

**Oswestry School - GCSE Options
Courses starting in September, 2009**

INTRODUCTION

This Booklet contains information to help pupils, in consultation with their parents and teachers, to make appropriate choices for their GCSE courses of study in years 10 and 11 of the school.

All pupils will take English and Mathematics, together with at least one of the Sciences. Pupils are recommended to take at least two Sciences and all apart from EAL pupils are recommended to take one of the Modern Foreign Languages. The blocks of subjects available for choice will be outlined in a separate letter.

Choices of subject should, of course, be made on the basis of aptitude, interest and career intentions but all pupils are expected, in the interests of breadth, to choose at least one Humanities subject (History, Art, Music, Geography). The School reserves the right not to run courses which are undersubscribed, and in some subjects there is a limit on the maximum numbers of pupils who may take part.

In all subjects, pupils will be entered for the examination that offers the opportunity to achieve the highest grades for their level of ability. This may involve a later choice between various 'tiers' that are available in GCSE examinations. Parents will be advised near the time for examination entries to be made which tier is recommended for their son or daughter, and there will be an opportunity to discuss this with individual subject teachers. The school would like to think that no pupil will set themselves a target for GCSE achievement of a grade below a D. GCSE grades for the examinations to be sat in 2010 will range from A to G, with an A* grade available for pupils who show exceptional merit.

Also, you should note that many GCSE subjects incorporate an element of coursework as part of the assessment programme. Such coursework will require planning and commitment when the time comes, and specific deadlines will have to be met. Parents will be advised, through pupils, of the coursework programme when it becomes imminent in each subject. General guidance on the coursework content of the various subjects' courses is given in this booklet.

In addition to the GCSE courses provided by the School, there is a programme of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Careers guidance which is delivered during specified lessons in the timetable, and there is full provision for Physical Education and Games.

The following pages contain information specific to each subject area. Further details are available from Heads of Department or from individual subject teachers.

N W Pottinger
Head of the Upper School
March, 2009.

ART

Examining Board: **OCR**
Syllabus title: **Fine Art**
Syllabus code: **1911**

The Art and design department is currently following the **OCR Fine Art course**.

A broad course of study is provided to enable pupils to explore the areas of painting, drawing, printmaking, mural painting, modelling, casting, carving, constructing, installation and other forms of two or three-dimensional imagery. A range of art, craft and design processes are developed throughout the two-year course including information and communication technology. The course aims are to develop a pupil's creative and imaginative powers and the practical skills for communicating and expressing ideas feelings and meanings in art, craft and design. It will foster investigative, analytical experimental and interpretative capabilities and enhance aesthetic understanding of the world around us. It will teach a pupil to understand the codes and conventions of art, craft and design. It will also develop a knowledge and understanding of art, craft and design in contemporary societies and in other times and cultures. It is an exciting, vibrant and interesting course.

Additional activities:

Many visits will be made to galleries and other centres of visual interest. Visiting artists and contemporary designers will work with pupils to develop appropriate skills. Pupils will develop a visual diary in the form of a sketchpad and a record will be kept of projects undertaken. In the first year of the course, pupils will follow a general course but during the second year, will be encouraged to take a more personal and specialised approach to projects. Pupils will develop aspects of Art History and appreciation exercises will be held during workshops at the Tate Gallery.

Assessment:

There will be continuous assessment over the two-year period and the coursework during this time will amount to 60% of the total GCSE mark. In the final year, pupils will respond to a themed question, which is set by the examination board and carries 40% of the total GCSE marks.

At the end of the GCSE course, pupils will be asked to put up an exhibition of work, which should include three units of the Fine Art options.

All work will be assessed both internally by staff within the Art Department and externally by moderators from the OCR examination board.

Further Information:

Students or parents requiring any further details are most welcome to contact Mrs A-M Stonehill, Head of Art.

BIOLOGY

Examining Board: **AQA**

Syllabus Title: **GCSE Biology**

Syllabus Code: **4411**

This specification comprises three teaching modules that are assessed according to the table below.

Module	Title	Assessment	Weighting
1a	Human Biology	30 minute module test in Year 10	12.5%
1b	Evolution and Environment	30 minute module test in Year 10	12.5%
2	Additional Biology	45 minute written paper	25%
3	Further Biology	45 minute written paper	25%
	Individual Skills Assessment	Centre assessed unit based on an assessed practical followed by an externally set 45 minute written paper	25%

Assessment of the course is available at two tiers, higher and foundation. Higher tier covers grades A-D and foundation tier covers grades C-G.

This course is one of the new science qualifications introduced in September 2006 following the curriculum review of GCSE sciences. The full syllabus content can be found at www.aqa.org.uk/publications. The course covers many traditional biology topics, in addition to more contemporary issues. There is a strong emphasis that students will acquire knowledge about biology at work and in society. A good understanding of English is required to study biology due to the large amount of subject specific terminology.

Students wishing to progress to A level biology will need to study GCSE chemistry as well as GCSE biology.

Students are encouraged to talk with Miss S Bennett (Head of Biology) if they have any questions they would like to discuss about the course.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Examining Board:	AQA
Syllabus title	Business Studies and Communication Systems
Syllabus code	4135

This course will introduce candidates to the world of business and encourage them to consider the impact of the business environment, workplace organization, human resources and effective communication on the running of businesses.

The recent rapid advances in the use of ICT have given businesses access to a wealth of information, enabled more efficient communication and reduced the time and effort required for many administration tasks.

Candidates will be encouraged to reflect on these benefits, as well as on issues such as the need for safe use of ICT equipment and the importance of the security of data. Students will acquire useful practical skills in a wide range of computer applications in business contexts.

This course of study will be of practical use and personal value in building a foundation of knowledge, understanding and skill, which could form a basis for further study and assist in future employment.

The course differs from GCSE Business Studies in that it deals with the more practical organization and administration of business rather than management decision making.

The themes that make up the subject content which will be covered during the two year course are:

- The Business Environment;
- Business Administration
- Workplace Organisation;
- Health and Safety at Work
- ICT Data Systems in Business
- Security of Data
- Human Resources;
- Recruitment and Selection of Staff
- Training
- Rewarding Staff
- Employment Rights and Responsibilities
- The Importance of ICT in Business Communications
- The Internet and E-Commerce
- The Selection and Use of Appropriate Software for Business Purposes
- File Management;
- Work processing;
- Spreadsheets;
- Charts;
- Databases;
- Graphics and Clipart;
- Presentation Software
- Web Authoring
- Composition

Scheme of Assessment

There are two tiers of Assessment: Foundation (C-G) and Higher (A*-D).

There are two papers at each tier

Theory Paper	40% of the total marks	1 hour
Computer Based Exam	35% of the total marks	1½ hours
Controlled Assessment	25% of the total marks	

BUSINESS STUDIES

Examining Board:	EDEXCEL
Syllabus title:	Business Studies
Syllabus code:	2BS01

What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

It is unlikely that you will have studied business before taking this course, but that does not matter. You might have an interest in business, and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, how businesses are set up, and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur.

Is this the right subject for me?

This course is both active and enjoyable. You need to be good at communicating and explaining your ideas, and not afraid of learning new things and working with numbers to solve business problems. You will learn how to be a creative thinker and how to make decisions. What's more, you will also learn about the world of business through research and investigation, as well as through practical tasks.

What will I learn?

While studying the first two units of this course you are likely to learn a lot of new things. You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity, and turn that into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money well. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

In the third unit you will learn more about how small businesses are developed and discover how businesses promote themselves and keep their customers happy. You will learn how businesses manage both their finances and the people who work for them.

How will I be assessed?

For Unit 1 you will take a written examination paper with multiple-choice and objective test questions based on the unit. In Unit 2, you will be given a controlled assessment task. This task will be based on what you have studied in Unit 1. Unit 1 and 2 account for 50% of your final mark.

You will sit another written examination paper for Unit 3 giving you the other half of your marks. The questions will be a mixture of multiple-choice, data response, short-answer, extended-writing and scenario-based questions. For example, you might be given details of a business and asked a few questions based on that business.

What can I do after I've completed the course?

This course can help you prepare for AS/A2 Levels as well as BTEC and NVQ courses in many different subjects. You will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of a team. Even if you do not want to go on to study business further you will have benefited from studying a GCSE Business course because many jobs you do will involve working for a business. However, a GCSE Business course could lead to work in a business-related profession such as accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry.

CHEMISTRY

Examining board: **AQA**

Syllabus title: **Chemistry 2009/2010**

Syllabus code: **4421**

Chemistry is an important and interesting subject to study. It helps to develop practical skills and problem solving abilities. It also explains, with the other sciences, how the natural world works and is essential in creating new materials, finding cures for diseases etc. It is a pre-requisite for many careers, especially those in and related to medicine. The GCSE chemistry course will help prepare pupils to become confident citizens in an increasingly technological world as well as enabling them to go on to further scientific study.

The course consists of

Two 30 minute tests consisting of matching/multiple choice questions.

These account for **12.5% of the final grade each** and will be taken in year 10.

Two 45 minute written papers each accounting for 25% of the final grade.

These will be taken in year 11.

A 'practical skills assessment' and an 'investigative skills assignment' will make up the remaining 25% of the final grade.

The students will be assessed on their implementation of experimental work for the practical skills mark.

The investigative skills assessment consists of three sections:

1. The student carries out a practical investigation.
2. The student answers questions relating to the data collected. (This is done under test conditions)
3. The students are provided with another set of data. This will be related to the same topic from the specification in which the student has conducted his or her practical work. A number of questions relating to the analysis and evaluation of this data then follow. (This is also done under test conditions).

The students may attempt any number of ISAs and the best mark is submitted.

DESIGN and TECHNOLOGY

Examining Board: OCR

Syllabus title: Resistant Materials

Syllabus code: J306

This fresh approach to GCSE Design & Technology provides an innovative and imaginative qualification rewarding flair, and reflecting the contemporary use of Information Technology. It enables pupils to develop skills of creativity and critical analysis through making links between the principles of good design, existing solutions and technological knowledge.

Introduction to designing and making

- Developing research and investigating skills
- Developing drawing skills
- Modelling
- Evaluation

Sustainable Design

- Consideration of products
- Consideration of the environment
- Consideration of society and the economy

Making quality products

- Designing for a need
- Working with tools and equipment
- Evaluating the products

Technical aspects of designing and making

- Working with tools, materials
- Selecting processes
- Designing for success

Introduction to designing and making. 30% of overall marks

Sustainable Design 20% of overall marks

Making quality products 30% of overall marks

Technical aspects of designing and making 20% of overall marks

ENGLISH

Examining Board: **WJEC**

Syllabus title: **(i) English (ii) English Literature**

Syllabus code: **(i) 0150 (ii) 0153**

The study of English and English Literature not only enhances our students' knowledge of the English Language and Literary canon but provides them with a greater understanding of their individual cultural heritage. A broad ranging, diverse and enriching syllabus ensures that our students can respond to texts on a critical, analytical and literal level. Complementing this, our oral assessments help to create articulate and confident speakers. Finally, the study of English has a profound effect on results right across the curriculum and prepares our students for their University careers. Every pupil in the school takes GCSE English and GCSE English Literature, including our overseas students.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

English: Terminal Examination 60%

Paper 1	30% (2 hours)	Paper 2	30% (2 hours)
Coursework	40%		
Speaking and Listening	20%		

ENGLISH LITERATURE: (Specification A)

Written Paper	70% (2½ hours)
Coursework	(30%)

Outline of the course

Year 10: Majority of the coursework is completed and there is a terminal exam using a past English Language paper. Over the summer break between years 10 and 11 students will be expected to read John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* and Arthur Miller's *A View From the Bridge*.

Texts Studied: Shakespeare *Othello*; Robert Louis Stevenson *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; selection of Other Cultures Poetry and Media texts for Persuasive writing.

Year 11: Completion of coursework folder, the study of set texts *Of Mice and Men* and *A View from the Bridge*, full mock exam and exam preparation from January onwards.

GEOGRAPHY

Examining Board: **AQA**

Syllabus title: **Geography A**

Syllabus code: **4030**

All lessons are taught in mixed ability sets. The examinations comprise three tiered sets of units which may be sat either as a modular examination at the end of the first year of teaching, or at the end of the second year of teaching as terminal examinations. Higher tier units offer grades in the range A* to D and Foundation tier papers offer grades in the range C to G. The tier for which each candidate will be entered is finalised after the 'mock' GCSE examinations. Within each tiered unit differentiation is achieved through sub-questions presenting an incline of difficulty.

Unit 1: Physical Geography (37.7% of the full GCSE)

Assessment: 1 hour 30 minute examination.

Summary of Content:

Section A

- * The Restless Earth
- * Rocks, resources & Scenery
- * Challenge of Weather & Climate
- * Living World

Section B

- * Water on the land
- * Ice on the Land
- * The Coastal Zone

Unit 2: Human Geography (37.7% of the full GCSE)

Assessment : 1 hour 30 minute examination

Summary of Content:

Section A

- * Population Change
- * Changing Urban Environments
- * Changing Rural Environments

Section B

- * The Development Gap
- * Globalisation
- * Tourism

Unit 3: Local Fieldwork Investigation (25% of the full GCSE) 6 hour write-up under direct supervision.

Candidates will work under the direct supervision at all times, with the exception of research involving primary and/or secondary data collection. Centres will mark the candidates' work which will then be moderated by AQA.

Why Study Geography?

A GCSE in Geography is not a specific requirement for entry into any particular career. However, it is an advantage to have studied Geography at this level before proceeding to AS or A2-Level and beyond if they are considering any of the following courses or careers; Accountancy, Architect, Army/Navy/or Air Force Officer, Banking, Barrister, Biomedical Scientist, Business Administration, Civil Engineer, Civil Service, Construction Industry, Doctor, Entrepreneur, Estate Agent, Fire-fighter, Geologist, Industrial Designer, Insurance, Journalist, Landscape Designer, Local Government, Logistics, Management Consultant, Manufacturing, Market Research, Mechanical Engineering, Publishing, Pilot, Solicitor, Teacher, Tour Operator, Travel Agent – and many, many others.

HISTORY

Examining Board: **Edexcel**

Syllabus title: **Specification C – Schools History Project**

Syllabus code: **2HB01**

Controlled assessment	2 hours and 30 mins over 2 sittings	25%
Examinations	Paper 1 – 1 hour and 15 mins	25%
	Paper 2 – 1 hour and 15 mins	25%
	Paper 3 – 1 hour and 15 mins	25%

This is a modular course. The course involves a Depth Study on Germany 1919-45 which covers both the rise of Hitler and the policies followed by the Nazis. The Development Study follows the History of Medicine from the time of the Romans to the present day; whereas the Source Enquiry on Surgery examines how the problems of pain, infection and bleeding were solved. Learn about the weird and wacky ideas people in the past had about what caused, and how to treat disease.

History is a subject well-respected both by employers and universities. It encourages the development of open minded, disciplined, independent thinkers who are good at problem solving and able to pick out the essential from the trivial.

Course outline

Year 10

- Medicine up to 1900
- Germany 1919-1945
- The transformation of Surgery c1845-c1918

Year 11

- Controlled assessment
- Medicine 1900 up until the present day
- Revision

HOME ECONOMICS

FOOD AND NUTRITION

Examining Board: **OCR**

Syllabus title: **Home Economics (Food and Nutrition)**

Syllabus code: **J431**

Home Economics (Food and Nutrition) is available at G.C.S.E to all boys and girls. Inevitably, however, kitchen restrictions place a limit on the size of class which can be accommodated. The course involves both coursework and a written examination at the end of two years.

Coursework

The coursework consist of four practical assignments.

Three Food and Nutrition Short Tasks (Unit BOO1). One of the tasks must be chosen from the investigate task list and two tasks from the practical list provided by the examination board. The Short Tasks submitted must demonstrate different practical skills and knowledge and should form an integral part of the course. They carry 30% of the marks. The first of these tasks is set in Lent Term, the second in the Trinity Term of year 10 and the third in the Michaelmas Term in year 11. Each task should take 7 hours, 1 hour planning, 4-5 hours for execution and 1 hour for evaluation.

The Food Study Task (Unit BOO2) is selected by the candidate from the set OCR themes. It requires a problem – solving and investigating approach. This task carries 30% of the assessment marks for the course. This task is set in the Lent Term in Year 11 and should take roughly 22 hours to complete.

Written Paper (Unit BOO3) Principles of Food and Nutrition 40% of assessment marks.

Written paper – 1 hour 30 minutes at the end of the course.

There is one paper which will be graded A* to G.

The written examination consists of six questions varying in difficulty, two of which are structured, two data response and two free response questions.

Through the syllabus students will be helped to develop an understanding of concepts such as nutrients, dietary guidelines / goals, nutritional needs of people and socio-economic factors affecting eating habits. Scientific principles (heat and energy, transfer of energy into food, changes produced in food during storage, preparation and cooking) and their application to various methods of food production will be covered.

Course Outline

Year 10	Nutritional and health		
Food commodities			
Meal planning			
<u>Coursework</u> - Lent Term	Short Task 1		10%
Trinity Term	Short Task 2		10%
Year 11	Food preparation and cooking		
Food safety and preservation			
Consumer education			
<u>Coursework</u> - Michaelmas Term	Short Task 3		10%
Lent Term	Food Study		30%

MATHEMATICS

Examination Board: **AQA**

Syllabus title: **Mathematics Specification A**

Syllabus code: **4306**

The Mathematics course in years 10 and 11 consists of the study of the four National Curriculum assessment objectives embarked on at Key Stage 3:

AO1 Using and applying mathematics

The Assessment Objective AO1 is assessed in contexts provided by the other Assessment Objectives.

AO2 Number and algebra

1. Using and applying number and algebra
2. Numbers and the number system
3. Calculations
4. Solving numerical problems
5. Equations, formulae and identities
6. Sequences, functions and graphs

AO3 Shape, space and measure

1. Using and applying shape, space and measures
2. Geometrical reasoning
3. Transformations and coordinate
4. Measures and construction

AO4 Handling data

1. Using and applying handling data
2. Specifying the problem and planning
3. Collecting data
4. Processing and representing data
5. Interpreting and discussing results

Pupils will be entered for one of the two tiers of entry

Higher tier (maximum grade attainable, A*)
Foundation tier (maximum grade attainable, C)

The examination consists of two written papers

Paper 1 (Non-calculator)	50% of total mark
Foundation tier	1 hour 30 minutes
Higher tier	2 hours
Paper 2 (Calculator)	50% of total mark
Foundation tier	1 hour 30 minutes
Higher tier	2 hours

The higher tier course provides a firm grounding for the AS and A2 Mathematics courses in the 6th Form.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Examining Board: **EDEXCEL**

Specification title: **(i) FRENCH** **(ii) SPANISH**

The school offers two Modern Foreign Languages at GCSE level: French and Spanish. Each pupil is recommended to take one foreign language as part of a broad basic education up to the age of 16 years.

The French and Spanish courses follow the same pattern. Four key language skills are assessed; speaking, listening comprehension, reading comprehension and writing, through 'controlled conditions' coursework tasks.

Speaking	2 tasks	30%
Writing	2 tasks	30%
Reading		20%
Listening		20%

Two tiers of entry are available, foundation and higher level.

A decision on entry tiers will be made after the Mock examination in January 2011

The courses concentrate on the practical use of French and Spanish in the following contexts; Lifestyle, leisure, the home and environment, work and education.

The aim of the department is to provide a sound base of vocabulary and fluency, coupled with a solid grammatical foundation which may permit further progress beyond GCSE.

The importance of language learning cannot be overstated. In business, in industry, in everyday links, foreign language ability is an important asset, especially amongst a nation where such competence is not always commonplace. Foreign language ability is most useful when allied with other specific skills, be they scientific, legal, financial or industrial. Expertise is then marketable within the EU and beyond.

MUSIC

Examining Board: **OCR**

Syllabus title: **MUSIC**

Syllabus code: **J535 – Full Course**

The new specification for GCSE Music has a wide range of instrumental choices and now gives scope for beat-boxing, DJ-ing and sequencing alongside more traditional activities.

The course has four components, summarised below

B351: Integrated tasks – a performance, no longer than 5 minutes in length, a composition and a commentary, all related to Area of Study 1 –your main instrument. This is a controlled assessment, worth 30%

B352: Practical portfolio –a second performance or realisation, a second composition and a log. This is also a controlled assessment, worth 30%

B353: Creative task – a practical exam in which students develop a short piece from a given stimulus and communicate it. (15%)

B354: Listening test – candidates will answer questions which relate to the main areas of study –ensembles of varying types, dance music, descriptive music (25%)

Suitability.

Whilst there is no restriction on students wanting to choose music it is preferable that they will be practical musicians and already undertaking formal tuition on one or more instruments. A secure knowledge of basic music theory is desirable. Pupils may wish to work towards Grade V theory level during their course of study, but this is not essential. It is expected that students will play an active part in two school music activities, particularly school choir and /or orchestra/concert band, string ensemble or any of the smaller ensembles such as flute, saxophone or reed instruments. Guitar students may wish to form their own group. All music students are expected to attend recitals, concerts and workshops as directed.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Examining Board: **OCR**

Syllabus title: **GCSE Physical Education**

Code: **J586**

From September 2009 the GCSE is made up of four mandatory units. Units B451 and B453 are externally assessed. Units B452 and B454 are internally assessed and externally moderated.

Unit B451: An Introduction to Physical Education

- The healthy and active body
- Exercise and training the body for an active, healthy lifestyle
- Acquiring movement skills and motivation for involvement in physical activity
- Opportunities and pathways for involvement in physical activity

Weighting: 20% of the total GCSE marks. This unit will be externally assessed through a 1 hour written examination (worth 60 marks) which contains two sections:

Section A: multiple-choice questions worth 15 marks.

Section B: short answer and extended response questions worth 45 marks.

Unit B 452: Practical Performance and Analysis 1

- Two practical performances from two different activity areas.
- Analysing Lifestyle task. This will be assessed under controlled conditions.
- Coaching and officiating available

Weighting: 30% of the total GCSE marks. This unit is internally assessed and externally moderated. Centre assesses candidate in their practical performance and Analysing Performance task. An OCR-appointed moderator checks the assessment through a visiting moderation.

Unit B453: Developing Knowledge in Physical Education

This unit will build on knowledge gained in Unit B451

Weighting: 20% of the total GCSE marks. This unit will be assessed through an external 1 hour written examination (worth 60 marks) which contains two sections:

Section A: multiple-choice questions worth 15 marks.

Section B: short answer and extended response questions worth 45 marks.

Unit B454: Practical Performance and Analysis 2

- Two practical performances
- Analysing Performance task focusing on skill improvement
- Coaching and officiating available

Weighting: 30% of the total GCSE marks. This unit will be assessed through controlled assessment. Centre assesses candidate in their practical performance and Analysing

Performance task. An OCR appointed moderator checks the assessment through a visiting moderation.

PHYSICS

Examining Board: **OCR**

Syllabus title: **PHYSICS A (Twenty First Century Science Suite)**

Syllabus code: **J635**

The subject content is divided into seven modules, designed to be taught over a period of two years.

The modules are:

Year 10 -

P1: The Earth in the Universe P2: Radiation and Life P3: Radioactive materials

Year 11 -

P4: Explaining Motion P5: Electric Circuits P6: The Wave Model of Radiation
P7: Further Physics – Observing the Universe

Modules P1 to P3 will be examined at the end of year 10, the remainder at the end of year 11.

There is also an element of teacher-assessed skills, contributing 33.3% of the total GCSE mark. This will involve two parts: a “Data Analysis” exercise (done in year 11) in which experimental measurements are collected, analysed and evaluated; and a Case Study (done in year 10) in which pupils research, write about and discuss some aspect of Science that involves some element of controversy or public debate. Samples of the marked work are sent away to the examining board for moderation towards the end of the course.

The Data Analysis task is intended to help pupils understand the problems associated with obtaining reliable scientific evidence, and to think about how such problems can be tackled. The Case Study is designed to motivate pupils and to help them relate their studies to the way in which science topics are reported in the media. It is also intended to develop their skills on critical thinking and evaluation.

Physics is a subject with wide applicability and relevance to everyday life. The GCSE course aims to develop pupils’ ability to understand the world and the universe around them, and to critically evaluate their own practical work and the work of others so that they become better informed citizens. The Twenty First Century Science course allows pupils to follow courses in Physics to A-Level should they later wish to do so.