



IMBERHORNE
SCHOOL

KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS 2026

**Strive
Support
Succeed**

POST-16 EDUCATION IN IMBERHORNE'S SIXTH FORM

Key Stage 4 is a very important time for students. The outcome of the effort and hard work of the next two years will have an effect on future hopes and plans. Students have to remain in education and take part in one of the following until the age of 18:

- **Full-time education, for example at Sixth Form or a college**
- **Start an apprenticeship or traineeship**
- **Spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training**

Many of our students, once they have completed their GCSE courses, view post-16 study in Imberhorne Sixth Form as a natural and valuable progression. It seems, therefore, sensible to mention here something about our Sixth Form and the choices available.

During Years 10 and 11 you will be invited to think about the opportunities open to you after Key Stage 4. With guidance your tutors will encourage you to consider what path you might want and how best to achieve that aim. If you are considering academic Sixth Form study, you will be able to experience a series of 'Mini Taster Sessions' in the Summer of Year 10. You will also have a 'Future Plans' interview in the Autumn Term of Year 11 with a member of the Senior Leadership or Sixth Form Team. Subject teachers will also offer you advice and help in the vital process of making the right decision. The tradition of academic and personal achievements at

Imberhorne is based upon a close partnership between students, staff and parents. Our Sixth Form is successful, energetic and innovative. We encourage our students to be committed to their learning, be prepared to work hard and get involved in a wide range of activities, both within the school and the community. Extensive opportunities are provided to develop your leadership skills along with imaginative challenges to prepare you for the future.

What do we offer?

- **Excellent academic standards with lessons taught by experienced staff**
- **Lessons which are taught in very small groups; typically, 11 in Year 12 and just 10 in Year 13**
- **Outstanding preparation and guidance for university, job and apprenticeship applications**
- **Opportunities to develop good working habits through private study periods**

When considering post-16 education there are a number of different pathways towards qualifications. There are traditional A Levels as well as Vocational courses.

The Sixth Form Course Guide and Prospectus outlines our courses in more detail, as well as giving a full picture of the rich and varied opportunities open to students at Imberhorne. It is available on our website www.imberhorne.co.uk/content/sixth-form-0

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Welcome to Key Stage 4

Our vision is that all students leave Imberhorne School as caring, confident, reflective and resilient individuals with a thirst for learning, knowledge and discovery which lasts throughout their lives. We are committed to enabling all young people, regardless of background, to achieve the highest possible standards of academic excellence, personal conduct and responsibility, whilst they enjoy an enriching and fulfilling preparation for life in the modern world. The options process is key to enabling us to achieve this vision.

We offer a very broad curriculum in Years 10 and 11, and we expect students to follow courses in as wide a range of subjects as possible. Students should be ready to embrace challenges, work hard and achieve the very best outcomes they can in the public examinations at the end of this key stage. These qualifications will be a student's currency for the rest of their lives.

Whilst success in examinations is crucial, we believe that participation in wider aspects of school life is also of utmost importance. Playing a full part in wider activities such as school sport, theatrical performances, cultural activities, educational visits, personal challenges and other activities in the community helps young people develop personal skills and qualities which will be essential for success in later life.

In short, we look forward to our Key Stage 4 curriculum helping our students develop.

Please complete the Options process no later than **Friday, 13th February 2026**.

Every effort is made to provide students with their first choices for their options, but this cannot be guaranteed as courses can only run if group numbers are viable and suitable staffing and accommodation is available.

IMPORTANT DATES

Information for students delivered in registration time by form tutors	January 19th - 30th
Year 9 Consultation Evening (online)	Wednesday 28th January
Options Briefing and Subject Fair	Tuesday 10th February
Online options forms available	Tuesday 10th February
Deadline for option choices	Friday 13th February

Core and Optional Subjects

This booklet aims to support our students in making choices at the end of Key Stage 3 (KS3). At Imberhorne we aim to provide a curriculum that is broad and balanced whilst meeting the individual needs of students.

To achieve this aim, all students will be required to follow a core curriculum plus optional subjects. Most courses lead to a full GCSE, but some lead to BTEC Awards or Cambridge National Certificates.

Core Subjects

The core curriculum consists of the following subjects:

Core Subjects	Qualification
English Language & English Literature	2 GCSEs
Mathematics	GCSE
Combined science	2 GCSEs
RE	RE (Core) no examination RE (Full Course) One less Core PE Lesson per fortnight to upgrade to GCSE RE
PE (Core)	No examination
Life	No examination

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum is the compulsory element of the National Curriculum for students in Key Stage 4. All students study English Language and English Literature as well as Maths. All students will study Science and some may wish to follow the triple Science course instead.

Broad Curriculum

We encourage students to follow a broad and balanced curriculum, by choosing their optional subjects from different curriculum areas. This will allow entry to the widest possible range of opportunities for continued education and career. We recommend that students consider carefully studying a Language and a Humanities subject.

Optional Subjects

Students may choose subjects from the following curriculum areas:

Curriculum area	Subjects offered	Qualification
Languages	French Spanish German	GCSE GCSE GCSE
Arts	Art Dance Drama Music Photography	GCSE GCSE GCSE GCSE GCSE
Humanities	Geography History	GCSE GCSE
Health and Fitness	Health & Social Care P.E. GCSE Sport BTEC	NCFE Cambridge National GCSE BTEC
Business & Computing	Business Studies Computer Science Creative Media Production Travel & Tourism	GCSE GCSE BTEC GCSE
Technology	Design & Technology • Product Design • Resistant Materials • Textiles Electronics Food	GCSE GCSE GCSE GCSE GCSE
Alternative Provision	Construction Child Development Health & Fitness	BTEC NCFE NCFE

Twilight Options

To retain curriculum breadth, we offer two twilight courses, which run after school one day a week. These enable students to specialise in the following:

- Science – triple science course (2 hours per week)
- Level 2 Further Maths (1 hour per week)



Things to consider

Specialisation

The school is aware that some students may wish to specialise in some subjects and opt for two subjects from a particular subject area, because that matches their interests and skills. Details about which subject areas allow specialisation are in this booklet.

Applied Learning

Applied Learning courses have a vocational element to them – these are the BTEC, CNat or NCFE courses. They are assessed through a portfolio of evidence (coursework or controlled assessment) and examined units. Learning in these subjects usually has a vocational bias and may simulate the experiences students could have in the workplace.

Modern Foreign Languages

At Imberhorne we attach great importance to the study of languages at all levels in the school. We think it is important that our students see themselves as global citizens. Therefore, we view the acquisition of language skills as a fundamental part of 21st century learning. We hope that many students will continue to study a language at GCSE; and some students will be recommended to do so. Those wishing to study two languages in Key Stage 4 will be able to combine their first language with German.

Progression Routes - Post 16

We encourage every student to do their best and to achieve their potential. To best cater for our diverse student population we wish to clarify what post-16 options are available. Students will progress to post-16 study in a number of ways, according to their skills and preferred learning style. Post-16 choices are important because students may be making such choices with particular careers or degree courses in mind. We encourage students to study a broad and balanced set of subjects in Key Stage 4 to provide the most flexibility for post-16 study. If students have followed courses in English, Maths, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Humanities, Arts, Sports and Technology during Key Stage 4 they will have created an appropriate platform that allows them to specialise according to the demands of a very wide range of university degree courses.

If students have clear career or university objectives in mind at this stage it may be worth considering what subject requirements are expected for degree courses. This information may be accessed through the UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) website. On this website you can search courses to find more detailed information about requirements www.ucas.com




 It's time to
 choose your
 'Options'

Support and Guidance

Support Option

For those students where the curriculum we have described will be too demanding, we also offer a Support Option. This option is primarily intended for those who have been receiving special needs support in Key Stage 3. We will invite students who we feel would be appropriate to choose this option.

Assessment at Key Stage 4

Subjects in Key Stage 4 are generally assessed through examinations and sometimes a coursework component.

Homework

Imberhorne believes that regular homework is associated with a good education. We set homework to help students:

- *Understand, learn and practise what has been covered in school**
- *Learn how to work independently and manage their time**
- *Have opportunities to use materials, ideas and information outside the classroom**
- *make progress and achieve the highest standards they can**

Students will be expected to spend between 1.5 and 2 hours each evening on their homework tasks. We ask parents:

- *To encourage their children to develop a positive approach to homework
- *To provide adequate working conditions
- *To be aware of the homework and coursework deadlines
- *To discuss homework tasks with their children

Subjects with tiered entry

In some subjects, teachers are required to judge which papers are most suitable for each student, taking into account his or her performance in the classroom and in previous assessments. Students are then entered for the appropriate level. Each level of entry provides access to a particular range of grades.

Life

Personal Development lessons cover elements of Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education, plus Careers Education and Guidance. The curriculum includes units on Diversity, Relationships, Healthy Lifestyles, Justice and the Law, Fundamental British Values. In Year 11 students complete a 'Record of Achievement' which focuses on their successes at Imberhorne, personal qualities and skills.



Options at Key Stage 4

Core Curriculum

These are the subjects that all students study:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE 8 lessons (over week A & B)	MATHS 8 lessons (over week A & B)	COMBINED SCIENCE 9 lessons (over week A & B)
CORE P.E. 3 lessons (over week A & B)	R.E. and LIFE 2 lessons (over week A & B)	Students can choose to follow a GCSE R.E. full course using 1 hour of Core P.E. time, instead of Core R.E.

Qualification explanations

GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education; graded from 9-1.
BTEC/NCFE First Award, Cambridge National Award	Work-related qualifications that are equivalent to GCSEs. Students who complete the course are awarded either a pass, merit or distinction.
English Baccalaureate	A measure of school attainment. The Baccalaureate reflects the fact that students have gained GCSE grades, at grade 5 or above, in English Language, Maths, Combined Science, a Humanities subject (History or Geography) and a Modern Foreign Language. <i>The Baccalaureate is not an award and has no value in its own right.</i>

Personalised Curriculum

The core curriculum takes up over half of the timetable. The Options process is how you can personalise the subjects that you study in the remaining lessons. This table shows the subjects offered and it will help if you have this information in front of you when completing the Options process.

LANGUAGES French Spanish German Students in set 1 are recommended to continue with their language to GCSE	HEALTH AND FITNESS Health & Social Care Sport BTEC PE GCSE Only one P.E. based course	TECHNOLOGY Design & Technology <i>Resistant Materials, Product Design, Textiles</i> Electronics Food Students may only choose one Technology course
ARTS Art Dance Drama Music Photography	BUSINESS & COMPUTING Business GCSE Computer Science Creative Media Production Travel & Tourism	HUMANITIES Geography History Students are recommended to choose a Humanity course
SUPPORT Support Option This option is for students who have been recommended to take it	ALTERNATIVE PROVISION Construction Child Development Health & Fitness This option is for students who have been recommended to take it	

Triple Science or Level 2 Further maths can be chosen as a twilight course.



A CORE
SUBJECT

ENGLISH

GCSE Exam board: AQA

What will you study on the course?

The GCSE English course consists of the study of English Language and English Literature. (Students receive two GCSEs.)

While studying English Language, students will read and comprehend a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to develop their analytical skills. Students are encouraged to examine the use of language and structure and their impact on the reader. Through the study of quality texts, students are encouraged to develop their individual writing style, with an emphasis on technical accuracy and adapting style for audience and purpose.

In English Literature, set texts are prescribed by the exam board, AQA.

We study the following:

- *Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet*
- *19th Century: A Christmas Carol*
- *Modern Text: An Inspector Calls*
- *Anthology Poetry: Power and Conflict cluster (provided by the exam board)*

As a department, we encourage students to purchase the texts, as it allows them to annotate as we read and allows them an opportunity to re-read at their convenience. Texts are studied in depth, which includes a close examination of plot, character, themes, social and historical context. Students will also develop their analytical writing skills to help create an informed response.

How will the course be assessed?

GCSE English Language and English Literature are assessed by final exams at the end of Year 11.

English Language is divided into two papers:

- Explorations of Creative Reading and Writing (Paper A) and Perspectives and Viewpoints (Paper B).

Each paper consists of unseen extracts, which provides students an opportunity to demonstrate their analytical skills. In section B of each paper, students showcase their writing skills. Each paper is equally weighted.

English Literature is also divided into two papers:

- Paper 1 assesses Shakespeare and 19th Century texts. Students will be given an extract and be expected to write an essay in response to the question.
- Paper 2 assesses Modern text, Seen Poetry and Unseen Poetry.

For further information, please contact Mrs A Jones, ajones@imberhorne.co.uk





MATHS

GCSE Exam board: AQA

What will you study on the course?

There are 3 assessment objectives:

- Recall and use knowledge of prescribed content.
- Select and apply mathematical methods in a range of contexts.
- Interpret and analyse problems and generate strategies to solve them.

Students will be taught mathematics in the areas of number, algebra, ratio and proportion, geometry and measures, probability and statistics. There is an emphasis on problem solving, explaining answers and justifying choices.

Mathematics is taught in sets. For those making good progress it is possible to be entered for Higher Tier. There is a progress test every half term and sets are regularly reviewed.

Lessons are teacher led with a variety of student activities including use of ICT. Students are expected to use specialist websites for homework and revision, in addition to work set outside of class and in the course textbook. A scientific calculator is essential for all lessons, we recommend the Casio fx-83GTCW or the Casio Classwiz FX-991CW for those considering further mathematics or A-Level.

How will the course be assessed?

Higher Tier -

GCSE Grades 4 – 9

Foundation Tier -

GCSE Grades 1 – 5

All the assessment is through

examination;

there is no coursework.

GCSE Maths has three examination papers (each 1 hour 30 minutes) at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 is non-calculator, and in papers 2 and 3 calculators are allowed.

Level 2 Further Maths (twilight course)

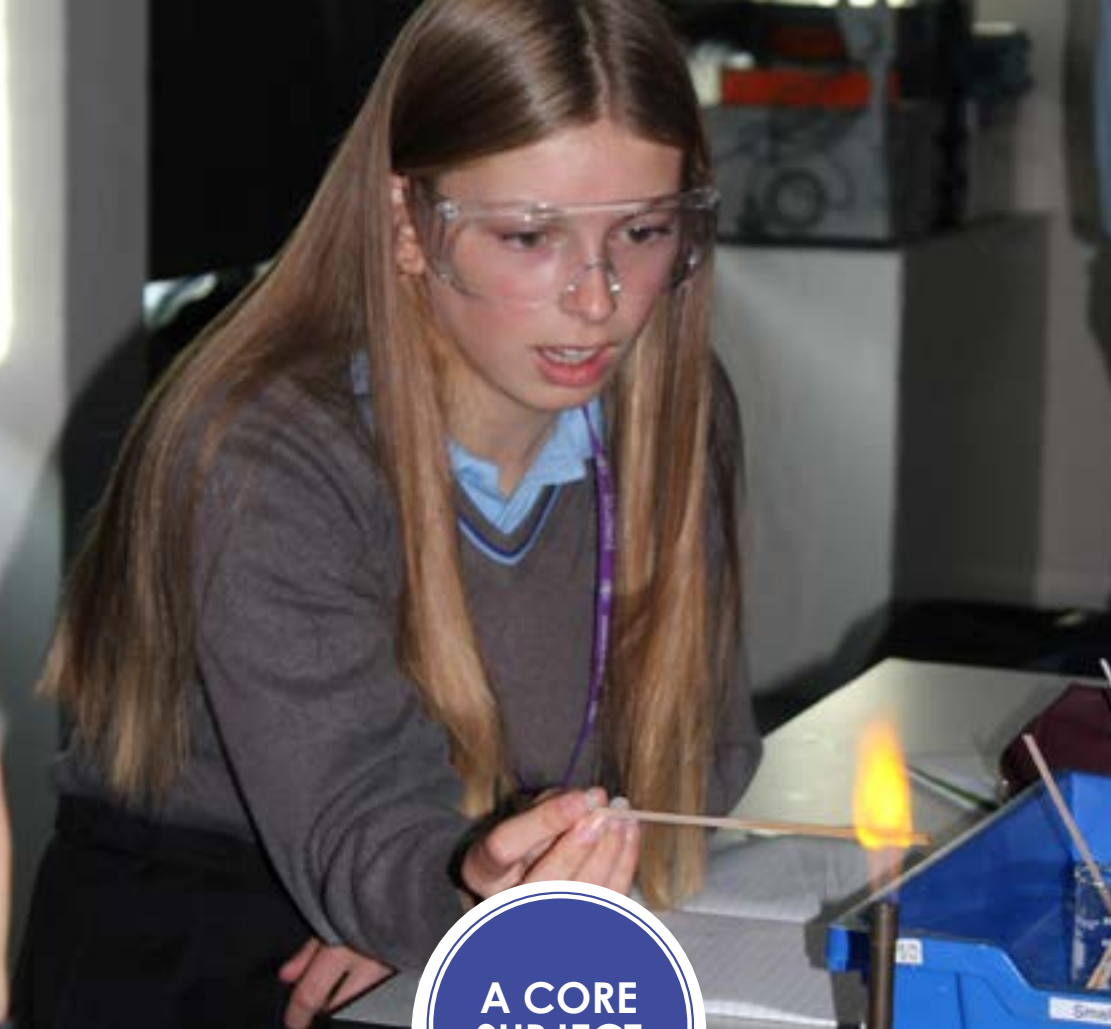
The AQA Level 2 Further Maths course explores and deepens students' knowledge of GCSE maths topics (number, algebra, geometry, and coordinate geometry) and introduces some new topics not seen in GCSE (calculus and matrix transformations). The course improves challenge and enjoyment for high attaining learners and is excellent preparation for A-level maths. Students that study Further Maths often find that it boosts their progress in Maths GCSE, helping them achieve the highest grades.

Level 2 Further Maths is equivalent to a GCSE qualification and is assessed with two exam papers – 1 non-calculator and 1 calculator. Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes. There is no coursework.

The course is suitable for any student working in set 1 who are curious, committed, and passionate about learning maths.

For further information, please contact Mr Cresswell or Mr A Ibrahim
mccresswell@imberhorne.co.uk or aibrahim@imberhorne.co.uk





**A CORE
SUBJECT**

SCIENCE

GCSE Exam board: AQA

What will you study on the course?

Science lessons will involve theory, discussions, practical work, videos and group work. Lessons will be similar in approach to the work done in Science in Key Stage 3. The work will build on Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics studied during Key Stage 3. Practical work will concentrate on the skills involved in the design of experiments, carrying them out, analysing the results and evaluating the work.

Students are encouraged to purchase a revision guide to help with homework and preparation for exams. In addition, a paper study guide is issued for each topic studied. In both Years 10 and 11 there will be discrete topics on Biology, Chemistry and Physics. All students will be taught either GCSE Combined Science or Triple Science.

The 'GCSE Combined Science' is a double award and therefore gives two GCSEs in Science and allows progress to all Science A Level courses.

For students identified as attaining highly from Science during Key Stage 3, there is the opportunity to follow the 'Triple Science' route. Many of these students will have been in the top set Science groups during Year 9, however other committed students have done well on the Triple Science course without being in a Year 9 top set.

The Triple Science route leads to completion of three separate Science GCSEs; Biology, Chemistry and Physics. To allow the students that choose Triple Science to cover the extra content of three rather than two GCSEs, students must attend a 'twilight lesson' for two hours, between 3.10pm and 5pm, once a week. The twilight lesson is in addition to the nine lessons a fortnight for science as part of the core curriculum.

How will the course be assessed?

All Science GCSEs are assessed by final exams at the end of Year 11. The Biology exams make up one third of the available GCSE marks as do the Chemistry and Physics exams.

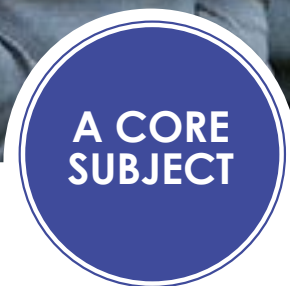
All exams are available at Foundation Tier for students targeted up to a grade 4 or Higher Tier for more challenging exams that allow access up to grade 9.

The Foundation Tier tests are more straightforward but have a 'ceiling' of marks that they can contribute towards a student's total marks.

At all stages, the tier of entry and preparation for assessments will be co-ordinated by the Science teachers.



For further information, please contact
Mrs S Watson
swatson@imberhorne.co.uk



R.E.

The statutory requirements for RE state that all pupils are entitled to be taught religion and worldviews in every year up to and including Year 11.

We follow the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus at Imberhorne. As such, at Key stage 4 we will be focussing on the key skills of 'Analysis and Evaluation' where students will be encouraged to: Express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value. Appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion linking these to British values.

What will you study during Key Stage 4?

You will be introduced to several topics from the GCSE full course syllabus in addition to some philosophical ones. We believe these to be the most relevant to you and society as a whole and we will encourage you to develop your own views on some important moral issues and to develop your critical thinking skills.

In Year 10 we will cover:

Matters of Life and Death:

Sanctity and Quality of Life;
Abortion; Euthanasia and
Beliefs About Life After
Death

Medical Ethics:

Science and the importance of ethics; Fertility Treatments; Genetic Engineering; Saviour siblings and Cloning.

Stewardship and Dominion:

Climate change; Use and abuse of the environment; animal rights
In Year 11 we will cover:

Philosophy: Mind and body dualism;

Personhood; Robots and AI; Moral philosophy (To include a brief introduction to Utilitarianism and Kantian Ethics)

Research Task:

Do Humans need Religion?
To include key questions like: What is the connection between religion and morality? Do humans need faith to make sense of their lives? Are we programmed to believe in a superpower? What are the benefits of religious belief? What are the potential costs/risks? (To include teacher led input about extremism)

This course is NOT assessed

For further information, please contact Mrs N Quick,
nquick@imberhorne.co.uk





R.E.

GCSE FULL COURSE

GCSE Exam board: AQA

This additional provision for R.E., which leads to a full GCSE, sits in the same block as Core P.E. Students will have 2 lessons of Core P.E. per fortnight instead of 3. Choosing to do full course R.E. does not affect other options.

Why study R.E.?

Choose R.E. full course if you are interested in moral and ethical debates and if you enjoy thinking, analysing and debating issues. The course encourages reflection upon common human experiences that raise questions about the meaning and purpose of life. It develops reasoned response to these questions. This course should prove useful to students who hope to go on to study Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology and/or Politics at A Level. R.E. is a useful qualification for anyone who works directly with other people. It is particularly useful for careers in areas such as social work, medicine, personnel work, law and teaching.

What will you study on the course?

The R.E. GCSE course will cover two religions and four philosophical and ethical themes. Students are challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own values and attitudes towards religious issues. Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture.

Students will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these will help prepare students for further study.

Although the syllabus stresses the importance of 'Religious Beliefs and Attitudes', the students are also expected to formulate and express coherently their own opinions too.

PAPER 1: The study of religions:

beliefs, teachings and practices of two religions (Christianity and Buddhism). We arrange two trips to cover much of the syllabus requirement in this area.

PAPER 2: Thematic Studies:

- Religion and life
- Religion, crime and punishment
- Religion, Family and Relationships
- Religion, peace and conflict

How will the course be assessed?

The final assessment, at the end of Year 11 consists of two written exam papers each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes.

For further information, please contact Mrs N Quick
nquick@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

LANGUAGES

French/Spanish/German

GCSE Exam board: Edexcel

Why study a language?

The ability to speak a foreign language is much valued by employers and universities. You will have the opportunity to visit a country where your chosen language is spoken and learning another language is believed to help improve memory and concentration.

What will you study on the course?

You will continue to develop the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition you will be prepared to deal with real life situations abroad, such as going shopping and what to say if you are ill, as well as further developing the topic areas studied at Key Stage 3. Vocabulary and grammar learning will play an important part in all Key Stage 4 language courses, and in order to achieve the highest grades you will be expected to manipulate the language confidently and accurately.

Students who currently study 2 languages:

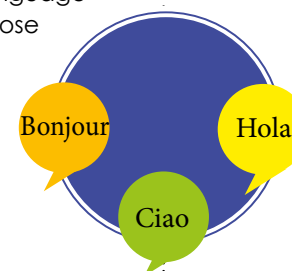
If you wish to continue studying just one language at GCSE, then choose either your first language French or Spanish, or choose German.

If you would like to study two languages, then choose your first language (French or Spanish) plus German as a second option.

How will the course be assessed?

You will be entered for final examinations in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing at either Foundation or the Higher Tier. Each of the skills is worth 25% of the total grade.

For further information, please contact Mrs H Weller or Mrs L Hutcheson hweller@imberhorne.co.uk or lhutcheson@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

ART & DESIGN

GCSE Exam board: Edexcel

Why study Art?

If you enjoy developing your visual skills, being creative, experimenting with different approaches to making Art, visiting galleries, museums, workshops and studios; you are enthusiastic and imaginative, then our GCSE Art and Design is the ideal subject for you.

This course provides students with opportunities to explore their interests in art and design in ways that are stimulating, personally relevant and developmental in nature. Students develop their skills and have the opportunity to explore and respond to our visual surroundings whilst developing their creative and expressive abilities. They will increase their understanding of the place of art and design in history and in today's society.

This course is essential for those students who wish to progress to A Level in Art at Sixth Form. These courses can lead on to university degrees and a wide range of careers in the creative industries.

What will you study on the course?

Students will learn to:

- apply a creative approach to problem solving.
- consider and develop original ideas from initiation to realisation.

- analyse critically their own work and the work of others.
- express individual thoughts and choices confidently.
- take risks, experiment and learn from mistakes.

How will the course be assessed?

The Art and Design course is assessed in two components:

- Unit 1: 60% Personal Portfolio - internally set and marked; evidence of working in at least two disciplines should be presented.
- Unit 2: 40% Externally set task. The theme for this project is externally set. Students will compile a project spanning over ten weeks in order to respond to the given theme whilst meeting the assessment objectives.

Both units are marked using four assessment objectives. These can be summed up as: Develop, Review/Experiment, Record and Present.

For further information, please contact Mrs R McElvenny rmcelvenny@imberhorne.co.uk





DANCE

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Dance?

Students will develop movement as a medium of expression and communication in the performance, creation and appreciation of dance. Students who opt for GCSE Dance need to demonstrate the potential to involve themselves in the study and application of dance. The course will require commitment and energy but in return, the rewards will be exciting. Confidence as both a choreographer and performer will increase as skills develop but it is important that all students show a commitment to improving their own dance technique through rehearsals. GCSE Dancers must also show a willingness to contribute to group choreography with a variety of peers and be willing to share ideas and take on feedback from both peers and staff.

What will you study on the course?

Both the theory and practical aspects of dance are studied. Students will develop; a deeper understanding of what it is like to be a dancer, the different choreographic devices and movement components used in dance and how to effectively create expressive choreography. Students will study 6 different professionally choreographed dances and be required to use their knowledge of them to create both practical work and be able to critically analyse them in the written exam.

As part of the performance element, students will have to learn four set dances and perform two of them as a solo assessment.

These will require students to consider and refine their physical and expressive dance skills in order to achieve the best performance they can and to develop mental skills which will aid them in the rehearsal phases of lessons. The other two will be used to create a duet or trio which will act as the third form of practical performance and technique assessment. Finally, as part of the choreographic stage of the course, students will learn a variety of techniques for building and structuring choreography in response to a given stimulus. Students will then draw from these to create their own choreography.

How will the course be assessed?

Students will be expected to write critically about dance and perform different dance works set by the exam board as well as those they have created themselves. There is one written exam, students are predominantly assessed on their practical ability. The practical assessment pieces will have strong links to professional dance works.

Examined components:

- Component 1: 60%
Solo performance x 2 (1 min each)
- Trio performance (3.5 mins)
- Choreography
- Solo (2.5 mins) or Group (3.5 mins)
- Component 2: 40%
 - Dance Appreciation – Written exam (1hr 30 mins)

For further information, please contact
Mrs K Brinkhurst
kbrinkhurst@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

DRAMA

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Drama?

GCSE Drama is an immensely fun course which provides students with a huge range of transferable key skills which are invaluable in the world of work and in further education opportunities. Students frequently work in groups to create imaginative performance pieces. During the creation of performance work, students develop skills in communication, negotiation, working to deadlines, problem solving, decision making, creativity and empathy. The key skills in performance are confidence, projection, self-control, thinking-on-your-feet and awareness. Within the written aspects of the course, transferable skills include analysis, evaluation, research and reflection. This course is wonderful for students wishing to pursue a career on the stage or screen but, fundamentally, the course enhances skills that all students can use in a variety of different ways in their futures outside of drama.

What will you study on the course?

Students will practically explore a scripted play (Blood Brothers) and gain a deep understanding of the play's characters, plot, themes and design elements. In groups, they will perform extracts of this play and complete written responses. Through studying this text, students will also gain a good knowledge of theatrical terminology, stage-craft techniques and designing for theatre. Students will also work in groups to devise and

perform an original piece of drama from a given stimulus and will study and perform extracts from a second scripted play.

Although most students will be assessed as actors in performance, those who have a strong interest in technical theatre are able to be assessed in lighting or sound.

How will the course be assessed?

Devised performance: 40%

- Students will research and explore a stimulus, work collaboratively and create their own devised drama. This coursework unit will be assessed via their written process and performance.

Performing scripted work: 20%

- Students develop and apply theatrical skills in acting or design by presenting a showcase of two extracts from a performance text.

Written Examination: 40%

- Students will practically explore a performance text to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of drama and will answer questions on this text. They will also analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance and it is an expectation on the course that students will see at least two professional productions.

For further information, please contact

Mr J Watson

jwatson@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

MUSIC

GCSE Exam board: EDUQAS

Why study Music?

The GCSE Music course provides exciting opportunities to develop and extend the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at Key Stage 3. It gives students the opportunity to make music, both individually and in groups, to develop a life-long interest in music that can progress to further study. Many universities and employers regard music as a highly valued GCSE. The course is challenging yet extremely rewarding.

The vital pre-requisites for the course are a love of music and a willingness to explore a variety of musical styles. Students need to play an instrument or sing to a good standard (minimum grade 3). Students who do not meet these criteria should discuss the course suitability with Mr Williams. Students are expected to have independent instrumental or vocal lessons throughout the two years of study where possible. There is an expectation to participate in the extra-curricular opportunities within the department.

What will you study on the course?

The GCSE course has three elements: listening and appraising, performing and composing.

A wide variety of music

genres are studied through four study areas. These are Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music. The composition and performance aspects of the course allow the flexibility to concentrate on the genres of music which interest students most.

How will the course be assessed?

The Music course is assessed in three components:

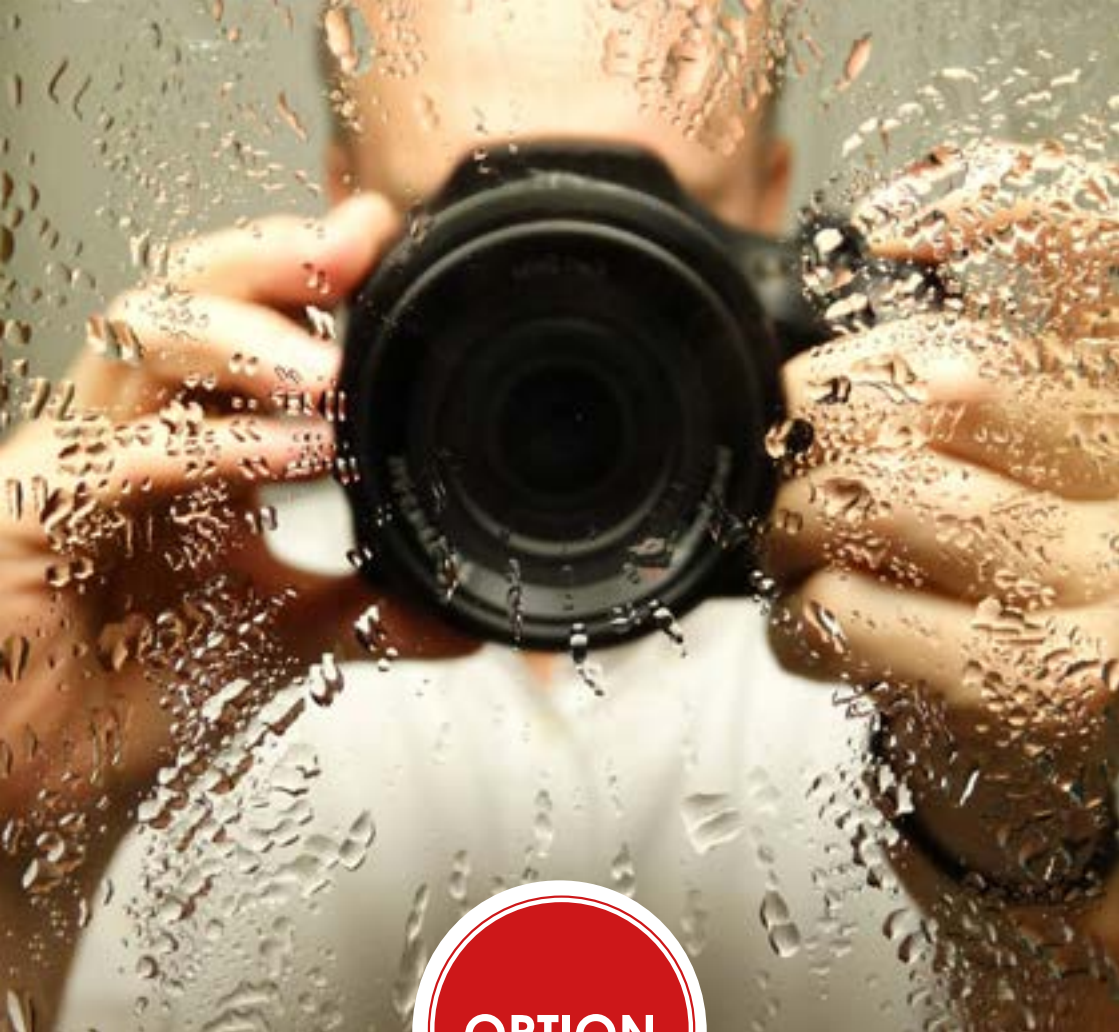
Performance: (30%) solo and ensemble performance submitted in advance.

Composition: (30%) two compositions submitted in advance

Listening and Appraising: (40%) a listening exam: students are expected to answer questions on musical excerpts both familiar and unfamiliar.

For further information, please contact Mr R Williams
rwilliams@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

PHOTOGRAPHY

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Photography?

If you are creative and diverse in your thinking, enjoy setting up scenes, taking pictures or the digital arts then GCSE Photography is the perfect course for you to really expand these skills. The processes and techniques that you will undertake on the GCSE Photography course will provide foundation to enable you to pursue future careers within the creative industries which require digital and lens-based creativity.

Students will have the opportunity to explore and respond to various themes through creative means, ranging from setting up photoshoots, developing camera techniques, understanding the use of lighting and angles and developing photoshop and digital manipulation techniques. Students will also have the opportunity to receive an introduction to traditional photographic ways of working such as exploring cyanotypes and dark room processes.

The GCSE photography allows students to creatively express themselves, interpreting the world around them in a visual form. Students will take inspiration from both contemporary and traditional perspectives to underpin their ideas and processes, whilst building a portfolio of work which can be used for college, apprenticeships, and future university applications.

What will you study on the course?

Students will learn to:

- Apply a creative approach to problem solving.
- Consider and develop original ideas from initiation to realisation.
- Critical analysis skills, looking at the work of others and through self-reflection.
- Express individual thoughts and choices confidently.
- Take risk, experiments and learn from mistakes

How will the course be assessed?

The Photography GCSE is broken down into two components.

Component 1: 60% Personal Portfolio. This is an internally set projects where students will undertake a project in order to meet all assessment objectives outline by the exam board. The personal portfolio consists of work made over the course of the GCSE and is cumulative.

Component 2: 40% Externally set task. The theme for this project is externally set. Students will compile a project spanning over ten weeks in order to respond to the given theme whilst meeting the assessment objectives.

For further information, please contact Miss Sassi
jsassi@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

GEOGRAPHY

GCSE Exam board: Edexcel

Why study Geography?

Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today.

So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the spread of disease, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation of geographers.

What will you study on the course?

In Geography, you will acquire a variety of skills throughout the course including literacy, numeracy and ICT, graphical, cartographic and photographic skills.

Fieldwork forms an integral part of the course where you will spend 2 days out of school completing human and physical fieldwork at the end of Year 10.

Students are encouraged to purchase the revision guide, exam question booklet and mark scheme which will aid their learning throughout the course.

How will the course be assessed?

The final exams at the end of Year 11 will consist of 3 papers:

- Paper 1: Global Geography Issues
Section A: Hazardous Earth
Section B: Development dynamics
Section C: Challenges of an urbanising world 1hr 30mins
- Paper 2: UK Geographical
Section A: The UK's evolving physical landscape, including a general section, coasts, rivers and UK Issues-Flooding
Section B: The UK's evolving human landscape
Section C1: Fieldwork in a physical environment - Coasts
Sections C2: Fieldwork in a human environment - Urban 1hr 30mins
- Paper 3: People and Environment Issues - Making Geographical Decisions
DME: Sections A (biosphere), B (forests), C (energy) and D (decision) 1hr 30mins

For further information, please contact Mr D Monckton
dmonckton@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

HISTORY

GCSE Exam board: Edexcel

Why study History?

History is a highly valued subject and is seen as a useful qualification for anyone considering a career that involves making decisions, such as law, personnel management, politics, social work, journalism or the civil service. However, it can and has led to students acquiring employment in fields as broad as the computer industry and performing arts.

The GCSE course is also good preparation for A Levels in Government and Politics, Economics, Psychology and of course History. It will train you to think, analyse, research, debate, discuss, provide explanations and improves literacy. Choose History if you enjoy finding out about events and people from the past and how the past shapes the world you live in.

What will you study on the course?

There are three main periods studied.

- The Medieval period (500-1500)
- Early Modern (1450-1750)
- Modern History (1700-present day).

These cover local, British, European and World history.

In Year 10 you will study:

- Medicine in Britain 1250-present day & the British sector of the Western Front, 1914-1918

- Early Elizabethan England 1558-88

In Year 11 you will study:

- Weimar & Nazi Germany 1918-39

- Superpower Relations & the Cold War 1941-1991

How will the course be assessed?

This course will be examined by three exam papers and these will be sat at the end of Year 11.

- **Paper 1**— Medicine in Britain 1250-present day & the British sector of the Western Front, 1914-1918: Injuries, treatments & the trenches (30%)

1 hour 15 minutes

- **Paper 2**— Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588 & Superpower Relations & the Cold War 1941-1991 (40%)

1 hour 45 minutes

- **Paper 3**—Weimar & Nazi Germany, 1918-1939 (30%)

1 hour 20 minutes

For further information, please contact Mrs J Swan jswan@imberhome.co.uk





HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Cambridge National Level 1 / 2
Exam board: OCR

Please note that students with low attendance will not be allowed to choose this course due to the assessment requirements for each unit.

Why study Health & Social Care?

This course is for those considering careers in the Health and Social Care sector or interested in the topics studied. Much of the NEA assessment is based on portfolio work and will suit students who like to take responsibility for their own learning. Students taking this course can extend their studies in the Sixth Form with the popular and successful Level 3 course in Health and Social Care.

What will you study on the course?

Supporting individuals through life events

(NEA completed in Year 10)

In this unit you will learn about life stages and the factors that affect them. You will focus on one life stage and understand different life events and the impact they have on physical, social/emotional and socio-economic aspects in an individual's life.

You will be required to interview an individual you know about a life event they have experienced and research the service providers and practitioners that can support them, recommend support and justify how this will meet the needs of your chosen individual.

Health promotion campaigns

(Portfolio completed in Year 10&11)

In this unit you will explore chosen public health challenge the country faces, the approaches used to encourage health and wellbeing and the importance of this to society.

You will understand factors affecting a healthy lifestyle so that campaigns can be

designed to target different groups of people. You will also learn how to plan, deliver and evaluate your own small-scale health promotion campaign.

All students will be required to present their campaign on their own to an individual or select group of people.

Principles of care in health and social care settings

(Exam completed at end of Year 11)

In this unit you will learn about the importance of the rights of service users, person-centred values and how to apply them. You will also learn about the importance of effective communication skills when providing care and support to service users in care settings and the procedures and measures used to protect individuals such as safeguarding, hygiene and security.

How will the course be assessed?

External exam:

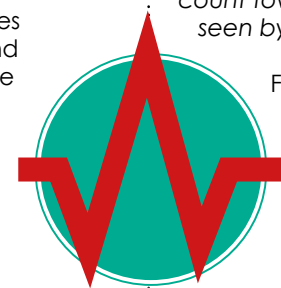
Principles of care in health and social care settings (40% of total qualification).

Other two units are assessed internally (each worth 30% of total qualification) and then seen by an examiner.

Each unit includes a practical assessment of students' skills relating to topics covered.

Please note: all year 10 work will count towards final grade and will be seen by an examiner.

For further information, please contact Mrs S Collyer, scollier@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

P.E. GCSE

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study P.E.?

This is an ideal course for those students with a passion and talent for sport and provides a good grounding for further studies in the Sixth Form. It is essential that students realise that most lessons are classroom based (theoretical). As part of the course students must submit evidence of playing up to three different sports, at a good level (ideally club level and above). To secure good grades students should preferably participate in competitive sport and ideally represent clubs outside of school, the criteria they must meet for the practical components are demanding.

What will you study on the course?

The course combines the theory and practical elements of physical education. The theory component deals with human anatomy and physiology, the effects of exercise, fitness and training on the body, biomechanics, sports psychology and it also deals with sport in a social and historical context. The application of these components to physical education and sport is an important aspect of the course. Students will study a number of physical activities during core P.E. lessons and need to be aware that there is a limited number of sports to choose from in which to be assessed. Sports that cannot be catered

for on site can still be assessed such as swimming and skiing. The practical elements consist of being the performer/player of a sport and students are expected to be able to demonstrate practical skills in controlled practice and match situations.

How will the course be assessed?

- 60% written examination at the end of Year 11.

There are two exam papers based on the theory components studied in Years 10 and 11.

- 30% of the course is school based practical assessment of skills and knowledge in 3 areas of sport.

- 10% is written coursework. This is based on the observation and analysis of yourself or another performer.

All GCSE P.E. students are encouraged to obtain the GCSE P.E. options package which consists of a white polo top, work booklets, a revision guide and a textbook to be kept at home to help with homework and revision. The cost for this is approximately £40 and it ensures students are prepared for the two year course.

For further information, please contact
Mr P Byrne pbyrne@imberhorne.co.uk





SPORT BTEC

BTEC Exam board: Pearson
BTEC Level 1/2

Why study BTEC Sport?

The course will provide students with a stepping stone to a career in the sports industry. In addition, this course will develop skills required in the work place such as: working as a team, events organising, time management, leading a team, health and safety awareness and presentation skills.

What will you study on the course?

Students should be aware that the course is not all practical; the majority of the lessons are classroom based. Therefore, students must be able to meet deadlines and to work well independently. It is also important that students applying for this course have a sound knowledge of sport, exercise, fitness and keep abreast of current sporting issues. Successful students will ensure that all assignments are done to the best of their ability. It is expected that students will spend several hours a week on assignments, homework, research or presentations. If deadlines are not met, students are expected to stay after school to meet course expectations.

How will the course be assessed?

- **Component 1**
Preparing participants to take part in sport and physical activity.
- **Component 2**
Taking part and improving the sporting performance of other participants.
- **Component 3**
Developing fitness to improve the performance of other participants in sport and physical activity.

The course is divided into 3 components. Each unit requires students to hand in a variety of assignments that are assessed. One component requires students to sit an examination during Year 11. Grades range from; Pass to Distinction*(star).

For further information, please contact Mrs N Hughes
nhughes@imberhome.co.uk





OPTION

COMPUTER SCIENCE

GCSE Exam board: OCR

Why study Computer Science?

This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work, how they are used and to develop computer programming and problem-solving skills. You will build on the knowledge and understanding gained at Key Stage 3 to learn and think about real world applications. This is a challenging course with a high level of technical and theoretical content. There is also an element of mathematics – both arithmetic and logic. Students considering this course may also wish to consider Creative iMedia as an option. It is advised that you should discuss this with your Key Stage 3 Computing teacher to determine the best option for you. If you take a GCSE in Computer Science and then go on to study the subject at A Level or university you will have an advantage over other students who are only starting the subject at these higher levels. The increasing importance of I.T. means that there is a growing demand for people who are qualified to work in the industry.

What will you study on the course?

The course will help you learn about critical thinking, analysis and problem solving. These skills can be transferred to other subjects and are used in many areas of day-to-day life.

The Computer Systems and Programming will teach you the theory about a wide range of issues such as hardware and software, the representation of data in a computer system, databases, computer networking and programming. In the Programming Project you will design, code and test a solution to three tasks using the Python programming language.

How will the course be assessed?

The final exams at the end of Year 11 consist of:

- Computer Systems - Exam 50%
- Computational thinking, algorithms and programming - Exam 50%

For further information, please contact Miss R Hillman
rhillman@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

BUSINESS STUDIES

GCSE Exam board: Edexcel

Why study Business Studies?

This course helps prepare students for further study or entry into the business world, particularly for roles where they will be expected to use communication and I.T. skills, liaise with customers and carry out customer facing roles. Students will be encouraged to acquire a range of practical skills, including decision-making, problem-solving, communication and the quantification and management of information. Students taking this course would be able to extend their studies in the Sixth Form by following the popular and successful Business Studies or Economics courses.

What will you study on the course?

There are two themes:

• Theme 1 - Introduction to Small Business

This theme concentrates on the key issues and skills involved in enterprise. It provides students with a framework to consider the marketing, financial, human and operational issues involved in starting and running a small business. It is divided into five topics; Enterprise and entrepreneurship, Spotting a business opportunity, Putting a business idea in practice, Making the business effective and Understanding external influences on business.

• Theme 2 - Building a Business

This theme builds on theme 1 and examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. Theme 2 also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows. It is divided into five topics; Growing the business, Making marketing decisions, Making operational decisions, Making financial decisions and Making human resources decisions. Theme 1 will be taught in Year 10 whilst theme 2 will be completed during Year 11.

How will the course be assessed?

Both themes are assessed by final exams at the end of Year 11. The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions. Questions will also be based on business contexts given in the paper. Themes 1 and 2 are equally weighted accounting for 50% each of the GCSE.

For further information, please contact Mr C Mumby
cmumby@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION

BTEC Exam board: Pearson BTEC Level 1/2

Please note that students with low attendance will not be allowed to choose this course due to the assessment requirements for each unit.

Why study Creative media?

Many students develop an early interest in designing for the screen; creating digital images and the production of short film. The aim of this course is to take a closer look at a range of media platforms and to develop a critical understanding of the media world around us and how different audiences read/consume media products in day-to-day life. This course is an ideal grounding for those wishing to develop practical design skills while gaining an insight into the role that media plays in today's society.

What will you study on the course?

Students will learn about the pre-production process by planning a digital media product for the publishing industry. Students will conduct some independent research to write a detailed report on how and why pre-production and production processes are vital to the completion of a magazine cover and double page spread. This course will look at a range of photoshop design skills along with practical magazine layout and structural theory. Students will build their knowledge on how to manage a professional project from start to finish. Students will develop valuable skills such as working towards deadlines from pre-production through to the creation stage, building upon practical software skills. Students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the media world through the study of a wide range of media products from all media platforms. This area of study will focus on a theoretical understanding of the media world. Students will look at a range of media theories that can be applied ranging from representation or audience reception and narrative codes to semiotics. Specific Media Language will become a key focus with a range of specific terminology being used throughout the course. Whilst the tasks are structured, students will need to develop research skills and show creative initiative when carrying out the assessments. They will need to be able to work independently and meet deadlines.



How will the course be assessed?

The course consists of three components:

Component 1 30% – Exploring Media Products – This unit is internally assessed and consists of the theoretical side to their study. Learners will develop their understanding of how media products create meaning for their audiences. Learners will examine existing products and explore media production techniques. For the assessment students will be given a set window where they are expected to produce a task in response to a brief. The allocated time for the assessment is 10 hours. This first assessment typically runs in the Spring Term of Year 10.

Component 2 30% – Developing Digital Media Production Skills - This unit is also internally assessed. Learners will develop and apply skills and techniques in media production processes by creating a media product from one of the following sectors: audio/moving image, print or interactive design. Students will be given a set window where they are expected to produce a task in response to a brief. The allocated time for the assessment is 10 hours. This second assessment typically runs in the Autumn Term of Year 11.

Component 3 40% – Responding to a Commission - This unit is externally assessed, however, not in the traditional examination format. Students will complete 10 hours of Controlled Assessment. During this assessment students will be set a specific brief by the exam board, tasking them to create a new product fitting the brief outline. Students will use skills from Components 1 and 2 to complete this assessment. This is their final assessment and is completed in the Spring Term of Year 11.

For further information, please contact Mrs E Newnham
enewnham@imberhorne.co.uk



OPTION

TRAVEL & TOURISM

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2

Why study Travel & Tourism?

This exciting course will give you a taste of the diverse world of Travel and Tourism. You'll learn about:

• Unit 1: Understanding Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations:

- o Exploring different types of travel and tourism organisations (e.g., airlines, hotels, tour operators, attractions).
- o Investigating the characteristics and features of different destinations.
- o Understanding the impact of technology on the travel and tourism industry.

• Unit 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism:

- o Delivering excellent customer service in a variety of travel and tourism settings.
- o Handling customer enquiries and complaints effectively.
- o Understanding the importance of customer satisfaction.

• Unit 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism:

- o Examining the factors that influence travel and tourism, such as economic, social, cultural, and environmental factors.
- o Understanding the impact of global issues on the travel and tourism industry.
- o Exploring the principles of sustainable tourism.

What will you study on the course?

• Practical Activities:

- o Role-playing customer service scenarios in a realistic travel environment.
- o Designing and presenting travel itineraries and marketing campaigns.

o Using industry-standard software for tasks such as creating brochures and presentations.

• Research Projects / Pearson Set Assignments (PSAs)

- o Conducting independent research into specific areas of the travel and tourism industry.
- o Analysing case studies and real-world examples.

o Developing and presenting research findings effectively.

• Guest Speakers:

- o Hearing from industry professionals such as travel agents, airline staff, and tour operators.
- o Gaining insights into career pathways and industry trends.

How will the course be assessed?

• Unit 1: Understanding Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations:

One or more assignments, such as a research project, presentation, or case study.

• Unit 2: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism:

One or more assignments, such as a research project, presentation, or case study.

• Unit 3: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism:

Terminal External Exam

For further information, please contact Mrs N Hughes
nhughes@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY WITH PRODUCT DESIGN

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Product Design?

Do you enjoy: Thinking creatively? Problem solving? Designing Products of the future?

On this course you will gain an understanding of why products are designed the way they are. You will design products using modern technologies such as laser cutting and 3D printing. Develop and test ideas through modelling-making and prototyping. Product Design will build on skills learnt at Key Stage 3 and encourages students to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of physical and digital modelling techniques.

What will you study on the course?

Students will study Core Technology which revisits knowledge and experience gained during Key Stage 3 in all areas of Technology except Food. However, most of the course will focus on the students' specialism—Product Design, where building skills, designing and making products will take place.

The Product Design course content will include:

- How to work to a brief and design specifications, and work with a client or target audience by taking their needs and wants into consideration during the design and making process.

- How to plan, sketch and draw ideas using traditional technical drawing and illustration techniques.

- The use of CAD and CAM to realise your designs, to manufacture precise and accurately made prototypes reflecting industrial manufacturing methods.

How will the course be assessed?

In Year 10 students will undertake a series of modules or mini projects. Each module or project will be assessed to monitor student progress.

At the end of Year 11, students will be examined: 50% written paper, 50% coursework

Students must undertake a "substantial design and make task" based on contexts supplied by the exam board. This coursework is largely completed in lesson time and assessed internally.

For further information, please contact Mr J Rounding jrounding@imberhome.co.uk.





OPTION

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY WITH RESISTANT MATERIALS

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Resistant Materials?

Design and Technology is a technical and creative subject that reflects the industrialised world we live in today; it is a subject that has relevance to and impact on everything people do every day, from driving their cars to using their phones, as they use and work with products and items that have been designed and produced commercially.

Students will gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the world we live in and how we interact with it, becoming a more informed user and developing design skills to think more creatively when generating ideas and seeking solutions. GCSE Design and Technology builds on experience gained during Key Stage 3 and covers a wide range of activities and knowledge relating to the world of design and manufacturing.

They will learn about designing, analysing products and materials selection in a variety of contexts including industrial and commercial practice, the importance of quality control and health & safety issues. The subject content covers a wide range of theory relevant to the world of design in general, including social and environmental considerations, manufacturing systems, study of design styles and designers, mechanical and electronic systems, properties of materials and communication skills.

What will you study on the course?

The Resistant Materials route offers a more traditional approach to the world of designing and making, concentrating more on workshop based techniques, skills

and materials when manufacturing products or prototypes to realise design ideas. Incorporating some modern design tools such as CAD/CAM to give students an introduction to commercial, industrial manufacturing, the resistant materials course has a firm footing in drawing and making things by hand to develop their understanding of first principles when creating their design solutions. In addition to the core technical principals, covering all the areas of Design and Technology theory, students will develop their knowledge and understanding of a more focussed range of specialist materials and processes used in Design and Technology to prepare them for the exam and coursework.

How will the course be assessed?

Students are expected to demonstrate their understanding of the theory content throughout the NEA and during a single exam paper. These are each worth 50% of the final award. A large part of year 11 will be spent completing their NEA during which students must undertake a "substantial design and make task" based on contexts supplied by the exam board. This is largely completed in lesson time, worked on as home work and is assessed by their teacher. Students are encouraged to utilise a range of materials and techniques to demonstrate their skills and knowledge fully in the completion of this task.

For further information, please contact
Mr R Jeffs
rjeffs@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY WITH TEXTILES

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Textiles?

If you have an interest in the world of fashion and textiles design, then studying Textiles could be for you. Textiles Technology enables creative and practical students to build on their Key Stage 3 knowledge, allowing them to achieve a GCSE Technology with a Textiles specialism. The course involves designing and making products and garments inspired by studies of fashion and the world of creative textiles, drawing on a range of source material from history, fashion genres to literature and the natural world.

What will you study on the course?

Students will study the fashion industry, the world of haute couture, famous designers, past and present and how fashion is designed and created for the High Street. They will learn to present work effectively with the use of mood boards and how to create fashion drawings to communicate ideas. Students will make prototypes, garments and products using commercial patterns and then learn the basic practical skills that will help construct their design, e.g. using the sewing machine and other equipment, also learning about the way fabric is made and how it is used to make a variety of items. Through practical work, students will learn how fabric has different properties and functions and how to choose fabric

for a particular purpose. This will include the study of revolutionary new technical and smart fabrics designed for a range of practical uses. Students will learn how to do more complex decorative techniques, e.g batik, tie dye, silk painting and sublimation transfer printing, enabling the addition of creative designs to their garments. They will use ICT to research and study new ideas and to develop pattern designs for fabric. Bulk manufacturing, fabric recycling will also be investigated. There will be a strong emphasis on creativity and innovation. In Year 10, students will study a number of short projects that are designed to give students the knowledge to answer the written paper in Year 11. In Year 11, students focus on their "Substantial design & make task". This is a design project which involves individual research, practical work and development of students' own ideas.

How will the course be assessed?

The GCSE exam is made up of 50% coursework, with the written exam making up the remaining 50%. In Year 10, the work will be assessed against the GCSE criteria through both practical and written tasks.

For further information, please contact Miss M Lawlor
mlawlor@imberhorne.co.uk





OPTION

ELECTRONICS

GCSE Exam board: Eduqas

Why study Electronics?

If you are curious about how things work and have a keen mind for applying what you learn to solve real-world problems, then Electronics is the perfect subject for you. It can be thought of as the practical application of scientific principles and provides a good introduction to a career in any engineering discipline. The key characteristics of an Electronics student are creativity, problem-solving, and an enquiring mind.

Studying Electronics at GCSE is the perfect stepping stone to further study in this exciting and constantly evolving field, allowing possible progression to A Level Electronics and providing a good grounding for studying any engineering discipline to degree level.

Electrical and Electronic Engineering graduates contribute to a variety of sectors and industries such as communications, film and TV, robotics, aerospace, automotive, electrical power generation, marine engineering and the built environment. There is a national shortage of engineers so job and pay prospects are excellent as are opportunities to travel and work abroad.

What will you study on the course?

The course is delivered through a mixture of theory and practical lessons. In a typical lesson students will

learn about a specific electronic component or sub-system and then reinforce the knowledge through practical activities. Topics studied include sensing & switching circuits, timing circuits, digital and analogue systems, amplifiers, logic systems, control circuits, and more...

Electronic circuits are built and tested in a variety of ways, e.g. using prototype boards, stripboard, Printed Circuit Boards, and CAD simulation software such as Control Studio and Circuit Wizard.

In the Autumn term of Year 11 students will design and make an electronic system to solve a problem of their choice. This project forms 20% of the final GCSE grade. Past projects have included alarm systems, electronic games, automatic pet feeders, temperature and light level sensors, environmental control systems, electronic scoreboards, etc. The only limit is your imagination!

How will the course be assessed?

Component 1- Discovering Electronics (40%): written examination, 1 hour 30 minutes
Component 2- Application of Electronics (40%): written examination, 1 hour 30 minutes
Component 3- Extended system design and realisation tasks (20%): coursework (Non-exam assessment)

For further information, please contact
Mr J Turner jturner@imberhome.co.uk





OPTION

FOOD

GCSE Exam board: AQA

Why study Food?

This is an exciting GCSE which provides you with essential practical cooking skills for life. It will also allow you to bring your creativity into the kitchen and keep up to date with the latest food trends. Apart from the practical skills which you will learn, it has several cross-curricular links with other subjects including numeracy (weighing, nutritional analysis, costings); computer skills; literacy; science (e.g. food science; heat transfer methods; genetic modification; bacteria; yeasts; raising agents); geography (where food is grown; food security; growing population; climate change; sustainability; international cuisines and cultures); history; languages; physical education and health & social care. There is a strong emphasis on practical skills linked to nutrition and healthy eating throughout the course. Students are encouraged to be creative and develop their ideas independently.

There is a focus on practical cookery skills throughout the course which gives students a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.

What will you study on the course?

The course teaches the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. The course is divided into

five topic areas; Food, nutrition and health, Food science, Food safety, Factors affecting food choice and Food provenance.

How will the course be assessed?

In Year 10, students will study all five topic areas with a high degree of practical work. This will enable the students to have the theoretical knowledge to answer the written exam paper and practical skills to use in their non-exam assessments, both in Year 11. In Year 11, students will focus on their two non-exam practical assessments.

Written exam in Year 11 – 50% of total marks, 1 hour 45 mins.

Non-exam Assessment – 50% of total marks – 2 tasks:

Task 1 (15%): Food investigation – A practical investigation into the students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Task 2 (35%): Food preparation assessment – Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food with the application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes, following experimentation and development.

Students will prepare a written report for each practical task.



For further information, please contact
Miss M Lawlor mlawlor@imberhorne.co.uk



**INVITE
ONLY**

BTEC CONSTRUCTION

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2

Tech Award in Construction and the Built Environment QN: 603/7051/8

Why study Construction?

This exciting course will equip you with the knowledge and skills needed for a successful career in the construction and built environment sector. You'll learn about:

• Unit 1: Understanding Construction Technology:

- o Exploring different construction materials and techniques.
- o Understanding construction drawings, plans, and specifications.
- o Investigating the use of technology in the construction industry, including Building Information Modelling (BIM).

• Unit 2: Construction in Practice: (Brickwork & Carpentry and Joinery)

- o Learning about health and safety procedures in the construction industry.
- o Understanding construction regulations, standards, and best practices.
- o Investigating different construction roles and career pathways.

• Unit 3: Construction and Design:

- o Exploring design principles and their application in construction projects.
- o Developing design ideas for simple construction projects, considering factors like sustainability, client needs, and budget constraints.
- o Understanding the importance of sustainable construction practices and their impact on the environment.

What will you study?

• Practical Activities:

- o Working with construction materials and tools (under supervision).
- o Creating simple construction models and prototypes.
- o Developing design ideas for construction projects using CAD software or other relevant tools.
- o Visiting construction sites (where possible) to observe construction processes and

learn from industry professionals.

• Research Projects / Pearson Set Assignments (PSAs)

- o Investigating different aspects of the construction industry, such as sustainable building methods, construction technologies, and career pathways.
- o Researching building regulations and sustainable construction practices.
- o Analysing case studies of successful construction projects.

• Guest Speakers:

- o Hearing from industry professionals such as builders, architects, engineers, and construction managers.
- o Gaining insights into career pathways in the construction industry.

How will I be assessed?

• Unit 1: Understanding Construction Technology:

- o Assessment: External assessment set and marked by Pearson, completed under supervised conditions. The assessment will be completed in 1.5 hours within the period timetabled by Pearson. 60 marks

• Unit 2: Construction in Practice:

- o Assessment: Non-exam internal assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson. The Pearson-set Assignment will be completed in approximately 8 hours of supervised assessment. 60 marks.

• Unit 3: Construction and Design:

- o Assessment: Non-exam internal assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson. The Pearson-set Assignment will be completed in approximately 2 hours of monitored preparation and 6 hours of supervised assessment. 60 marks.



For further information, please contact Mr J Taw
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**INVITE
ONLY**

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

NCFE CACHE Level 1/2

Why study Child Development?

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care in the Early Years is designed for learners who want an introduction to child development and care that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the early years sector or progress onto further study.

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care in the Early Years complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14 to 16 year olds studying key stage 4 (KS4) curriculum who are interested in the early years sector. This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded at level 1 pass/merit/distinction and level 2 pass/merit/distinction* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5 to 1).

Qualification structure

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully achieve all learning outcomes from the single graded mandatory unit. Mandatory units
Understanding child development and care in the early years

Content areas

Content area 1: Child development
Content area 2: Factors that influence the child's development

Content area 3: Care routines, play and activities to support the child
Content area 4: Early years provision
Version 1.0 November 2021

Visit ncfe.org.uk Call 0191 239 8000

Content area 5: Legislation, policies and procedures in the early years

Content area 6: Expectations of the early years practitioner

Content area 7: Roles and responsibilities within early years settings

Content area 8: The importance of observations in early years childcare

Content area 9: Planning in early years childcare.

Assessment

The qualification has **2 assessments** externally-set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment and one written examined assessment.

1 hour 30 minutes
examined assessment

- 14 hours non-exam assessment
Non-exam assessment (NEA): (50%)
Externally-set, internally marked and externally moderated:
 - synoptic project

- Examined assessment (EA) (50%)
Externally-set and externally marked:
- written exam

For further information, please contact Mrs N Hughes
nhughes@imberhorne.co.uk





HEALTH & FITNESS

NCFE LEVEL 1/2 TECHNICAL AWARD

Why study Health & Fitness?

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness is designed for learners who want an introduction to health and fitness that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the health and fitness sector or progress onto further study.

The NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness (603/7007/5) complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14 to 16 year olds studying key stage 4 (KS4) curriculum who are interested in the health and fitness sector. This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded at level 1 pass, merit, distinction and level 2 pass, merit, distinction and distinction* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5 to 1).

Qualification structure

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully demonstrate the knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of all 8 content areas of this qualification.

Content areas

1. Structure and function of body systems

2. Effects of health and fitness activities on the body
3. Health and fitness and the components of fitness
4. Principles of training
5. Testing and developing components of fitness
6. Impact of lifestyle on health and fitness
7. Applying health and fitness analysis and setting goals
8. Structure of a health and fitness programme and how to prepare safely

Assessment

1 hour 30 minutes examined assessment

- 22 hours non-exam assessment
- Non-exam assessment (NEA) (60%)
- Externally-set, internally marked and externally moderated:
- synoptic project

Examined assessment (EA) (40%)

Externally-set and externally marked:

- written exam

For further information, please contact Mrs N Hughes nhughes@imberhome.co.uk

