



PATCHAM HIGH SCHOOL

One Team, One Dream

Key Stage 4 Transition

Name

Tutor Group



PRIDE • RESPECT • SUCCESS

Key Stage 4 Transition

Moving into Key Stage 4 from Year 9 into 10 is aimed to be as smooth as possible, with students continuing their broad core curriculum and focussing on their chosen additional subjects.

Current Year 9 students will be sitting GCSEs in the summer of 2024. However, one subject choice taken last year will be completed in the summer of 2023. We need to ensure that students have the best possible chance of achieving their potential, taking one option early will allow more time in Year 11 to focus on the remaining subjects.

For students the subject choice is relatively straightforward, with a broader core curriculum reducing the amount of choices needed to be made.

Students will follow an ambitious, yet traditional 'core' of English, Mathematics, Science, a Modern Language and then make a choice of either History or Geography. Students can then choose an additional subject alongside the subject already begun this year and completed in Year 10.

Inside this booklet you will find information about all the subjects that are taught on the curriculum for the next two years. Before making any choices, please read the booklet carefully and ask our teachers if you are unsure about anything.

Even when you have made your choices, please remember that we cannot guarantee to meet all of your requests as some subjects will only run if there are sufficient numbers whilst other subjects may be oversubscribed. We will do our best to get everybody what they want, but we will ask you to make a reserve subject choice as well.

Please read the information on the next page about the broad curriculum and how to submit your choices.

Spring Term Report Issued via SIMS app.

Tuesday 8th Feb 2022

Virtual Parents' Evening

Thursday 10th Feb 2022

Learning in KS4 Presentation 6.00 -7.00pm

Tuesday 5th April 2022

Completed choices deadline via SIMS app.

Wednesday 26th April 2022

Curriculum Information

The curriculum for the majority of students in Year 10 will be as follows:

- English (*GCSEs in Literature and Language*)
- Humanities—*Either Geography or History*
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages—*Either French, German or Spanish (whichever is studied in Y9)*
- Science—*For most students this will be a double GCSE, for some this maybe 3 GCSEs**
- Chosen subject —*Started in Year 9 and completed in Year 10*
(BTEC Sport, Enterprise, Music; GCSE Classics, Religious Studies, Statistics).
- An additional chosen subject— To start in Year 10, selected from the following:

Art

Art Textiles

Citizenship

Computer Science

Dance

Design Technology

Drama

Food Technology

Geography

History

Hospitality and Catering

Media Studies

Music

Sociology

Statistics

- Non examined subjects also taught:
- Physical Education (core PE)
- Life Skills including World Views (PSHCE / RSE / RE)
- **Latin GCSE** can also be chosen as an extra subject, with lessons taught after school. See page 20

*Triple Science is 3 separate GCSE qualifications (Biology / Chemistry / Physics), it is exactly the same content as Combined (double) Science but with extended units in the three separate areas. **Eligibility will be determined by the Science department.**

For some students the curriculum will be modified to maintain the support programmes already in place from previous years, or to allow additional support programmes to be put in place. Students and Parents/Carers will be contacted individually regarding this.

Once you have decided, you make your choices using the SIMS App. Instructions are at the end of this booklet.

Don't forget to indicate your reserve subject choice

CORE SUBJECTS

English Language and English Literature

Most students will sit four GCSE examinations in English, two in English Language and two in English Literature. There are no longer any pieces of controlled assessment and both courses will be assessed at the end of year 11 with terminal exams.

English Language

The course is a combination of reading and writing skills which are weighted at 50% each.

How will this subject be assessed?

Paper 1 consists of

Section A: Reading, where students will be asked to focus on one literature fiction text.

Section B: Writing, which will test their ability to write in a descriptive or narrative form.

The questions will be in the form of:

- 1 short form question (4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (20 marks)
- 1 writing question (20 marks)

The exam will last for **1 hour and 45 minutes** and have a maximum of **80 marks** across the two sections of the paper. This paper will account for **50%** of the overall GCSE grade.

Paper 2 consists of

Section A: Reading, in which students will be asked to focus on one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text.

Section B: Writing, which will test their ability to present a viewpoint in their writing.

The questions will be in the form of:

- 1 short form question (4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8 marks, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (16 marks)
- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content and 16 marks for technical accuracy)

The exam will last for **1 hour and 45 minutes** and have a maximum of **80 marks** across the two sections of the paper. This paper will account for **50%** of the overall GCSE grade.

Spoken Language

This is a non-examined aspect of the course. Students will be assessed on:

- Presenting
- Responding to questions and feedback
- Use of Standard English

This part of the course will be teacher assessed and the students will gain a separate endorsement which does not impact on their overall GCSE grade.

CORE SUBJECTS

English Literature

Students will study a range of texts from the Shakespearean tradition through to modern prose or drama. We have chosen *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *Macbeth*, *An Inspector Calls* and an anthology of poetry called *Power and Conflict* to study across the two years.

One of the main changes to the specification is that the exams will be closed book; this means that the students will have to remember quotes to use in the exam. The students will be provided with passages from the texts to analyse in close detail.

How will this subject be assessed?

Paper 1 consists of:

Section A: Shakespeare, in which students will be asked to answer questions on a play of choice (*Macbeth*) and they will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B: The 19th Century novel (*Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*) which will require students to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

The exam will last for **1 hour and 45 minutes** and have a maximum of **64 marks**. This will make up **40%** of the English Literature GCSE grade.

Paper 2 consists of:

Section A: Modern prose or Drama in which students will be asked to answer one question on a play of choice (*An Inspector Calls*) and they will be required to answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied text.

Section B: Poetry (*Power and Conflict*) they will be required to write one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C: Unseen Poetry in which students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

The exam will last for **2 hours and 15 minutes** and have a maximum of **96 marks**. This will make up **60%** of the English Literature GCSE grade.

Unlike with past specifications, the new structure of the English GCSE weights English Language and English Literature as worth the same and both will count to gain entry onto A level courses.

CORE / OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless*

Geography

We follow the Eduqas Geography B course.

Pupils study the following areas:

- Changing Places – Changing Economies. Here students will cover key ideas such as 'Urbanisation in contrasting global cities' and 'A global perspective on development issues'
- Changing Environments. Here students may cover ideas such as 'Shaping the landscape - coasts and coastal management' and examine 'Climate Change – cause and effect'
- Environmental Challenges: ideas such as 'Ecosystems under threat' and 'Water supply and demand' will be studied

Fieldwork

Fieldwork is compulsory as it is a requirement of the exam. Pupils are expected to go on the day trips which will involve some costs.

There are day trips to Birling Gap and Brighton. There is also the opportunity to take part in a **4 day Residential Fieldtrip to Devon** to collect data and practice fieldwork techniques. (This trip is NOT compulsory).

Why should I choose Geography?

Geography is recognised by both employers and higher education as being a strong academic subject. The knowledge and skills learned are a useful foundation for a wide range of courses and careers from planning, surveying, working in the environment, travel and tourism, international charities, retail, civil service, police, armed forces, teaching. Geography is a facilitating subject, which basically means that given its breadth of study and skills it allows students lots of options for the next stage of their education; it keeps doors open!

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

- An interest in our world and what is happening in different places
- A concern for issues that exist in the world e.g. climate change, inequality
- An ability to empathise with other peoples' situations
- Enjoy fieldwork, questioning, problem solving and numeracy

How will this subject be assessed?

In Year 11 students sit three written exams

- Investigating geographical issues - 1hr 45min and worth 40% of the GCSE
- Problem solving examination - 1hr 30min and worth 30% of the GCSE
- Applied fieldwork enquiry -1hr 30min and worth 30% of the GCSE

Who should I see for more information? Mrs Herbert (H7) / Mr Irvine (H6) / Mr Newman

CORE / OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless*

History

Why should I choose History?

- It is an excellent foundation for College – a very high percentage of our students go on to 6th Form College to take History; students taking this course have really enjoyed it.
- It provides a useful preparation for subjects which involve discussion, argument, weighing up the evidence and coming to decisions.
- It is taken very seriously by Universities regardless of the subject you are applying for. We will follow the Edexcel GCSE courses in Crime and Punishment from 1066 to the present day; Germany 1919-39; Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588; International Relations and The Cold War 1945-1991.

What personal qualities would be useful in this subject:

- A curiosity about how the world we live in today has been shaped
- An interest in current affairs, we try to make connections to current issues in our teaching
- A commitment to develop your writing skills, to build well constructed arguments, using evidence
- An interest in how Britain has changed over the last 2000 years – this course provides a sweep of 1000 years of History, from the Saxons to the present day.
- A keen mind and the ability to research, investigate and to question evidence.
- The desire to develop your speaking and literacy skills in building and delivering an argument using evidence.

Regular exam questions will be set for homework as well as research tasks to build independent learning skills.

How will this subject be assessed?

Students sit three written exams at the end of Year 11

Who should I see for more information? Mr J Parker (H4) or Mr Vafeas (H3)

CORE SUBJECTS

Mathematics

Just as languages provide the building blocks and rules we need to communicate, maths uses its own language, made up of numbers, symbols and formulas, to explore the rules we need to measure or identify essential problems like distance, speed, time, space, change, force and quantities.

Studying maths helps us find patterns and structure in our lives. Practically, maths helps us put a price on things, create graphics, build websites, build skyscrapers and generally understand how things work or predict how they might change over time and under different conditions.

Aims and objectives of the new Mathematics GCSE (9-1):

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

What will I study in this subject?

Mathematics is divided up into five key areas;

- Number;
- Algebra;
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change;
- Geometry and Measures;
- Statistics and Probability;

How will this subject be assessed?

- In the summer term of Year 10 exams will be set to monitor progress and help determine the tier of entry. There is no controlled assessment for Mathematics.
- Students will sit the GCSE at the end of Year 11.
- There are three exams, each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes.
- One paper is a non-calculator paper and the other two are with a calculator.
- Each paper is equally weighted; there are 80 marks available in each paper .

Students wishing to study more Maths related GCSEs should consider Computer Science or Statistics in their additional subject choice.

Further Maths will be offered to selected students and will run as a twilight course (after school). Speak to Ms Clark / Mrs Sayers for more information.

CORE SUBJECTS

Modern Foreign Languages

French – German - Spanish

There are hundreds of jobs and careers which require a foreign language. This is not surprising when you consider the information orientated world we now inhabit. Here are a few facts for you: 94% of the world does not speak English as their first language and 75% of the world doesn't speak any English at all. Because most of our trade is with non-English speaking countries, on average people who use languages in their job earn 8% more than their colleagues. But apart from financial reasons, learning a language is a great way to start getting to know other people and appreciating other cultures. Learning a language improves the quality of your life and your understanding of the world and how other people think.

Each Modern Foreign Language is divided into the following 3 themes:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

Why we teach Languages?

Students who learn languages, do in many cases have improved overall academic outcomes. Learning a language encourages and builds mental flexibility, developing a wider range of ways to learn and specifically the development of memory skills that can benefit other subjects as well.

Studying languages helps students to explore other cultures and more fully understand their own.

Having the skills to be able to communicate to a great many new people is in itself a richer experience and increases personal confidence. Studying languages enhances student's career opportunities in such diverse fields as banking, travel and tourism, business consultancy, engineering, customer support, events, international sales, the travel industry, market research, translation and many more. In short languages provide breadth to the curriculum way beyond just achieving a GCSE.

How will these subjects be assessed?

Students will be following the AQA specification. The assessments will take place at the end of year 11 and will be as follows .

- **Listening** : 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier) 25% of final grade
- **Speaking** : Exam conducted with member of MFL team 25% of final grade
- **Reading**: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier) 25% of final grade
- **Writing** : 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier) 25% of final grade

Who should I see for more information? Any of the MFL teachers, or Miss Carney (Head of Languages).

CORE SUBJECTS

Science

There are two possible GCSE routes that can be taken in Science:

- GCSE Combined Science (equivalent to 2 GCSEs) or
- GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics (3 GCSEs)

GCSE Combined Science—(equivalent to 2 GCSEs)

In the Biology section students study: Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation & Evolution and Ecology .

In the Chemistry section students study: Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table, Bonding, Structure, & the Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, The Rate & Extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere and Using resources.

In the Physics section students study: Forces, Energy, Waves, Electricity, Magnetism and Electromagnetism, Particle Model of Matter and Atomic Structure.

How will this subject be assessed?

There are six papers: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics.

Each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes long, marked out of 70 and worth 16.6% of the final GCSE grade. Questions consist of multiple choice, short and long answers.

The qualification will be graded on a 17-point scale: 1-1 to 9-9 with 9-9 being the best grade.

A student taking Foundation Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 1-1 to 5-5.

GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics

Students will study the same topics as those listed for combined science, but to a greater depth.

There are six papers: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics.

Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes long, each exam is worth 50% of the GCSE grade for each subject.

Questions consist of multiple choice, short and long answers.

Practical Assessments

All students will complete experiments which will be examined in the GCSE exam papers, therefore regular attendance to lessons is very important.

CORE SUBJECTS

Life Skills

All students will follow our highly praised, bespoke, Life Skills programme and will continue as in Years 7, 8 and 9 to have one lesson per week. The lessons include personal, social, health education, citizenship, philosophy, plus careers and economic awareness, and aspects of religious education.

Physical Education

All students receive 3 hours per fortnight of Core P.E.

During these lessons students will complete a number of modules which aim to promote lifelong participation in physical activity and develop a knowledge and understanding of fitness and health.

Modules studied:

Practical Sport

- Developing the skills and techniques to improve performance
- Learning and applying tactical understanding
- Evaluating and improving own performance through analysis

Fitness Testing and Training

Choice of fitness intensity from: Competitive Sport, General Fitness and Fitness for Life

- Learn how to measure and evaluate own fitness levels
- Learn how to improve various fitness types and how to make training specific to an individual's development needs

Leadership and Officiating

Choose a pathway between developing Sports Leadership or Officiating Skills

- Learn the skills and attributes of a good leader/official
- Apply skills through coaching peers/younger students (leadership)
- Apply skills through officiating games (officiating)
- Evaluating and improving performance as a coach/official

Alternative Activities

Experience sports and physical activities that are beyond those you have experienced in the past. Try something new and develop a new skill set that you may wish to continue after you have finished school.

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Art

Art will give you a wonderful opportunity to learn how you can develop and explore your ideas. You will learn how to look at the work of artists and craft designers to help with developing your ideas. You will learn how to build on your skills of using a range of different art techniques, in order that you can present your ideas successfully. You will learn to explore different drawing materials such as charcoal, use printing techniques, painting processes, as well as the use of photo and computer manipulation. On the course you will work with both 2D and 3D processes, with increasing confidence.

You will be assessed on the quality of how you developed your ideas, therefore learning to research artists will be important. This research can be done on the Internet and by using the Department's large collection of art books. Each lesson will be practical and you will be working towards your final portfolio (coursework). You will be able to select your most successful work to be put towards your portfolio at the end of the course.

Homework is set on a regular basis. It is important to note that it will all count towards your final grade and therefore is compulsory if you want to be successful. The Department is open after school and at lunchtime for any student who wishes to use the facility to further improve their portfolio.

Why should I choose Art?

You might be aiming for a career in one of the following areas: working with children, graphic design and illustration, architecture, shop window display, product design, fashion, theatre design, hair and beauty, interior design. This is to name just a few areas of work. A great preparation for any of the arts subjects at 6th Form College.

How will the subject be assessed?

Year 10 – You will be working on developing Unit 1 (your portfolio) which will be made up of two major projects. There will be an exam at the end of Year 10, during which you will be creating work to go towards your portfolio.

Year 11 – You will be continuing on your portfolio work and will have a mock exam in December, which will be linked to your final project. After Christmas you will be set Unit 2 (final exam) when you will work on planning for a major piece of work over a period of 8 weeks, with support from your teacher. You will create your final piece over 2 whole school days.

The deadline for all portfolio work to be completed is at the end of March.

Grades are made up of Unit 1 (portfolio) x 60% and Unit 2 (exam) x 40%

What personal qualities would be useful for the subject?

- Have an imagination with a keen interest in the subject, as well as enjoy working with different materials.
- Be self-motivated, as there will be regular independent work to complete in your own time.
- Have the ability to work under pressure.
- Have research and organisational skills.
- Be open-minded about how and why others create art.

Who should I see for more information? Mrs Wild, Mrs Fieldsend or Ms Frazer.

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Art Textiles

Art Textiles gives you the exciting opportunity to learn how you can develop and explore your ideas through a combination of different textile techniques and art skills.

You will learn how to look at the work of artists and textile designers to help you come up with your own ideas and you will gain skills and confidence in drawing, fabric manipulation, woven textiles, stitching, printing and surface pattern. There is an excellent range of facilities including sewing machines, heat press, a computer suite that has digital software for image manipulation and a laser cutter.

Working on different project themes you will be required to research relevant textile artists and designers to help influence your own ideas and responses. You will then show your ideas in a practical way using a range of methods. Each lesson will be practical and you will be working towards your final portfolio (coursework). You will be able to select your most successful work to be put towards your portfolio at the end of the course.

This course does require you to spend regular time and effort on homework which all counts towards your coursework and final grade. The Department is open after school and at lunchtimes for any student who wishes to use the facilities.

Why should I choose Art Textiles?

This course will prepare you for textile courses at 6th Form college. It could lead you into many exciting careers, such as fashion and print designer, illustration, jewellery and costume design.

How will the subject be assessed?

The course is made up of two units:

Unit 1 (60%): Coursework Portfolio made up of two major projects demonstrating research and practical skills.

Unit 2: (40%) Final exam – 8 weeks controlled assessment preparation time working on a project brief. You will then be given two school days to create your final design solution.

What personal qualities would be useful for the subject?

- Have an imagination with a keen interest in the subject, as well as enjoy drawing and using different materials
- Be self-motivated, as there will be regular independent work to complete in your own time.
- Have the ability to work under pressure.
- Have research and organisational skills.

Who should I see for more information? Mrs Wells in Technology department

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Citizenship Studies

Why Should I choose Citizenship Studies?

Citizenship Studies is a fantastic opportunity for you to further develop key skills such as critical thinking, collaborative learning and empathy which are highly regarded by colleges and universities. The subject provides a fantastic pathway into Law, Sociology, Philosophy, Politics, International Relations, and Human Rights.

“GCSEs which develop critical thinking, problem solving, a curiosity about the world, communication and teamwork skills, alongside broad study skills, are excellent preparation for the study of A levels and BTEC L3 courses. Citizenship provides an excellent platform to study all manner of subjects. The skills and topics relate to certain themes very well within subject groupings: Sciences, Maths and Computing – ethics within environment, medicine, technology and engineering; Humanities, Languages, Business – social, moral and political awareness. ”
James Moncrieff (Deputy Principal at BHASVIC)

You will also have extra-curricular opportunities such as a visit to Parliament and an overseas trip is even in the pipeline! Watch this space.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

If you care about people and the world around you then this is the subject for you. In order to succeed in Citizenship Studies, you will need to have a passion and interest in learning more about other cultures and an interest in current affairs/ social issues addressed in the news. A desire to make a change, whether locally, nationally or globally is also a great starting point for the subject.

The Qualification

We offer the Edexcel GCSE (9–1) in Citizenship Studies which consists of two externally examined papers.

Paper 1 *Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes* 50% of the qualification

Questions are focused on:

- Theme A: Living together in the UK. Diversity, Human Rights, British Values, Law
- Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK. Politics, Parliament, Power
- Theme C: Law and justice. Criminal/Civil law, Rights and Responsibilities, Employment Law.
- Section D Extended-response questions related to two or more of Themes A–C.

Paper 2 *Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes* 50% of the qualification

- Section A Questions relate to Theme E: Taking citizenship action.
- Section B Questions require students to comment on others' actions and impact of action
- Section C Questions are focused on: Theme D: Power and influence. One question will also link to content in one of Themes A–C.

Who should I see for more information? Ms Kinchin Frost (H2) or Ms Meaker (H1)

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Computer Science

Why should I choose Computer Science?

Progression to other course on leaving Patcham such as A Level Computing or Computer Science, Engineering or Science Discipline at university. The course will help you to develop your critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. This is a challenging and prestigious GCSE which will require a healthy attitude to work both inside and outside the class room. Do you enjoy challenges? Can you work under pressure? Are you able to keep working on a problem even when you feel frustrated?

What you will do:

This three unit course is designed to give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes” of computer systems.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

Due to the nature of this GCSE candidates will be advised as to their suitability on application.

It is advised that you are in set 1 for Maths to choose this as an option as well as having

- The ability to think logically and reason
- Tenacity to solve difficult problems
- An aptitude for the logical units covered in Key Stage 3 ICT/Computing
- The ability to work independently
- A willingness to work in your own time

Unit 1 – Computer Systems and Programming (1.5 hour exam worth 40% of GCSE)

The theory about a wide range of issues such as hardware and software, the representation of data in computer systems, databases, computer communications, the Internet and network programming, cyber security/crime and exploring how computers actually work and the moral, ethical and legal considerations of using them.

Unit 2 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming (1.5 hour exam worth 40% of GCSE)

This unit engages with computing in real world scenarios. You will be asked to design, improve and correct algorithms. Can you think how to solve a problem, are you able to identify ways to solve problems in a quicker more efficient way? Are you able to identify flaws in other people’s logic?

Unit 3 – Programming Project (20 hour Controlled Assessment worth 20% of GCSE)

The programming project will call on you to design code and test a solution to a range of challenging and complex tasks, in order to produce a solution to given scenarios. This is completed in year 11 and is worth 20% of your overall GCSE mark.

Who should I see for more information? Mr Williams or Mrs Fay (IT2)

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Dance

Qualification - RSL level 2 (GCSE equivalent) Creative and Performing Arts (Dance)

Students will rehearse and perform choreographed dance pieces which will enable them to demonstrate different dance styles; they will also learn to understand the basic concepts and techniques of dance. Students will develop physical skills through technical dances.

Why should I choose Dance?

To progress on to A level Dance, A level Performing Arts and BTEC Level 3 Dance. This RSL qualification is equivalent to one GCSE.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

- To have a 'love' of dance and participate fully in every lesson
- To be enthusiastic and committed to the subject
- To be prepared to participate in extra-curricular rehearsals and public performances

How will this subject be assessed?

2 Units over two years

- Ensemble Dance Unit (50% performance piece 50% coursework)
- Live Performance Unit (50% performance 50% coursework)
- Excellent attendance and participation is required as this is logged as a part of the course-work.

Who should I see for more information? Miss Richardson

You do not have to have studied Dance in Year 9 to select this subject.

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Design and Technology

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will learn about the important factors behind designing successful products including material properties, making principles, environmental impacts together with the importance of meeting people's needs. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making in a range of materials and apply technical and practical expertise.

This is not what was traditionally referred to as woodwork or 'wood tech' and is very much about design and requires a high level of commitment to the course.

What will I study in this subject?

- Knowledge of how different materials are used in product design (textiles, metals, plastics)
- Hand drawn and digital design techniques
- Designing & making principles
- Prototyping and modelling using specialist tools and equipment
- Evaluating existing products

How will this subject be assessed?

Students will be following the AQA Design and Technology GCSE specification

Starting in the summer term of Year 10, students will undertake a small-scale design and make contextual challenge. They will be required to research a set design problem and then problem solve to design and produce a final prototype. This is worth 50% of the final grade.

Students will sit one exam at the end of Year 11 lasting 2 hours. This is worth 50% of the final grade.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

- Enjoy being creative and using your imagination.
- Enjoy learning new skills in a practical manner.
- The ability to problem solve and develop an idea.
- Develop skills using various techniques and processes.
- **Have the ability to work independently and under pressure.**
- **A passion and keen interest in Design.**

Who should I see for more information? Mrs Wells in the Technology department

Please note that spaces are limited on this course—class sizes are restricted due to practical space requirements.

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Drama — BTEC Certificate In Performing Arts (Acting)

This course is a performing arts course and is for students who love acting, most of who will have been taking drama in Year 9.

Students who choose Drama should want to acquire technical knowledge and practical skills in acting, alongside developing an understanding of the process of creating a performance.

This qualification will broaden each student's experience and understanding of Drama and the progression options available to them after leaving school.

What will you be learning?

- Practical skills and techniques to improve your confidence and success as an actor
- Rehearsing with a director and performing scripted plays
- Working independently to devise your own performances
- Different performance styles, methods and theories to increase your knowledge and creativity
- Studying a range of professional theatre performances to develop your understanding of how productions are made, including job roles and responsibilities

Assessment

The qualification is equivalent to 1 GCSE and is graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction at Level 1 or Level 2.

There are three components;

Component 1 30% of final grade – internally assessed

Component 2 30% of final grade – internally assessed

Component 3 40% of final grade – externally assessed

Students need to pass all 3 Components to gain a qualification.

What happens when you have finished?

Students who generally achieve might consider progression to:

A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects;

or

Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Performing Arts, which prepares students to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the Performing Arts or Production Arts areas.

What else might you need to know?

There is a requirement for students to perform in front of each other, their teachers and invited audiences. Students will also need to feel comfortable with their rehearsals and performances being recorded as evidence for grading.

Working with others is a key element of Drama so students should be prepared to work in groups.

There is course work for each of the 3 Components which students will need to work on outside of lessons so that they can meet their deadlines. There will also be lines to learn from scripts and research for homework.

Who should I see for more information? Stevie Doherty (Drama Studio)

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)

Food and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and food choices. It encourages learners to develop their cooking skills and enables them to make informed decisions about healthy diets and nutrition, now and later in life. It further develops learners' insight into food production, and the cultural aspects surrounding food. Lessons are a combination of both theory and practical. You will continue to gain skills in preparing food and cooking and will be required to provide own ingredients when doing so.

What will I study in this subject?

- Food safety when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
- Properties and chemical characteristics of food
- Nutritional content of food and drinks
- Relationship between diet, nutrition and health
- Food production
- Different cooking techniques and how to use equipment in order to plan, prepare and cook a variety of foods
- The range of ingredients and cooking processes from different culinary traditions

How will this subject be assessed?

- Students will be following the WJEC Food & Nutrition GCSE specification
- Students will undertake two Food investigations. One investigation is Food Science and the other is Food Preparation. These are practical & written investigations to assess knowledge and understanding. This is worth 60% of the final grade.
- Students will sit one exam at the end of Year 11 lasting 1.5 hours. This is worth 40% of the final grade.

For an alternative Food course please go to page 19 for details regarding:

Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2 vocational award)

Who should I see for more information? Mr Maier or Mrs Wells in Technology department

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2 vocational award)

This course is suitable for students who want to learn about the Hospitality and Catering industry and is a good foundation for those who want a career in these sectors. Students will learn how hospitality and catering providers operate, the job roles involved and what factors they need to make them run successfully. Students will also continue to gain knowledge of how to safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. Lessons are a combination of both theory and practical and students will be required to provide own ingredients for some of the lessons.

What will I study in this subject?

The course is split into 2 units:

The Hospitality & Catering Industry – this involves studying the make-up of the industry and the types of business that operate within it. It includes health & safety, food safety legislation, food ill-health & allergies, and environmental issues.

Hospitality & Catering In Action – this involves the study of nutrition, menu planning to suit dietary needs, cooking methods and presentation techniques.

How will the subject be assessed?

Unit 1 – externally assessed written exam – 40%. Unit 2 – internally assessed NEA (Non examined assessment) – 60%. The NEA takes place during Year 11 and requires students to nutritionally plan, prepare and cook a variety of dishes for a given customer group or dietary need. The project consists of both written work and a 3 hour practical exam which assesses their practical skills and ability.

Who should I see for more information? Mr Maier or Mrs Wells in Technology department

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Latin—THIS IS A TWILIGHT OPTION—STUDIED AFTER SCHOOL

GCSE Latin is designed to help students develop their knowledge and understanding of the vocabulary, syntax and accidence of the Latin language, and also of ancient literature, values and society through the study of original texts. There is no spoken assessment.

Why should I choose Latin?

To develop a curiosity and passion for the ancient world and its impact upon our everyday lives.

The study of the language and the culture of Roman society helps foster an understanding of how our language and society has developed. Also an appreciation of how Latin language influences other European languages.

We go to Rome for our residential trip. We also visit the British Museum, National Gallery, and the Kallos Gallery, amongst other sites.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

An interest in the Ancient World, its similarities and differences to modern society.
A passion for academic study and enjoyment in the learning process.

How will these subjects be assessed?

Students sit three exams in Year 11 based on the following areas of study:

- Latin Language Comprehension and translation - 1 hr 30 min written examination worth 50% of the overall GCSE
- Latin Literature and Sources - Prose and Verse Literature—1 hour 15 min written examination worth 25% of the overall GCSE
- Roman Civilisation—Roman Culture—1 hour written examination worth 25% of the overall GCSE

Who should I see for more information? Mr Darby

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Media

This course studies the mass media and it gives students a much better understanding of how and why different media are produced and consumed by audiences, as well as developing the technical skills students require to produce professional media products. This can include websites, film, TV, radio, advertising and anything that falls within the category of the mass media.

Students have the opportunity to analyse examples of media products. Every analysis task is then followed by an opportunity to plan, design and create their own media product. For example, in Year 10, students analyse the trailer and poster of a film of their choice. They then design a film poster and storyboard for a trailer for their own film idea. Students have opportunities for practical work in both Year 10 and Year 11 including print media, radio, filming and editing.

We follow the WJEC Eduqas GCSE course. Which offers a broad, coherent and engaging course of study which enables learners to:

- Demonstrate skills of enquiry, critical thinking, decision-making and analysis.
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of a range of important media issues.
- Develop appreciation and critical understanding of the media and their role both historically and currently in society, culture and politics.
- Understand and apply specialist subject-specific terminology to analyse and compare media products and the contexts in which they are produced and consumed in order to make informed arguments, reach substantiated judgements and draw conclusions about media issues.
- Appreciate how theoretical understanding supports practice and practice supports theoretical understanding.
- Develop practical skills by providing opportunities for creative media production.

How will the course be assessed?

The course is assessed over 2 written examinations, each of 1hr 30 minutes totalling 70% of the course marks. The final 30% is assessed by students creating their own media production.

Why should I choose Media?

To progress into further education or work related to the Media industry. This includes post-16 courses such as Media Studies, Film Studies, Journalism, Photography and other creative media courses. There is a huge variety of jobs within the Media industry for which this qualification is beneficial as well as other work such as promotion and marketing within business. This course also gives students the opportunity to develop their skills and understanding of the mass media, something which impacts their daily lives.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

- An interest in Film, TV, radio, Websites, Magazines & Newspapers
- An ability to analyse different texts, including images
- The ability to work on your own and in small groups
- You are able to motivate yourself to do independent project work
- You like designing things on a computer even if you are not brilliant at Art
- You can research topics from different sources

Who should I see for more information? Ms Davies / Mr Marsh (IT4)

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Music

The thriving Music Department at Patcham High School is growing each year with regular Musical Productions and Concerts as well as performances in school assemblies. Clubs run every lunchtime and after school forming a regular part of everyday school life. Results continue to exceed local and national averages. There are many careers available in the Music industry, Performer, Promoter, DJ, Artist & Repertoire Development, Producer, Engineer, Manager, Retail Sales, Songwriter, Teacher... the list goes on. The British Music Industry continues to grow year on year. In the UK alone the Music industry was reported to be worth £5.2 billion in 2018 (Music By Numbers Nov 2019). The Music Industry continues to grow year on year and now supports over 190,000 jobs.

Patcham High School's Music department is versatile enough to allow pupils to create professional music of any style they should wish to choose and releases a CD/download album each Christmas of original songs. Many of our Year 11 students last year went on to study Music and Performing Arts courses in Further Education. We have a state of the art recording studio and a Music IT suite with Apple Macs and Logic recording software. We continually expand our range of Musical Instruments and have many Peripatetic teachers coming into the department to teach a variety of Instrumental and Singing lessons. Our year 7 recruitment model for instrumental lessons has led to more students than ever learning an instrument at Patcham High School and this in turn has led to a year on year increase in the number of students participating in concerts and opting for music at Key Stage 4.

Why should I choose Music?

To progress into work in any area of the Music or Industry such as Promotion, Management, Performance, Live Sound Crew, A&R, Recording Producer, Stage Crew, Composer, Journalist, Law, Music Teacher, Advertising or simply because you enjoy music and would like to learn more. We are excited to be able to offer two courses in Music:

The GCSE course involves studying different areas and disciplines of Music. Pupils should be open to listening to and studying different styles of Music from Western Classical Music through to Rock & Pop and Music from around the world. 30% of your final grade will be based on performances recorded throughout the course, 30% will be based on compositions you will have written and recorded and 40% will be based on a listening paper covering different styles of Music.

Who should I see for more information? Mr Reeve or Mr Hill in the Music department.

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Sociology

Sociology is the study of the way people behave in society. It attempts to find explanations for their behaviour. Over the 3 years of the course you will look at the topics of Studying Society, Education and Families, Crime and Deviance, Mass Media, Power and Social Inequality.

The lessons often involve a lot of discussion which leads to written tasks based around exam questions and content. Your homework will be mainly written based although there is a heavy emphasis on practical research in and out of class. This will include research such as carrying out surveys, interviewing people, doing observations and collecting information from sources such as the Internet.

Sociology is a very academic subject that requires a lot of written work using specific language and terminology. It is important you are aware of this and are prepared to write a significant amount.

Why should I choose Sociology?

As well as helping you get a better understanding of the world and our society, Sociology is an excellent preparation for any job that involves working with people. It is also a very valued stepping stone for studying Sociology and/or Psychology at College or University.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

- A curiosity about what happens in the world.
- An interest in why people behave the way they do.
- A love of conversation, discussion and argument.
- A willingness to write and develop essay style answers.
- If you are interested in what goes on in society then Sociology is for you.

How will this subject be assessed?

2 written exams at the end of Year 11.

Who should I see for more information? Mr Guiver (SO1)

OPTION SUBJECTS *All subjects listed are GCSE courses unless stated*

Statistics

Why should I choose Statistics?

GCSE Statistics develops skills you will use in other subjects such as science, geography, psychology, and helps reinforce techniques needed for your GCSE Maths as well as supporting your progression to A level Maths. Real-life scenarios will capture your interest and give you an insight into the importance of statistics in the real world.

What will you be learning?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to develop statistical fluency and understanding through:

- the use of statistical techniques in a variety of authentic investigations, using real-world data in contexts such as, but not limited to, populations, climate, sales etc.
- identifying trends through carrying out appropriate calculations and data visualisation techniques
- the application of statistical techniques across the curriculum, in subjects such as the sciences, social sciences, computing, geography, business and economics, and outside the classroom in the world in general
- critically evaluating data, calculations and evaluations that would be commonly encountered in their studies and in everyday life
- understanding how technology has enabled the collection, visualisation and analysis of large quantities of data to inform decision-making processes in public, commercial and academic sectors, including how technology can be used to generate diagrams and visualisations to represent data
understand ways that data can be organised, processed and presented, including statistical measures to compare data, understanding the advantages of using technology to automate processing
- applying appropriate mathematical and statistical formulae, and building on prior knowledge.

What personal qualities would be useful for this subject?

- You enjoy maths and are considering studying it at A Level

How will this subject be assessed?

There will be 2 written exams at the end of Year 11.

Who should I see for more information? Mr Coffin (M8) Mrs Astley (Maths Office)

GCSE grading System

The following diagram illustrates the grading system for all GCSE exams.

Grades A*- G have been replaced by numbers 9-1, where a C grade equates to a 4+ (just below a 5).

In response to this we will be challenging students to aim for grades 5 and higher.

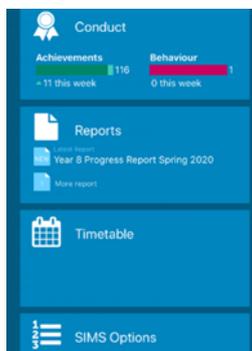
There is no distinct match with the numbers awarded now.

The old GCSE grades of grades G—D are now equivalent to numbers 1-3 and old GCSE grades of A and A * are now equivalent to numbers 7, 8 and 9.

How the new grades compare with the old ones

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6
	5 STRONG PASS
	4 STANDARD PASS
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

How to Use SIMS Options Online



Students **must** use SIMS Online to choose their options for next year. This can be done by choosing the SIMS Options tab in the SIMS Student App (you will need to have an internet connection) or by logging onto to the website www.sims-options.co.uk.

Sign in with the online service that you used to set up your SIMS account when you first downloaded the App. (e.g. Office 365). If you do not yet have a SIMS Student Account, or are having difficulties logging in, please come to the office behind reception. If you are a parent experiencing difficulties, please contact Office@patchamhigh.org.uk

The first screen you see is the **mandatory (must do)** option choice of Humanities subject. Only choose **ONE** of these courses here (You can do more, these courses will also be available in the additional option choices box).

Click on the name of the course you want to choose. Your choice will be highlighted in blue, and will show in the list of choices on the right-hand side of the screen (on a PC).

Then choose **the additional option** by clicking on the subject name. Your choices will be highlighted in blue, and will show in the list of choices on the right-hand side of the screen.

Choose **ONE** reserve subject in case your choice is over or under subscribed, by clicking on **Reserve**. This will be highlighted in orange and will show in the 'My Reserves' box.

If you already do Statistics you cannot choose this subject for Year 10.

Finally select the language you will be studying—for most students this will their current language, some students do study 2 so you should choose the priority language here—add notes if you wish to continue to study 2 languages.

You can add any comments that you want teachers to be aware of regarding your option choices in the Student Comments box.

▼ Student Comments

Add any comments here

FINALLY, you MUST press the SAVE button at the top of the screen otherwise your choices will not save for your parents to approve.



PARENTS / CARERS

When your child has made their option choices, you then need to login to your SIMS Parent App and choose Options Online, or use your SIMS online account at www.sims-options.co.uk.

You will then see a screen similar to this, which shows the choices your child has made, the Reserve choices, and the preference order for their options.

The screenshot displays the 'Humanities Choice' section where a student has selected 'Geography GCSE Full Course'. Below this is the 'Additional Subject Choice' section with a grid of options including Art, German, French, Media Studies, Spanish, Computer Science, Drama, Design Technology, Hospitality & Catering, Food Prep & Nutrition, Music, Statistics, and Sociology. The 'Language choice' section shows 'French GCSE Full Course' selected. On the right, 'Priority Choices' lists Geography, Art, and French in order. At the bottom, there are checkboxes for 'School Approval', 'School Comments', 'Student Comments', and 'Parent/Carer Approval', with the latter being unchecked.

Scroll down to the bottom of the screen and check the box called Parent / Carer approval, to confirm that you agree with their option choices and order of preference.

You MUST then press the SAVE button at the top of the screen so that we know you have approved their choices.