

**YEAR  
9**



# Options Process

Key information on the options process and subjects that are available in Key Stage 4.



# Your Key Stage 4 journey starts now...

Starting to think about Key Stage 4 can be an exciting and daunting task. Make sure you spend plenty of time researching the options that are available to you and also speaking to lots of different people before making your final decision.

**Remember, this is your decision - make it a good one!**

## A message from the Head of School

Key Stage 3 has given you a strong foundation to build on. Over the last three years, you have studied a wide range of subjects and developed knowledge, skills, and habits that will stay with you well beyond school. Now you are approaching an important next step. Years 10 and 11 are your GCSE years. This is where learning becomes more focused and your choices start to reflect your interests, strengths, and ambitions.

All students will continue to study a strong core of subjects. This matters. It keeps future pathways open and helps you develop the knowledge, skills, and qualifications that colleges, apprenticeships, employers and universities require.

Alongside this, you will choose some subjects of your own. There is no single right pathway. What matters is that you choose subjects that play to your strengths, interest you, and give you the best chance of success. Think carefully about what you enjoy, what you are good at, and where you want your GCSEs to take you.

You are not expected to do this on your own. Teachers, tutors, and leaders will guide you through the process. You will have information, advice, and opportunities to ask questions. Use them. Take your time. Make choices that are right for you.

This is the start of your GCSE journey. Approach it thoughtfully and with confidence. Your next chapter begins here.

**Chris Coleman**  
**Head of School**

# Key Stage 4: The Curriculum

## In Key Stage 4 your core curriculum is broad and balanced.

At the end of Year 11, you will take important national exams, usually GCSEs or technical qualifications.

From Year 9 onwards, you can choose from lots of exciting subjects. These options are designed to match your strengths and interests, and to help you make good progress through Years 9–11 and beyond.

When you're deciding what to pick, try to gather as much information as you can. Talk to your teachers and your parents or carers, and think carefully about what they say. You'll also get support in thinking about your future plans, and these ideas should help guide your choices.

All our GCSEs and Technical qualifications are Level 2 courses. This means you can choose either type knowing they have equal value when you apply for further study, apprenticeships or jobs with training. Technical qualifications are created with employers, so they're great if you want something more practical and work-focused.

## GCSE vs Vocational?

GCSE Subjects	Vocational Subjects
Assessed mainly through exams (some have coursework)	Assessed mainly through coursework and a small exam.
Graded 9-1	Graded Distinction* to Pass
All subjects except for Engineering, IT, Health & Social Care, Sport Science and Travel & Tourism.	Engineering, IT, Health & Social Care, Sport Science and Travel & Tourism.

## Core Subjects (Everyone does these)



English Language  
English Literature



Mathematics



Biology, Chemistry  
and Physics



Religious Education



Modern  
Foreign Languages



Core PE

## Options Subjects (Pick three from this list)



Geography



History



Computing



Business



Food  
Technology



Textiles



Resistant  
Materials



Engineering



PE



Art



Music



Drama



Travel & Tourism



IT



Health & Social Care

# Helping you

## Make Good Choices



Do **thoroughly research** choices

Dont **pick subjects based on your friends.**



Do **pick subjects you enjoy**

Dont **pick subjects based on the teacher.**



Do **think about future careers**

Dont **leave it to the last minute**



Do **speak to teachers, family and friends**



# The Options Timeline 26/27

## Key Dates

### January 2026

- **14<sup>th</sup>** Options process launched to students during Options assembly
- **19<sup>th</sup>** Subject Talks start in lessons and during Morning Registration

*An introduction to the options process from Mr Pickering*

*Teachers will talk to you about their subjects in lessons.*

### February 2026

- **5<sup>th</sup>** - Options Evening for Students and Parents/carers 4:00-6:00
- **12<sup>th</sup>** Subject Consultation Evening
- **22<sup>nd</sup>** Options Choices are submitted online.

*A chance for you to come and chat to our staff about KS4*

*Parents evening with subject teachers*

# Choosing your options

Subject	Category
Engineering	Technology
DT/Textiles	Technology
Food	Technology
Business Studies	Writing
Geography	Writing
History	Writing
Health & Social	Writing
Travel & Tourism	Writing
Art	Practical
Photography	Practical
Drama	Practical
Music	Practical
PE	Practical
Spanish	Practical
Computing	Digital
IT	Digital

If you wish to study a technology you can pick **one** from this list.

We **recommend** no more than **two** options from Writing or Practical Subjects

Please note you cannot select Art and Photography together

If you would like to study a digital subject, pick either Computing or IT

## Attendance Matters

With so many exciting courses available to you in Key Stage 4 there really is no reason to miss a day of the adventure!

These subjects open doors for you after you leave Conyers - the key to getting good grades is being here in lessons.



# English

## Language and Literature

*Developing confident communicators through literature, language and creative expression.*

All students study for two GCSEs in English: English Language and English Literature.

**English Language** involves reading and responding to a range of texts, from websites to novels. Your writing is assessed in two exams.

In **English Literature**, you read and respond to a Shakespeare play, a classic novel, a modern play and a selection of poetry.



### How am I assessed?

English Language	English Literature
2 Exam Papers	2 Exam Papers
Speaking and Listening Assesment (Separate Grade Awarded).	Responses to a Shakespeare play, a modern play, a classic novel, a range of poems, unseen poems.
2 Writing Tasks, questions on unseen fiction and non-fiction texts.	Worth 2 GCSEs

Exam Board: AQA  
Subject Leader: Dr Lodge

Core Subject - All Students

### What will I learn?

- You will learn how to read with understanding.
- You will learn to respond to your reading in detail.
- You will learn how to write imaginatively, persuasively and with control.
- You will learn about some complex and enriching books and poems.

### Where will it lead?

This qualification opens doors after Year 11. To access Level 3 qualifications (A-Levels, BTECs and many apprenticeships) you need to have a Grade 4.

English students are highly employable people and often work in:

- Teaching
- Law
- Journalism and Media
- Business Management
- Communications and PR

Students who are successful in English can pursue English Language and Literature at A-Level in our Sixth Form.

# Mathematics

Exam Board: OCR/Edexcel  
Subject Leader: Mr Black

**Core Subject - All Students**

*Building logical thinking and problem-solving skills for life and work.*

Mathematics is not just about 'working out calculations', although that is an important aspect.

Employers and colleges/universities want you to have GCSE Mathematics because it shows that you can think logically, see your way through a problem and deal with abstraction. It also shows that you can remember key facts and apply them to new situations/questions. These are important skills for almost any future career or course of study.

All students will follow an updated GCSE Mathematics course, with a strong emphasis on 'functional' skills. There will be regular end of topic reviews and termly internal assessments. The GCSE Mathematics course is linear, with an examination at the end of the course in Year 11.

A small number of students will be invited to study Further Maths GCSE if they are expected to achieve a 7+



## How am I assessed?

### GCSE Mathematics

There is no coursework, it is 100% Exam

There are two tiers, Foundation and Higher, and students will follow the course best suited to their ability.

Assessment is via three papers, one non-calculator and two calculator, taken at the end of the course.

## What will I learn?

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Apply mathematical knowledge and understanding to solve problems
- Think and communicate mathematically – precisely, logically and creatively
- Apply mathematical concepts to situations arising in their own lives
- Acquire the skills needed to use technology such as calculators and computers effectively

## Where will this lead?

This qualification opens doors after Year 11. To access Level 3 qualifications (A-Levels, BTECs and many apprenticeships) you need to have a Grade 4.

Mathematics can lead to a variety of careers. Employers appreciate employees who can problem solve, work in a logical manner and are resilient. Careers which involve Mathematics include:

- Actuarial analyst
- Chartered accountant
- Data analyst
- Investment analyst
- Research scientist (maths)
- Software engineer
- Game designer and many more.

Students who are successful in Maths can pursue Maths and Further Maths at A-Level in our Sixth Form.



# Science

## Biology, Chemistry & Physics

*Exploring the natural world through curiosity, investigation and discovery.*

The study of balanced science, i.e. Biology, Physics and Chemistry, is compulsory for all students up to the age of 16. Some students will follow the Triple Science pathway and take 3 GCSEs other some will do Dual Award Combined Science (for 2 GCSE qualifications).

Science develops knowledge and skills that are relevant to everyday life. All of us, as citizens, need to be able to cope with the science that shapes our lives. We are on the receiving end of scientific ideas and technical information in many different roles, such as householder, parent, patient etc. Some young people aspire to be scientists, or to work in careers where knowledge of science is essential, so educating the next generations of science practitioners is crucial. Students need both science as citizens and science for scientists.



### How am I assessed?

Triple Science	Dual Award
6 Exams in total (2 per science)	6 Exams in total (2 per science)
Each paper is 1 Hour 45 Minutes	Each paper is 1 Hour 15 Minutes
The exams will include Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response questions.	The exams will include Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response questions.

Exam Board: OCR  
Subject Leader: Dr Smith

**Core Subject - All Students**

### What will I learn?



This Science course features many of the major theories of science in a way that encourages students to appreciate their importance to everyday life. The course also explores how scientific information is obtained, how reliable it is, what its limitations are, and how this information helps society to make important decisions. We believe that science has something to offer every student. From a trainee chef to a nuclear physicist, a construction apprentice to a cancer researcher, everyone needs some level of relevant science understanding.

### Where will it lead?

#### Biology students usually progress to:

Any health care or sport related profession such as being a Dr, nurse, dentist, midwife, physiotherapist, fitness or sports coach or radiographer.

#### Chemistry students usually progress to:

A career in research development such as chemical engineering to find new ways of creating chemicals that don't harm the atmosphere.

#### Physics students usually progress to:

There is a wide range of potential careers for physicists. Industries employing physicists include aerospace and defence, health and medicine, oil and gas, renewable energy, engineering and nanotechnology.

Students who are successful in Sciences can pursue Biology Chemistry and Physics at A-Level in our Sixth Form.

# Religious Education

Exam Board: AQA  
Subject Leader: Mrs Burn

**Core Subject - All Students**

*Encouraging thoughtful reflection on beliefs, values and ethical questions.*

Religious Education is one of the core subjects studied by all students. Students started the GCSE Religious Education course in Year 9.

The OCR GCSE Religious Studies course helps students understand different beliefs and ideas about life, morality and the world around us. Students learn about Christianity and Islam and explore how these religions influence people's choices and behaviour today. They also discuss real-life issues such as relationships, peace, crime and punishment, and human rights, developing confidence in sharing opinions, thinking critically and respecting different viewpoints.



## How am I assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2
50% of the final grade 1 hour 45 mins	50% of the final grade 1 hour 45 mins
The Study of Religions	Themes
Beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam	Relationships and Families, Religion and Life, Religion and Peace and Conflict, Religion and Crime and Punishment

## What will I learn?

In Religious Education, students will concentrate on:

- Learning about and learning from religion.
- Using subject specific language and keywords.
- Applying knowledge and understanding to a range of sensitive issues.
- Developing critical thinking, reasoning and evaluation skills.
- Showing sensitivity and empathy in decision making whilst appreciating the views of others.

## Where can it lead?

GCSE Religious Studies can lead to a wide range of careers because it develops strong communication, critical thinking and understanding of people. These skills are valued in many jobs, including:

- Teaching and education
- Law and criminology
- Social work and youth work
- Healthcare and counselling
- Psychology and sociology
- Politics, public services and the civil service
- Business, management and human resources
- Charity, community and faith-based work

It is also a strong foundation for A levels and further study, especially in subjects that involve debate, ethics, writing and understanding society.

# Modern Foreign Languages

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs Tatham

**Core Subject - All Students**

## French

You will develop your understanding and ability to speak at least one foreign language during your time at Conyers. You will also find out about different lifestyles and cultures.

In Modern Foreign languages, you will have the opportunity to learn French through interactive, fun and engaging lessons delivered by highly specialised teachers who are passionate about being able communicate in a foreign language and discover different cultures.



## How am I assessed?

French
Paper 1 = Listening (25%)
Paper 2 = Speaking (25%)
Paper 3 = Reading (25%) (including translation into English)
Paper 4 = Writing (25%) (including translation into French)

## What will I learn?

Students will learn about areas and issues that affect their age group, both in the UK and French-speaking countries.

Topics covered will include :

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

## Where can it lead?

The ability to speak another language is highly sought after by employers from all over the world but also if you want a career in:

- Teaching
- Tourism
- Linguistic studies
- Interpretation and Translation
- Aviation
- Business and Finance
- Hospitality and Events
- International Sports Management

Students who are successful in Foreign Languages can pursue French, German or Spanish at A-Level in our Sixth Form.

# Geography

*Exploring the people, places and the challenges shaping our planet.*

GCSE Geography studies key issues in both the human and natural environment. At GCSE, we study a broad mix of topics, combining both the human and physical elements of the course.

In addition, we offer a range of fieldwork trips. Geography helps you to keep career options open as it is regarded as being both an arts and science subject, with many links to other GCSE courses, avoiding the problems of over-specialisation up to and beyond advanced level courses.

Conyers Geography students have been incredibly successful and really enjoy the course.



## How am I assessed?

### GCSE Subjects

You will sit 3 exams, each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes.

Graded 9-1

Paper 1 = Physical Geography  
Paper 2 = Human Geography  
Paper 3 = Geographical Issues and Fieldwork

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Subject Leader: Mrs Hutchinson**

**Optional Subject - GCSE**

## What will I learn?

We study a balanced mix of human and physical geography topics, along with geographical skills and issue evaluation. These include:

**Human Geography:** Urban Issues and Challenges, Changing Economic World and Resource Management

**Physical Geography:** Coastal Landscapes, River Landscapes, Natural Hazards and the Living World

**Fieldwork requirement:** Students must complete a minimum of two fieldwork experiences. There is no coursework requirement.

**You will go on the following trips:**

- Newcastle – Urban Change and Migration.
- North York Moors – River Landscapes (you'll need your wellies!)

## Where can it lead?

We get it, not everyone wants to be a Geography teacher, but the GCSE course can provide you with so much more. Common careers a Geographer can do include

- Law
- Journalism
- Armed Forces or Emergency Services
- Town Planning
- Tourism or Aviation
- Accountancy
- Marketing and Business,
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Social Work
- Disaster Management
- Environmental Conservation
- Medicine (yes, former Geographers have gone to study Medicine!)

Students who are successful in Geography can pursue the subject at A-Level in our Sixth Form.



## Understanding the past to make sense of the present and future.

This History course gives students the opportunity to study some of the defining moments in British and world history, studying in depth many of the key events that have shaped the world we live in. We believe in the importance of learning from history which is why we have specifically chosen a GCSE course that enables students to study different aspects of the past, so they can engage with key issues such as conflict, understand what drives change and how the past influences the present.

As one of the key individuals studied within our course put it, ***"We are not makers of history. We are made by history."*** (Martin Luther King)



## How am I assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2
Understanding the Modern World	Shaping the Nation
America 1920-1973: Opportunity and Inequality  Europe 1918-1939: Conflict and Tension	Britain, medicine, health and the people c1000 to the present day  Tudor Elizabethan England, c1568-1603.
1 hour 45 Minute Exam (10 Questions to answer)	1 hour 45 Minute Exam (8 Questions to answer)

## What will I learn?

The course will develop not only your knowledge and understanding of history, but will also equip you with some of the most valuable academic skills, preparing you very well for any future study path you wish to pursue. Skills specific to this course include:

- investigative and research skills
- analytical skills
- key communication skills, both written and verbal
- the ability to form informed and well developed opinions on key issues
- the ability to understand a range of arguments and to arrive at judgements and conclusions of your own
- the ability to use evidence and examples to support your arguments, problem solving and case building.

## Where can it lead?

This GCSE course opens doors to numerous avenues post-16 with many of our students using their GCSE in History as a foundation for Advanced Level study (A-Levels) before going onto University to study a range of courses including:

- History
- Law
- Politics
- International Relations
- Education and Business and Finance.

Students who are successful in History can pursue the subject at A-Level in our Sixth Form.

# Computer Science

Exam Board: OCR  
Subject Leader: Mr Rance

**Optional Subject - GCSE**  
**Cannot be taken with IT**

*Understanding how technology works through coding, logic and problem-solving*

We are living in the midst of a revolution powered by computers. This revolution has invaded all aspects of society. It is a communication revolution, a transportation revolution, a medical revolution, an entertainment revolution. Central to all of these things we take for granted are computers: hardware, software and innovative applications.



## What will I learn?

As part of GCSE Computer Science:

- Students learn how computers work, including hardware, memory, networks, security and software.
- They develop computational thinking and problem-solving skills through algorithms and programming using languages such as Python, HTML and JavaScript.
- Learners design and create efficient programs to meet given requirements, applying logic, data handling and computing-related maths to real-world challenges.

## Where can this lead?

Computing links in with many subjects and future careers such as:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Engineering
- Computer Forensics
- Data Science
- Computer Game Design
- Animations
- Web Design
- Medicine
- Business ...the list could go on and on.

Students armed with the skill of Computing will find many future doors open based on the skills they will learn and that can be applied for the rest of their lives.

Students who are successful in Computing can pursue the subject at A-Level in our Sixth Form.

## How am I assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2
Computer Systems	Computational Thinking
1 Hour 30 mins	1 hour 30 mins
Networks, System Software and Ethics	Algorithms, Robust Systems and Programming

# Business Studies

*Understanding enterprise, financial awareness and real-world business skills.*

GCSE Business provides an in-depth and comprehensive coverage of the main aspects of business and business activity. By the end of the 2 year course, students should have an understanding of the internal workings of a range of business organisations, why businesses exist, how businesses make decisions, the external influences on business decision making, as well as the components that need to be in place to enable a business to be successful.

The course involves students using a wide range of written, spoken and numerical skills when looking at the operation of small and large businesses. GCSE Business should help students gain a real understanding of how businesses make decisions about a whole range of issues. There are case studies and practical problems to solve, encouraging students to develop sound business judgement that proves invaluable in the working environment.



## How am I assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2
Influences of Operations and Human Resources on Business Activity	Influences of Marketing and Finance on Business Activity
1 Hour 30 mins	1 hour 30 mins

Exam Board: AQA  
Subject Leader: Mr Hill

Optional Subject - GCSE

## What will I learn?

The course consists of 6 main themes of study.  
Themes

- Businesses in the real world – how and why businesses exist, what structure to take, how to plan a successful business and how to expand your business.
- Marketing – Pricing, promotion, advertising, place, distribution, product, product development.
- Finance – Costs, revenue, profit, break even, balance sheets, cash flow, profit and loss accounts.
- Production – Quality, stock control, methods of production, impact of new technology.
- People in Organisations – Recruitment, selection, motivation, employment legislation.
- Influences on business – The economic climate, ethical issues and how the law affects businesses.

## Where could it lead?

Business Studies opens the door to many careers:

- Actuarial analyst
- Business analyst
- Chartered management accountant
- Investment banker
- Data analyst
- Management consultant
- Project manager
- Risk manager
- Stockbroker
- Supply chain manager

Students who are successful in Business can pursue the subject at A-Level in our Sixth Form.

# Art

*Encouraging creativity, self-expression and visual communication.*

Art and Design is primarily concerned with the visual and tactile modes of expression through drawing, different media and painting. It offers a unique vehicle for self-expression, encouraging the ability to observe, select and interpret with imagination, through a sketchbook. This is a broadly based course covering Drawing and Painting, Textiles, Three Dimensional Studies, Mixed Media, Printmaking and Digital Photography. Students will require an art pack to enable development at home.

The lesson time develops workshops to show students new methods and techniques and give them support and understanding. Homework is set regularly and is essential for coursework (twice a week or half an hour per night) to show observational skills or to develop research linking with the theme.



## How am I assessed?

GCSE Art
Termly Projects
NEA Portfolio of Evidence (42 Hours)
Examination (40%) lasting 10 hours.

**Exam Board: Edexcel**  
**Subject Leader: Miss Taylor**

**Optional Subject - GCSE**

## What will I learn?

Students develop their individual work by looking at :

- **Thematic work** – students have opportunities to research and develop their ideas, making reference to artists before bringing work to a conclusion in the form of a final piece.
- **Cultural and natural forms** (material based) – exploring practical materials. Investigating processes and techniques supported by reference to work of other artists.
- **Critical and contextual** – respond through drawings and other visuals to the work of past or contemporary artists. Showing understanding and the importance of context in the development of work through bringing in artist styles within your own ideas.

**In addition, key features of the course are :**

- Visits – gallery visit in Newcastle, Creative Arts weekend in London.
- Exhibition – final showing portfolio of work in June of Year 11

## Where could it lead?

There are a wide range of different options open to students who have studied art:

- Architect
- Teacher
- Web designer
- Fashion buyer
- Costume design
- Illustrator
- Fine artist
- Cartoonist
- Fashion designer
- Interior design
- Engineer
- Product designer
- Photographer

Students who are successful in Art can pursue the subject at A-Level in our Sixth Form.



# Music

Exam Board: AQA  
Subject Leader: Mr Dunn

Optional Subject - GCSE

## Developing musical skills through performance, composition and listening.

This course is designed to offer students exciting new opportunities to enjoy and appreciate the benefits of being involved in playing music, making music and understanding music. Through integrating music technology, students will acquire the necessary skills to realise their own creative ideas in a musical style which suits them. Sufficient performance skills are essential however they will be developed further throughout the course.



## How am I assessed?

GCSE Music
Paper 1 - Performing (30%)
Paper 2 - Composing (30%)
Paper 3 - Listening and Appraising (40%)

## What will I learn?

### Component 1 - Performing

Students perform a minimum of two pieces, one of which must be with an ensemble. Students are expected to perform around Grades 2/3 and can use Music Technology if required. You do not have to be able to read music for these performances as they can be learnt by ear or through tutorials.

### Component 2 - Composing Music

Students compose two pieces of music, one which is free and can be in any style whilst the other is in response to a brief set by the exam board.

### Component 3 – Listening and Appraising

Students sit a listening exam in Year 11 consisting of eight questions. Students must be able to analyse pieces of music which fall within the four areas of study - AoS1: The Western Classical Tradition, AoS2: Music for Ensemble, AoS3: Film Music and AoS4: Popular Music

## Where can it lead?

Studying music can lead you to many careers in the music industry, whether that's through:

- **Performing**- session musician, musical theatre, professional orchestra/military band.
- **Composing** - for film and TV, for other artists, for commercial use.
- **Music Technology** - recording engineer, live sound engineer.
- **Others** - music journalist, music therapist, music educator.

Students who are successful in Music can pursue Music in our Sixth Form.

# Drama

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs Weegram

Optional Subject - GCSE

## *Building confidence and creativity through performance and storytelling*

Students who participate in a GCSE Drama course will find that the skills developed and practised are invaluable in many areas of employment and further education. Confidence, communication and the ability to understand another person's perspective are essential life-skills. Presentation skills, self-motivation and the ability to work as a fully integrated member of a group are useful in many fields. It is an examination board requirement that Drama students attend a professional theatre production and several opportunities will be made to facilitate this.



## How am I assessed?

GCSE Drama
Component 1: Understanding of Drama and Theatre - Written Examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of GCSE
Component 2: Devising Drama - Practical Examination - Devised Performance and Devising log 40% of GCSE
Component 3: Texts in Practice - Practical Examination - Performance of 2 extracts from a play 20% of GCSE

## What will I learn?

**Component 1:** Students will develop knowledge and Understanding of Drama and Theatre through the study of a set play and be able to analyse and evaluate the work of live theatre makers.

**Component 2:** Students will learn how to create and develop ideas to communicate meaning in a devised theatrical performance and be able to apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in a live performance.

**Component 3:** Students will understand how to apply their theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in a live performance.

## Where can it lead?

Actor | Airline Customer Service Agent  
| Arts administrator | Blogger |  
Broadcast presenter | Broadcast  
Assistant | Community arts worker |  
Director | Digital marketer | Drama  
therapist | Estate Agent | Event Planner  
| Flight Attendant | Interpretive Guide |  
Law | Psychology | Runner,  
broadcasting/ film/video | School  
teacher | Special effects technician |  
Talent agent | Technical Director |  
Television floor manager | Theatre  
manager | Theatre stage manager |  
Tour manager

Students who are successful in Drama can pursue Performing Arts in our Sixth Form.

# DT: Resistant Materials

*Designing and making innovative solutions using practical and creative skills*

Everybody is creative, regardless of ability, and Design and Technology encourages students to think creatively. Students are encouraged to combine practical and technological skills with creative thinking; designing and making products that meet real life needs. They will learn to think creatively, independently and solve problems as individuals and members of a team.

Students will develop creative and innovative skills to produce a series of interesting designs. Students will gain a deep understanding of hand tools, machine use, 2D and 3D CAD software, 3D printing, technical drawing and making skills.



## How am I assessed?

Section A	Section B
Several making projects specialising in timbers. Theory content covering all material areas, with a focus on timbers.	Design and make a usable product/piece of furniture to fit a design brief.
Written exam 2 hours 100 marks	35 hour project 100 marks
50% of GCSE	50% of GCSE

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**Subject Leader: Mr Lonsdale**

**Optional Subject - GCSE**  
**Cannot be taken with other Technology Subjects**

## What will I learn?

**During Year 10**, students will develop their design and make skills through a series of focused practical tasks, gaining knowledge and understanding in advanced woodwork, metal work and drawing skills. The tasks set are progressive and will allow all students to demonstrate their skills.

**In Year 11**, students will apply their skills to design and make their own fully functioning and usable product. This will follow the design process of research, designing through CAD and technical drawing, modelling and making. The second half of Year 11 will focus on the exam, which covers all material areas, with a focus on timbers.

## Where can it lead?

Conyers DT students have gone on to study:

- Design
- Interior Design
- Joinery
- Civil Engineering
- Architecture
- Electrical and mechanical engineering

Students also secure prestigious apprenticeships at Rolls Royce, Tolent, Phillips and Nissan.

Students who are successful in DT can pursue their studies in our Sixth Form.

# Engineering

*Applying maths and science to design, build and solve real-world problems*

Engineering is an increasingly innovative and exciting area to work in. It affects every aspect of modern life – from skyscrapers to smart phones, cars to carrier bags. OCR Engineering will introduce students to a host of new technologies, helping them to gain practical skills and understanding to inspire a lifelong interest in Engineering. It will particularly appeal to those who enjoy being creative, with an affinity for drawing, design, manufacturing and problem solving. The course is a fantastic foundation to any engineering sector you may wish to move into after school, with a direct link to KS5 BTEC Engineering at Conyers.



## How am I assessed?

CNAT Engineering
RO15 - Manufacturing a one off product ( $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Grade)
RO16 - Manufacturing in Quantity ( $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Grade)
RO14 - External Exam ( $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Grade)

**Exam Board: OCR**

**Subject Leader: Mr Lonsdale**

**Optional Subject - Vocational**  
**Cannot be taken with other Technology Subjects**

## What will I learn?

Students will develop creative and innovative Engineering skills to produce a range of manufacturing outcomes. They will gain an understanding of Engineering and scientific principles, the role of designers and product developers in Engineering, and the use of appropriate skills and ICT (including CAD/CAM) knowledge. In addition, they will learn how to be able to select and use appropriate tools, machines and equipment and to consider solutions to technical problems. Skills

Students will gain a deep understanding of metal working, machine use (e.g. Engineers Centre Lathe and Milling Machines), maintenance of mechanical products, 2D + 3D CAD software, 3D printing, technical drawing and making skills.

## Where can it lead?

Conyers Engineering students have gone on to study:

- Design
- Interior Design
- Joinery
- Civil Engineering
- Architecture
- Electrical and mechanical engineering

Students also secure prestigious apprenticeships at Rolls Royce, Tolent, Phillips and Nissan.

Students who are successful in Engineering can pursue Engineering in our Sixth Form.



# Textiles

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mr Lonsdale

**Optional Subject - GCSE**  
**Cannot be taken with other**  
**Technology Subjects**

## *Exploring design, materials and creative techniques in textile production*

Textiles encourages students to think creatively. Students are encouraged to combine practical and technological skills with creative thinking; designing and making products that meet real life needs. They will learn to think creatively, independently and solve problems as individuals and members of a team.

Design Technology: Textiles students will have the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge of textiles and fashion, however the course is no longer confined to one area, as students will be encouraged to branch out into wood, metal, electronics, CAD, 3D printing, laser cutting and other material areas in technology if they wish.



## How am I assessed?

Section A	Section B
Several making projects specialising in textiles	Design and make a usable garment/textile product to fit a design brief
Written exam 2 hours 100 marks	35 hour project 100 marks
50% of GCSE	50% of GCSE

## What will I learn?

Students will develop confidence to experiment with new materials and ideas in an inventive way, to acquire the desired result. The course will also involve:

- Learning about fibres, fabrics and components.
- Being creative, understanding construction and fabric embellishment
- Incorporating influences of other Design and Technology subjects to enhance and modernise Textiles
- Investigating methods to colour, decorate and stitch textile products
- Testing, developing and evaluating ideas
- Being aware of how textile products are manufactured within industry
- Learning about pattern cutting and garment construction

## Where could it lead?

Textiles can lead to endless possibilities starting with retail to becoming a top fashion designer and everything in between such as merchandisers and buyers.

Even if you don't want to become the next Olivier Rousteing or Alexander McQueen you will have the life skills and knowledge to repair not replace.

Students who are successful in Textiles can pursue their studies in our Sixth Form.

# Food Preparation & Nutrition

*Learning about nutrition, food preparation and healthy living.*

Choosing Food Preparation and Nutrition is for those who only want to be a cook or a chef. This is not the case. Obviously, if you want to pursue this type of career then you will definitely develop the necessary cooking skills on this course. However, Food Preparation and Nutrition is more than just cooking. This is an exciting course where you will learn about Food Nutrition & Health, Diets, Food Choice, Food Safety and Food Science. This subject is linked to many careers in Food Nutrition, Dietetics, Food Product Development, Food Marketing – the list goes on.

Lessons will be Practical and Theory based. You will spend 50% of your time developing your practical preparation and cooking skills and 50% developing your knowledge and understanding of the theoretical elements.



## How am I assessed?

GCSE Food
Food Investigation Task - worth 15% of the qualification
Food Preparation Task - worth 35% of the qualification
The written examination is worth 50% of the Qualification

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mr Youngs

Optional Subject - GCSE

Cannot be taken with other Technology Subjects

What will I learn?

Year 10 - The specification is delivered through preparation and making (cooking) activities. Students will learn theory and practice to apply their understanding of food and nutrition to practical preparation and cooking.

Year 11 – Using Knowledge and understanding of the subject, pupils will carry out 2 assessment tasks.

- Task 1 – Food investigation
- Task 2 – Food Preparation

For each task students will demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of food nutrition, cooking and preparation. Students will then carry out practical work showing their planning, preparation and cooking skills. A written report of the products will then be evaluated showing different aspects of nutrition, food, cooking and preparation.

Where could it lead?

This subject is linked to many food based careers including:

- Food Nutrition
- Personal Training and coaching
- Dietetics
- Food Product Development
- Food Marketing
- Chef

Students who are successful in Textiles can pursue their studies in our Sixth Form.

# Physical Education

Exam Board: AQA  
Subject Leader: Mrs Lilley

Optional Subject - GCSE

*Promoting physical fitness, teamwork and lifelong healthy habits.*

This course should appeal to those who are interested in developing their knowledge in healthy lifestyles and exercise. Key aspects of the course are that students understand how physical activity and exercise contributes to being healthy, along with how different physiological systems support the body in growth, development and sporting performance. The qualification consists of a practical and a theoretical exam.

It is important to note that the choices between GCSE PE and BTEC SPORT will depend upon the students' practical ability. This can be discussed with your PE teacher.



## How am I assessed?

GCSE PE
Paper 1 Exam The Human Body and Movement in Physical Activity (30%)
Paper 2 Exam Socio-cultural influences in Physical Activity (30%)
Performance in Physical Education (40%)

## What will I learn?

Students will study GCSE PE both theoretically and practically. During this time students will learn:

- How a lifestyle contributes positively to physical, mental and social well-being
- Regular exercise habits and physical activity is what makes a healthy active lifestyle.
- The impact physical activity and exercise has on the cardiovascular, respiratory, muscular and skeletal systems. How lifestyle choices (diet, drugs and alcohol) affect the body systems and fitness.
- How different training types can impact on the body and improve aspects of fitness

## Where could this lead?

A love of lifelong participation in sport and physical activity. Sport-specific careers include:

- Physiotherapy
- Sport Scientist
- Strength and Conditioning Coach
- Sports Media and Journalism
- Teaching and Coaching.
- Dietetics or Food Nutritionist

Students who are successful in PE can pursue PE in our Sixth Form.

# Photography

*Encouraging creativity and self expression through the medium of a lense.*

Photography is primarily concerned with recording the world around us with a lense. It offers students an opportunity to study photographic artists and develop their own work creatively with a range of techniques and media. They will observe, select, interpret and present their work in a sketchbook. Students will have access to SLR cameras, apple pens, iPads and a variety of editing apps. Students may also use their own cameras.

In lessons we set up photoshoots and go out into the school grounds, developing these photographs in workshops exploring materials and techniques and responding to the work of other photographers. Homework is set to take photographs in their own time exploring their own choice of themes and recording holidays and day trips. This is important to make their coursework individual.



## How am I assessed?

GCSE Photography
Termly Projects
NEA Portfolio of Evidence (60%)
Final Exam Examination 10 Hours - (40%)

## What will I learn?

- Students develop their work by looking at:
- Themes - taking photographs linked to the theme then responding to work of other photographic artists and creating a series of individual outcomes showing their creativity and understanding of the processes.
  - Techniques and materials - investigating techniques and materials in depth, referencing other photographic artists.
  - Critical and contextual aspects - be able to explain and evaluate the choices they have made, show an understanding of photographers past and present and the context they were working in.
  - In addition as part of the course we have visited Hartlepool Marina, Transporter Bridge, Seaton and Newby Hall to enhance our sketchbooks.
  - Exhibition of selected final work in June.

## Where could this lead?

- There are a wide range of options open to students who study Photography:  
These could lead to careers in the creative industries, including
- commercial photography
  - photojournalism
  - fashion
  - graphic design
  - film production,
  - digital marketing
  - web design
  - multimedia specialist
  - film/TV camera operator
  - digital marketer
  - content creator
  - brand photographer
  - fashion, wedding, portrait, wildlife, forensic, armed forces or architectural photographer.



# Travel and Tourism

*Exploring the global travel industry business and destination management skills.*

This is an exciting and enjoyable course designed to introduce students to the Travel and Tourism industry. Over the two years, you will study three components that have been designed to meet specific skills gaps identified by employers, therefore making it a qualification that is recognised by employers and colleges. This is a new course introduced in 2022 and it is about to embark on an exciting journey!

As with GCSEs, the BTEC Tech Award can be used to progress to study another qualification in Conyers or at a college. Students may start work or complete an apprenticeship in this area, leading to skilled career or management training.



## How am I assessed?

BTEC Tech Award - Travel and Tourism	
Component 1 (30%)	Internally assessed coursework
Component 2 (30%)	Internally assessed coursework
Component 3 (40%)	Externally assessed exam

**Exam Board: Pearson**  
**Subject Leader: Mrs Taylor**

## Optional Subject - Vocational

### What will I learn?

**The course consists of three components:**

- **Component 1:** Travel and Tourism Destinations which looks at the characteristics of different destinations around the world.
- **Component 2:** Customer Needs in Travel looks at how customer needs are changing in travel and how best to meet them.
- **Component 3:** Influences on Global Travel looks at all of the different factors that influence people's holiday choices.

### Where could this lead?

**“But I don’t want to be a travel agent...”**

The most common myth is that this course is only for those wanting to be a travel agent – that couldn’t be further from the truth! In the past students have gone on to either further study (at Conyers or local colleges) or into the world of apprenticeships. Skills developed on the course will allow you to work in the following sectors to name a few:

- Airline Management/Aviation
- Business Management/Administration
- Retail and Commerce
- Customer Service Orientated Roles

# Information Technology

*Developing practical digital skills for learning, creativity and the workplace.*

This Vocational Award in ICT will develop students' knowledge and understanding of the ICT sector and provide them with opportunities to develop associated practical skills. Students will undertake key units that give experiences of softwares that are used world wide. The skills and knowledge gained in this course is directly relatable to the ICT industry but is equally relevant to the modern workplace environment.

The course covers ICT in Society; allowing learners to explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software, and ICT in context; introducing learners to a broad working knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, automated documents and images. These skills are essential to businesses and skills that currently have gaps in business across the UK.



## How am I assessed?

### WJEC - Vocational Award in ICT

Unit 1: ICT in Society On-screen examination:  
1 hour 20 minutes/40% of qualification

Unit 2: ICT in Context Controlled assessment:  
40 hours/60% of qualification

**Exam Board: WJEC**  
**Subject Leader: Mr Rance**

**Optional Subject - Vocational**  
**Cannot be taken with**  
**Computer Science**

## What will I learn?

### Unit 1 - ICT in Society

This unit allows learners to explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software in society. They will investigate how information technology is used in a range of contexts, including business and organisations, education and home use.

### Unit 2 - ICT in Context

This unit enables learners to gain a broad working knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, automated documents and images and to apply their knowledge and understanding to solve problems in vocational settings

## Where could it lead?

IT links in with many subjects and future careers such as:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Engineering
- Computer Forensics
- Data Science
- Computer Game Design
- Animations
- Web Design
- Business ...the list could go on and on.

Students armed with the skill of IT will find many future doors open based on the skills they will learn and that can be applied for the rest of their lives.

Students who are successful in IT can pursue the subject in our Sixth Form.

# Health and Social Care

*Preparing students for careers supporting health, education wellbeing and care.*

This is an exciting course that allows students to gain knowledge and understanding of the Health and Social Care sector. If you are interested in working with people, or want to care for and help others, this may be the course for you. This BTEC course gives you the background knowledge and skills needed by anyone considering working with people and is a good way to develop transferable skills



## How am I assessed?

### BTEC Tech Award - Health and Social Care

Component 1 (30%)  
Internally assessed coursework

Component 2 (30%)  
Internally assessed coursework

Component 3 (40%)  
Externally assessed exam

**Exam Board: Pearson**  
**Subject Leader: Mrs Sanvitale**

**Optional Subject - Vocational**

## What will I learn?

As the BTEC Health and Social Care is a practical introduction to life and work in the sector, students will:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of the health and care sector
- Appreciate the importance of care values
- Complete practical work, using and developing communication skills
- Apply their knowledge to real life scenarios

## Where can it lead?

There are a wide range of career pathways open to Health and Social Care students including:

- Nursing and midwifery
- Care assistants
- Occupational therapists
- Counsellors and Psychologists
- Primary and Secondary teaching
- Social work.

Students who are successful in Health and Social Care can pursue the subject in our Sixth Form.