



Almondbury
Community School

Year 8 Options for Year 9 in September 2018

Core GCSEs			Option X	Option Y	Option Z	Enrichment	Non-GCSE			
5 lessons	4 lessons	4 lessons	3 lessons	3 lessons	3 lessons	2 lessons	1 lesson	2 lessons	2 lessons	1 lesson
English	Maths	Science	Business Studies Physical Education Spanish* Triple Science	Art Graphic Design Spanish*	Geography History	To be arranged	Computing	RE / Citizenship	Physical Education	PSE

- Changes may need to be made to the distribution of subjects or to their offer depending on how many pupils choose them.
- All pupils will take 5 GCSEs in the core subjects: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science (Double Award).
- Pupils will select a further three GCSE subjects. One subject must be selected from each of the columns X, Y and Z.
- *Spanish will not be compulsory; pupils will be given clear guidance about whether or not they are expected to take it.
- All pupils will be interviewed about their choices before options are finalised.
- Pupils will also select an area from the Enrichment column. This column allows pupils to pursue interests which will not necessarily lead to GCSEs, although additional qualifications can be taken. The emphasis in Enrichment is on pupils enjoying a range of experiences, gaining confidence and preparing for life after school. Educational visits, visiting speakers and some work experience are also possible in Enrichment. The options for Enrichment activities will be discussed at interviews and will be finalised later in the year.
- The numbers of lessons for some subjects will be different in Years 10 and 11.

Art GCSE

The Art and Design GCSE course is run over three years. The course starts at the beginning of September in Year 9 and covers aspects of drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, textiles, clay-work and 3D work. Drawing assignments are set as homework, in addition to any preparation work necessary for the development of a student's own ideas and projects.

It is important to note that this examination calls for initiative on the part of the candidates and that they will be required to show evidence of creative thinking and an ability to sustain concentrated in-depth individual study. This applies increasingly in Year 11 as a controlled test of 10 hours is required at the end of the final exam project. In order to gain a good grade at Art and Design GCSE, pupils must be determined to develop good technical skills, willing to think originally and develop ideas independently.

The pupils' work is examined in the May of Year 11 and takes the form of an individual exhibition of work produced during the course; internal and external assessors grade this independently and the board sets the final grade. 60% of the marks are gained for coursework and 40% are for the exam controlled project. Both coursework and exam project must be passed.

It is not generally appreciated how wide the field of career possibilities is to those who leave school with a broad understanding of skills in Art and Design, Graphics, Fabric, Interior Design and other creative industries. It is always a strong influence on a prospective employer when school leavers can show clear visual evidence of their ability to think, to plan, to persevere and ultimately complete a project on their own initiative. The portfolio of finished work is the Art student's 'Record of Achievement' and can be referred to at any time.

Business Studies GCSE

This subject will give business knowledge of organisations across every industry with a focus on business enterprise, finance and employment.

In Year 9 pupils will be involved in real-life business scenarios, setting up small enterprises and experiencing what it is really like to run a business.

In Year 10 pupils will cover the following topics: the dynamic nature of the business; risk and reward; the role of the business enterprise; customer needs; market research; market segmentation; the competitive environment; business aims and objectives; business revenues, costs and profits; cash and cash flow; sources of business finance; the options that exist for a start-up business; business location; the marketing mix; business plans; business stakeholders; technology and business; legislation and business; the economy and business; external influences.

In Year 11 pupils will cover the following topics: business growth; changes in the business aims and objectives; business and globalisation; ethics, the environment and business; product; price; promotion; place; using the marketing mix to make business decisions; business operations; working with suppliers; managing quality; the sales process; business calculations; understanding business performance; organisational structures; effective recruitment; effective training and development; motivation.

Edexcel GCSE Business

Theme 1 – Investigation of Small Business

Written examination: 50% of grade

Theme 2 – Building a Business

Written examination: 50% of grade

Geography GCSE

Planet Earth is an amazing and interesting place. Geography GCSE is a subject that allows you to explore this world and discover more about the planet and how it is changing over time.

We study both physical and human Geography, from rainforests to coral reefs, climate change and ice ages to coasts and desert environments. In Year 11 we focus on Human Geography, studying the issues of over-population and the growth of cities and the globalisation of industry and trade.

All topics are linked by an appreciation that whilst our planet can affect our lives, we also have an impact on the planet. You will learn how to become a better global citizen.

There is also an element of fieldwork based investigations where pupils visit different locations and practice a variety of fieldwork skills from measuring the velocity of a river to environmental quality surveys in Cities.

Geography GCSE is subject which develops communication skills and IT skills which all employers look for, as well as subject-specific skills which can be widely applied in a range of jobs. The green sector is a growing sector of the economy and a qualification in Geography opens up opportunities in careers such as environmental management and urban planning, travel and tourism, renewable energy companies, wildlife conservation, teaching, weather forecasting, marine biology.....the list goes on.

We follow the Edexcel Geography B syllabus *The Dynamic Planet*. This is a brand new course which will be offered for first entry in 2018. It will be assessed through terminal examinations at the end of Year 11.

Graphic Design

The course we will be following is the NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Graphic Design.

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop their design and modelling skills, increase their subject knowledge and strengthen their understanding of graphic media through a “Design and Make it” philosophy. Pupils’ work will be continually assessed through their portfolio.

Throughout the course students will develop their research and analytical skills. They will have the opportunity to study;

- Visual drawing skills
- Skills in the use of Art & Design materials
- Designing and modelling with the aid of 2D & 3D computer software
- CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design/Manufacture) skills

Graphic Design is a creative subject and will appeal to students interested in Art & Design. Pupils will develop a portfolio of design which can be used as visual evidence of their graphic skills for college interviews.

This course would benefit students whom wish to follow a career in:

- Interior Design
- Architecture
- Graphic Design
- Photography
- Art & Design
- Creative craft
- Interactive Media

History GCSE

In Year 9 pupils will study the twentieth century to gain an understanding of the main events, changes and individuals from this exciting time period. Pupils will develop their ability to use documentary evidence, understand the causes of events and consider the impact of those events on individual people's lives and on societies. In particular pupils will learn about: the causes of the Great War; the economics of the inter-war years; the causes of World War 2; the holocaust; the origins of the NHS and welfare systems; the cold war; the space race; the end of Empire and independence in India and Africa; key events towards the end of the century and the threat posed by terrorism.

Details for Years 10 and 11 are not yet available as new GCSE specifications for first entry in 2019 are still being finalised. However, all specifications will be designed to help learners to become curious, to develop their own opinions based on evidence and to build a greater understanding of the present by seeing its origins in the past. Below is an outline of the type of specification which pupils are likely to follow:

Paper 1 – 1 hour and 45 minutes

Thematic Study – The People's Health, c.1250 to present 20%

British Depth Study – The Norman Conquest 20%

Paper 2 – 1 hour

History Around Us – this involves a visit to a local historical site 20%

Paper 3 – 1 hour and 45 minutes

Period Study – The Making of America, 1789-1900 20%

World Depth Study – to be decided 20%

Physical Education GCSE

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport

What's assessed

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 78 marks
- 30% of GCSE

Questions

- Answer all questions.
- A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions.

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Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport

What's assessed

- Sports psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Use of data

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 78 marks
- 30% of GCSE

Questions

- Answer all questions.
- A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions.

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Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport

What's assessed

- Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity).
- Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.

How it's assessed

- Assessed by teachers
- Moderated by AQA
- 100 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Questions

- For each of their three activities, students will be assessed in skills in progressive drills (10 marks per activity) and in the full context (15 marks per activity).
- Students will be assessed on their analysis (15 marks) and evaluation (10 marks) of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.

This course is made up of 70% theory and 30% practical so you will have two theory lessons and one practical lesson per week. You must be regularly attending extra-curricular activities, preferably in one of the activities below.

Practical Performance Options			
Team activity list		Individual activity list	
Association Football	Lacrosse	Amateur Boxing	Equestrian
Badminton (doubles)	Netball	Athletics	Rock Climbing
Basketball	Rowing	Badminton (singles)	Skiing
Cricket	Rugby League and Union	Canoeing / Kayaking	Snowboarding
Dance	Squash (doubles)	Cycling – track or road	Squash (singles)
Gaelic Football	Table Tennis	Dance	Swimming
Handball	Tennis (doubles)	Platform Diving	Table Tennis (singles)
Hockey	Volleyball	Golf	Tennis (singles)
Hurling		Artistic Gymnastics	Trampolining

Spanish GCSE

Spanish is spoken by 500 million people across the world, and this number is expected to reach 600 million by 2050. It is the second most studied language in the world with more than 20 million students choosing to learn this language.

Spanish is the:

- Official language of 22 countries
- 2nd largest native language in the world
- 2nd language used for international communication
- 3rd most used language on the internet

There is a growing global need for a working knowledge of Spanish in many varied careers: travel and tourism, the media, journalism, MI5, sales and marketing, customer support, education, translating, interpreting and many more.

The EDUQAS GCSE will equip you with essential skills to meet this need.

Themes studied are broken into 3 areas which each divide into 6 sub-topics, tested on final exams in all four skills.

<u>IDENTITY AND CULTURE</u>	<u>LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL AREAS OF INTEREST</u>	<u>CURRENT/FUTURE STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self and relationships• Health and fitness• Festivals and celebrations• Entertainment and leisure• Technology and social media• Food and drink	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local areas of interest• Environment• Holidays and tourism• Travel and transport• Features/areas of Spain/Spanish speaking countries• Social issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School/college life• School/college studies• Employment• Skills and personal qualities• Post-16 study• Career plans

Lessons will include thorough preparation for the final exams, as well as enrichment activities such as cooking typical food, study of songs and popular culture and regular competitions and challenges.

The knowledge of a language would be an advantage for furthering your career in any field. Spanish gets you places!

Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics GCSEs)

In this option, pupils study for three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Why study Triple Science? As well as studying the three subjects in greater depth and developing a wider knowledge base, you have more opportunity to practise the Science skills that are valued by employers and are helpful in a wide variety of different careers.

Triple Science GCSEs provide an excellent foundation for pupils who wish to study science at the post-16 level, and pursue a science-based career such as medicine, nursing, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, zoology, marine biology or forensic science to name a few. However, they are also taken by pupils who do not intend further study in science but have an interest in the wealth of knowledge covered by science and its role in the world around us.

Each GCSE is examined at the end of Year 11 through two exams, each contributing 50% to the final GCSE grade achieved.

If you enjoy science then you should definitely consider studying Triple Science. Everyone does best in subjects they enjoy and you might find that there is a particular area of Science that you excel in!

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation of plants and animals	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Respiration & photosynthesis	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Forces
Inheritance, variation and evolution	The rate and extent of chemical change	Waves
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Magnetism and electromagnetism
	Chemical analysis	Space physics
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using the Earth's resources	