



## Year 9 Options

Options are the subjects that you study throughout Years 10 and 11 in addition to the core curriculum (English, Maths, Science, PSHE and PE). If you study hard and achieve your potential, the subjects you choose can help you go onto further education, employment or training.

Of course, excellent attendance, punctuality and hard work are all vital if you are to be successful!

DO:

- ❖ Think carefully
- ❖ Talk to older students and your parents/carers
  - ❖ Listen to advice offered by teachers
- ❖ Choose subjects you enjoy or feel you are good at

AND REMEMBER

- ❖ Choose wisely – Think of your pathway ahead

This booklet is a great resource, which will help you to make well-informed and confident choices about your future education.

If you need help with your choices, or if you are simply unsure of the option process, then talk to someone. Your form-tutor, Key Stage Co-ordinator or subject teachers will be able to advise you on your future. Your school friends however, are likely to have their own ambitions in mind and their judgement may well differ from yours.

## An Introduction to Key Stage 4

Here are the subjects that you will be studying at Key Stage 4:

### 1 - Compulsory (Core) subjects

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Sessions per week</b>
English	GCSE & Functional Skills	5
Maths	GCSE & Functional Skills	5
Science	GCSE & Entry level	4
CoPE	Level 1/2 Asdan	2
Employability	NCFE Level 1/2	2
RSE	NCFE Level 1/2	1
ICT	Functional Skills	1
Physical Education	NCFE L1	2
Technology	ASDAN Foodwise	1
Outdoor Education		2

### 2 - Options subjects

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Sessions per week</b>
Art & Design	NCFE Level 1	2
Geography	ASDAN	2
Hospitality – Practical Cookery	NVQ Level 1/NCFE Level 1	6
History	ASDAN	2
Joinery/Construction	ASDAN	2
Land Based Operations	NVQ Level 1	15
Practical Cake Craft	NCFE Level 1	2
Textiles	NCFE Level 1	2

## **Art & Design**

### **NCFE Level 1/2**

This course is designed to give students a thorough understanding of Art and Design through investigations and responses to artists, issues and environments. This is achieved through refining practical skills; in particular, drawing, painting, sculpture and photography while making links to artists' work and the world around them to challenge and extend their creativity.

#### **What will I learn?**

Students will also be encouraged to research Artists along with themes and issues to provide context to their practical outcomes.

In year 10 students will study two projects, each providing opportunities to work in a wide range of mediums including painting, drawing, photography, print work and 3D techniques. Each student builds a body of work in portfolios and largescale / 3D work to develop imaginative and intuitive ways of working. Knowledge and understanding of media, materials and technologies in historical and contemporary contexts, societies and cultures is the building blocks to the course. The level of chosen subject matter within these personalised projects prepares students adequately for the Level 2 qualification undertaken during Year 11. Here students will be given free reign over their sustained projects, having been given a small range of starting points/briefs provided by the teacher. Students have the freedom to stretch their creative wings and work to their own interests and tastes.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

#### **Where could Art and Design lead me?**

A qualification in Art could take you to College to study Art & Design. There are many careers that follow on from further study such as: architect, accessory designer, advertising designer, animation director, animator, art director, artist, cartoonist, comic book creator, furniture designer, game artist, graphic designer, interior designer, jewellery designer, photographer, potter, printmaker, sculptor, set decorator and stage director, plus many more!

## **Asdan & CoPE**

ASDAN is an awarding organisation and at The Gillford Centre we are working towards The Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE). This is allowing our students the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification at Level 1 or Level 2, which are comparable to GCSE's. The students are working towards this qualification through a range of learning opportunities and different areas of the curriculum, allowing pupils to be successful in areas of their interest.

### **What will I learn?**

In Key Stage 4 students are working towards the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE) award at Level 1 or Level 2 which is equivalent to a GCSE. Students work on a range of topics, independent living, communication, sports and leisure and international links to gain qualifying hours and credits towards the award. They also demonstrate their capabilities in six skill areas through their work to gain the qualification, these are teamwork, independent learning, problem solving, research, discussion and oral presentation.

The humanities lessons in Key Stage 4 also tie into the CoPE qualification as we cover ASDAN short courses including Big issues and Physical Processes. This gives our students more opportunities to be successful and cover the required hours and credits.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the awarding body of Asdan. External moderation of the standard of work to meet the requirements of standards can also take place.

### **Where could my Asdan & CoPE qualification lead me?**

CoPE and Asdan qualifications help develop a key set of skills for life and learning. You will develop a personalised pathway. This qualification will add to your qualifications and will support your application to College or an apprenticeship, whilst giving you the skills to be able to make those applications successful.

## **Construction Asdan**

Vocational Tasters offer learners an introduction to a range of employment sectors. Ideal for learners following an alternative progression route, these courses help learners to make progress towards their personal learning and career aims.

Increasing learners' knowledge of different employment sectors will help them to make informed and long-lasting decisions about their post-16 destinations.

### **What will I learn?**

The **Construction Vocational Taster** contains modules in:

General construction operations; bricklaying; carpentry and joinery; painting and decorative finishing; health and safety in the construction sector; and careers in the construction sector.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

### **Where could Construction lead me?**

This could lead you to further study of the construction industry. You might wish to develop your skills and specialise in an area such as; Brickwork, plastering, Carpentry, Bench joinery or Painting and decorating.

You might decide to pursue the apprenticeship route and develop your skills and knowledge through work-based learning

# English

## GCSE & Functional Skills

In English we aim to inspire pupils and reignite their interest in reading and writing; encouraging them to understand that English is not just about letters and words and spelling but about exploration. We enable them to question, imagine and develop their awareness of our own and the literary world and its characters through personalised lessons and interventions; encouraging progress and a feeling of achievement

### **What will I learn?**

In Key Stage 4 we support students in obtaining their external qualifications in both GCSE and Functional Skills. Alongside all exam content are the opportunities for further personalised interventions to develop key skills in Literacy.

Students work towards achieving a GCSE in English Language using the exam board AQA. All lessons have an exam focus, with every lesson exploring GCSE content and application of understanding in order to encourage as much practice as possible. In addition to English Language, students will complete a non-examination unit, spoken language. Spoken language (previously speaking and listening) emphasises the importance of the wider benefits that speaking and listening skills have for students as they progress on to further education or employment.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Students will also be given the opportunity to achieve a qualification in Functional Skills-English at Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2. Accreditation is achieved through internal and external on-demand assessments.

### **Where could English lead me?**

The aim of this course is to encourage practical application of Literacy while providing the essential knowledge, skills and understanding that to enable students to operate confidently, effectively and independently in school, life and at work.

## **Employability L1 / L2**

The employability course is a 2 year modular course through from the awarding body NCFE. It is a flexible course that we can build to meet our learners need. Students will work through a range of activities tailored to their needs and gain the skills and knowledge to help prepare them to apply for a place at college, an apprenticeship.

### **What will I learn?**

In Key stage 4 students will be working through a range of units gaining qualifications and skills for life.

Units covered include; Writing a CV, searching for a job, applying for a job, working in a team, understanding mindset,

Units will equip students with the essential soft skills that employers are looking for:

Problem solving, communication, self-management, teamwork, creativity, leadership, numeracy and digital skills.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

### **Where could Employability lead me?**

This could lead you to applying for a place at college; an apprenticeship or even a part time job whilst at college. These skills and knowledge will also help you in future search for full time employment. With growing competition for jobs this qualification can help bridge the gap between you and the end goal – the workplace.

## **Food - Hospitality – Practical Cookery skills**

### **NCFE Level 1/NVQ Level 1/Asdan Living Independently/Foodwise**

During food lessons we instil a love of cooking in all pupils, learning about food is focused on practical lessons which present pupils with everyday decisions, creativity, innovation and problem solving. With a strong focus and drive to develop independent learners, whilst acquiring a broad range of subject knowledge.

#### **What will I learn?**

In Key stage 4 students start to develop a depth of knowledge and understanding of ingredients. They will develop their knife and food preparation skills to make a range of savoury and sweet dishes. They are preparing and presenting a more sophisticated dish with higher level skills encouraged. Students do have choice and are able to adapt and select recipes independently as their knowledge of ingredients, food preparation and cooking develops.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

#### **Where could Food & Hospitality lead me?**

This could lead you to further study of the food and Hospitality Industry it may include branching out into food science or animal welfare/husbandry courses.

Careers could include; Dairy technologist, Food Product developer, Hospitality management and industry, Armed Forces catering corps, independent caterer, teaching – Food Technology/Hospitality, Restaurant & Hotel kitchens, wedding industry, Food Nutrition analyst.

## **Food - Practical Cake Craft**

### **NCFE level 1/2**

This is a vocational course which present pupils with the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge in a growing everyday decisions, creativity, innovation and problem solving. With a strong focus and drive to develop independent learners, whilst acquiring a broad range of subject knowledge.

#### **What will I learn?**

In Key stage 4 students start to develop a depth of knowledge and understanding of ingredients and functional properties. They will develop their food hygiene, and a more sophisticated and intricate decoration and high end presentation skills. They will learn a range of Cake craft in baked goods and methods of decoration such as piping with different foods, sugar craft and combining this with colorants and edible glitters. Students do have choice and are able to adapt and select recipes independently as their knowledge of ingredients, food preparation and cooking develops. They will be learning how to develop own designs responding to clients' needs and occasions to mirror real life briefs that they may be face with in the workplace.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

#### **Where could Cake Craft lead me?**

This could lead you to further study of the Food and Hospitality Industry it may include branching out into food science or an apprenticeship was a pastry chef – of which there is a shortage within the industry.

Careers could include; Food Product developer, Hospitality management and industry, Armed Forces catering corps, independent caterer, teaching – Food Technology/Hospitality, Restaurant & Hotel kitchens, wedding industry, Food Nutrition analyst.

## **Geography Asdan**

In Geography we aim to get students to make progress towards becoming a geographer, understanding and valuing the importance of the subject to their life now and in their future. We work to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of local and worldwide environmental issues. We look at change and the impact resulting from research and our own investigations. Activities are designed to encourage students develop enquiry- based study and independent research skills whilst developing and building on their studies at KS3.

### **What will I learn?**

In Key Stage 4 students are working towards an ASDAN qualification in the Geography Short Course. The course has a variety of ways of recording skills including: The Importance of Key/Core Skills; Learning; Teamwork; Coping with Problems; Use of IT; Use of English and Use of Maths.

The course focuses on 6 Key Geographical Skills including: Observation, Inquiry, Testing and Applying Knowledge, Presenting Data, Making Comparisons and Using Maps.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board

### **Where could Geography lead me?**

This could lead to a career in Forestry, Park/forest ranger, environmental scientists, Geophysics, landscape gardening, archeology, town planning and infrastructures.

# Health & Fitness

## L1

Health & Fitness teaches students how to enhance their own health, safety, wellbeing and physical activity participation in varied and changing contexts. This subject also has strong foundations in scientific fields such as physiology, nutrition, biomechanics and psychology, which inform what we understand about healthy, safe and active lifestyle choices.

### **What will I learn?**

In KS4, students undertake the NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Sport. This qualification is designed to help support the learner's personal development through acquiring skills and knowledge in sport, exercise and fitness. The qualification also allows learners to gain personal transferrable skills that can be applied to the workplace or further study. This qualification will: focus on the study of the sport within the leisure sector, offer breadth and depth of study, incorporating a key core of knowledge, provide opportunities to acquire a number of practical and technical skills.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

### **Where could Sport & Fitness lead me?**

- gain an understanding of the sport, exercise and leisure vocational sector such as gym instructor, coach, teacher
- study areas of particular interest
- encourage learners to adopt a fitter and healthier lifestyle

## **History Asdan**

The History Asdan course is a short course that has been developed by the Historical Association. The course is accessible and develops the students sense of enquiry and provides genuine opportunities for students to 'do' history and offers a viable alternative to GCSE or entry level as well as working as a stand-alone unit for students who may not have continued their study of history with the opportunity to do so in an accessible way.

### **What will I learn?**

The six modules on offer have been designed to build into a coherent whole, offering options in Local, British, European and World history. Each individual challenge also helps develop one of the concepts and/or skills introduced by the History National Curriculum. They give scope for teachers and/or students to follow their own interests and ideas, yet enough guidance and support to make the activities challenging.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

### **Where could History lead me?**

A course in History could lead to further study at College.

It could lead to potential careers in Museum curatorship, management in museums, national/ local archives or teaching to name but a few.

# Land Based Operations

## NVQ L1

Gain the basic skills and knowledge you need to find a job in agriculture, horticulture or animal care. With an Award, Certificate or Diploma in Work-based Land-based Operations you learn to do a land-based job under supervision - and you'll have plenty of options for developing your career in a range of directions. This course is a heavily practical based course based outdoors. There is an element of portfolio collation which will be based at school giving organisation skills and a portfolio suitable for apprenticeship applications.

### **What will I learn?**

This qualification is a vocational based qualification which covers everything from habitat management to hedge-laying - so you can progress to a range of Level 2 qualifications.

An Award, Certificate or Diploma in Work-based Land-based Operations is ideal for anyone wishing to kick start a career in agriculture, horticulture or animal care. You may already want to work in a particular field - like conservation - or you want to keep your options open.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Students will complete a portfolio of work to evidence their learning.

Students will be given feedback on how to improve their work and it will be marked internally and then will be moderated externally by City and Guilds.

# **Maths**

## **GCSE & Functional Skills**

During mathematics lessons throughout key stage 3 and 4 students study a range of topics based on the key content areas of Number, Algebra, Geometry and Measures, and Statistics. The level of work is based on students' prior attainment and their targets, this allows teachers to plan activities to address any gaps in understanding, build on previous knowledge and reinforce and deepen students' skills and mathematical knowledge. Problem solving tasks are used to develop students' ability to use their skills to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts.

### **What will I learn?**

In key stage 4 we follow the AQA syllabus. The Mathematics course offers two tiers of entry, Foundation and Higher. Students are set by ability with regular assessments used to judge progress and inform of any early interventions. All students study for the GCSE and a some students, who find Mathematics very challenging, are also entered for an Entry Level Certificate in Mathematics and Functional Skills Mathematics. GCSE Mathematics is assessed by three terminal exams. All the exams cover a range of content – Number, Ratio and Proportion, Algebra, Geometry and Statistics. In Paper 1 a calculator is not allowed, whereas in Papers 2 and 3 a calculator is allowed. There is no coursework. Exams are taken in the summer term at the end of Year 11.

### **How will I be assessed?**

You will be assessed through teacher assessment throughout the course. Students will also be given the opportunity to achieve a qualification in Functional Skills-Maths at Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2. Accreditation is achieved through internal and external on-demand assessments. At GCSE students will sit externally marked exams at the end of year 11.

### **Where could Maths lead me?**

The aim of this course is to encourage practical application of numeracy while providing the essential knowledge, skills and understanding that to enable students to operate confidently, effectively and independently in school, life and at work.

## **Science**

### **GCSE & Entry Level**

The science department at the Gillford Centre has a purpose-built laboratory where pupils can explore and investigate a selection of biology, chemistry and physics topics. There is a focus on developing the student's ability to use investigative approaches, and to form conclusions from the results they achieve. They are given opportunities to use these skills to explore a variety of tasks in logical and scientific ways.

#### **What will I learn?**

In years 10 and 11 students work towards achieving the AQA GCSE Combined Science (Synergy) qualification. This is a double GCSE which is divided into two sections – 'Life and Environmental Sciences' and 'Physical Sciences'.

The students will aim to achieve two GCSEs in Combined Sciences. Although these are examination based students will also experience 'required practicals' during curriculum time, and their knowledge of these will be tested in the year 11 examinations.

The science GCSE courses develop student's analytical and practical skills, along with an understanding of the world around them – these are applicable to a huge range of careers and further education pathways.

Students may also be given the opportunity to work towards their Science Entry Level Certificates (ELC) to build on the core scientific concepts and skills taught at Key Stage 3. Assessment is on demand, so you can complete assignments when they are ready, helping to keep them motivated.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

You will be teacher assessed throughout the course and will undertake a number of practical assessments that you will need to complete in the lab. Following this you will take mock examinations and leading to exams at the end of year 11

#### **Where could Science lead me?**

A qualification in Science can support with a range of careers, from agriculture to engineering and careers in the public sector and the NHS.

## **Textile Design**

### **NCFE L1/2 Traditional Crafts**

Textile design is defined as the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched, printed or decorative textiles that might have a functional or non-functional purpose.

During the course, students will be introduced to and develop skills in weaving, felting, stitching, appliqué, pattern drafting, sewing by hand and machine and printing. This is a very practical, hands on course, and is well suited for students who wish to be creative without a heavy focus on drawing and painting.

#### **What will I learn?**

In Year 10 students will develop skills and knowledge of functional properties of fabrics, principles and inspiration for design, they will look at designers and themes to inspire their designs. Students will be provided opportunities to study the work of historical and contemporary designers and craftspeople.

You will be introduced to skills such as: felting, weaving, sewing, dying fabrics and batik in addition to mastering print techniques which include; screen printing, relief printing and collagraph printing. You will learn how to create motifs, design patterns and form your final material outcomes into wallhangings, garments or textiles products.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment will take place continuously with coursework completed in class. Feedback will be given to students throughout on how to improve their work and meet the standards of the exam board.

#### **Where could Textiles lead me?**

As well as leading you to further study up at college Textiles offer a range of careers within the following industries: Interior design, Pattern design -fabric, wallpaper design, carpets and other household furnishings, Fashion design, Visual merchandiser, buyer, sportswear design, medical smart textile design.

## Useful websites

National Careers Service - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>

We offer free and impartial information, advice and guidance to help you with your decisions about careers, courses and work. Our service is supported by qualified careers advisers.

Bitesize | GCSE Options - [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p)

Whether you're deciding what to study, taking your exams, planning a career, or just curious, we're here to explain the world of work, with advice from people who've found the right path for them. Plus great videos with hints and tips on picking your options.

Start - [www.startprofile.com](http://www.startprofile.com)

Start is a free, online careers platform, designed to connect 11-18 year olds with their future career potential. By following Start's structured and progressive activities, the platform caters for all students helping them to make more informed decisions about future study and career options at the right time and in good time.

UCAS - [www.ucas.com/further-education/find-career-ideas](http://www.ucas.com/further-education/find-career-ideas)

Find career ideas by exploring different jobs, taking our career quiz, or looking at volunteering, work experience, apprenticeships, or starting your own business.

Apprenticeships - <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>

Look at finding an apprenticeship by going on the apprenticeships service at gov.uk. You will be able to see what is on offer locally and look at what you might need to study or what work experience you might need to find so that you are ready to apply for your apprenticeship. Earning and learning is a good way to go!



Name :

Tutor:

**Compulsory/ Core Subjects**

English, Maths, Science, ICT, CoPE, Employability, PE, Outdoor Education, RSE, Technology,

**Options**

Art and Design / Geography / Hospitality / History / Construction / Land-based / Cake-craft / Textiles

Option 1	Option 2	Reserve 1	Reserve 2

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor/Co-ordinator comments
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This form must be completed following a conversation with student, parent/carer and KS Co-ordinator