



Corfe Hills School

Expectations | Exceptional Individuals

Year 9 Options Evening Programme

Thursday 5 February 2026

4.30pm - 6.30pm

Sports Hall





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Welcome

Dear Visitor

Thank you for joining us for our Year 9 Options Evening — you are extremely welcome. This booklet is designed to guide you through the event and help you make the most of your time with us. Please take the opportunity to speak with staff across all subjects; they will be happy to provide further detail and answer any questions you may have.

At Corfe Hills School, we are ambitious for every student. We aim to ensure all young people achieve highly within a safe, supportive and well-ordered environment. As students begin to take their next steps towards independent adult life, we believe it is essential that their education is memorable, engaging and appropriately challenging. Our broad and diverse curriculum—both within and beyond the classroom—reflects this commitment.

We hope you enjoy the evening and that it supports you in feeling confident about the choices ahead. Please ask anything that will help you understand our school more fully and make informed decisions about your future learning path.

Head teacher presentations will take place in the main hall at 4:45pm and 5:45pm.

Matthew Hegarty

Assistant Headteacher



Corfe Hills School

Expectations | Exceptional Individuals

Art

Photography

Music

Drama

PE/OCR Sport

Religious Studies

Geography

Business

History

Health and
social care

Map of Options Evening

Media

Spanish

Science

French

Computer
Science

Key Advice and Guidance:

- Next year you will be studying Maths, English, Science and Core PE - these are your 'core' subjects.
- You **MUST** choose at least one of the following: French / Spanish / History / Geography/Triple Science or Computer Science but the rest of your options are up to you!
- Try and keep a balance to your subjects.
- Make sure you think about reserve choices as well.

Food/Hospitality
and Catering

Textiles

Design Technology Options

Entrance



What subjects do pupils have to do?

There are some subjects that everybody must follow. These include the core subjects of English Language, English Literature, Maths and Combined Science. In addition, all students continue Physical Education as a non-examined subject, and some may choose a PE qualification from the two available.

What subjects can pupils choose?

You need to study four option subjects to fill up your timetable for next year. This booklet covers the subjects you can select from. You will be asked to select four subjects for your main choice and are given the opportunity to select up to four reserve subjects. One reserve choice must be made.

What subjects can't pupils choose?

Certain subject combinations are not permitted. These are shown below:

Subject 1	Subject 2	Allowed?
PE GCSE	Cambridge National Sport	No
Food Preparation and Nutrition	Hospitality and Catering	No
Art	Textiles	No
DT: Product Design	DT: Graphics	No

What should I avoid?

Don't base your choices on what your friends might be doing. Corfe Hills is a large school, so even if you choose the same things as your friends, there is still a good chance you won't be in classes with them.

Don't base your choices on who you think the teacher might be. Most subjects have a number of groups, and you may not get the teacher you particularly like next year.

What happens next?

Once you have completed your online options form, which has been emailed to the pupils, we look to see how many people have chosen the various courses. Our aim is to satisfy as many choices as possible. However, some courses may have too many applicants and others might not have enough. This is why we have asked you to choose reserves on your form. Pupils will be informed in the summer term, if not before, of what options they will be studying in Year 10 and 11.

Please use this booklet:

The following pages document what courses are available and key information on content and assessments, please use this to inform and crystallise your option choices.



Art

Why should I study this course?

Your Art lessons during the beginning of the course will consist of learning new skills and techniques. Drawing and recording skills will be learned related to personal research including the use of line, tone, colour and perspective.

You will research your artists, sculptors and designers and their contextual art movements and learn how to critically analyse and relate to their styles of creating artwork.

Your portfolio will be made up of two units of work each based on different themes. You will have the opportunity to relate to your own interests as inspiration and be encouraged to work individually with developing ideas. You will experiment with various materials and techniques including printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. There are also opportunities to extend your learning through external visits and to continue the course on to A-level.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- Good drawing skills
- A willingness to experiment and try new techniques
- An ability to research ideas using a range of different materials
- An ability to follow a brief, concluding in a final outcome
- The capability to think critically and creatively
- ICT skills
- An ability to evaluate the work of artists and your own work
- A sense of motivation, organisation and responsibility to complete projects

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by AQA exam board and is called Art and Design 8200.

- A portfolio of work (60%) will be completed in Year 10 and the first term of Year 11
- There will be one externally set task (40%) completed in the Spring term of Year 11

Want more information?

Email Mrs Ratcliffe aratcliffe@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA Website



Business

Why should I study this course?

This course shows how business and business issues influence every aspect of our lives both now and in the future. You will find out about and explore a wide range of business concepts. For example, you will learn: How businesses use marketing and the marketing mix to gain advantage over their competitors; How and where businesses gain their finance; Methods used to present financial accounts and how to understand them; What production methods are used by large and small organisations.

This is an excellent choice for hard working students who are keen to learn about business theory. It also provides a strong foundation for students who wish to study business in the 6th Form or those wishing to follow careers in business. You will use real case study data and will be encouraged to watch the national television news and to take an interest in television programmes and newspaper articles related to business organisations.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- knowledge and understanding – the ability to recall, interpret and apply information related to business concepts
- literacy and numeracy skills – to be able to express and explain ideas and to gain understanding of company accounts and case study material
- research skills – to use primary and secondary information sources
- using information – the ability to select, organise, interpret and use information from different sources
- evaluation skills – the ability to draw conclusions and make recommendations

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by the Edexcel exam board and is called Business Studies 1BSO/01/02

Students complete two exams at the end of Year 11. Each exam lasts 1 hour 30 minutes and is worth 50% of the overall GCSE. The exams are a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended questions based on given business contexts. The papers assess

- Theme 1 = Investigating small business (1BSO/01)
- Theme 2 = Building a business (1BSO/02)

Want more information?

Email: Mrs Betteridge-Hanson: mbetteridge-hanson@corfehills.net

Mrs Guscott: zguscott@corfehills.net

Visit Edexcel Website



Computer Science

Why should I study this course?

Computer Science is of enormous importance to the economy, and the role of Computer Science as a discipline itself and as an 'underpinning' subject across Science and Engineering is growing rapidly.

Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. For example, businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals. This is even more so in the gaming, mobile and web related industries.

Computer Science GCSE will help you to:

- Develop problem solving skills
- Learn through exploration
- Change the world
- Solve real-world problems
- Learn how to create your future
- Open the door to your future

What knowledge and/or skills will you need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- The ability to work independently in a logical, rigorous fashion
- Good mathematical / problem-solving skills • Good level of ICT skills
- Have 'loved' and been successful at programming in 'Scratch' (<http://scratch.mit.edu/>) or Python/Small Basic Topics you will cover:

Component 1 • Systems architecture • Memory and storage • Computer networks, connections and protocols • Network security • Ethical, legal, cultural and environment impacts of digital technology

Component 2 • Algorithms • Programming fundamentals • Producing robust programs • Boolean logic
• Programming language and IDE • Python Programming

How will I be assessed?

- Two written exams of 1 hour 30 minutes
- 80 marks each
- Equally weighted

Want more information?

Email Mrs Early searly@corfehills.net

Visit OCR Website



Design & Technology – Graphics (Paper & Board Specialism)

Why should I study this course?

GCSE Graphics opens-up exciting opportunities in the world of packaging, graphic design, and sustainable product development.

You'll learn how to transform flat materials into innovative 3D products, develop skills in both traditional and digital design techniques, and understand how to create eco-friendly solutions for real-world problems. This course is perfect if you're interested in combining creativity with technical knowledge and want to pursue careers in packaging design, graphic design, or sustainable product development.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

You'll need a creative mindset and good problem-solving abilities. Basic drawing skills are helpful, but these will be developed throughout the course. Mathematical skills for measuring and calculating material quantities are important. You should also have an interest in sustainability and environmental issues, as these are crucial aspects of modern paper and board design. Computer literacy is beneficial, as you'll be using CAD software including Techsoft & Solidworks) for design work.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment follows the AQA specification structure:

Written exam (50% of GCSE): Covers technical principles, designing and making principles, and core design and technology knowledge

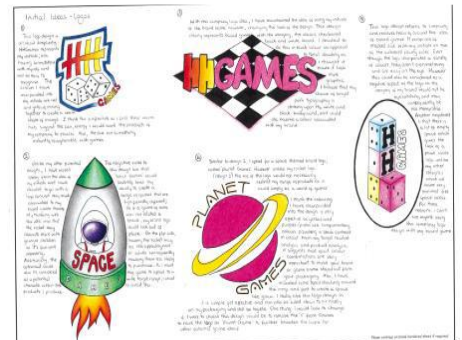
Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) (50% of GCSE): A design and make project demonstrating all of your research, design & practical skills and theoretical knowledge in paper and board to design and create a product that solves a real-world problem.

Further Study Opportunities

- A-Levels: Product Design, Graphic Design, Art & Design, Media
- Apprenticeships: Packaging Design, Print Production, Digital Design
- Degrees: Graphic Design, Product Design, Sustainable Design, Art

Career Opportunities

- Packaging Designer
- Brand Designer
- Print Production Manager
- Structural Packaging Engineer
- Sustainable Packaging Consultant
- Marketing Designer
- Creative Director





Design & Technology – Product Design (Timbers Specialism)

Why should I study this course?

Working with timber combines traditional craftsmanship with modern design techniques.

This course teaches you how to create beautiful and functional products while understanding sustainable forestry practices. You'll develop skills that are highly valued in furniture design, construction, and architectural fields. If you enjoy hands-on work and have an appreciation for natural materials, this course offers an excellent foundation for various career paths in woodworking and design.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

A steady hand and patience are essential, as precision is crucial in practical work. Mathematics skills are important for accurate measuring and calculating. You should be prepared to learn about different types of timber, their properties, and appropriate uses. An interest in practical work is vital, as you'll spend considerable time in the workshop. Safety awareness is also crucial when working with tools and machinery.

How will I be assessed?

The AQA assessment structure consists of:

- Written exam (50% of GCSE): Tests your knowledge of technical principles, design and making processes, and core design and technology concepts
- Non-exam assessment (50% of GCSE): A substantial design and make task where you'll create a timber-based product from initial concept to final outcome

Further Study Opportunities

- A-Levels:** Product Design, Chemistry, Geography
- BTECs:** Construction, Furniture Design
- Apprenticeships:** Carpentry & Joinery, Cabinet Making
- Degrees:** Industrial Design, Product Design, Architecture

Career Opportunities

- Cabinet Maker
- Architect/ Architectural Technologist
- Set Designer
- Interior Designer
- Industrial Designer





Drama

Why should I study this course?

Drama is an exciting, collaborative and engaging subject which challenges its participants to be creative, inventive and inspired. GCSE Drama offers students the opportunity to build upon performance skills such as devising, expressive movement and characterisation at a more intensive, developed level. You will be encouraged to consider a range of different forms of dramatic presentation to communicate meaning to an audience.

By studying two contrasting plays in a practical manner, you will explore the creative opportunities used to bring the characters, words and themes of the plays alive on stage. Students will reflect upon these means in written form. Understanding and knowledge of how actors and designers can transport the audience into the world of the play will be further supported by theatre visits. Former GCSE Drama students have utilised their skills in Theatre Studies, Media and English

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- the ability and desire to perform in front of others
- the ability and wish to work and collaborate with other people from your class
- the ability and confidence to suggest ideas in groups and respond to contributions from peers and staff
- the ability to create and sustain a character in role with complete focus
- the ability and discipline to learn and remember lines from a script for public performance
- the ability to reflect on your progress and justify your creative decisions in written form
- the ability to read and understand a full play and offer an interpretation of bringing the words to life in a performance as a performer, director and designer in written form
- the ability to reflect upon and evaluate a live theatre performance in written form • Verbal clarity and fluency. Physical control and flexibility
- An imaginative and active, collaborative approach

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by the EDEXCEL examination board and is called Drama 2DR01

- **Component 1: 40%** Students create their own devised unique piece of theatre on a stimulus and submit a 2,000 word written portfolio outlining and evaluating their practical piece.
- **Component 2: 20%** In Year 11 students will study a whole text and perform two extracts to a visiting external examiner from Edexcel.
- **Component 3: 40% Written Examination (1 hour 45 minutes)**
Section A: questions based on a provided extract from a set text studied in school. Students answer from the point of view of a performer, director and designer.
Section B is evaluating a piece of Live Theatre seen as a GCSE cohort.

Want more information?

Email Miss Penny lpenny@corfehills.net

Visit the Edexcel Website



English

Why should I study this course?

English is a compulsory subject for all students. All students will study English Language and Literature. This will result in two separate GCSE grades.

These courses are essentially about developing your skills to become effective communicators. Good communication in writing and speaking, and comprehension through reading and listening, are key skills that employers' value and academic advancement relies upon. Lessons will involve a variety of teaching and learning styles to hone and improve these abilities.

GCSE studies could lead to English Language and/or English Literature A-levels. These are both popular courses which complement a wide range of other 'A' level choices.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Enjoyment of language through reading, writing and discussion undoubtedly help, but as long as you are prepared to participate fully, listen to advice, pay attention to detail and develop your ideas, you can succeed.

How will I be assessed?

Both courses are 100% exam based and run by the AQA examination board.

English Language

Paper 1: (1 hour 45 minutes) involves exploring fictional extracts and writing creatively. Paper 2: (1 hour 45 minutes) involves analysing writers' viewpoints and perspectives and writing for given purposes and audiences.

English Literature

Paper 1: (1 hour 45 minutes) requires you to answer one question on a Shakespeare text and one question on a 19th Century novel.

Paper 2: (2 hours 15 minutes) requires you to answer one question on a modern novel or drama text, one question on poetry studied and one question on unseen poetry.

Want more information?

Email Mrs Rayner erayner@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA Website



Food Preparation and Nutrition

Why should I study this course?

The Food Industry is changing rapidly with new food products being developed that reflect the changes in eating patterns and lifestyles. This Food and Nutrition GCSE course is about 'using' food to design and make healthy, appetising food products which people want to eat.

Throughout the two year course students will learn about different ingredients, foods and how they are processed, nutrition, health and safety and consumer issues, including food provenance. Students will cook their own ingredients each week to gain a wide range of practical skills.

Students will be provided with ingredients for the teamwork activities that involve experimenting with small quantities of ingredients in order to learn how ingredients work together and their function within food products.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

You will need to:

- Enjoy cooking and develop your skills through researching recipes and recipe development. You must cook and provide your own ingredients each week.
- Be willing to actively engage in experimental food work (often working within a team). Have an interest in how and why recipes work and why changes to ingredients or methods produce differing results in outcome. (Ingredients used in experiments will be provided by the school).
- Make decisions, combining knowledge and understanding in order to design and make high quality products.
- Use and extend ICT skills when completing mini projects.
- Develop skills in independent study, with teacher guidance.
- Develop good organisational skills and demonstrate self-motivation to maintain a focus on extended project topics.

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by AQA exam board and is called GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition.

In year 10 students gain knowledge and skills and have the opportunity to practise these.

All assessment of this course is in year 11.

- There will be one written exam (50% of the total mark), which will include Multiple choice questions and a further set of short and extended questions.
- There will be two controlled assessments (50% of the total mark)
- Task one is a food investigation which involves the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. (15% of the GCSE)
- Task two is a food preparation assessment based on nutrition and a target consumer group (as decided by the exam board) where you need to plan, prepare, cook and present three dishes. (35% of the GCSE) This involves 3 assessed technical practicals plus a 3-hour practical exam.

Contact: Ms T Smith tsmith@corfehills.net Visit the AQA website for more details



French

Why should I study this course?

Did you know French is an official language in 29 countries? If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE French is an excellent choice for you!

Of course, you will learn to understand and speak a lot more in French. But there are many other reasons for taking this GCSE course.

- You will be able to share your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak French
- You will learn about the countries where French is spoken and get a lot more out of a trip there
- You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for
- You will learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, being confident about speaking in public and using problem-solving strategies
- You will create greater opportunities for yourself to work abroad, or for companies in the UK with international links. 78% of employers in the UK say that they would prefer employing staff with Foreign Language Skills

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Good news! If you have studied French in Year 9, you are well prepared to do a GCSE course in this language!

You already know some of the vocabulary and grammar you will need for GCSE. You know how to talk about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, where you live, school, holidays, food and drink. You will build on these topics during your GCSE course, as well as moving on to new topics such as applying for a job or debating issues. As this course builds in a linear way, you will need to learn to work and revise on a regular basis. You will be taught to study more independently and access reference materials such as a dictionary and verb tables. You will be encouraged to ask questions and take an active part in your learning.

How will I be assessed?

There will be an oral test and then a listening, reading and writing examination in the summer.

Want more information?

Email Miss Palmer ppalmer@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA Website



Geography

Why should I study this course?

This specification enables a variety of teaching and learning approaches. This exciting and relevant course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them.

Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

This course builds on your learning in Year 9 and will allow you to develop your:

- data collection skills in the field
- written, spoken and visual communication skills
- graphical and cartographical skills • technological skills, including ICT and GIS
- interpersonal skills through debate, discussion, questioning and problem-solving

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
 - 35% of GCSE
- Section A: The challenge of natural hazards
Section B: The living world
Section C: Physical landscapes in the UK

Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
 - 35% of GCSE
- Section A: Urban issues and challenges
Section B: The changing economic world
Section C: The challenge of resource management

Paper 3: Geographical applications

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
 - 30% of GCSE
- Section A: Issue evaluation - A booklet of information is given out 12 weeks before the exam for the people to study. Part of Paper 3 is on analysing the information.
Section B: Fieldwork - We take the pupils on two fieldtrips
1. To the Jurassic Coast to Studland and walk to Swanage we look at coastal erosion and deposition and coastal management
 2. A human Geography field trip to study urban regeneration in Dorset.

Want more information?

Email Mr Noke noke@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA Website



History

Why should I study this course?

Studying History means you get to find out about some of the most interesting moments from our past while at the same time developing crucial skills for your future. Who was Jack the Ripper? Why did Plains Indians scalp their enemies? Was the Russian Revolution the most significant moment in the 20th Century? Why were Christians fighting Muslims 800 years ago? What is communism? Did people really believe in witches? Were cowboy's lives as exciting as the stories?

We will investigate all these questions and more in the 4 topics studied at GCSE:

1. The American West 1835-1895
2. The reigns of King Richard 1 and King John 1189-1216
3. Crime and punishment in Britain 1000 to present day (including a case study on Whitechapel 1870-1900)
4. Russia and the Soviet Union 1917-1941

While you are learning about these fascinating periods of History you will also be developing key skills demanded by employers and universities. The ability to research and investigate questions, evaluate evidence and support your arguments are all key skills you will need in your future. History is a highly regarded subject by both universities and employers. In summary, you will be studying a really enjoyable and interesting GCSE and get a useful qualification at the same time.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

- You do not need any prior knowledge of the topics we cover but we will build upon the skills you have been developing in Year 9.
- In terms of attitude; you need to be interested, enthusiastic, committed and hard-working.
- You need an enquiring mind and good reading and writing ability will help you.

How will I be assessed?

In terms of the final result, the course is completely assessed by exams at the end of year 11. You will sit 3 exams in total covering all the topics. These will range from 1hr 20 minutes in length to 1hr 50 minutes and cover a mixture of questions about historical sources and standard questions ranging from 4 to 16 marks. In class we will use these GCSE style questions alongside knowledge tests to assess your progress.

Want more information?

Email Mr Clark nclark@corfehills.net

Visit the Edexcel Website



Hospitality and Catering

Why should I study this course?

In the Food department we offer two exciting courses. The Food and Nutrition GCSE course is an enjoyable course for those who enjoy finding out about ingredients and how they work and learning about nutrition alongside practical tasks.

The newest course we are offering is **Hospitality and Catering Vocational Award Level1/2**. This is a fully accredited vocational course and the Level 2 pass and beyond is equivalent to a GCSE gained in this subject at Level 4 and above.

This vocational award enables students who excel at practical learning the opportunity to develop a range of general and specialist skills. It is aimed at those students who may have an interest in or may wish to pursue a career in the Hospitality and Catering industry, as well as those who may wish to work at any level in food manufacture and food technology.

Throughout the two-year course you will be expected to cook each week and make a range of food products and develop core skills related to commercial food preparation whilst also demonstrating food hygiene, food presentation and considering production in quantity. Students will also develop transferrable skills in problem solving, communication and time management.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

- A passion for cooking and a willingness to learn how to cook products from scratch through the use of existing recipes.
- You will cook every week and you must provide your own ingredients.
- Be willing to work as part of a team and even lead a team.
- Make decisions, combining food theory knowledge and understanding to achieve high quality practical outcomes.
- Use and extend ICT skills when completing projects.
- Develop good organisational skills and demonstrate self-motivation when working on extended projects.

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by WJEC exam board, the two units are assessed as follows:

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry (externally assessed worth 40%)

In this unit students will gain an understanding of the hospitality and catering industry and will be able to propose new hospitality and catering provision to meet specific needs.

This will be assessed in a 1 hour 20 minute written or online exam worth 80 marks.

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action (internally assessed worth 60%)

In this unit students will learn to safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. Students will study commodities, menu planning and key aspects of commercial catering practice including food hygiene and food presentation.

Students will carry out a piece of controlled assessment that showcases the practical skills and knowledge they have developed. The project will be in response to a brief, provided by the exam board which is set within a vocationally relevant context. This project will include planning and development, making, testing, evaluation and communication.

This unit will include a **timed practical exam and a total of 12 hours of written controlled assessment**.

We have fantastic links with Poole and Bournemouth Catering College who visit to enhance the learning of our students.

Want more information?

Email Ms T Smith Tsmith@corfehills.net Visit the WJEC website



Mathematics

Why should I study this course?

Mathematics is a compulsory subject for all students. It is essential to develop a range of numerical skills that will help you cope in the modern world as well as develop the ability to think logically and solve problems. Mathematics is a pre-requisite for many careers and post-GCSE courses.

You will be encouraged to learn, discover and develop your mathematical skills in a variety of contexts. Problem solving, investigative and practical work will all be experienced, as well as more traditional learning approaches. The new GCSE specification for mathematics seeks to develop students' ability to use and apply their mathematical skills in real life contexts.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Mathematics equips students with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand and change the world. These tools include logical reasoning, problem-solving skills and the ability to think in abstract ways.

You will develop the skills and knowledge you will need to tackle unfamiliar problems. You will become more aware of the connections between different areas of mathematics and its applications in the world around you. You will become increasingly capable of calculating fractions, decimals and percentages and using proportional reasoning. You will build on your understanding of number and make generalisations using letters by manipulating expressions and equations. You will extend your mathematical vocabulary to talk about numbers and geometrical objects. You will also use geometrical properties to find missing angles and lengths, explaining your reasoning. You will collect data, learn statistical techniques to analyse this data and display and interpret the results. The majority of mathematics learning will take place in classrooms, with an emphasis on independent study to enhance your learning experience.

How will I be assessed?

The Mathematics GCSE course is offered by the Edexcel Examination Board and is assessed on the following basis:

- there are 2 tiers of entry: Foundation (grades 1 – 5) and Higher (grades 4 - 9).
- the course covers five areas: Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and rates of change, Geometry and measures, and Statistics and probability.
- the GCSE course builds on your learning from Year 9.
- the new GCSE course you are following is designed to encourage students to apply their mathematics skills in real life, practical situations.
- the course will be assessed by three examinations (1 hour 30 minutes each) at the end of Year 11 and there is no coursework.
- there will be one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers. Each paper has an equal weighting (33.3%).
- throughout the course, there will be regular assessments to help you understand the standard required and to give you practice sitting exam-style assessments.

Want more information?

Email Miss Pollett jpollett@corfehills.net

Visit the Edexcel Website



Media

Why should I study this course?

Why would you not?! If you spend time on video games, watch youtubers, relax at home watching movies with the family, spend a lot of time on Netflix, listen to the radio on car journeys or even glance at a newspaper once in a while, then you are already a student of Media! We use Media all the time, but sometimes are unaware of the effects it can have on us or how it can shape our ideas, thoughts and beliefs. If you want to learn more about that, then Media is for you! We also get to make Media – short films, DVD covers, podcasts, adverts – developing our editing skills and our skills on Photoshop.

The course will be delivered in five lessons a fortnight. The coursework is worth 30% and takes the form of one practical cross-media assignment. The course culminates with an Oscars ceremony at Bournemouth University where every student's work is shown on the big screen with an audience of hundreds. Students should opt for this course if they are well motivated, creative and enjoy analysing print media, audio-visual media and online media. The subject is a real benefit to students who wish to pursue Media Studies at A-Level.

This course can lead to studying English Language and / or Media Studies in the Sixth Form, complementing Creative Arts, Humanities and Photography.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Some of the skills that you will need or be required to develop include:

- Work effectively as a team member
- Develop an understanding of how the media industry works
- Show analytical understanding of how media texts work
- Realise an extended project from planning to final product

How will I be assessed?

The course is 70% exam and 30% coursework. It is run by the Eduqas exam board.

Coursework (Non-exam assessment):

Creating a media product based on an annual theme, demonstrating practical skills. This may be a scene from a TV programme, a web page design, posters, a magazine or a radio show. Along with a statement of intent, this counts for 30% of the overall grade.

Exam:

Paper 1 (40% of grade) – 1.5 hours. Exploring the Media.

Paper 2 (30% of grade) – 1.5 hours. Understanding Media Forms and Products.

Want more information?

Email Mrs Borley nborley@corfehills.net Visit the Eduqas Website



Music

Why Choose GCSE Music?

Are you passionate about music? Do you enjoy performing, creating, or listening to different styles of music? GCSE Music offers an exciting opportunity to develop your musical talents while gaining a respected qualification that opens doors to future opportunities.

What will you learn?

Performance (30% of your grade)

- Develop your skills on your chosen instrument or voice.
- Learn to perform with confidence, both as a soloist and in ensembles.
- Record and refine your performances.
- Receive expert guidance to improve your technique and expression.

Composition (30% of your grade)

- Create your own original music in styles that interest you.
- Learn to use music technology and composition software.
- Understand how to write for different instruments and voices.
- Develop your unique musical voice and creative ideas.

Listening and Appraising (40% of your grade)

- Explore music from 4 areas of study: Classical, Jazz & Musical Theatre, Film Music and Pop.
- Analyse two set works and understand their musical features.
- Learn about different musical traditions from around the world.
- Develop critical listening skills that last a lifetime.

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by the EDUQAS exam board.

- There will be two performances marked internally.
- There will be two compositions marked internally.
- There will be one written paper in which students respond to questions based around the two set works and 4 areas of study. This paper is marked externally (worth 40%)

What knowledge and/or skills do I need?

- Enthusiasm for music and willingness to learn.
- Intermediate ability on an instrument or voice (Grade 3 standard recommended but not essential).
- Commitment to regular practice and participation in school music activities.
- Open-mindedness to explore different musical styles.

Why Music Matters

- Career opportunities (performer, composer, producer, sound engineer, teacher).
- Valuable life skills (creativity, self-expression, confidence, self-discipline, team working).
- Academic benefits (enhances memory & cognitive development, complements other subjects through transferable skills, supports emotional well-being & stress management).

For more information, please contact Mrs Inskip, Head of Music cinskip@corfehills.net You can also visit the EDUQAS GCSE Music website.



OCR Sports Studies

Why should I study this course?

Rather than sitting an exam at the end of Year 11, the Cambridge National in Sport Studies is set up as 4 distinct units. You complete two units in Year 10 and two in Year 11. Each unit is divided into assignments (like projects) that you need to generate evidence for. For example, one unit requires you to perform in a team and an individual sport, then become an official in a sport and finally create a mini training programme that could improve your performance in one sport. The evidence you produce, along with witness statements written by your teachers, will be used to award you a grade. The grading is slightly different. Rather than being given, A, B, C you are awarded Distinction, Merit and Pass. One of the Year 10 units is assessed through a written exam. However, you have the opportunity to re-sit this exam twice more in Year 11 to improve your grade.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Students suited to the Cambridge National in Sport Studies will have:

- a passion for sport
- the willingness and determination to apply sporting knowledge to a particular sporting interest
- the ability to use a range of assessment methods to create evidence for assignments
- a strength in completing coursework tasks, rather than sitting formal examinations

How will I be assessed?

This course is run by the OCR exam board.

- The majority of work is assessed through the completion of assignment tasks (75%)
- These include 3 units titled (Developing Sport Skills, Sports Leadership and Sport and the Media)
- One unit is assessed via a formal written exam (25%) but this can be retaken a further two times

Want more information?

Email Mr Dominey rdominey@corfehills.net

Visit the OCR Website



OCR National Health and Social Care

Why should I study this course?

Why should I study this course? This qualification allows you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the health, social care, and early years sectors. The course provides opportunities to explore topics in depth, to include contact with outside agencies and people working in a variety of health and social care occupations. This qualification is highly suitable if you want to enter employment in the health, early years, or care sectors, or to undertake further study in this area.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- communicating clearly in writing and speech for the purpose of discussion, role play and coursework activities
- selecting and researching relevant material from a wide variety of different sources, e.g. textbooks, internet, television and visits
- the ability to work independently and as part of a team
- presentation skills to include ICT to produce coursework and class work
- the ability to investigate a topic through planning, obtaining evidence and drawing conclusions
- for example, health care provision in the community

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed through a combination of exam and coursework modules.

R032: Principles of care in health and social care settings: Exam unit, 1 hour 15 mins. This is usually studied in Year 11. In this unit you will learn about the importance of the rights of service users, person-centred values and how to apply them. You will also learn about the importance of effective communication skills when providing care and support for service users in health and social care settings and the procedures and measures used to protect individuals such as safeguarding, hygiene and security.

R033: Supporting individuals through life events: Coursework unit 10-12 hours of written coursework. This is usually completed in Year 10. In this unit you will learn about life stages and the factors that affect them. You will understand expected and unexpected life events and the impact they will have on physical, social/emotional, and socio-economic aspects in an individual's life. You will research the service providers and practitioners that can support individuals, recommend support and justify how this will meet the needs of a specific individual

R035: Health promotion campaigns: Coursework unit 10-12 hours written coursework. This is usually completed in Year 10. In this unit you will have the opportunity to explore the various public health challenges the country faces, the approaches used to encourage health and wellbeing and the importance of this to society. You will understand the factors affecting a healthy lifestyle so that campaigns can be designed to target different groups of people. You will also learn how to plan and deliver your own small-scale health promotion campaign and how to evaluate your planning and delivery

Want more information?

Email Ms Loveridge dloveridge@corfehills.net Visit OCR website



Physical Education GCSE

Why should I study this course?

Practical Lessons: the GCSE PE specification will stretch the practically able sports person. In the 2 practical lessons a fortnight you will focus on developing skills, techniques and competitive play. Practical activities organised by PE staff may take place in school or off-site (e.g. swimming, kayaking, rock-climbing). You will also have the option to submit detailed structured DVD evidence of you performing in sports such as skiing and equestrian. You will be assessed in all sports looking at core skills and fully competitive situations, then your top three sports will be put forward for moderation. In Year 11 you will complete a short piece of written coursework in controlled assessment conditions analysing your best sport by looking at your strengths and weaknesses and evaluating your performance to bring about improvement in one activity. The practical and coursework will count for 40% of your mark.

Theory: In the 3 theory lessons a fortnight you will cover health and fitness for a healthy lifestyle, physical training, movement analysis, anatomy and physiology, socio-cultural factors, sports psychology, and using data in sport. Each theory lesson will be classroom based. This will lead to two 75-minute exams counting for 60% of your mark

From studying GCSE PE, you will be equipped to study A-Level PE or Cambridge Nationals in Sport Level 3 in Year 12.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- a high practical sporting ability (you need to be actively competing in at least 1 sport outside of school)
- being open to learn about a range of sporting activities (not just those you prefer)
- a high degree of self-discipline and motivation during theory classes

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by the AQA exam board

- This will involve three assessments as a player/performer in one team sport, one individual sport, and one sport of your choice. You will be assessed in all sports covered plus any additional 'offsite' activities that you excel in (e.g. equestrian, golf, skiing). Your best three activities scores will be used making up 40% of the total.

Team activities	Individual activities
Football, Badminton, Basketball, Carnogie, Cricket, Dance, Gaelic football, Handball, Hockey, Hurling, Lacrosse, Netball, Rowing, Rugby (league or union), Squash, Table tennis, Tennis, Volleyball	Amateur boxing, Athletics, Badminton, Canoeing, Cycling, Dance, Diving, Golf, Gymnastics, Equestrian, Kayaking, Rock climbing, Rowing, Sculling, Skiing, Snowboarding, Squash, Swimming, Table tennis, Tennis, Trampolineing
Specialist activities Blind cricket, Goal ball, Powerchair football, Table cricket, Wheelchair basketball, Wheelchair rugby	Specialist activities Boccia, Polybat
NB specialist activities can only be opted by those with a disability.	

Want more information?

Email Mr Dominey rdominey@corfehills.net Visit the AQA Website



Personal Growth and Wellbeing

Why should I study this course?

The BTEC Level 1 and Level 2 in PGW offers you the opportunity to follow a portfolio-based approach to learning (no examination) which meets the needs of individuals and groups of learners of all abilities. It covers both the PHSE and RSE curriculum as well as providing opportunities to develop transferable skills.

You will complete the Extended Certificate at either Level 1 (equivalent to 2 GCSE grades at 3-1) or Level 2 (equivalent to 2 GCSE grades at 9-4) over eight units:

- Physical Health and Wellbeing
- Emotional Wellbeing • Social Health and Wellbeing
- Sexual Health and Wellbeing
- Personal Identity
- Environmental Awareness
- Financial Awareness
- Personal Progress

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

You will need to develop and use skills in the areas of:

- Working with others
- Problem solving
- Carrying out research
- Communicating through discussion
- Improving own learning and performance

How will I be assessed?

- You will complete a workbook for each Unit, either online or in booklet form (or a mix of both!). These will be assessed initially by your PGW teacher.
- Final assessment is made through external moderation at the end of the course.
- You will be expected to work towards the BTEC Level 1 PGW but some may rise to the challenge of working towards Level 2.

Want more information?

Email: Mrs Bradley: lbradley@corfehills.net

Visit the Sweet Website PGW Level 1 and Level 2



Photography

Why should I study this course?

Your Photography lessons during the beginning of the course will consist of learning new skills and techniques. Recording skills will be learned and related to personal research including the use of line, Shape, tone, colour and perspective and Composition.

You will research artists and their contextual art movements and learn how to critically analyse and relate to their styles of creating artwork.

Your portfolio will be made up of two units of work each based on different themes. You will have the opportunity to relate to your own interests as inspiration and be encouraged to work individually with developing ideas. You will experiment with various techniques including studio lighting, digital and practical editing and traditional dark room methods. There are also opportunities to extend your learning through external visits and to continue the course on to A-level.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Skills that you will need, or that you will be required to develop, include:

- Good observational skills
- A willingness to experiment and try new techniques
- An ability to research ideas using a range of different materials
- An ability to follow a brief, concluding in a final outcome
- The capability to think critically and creatively
- ICT skills
- An ability to evaluate the work of artists and your own work
- A sense of motivation, organisation and responsibility to complete projects

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by AQA exam board and is called Art and Design 8200.

- A portfolio of work (60%) will be completed in Year 10 and the first term of Year 11
- There will be one externally set task (40%) completed in the Spring term of Year 11

Want more information?

Email Mrs Ratcliffe aratcliffe@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA Website



Religious Studies

Why should I study this course?

Learning about religions in the 21st Century is vital if you want to be able to understand what is happening in the world today and why. You will have the chance to study in depth the beliefs, teachings and practices of two of the world's major religions (Christianity & Hinduism). You will also study four themes that enable you to consider some of the big ethical issues of our time. You will be given the opportunity to critically discuss, challenge and analyse some of the most important questions that our society faces: How do we know what is good? Why do people commit evil acts? Can it ever be right to euthanize someone? What is truth? Can we believe in God and science? What happens after death? Religious Studies is about asking questions; critically analysing evidence and the views of others; making persuasive arguments and ultimately coming to your own conclusions about life's big questions. Religious Studies is an academically rigorous course that is useful for a great number of jobs, for example: law, politics, medicine, police work, teaching, business, and the armed forces. The transferable skills learnt in RS can be used in many professions and it will also help you with your literacy skills in other subjects.

The GCSE is made up of two components, both worth 50% of the final mark:

Component 1: The Study of Religions

Which includes:

- Christianity: Beliefs and teachings
- Christianity: Practices
- Hinduism: Beliefs and Teachings
- Hinduism: Practices

Component 2: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical studies

Which includes:

- Relationships and Families
- Religion and Life
- Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Religion, Crime & Punishment

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

- You do not need any prior knowledge of the topics we cover but we will build upon the skills you have been developing in year 9 - both in your written work and in your ability to critically analyse and develop arguments.
- An interest in people and the world around you is helpful.
- It is a demanding course with some challenging religious and philosophical concepts to get your head around, so you will need to be prepared to think hard, accepting that some things may be beyond explanation.
- Good literacy skills
- You need to be open-minded and respectful about the views and beliefs of others.
- You will need to be able to empathise with others.
- You will need to be inquisitive, enthusiastic, hardworking and willing to communicate your findings in different formats.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed completely through exams at the end of year 11. You will sit 2 exams in total covering each of the components. We will do exam practice throughout the course to ensure that you are confident and ready for your exams.

How can I find out more about this course?

Email Mr Stone mstone@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA Website



Science

Which Science should I study?

All students at Corfe Hills study science at GCSE. The options available are studying combined science (2 GCSEs) which is AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (double award), or separate science (3 GCSEs) in which students study Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

If you are thinking about studying science at A-level, then studying separate science GCSE will be advantageous.

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Regardless of the choice you make your course will provide opportunities to develop important scientific skills. These will include:

- investigation skills such as planning experimental work, obtaining, analysing and evaluating data
- research using different resources
- communication skills in order to express your ideas clearly using appropriate scientific language
- skills necessary to decide appropriate ways to present your ideas or findings
- how to critically look at scientific information

How will I be assessed?

All the science courses are run by the AQA examination board. See detail below for each course.

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (8464) Double Award

- You will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics.
- You will complete 21 required practicals. The practical skills from these will be assessed in your written exams, with at least 15% of the marks coming from questions relating to practicals.
- You will take 6 written papers at the end of year 11. Two biology, two chemistry, two physics.

Separate Science: GCSE Biology (8461), GCSE Chemistry (8462), GCSE Physics (8463)

Separate science is for students who are very interested in science and wish to obtain a GCSE in each of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics separately. In addition to studying the combined science topics you will study extra topics in each of the sciences. It is the best preparation for the study of science A-levels and is recommended for those students who want to go on and study medicine, veterinary science and other related courses.

Want more information?

Email Mrs Sevenoaks ksevenoaks@corfehills.net Visit the AQA Website



Spanish.

Why should I study this course?

If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE Spanish is an excellent choice for you!

Of course you will learn to understand a lot more in Spanish. But there are many other reasons for taking this GCSE course.

- You will create greater opportunities for yourself to work abroad, or for companies in the UK with international links. Many employers look for people who speak a foreign language
- Spanish is spoken by 560 million people worldwide, four fifths of these are native speakers, one fifth are second or third language Spanish speakers
- Spanish ranks as the world's No.2 language in terms of how many people speak it as their first language.
- You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for.

You will learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, being confident about speaking in public and using problem-solving strategies

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

Good news! If you have studied Spanish in Year 9, you are well prepared to do a GCSE course in this language!

You already know a lot of the vocabulary and grammar you will need for GCSE. You know how to talk about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, where you live, school, holidays, food and drink. You will build on these topics during your GCSE course, as well as moving on to new topics such as; relationships, new technology, holidays, work and education.

You will need to be:

- Resourceful; use your text book and your verb table vocabulary
- Resilient; revise on a regular basis and learn from the work that has been corrected
- Reciprocal; doing pair work and group work
- Reflective; think things through before you do them

How will I be assessed?

There will be an oral test and then a listening, reading and writing examination in the summer.

Want more information?

Email Mrs Hermida - chermida@corfehills.net

Visit the AQA website



Textile Design

Why choose Textile Design?

If you find yourself thinking outside the box, have a creative ability, willingness to explore new and existing technical skills that link to textiles, no doubt you will be suited to the textile design course.

What will you learn?

Term one and two learning experiences:

- Key concepts linking to surface pattern and fabric manipulation
- Understanding the importance of surface pattern in the fashion and interiors industry • Design exploration based on themes and inspirations
- The importance of colour theory in Textile Design
- Encouragement of experimenting with different styles (abstract, geometric, floral etc) • Developing a personal design style
- Practical skills: sewing, cutting, using a pattern, use of basic equipment
- Creative exploration and innovation
- Explore a range of surface pattern technical skills based on colour, texture and pattern • Create a garment using a traditional pattern

Throughout term three of Year 10 and term one of Year 11, you will create a portfolio of work based on a chosen theme, linking skills learnt and applying these skills to demonstrate a sustained project that shows evidence of research, application of skills, design and making a final response. With more thorough understanding of how to develop a portfolio of work, throughout term two of Year 11 – you will produce a personal response towards an externally set assignment provided from the examining board.

You will be encouraged to explore and show creative ideas, with a strong emphasis on reflecting on the work and drawing inspiration from other designers. It combines technical garment-making skills with the artistic expression through surface pattern design.

How will I be assessed?

The course is run by AQA exam board and is called Textile Design 8204

- A portfolio of work (60%) will be completed in Year 10 and the first term of Year 11
- There will be one externally set assignment (40%) completed in the Spring term of Year 11

What knowledge and / or skills will I need?

- Creative Thinking: Able to generate innovative ideas and solutions across various mediums and projects
- Observational Drawing: Proficient in capturing details, textures, and proportions through keen observation and technical drawing skills
- Textile Knowledge: Basic understanding and practical skills in working with textiles, including fabric manipulation, stitching, and patternmaking
- Receptive to Feedback: Open-minded and willing to accept constructive criticism to improve and evolve work
- Reflective Practice: Continuously evaluating and learning from experiences to develop personal and professional growth
- Explorative Mindset: Eager to try new techniques, experiment with materials, and push creative boundaries
- Motivated and Organized: Self-driven to meet goals and deadlines while maintaining a structured approach to task management

Where could this course lead?

Further education: A level Textiles or Art Future careers: styling, visual merchandising, fashion buyer, illustrator, fashion journalism, interior designer, fashion designer, textiles/print designer

Want more information? Email Miss Hodgson: khodgson@corfehills.net Visit the AQA website



Corfe Hills School

Expectations | Exceptional Individuals

Contact Information

Leadership Team

Acting Headteacher/DSL	Sara Jones
Deputy Headteacher	Laura Andow
Assistant Headteacher	Matthew Hegarty
Assistant Headteacher	Dani Walkey
Associate Assistant Headteacher	Nic Borley
Associate Assistant Headteacher	Claire Ratcliffe
Associate Assistant Headteacher	Cory Nicholls
Associate Assistant Headteacher	James Harris
Head of Year 9	Laura Paterson
Head of Year 10	Aaron Lindon
Head of Year 11	James Harris
Head of Sixth Form	Laura McDermid

Kimmeridge House

Head of House & Year 11	James Harris
Student Support Assistant	Angeli Dean

Sandbanks House

Head of House & Year 10	Aaron Lindon
Student Support Manager	Vicki O'Brien

Lulworth House

Head of House & Year 9	Laura Paterson
Student Support Manager	Laura Vincent
Student Support Assistant	Evie Allsop

Year 12/13 (Post 16)

Head of Sixth Form	Laura McDermid
Deputy Head of Sixth Form	Tania Planells
Student Support Managers	Rachel Haddrell/ Claire Kelly

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