



**WALTHAMSTOW HALL**  
**SEVENOAKS**

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**I/GCSE CHOICES**

**2025-27**

# The Year 10 Curriculum

The Year 10 academic curriculum is a combination of compulsory I/GCSEs, optional I/GCSEs and “non-examined” Physical Education.

## Compulsory Subjects at I/GCSE

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- A Modern Foreign Language: French or Spanish or German
- Religious Studies

You are required to study at least IGCSE Double Award Science which is equivalent to two IGCSE subjects (although you will be studying all three sciences). However, if you are a keen scientist you can study for three IGCSEs in science by choosing Separate Science as an option.

Religious Studies is a “short course” and is studied in only one double period each week in Years 9, 10 and 11. It follows that it is not possible to study another subject in its place. Studying this subject ensures that all pupils take at least one humanities subject at I/GCSE.

You will also have a period of “Q” each week. Q is a programme that aims to prepare you for the next stage of your education in all subjects. The focus in Year 10 will be to improve your revision skills through some instruction, practice and reflection. Some Q sessions are also dedicated to Financial Awareness and Careers.

## Optional Subjects at I/GCSE

You will also study three of the subjects from the list below:

Art and Design: Fine Art  
Art and Design: Textile Design  
Art and Design: Three-Dimensional Design  
Classical Civilisation  
Computer Science  
Drama  
Food Preparation and Nutrition  
French  
Geography  
German  
History  
Latin  
Music  
Physical Education  
Separate Science  
Spanish

You will therefore be studying for I/GCSE qualifications in at least 10 subjects.

Your timetable and the underlying “option blocks” are built based on all pupils’ subject choices, with the intention of satisfying everyone’s set of choices. Very occasionally, it may not be possible to satisfy your choices; if this were to occur, you and your parents would be consulted during the Spring Term of Year 9.

## **Twilight Subjects**

In addition to the subjects timetabled for the normal school day, you may opt to study for a GCSE in Latin or Classical Greek as a “twilight” option. These involve one weekly session after school and require a high degree of commitment and independent learning.

A twilight is also offered in Additional Mathematics; however, choosing to take this is not a decision that needs to be made during Year 9.

If you think you would like to pursue a twilight in either Latin or Classical Greek, you must first discuss this with subject teachers and then with Ms Evernden (Director of Studies). As well as taking input from the relevant subject teacher, any such request is considered very carefully in the context of your other extracurricular activities. A firm commitment to study the twilight for the full two years will be requested. Whether we are able to provide twilights depends on demand.

# Timetable of Events Year 9

*Throughout this process, ad hoc discussions between you, your parents and the School is expected. These can be key to offering you the very best advice.*

You will have a form time session on I/GCSE choices late in the Autumn Term of Year 9. This booklet is published just beforehand and you are expected to start discussions with your parents and also relevant teaching and pastoral staff at school.

If in any doubt as to who to discuss related matters with at School, you (or your parents) can approach Miss Couch, Mrs Norman, your tutor, Mrs Hayes or Ms Evernden.

It is expected that parents will wish to discuss potential choices with subject teachers during the Parents' Evening on 14th January.

**Choices are required by Friday 31st January.** Your parents will be asked to submit your choices using an online form – details will be given in January.

You will be interviewed by Mrs Hayes during January, enabling you to discuss your potential career interests in the context of your potential subject choices.

Immediately following receipt of all pupils' choices, work on devising the "option blocks" of subjects underlying the Year 10 Timetable will begin. This usually takes a number of weeks and will be completed by the end of the Spring Term at the latest to allow construction of the Timetable to begin over the Easter holiday.

If you change your mind about your chosen subjects after your form has been submitted, you should discuss this with the School, ensuring that Ms Evernden is made aware, as soon as possible. If this occurs during the period in the Spring Term when the option blocks are being devised, then such changes are more likely to be readily accommodated.

Should you change your mind once the option blocks have been finalised towards the end of the Spring Term, then any such change must fit those option blocks. Class sizes will also be taken into account; for example, in Three-Dimensional Design, Textiles and Food Preparation and Nutrition, teaching takes place in specialist rooms and these accommodate a set maximum number of pupils. Whilst frequently these changes prove possible, they cannot be guaranteed.

## Some points to bear in mind

- You should choose subjects which you are interested in and enjoy.
- Comparing raw percentages across results in previous school examinations should be done with caution. 60% may be a promising mark in one subject but borderline in another. Furthermore, the mark in a written paper may not reflect other aspects of the course such as practical or oral skills.
- Choose Separate Science if you are a keen scientist. If you do make this choice, you will be spending almost 30% of your time studying science (twice that in Year 9) amongst keen science-minded pupils. Lessons will generally be fast-paced. Whilst Separate Science is strongly preferred if you are planning to take at least one Science at A Level, studying IGCSE Double Award (or "Combined") Science does not close down this future choice.
- It should go without saying that you should avoid choosing subjects merely because your friends have done so.
- Places are limited in Food Preparation and Nutrition. Your attitude to your Year 9 studies will be taken into account if we receive more applications for this subject than we can manage.
- You are not permitted to take more than two Creative Arts subjects. This is because the amount of coursework required is significant and it will impact other subject choices. Creative Arts Students are expected to come to at least one after school open access session a week; these run from 4PM until 5.45PM Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you have significant co-curricular

commitments, you should speak to a member of staff before choosing a Creative Arts subject to make sure you can manage your coursework commitments, as this makes up 100% of your mark.

- We intend to run all subjects listed; however, there must be viable numbers for a subject to be timetabled.

# Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

The school provides a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme, led by our highly qualified Careers Leader. The Careers Centre offers a variety of resources, including books and university prospectuses. Additional materials are available through Firefly, the school's Virtual Learning Platform, and Unifrog, an online tool for higher education selection and application management. These resources ensure students can access guidance tailored to their needs.

The CEIAG programme is designed to support your educational journey at each stage. It includes integrated sessions in the PSHEE programme and Q lessons, covering essential aspects of careers guidance, such as decision-making, self-awareness, using labour market information, student finance and managing money.

Careers appointments with our Careers Leader can be booked throughout the year, providing students with personalised guidance to complement the resources available in the Careers Centre, Firefly, and Unifrog.

## Year 9

Dedicated careers lessons during PSHEE in the Autumn and Spring Terms focus on self-awareness, exploring personal interests, opportunity awareness, and decision-making skills. In January, you will have a one-on-one discussion with our Careers Leader to assist in selecting (I)GCSE subjects and planning for the future. Additional support is available from Form Tutors, subject staff, and the Director of Studies.

## Year 10

During Q lessons in the Spring and Summer Terms, you will have careers sessions focusing on developing decision-making and self-assessment skills. You will have the opportunity to complete a psychometric career profile, providing insights into potential career paths, and participate in an interview session to prepare for future opportunities.

## Year 11

You will participate in careers lessons during PSHEE in the Autumn Term, focusing on A-Level subject selection and future planning. A personal interview with our Careers Leader will provide tailored advice. Additionally, Sixth Form Open Evening and taster experiences will help you explore potential academic pathways.

## Year 12

Throughout the year, you will participate in "Future Ready" workshops, focusing on higher education, gap year options, and alternatives to university. These sessions include CV building, leadership skills training, and application guidance. Additional UCAS application support is provided by Form Tutors.

During the Spring Term, you will learn to find and apply for work experience and refine your CV. In the Summer Term, an individual careers discussion will help you consider post-18 options. You are encouraged to attend university open days, workshops, and gain practical work experience. Through the Voyage Programme, there are opportunities for work experience and volunteering, including activities such as Bar Mock Trial, Enterprise Club, Model UN or Gold Duke of Edinburgh to name a few.

You are required to complete five days of work experience in an area of your interest during the summer holiday.

## Year 13

At the end of Year 12 and the beginning of Year 13, support is provided for drafting and finalising Personal Statements and completing university or college applications. For those pursuing alternatives to university, dedicated careers guidance and interview training are available.

Throughout Year 13, you can book individual careers or higher education interviews to support applications for employment, apprenticeships, or further education.

## I/GCSE Subjects 2025-27

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Board</b>
<b>Art and Design: Fine Art</b>	IFA0	Edexcel
<b>Art and Design: Textile Design</b>	ITE0	Edexcel
<b>Art and Design: Three-Dimensional Design</b>	ITD0	Edexcel
<b>Biology</b>	4BII	Edexcel
<b>Chemistry</b>	4CHI	Edexcel
<b>Classical Civilisation</b>	J199	OCR
<b>Classical Greek (twilight only)</b>	J292	OCR
<b>Computer Science</b>	J277	OCR
<b>Drama</b>	IDRO	Edexcel
<b>English Language</b>	8700	AQA
<b>English Literature</b>	4ET1	Edexcel
<b>Food Preparation and Nutrition</b>	8585	AQA
<b>Geography</b>	8035	AQA
<b>History</b>	4HII	Edexcel
<b>Latin</b>	C990PB Route B	Eduqas
<b>Mathematics</b>	4MAI	Edexcel
<b>Mathematics (Additional) (FSMQ)</b>	6993	OCR
<b>Modern Foreign Languages</b>		
<b>French</b>	4FR1	Edexcel
<b>German</b>	4GNI	Edexcel
<b>Spanish</b>	4SPI	Edexcel
<b>Music</b>	C660QS - 601/8131/X	Eduqas
<b>Physical Education</b>	8582	AQA
<b>Physics</b>	4PHI	Edexcel
<b>Religious Studies</b>	C125P3	Eduqas



<b>Science Double Award</b>	4SD0/1B, 4SD0/1C, 4SD0/1P	Edexcel
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# Art and Design: Fine Art

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel GCSE IFA0

## Why choose this subject?

Arts and cultural learning encourage awareness, empathy and appreciation of diversity and the views of others. You will have opportunities for self-exploration and self-expression, the chance to broaden your horizons, build mental focus, and develop physical dexterity. Studying Fine Art will enable you develop an awareness of the creative process, including how to initiate and develop ideas, refining your use of the materials and processes you choose to work with, be it painting, print, sculpture, assemblage, video, performance, conceptual, installation, mixed media, or animation. It is a subject that will allow you to explore the issues, interests and approaches that matter to you.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

Small class sizes and an enviable access to a wide range of specialist equipment means that you will have the opportunity to grow as an artist alongside learning the skills and techniques that suit your strengths. Developing independent practice as an artist will be fully supported by your teacher who will encourage and work with you as you advance through the course. Studios are available for you to access outside of lessons during most lunch times and some evenings after school where there will be specialist staff available to support you further. You can also take advantage of the developing programme of opportunities to exhibit work and super-curricular ideas and events to further extend your art practice. Our aim is to foster a lifelong engagement with creativity and the creative process that you can apply to projects and endeavours beyond the studio.

## What you will learn (course outline):

There are two components in the GCSE Fine Art qualification.

**Component 1: Portfolio.** This is the work you complete from the start of the course in year 10 up to your coursework deadline at the end of Autumn Term in year 11.

To broaden your horizons, revise key skills and introduce you to the pace of work at GCSE the first few weeks of Year 10 is workshop based and teacher led. You will then receive your coursework theme. You will be supported over time with one-to-one mentoring, so you can provide evidence you have developed, researched, and refined your ideas ready to produce an ambitious sustained piece of work at the end of May in Year 10.

From June in Year 10, you can choose to continue to develop your work or select a new starting point from your coursework paper. You will be working towards producing a second ambitious sustained outcome(s) in a 10-hour mock exam in the December of Year 11.

**Component 2: Externally Set Assignment.** This is set by the exam board in January of Year 11. It has two parts. Part 1 is the preparatory period where you will research, analyse, develop, and refine your work in response to your choice of starting point given by the examination board.

Part 1 ends when you begin part 2, the 10-hour period of sustained focus, in March of Year 11. This takes place over two days. All work completed for component 2 is handed in at the end of the second day.

## How it will be assessed:

Component 1 is 60% of the total qualification.

Component 2 is 40% of the total qualification.

In both components you will be expected to produce evidence for each of the four assessment objectives below. Each assessment objective is equally weighted and worth the same number of marks.

**AO1 Develop ideas** through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

**AO2 Refine work by exploring** ideas, selecting, and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

**AO3 Record ideas, observations, and insights** relevant to intentions as work progresses.

**AO4 Present a personal and meaningful response** that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language

### **What skills will you develop?**

You will learn practical skills in a wide range of media aiming for finesse in a particular medium, approach, or process. You will develop a keen sense of enquiry and an ability to take practical and intellectual risks, seeking creative solutions by using materials and techniques intelligently, imaginatively, and experimentally.

By interacting with a wide range of Art and Design you will be able to make qualitative aesthetic and cultural judgements, articulating your reasons clearly both visually and in written annotations.

Drawing from observation and to develop ideas is core to all forms of art practice and you will gain confidence and skill in this aspect of your studies relevant to the materials and processes you choose to work in.

Other key skills are developed by studying any Art and Design subject:

Independent research skills

Working collaboratively

Perseverance

Self-direction and confidence when working independently.

Critical thinking relating to your own work and others.

Problem solving and the ability to employ strategic thinking.

### **Careers opportunities:**

GCSE Fine Art will enable you to progress to an Art and Design level 3 qualification and beyond; it is an extremely broad and dynamic subject that contributes significantly to the development of key skills valued by employers, and further and higher education more broadly.

The creative industries currently in the UK currently employ over 2.8 million people and are worth in excess of £84 billion. A small taster of the breadth of opportunity in this sector is listed below.

Advertising, animator, architect, art editor, arts education, curator, art therapist, art valuer, arts administrator, community arts worker, conservator, exhibition designer, film maker, fine artist, florist, product designer, graphic designer, illustrator, interior designer, jewellery designer-maker, landscape architect, model maker, photographer, product designer, prop maker, special effects make-up, movie post production, set designer, visual merchandiser, web designer, events designer, digital graphics, fashion design, colour forecaster.

# Art and Design: Textile Design

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel GCSE ITE0

## **Why choose this subject?**

If you are a creative person, like working independently and are fascinated with colour, texture and making, then this GCSE will suit you. Employers are seeking those who have studied art and design and have excellent research skills and are creative problem solvers. We will work across the areas of Fashion, Art Textiles and Interior Design. All students are expected to develop their sketchbook and photography skills as part of the course. This subject is available to choose if you have taken a Creative Arts subject in Three-Dimensional Design, Fine Art or Textiles in Year Nine.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

At GCSE we have small class sizes, which will enable you to work on your own ideas with lots of one-to-one teacher support. We embed sustainability and diversity throughout the course, enabling you to be ready for the global world of Fashion and Textiles. Our Textiles course allows you to choose how you wish to develop your skills; you will not be restricted to one technique or to one style. You may be interested in working in Fashion, Costume, Art Textiles or Interior design. You will learn lots of new skills associated with your chosen topic. These include Print, Machine Skills, Surface pattern, Embroidery, Felting, Dying, Fabric manipulation and more. There are opportunities to work in the Textiles room during lunch times and evenings after school when a teacher or technician will be available to give you further support.

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

For the first term in Year 10 you will take part in a national competition Wool 4 Schools. This will be teacher-led and a chance for you to develop your practical skills, using a range of textile techniques. These include applique, surface printing (block, screen and digital), dyed fabrics, batik, felt making, silk painting, hand and machine embroidery, stitched, constructed and embellished textiles.

Alongside exploring practical textiles, you will learn to research relevant critical and contextual sources such as the work of historical and contemporary textile designers and the different purposes, intentions and functions of textile design as appropriate to your own work.

From the Spring Term in Year 10 through to the end of the Autumn Term in Year 11, you will work on your own independent project, receiving one-to-one guidance and advice from your teacher, enabling you to develop your creativity, individual ideas and skills. This project is your choice of theme and discipline of fashion, fine art textiles, interiors or costume.

In January in Year 11, you will be given the Externally Set Assignment booklet and will have a minimum of six school weeks to prepare for a supervised (unassisted) 10-hour timed period to realise your response and complete a final outcome.

## **How it will be assessed:**

60% Coursework

You choose your own topic, with guidance and advice from your teacher.

40% Externally Set Assignment

You will have a choice of five or more themes to respond to set by the examination board.

There are 4 assessment objectives for both of the components above:

AO1 – Developing ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

AO2 – Refining work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3 – Recording ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

AO4 – Presenting a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

### **What skills will you develop?**

You will gain technical skills with chosen materials and techniques, an appreciation of colour and fabrics. Independent research skills are a key area that you will develop through the study of Textiles. You will also learn how to develop ideas fully, from initial inspiration to a final successful outcome, refining and modifying ideas as you go. Problem-solving is also a key skill learned through Fashion and Textiles.

### **Careers opportunities:**

These include:

- Fashion designer, textiles designer of fabrics for fashion.
- Interior designer, textiles designer for interiors (homes, hotels, cars etc.)
- Costume designer for film, theatre
- Fine Art Textile Artist – 3D Textiles, Textiles Installation or Wall hanging
- Fashion marketing, Fashion Buyer, Fashion Promotion
- Fashion forecasting, influencer, blogger, fashion media (digital or print)
- Textile restoration.

# Art and Design: Three-Dimensional Design

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel GCSE ITD0

## **Why choose this subject?**

Three-dimensional Design, as with any Art & Design subject, will encourage you to broaden your knowledge of the wider world. It enables you to explore both contemporary and historical sources through analysis of your surroundings, environments and visits to museums, galleries, art shows and fairs. You will be challenged to resolve functional problems and to develop and present meaningful, personal responses. You will be fully immersed in the design process and encouraged to experiment, taking risks with your work and learning from your experiences. It is vital that you have a passion for Architecture, Ceramics and Jewellery and a desire to explore materials and processes to develop and express your own ideas.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

The Design department offers two classrooms for no more than ten pupils each. You will take an individual approach to your three-dimensional making. Classes are small, enabling help to be tailored to each individual. Due to these small classes, you are able work with a wide range of materials which match your own ideas.

In Year 10 you will be able to visit the V&A and work in the RIBA Gallery while studying your Architecture unit of work. You have the opportunity to visit the New Designers Exhibition and engage with students from a huge range of UK Universities while viewing their finished outcomes. In Year 11, having started your Ceramics unit of study, you will have a chance to spend a day at Aylesford Pottery workshop with a professional potter, experiencing throwing on the potters' wheels.

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

In this course you will develop a knowledge and understanding of Three-Dimensional Design principles including Jewellery, Ceramics and Architectural Design.

You will develop your visual skills and build a portfolio of work by completing a wide range of activities and in-depth assignments. Throughout the course, you will:

- Develop and explore ideas.
- Select and experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- Record your ideas, observations and insights.
- Present personal and meaningful responses.

## **How it will be assessed:**

GCSE Art and Design is a broad and flexible course.

The course consists of two units of work:

*Personal Portfolio* (Component 1): weighting 60%

This is set internally, marked internally and externally moderated.

This includes at least two outcomes from a theme set by your teachers and starts from the beginning of Year 10. You will work in two sketchbooks to complete the potential three areas of study divided equally over the four terms, from the beginning of Year 10 to Christmas of Year 11.

*Externally set assignment* (Component 2): weighting 40%

This is set externally, marked internally and externally moderated.

Exam papers are given out in January of Year 11, which allows approximately 6 weeks of preparation time. This culminates in a 10-hour practical examination, usually sat just before the Easter break.

Assessment is continuous and structured around the four assessment objectives set by the examination board. You will be assessed by your performance in each of these objectives at pertinent times throughout the course. Most support and advice is given on a one-to-one basis, with an indication of the level achieved at the end of a unit.

The final assessments of coursework and exam are undertaken internally at the end of the course and externally moderated.

### **What skills will you develop?**

You are taught appropriate drawings skills including computer-generated imagery and how the formal elements impact upon design. You are also encouraged to identify design problems, analyse others' work to inform your own, and create imaginative solutions to spatial design.

You are expected to record and refine your own ideas, which encourages growing independence. Materials used are concept-driven and thus you are able to experiment with a wide range of making techniques. The focus is on you to take ownership of your ideas whilst understanding how the assessment objectives provide a necessary structure to work from.

### **Careers opportunities:**

Through this course you will develop transferable skills - such as problem-solving, communication and critical thinking - which will prepare you for further study or the world of work, regardless of the subjects or career you wish to pursue.

If you wish to study this subject beyond GCSE, we offer A Level Three-Dimensional Design. To apply for university courses you usually need to complete a one-year Art and Design Foundation Diploma. Some job roles will require you to study to a postgraduate level. Alternatively, you could research opportunities for apprenticeships, apply for an internship, gain relevant experience from voluntary work or take up an assistant role from which you progress.

This avenue of study could lead to a wide range of careers in areas such as:

- The built environment; architecture, landscape/interior/set designer
- Fine Art; Art Lecturer, art curator, sculptor, painter
- Product Design; automotive/exhibition/furniture designer
- Communication; model maker, art editor, illustrator, art therapist, ergonomist
- Practical; cabinet maker, jewellery maker, body artist

# Biology

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE 4BII

## **Why choose this subject?**

You will study Biology either as a separate IGCSE if you choose Triple Award, or as part of your Science Double Award course (please refer to the later section on Double Award Science as appropriate). You study the IGCSE course over three years, beginning at the start of Year 9. Biology is an interesting and rewarding subject to study and the IGCSE course provides an ideal preparation if you wish to continue the subject to A Level and possibly beyond.

In Biology you will study life in a scientific way. You will learn about biological molecules and micro-organisms, plants, animals and ecosystems. You will learn about how cells form tissues, organs and systems, which interact so that living organisms can survive. In your study of ecology, you will learn about how different types of living organisms interact with each other and their non-living environment. You will also find out about some of the ways in which human activities have had an impact on natural ecosystems.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

Biology is taught in one of three well-equipped laboratories. You will have two double lessons per week, taught by one specialist teacher. You will have access to microscopes for individual use and a range of models to help you visualise the areas studied. You will carry out most practical work in pairs, giving you lots of opportunities to gain confidence and develop your practical skills.

Studying Triple Award, you will enter the Institute of Biology's Biology Challenge in Year 10. We have an annual Science Week with varied activities that you will be encouraged to take part in.

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

The specification is divided into five topics, each covering different key concepts in Biology.

The nature and variety of living organisms

- the characteristics of all living organisms
- the variety of living organisms (a study of the major groups)

Structure and functions in living organisms (flowering plants and humans)

- levels of organisation and cell structure
- biological molecules including enzymes
- movement of substances into and out of cells
- nutrition
- respiration
- gas exchange
- transport
- excretion
- coordination and response

Reproduction and inheritance (flowering plants and humans) including an introduction to genetics and evolution by natural selection

Ecology and the environment

- the organism in the environment
- feeding relationships
- cycles within ecosystems
- human influences on the environment



Use of biological resources

- food production
- selective breeding
- gene modification
- cloning

**How it will be assessed:**

<b>Paper 1</b>	<b>Paper 2</b>
All topics covered	Examines the same topics as Paper 1 but in more depth, plus some additional topics not examined in Paper 1
<b>Time:</b> 2 hours	<b>Time:</b> 1 hour 15 minutes
<b>Maximum marks:</b> 110	<b>Maximum marks:</b> 70
A mixture of different question styles including multiple choice, short answer, calculations and extended open response questions.	

There is no practical examination or other controlled assessment. Your practical and investigative skills will be tested by questions which may ask you to plan or describe experiments and analyse or evaluate data or methods. You may be required to perform calculations, draw graphs and describe, explain and interpret biological phenomena. Questions will also assess your data-handling skills and ability to apply biological principles to unfamiliar information.

**What skills will you develop?**

Biology is a science. You will learn about patterns and themes in Biology and then apply them to new and changing situations. You will gain knowledge and understanding of biological facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques and apply these in different contexts. You will carry out practical techniques and develop experimental and investigative skills. You will learn how to analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods, drawing suitable conclusions and suggesting possible improvements. Studying Biology will involve selecting and applying appropriate areas of Mathematics to carry out calculations. You will learn to select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically, using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions.

**Careers opportunities:**

Biology is a key subject for many careers, particularly in healthcare, medicine and jobs involving plants or animals. These include nursing, dentistry, forensic science, psychology, physiotherapy, botany, environmental science, zoology, geology, oceanography, pharmaceuticals, teaching, science writing, genetics and research. Biology is also excellent preparation for non-scientific careers (refer to <https://successatschool.org/careerzonesummary/34/Science-Research>) due to the skills it provides, ranging from analytical thinking to extended writing.

# Chemistry

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE 4CHI

## Why choose this subject?

You will study Chemistry either as a separate IGCSE if you choose Triple Award, or as part of your Science Double Award course (please refer to the later section on Double Award Science as appropriate).

Chemistry is the study of substances of which matter is composed, the investigation of their properties and reactions, and the use of such reactions to form new substances. By choosing Chemistry, you will learn about unifying patterns and themes and use them in new situations. The content is both interesting and engaging but is also designed to ensure good preparation for those of you considering further study to A Level and who wish to work in a Chemistry-related field.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

At IGCSE, you will build upon the foundation of key ideas and concepts studied in Years 7-9. You will learn how to apply the principles and concepts of Chemistry, including those related to applications of Chemistry. Class sizes are generally small and taught in well-resourced laboratories. There is excellent technician support allowing practical work to be an integral part of the course. There are two double lessons a week taught by one specialist teacher.

## What you will learn (course outline):

The specification is divided into four topics, each covering different key concepts of Chemistry.

<b>Principles of Chemistry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• States of matter</li><li>• Elements, compounds and mixtures</li><li>• Atomic structure</li><li>• The Periodic Table</li><li>• Chemical formulae, equations and calculations</li><li>• Ionic bonding</li><li>• Covalent bonding</li><li>• Metallic bonding</li><li>• Electrolysis</li></ul>	<b>Inorganic Chemistry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group 1 elements</li><li>• Group 7 elements</li><li>• Gases in the atmosphere</li><li>• Extraction and uses of metals</li><li>• Acids, alkalis and titrations</li><li>• Acids, bases and salt preparation</li><li>• Chemical tests</li></ul>
<b>Physical chemistry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Energetics</li><li>• Rates of reaction</li><li>• Reversible reactions and equilibria</li></ul>	<b>Organic chemistry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction and crude oil</li><li>• Alkanes and Alkenes</li><li>• Alcohols</li><li>• Carboxylic acids and Esters</li><li>• Synthetic polymers</li></ul>

**How it will be assessed:**

The qualification is linear which means that you will sit all the exams at the end of the course in Year 11. All exams are externally assessed.

<b>Paper 1</b>	<b>Paper 2</b>
(Also taken by those studying for IGCSE Science Double Award.)	Examines the same topics as Paper 1 but in more depth, plus some additional topics not examined in Paper 1.
<b>Time:</b> 2 hours	<b>Time:</b> 1 hour 15 minutes
<b>Maximum marks:</b> 110	<b>Maximum marks:</b> 70
A mixture of different question styles including multiple choice, short answer, calculations and extended open response questions.	

There is no coursework for the IGCSE course, but you will need to be familiar with practical work, as the examinations will ask you questions about it and expect you to have developed your practical skills.

**What skills will you develop?**

Studying IGCSE Chemistry will help you develop a range of transferable skills. You will improve your critical thinking, problem-solving, powers of analysis, reasoning, interpretation and decision-making. Mathematical skills that complement Chemistry will be strengthened and there are opportunities for teamwork and cooperation. Developing your practical skills will allow you to appreciate the practical nature of Chemistry by performing experiments and investigations based on correct and safe laboratory techniques, analysing, interpreting and evaluating data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with evidence and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations

**Careers opportunities:**

You should study Chemistry if you enjoy the challenge of a deeper understanding of the world around you. People with knowledge of Chemistry work in many different fields and this is expanding with the interest in environmental issues. Chemists develop our knowledge of the world, solve problems, improve safety and create new products and processes.

Chemistry is highly recommended for medical and healthcare careers such as doctors, dentists, nursing or midwifery, veterinary science and occupational therapy. It is recommended for sports-related careers such as physiotherapy and for biological courses.

Chemistry can lead to a wide range of career options - including chemical engineering, law, accountancy and banking, as chemists are numerate, logical thinkers.

# Classical Civilisation

**Board and Specification:** OCR GCSE J199

## **Why choose this subject?**

Classical Civilisation is not very different to what you have done already in Year 9. It focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome and is such a wide-ranging subject that it never gets boring, involving the study of myths, plays, history, art, artefacts, and archaeological sites. You don't need to know any Latin or Greek as all the texts are in translation, and you will not be studying any Latin or Greek. In short, it provides the opportunity for the study of a wide variety of texts and material remains, including remarkable temples and works of art.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

Classical Civilisation is a wonderful GCSE option because it is taught in a fun and relaxed way using the latest technology can offer. It teaches you so much without you even noticing so that you actually enjoy gaining skills in the analysis of literary and material evidence, essay writing, the comparison of different eras of history, and much more.

This GCSE is open to **all** pupils, including those who did **not** study Classical Civilisation in Years 8 & 9. So why not study something from the past, in the present, for the future?!

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

### **Paper 1 Myth and Religion**

As the title says, you will study myths regarding the role of the gods and heroes and the importance of Hercules. You will also look at the role of religion in the everyday lives of ancient Greeks and Romans: the study of temples, sacrifice, festivals, death and beliefs in the afterlife.

### **Paper 2 The Homeric World**

The Culture section involves a study of life in Mycenaean times. This is a very diverse area, allowing the study of particular sites, their archaeology and the valuable role they play in our understanding of the age. The Mycenaean Age is also rich in sculpture, frescos and jewellery, as well as the famous tombs and their accompanying treasure, meaning that learners can study a wide range of fascinating materials.

Homer's *Odyssey* forms the Literature half of this component. The chosen books combine the fantastical and enjoyable tales of Odysseus' journey (Cyclops, Circe, Laestrygonians, Lotus Eaters etc.), with those which give learners a possible insight into everyday life, including aspects such as palace life and the lives of women. The final books, which focus on the battle between Odysseus and the suitors, are exciting in themselves and also pose interesting questions about revenge and punishment

## **How it will be assessed:**

Each unit is tested in a written examination at the end of Year 11; both examinations are 1½ hours and are equally weighted. There is no coursework.

## **What skills will you develop?**

Classical Civilisation is just as useful as other humanities subjects like History, Geography and Religious Studies. Subjects like this give you skills such as essay writing and source analysis and teach you how to structure a good argument. They show you are good at thinking and evaluating and also that you have an interest in people and cultures.

## **Careers opportunities:**

Some people say that if you choose Classical Civilisation you are opting for several years of great lessons to the detriment of your future career. But the truth is that you get the best of both worlds, studying a fascinating and exciting subject, and coming out exceptionally well-qualified at the end of it. It does not get much better than that.

- Accountancy
- Teaching
- Librarianship
- Academia
- Civil Service
- Museums Work
- Archaeology
- Journalism
- Media
- Information Technology
- Military
- Management Consultancy
- Law
- Media
- Publishing
- Social Work
- Auction House Work
- Politics
- Arts Management
- Theatre and Performing Arts

# Classical Greek (Twilight)

**Board and Specification:** OCR GCSE J292

## Why choose this subject?

Not only is Classical Greek useful in terms of language learning – the discipline required for learning vocabulary and grammar is a valuable skill – but learning the Greek alphabet and being able to decipher whole passages of Greek is very satisfying. By studying Greek language and culture, you will see how they have made such a great impact on our own, 2500 years on!

Latin would be useful for the study of Greek but is by no means a prerequisite. If you enjoy Languages, History, English or just fancy trying something different, Greek could be for you!

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

Lessons are relaxed and fun and you will enjoy the benefits of small class teaching which uses the latest technology can offer. It teaches you so much without you even noticing that you enjoy gaining skills in the analysis of literary and material evidence, the learning of grammar, the translation of Greek into English and much more.

There is also a flexibility of choice. You study the subject as a twilight option which is taught after school on a reduced timetable allocation (50%). This means that you can study an extra GCSE should you wish.

## What you will learn:

The course consists of three papers:

### Language (50%)

You will learn how to decipher the Greek alphabet so that you are able to confidently read and translate a passage of Classical Greek.

### Verse Literature (25%)

You will read and analyse some original Greek written by an author such as Homer (the famous author of *'The Iliad'*, the story of the Trojan war, and *'The Odyssey'*, on which Percy Jackson is based!!!) or Herodotus, the 'father of history'.

### Literature and Culture (25%)

You will study two topics such as:

- Athens, the birthplace of democracy, looking at the Acropolis and aspects of society, such as the position of women and slaves.
- The Olympic Games, looking at the sports complex at Olympia and what went on during the most famous games of all!

## How it will be assessed:

You will sit three different examination papers. There is no coursework.

## What skills will you develop?

A study of Greek will help your linguistic skills, your understanding of the English language and your appreciation of literature. Your rigour, precision and eye for detail will be sharpened. It also strengthens your problem-solving skills, your ability to think precisely and to communicate clearly. It will nurture a love of literature, personalities and the past. It will provide an appreciation of the achievements and lasting legacy of a civilisation which has had such a profound influence upon our own society.

## Careers opportunities:

Some people say that if you choose Classics you are opting for several years of great lessons to the detriment of your future career. But the truth is that you get the best of both worlds, studying a fascinating

and exciting subject, and coming out exceptionally well-qualified at the end of it. It does not get much better than that.

- Accountancy
- Teaching
- Librarianship
- Academia
- Civil Service
- Museums Work
- Archaeology
- Journalism
- Media
- Information Technology
- Military
- Management Consultancy
- Law
- Media
- Publishing
- Social Work
- Auction House Work

# Computer Science

**Board and Specification:** OCR GCSE J277

## Why choose this subject?

Computer Science is a challenging and rewarding STEM subject (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). This typically suits students who consistently achieve A/A\* in Year 9 Computer Science, who enjoy Maths and Physics, who love wrestling with logic puzzles and are keen to develop their existing skills in computer programming. Good Computer Scientists are often highly self-reliant and enjoy problem solving and using logic.

Studying Computer Science will give you an understanding of the main principles of problem-solving using computers. Armed with this understanding you can go on to develop computer-based solutions to problems using algorithms and a high-level programming language. You will also develop a range of technical skills, as well as a robust competence to test and evaluate computing solutions. In studying Computer Science, you will learn how computers work as well as how to be an independent programmer using Python.

## Why study Computer Science at Walthamstow Hall?

You will study in our well-equipped, air-conditioned Computer Science suite, with plenty of quality thinking space to focus on working individually or to collaborate on problem-solving and programming projects as part of a team. As a member of a small class, you will engage fully in lessons to develop your logic and problem-solving skills. You will be fully supported through your journey, in learning Computer Science and creating challenging programmes.

## What you will learn (course outline):

<b>Paper 1: Computer Systems</b>	<b>Paper 2: Algorithms, Programming and Logic</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Data representation</li><li>2. Networks and hardware</li><li>3. Issues with computing</li><li>4. Components of a computer system</li><li>5. System software</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Algorithms</li><li>2. Programming and boolean logic</li><li>3. Design, Testing and IDE's</li><li>4. Boolean logic</li></ol>

## How it will be assessed:

There are 2 written examinations. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

This means we can work together on problem-solving and programming tasks, sharing solutions, and learning from each other throughout the course. There is a mandatory 20-hour programming project that all students are expected to carry out. This is not assessed at exam board level.

## What skills will you develop?

- Computational thinking skills.
- An understanding of the main principles of solving problems using computers.
- The skills necessary to solve computer-based problems using a high-level programming language.
- An understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate.
- An understanding of the Internet as a means of communication and its associated risks.
- An understanding of ethical, cultural, environmental, and legal issues around the use of IT.

## Extracurricular and Super-curricular opportunities

You will be encouraged to stretch and challenge yourself by entering the UK Bebras. Students will have access to online resources bought via the School to challenge themselves using Trinket, an online Python programming resource. Students will also benefit from an extra-curricular session once per week as well as a raspberry pi coding club to start in 2023.

## Career opportunities:

Computer Science is a springboard into a wide range of professions, including:



- **Accountancy**  
E.g. chartered accountant, financial controller, forensic accountant.
- **Banking & Finance**  
E.g. asset manager, market data analyst, technology analyst.
- **Business and other organisation management**  
E.g. chief information officer, chief technology officer, systems analyst, research scientist.
- **Consultancy**  
E.g. business analyst, management consultant, technical consultant, artificial intelligence consultant.
- **Education**  
E.g. Computer Science teacher, hardware trainer, software trainer.
- **Engineering, IT and the Internet**  
E.g. hardware engineer, software engineer, automation engineer, cloud services engineer, cyber security engineer, machine learning engineer, network architect, systems analyst, information security analyst, data scientist, IT project manager, database developer, management information system developer, information system manager, web developer, games developer, social media strategist, AI Engineer, digital forensics investigator (e.g. for the National Cyber Security Centre at GCHQ).
- **Entrepreneurship**  
E.g. business founder/owner, freelancer, social entrepreneur.
- **Games Developer**  
E.g. developing coding requirements for computer games and animation.

# Drama

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel GCSE IDR0

## **Why choose this subject?**

If you love the theatre and enjoy acting, designing or directing, then this course is for you. You will firstly be absorbed in small group improvisation work which will lead to two extended polished performances. This then takes you onto the process of producing and performing a sophisticated and unique piece of devised theatre towards the end of your first year for which you will have become very practised in performing and directing.

Although theoretical work is as present as practical work, it always stems from the practical undertakings you will have explored in the theatre space. Practical work is the core of this course and your learning will come from getting up and doing instead of sitting in a classroom and talking.

In the second year, you will learn a huge amount about directing, designing and acting through the practical study of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, which you will study practically and write about in the written exam. You will learn the powerful subtleties of interpretation and how to ensure an audience is shifting their sympathies in the direction you want them to. As an actor, your confidence will grow steadily as the course progresses simply because you will have engaged in so much practical work in which you have continually stretched yourself. By the time you perform your final exam piece in the second year *The Ship* stage will feel like your second home.

Should acting not be your thing, then there are opportunities to instead offer lighting and/or sound as part of the practical examined aspects. However, all Drama pupils will participate in the practical explorations that lead to the devised piece and written exam.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

Drama has been very much part of the heart and soul of Walthamstow Hall since the school's founding years and the subject continues to grow from strength to strength. Wally Drama punches above its weight and the department's productions are well regarded, both inside and outside of our community, for their high standards and professionalism. The pupils involved, whether on or off stage, have a fantastic experience from auditions through to the run and the skills they learn are valuable for whatever career path they choose to take - self-confidence, teamwork, working under pressure, initiative, responsibility - the list is endless.

Currently, over eighty pupils take Drama at GCSE and A Level and the standards they achieve are extremely high. Last year at A Level, 100% achieved Grade A\* and, at GCSE, 84% achieved 7 and above.

We are lucky to have *The Ship Theatre* as our main teaching space along with two drama studios and extra rehearsal spaces. Practice rooms are used to store costumes and props for upcoming productions. Class sizes are generally kept small to ensure that high standards are maintained; we currently have three GCSE groups in Year 10 and three in Year 11 and very often have two A Level groups in Years 12 and 13. Drama pupils enjoy getting involved in main school productions as well as producing examined performances throughout the year.

In Year 11 all pupils have the opportunity to apply for a Sixth Form Drama scholarship, as well as audition for the prestigious National Youth Theatre who use the school as an audition centre. All Drama pupils will go on several theatre trips as part of their academic course.

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

Component 1: Devising

- You will create and develop a devised piece from a stimulus.
- You will give a performance of this devised piece or design realisation.
- You will analyse and evaluate the devising process and performance.
- Performer or designer routes are available.

### Component 2: Performance from Text

- You will perform or design two key extracts from a performance text.
- Performer or designer routes are available.

### Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

You will have a written exam on:

- A live theatre evaluation.
- The practical exploration and study of a complete performance text – focusing on how this can be realised for performance.

### **How it will be assessed:**

#### Component 1: Devising

Internally assessed and externally moderated - worth 40% of the qualification and 60 marks.

There are two parts to the assessment:

A portfolio (45 marks).

The devised performance (15 marks).

#### Component 2: Performance from Text

Externally assessed- worth 20% of the qualification and 48 marks.

#### Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

Externally assessed - worth 40% of the qualification and 60 marks.

Section A: Bringing Texts to Life - 45 marks.

This section consists of one question broken into five parts (short and extended responses) based on an unseen extract from the chosen performance text. Performance texts are not allowed in the examination as the extracts will be provided.

Section B: Live Theatre Evaluation - 15 marks.

This section consists of two questions requiring pupils to analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance they have seen. Pupils are allowed to bring in theatre evaluation notes of up to a maximum of 500 words.

### **What skills will you develop?**

Drama will develop your confidence and communication with people and your ability to think creatively and imaginatively. You will work in teams to prepare and deliver set-piece and performance. Through the course you will develop your critical analysis of theatre and hone your performance techniques.

### **Extracurricular and Super-curricular opportunities:**

You will be invited to audition for the major November school production as well as other performance opportunities throughout the two-year course. In the Spring Term we host the National Youth Theatre auditions here at the school and this is a fabulous opportunity to audition and work with them.

### **Careers opportunities**

Drama provides excellent training for careers in the theatre from production to performance. It provides a sound basis for future studies in the arts, law, media, publishing, marketing, education and all careers with a focus on interpersonal skills such as human resources and teaching. Professions that past Drama pupils have gone into include medicine, law, theatre, film, journalism, science and business.

# English Language and English Literature

**Boards and Specifications:** Language: AQA GCSE 8700; Literature: Edexcel International GCSE 4ET 1

## Why study these subjects at Walthamstow Hall?

Your teachers will weave the two courses together but at the end you will have gained two separate, full I/GCSEs.

We have lots of time to help you achieve your personal best. Our teachers are all highly experienced, with some having been I/GCSE examiners in the past. We offer extra booster and revision sessions after the Year 11 mock examinations, offering further support to those who feel they need it. We also keep an eye out for theatre productions of our texts, many of which are now available online.

## What you will learn (course outlines):

### Overview of Language qualification

- Two equally balanced examination papers containing questions on unseen reading passages which link to the topic / theme of the writing tasks.
- Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing – how fiction writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers; a narrative / descriptive writing task.
- Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives – how different non-fiction writers present a similar topic over time; a writing task to express your view of a given topic.
- NEA: Spoken Language – any type of formal talk. This will be assessed separately and does not form part of the final English Language Grade

### Overview of Literature qualification

Examination – 60%

- A question on a poem which you will not have read before.
- A question from a choice of two which will ask you to compare some poems which you have prepared in advance.
- A question from a choice of two on a modern novel which you have studied, for example, 'Of Mice and Men'.

Coursework – 40%

- One essay on a modern play, for example 'A View from the Bridge', 'An Inspector Calls'.
- One essay on an older text, for example, 'Romeo and Juliet', 'Macbeth'.

## How it will be assessed:

The I/GCSEs are both assessed using the 9-1 grading system. Each type of task has its own set of assessment criteria, which you will be supplied with when you do them. Your teacher will set you clear, specific and personalised targets when they mark important pieces of work in order to help you progress to higher grades.

## What skills will you develop?

- Analytical skills from considering a range of texts, both literary and non-fiction.
- Communication skills from learning how best to express your ideas and make a positive impact on your reader.

- Discussion skills from sharing, articulating and supporting your views and reflecting on those of others
- Essay writing skills from planning, structuring, drafting and re-drafting essays.
- The confidence to read and understand a variety of texts, from newspaper articles to Shakespeare.

**Careers opportunities:**

A solid grade at GCSE English Language is a prerequisite of many jobs and college courses, and that is because the skills you learn are so fundamental and transferable. Undertaking both subjects will help prepare you for whatever you wish to do next in education or employment.

# Food Preparation and Nutrition

*Places are limited. Your attitude to your Year 9 studies will be taken into account if we receive more applications for this subject than we can accommodate.*

**Board and Specification:** AQA GCSE 8585

## **Why choose this subject?**

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills and the science behind this to ensure you develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing your practical cookery skills, while giving you the science behind the function of ingredients.

This GCSE will teach you to become an effective problem solver and time manager while honing your organisational skills. Having an aptitude for science would be an advantage to choosing this GCSE. Communicating your ideas and presenting these in a creative way will be important.

Food Preparation and Nutrition at GCSE gives you a range of skills to enable you to take your studies further or to confidently practise these more generally in life.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

Food Preparation and Nutrition is offered as a creative and scientific subject choice as part of the broad and balanced curriculum at Walthamstow Hall.

The Food room offers a large well-equipped space at the top of The Lang Centre (Sixth Form building). Classes are restricted to twelve enabling more focused attention from specialist teachers. You should link this subject to Science if you want to study Food further and the Food room neatly links to our Science block.

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

In this course you will develop a knowledge and understanding of Food in a combination of practical and theoretical lessons. This qualification is linear and so pupils will sit their exam and submit all of their Non-Exam Assessment at the end of the course.

Food preparation skills – these are intended to be integrated into the five sections:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

You will need to complete two tasks at the end of Year 11, classified as the Non-Exam Assessment or (NEA):

**Task 1:** Food investigation task (15% of overall grade). This relates to your understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Practical investigations are a compulsory element of this NEA task.

**Task 2:** Food preparation task (35% of overall grade). This relates to your knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food and also the application of nutrition related to the chosen task. You will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

## **How it will be assessed:**

Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from the five sections above is assessed with a formal exam:

Written exam Paper 1:

- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

There is a combination of multiple choice questions (20 marks) and five questions each with a number of sub-questions (80 marks).

There is also a Non-Exam Assessment (NEA – as outlined above):

- Task 1: Written or electronic report (1500–2000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.
- Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

### **What skills will you develop?**

The majority of the specification is delivered through preparation and making activities. You must be able to make the connections between theory and practice to apply your understanding of food and nutrition to practical preparation.

General practical skills and techniques will be taught such as weighing and measuring, preparation of ingredients, cooking times, knife skills, use of equipment and cooking methods. More specific tasks such as combining and shaping food, sauce making, tenderising and marinating are also taught. You will also further develop skills in dough making and gain a greater understanding of the science behind cooking.

### **Careers opportunities:**

Studying Food can lead to a wide range of career opportunities working in hotels, restaurants, or tourist venues. There is a range of career paths in agriculture, catering and hospitality, environmental health, leisure and tourism, retail sales and customer service as well as engineering and manufacturing.

Food AS and A Levels were abolished in 2016. However, there are many other routes to further study food science and technology or hospitality and catering such as BTECs, NVQs and Diplomas.

There is also a range of apprenticeships linked to Food Technology such as:

- Food and drink including bakery, dairy, confectionary, butchery, artisan baker, food technologist.
- Hospitality catering e.g. chef, sous chef, pastry chef.
- Hospitality management e.g. deputy general manager, front office manager.
- Food manufacturing and processing e.g. production manager, new product development technologist.
- Travel and tourism e.g. cabin crew.

Careers can link to food education, production, sales, information, quality, preparation, technical and health. Jobs encompass a wide range of careers from brewery workers to farm managers, nutritional therapists to teachers and food scientists.

# Geography

**Board and Specification:** AQA GCSE 8035

## **Why choose this subject?**

Pupils who study Geography are better prepared to understand topics impacting our planet such as climate change, natural hazards, desertification, water resource issues, political issues, global development and economic change. We learn about differences between world regions and cultures, and you will learn to think critically, research independently and share your thoughts through writing and other means of communication. Geography is a well-rounded discipline that provides you not only with ample career opportunities, but also provides you with knowledge about our rapidly changing world and how humans are impacting our planet.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

Geography at Walthamstow Hall is not just about drilling facts into you. It is more about nurturing a passion for study in order to develop an interest in the world in which you live. We feel it is important to have a spatial understanding of the world to help contextualise everything that is studied in class. You are encouraged to be independent learners and lessons are taught to equip every style of learning. Topics of study have been chosen to highlight some of the most contemporary issues people face today and aim to develop a wide range of skills. The department is very well resourced with individual textbooks allocated to every pupil in examination classes. To supplement this, you will have access to online learning through a Kerboodle subscription. Geography has become increasingly popular, but class sizes are still small enough to give pupils every advantage in their studies.

Fieldwork is very important in developing your understanding and is undertaken in each academic year. At GCSE, you will investigate the dynamic changes at the coastline and learn how London is striving to be a sustainable city. As well as this, you are able to partake in international trips, e.g. investigating tectonic activity and glaciation in Iceland.

## **What you will learn (course outline):**

**Paper 1: Living with the physical environment**

In this part of the specification, you will study how natural hazards pose major risks to people. This includes a study of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, tropical storms, extreme weather in the UK and climate change. You will then study physical landscapes in the UK, looking at coasts and rivers. Finally, you will investigate Global Ecosystems with a focus on tropical rainforests and hot deserts.

**Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment**

In this part of the curriculum, you will study urban issues and challenges in a less developed country and compare that to an urban area in the UK. You will then investigate the changing economic world and compare the changes in developing and developed countries. You will also investigate the challenge of resource management with a focus on water as a scarce resource.

**Paper 3: Geographical applications**

In this part of the curriculum, you will be assessed on decision-making, geographical skills and application of fieldwork. These skills will be taught throughout the course and will provide synoptic links between all 3 papers. The application of fieldwork skills will be assisted through two geographical enquiries, each of which must include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise at two contrasting locations in the UK. Questions in the examination will be based on the use of fieldwork materials from an unfamiliar context and on your individual enquiry work.

Throughout all the three papers there will be elements of geographical skills: cartographic (different maps); graphical; numerical; statistical and use of qualitative and quantitative data.

## **How it will be assessed:**



Paper 1 - Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (35% of GCSE)  
Paper 2 - Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (35% of GCSE)  
Paper 3 - Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes (30% of GCSE)

### **What skills will you develop?**

You will develop your critical thinking, understand where information has come from and what implications it has, thus allowing you to contextualise your findings. You will develop primary research skills and will develop a better understanding of data analysis as you will be gathering information from a range of sources which need to be analysed and evaluated. You will start to build relationships and synoptic links between subjects from both the science and humanities areas of the curriculum. You will also learn to be part of a team, as much of the work in you do in the field will be with your peers.

### **Careers opportunities:**

For careers in the world of business, an understanding of global economics forms an important part of Geography. If you are considering a career in law, human rights or international relations, an understanding of Geography gives you the opportunity to consider relevant global issues like international migration, global development and resource scarcity.

If you are aiming at a future course in medicine or veterinary medicine, Geography offers the breadth that universities like as you will gain a clear understanding of how the environment affects health and survival of people, animals and ecosystems. A development of skills in critical thinking is important in many jobs as you will be able to evaluate data based on a variety of factors, e.g. criminologists have to do this when assessing evidence. Data analysis, research and IT skills, such as familiarity with Geographical Information Systems, are the sought after by employers and can be used in careers in business and planning.

With its multi-disciplinary approach, Geography gives you the chance to keep your options open as it covers both arts and science components. It gives you the opportunity to be a critical thinker, an organiser and be informed of topical issues as well as enhancing your skills when writing essays and extended reports.

# History

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE 4HI1

## Why choose this subject?

History is a truly inspiring subject. It provides you with fascinating insights into human nature and an understanding of the political and societal structures we live with today. You get to ask great questions, examine contemporary sources, and weigh up how far you should trust different viewpoints. These are especially important skills to have in an era of 'fake news'. It is also great preparation for university. The study of History encourages you to be an independent and original thinker – and, crucially, we think it is great fun. You will enjoy your lessons with us!

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

The History department at Walthamstow Hall is award-winning. Our small class sizes allow us to regularly meet one-to-one with pupils, so you have a confident understanding of what you need to do to make progress and improve your skills in a range of areas such as reading, note-taking and independent study. We are also keen to inspire your interest in History outside of lessons. We help to organise a trip to Germany, a centre of world events in both World War Two and the Cold War that followed. We also run the Debating Society, Model United Nations and support pupils interested in the Historical Association's Great Debate and Gresham College's Public Speaking Competition. We are thrilled by the topics we get to study in IGCSE History and are keen to ensure you both enjoy and excel at your studies.

## What you will learn (course outline):

You will investigate:

- How far have science and technology brought changes in medicine?
- To what extent did the role of women in medicine change from 1848-1948?
- Why did the tsarist regime in Russia collapse in 1917?
- How did the Bolsheviks gain and hold on to power in Russia?
- Why was Adolf Hitler able to come to power in Germany by 1933?
- How far was he responsible for WWII?
- What was it like to live in Nazi Germany?
- Who was to blame for the Cold War that followed WWII: the USA or the USSR?

## How it will be assessed:

Students sit two papers at the end of Year 11. Exam questions range from short answers to longer discussion-style questions. There is no coursework.

External Exam Assessment			
	What is assessed	How you will be assessed	Weighting
Paper 1	Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918-45 A world divided: superpower relations, 1943-72	Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes 60 marks	50%
Paper 2	Russia and the Soviet Union, 1905-24 Changes in medicine, 1848-1948	Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes 60 marks	50%

## What skills will you develop?

You will learn how to read and study more effectively and build on your Key Stage 3 planning and organisational skills. You will develop your research skills by reading a variety of sources in order to understand multiple viewpoints and see the big picture. You will also develop strong written

communication skills by sifting through information, summarising many pages of information in a few sentences and selecting what is most important to structure an effective and persuasive argument. Throughout the course you will evaluate the importance and reliability of different arguments and perspectives, think creatively and insightfully and manage your time effectively.

### **Careers opportunities:**

History is a broad subject and as such it supports a range of careers. The skills pupils learn through the study of History are prized by most professions and easily transferable. It is also future-proofed. According to the World Economic Forum, the number of careers that need 'human' skills like analytical thinking, effective communication and leadership is growing. This means the study of History provides you with the knowledge and skills to pursue careers in the future, no matter what direction technology, global trade, and politics might take them.

More specific career paths are:

- Law
- Publishing and Media
- Economics and Finance
- Business
- Politics and International Relations
- Marketing and Advertising
- Art and Design
- Conservation and Restoration
- Museum Curation
- Science and Research
- Archaeology
- Education and Teaching
- Library Studies



# Latin

**Board and Specification:** Eduqas GCSE C990PB Route B

## **Why choose this subject?**

Latin will appeal to any pupil who has enjoyed Latin for the last three years. You will continue using the Cambridge Latin Course textbook until the end of Unit 3 and this covers the necessary grammar to translate and comprehend three passages of Latin in the final GCSE examination. You will also be given a vocabulary list of all the words you need to know for this.

In addition, you will be introduced to the works of several Roman writers (Catullus, Ovid, Pliny, Cicero, Horace and others), through the medium of set texts which are read and translated from 130 lines of Latin. They are based around the theme of Love and Marriage.

In Year 11, you will study Roman Civilisation and the City of Rome – the buildings, temples, layout etc. To study the Latin language in isolation, without looking at the civilisation from which the language springs, leaves an incomplete view of what it was to be a Roman living almost two thousand years ago. Moreover, even a superficial glance at the culture of ancient Rome shows how significantly it has influenced subsequent centuries and our own society.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

Lessons are relaxed and fun and you will enjoy the benefits of small class teaching which uses the latest technology can offer. It teaches you so much without you even noticing that you actually enjoy gaining skills in the analysis of literary and material evidence, the learning of grammar, the translation of Latin into English (but not English into Latin) and much more.

There is also a flexibility of choice. You can study Latin as one of your GCSE choices to be taught during the school day alongside your other GCSEs. Alternatively, you can maximise your choice of GCSE subjects by opting to study the subject as a twilight option which is taught after school on a reduced timetable allocation (50%).

As one GCSE student said of Latin; “Latin honestly got me through Year 11. Every lesson was so much fun, and we learnt loads too.”

Results have been excellent with 100% of pupils achieving a Level 9 in 2024.

## **What you will learn:**

### **Paper 1 Language 50%**

You will be assessed on your ability to translate and comprehend a storyline in Latin. There will be three passages: two comprehension exercises and a translation.

### **Paper 2 Literature and Sources 30%**

You translate pieces of original Latin chosen from some of the literary greats of the Roman world, analyse and appreciate literary styles, and learn the cultural and social context of the prescribed material. A themed approach to this literature is adopted which will enable you to sample a wide range of authors of both prose and verse. The current theme is ‘Love and Relationships’. It is an ‘open book’ examination where you will be supplied with a ‘clean’ copy of the whole of the texts and also a complete vocabulary list when sitting your GCSE.

### **Paper 3 Roman Civilisation 20%**

You will study the social, cultural and historical background to the language and learn about the city of Rome. This is currently about the Roman family.

**How it will be assessed:**

You will sit three different examination papers. There is no coursework.

**What skills will you develop?**

A study of Latin will help your linguistic skills, your understanding of the English language and your appreciation of literature. Your rigour, precision and eye for detail will be sharpened. It also strengthens your problem-solving skills, your ability to think precisely and to communicate clearly. It will nurture a love of literature, personalities and the past. It will provide an appreciation of the achievements and lasting legacy of a civilisation which has had such a profound influence upon our own society.

**Careers opportunities:**

Some people say that if you choose Latin you are opting for several years of great lessons to the detriment of your future career. But the truth is that you get the best of both worlds, studying a fascinating and exciting subject, and coming out exceptionally well-qualified at the end of it. It does not get much better than that.

- Accountancy
- Teaching
- Librarianship
- Academia
- Civil Service
- Museums Work
- Archaeology
- Journalism
- Media
- Information Technology
- Military
- Management Consultancy
- Law
- Media
- Publishing
- Social Work
- Auction House Work
- Politics
- Arts Management
- Theatre and Performing Arts

# Mathematics

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE A 4MA1

## **Why choose this subject?**

Mathematics is compulsory at this stage.

## **Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?**

All the Maths teachers here at Walthamstow Hall are dedicated professionals and highly qualified, with a degree in either Pure Mathematics or a Maths-related discipline. We are all enthusiastic about teaching Maths, experienced and devoted to supporting you and helping you succeed. There are usually four sets at the school. We try our best to place you in the class which runs at the pace that you are most comfortable with.

## **What you will learn:**

You will extend your study of algebra, trigonometry, graphs, probability and shape. The IGCSE syllabus has a greater emphasis on algebra than the standard GCSE and includes an introduction to Calculus, which is why we find it to be excellent preparation for A Level.

## **How it will be assessed:**

There will be two written papers of two hours at the end of Year 11. Both papers allow use of a calculator. Unlike the standard GCSE, there is no non-calculator paper. All topics are spread randomly amongst the two papers, so you will not be able to predict which topic will appear on which paper.

## **What skills will you develop?**

You will learn to work steadily, to present solutions clearly and concisely, and to extend your own thinking within a logical framework.

## **Careers opportunities:**

Employers rate numeracy and problem-solving as two of the top employability skills. Some of the most interesting, high profile and well-paid careers revolve around Mathematics. Further study of Maths can lead to working in finance, meteorology, computing, engineering and business, amongst many other areas. Most undergraduate courses, whatever the discipline, require a minimum GCSE Maths grade of a 5.

# Additional Maths (twilight)

**Board and Specification:** OCR FSMQ 6993

## **Why choose this subject?**

If you enjoy studying Maths and enjoy challenging yourself to solve hard problems, then the Additional Maths qualification is a great opportunity for you. It is classed between a GCSE and an A Level and is worth up to 10 UCAS points. It serves both as an enrichment of the topics studied in the IGCSE course and as a great introduction to A Level-style Mathematics; pupils usually find that the “step up” from GCSE to A Level is not as great having studied this course. Even if you do not plan on continuing with Maths beyond Year 11, the qualification provides a worthwhile and enriching course. It is aimed at those students expecting to attain either a Grade 8 or a Grade 9 at GCSE. Do be aware that the pace of these lessons is fast and you will be expected to complete a great deal of work independently.

This course is optional and is taught once a week as a twilight session from the Summer Term in Year 10. You do not need to choose whether to take it at this stage but do bear this choice in mind when deciding on whether to do any other twilight lessons in Year 10.

## **What you will learn:**

You will extend your learning of algebra, coordinate geometry and trigonometry, all topics that you learn in the IGCSE course. You will also be introduced to new areas of Maths such as Linear Programming, the Binomial Distribution, Logarithms and Integration.

## **How it will be assessed:**

You will have one two-hour paper in late June. This exam tends to be a few days after the GCSE exams have finished.

## **What skills will you develop?**

You will develop more confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, Mathematics. You will consolidate your GCSE level mathematical skills and build a strong mathematical foundation should you decide to continue studying the subject beyond Year 11.

# Modern Foreign Languages – French, German, Spanish

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE 4FRI, 4GNI, 4SPI

## Why choose this subject?

Having a qualification in a language at IGCSE is a great asset. Languages are valued by the universities, not just at A Level for those who choose to continue, but also at the IGCSE level. A language will open doors to university study, career opportunities and your earning potential in this country and abroad, as well as to exciting travel plans.

Language learning gives an invaluable insight into how other countries and cultures present themselves to the world. When someone speaks the same language as you, you feel an instant connection. When you learn a language, your hard work is rewarded with a skill that can stay with you throughout your life. Commanding that language gives you a huge sense of pride in your own powers of resilience.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe said, “*He who knows no foreign languages knows nothing of his own*”, and Federico Fellini said, “*A different language is a different vision of life*”. We share these views and believe that learning another language has never been so relevant in our globalised world.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

To complement your lessons with your language teachers, you will have the opportunity to attend conversation classes in small groups, pairs or sometimes one-to-one, with our French, German and Spanish assistants. This will enable you to improve your speaking skills, your confidence and your cultural awareness.

We encourage you to read in the foreign language and to start to enjoy watching foreign films. We know that many of you enjoy going to the relevant countries with your families, in order to practise your language skills. Some pupils undertake home/study opportunities which combine language lessons with the experience of staying with a family abroad. These are of huge benefit as you will be totally immersed in the language and culture. There are opportunities to take part in school visits and the MFL department organises biennial study and cultural visits to France, Germany and Spain for Year 10 and Year 11 pupils.

## What you will learn (course outline):

All questions will be set in the context of the following topic areas and sub-topic areas.

Topic areas	Sub-topic areas
Topic area A <i>Home and abroad</i>	Life in the town and rural life Holidays, tourist information and directions Services (e.g., bank, post office) Customs Everyday life, traditions and communities
Topic area B <i>Education and employment</i>	School life and routine School rules and pressures School trips, events and exchanges Work, careers and volunteering Future plans
Topic area C <i>Personal life and relationships</i>	House and home Daily routines and helping at home Role models Relationships with family and friends Childhood
Topic area D <i>The world around us</i>	Environmental issues Weather and climate Travel and transport



	The media Information and communication technology
Topic area E <i>Social activities, fitness and health</i>	Special occasions Hobbies, interests, sports and exercise Shopping and money matters Accidents, injuries, common ailments and health issues Food and drink

### How will it be assessed:

This qualification comprises three external assessments, Paper 1, Paper 2 and Paper 3.

Paper 1: Listening: Externally assessed, 25% of the IGCSE qualification.

Overview of assessment:

- Assessment is a 30-minute examination paper set and marked by Edexcel, plus five minutes' reading time.
- The total number of marks for the paper is 40.

Paper 2: Reading and Writing: Externally assessed, 50% of the IGCSE qualification.

Overview of assessment:

- Assessment is through an examination paper lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes, set and marked by Edexcel.
- The total number of marks for the paper is 80, with 40 marks for reading and 40 marks for writing.

Paper 3: Speaking: Externally assessed, 25% of the IGCSE qualification.

Overview of assessment:

- The test lasts between 8 and 10 minutes.
- There are three tasks (A, B and C – see below).
- The total number of marks for the paper is 40.

Task A: Discussion based on a single picture chosen by the candidate in advance.

- 2 to 3 minutes.

Tasks B & C: Two conversations based on two different topics, requiring spontaneous responses.

- 6 to 7 minutes. The time is evenly split between two topic areas.

### What skills will you develop?

The International GCSE qualification in a Modern Foreign Language gives you the opportunity to develop important skills, including your ability to:

- Listen to and understand the spoken language in a range of contexts and a variety of styles.
- Read and respond to different types of written language.
- Communicate in writing.
- Understand and apply a range of vocabulary and structures.
- Develop effective language learning and communication skills.
- Communicate in speech for different purposes.

Languages can also be the first step to opening up a whole new world of foreign literature.

Important workplace skills that you will learn include adaptability, communication, critical thinking, independence, leadership, listening and problem-solving.

### Will I get confused if I opt to study two languages?

The further you progress with a language, the more solid your grasp of it will become and the more distinctions you will make between them. Our dual linguists are very switched on to language learning and often pursue at least one of their languages at A Level.

**Careers opportunities:**

More and more businesses are operating globally. That means there are plenty of opportunities for people who can speak a second language. Industry is increasingly calling out for language pupils to fill top positions in trading organisations, banks and multinational companies. The government needs strong communicators and eloquent diplomats to represent the country abroad, and manufacturers and service providers need to fill jobs with people who can communicate with new markets and suppliers to grow business and increase sales.

The list of jobs for which a foreign language is useful is very long and varied. Included are advertising and media executives, business negotiators, digital marketers, fashion buyers, interpreters, journalists, lawyers, personal assistants, project managers, publishing assistants, social workers, teachers, translators, travel bloggers... this is just the tip of the iceberg!

How about doing your work experience placement abroad? You will see a rapid improvement; it will boost your confidence and it will really give you the edge.

# Music

**Board and Specification:** Eduqas GCSE C660QS - 601/8131/X

## Why choose this subject?

The Eduqas GCSE is not only excellent preparation for A Level Music, but also provides a solid foundation for a degree and subsequent career in music. Walthamstow Hall provides a rich and diverse programme of co-curricular music which includes choirs, orchestras, chamber ensembles, workshops, concerts, and trips. Pupils taking GCSE Music are encouraged to make full use of this programme to complement their studies.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

- We have three full-time specialist musicians teaching in our purpose-designed department with up-to-date technology and acoustic treatment.
- We generally teach music in very small class sizes.
- We have an excellent stock of musical instruments and music scores.
- The co-curricular music provision caters for each pupil's individual needs and standards are very high.
- There are Choir tours abroad every two years: Tuscany 2018, Amsterdam 2020, Venice 2022, Amsterdam 2025.

## What you will learn (course outline):

Eduqas GCSE Music is divided into three distinct areas: performing, composing, and appraising. It naturally follows on from the exploration of these disciplines in Years 7 to 9. In the appraising component, you will listen to, study, and analyse a variety of Western Classical music from the Baroque Period to the present day. There are two prescribed set works – one from the Western Classical tradition and one from Popular Music – which will be studied in depth.

## How it is assessed:

1) Performing (30%)	Coursework	April	Internally assessed (moderated)
2) Composing (30%)	Coursework	April	Internally assessed (moderated)
3) Appraising (40%)	1hr 15m (exam paper)	June	Externally assessed

In the performance component, you are required to perform (play or sing) a solo piece and take part in an ensemble. It is recommended that you are working on at least Grade 3 standard material at the start of Year 10 in order to maximise your chances of a top grade in this module. Recordings of both pieces must be made during the Autumn or Spring Terms of Year 11.

You will compose two pieces over Years 10 and 11. One of these is free choice and may be in any style and for any combination of instruments; this will be written mostly during Year 10. The second composition is written in response to an Exam Board brief released in September of Year 11. You will submit scores and recordings of both compositions at the end of the Spring Term of Year 11.

## What skills will you develop?

- Creativity and imagination: whether you are creating your own composition or performing somebody else's, music requires you to apply your imagination to develop new ideas.
- Composition: you will learn how to create a composition by developing, extending, and manipulating musical ideas. You will develop your own compositions to a set brief. You will create your composition either on a musical instrument or with music technology, or both!
- Technical skills: you will learn to read advanced music notation and apply technical and expressive control in performance.
- Teamwork: musicians often play together in ensembles. You will learn to play alongside other musicians, requiring sympathy and responsiveness. You will learn to take and deliver feedback from other musicians within an ensemble setting in order to improve the collective performance.
- Critical thinking: the study of music involves the application of your in-depth knowledge of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language to offer critical appraisal of compositions, genres,

and styles. You will learn to identify what makes a piece of music distinctive, what tradition it fits into, and who the composer might be.

**Careers opportunities:**

There are myriad career opportunities in a UK industry that generates £7 billion annually, including performing (from rock to Renaissance), recording, sound engineering, composing, arranging, orchestrating, publishing, touring, facilities and stage management, radio, television, film, advertising, religious institutions, journalism, education, music therapy, instrument and equipment manufacture and repair, and many more. See also <https://www.careersinmusic.com/>

# Physical Education

**Board and Specification:** AQA GCSE 8582

## Why choose this subject?

Are you a keen sports performer and enjoy keeping active? This course offers you the opportunity to be recognised for your practical sporting abilities, as well as your theoretical knowledge and understanding. It is an interesting course that draws upon knowledge you have gained from other subjects and can also be linked to a wide range of current issues in the national and international media today. You will develop a well-rounded skill set and this course will prepare you for progression to further studies.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

At Walthamstow Hall it is possible to facilitate a broad range of practical activities due to the extensive facilities available to us, both onsite and in the local area. This provides excellent opportunities for you to be assessed in a wide range of sports. Due to our extensive extracurricular programme, there are also frequent opportunities to experience your chosen sports at a competitive level, which is a course requirement. Walthamstow Hall has a fantastic team of experienced and dedicated sports staff who are on hand to guide and support pupils, including a number of external specialist coaches. The course will also provide an opportunity for you to visit a sports science laboratory and experience a range of fitness tests.

## What you will learn (course outline):

The course has a broad and interesting specification, which incorporates all aspects of sport including physiology, psychology and sociology. This will enhance your understanding of the importance of leading an active and healthy lifestyle and allow you to apply a better theoretical understanding to the sports that you enjoy playing.

The course is divided into two components/papers which are externally assessed and a Non-Exam Assessment which is externally moderated.

Component 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport.

Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis and physical training.

Component 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport.

Component 3: Practical performance in physical activity and sport.

## How it will be assessed:

This qualification is linear. This means that you will sit all your exams and submit all your Non-Exam Assessment at the end of the course in Year 11.

<b>External Exam Assessment</b>			
	What is assessed	How it is assessed	Weighting
Paper 1	Part 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport	1 hour 15 minute exam 78 marks	30%
Paper 2	Part 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport	1 hour 15 minute exam 78 marks	30%
<b>Non-Exam Assessment</b> (internally assessed / externally moderated)			
Practical Performance of three sports		75 marks	40%
Written Analysis of Performance		25 marks	

The internal assessments involve you completing practical performance in three different activities and completing a written analysis of one performance.

The external assessment involves you completing two written examinations at the end of the course.

**What skills will you develop?**

You will develop your practical performance abilities in a range of sports, as well as developing your ability to analyse performance to inform improvement. Communication, leadership, teamwork and independent learning are all key areas that you will also develop throughout the course.

**Careers opportunities:**

Physical Education is an excellent qualification for those undertaking the sciences with the intention of moving towards careers in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, medicine or healthcare. It opens many career pathways in the sports and leisure industry, whether that be sports leadership, sports coaching, conditioning coaching, performance analysis, fitness professional or leisure centre management.

# Physics

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE 4PH1

## Why choose this subject?

You will study Physics either as a separate IGCSE if you choose Triple Award, or as part of your Science Double Award course (please refer to the later section on Double Award Science as appropriate).

Physics is the study of the natural world. It strives to explain phenomena that we see (and can't see!) in our lives as well as giving us the tools to manufacture objects to aid our lives. Medical advancements, technology such as computing and communication, housing and energy production all stem from a knowledge of Physics. The course is both interesting and applicable in equal measure.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

You will recognise the majority of the IGCSE course from study in Year 7 and Year 8 as you are prepared for this content throughout those years. Pupils will benefit from the large number of resources available to them for both practical and academic work. Bespoke laboratories with dedicated technicians allow pupils to carry out more complicated experiments. There are two double lessons a week in Year 10 and Year 11 taught by one specialist teacher.

## What you will learn (course outline):

Year 9	Introductions to Waves, Energy, Forces, Motion and Astrophysics
Year 10	Advanced Waves, Forces and Motion, as well as Radioactivity and Electricity
Year 11	Advanced Energy, Solids, Liquids and Gases, as well as Electromagnetism

## How it will be assessed:

All exams are externally assessed.

Paper 1	Paper 2
(also taken for IGCSE Science Double Award)	Examines the same topics as Paper 1 but in more depth, plus some additional topics not examined in Paper 1.
Time: 2 hours	Time: 1 hour 15 minutes
Maximum marks: 110	Maximum marks: 70
A mixture of different question styles including multiple choice, short answer, calculations and extended open response questions.	

There is no coursework for the IGCSE, but you will need to be familiar with practical work, as the examinations will ask you questions about it and expect you to have developed your practical skills.

**What skills will you develop?**

Physics teaches you to think logically and to experiment systematically, characteristics highly valued by A Level courses, universities and employers. The syllabus that we follow involves using practical apparatus regularly, designing experiments, and applying mathematical or logical ideas to understand the results. Above all, Physics is a challenging and exciting subject which prepares you well for scientific A Level courses and professional careers.

**Careers opportunities:**

Many pupils studying Physics in the Sixth Form in the past have gone on from Walthamstow Hall to study scientific subjects at university, such as physics, engineering, natural sciences, cybernetics, chemistry, medicine and dentistry. Other university subjects have recently included mathematics, psychology, actuarial science and business management.

There are many careers that Physics can lead to directly. Here is just a small selection:

- Aerospace Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Cyberneticist
- Astronomer
- Lighting Technician
- Acoustic Engineer
- Meteorologist
- Geophysicist
- Radiographer
- Electrical Engineer
- Prosthetics
- TV Studio Engineer

Beyond these technical roles, Physics is also very well regarded in financial roles such as accounting or investment banking as it demonstrates candidates have advanced mathematical skills and can solve problems logically.



# Religious Studies

**Board and Specification:** Eduqas GCSE Short course C125P3

## Why choose this subject?

Religious Studies GCSE Short Course is compulsory at Walthamstow Hall. It provides insights into some of the key faith traditions that make up Great Britain. Further, it enables investigation into the many nuances within those faiths and how those faiths will respond to contemporary issues such as whether euthanasia should be legalised and if the family unit is vital to the moral health of a community. Pupils will leave GCSE Religious Studies with a greater understanding of the diversity and importance of religious belief in the UK today and how belief impacts an individual's world view and values.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

Walthamstow Hall offers an experienced department, small class sizes and a history of success at GCSE.

## What you will learn (course outline):

Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World

Issues and Relationships: Christian beliefs, the nature and purpose of marriage, attitudes towards adultery, divorce.

Sexual relationships: Christian teachings regarding the nature and purpose of sex and use of contraception.

Issues of Life after Death: life after death examining ethical issues such as euthanasia.

Component 2: Christianity

You will look at the following: the nature of God, the problem of evil, the person of Jesus and his importance to the Christian faith.

Component 2 Islam

You will study the key tenets of Islam: the Articles of Faith, the afterlife and the angels.

## How it will be assessed:

- You will have 3 written papers in the Summer of Year 11.
- You have a one hour "Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World" paper, a 35 minute "Study of Christianity" paper and a 35minute "Study of Islam" paper. These are usually taken on different days.
- The exam questions are divided up into parts, ranging from short definition questions to a longer discussion-style question (e.g. 15 marks + 3 spelling, punctuation and grammar).
- There is no coursework – you will only be tested on the topics that we cover in class.

## What skills will you develop?

During this GCSE course you will be learning high-level skills which will help you perform well in all your other subjects, and which will benefit you as you think about future Sixth Form subjects and beyond:

- Not being afraid to deal with complex and abstract problems/issues.
- Analysing evidence, beliefs and sources in detail.
- Being precise and academic in the language you are using and the way you phrase your ideas.
- Understanding different viewpoints and the reasons behind those viewpoints.
- Being able to form and justify your own viewpoint and create a good argument.

The content we will cover is highly relevant to the other subjects you are studying, as well as current society in general. This means we will be able to learn the course material in a way that is hopefully fun and thought-provoking.

You will have the chance to have your say and form an educated opinion on issues that really matter to you.

**Career Opportunities:**

Pupils who study Religious Studies and Philosophy can secure work in a variety of disciplines such as teaching, public relations or politics. Communications, publishing, human resources and advertising can be attractive options for Philosophy and Religious Studies graduates, as well as law, banking and the Civil Service.

# Science Double Award

**Board and Specification:** Edexcel International GCSE 4SDO/IB, 4SDO/IC, 4SDO/IP

## Why choose this subject?

Choosing Double Award Science will enable you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the material, physical and living worlds. The content is approximately two thirds that of the Separate Science courses and, therefore, is appropriate if you are not intending to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics for A Level. Double Science provides a broad and practical course that develops confidence in, and a positive view of, Science.

## Why study it at Walthamstow Hall?

At IGCSE, you will build upon the foundation of key ideas and concepts studied in Years 7-9. You will learn how to apply scientific principles and concepts, including those related to applications of Science. Class sizes are generally small and taught in well-resourced laboratories. There is excellent technician support allowing practical work to be an integral part of the course. There is one double period and one single period taught by specialist teachers each week for each of the Biology, Chemistry and Physics components of the course.

## What you will learn (course outline):

<b>Biology</b>	<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>Physics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nature and variety of living organisms</li><li>• Structure and functions in living organisms</li><li>• Reproduction and inheritance</li><li>• Ecology and the environment</li><li>• Use of biological resources</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Principles of Chemistry</li><li>• Inorganic chemistry</li><li>• Physical Chemistry</li><li>• Organic Chemistry</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Forces and motion</li><li>• Electricity</li><li>• Waves</li><li>• Energy resources and energy transfers</li><li>• Solids, liquids and gases</li><li>• Magnetism and electromagnetism</li><li>• Radioactivity and particles</li><li>• Astrophysics</li></ul>

## How it will be assessed:

By taking Double Award Science you will study all three sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) leading to an overall award of two grades at IGCSE. The two IGCSE grades are based on your overall performance across all three sciences.

All exams are externally assessed.

Each paper will consist of a mixture of different question styles including multiple choice, short answer, calculations and extended open response questions.

<b>Paper</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Marks</b>
Biology	2 hours	Maximum marks 110 33.3% of total marks
Chemistry	2 hours	Maximum marks 110 33.3% of total marks
Physics	2 hours	Maximum marks 110 33.3% of total marks

There is no coursework for the IGCSE course, but you will need to be familiar with practical work, as the examinations will ask you questions about it and expect you to have developed your practical skills.

### **What skills will you develop?**

Studying IGCSE Double Award Science will help you to develop a range of transferable skills. Mathematical skills that complement Science will be strengthened and there are opportunities for teamwork and cooperation. Developing your practical skills will allow you to appreciate the practical nature of Science by performing experiments and investigations based on correct and safe laboratory techniques, analysing, interpreting and evaluating data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with evidence and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.

### **Careers opportunities:**

Pupils who choose to study Double Award Science are usually those wishing to pursue arts and humanities subjects. Achieving high grades in Double Award Science will be an asset for your university and job applications. If in Year 11 you decide that you would like to choose A Level Biology, Chemistry or Physics to study, then achieving a Grade 8 or 9 in that subject component of the Double Award would be needed if you are to achieve a good A Level grade. You would also need to achieve at least a Grade 7 in IGCSE/GCSE Mathematics.