

2021-2023



# SHEFFIELD GIRLS'

INFANT, JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL

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**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

## GCSE Choices



[#ModernSince1878](https://www.instagram.com/ModernSince1878)



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## Welcome

During your first three years at Sheffield Girls' Senior School you have been following a broad course of study covering a wide variety of subjects designed to further your education.

You are now at the stage where you must make some choices about which subjects to study at GCSE level. The GCSE courses have been designed to be interesting, useful and relevant to the world today and in many cases will help to prepare you for A-level study.

All GCSEs now follow a linear scheme which means that there are end of course examinations only. These examinations will test your knowledge and understanding as well as the skills you will acquire during the course. Some subjects will also have an assignment (non-examination assessment) that will be

completed in lesson time. Practical work, fieldwork, research, oral and communication skills may also contribute to your final grade. Under this scheme it is not possible to re-sit a part of the course; if you are unhappy with your final grade you will need to re-take all the examinations for that subject.

It is important to choose your subjects carefully, bearing in mind your own interests and strengths. This booklet is designed to help you and your parents make these choices.

**Mr C Adams**  
Assistant Head (Academic)

## Important Dates



**Thursday 21 January 2021, 7pm**  
You and your parents are invited to attend the GCSE Options Evening where you will be given a general introduction and staff will be available to answer any queries about courses.

**Tuesday 9 February 2021**  
You and your parents will be invited to make appointments at a Consultation Evening to discuss your progress and possible choices with your subject teachers.

**Friday 12 February 2021**  
Deadline for completed GCSE choices.

## What should I study?

It is important to bear in mind what you enjoy, the skills you will develop and what you are good at, alongside any career plans that you may have at this stage. You should aim to achieve a broad and balanced set of choices that you can build on in your future studies.

Most girls will study nine GCSE subjects. The compulsory subjects are:

- Mathematics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Double Award Science (equivalent of x2 GCSE subjects)

You can choose four more subjects from the list on this page to make a total of nine. We strongly recommend that you continue with one of the languages you already study and that you choose a humanity (Geography, History or Religious Studies). Try to have a good spread of subjects but remember you can choose additional languages/humanities if you wish.

You must also choose an additional subject as an alternative as it is not always possible for the timetable to provide all your choices.

There is also the opportunity during Year 9 to 12 for students to take an additional 'Twilight' GCSE which is taught at the end of the school day. There is a charge to study a Twilight GCSE and a class will only run if there are enough students to make it feasible. The subjects on offer can be found on page 25.

## Your subject options

### Languages

- French
- German
- Spanish
- Latin

### Humanities

- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies

### Technical/Aesthetic

- Fine Art
- Music
- Drama
- Physical Education
- Computer Science
- Digital Information Technology (BTEC Level 2 Tech Award)
- Business
- Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Economics
- Food Preparation and Nutrition

In addition to the subjects above you will also follow a programme to encourage your individual development. This includes Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education and Physical Education as well as a General Studies and Life Skills.



## Making choices and careers

Recently you have been considering self-awareness and decision-making in PSHE lessons.

During the first few weeks of the Spring Term you will be participating in a series of support sessions designed to help you make your choice of subjects for GCSE. These will include taking an Aspirations Questionnaire to help you consider GCSEs in relation to potential career choices.

Your Form Tutor, Mrs Bamforth (Head of Year), Ms Hall (Head of Careers) and PSHE teachers will help you with these decisions.

During Year 10 you will have timetabled Careers lessons. You will also take the Morrisby Assessment tests leading to a detailed profile and a careers action plan to help you make decisions about Post-16 Choices.

In Year 11 you will have a careers interview and work with your Sixth Form Mentor to make the best choices for your next stage of studying.

### Completing the Choices Form

1. Choose four subjects to study alongside the core subjects. Enter your choices on the form.
2. Enter your alternative choice. You will be allocated four of your choices, depending upon the timetable, so make sure you would be happy studying any of the subjects listed.
3. Please return the form to your Form Tutor by **Friday 12 February 2021**.





## Business

EDEXCEL

### Why should I choose this subject?

The GCSE Business course will provide you with knowledge of all the key aspects of setting up, operating and succeeding in business. Understanding business will open up many career paths in marketing, accounting and finance, human resources and operations management.

### What will I study?

**Theme 1: Investigating a small business.** This theme concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

**Theme 2: Growing a business.** This theme examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. Theme 2 also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

### What skills or qualities will I need?

- Data and number skills
- Presenting arguments and making judgments and justified recommendations on the basis of the available evidence
- Recognising the nature of problems and providing solutions
- An active interest in current affairs and the business world

### How will I be assessed?

Two written examinations at the end of Year 11.

### Additional information

During your time studying Business we also offer exciting enrichment opportunities such as the IFS Student Investor Challenge as well as opportunities to set up and run your own business. These opportunities allow you to apply your understanding of Business to a set problem and develop your presentation, leadership, communication and team working skills.

You will also have the opportunity to go on an educational visit to a large company such as Jaguar Land Rover or Coca Cola to learn how classroom theory relates to the real world.



## Computer Science

AQA

### Why should I choose this subject?

Computer Science is the study of how computers work and how they are used. Take a look at the world around you. How close to a computer (laptop, smartphone, tablet) are you? Life without computers is almost unimaginable.

The GCSE Computer Science course will build upon the knowledge and skills you have developed through your Key Stage 3 Computing lessons and provide you with an in depth understanding of how computer technology works. It is an intellectually challenging yet very practical and rewarding discipline. You will learn how to make computers do exactly what you want them to, through the application of problem solving and computer programming skills.

Computer Science is not just about writing computer code. It is also about people, solving puzzles, creativity, changing the future and, most of all, having fun. If you enjoy working with computers, this course will help you to develop a fantastic set of transferable skills including; critical thinking, analysis, problem solving and collaborative working.

### What will I study?

**Unit 1: Computational thinking and programming skills.** In this unit you will learn how to use computational thinking skills to solve practical problems.

**Unit 2: Computing Concepts.** In this unit you will learn about a wide range of issues such as; networking, cyber security, social engineering, mobile technologies and wearable technologies.

### What about future prospects and careers?

In the future this qualification could help you either with further study of Computer Science or with a range of other courses and careers. Do you want to become a designer, architect, engineer, publisher, medical researcher, sports coach, music or film producer? Computer Science is one of the best points to start from.

Don't know what you want to do with your life just yet? Perfect! Most of the jobs that will be available when you leave university haven't even been thought of yet! Computer Science is the very best start you will get for these too.

### How will I be assessed?

There are two examination papers which test your knowledge and understanding of theory topics and your programming skills.



## Digital Information Technology

BTEC LEVEL 2 TECH AWARD  
PEARSON EDEXCEL



## Drama

CAMBRIDGE

### Why should I choose this subject?

The Tech Award is a GCSE equivalent qualification and will count as one GCSE. This subject is for learners who wish to acquire technical skills through vocational contexts.

### What will I study?

The Tech Award allows learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover:

- Development of learners' aptitude in using digital tools and technologies such as using specialist programs and manipulating data into information
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, processes and attitudes in the sector such as different infrastructure and systems and how they are used by organisations and associated individuals
- Creative solutions development that underpins effective ways of harnessing data and technology
- Attitudes and ways of working that are important in the digital sector such as managing safety and security issues, and developing solutions

### What skills or qualities will I need?

- The ability to work co-operatively
- An awareness of and interest in developments in technology
- An enjoyment of practical work
- Problem solving skills and creativity

### How will I be assessed?

Learners need to demonstrate attainment across three components that focus on knowledge, skills and practices in order to achieve the qualification:

1. Exploring User Interface design principles and project planning techniques
2. Collecting, presenting and interpreting data
3. Effective digital working practices

This is a modular qualification where Component 1 and 2 are assignments, completed in Year 10 and 11. Component 3 is an external examination, taken in February of Year 11.

Grades awarded for this qualification are: Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction\*

### Why should I choose this subject?

If you enjoy acting, studying plays and theatre as well as working collaboratively with others, then this could be the right course for you.

### What will I study?

There are two components:

- **Coursework:** Creating and performing three pieces of theatre: an individual performance (2-3 minutes) and two group pieces (each 15 minutes); one an extract from a play and the other an original devised drama. You will work in groups of between 2 and 6 actors to create this devised piece on which you will later answer questions in the written paper. In order to prepare you for this, you will maintain a devising log throughout the rehearsal period. Although you work with others in both the Devised Drama and the Group Extract, you will be individually assessed.
- **Written paper:** Pre-release material for the written examination is issued in the Autumn Term of Year 11 and comprises two extended extracts from two different plays. You will explore the extracts practically and from the perspective of an actor, director and designer. **You will not be assessed on a performance of the play extracts.**

### What skills or qualities will I need?

The course requires practical, creative and communication skills in equal measure. You will need to enjoy acting and have a creative instinct for communicating your views through drama. You will also need to be able to work well with others in order to create successful performances.

### What about future prospects and careers?

This course can lead to further study in Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts in Higher Education although students have gone on to study a range of subjects including Law, Biology, History, Politics and English Literature. It can also lead to a career in the performing arts industries.

### How will I be assessed?

- Over the two years, you will create, rehearse and perform, three pieces of practical coursework worth 60%
- You will sit a written examination at the end of the course of two hours and thirty minutes, worth 40%



**Economics**  
OCR



**English Language & English Literature**  
EDEXCEL

**Why should I choose this subject?**

Economics is about people and their economic choices. This course will enable you to appreciate that we are all part of the economy and that economics relates to every aspect of our lives - from the decisions of individuals or families to the structures created by governments and producers. It will develop your understanding of how economic issues affect choices about resources and markets and vice versa. An understanding of Economics is an essential life skill which has never been more important than it is today.

**What will I study?**

**Component 1:** Introduces you to the main economic agents, the basic economic problem and the role of markets, including the labour market and the importance of the financial sector.

**Component 2:** Focuses on the main economic objectives, such as economic growth, low unemployment, fair distribution of income and price stability, and other roles of government. Other aspects are the importance of international trade and the impact of globalisation.

**What skills or qualities will I need?**

Students are encouraged to acquire a range of important and transferable skills:

- Data and number skills
- Presenting arguments and making judgments and justified recommendations on the basis of the available evidence
- Challenging your own assumptions using evidence
- Political awareness and an active interest in current affairs

**What about future prospects and careers?**

Economics graduates are employed in a range of posts in manufacturing, transport, law, communications, banking, insurance, education, investment and retailing industries, as well as in government agencies and consulting.

**How will I be assessed?**

Two written examinations at the end of Year 11.

**Additional information**

During your time studying Economics we also offer exciting enrichment opportunities such as the IFS Student Investor Challenge. You will also have the chance to go on an educational visit to an economic institution.

**What does this subject involve?**

**English Language:** You will develop both your reading and writing skills through the study of a wide range of texts from different time periods: this will include both literature and non-fiction. You will build your skills as a reader, considering and comparing writers' ideas and perspectives, and analysing how linguistic and structural devices achieve varied effects. You will broaden your skills as a writer, learning how to successfully match your writing to audience and purpose.

**English Literature:**

You will develop your reading comprehension and test your ability to respond to texts critically, analysing the writers' narrative methods and showing understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written. You will study a selection of poetry, a modern prose text, a modern drama text and a Shakespeare play.

**How will I be assessed?**

- English Language is assessed by one 2 hour and 15 minute examination (60%) and two pieces of coursework (40%) completed over the two year course
- English Literature is assessed by one 2 hour examination (60%) and two pieces of coursework (40%) completed over the two year course

'English Language is such an interesting and fascinating subject as it allows you to use your creative side and write emotive stories.'



## Fine Art

AQA

### Why should I choose this subject?

GCSE Art gives you the opportunity to be creative, investigative and to experiment. During the course you will explore a range of techniques and processes including both traditional and new technologies. GCSE Art provides an excellent foundation for A-level Art and Design and a variety of career pathways.

### What will I study?

In studying Art at GCSE you will develop your techniques in drawing and painting, printing, digital photography and mixed media, building on skills acquired during Art lessons from Key Stage 3.

### What does this subject involve?

Students are encouraged to explore their own creative journey. Gallery visits enable you to develop a personal and critical appreciation of the work of artists and designers and an ability to relate this, where appropriate, to their own practice.

### What skills or qualities will I need?

- An enjoyment and interest in drawing and painting
- Interest in further developing some of the following media areas: painting, photography, printmaking, mixed media, ICT, researching the work of artists and designers.

### How will I be assessed?

- Coursework portfolio (60%)
- Externally set assignment (40%)

### Additional information

- Gallery visits, artist workshops, Hepworth Discovery Day, ARTiculate competition
- Occasional opportunity for involvement in design for creative arts and theatre productions
- Exhibitions - Internal school exhibitions and Sheffield Young Artists

'Art at GCSE allowed me to explore and be more creative with my work.'



## Food Preparation & Nutrition

AQA

### Why should I choose this subject?

This is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cookery skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.

### What will I study?

Food Preparation Skills are integrated into five core topics:

- **Food, Nutrition and Health:** Macro Nutrients, Micro Nutrients, Nutritional Needs and Health
- **Food Science:** Cooking of Food, Heat Transfer, and the Functional and Chemical Properties of Food
- **Food Safety:** Food Spoilage, Contamination and the Principles of Food Safety
- **Food Choice:** Factors affecting Food Choice, British and International Cuisines, Sensory Evaluation, Food Labelling and Marketing

- **Food Provenance:** Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Food, Food Processing and Production

### What about future prospects and careers?

The many skills learnt in this GCSE are relevant to further study and careers in a number of different fields.

### How will I be assessed?

- Written Exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (50%)
- Written Report: Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) Task 1: Food Investigation (15%)
- Written Portfolio and 3-hour Practical Assessment. Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) Task 2: Food Preparation Assessment (35%)

'I really enjoyed the cookery masterclass at my father's heart – we learned how to present food skilfully in a professional kitchen.'





## Geography

AQA

### Why should I choose this subject?

Geography helps you to make sense of and understand our complex and ever changing world. Geography is a very interesting, relevant and challenging subject that will broaden your education and develop key skills.

### What will I study?

#### Unit 1: Living with the Physical Environment

A selection of topics/issues are:

- The Challenge of Natural Hazards – the hazards and impacts created by earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, tropical storms, other extreme weather events and climate change
- The Physical Landscapes of the UK – river and glacial landscapes
- The Living World – ecosystems, tropical rainforests, and hot deserts

#### Unit 2: Challenges in the Human Environment

A selection of topics/issues are:

- Urban Issues and Challenges – population growth in cities, urban change, mega-cities, urban regeneration and sustainable urban living
- The Changing Economic World – variations in development and quality of life over time and space, as well as ways to reduce the development gap

- The Challenge of Resource Management – global inequalities in the supply and consumption of resources such as food, water and energy

#### Unit 3: Geographical Applications and Skills

- This unit focuses on the inter-relationships of different aspects of Geography
- Issue Evaluation – Decision making and problem solving based on real and up-to-date geographical issues
- Fieldwork and Geographical Skills – these skills will be developed during the course. There will also be a residential trip to Snowdonia in North Wales to carryout fieldwork

### What about future prospects and careers?

Geography keeps your options open and Geographers are amongst the most employable people on leaving university.

### How will I be assessed?

- Unit 1 (35%)
- Unit 2 (35%)
- Unit 3 (30%)



## History

AQA

### Why should I choose this subject?

You will find this course interesting, stimulating and a good basis for understanding issues in the news today, as well as a great deal of fun. History will also allow you to develop skills of analysis, explanation, evaluation and debating. These skills are extremely useful in any career which you might pursue in later life.

The course provides you with a real breadth of history and a good grounding in both medieval and modern history.

### What will I study?

The course consists of four parts:

#### The history of medicine focusing upon Britain

This involves a fascinating look at how our knowledge of medicine and disease has evolved, starting with medieval ideas about health and medicine and the impact of diseases such as the Black Death, the battle to develop germ theory in the nineteenth century and then finishing with a look at modern medicine and the development of the National Health Service.

#### Elizabethan England 1558-1603

In this topic you will explore the 'Golden Age' of Elizabeth I, from everyday life to the royal court and foreign wars. This includes dramatic plots involving Mary Queen of Scots, the defeat of the Spanish Armada and Shakespeare's development of the theatre.

#### Germany between 1890 and 1945

Focusing upon the emergence of Hitler and the Nazi Party, it then goes on to look at life in Hitler's Germany finishing with a study of the Final Solution.

#### Conflict and tension 1918-39

The final topic looks at the reasons why the Second World War broke out in 1939. We look again at Hitler's aggressive foreign policy, but also at Britain's failure to keep peace by following Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's policy of 'appeasement'.

### What skills or qualities will I need?

- An interest in the subject
- An enquiring and lively mind
- An enjoyment of discussion and debate
- An ability to express yourself well in discussion and on paper

### What about future prospects and careers?

History is recommended for students who want to go into law, accountancy, banking and finance, journalism, politics, civil service, media and medicine.

### How will I be assessed?

Two examination papers at the end of Year 11, which test your factual knowledge and skills.



## Latin

EDUQAS



## Mathematics

EDEXCEL

### Why should I choose this subject?

GCSE Latin offers students access to some of the most exciting literature ever written. A GCSE in Latin is highly regarded by universities and employers alike because of the wide range of skills developed. It also supports study of Modern Foreign Languages, History and English Literature.

### What will I study?

The GCSE Latin course enables you to develop an insight into the relevance of the Latin language, its literature and Roman culture in the modern world.

The GCSE course consists of three components; two are compulsory and the third offers options:

**Latin Language:** students will be assessed on their ability to translate and comprehend a story line in Latin.

**Latin Literature and Sources:** you will analyse literary styles, and learn the cultural and social context of the prescribed material.

**Further Study:** tailored to suit the specific needs and interests of our students, as we choose between further study of 'Latin Literature', or 'Roman Civilisation'.

### What skills or qualities will I need?

- An enquiring mind
- An interest in language and history

### What about future prospects and careers?

A qualification in Latin is highly valued by employers and universities. Not only are skills in language and analysis developed, but also skills in logic, discipline and application of knowledge. An appreciation of Latin is useful for careers in Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Law, and any further study of languages.

### How will I be assessed?

Three separate written examinations at the end of Year 11:

- Component 1: Latin Language
- Component 2: Latin Literature and Sources
- Component 3: Latin Literature/Roman Civilisation

### Additional information

- The department usually offers trips to Classical sites in the UK and overseas
- In the past, students have had the opportunity to work with local primary schools

### What will I study?

In Mathematics you will study the Edexcel International GCSE (Higher tier) syllabus. Building upon the work you have already done in Year 9, you will become fluent in the key areas of number, algebra, geometrical reasoning and working with data. You will develop existing skills such as solving more complex equations. You will also learn about entirely new topics such as set theory, vectors and differentiation.

You will also develop the ability to think logically in order to solve problems, applying existing knowledge and skills to unfamiliar situations. These transferable skills will be invaluable in the future, either in further study or employment. Your mathematical knowledge will open the door to careers in the sciences, engineering and many other fields.

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is by external examination, there is no coursework component. All students study a linear course and take two examinations at the end of Year 11, both of which are calculator papers.

'As well as improving judgment and analytical ability, Maths allows you to think about any problem in a rigorous manner.'



**Modern Languages**  
(French, German & Spanish)  
EDEXCEL



**Music**  
AQA

**Why should I choose this subject?**

Studying languages gives you an insight into the culture of these countries. Languages are assessed in listening, reading, speaking and writing. Edexcel syllabuses are followed in all the languages.

**What will I study?**

Each language has the same syllabus and content. Many of the topics covered will be familiar to you, for example, holidays, free time, family and school.

The emphasis is on developing your ability to use the language effectively for practical communication in situations when you are abroad or when you meet foreign visitors in this country.

**What skills or qualities will I need?**

- You will need to be:
- Hard-working and well-motivated
- Enjoy meeting challenges

- Be prepared to spend some time each week learning new vocabulary and grammar
- Have an interest in communication

**What about future prospects and careers?**

Being able to speak a foreign language equips students with a variety of transferable skills such as excellent communication skills, independence, resilience, resourcefulness and creativity. Having a language opens doors to a multitude of career paths and job opportunities in both the UK and internationally. Languages are an excellent complement to a variety of subjects and most universities offer courses in many subjects combined with a language, for example law, business and management studies, information and media studies, sciences, engineering and economics.

**How will I be assessed?**

Speaking, writing, reading and listening are all assessed by examination at end of Year 11 and are each worth 25% of the final grade. The course is designed to build linguistic skills and encourage students to be independent and spontaneous in their language use.

‘Studying languages has improved my problem-solving skills and taught me to think outside the box.’

**Why should I choose this subject?**

GCSE Music enables you to develop your skills and interest through performance, listening to music and composing.

**What will I study?**

**Performing:** You can perform on any instrument or voice and you will prepare a programme with your teacher to last a minimum of four minutes. As well as performing solo you will also give an ensemble performance within this programme.

**Composing:** This encourages you to explore and express your own ideas. Throughout the course, you will be taught various practical composition techniques which will help you with your composition coursework.

**Understanding Music:** You will study various musical styles for the listening element of this paper, such as the Western Classical Tradition, Popular music and Traditional music. You will also study two set works – one from Western Classical tradition and one piece of popular music.

**What skills or qualities will I need?**

- You can perform at any level from grade 1 to grade 5, although most students perform at grade 3-5 level. You are judged on your technical control, expression and interpretation.
- You need a sound knowledge of theory and can be supported in this by attending theory clinic

- You will be a willing performer and be keen to develop your individual skills
- You will have a healthy curiosity about how music works
- Above all you will enjoy listening to and making music!

**What about future prospects and careers?**

Those who continue their music studies to a higher level pursue careers such as: arts administration, media, performance, teaching, studio and orchestral management, music therapy, publishing, and recording.

**How will I be assessed?**

- Performing: (30%)
- Composing: You will be fully supported in your preparation of two compositions lasting a minimum of three minutes in total (30%)
- Understanding Music: Listening and contextual questions on two set works (40%)

**Additional information**

The course is ideally suited to students who already play an instrument or sing and would like a deeper insight into the subject. It is essential for anyone considering study of music at a higher level and provides an excellent core of knowledge and skills for all who participate in music making.



## Physical Education

AQA

'Learning about the science behind sport has really enabled me to take my training to the next level.'



## Religious Studies

AQA

### Why should I choose this subject?

Studying PE gives you a chance to combine a love of the practical with the theory. You will develop knowledge in all sports and activities and then enhance this with sports psychology, anatomy, biomechanics and discussion topics such as technology, drugs and the history of sport.

### What skills or qualities will I need?

To be successful in this subject you need to be performing practically at a high level, be committed to sport, and have a good knowledge and understanding of sport related issues. It would be advantageous if you trained and competed in at least one sport out of school.

### How will I be assessed?

- Written Assessment Paper 1: Applied anatomy and physiology. Movement Analysis (30%).
- Paper 2: Sports Psychology and Social-Cultural Influences (30%).
- Practical Assessment: Three activities in the role of a performer. One must be a team activity, one an individual activity and the third, either team or individual (40%).

### Why should I choose this subject?

Religious Studies is a GCSE for those with an open and enquiring mind. This is an exciting and stimulating course for those wishing to broaden their horizons and understand more about some of the issues facing the world in which we live.

Throughout the course you will develop skills of evaluation, analysis, discussion and structuring arguments, which will be of value in any A-level subject.

### What you will study?

The GCSE is split into two sections. Each section makes up 50% of your GCSE:

#### Beliefs, teachings and practices

In this area of the course you will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Judaism.

#### Religious, philosophical and ethical studies in the modern world

In this area of the course you will study the following issues:

- Religion, crime and punishment
- Religion, human rights and social justice
- Religion, relationships and families
- Religion and life

### What skills or qualities will I need?

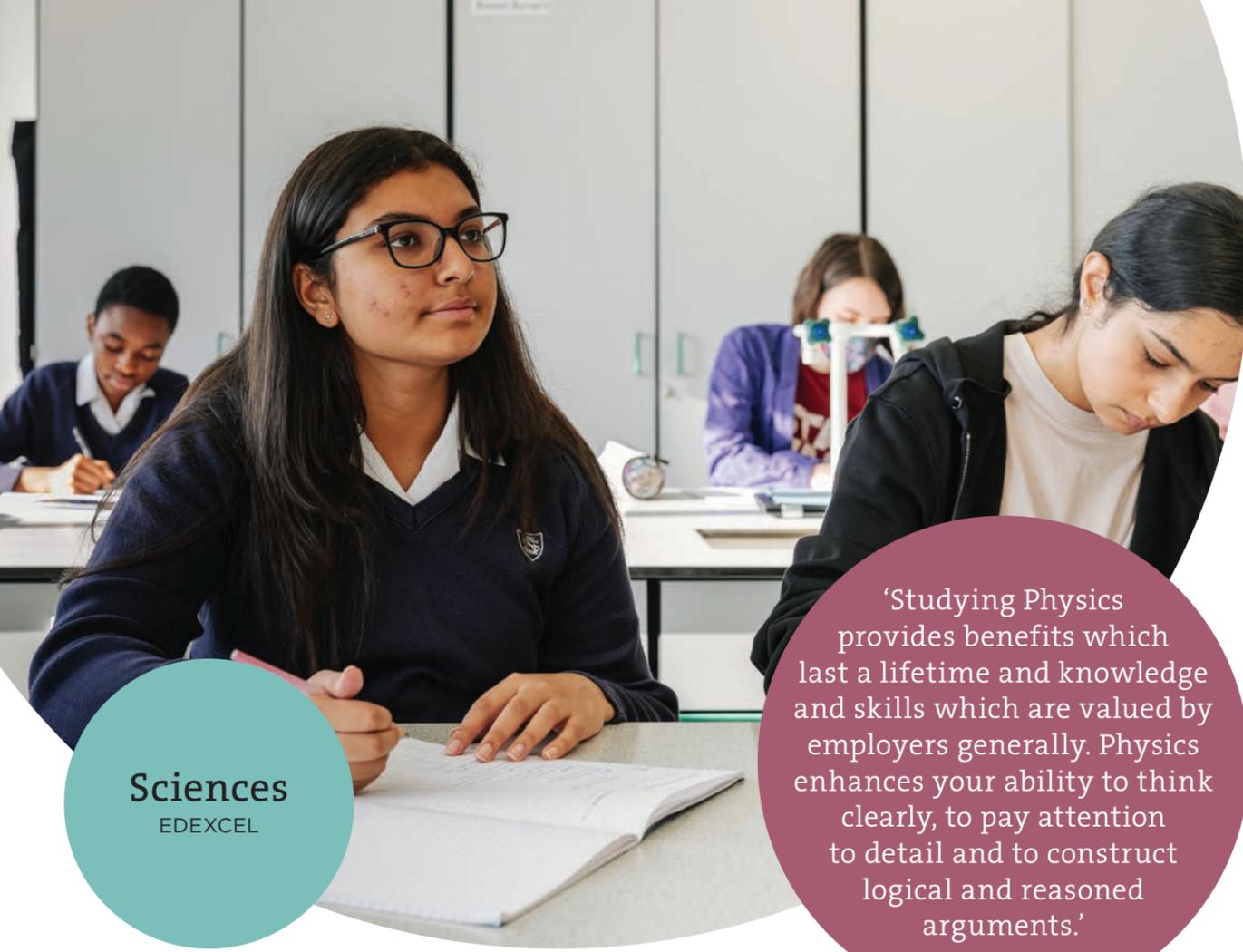
- An open mind
- Good written skills
- Good communication skills

### How will I be assessed?

Each of the two parts of the course are assessed with a 1 hour 45 minute examination. The examination consists of both short and long answer questions. Your grade is based on your performance in the two examinations.

### Additional information

- Watching ethical films after school together as a group informs ethical discussions
- Extra-curricular trips including the Reform Synagogue
- Ethics conference with visiting speakers



## Sciences

EDEXCEL

'Studying Physics provides benefits which last a lifetime and knowledge and skills which are valued by employers generally. Physics enhances your ability to think clearly, to pay attention to detail and to construct logical and reasoned arguments.'

### What you will study?

In Science you will study the Edexcel International GCSE. If you choose Triple Science as an option you will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as separate subjects, achieving three GCSE grades.

Alternatively you can opt for Double Science, which means you will be studying Biology, Chemistry and Physics, working towards achieving two International GCSEs (Science Double Award).

Studying Triple Science will allow you to develop a deeper understanding of the three separate science subjects and provides a better foundation for the study of A-levels in these subjects. Studying Science Double Award does not prevent you from studying any of the Sciences at A-level.

Studying Science subjects will enable you to:

- Acquire a systematic body of scientific knowledge and facts, and an understanding of scientific concepts, principles, themes and patterns
- Appreciate the practical nature of science, acquiring experimental skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques

- Appreciate the importance of accurate experimental work to scientific method and reporting
- Form hypotheses and design experiments to test them
- Sustain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, the scientific world
- Appreciate the significance of science in wider personal, social, environmental, economic and technological contexts, and consider ethical issues
- Select, organise and present information clearly and logically, using appropriate scientific terms and conventions

### How will I be assessed?

Double Science is examined by 3 x 2 hour examination papers (one in each subject) at the end of Year 11.

Triple Science is examined by 3 x 1 hour 15 minute examination papers (one in each subject) in addition to the examination papers sat for Double Science.

There is no coursework element.

## Twilight GCSE Options

These courses are an extension to our normal curriculum offer of nine GCSE subjects and provide students with interests in specific areas the opportunity to further challenge themselves by studying for an extra GCSE. These 'Twilight' courses are delivered in lessons at the end of the school day from 3.45-5.45pm.

As with any other GCSE course there will be independent study required, including set homework, and there may also be a non-examined assessment element to complete. A student can only study for one additional GCSE at a time as these are usually timetabled on the same day.

There will be an extra cost of £250 per academic year (to be paid at the start of the year) to study a 'Twilight' GCSE course. This will cover the cost of text books and examination fees and a contribution to teaching costs. A course will only run if there are enough students to make it feasible. Only a small number of students in each year group study towards additional GCSEs, and we do expect those who receive a place on one of these courses to show a full commitment, complete the two year course and sit the final assessment.

### Two year course – Beginning September 2021

#### Classical Greek – OCR

Classical Greek will help learners develop their understanding of the Classical Greek language and the related ancient literature, values and society.

#### What skills and qualities will I need?

Knowledge of Latin is beneficial, but not essential.

#### What will I study?

We study *Greek to GCSE* by John Taylor, which introduces students to the alphabet, language and culture of Ancient Greece. We make progress quickly and by Christmas of the first year, we are reading passages about Odysseus, the Cyclops and Alexander the Great.

For anyone interested in language, linguistics and the Ancient Greeks, this is a great option to consider.

#### How will I be assessed?

Assessment consists of three examinations (1 x 1.5 hours and 2 x 2 hours) in Language and Literature/Literature and Culture.

### One year course – Beginning September 2022

#### AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics

#### Why should I choose this course?

AQA Level 2 Certificate is equivalent to a GCSE qualification. The Further Mathematics course builds upon the content of IGCSE Mathematics, developing higher order application of many of the skills learnt at IGCSE. The course also extends into areas of Mathematics which are not covered at all on the IGCSE, including matrices, the factor theorem, the equation of a circle and trigonometric equations.

#### Who is it suitable for?

The course is recommended for anyone who is intending to study, or is considering studying, Mathematics at A-level. Much of the content that is covered is also taught during the first year of the A-level course, so students who have taken this course will have a distinct advantage in Year 12. It also develops and refines key mathematical skills from the IGCSE course and helps you to understand them in greater depth, improving your chances of achieving the top grade at IGCSE.

#### How is this course taught and assessed?

Further Mathematics is taught in Year 11 only via weekly two-hour Twilight lessons. Candidates will sit two written papers (1 x 1.5 hours, 1 x 2 hours) in the summer of Year 11 (alongside their other GCSE examinations). The shorter of these papers is 'non-calculator'.



## GCSEs 2021-2023 Non-Examination Assessment Information

Subject	% of Total Mark	Non-Examination Assessment	Approximate Timing
Fine Art	60	Coursework	On-going
	40	Controlled Test	May Year 11
Drama	60	Practical Coursework	Year 10 Spring and Summer Terms
English Language	40	2 x Coursework	Throughout Year 10 and Year 11
English Literature	40	2 x Coursework	Throughout Year 10 and Year 11
Food Preparation and Nutrition	15	Food Investigation and Report	Throughout Year 11
	35	Practical assessment and Written Portfolio	Throughout Year 11
(BTEC) Digital Information Technology	30	One board-set assignment	Spring Term of Year 10
	30	One research task	Autumn Term of Year 11
Music	30	Two compositions	On-going
	30	Two performances	On-going
PE	30	Performance	On-going
	10	Written controlled test	Autumn Term of Year 11
Biology	-	None	-
Business	-	None	-
Chemistry	-	None	-
Economics	-	None	-
French	-	None	-
Geography	-	None	-
German	-	None	-
History	-	None	-
Latin	-	None	-
Mathematics	-	None	-
Physics	-	None	-
Religious Studies	-	None	-
Spanish	-	None	-





# SHEFFIELD GIRLS'

INFANT, JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL

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**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

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