

Welcome to Options Evening



The Core Curriculum

Core GCSEs – 6 qualifications

English Language

English Literature

Mathematics

Religious Studies

Science (Combined)

Science (Combined)

Humanity Option – 1 qualification

Geography

History

Non-Examined Timetable Subjects

Core PE

PSHCE



7



Optional Choice Pathways / Combinations

The English Baccalaureate

Humanity Option CORE
1 qualification

Geography

History

Language Option – 1 qualification

French

Spanish

2 More Optional GCSEs

Art and Design

Business

Computer Science

Design Technology

Drama

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Geography

History

Music

Physical Education

Triple Science (counts as one option)

With Core
Subjects



7



Optional Choice Pathways / Combinations

The Arts Route

Humanity Option CORE
1 qualification

Geography

History

Choose from the following

Art and Design

Drama

Music

Choose remainder

Business

Computer Science

Design Technology

Food Preparation and Nutrition

French

Geography

History

Physical Education

Spanish

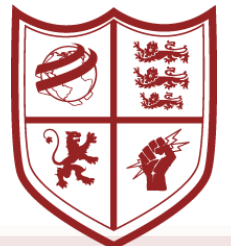
Triple Science (counts as one option)

With Core
Subjects



7

3



Optional Choice Pathways / Combinations

The STEM (Science Technology and Maths) Route

Humanity Option CORE
1 qualification

Geography

History

Choose from the following

Computer Science

Design Technology

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Triple Science (counts as one option)

Choose remainder

Art and Design

Business

Drama

French

Geography

History

Music

Physical Education

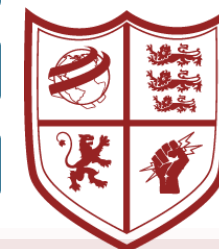
Spanish

With Core
Subjects



7

3



2 Reserve options

On the Online MCAS – choose 2 possible reserve options

- Art and Design
- Business
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Physical Education
- Triple Science (counts as one option)

Humanity Option

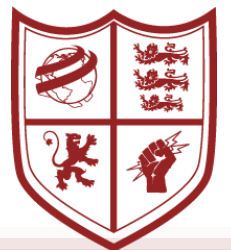
Option 1

Option 2

Option 3

Reserve Option 1

Reserve Option 2



What happens if a course is oversubscribed?

- Potential career choices
- Percentage in the subject at the mid year assessment
- Involvement in the wider life of the subject
- Classwork Grade
- Homework Grade
- Behaviour Grade
- Seek guidance from subject staff

Connexions Advisor
Tracy Blackburn
Located in the Foyer

- This is outlined in the Options Booklet



Completing Options on MYCAS


- Dashboard
- Data Collection Form
- Announcements
- Assessment
- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Detentions
- Homework
- Parents Evening
- Timetable
- Academic Calendar
- Products >
- School Clubs
- Trips
- Options**
- Dinners
- Outstanding Payments
- Curriculum Assessment

Stretford Grammar School

Options

Setup Name	Timeframe
Year 9 Options	11/02/2026 - 24/03/2026

Showing 1 entries



STRETFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Year 9 Options
Name: Malek Abdelal Tutor group: 90
Common rules: Total Main choices 4 Total Reserves 2 • A subject can only be selected once as a main or reserve choice

1 — 2 — 3

Humanities: Choose 1

Select 1 subjects from Group Humanities: Choose 1

Choice 1

Select Item

Save for later Next →



Options Form Completion Date

Tuesday 24th February





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Progress Leader

Introduction

Dr Nixon– Progress
Leader for Year 9



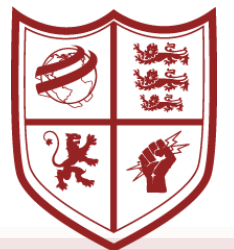
This evening is about...

- Taking control of your education. Your first real chance to choose the subjects which will move you closer to achieving your goals.
- Recognising that the next two years will present you with greater challenges and it will be tough...but you can do this!
- Providing you with the understanding of what you will need to commit to studying and reaching your potential.
- Understanding that we are all working together. Our end goal is for you to get the best grades possible – we are all on the same side.



Bad reasons to take options:

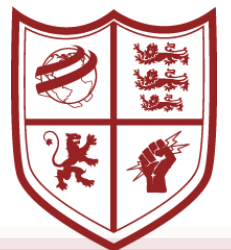
- Picking a subject just because your friend is doing it.
- You like the teacher.
- Your parents want you to do it.
- You think it will be easy.





Good reasons to take options:

- Choose subjects that you are motivated in. By following your natural interests, you are more likely to manage your workload and be successful.
- Choose subjects that suit the way that you work. How much of the grade is exam based? How much is coursework? Consider the strengths you have and how you can build on them.
- Think about any next steps – do you know what you want to do next? Are you making the right decisions for that?



Speak to our older students

- Older students have already been in to forms to talk through the majority of subjects
- If you have more questions, ask them.
- Students can tell you what the experience of studying each subject is like.
- They will be honest.
- They will be flattered to be treated as a source of wisdom and guidance!



When I grow
up I want
to be...





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Sixth Form Leadership Team

Uzair Chaudhary, Laura Goodyer



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English

Mr Howell – Curriculum Leader

English Language & English Literature

- Two discrete GCSEs
- Taught alongside each other
- Crossover in skills but not in content
- Year 10 English Literature
- Year 11 English Language



English Literature

- Content covered in Year 9 and Year 10
- Predominantly reading and analytical skills
- Requirement to know texts well
- Texts provided by school – parental contribution requested
- An Inspector Calls, The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Julius Caesar, Anthology of Poetry: Worlds and Lives



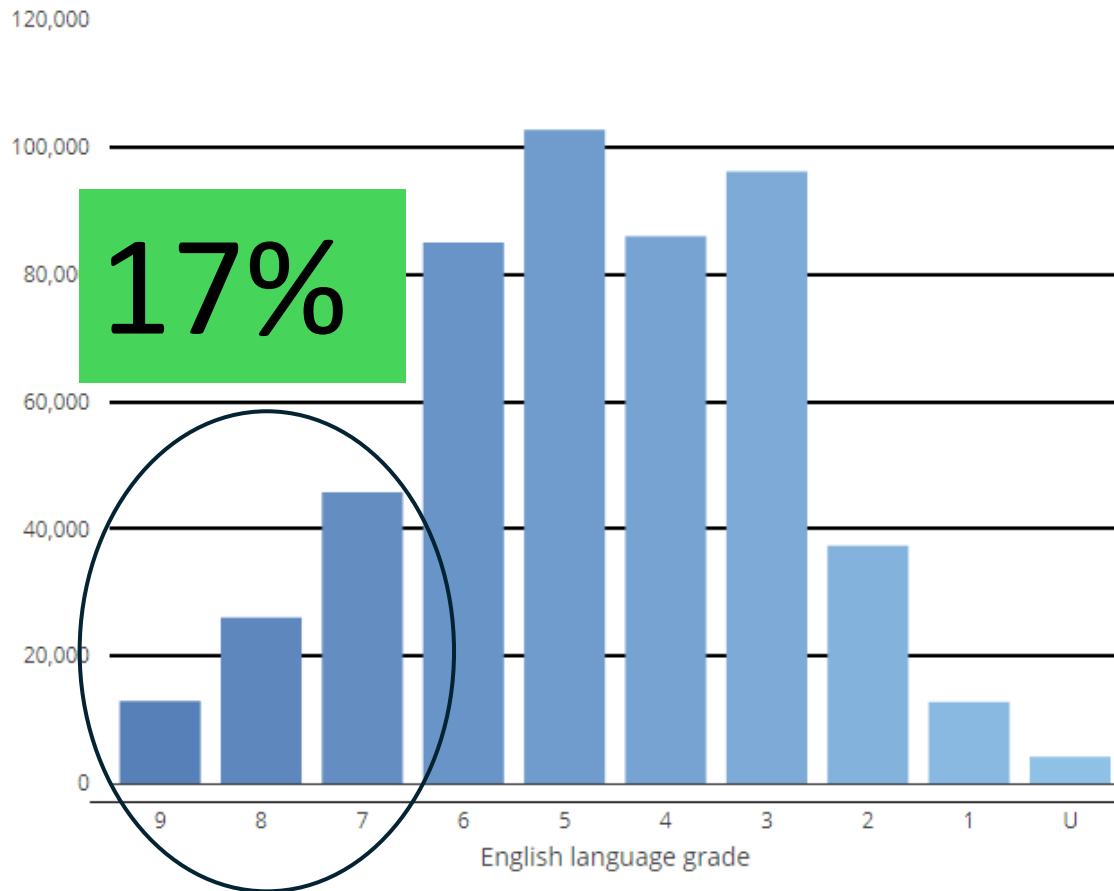
English Language

- Primarily skills based
- Reading / analysing unseen texts
- Writing creatively in a range of styles
- Skills have been practised since Year 7 but importantly improved upon
- Refreshed and revisited continuously
- Exam structure and skills covered predominantly in Year 11 (affects grade reporting in Year 10)

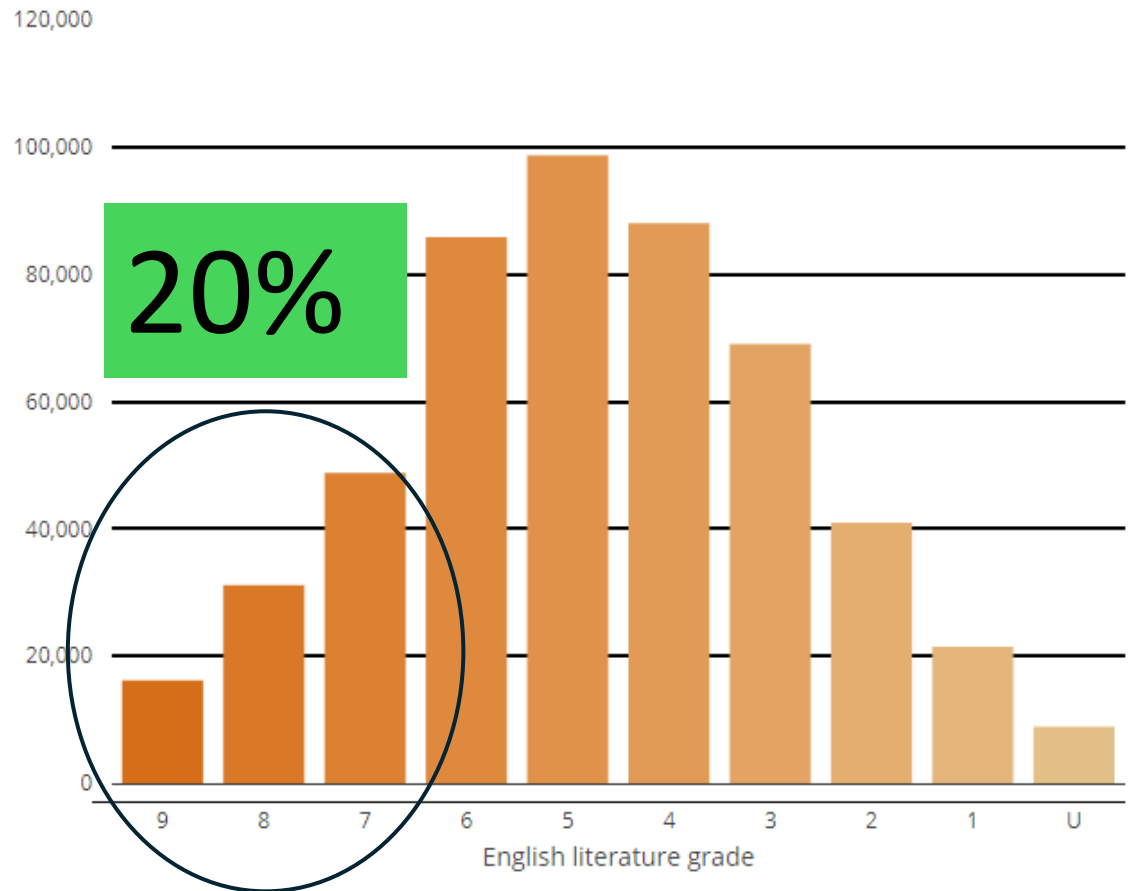


Grade distribution English Language & English Literature Nationally

... all grades in English language...

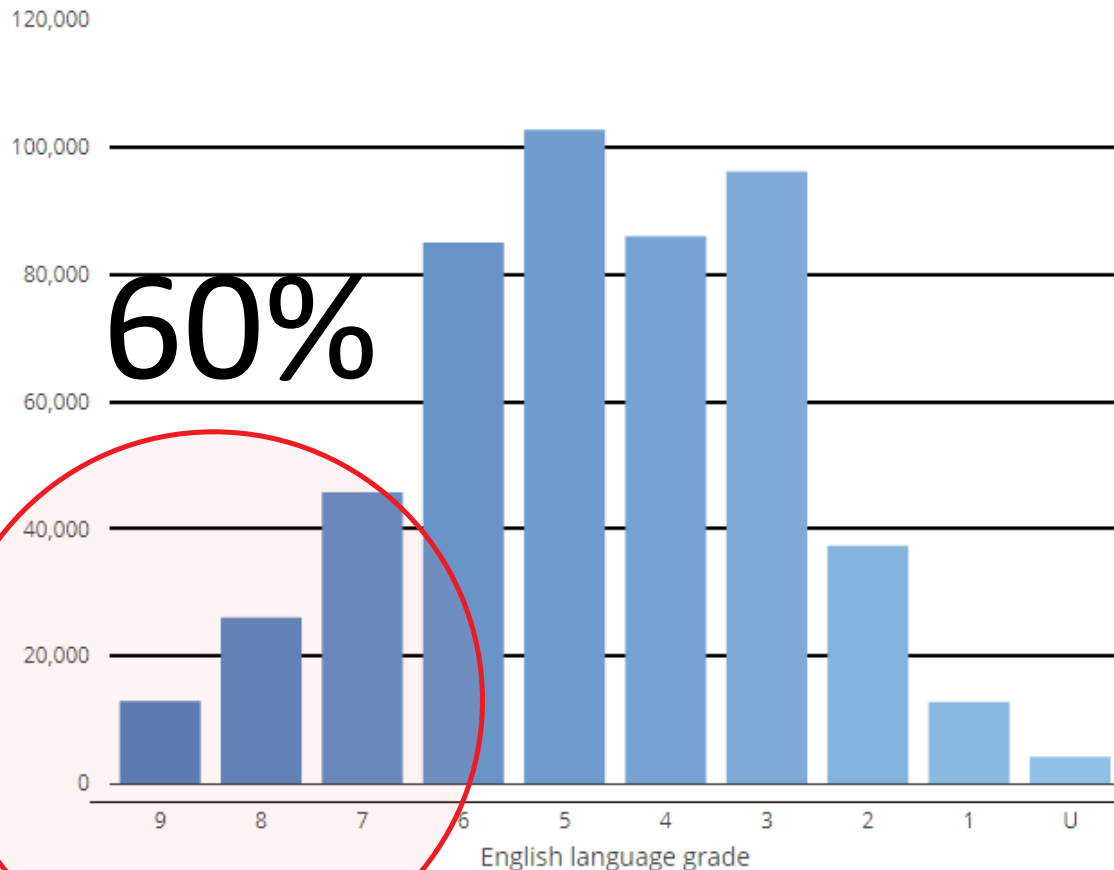


...and all grades in English literature ...

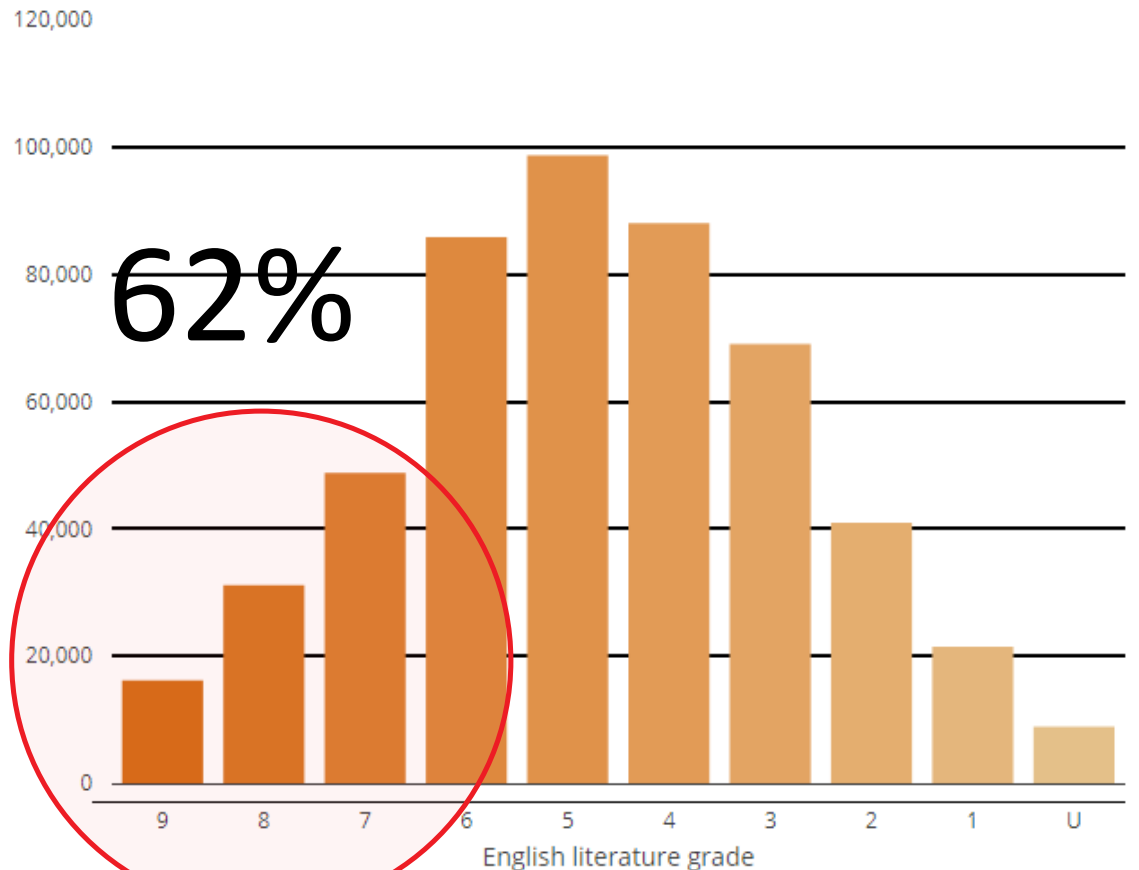


Grade distribution English Language & English Literature at Stretford Grammar School

... all grades in English language...



...and all grades in English literature ...



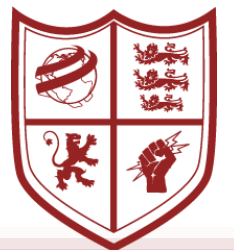
What are those students doing?

- They're reading every day; not just at school
- They're reading widely; they are interested in words
- They're informed about world events and current affairs
- They have a hobby
- They have opinions and attitude(s)
- They're watching documentaries, listening to talk radio and podcasts, and watching challenging and thought-provoking movies
- They're re-reading their set-texts
- They come to school regularly, organised and with their texts and resources to work
- They keep their exercise books neat, complete and tidy
- They do their homework with pride



What are their parents / carers doing?

- They're providing a place to work
- They check and provide resources to help their child complete schoolwork
- They're reading every day
- They're reading widely
- They're talking to their child(ren) about world events and current affairs. And about school and the work they are doing in English!
- They're challenging and discussing opinions and attitudes
- They're sharing documentaries, talk radio and podcasts, and thought-provoking movies
- Good luck!





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Mathematics

Mr McAvoy – Curriculum Leader

GCSE Mathematics

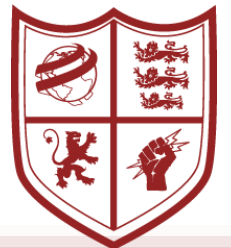
The mathematical content is defined by the DfE's *GCSE subject content and assessment objectives* document.

Subject area	Foundation Tier weighting	Higher Tier weighting
Number	25% (35%)	15% (17%)
Algebra	20% (17%) nMa : Ma	30% (35%) nMa : Ma No stipulation
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	25% (subsumed in other areas)	20% (subsumed in other areas)
Geometry and measures	15% (28%)	20% (28%)
Probability and statistics	15% (20%)	15% (20%)

All students will prepare for the Higher Tier (Grades 9 – 4)

(AQA)

Figures in brackets show weightings for the current qualification



GCSE Mathematics

Paper 1: non-calculator	Paper 2: calculator	Paper 3: calculator
Content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Content from any part of the specification may be assessed	Content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Content from any part of the specification may be assessed	Content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Content from any part of the specification may be assessed
Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 hour 30 minuteswritten exam80 marks$33\frac{1}{3}$ of GCSE	Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 hour 30 minuteswritten exam80 marks$33\frac{1}{3}$ of GCSE	Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 hour 30 minuteswritten exam80 marks$33\frac{1}{3}$ of GCSE

- Students will be required to answer all questions on all papers
- The assessment structure will be the same for both foundation and higher tiers

(AQA)



Number

Consolidation and extension of content covered at KS3; bounds; surds; indices; standard form

Algebra

Equations; expressions; formulae; functions; inequalities; algebraic proof

Ratio, Proportion & Rates of Change

Direct and inverse proportion

Geometry & Measures

Area & volume; trigonometry; geometrical properties

Probability

Independent and dependent events

Statistics

Averages and spread; diagrams; comparing distributions

Many of these topics will sound familiar...



Grade 5

To achieve grade 5, candidates will be able to:

- perform routine single- and multi-step procedures effectively by recalling, applying and interpreting notation, terminology, facts, definitions and formulae
- interpret and communicate information effectively
- make deductions, inferences and draw conclusions
- construct chains of reasoning, including arguments
- generate strategies to solve mathematical and non-mathematical problems by translating them into mathematical processes, realising connections between different parts of mathematics
- interpret results in the context of the given problem
- evaluate methods and results

(OFQUAL)



Grade 8

To achieve grade 8, candidates will be able to:

- perform procedures accurately
- interpret and communicate complex information accurately
- make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions
- construct substantial chains of reasoning, including convincing arguments and formal proofs
- generate efficient strategies to solve complex mathematical and non-mathematical problems by translating them into a series of mathematical processes
- make and use connections, which may not be immediately obvious, between different parts of mathematics
- interpret results in the context of the given problem
- critically evaluate methods, arguments, results and the assumptions made

(OFQUAL)

These descriptors aren't very different to the ones for Grade 5.

Actual grades are based on the number of marks – that simple!



Percentage achieving grade

Grade	2025
9	3.2
8	9.6
7	16.5
6	25.5
5	40.9
4	58.3
3	76.5
2	89
1	97.3

SGS students should be aiming for these grades.



What are those students doing?

- Practising thoroughly in class & with homework
- Learning from - and correcting - mistakes
- Asking/looking things up
- Discussing their Maths with other students
- Additional research (eg Internet)
- Seeking out the more unusual problems and tackling them
- Building the confidence to do all of the above independently

Study Guides? Choose one that works for you, but there are lots of websites, including BBC Bitesize, CorbettMaths and MathsMadeEasy.



AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Maths

To stretch our most able students

- A qualification designed to stretch and challenge high achieving mathematicians in our two Accelerated sets, who are expected to achieve the top grades in GCSE Mathematics or are likely to progress to study A-level Mathematics and possibly Further Mathematics.
- Students are introduced to A Level topics that will help them develop skills in algebra, geometry, calculus, matrices, trigonometry, functions and graphs.
- This is to provide additional challenge and is not a prerequisite for A Level study.





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Science

Dr Howe – Curriculum Leader

Your choice in Science

- Separate science
- Combined Science (Trilogy)



Science Specification

- We follow the AQA course.
- Practical skills examined in the examinations.
- Terminal examinations.



Compulsory - Combined Science: Trilogy

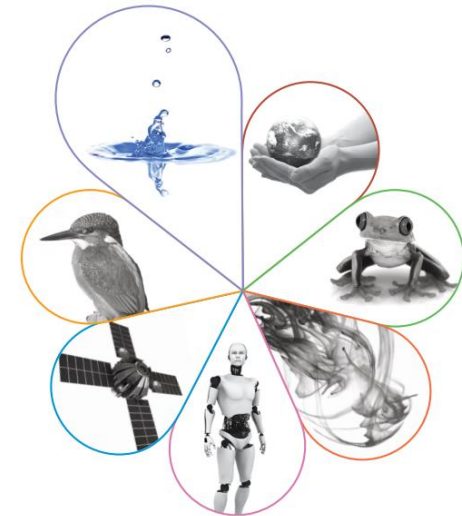
- Study all 3 science subjects;
Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- 3 specialist teachers
- 2 x 1 hour 15 min exams for each science
- 6 papers in total (summer Y11)
- Awarded two grades for Science
(for example 5-5, 7-6, 9-9)



GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY (8464)

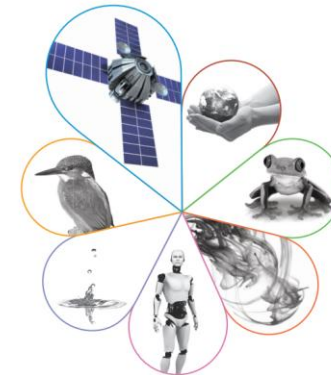
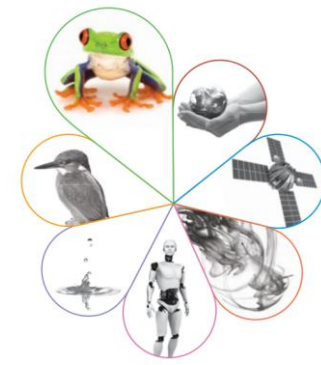
Specification
For teaching from September 2016 onwards
For exams in 2018 onwards

Version 1.1 04 October 2019



Option - Separate Sciences

- Must study all 3 science subjects:
 - Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- 3 specialist teachers
- 2 x 1 hour **45** min exams for each science
- 6 papers in total (summer Y11)
- Will be awarded 3 separate GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry and Physics



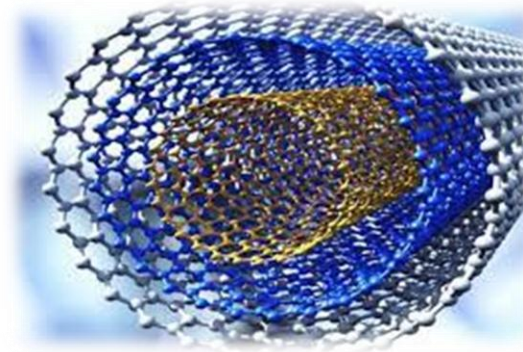
Practical work

- Required practical activities set by examination board
- Combined Science - 21 in total (7 Biology, 6 Chemistry, 8 Physics)
- Separate Science – 10 Biology, 8 Chemistry, 10 Physics)
- Covered in lessons
- Assessed on the examinations
- Accounts for at least 15% of the GCSE marks



Additional content present in Separate Science includes:

- The use of antibodies in medicine
- Microbiology
- Nanoscience
- The science of polymers
- Space science
- The behaviour of infrared radiation



Is separate science for you?

Are you considering a science based career or studying a science based course at sixth form or university?

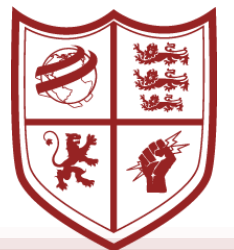
By taking sciences separately at GCSE level you will cover more content, so you will be better prepared if you want to study science post 16.

Are you unsure about what you want to do when you leave school?

Employers are looking for candidates with science-based skills such as being analytical and developing a scientific way of thinking.

Do you enjoy science and have an interest in learning about the physical and natural world around you?

If you love science then you should definitely consider separate science.



Post - 16

A Level courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

You do not have to study separate sciences to progress onto A Level.

Further study of science and health sciences at university.



Rooms for this evening

ALMOND BUILDING

AL1	PE GCSE
AL2	Geography
AL4	History
AL3	French and Spanish (presented together)

MATHS CORRIDOR

E1	Business
E2	Drama
E3	Music

ATRIUM

AT1	Design Technology
AT4	Art and Design
AT5	Computer Science
AT7	Food Preparation and Nutrition

