams have meanings. Finally, we look at our memories and how inaccurate they can be. We look at the applications of this research specifically looking at eye witness testimonies

Year 11

In year 11 psychology we spend time on long answer questions as well as consolidating the knowledge gained in year 9 and year 10. This year will involve a lot of exam preparation through a variety of revision techniques.

GCSE SOCIOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

We welcome students who like discussion based lessons and who appreciate the importance of listening to others as well as having their say, who like writing essays and 'weighing up' arguments and who want to develop their research skills by researching; identifying, selecting and analysing evidence

Lesson time per week:

3 hours

How is the course assessed?

- Both exam papers are equally weighted and worth 100 marks each
- Each examination is one hour and 45 minutes long.
- Assessment will be through a mixture of question styles such as multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Home Learning expectations

Typical home learning tasks include; essay questions, watching documentaries, collecting information from newspaper articles, answering consolidation questions. You will also have the opportunity to create presentations to present to your peers on a social issue of your choice.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

You have the exciting opportunity to participate in a range of trips and societies. Regular trips include a day at The Royal Courts of Justice to participate in a mock trial and an afternoon at The Museum of Childhood. Past Sociology trips have also included a West End theatre production and a Karl Marx walking tour. You also have the opportunity to join Petchey's first Feminist campaign #Feminism! Aiming to raise awareness and promote gender inequality.

Where could this take you?

Sociology offers a wide variety of Careers. These include:
Social workers / Teachers/Lecturers / Counsellor / Social researcher / Probation officer

What will you learn?**Year 9**

You will learn about the sociology of families and the sociology of education. You will learn about the roles and functions of our education system as well as the differential achievement of social groups. Big questions such as; Is the nuclear family declining and is this causing a moral crisis in society? Why do girls now outperform boys at every level of the education system?

Year 10

You will learn about the sociology of crime and deviance and the sociology of social stratification. Big questions such as Is the criminal justice system racist? Or Why are people from the highest social classes more likely to live longer and be healthy than those from the lowest social classes?

Year 11

Year 11 sociology is about consolidating the knowledge gained in year 9 and year 10 and involves plenty of exam preparation through a variety of revision techniques.

GCSE SPANISH

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Those with a passion for Spanish culture and lifestyle, and an enjoyment of the Latin American and Spanish culture.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours a week

How is the course assessed?

- Students are assessed in the 4 languages skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking. These skills are equally weighted at 25% each, and are assessed externally at the end of Year 11.
- There will be internal assessments at the end of each semester delivered in alternate pairs of speaking and listening vs. reading and writing.
- All skills are given equal weighting and will be assessed at the end of the course in Year 11 in exams.

Home Learning expectations

- Interactive online resources (Quizlet, Duolingo, Active Learn)
- Weekly vocab tests

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Tapas trip
- Young Language Leaders
- Trip to Alicante.

Where could this take you?

You will be able to study AS & A2 Spanish courses, add an extra dimension to your personal skills profile which will impress anyone who reads your CV, as well as being in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links or improve employability if you would like to work abroad.

Competence in languages could be useful in any career especially: the travel and tourism industry, business, international banking, teaching, translation and interpreting, importing and exporting.

What will you learn?**Year 9**

Free time activities, World of work and future plans, Healthy Lifestyles, Global issues and Human Rights, An Adventure in Madrid, Revision and Assessment

Year 10

Holidays, Life at School, Technology and Relationships, Interests and Influences, Festivals and Traditions, Revision and Assessment

Year 11

Interests and influences, World of Work, Global Issues, Exam Preparation

BTEC TECHNICAL AWARD IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE EXAM BOARD: AQA

Course information is still being collated, document to be updated as soon as possible.

Students who'll be most suited:
Lesson time per week:
How is the course assessed? •
Home Learning expectations •
Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights •
Where could this take you?
What will you learn? Year 9 Year 10 Year 11

GCSE BTEC AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

This course is particularly designed for those students who have some aptitude for dance and have had some experience of dancing outside of school, who like to perform and want to work creatively and practically.

Lesson time per week:

3 hours a week for this course.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed both internally by your teacher and externally. Assessment will take place in the form of practical workshops, live performances to an audience and camera. Theory work will also be assessed such research folders and PowerPoints.

Home Learning expectations

This will be an essential aspect of this course and will include a wide variety of tasks and activities, e.g. you may use the dance studio at lunchtimes and after school to rehearse. You may have to seek costume, or a piece of music for your performance.

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

- Trips to the theatre (Sadlers Wells & The Place) to see dance live in performance
- If you take the BTEC you're expected to attend The Petchey Dance Company weekly and will work with the dance company Avant Garde.
- You will be expected to get involved with dance competitions with other schools in the local area.

Where could this take you?

This course can be the first step to a career in performing arts and theatre, either in performance or behind the scenes. Students can progress to a Level 3 BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts and A Levels.

What will you learn?

Year 9

You will work mostly practically developing your physical, technical and interpretative skills. This will be taught through weekly contemporary and ballet dance technique classes, choreography workshops and learning of a range professional dance repertoire. You will also watch a range of dance on film, exploring the choreographers' intentions, choreographic processes and learn to appreciate a wide range of artists' works.

Year 10

You will research practitioners' work and the processes and practices that contribute to a range of dance styles. You will also look at different dance roles within the performing arts industry and the responsibilities that go with that role. You will write a report on your research and present your work in a power point. The second unit will be more practical and you will need to perform dance repertoire from a practitioners work. You will develop your technical, practical and interpretative skills.

Year 11

The last unit is task set by the exam board. In this task you will need to work with a group and create a small dance performance. This performance will be recorded and marked by an examiner.

BTEC FIRST AWARD IN TRAVEL & TOURISM

Course information is still being collated, document to be updated as soon as possible.

Students who'll be most suited:
Lesson time per week:
How is the course assessed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Home Learning expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Where could this take you?
What will you learn? Year 9 Year 10 Year 11

TECHNICAL AWARD IN HOSPITALITY & CATERING

EXAM BOARD: EDUQAS

Students who'll be most suited:

Students who work best in a practical environment and would like to improve their skills, whilst also learning about healthy eating and nutrition.

Lesson time per week: 3 hours

How is the course assessed?

You will be assessed across 2 units - The Hospitality and Catering Industry and Hospitality and Catering in Action. These are both internally and externally assessed. You will be given learning outcomes to complete for each assessed unit:
50% Controlled assessment and 50% online exam

Home Learning expectations

Trips to hotels, restaurants and food markets

Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Links and trips to university institutes and opportunities to use state of the art sport science equipment.

Where could this take you?

Successful completion of the course can lead to further study of related level 3 vocational qualifications such as WJEC level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition, NVQ Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery, Advanced Diploma in Food Preparation and Cookery Supervision.

What will you learn?

Year 9

You will be developing your practical skills making a variety of dishes to improve your skills. You will practise time-plans and evaluations in preparation for the controlled assessment tasks in year 11.

Year 10

You will continue to improve your practical skills. You will learn a range of skills linked to the food hospitality and catering industry. You will gain a broad understanding of commercial food production and an understanding of legal responsibilities when preparing food for sale. You will learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they can affect successful catering and hospitality operations. You will also learn successful meal planning, time management, problem solving and communication skills.

Year 11

You will be expected to make a range of food products following set criteria. You will be expected to complete 2 units that involve both practical and heavy theory elements. You will gain a broad range of catering skills related to commercial food preparation, including food hygiene, food presentation and production in quantity. You will develop catering and hospitality industry skills by upscaling dish portions, presentation of dishes and meeting the needs of others through diets and religion.



TECHNICAL AWARD IN MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Students who'll be most suited:

Students who want to study materials in a practical environment and understand the working properties of woods, metals and polymers will really enjoy this course. It will enable learners to work in a hands-on way to develop core skills and make high-quality products using woods, metals and polymers.

Lesson time per week:

How is the course assessed?

Unit 1: Skills demonstration (internally assessed)

Unit 2: Extended making project (internally assessed)

Unit 3: Fundamentals of Materials Technology External exam 40%

Home Learning expectations

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Trips, competitions & extra-curricular highlights

Trips to manufacturing centres and the design museum.

Where could this take you?

Technical Certificates and other Level 3 vocational qualifications such as NVQ Carpentry or Manufacturing and Production and A-level Design and Technology: Product Design

What will you learn?

Year 9

You will be developing your practical skills making a variety of projects to develop your hand making and computer aided design skills. In preparation for the controlled assessment tasks in year 10.

Year 10

Unit 1: Skills demonstration (internally assessed)

You will carry out a number of bite-sized projects to demonstrate 12 core skills. You will produce a series of small made outcomes and record your work in a portfolio of no more than 12 pages.

Year 11

Unit 2: Extended making project (internally assessed)

You will undertake an extended making project that showcases the skills and knowledge you have developed in Unit 1. The project will be in response to a brief, you will develop skills in planning and development, making, testing, evaluation and communication.

Unit 3: Fundamentals of Materials Technology (externally exam)

You will study materials and their working properties and learn about processes and manufacture. You will gain knowledge of the applications and characteristics of a wide range of woods, metals and polymers and also learn about possible careers within industry.

