



STANTONBURY
SCHOOL

Options for KS4
2024-2026
Information for Families

Contents

Page

Introduction	3
The Key Stage 4 Curriculum	4
Points for students to consider	6
Timeline: What happens when?	7
Core Subject Information	8- 14
Optional Subject Information	15-41
SIMS Options Online	42-43

Introduction

In September 2024 your son/daughter will be embarking on their Key Stage 4 courses leading to GCSE and vocational qualifications. In Year 10 all students will study a compulsory Core Curriculum of:

- ✓ English Language and English Literature
- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Science (Double award)
- ✓ Physical Education (non-examined)
- ✓ PSHCE (non-examined)

Outside the Core Curriculum, we believe it is important that they continue to study a broad and balanced range of courses as this will give them access to a greater range of careers and subjects post - 16. Students will be able to follow a further three optional courses in addition to the Core Curriculum.

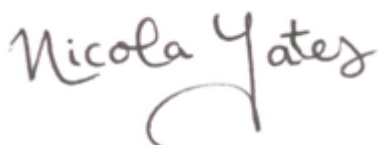
At Stantonbury School we believe that the key to success will be ensuring that students undertake courses which are right for them. To provide fully for all our students we offer a range of academic (GCSE) and vocational (BTEC) courses. All the qualifications that we offer are Level 2 qualifications.

In addition, to help inform their decision making, the DfE have stated that students who secure good GCSE passes in English, mathematics, double science, a modern foreign language, and a humanities subject (history or geography) will achieve the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). A good pass is defined as grade 5 or above.

Completion of the EBacc is **not** part of the entry requirements for 6th Form, however there are positive messages coming out of Higher Education institutions about the subjects included in the EBacc as facilitating subjects for entry to university and therefore this may be a significant factor in their decision making. The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open lots of doors.

Courses will be available from September 2024, but can be dependent upon sufficient demand, a specialist teacher, and provision. If students choose a course which must be cancelled, we will offer alternatives. Where courses are over-subscribed, or staff feel a student may benefit from a different route at Key Stage 4, they may have to accept another choice, however we aim to satisfy as many students as possible.

This booklet has been compiled to help you understand more about the courses on offer. Making your choices is important and you should make the most of the opportunities available to you in the next few weeks to ensure you make the right decision.



Nicola Yates
SLT Lead



Hadiya Morris
Head of Year 9

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

At Stantonbury, all students, regardless of background, prior attainment, SEN or EAL need will experience all of the '**Stantonbury 5 Entitlements**' throughout their school journey.

The **Stantonbury 5 Entitlements** ensure that all students study a broad and balanced range of courses. Our Core Curriculum ensures full coverage of the **Stantonbury 5 Entitlements**:

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)
- Arts
- Physical Wellbeing
- Global Citizenship
- Skills for Life

We encourage all students to pick their Option choices from a range of **Stantonbury Entitlements**, rather than specialise in one area.

	The Stantonbury 5 Entitlements				
	STEM	Arts	Physical Wellbeing	Global Citizenship	Skills for Life
Core Compulsory choices	GCSE Maths GCSE Combined (Science or Triple)	GCSE English Language GCSE English Literature	Core PE (non-examined)	Core PSHCE (non-examined)	Core PSHCE (non-examined)
Priority Ebacc Option choices	Computer Science			History Geography French Mandarin Spanish	
Open Optional choices	Design Technology Computer Science	Dance* Art Drama Media Studies Music	Dance* GCSE PE Sport Studies*	History Geography Citizenship RE Sociology Travel and Tourism*	Food and Nutrition Child Development* Business Studies Citizenship

* Courses marked with an asterisk are vocational and BTEC qualifications. Please refer to the Subject Information Pages for further information.

We intend to run Sport Studies/GCSE PE as both a Technical Award and GCSE qualification as they suit different types of learners. If you would like to take one of these courses, read the information carefully so you understand the differences between these courses. You cannot select both the Sport Studies Technical Award and the PE GCSE course, as these qualifications discount each other.

Within the field of Art, we allow students to refine their artistic skills under the umbrella of 3 specialisms (fine art, textiles and 3d design). As students experiment with their artwork, their art teacher will work with them to refine their skills, before embarking upon their major art project with one specialism.

Due to the demands of the Computer Science GCSE, students will have to meet minimum entry criteria to select this option. This information can be found on the Computer Science information page.

You will find detailed information about all the courses later in this booklet.

Some key things to remember:

Each student should be **realistic** about matching their combination of subjects to their ability and should guard against either overrating or underrating themselves.

When picking options, a **broad range** of subjects is advisable to achieve a balance between arts, science, humanities, practical, aesthetic, and physical subjects.

Options **need to be kept open** for choices at 16+ and 18+. You are not just choosing subjects for the next two years. If you are looking ahead to higher education, it would be sensible to think about possible 'A' level subjects. Some subjects can more readily be taken up fresh at 'A' level whilst others are better taken at GCSE first.

The requirements for any possible **career** or course of further or higher education must be kept in mind. If you have a career in mind, you should research it in advance.

Adults are there to help, but ultimately students need to be making **their own informed choices**. It is essential that students make these choices based upon good information. Ill-informed choices are often regretted and forced choices are often resented.

Points for Students to Consider

We encourage students to reflect on these key questions to help them reach their decisions:

- Which subjects do I enjoy?
- Which subjects am I best at?
- What subjects will help my careers choice?
- Why am I making this choice?
- What do I really know about the course?
- How much coursework is involved in this course?
- What combination of subjects will give me greatest flexibility later?

You should think carefully before coming to any decision. You should read the whole booklet as you need to know what to expect from each subject you take and what is expected of you.

You are eligible to gain the "EBacc" - if you achieve 9-5 passes in *English, Maths, 2 Sciences, History or Geography and a language*.

The Priority Choice Option (Pick one subject)

You will be asked to make a single choice from the Priority Option subjects (History, Geography, MFL or Computer Science). You will only be able to continue with the MFL that you have studied in years 7, 8 and 9. Please note that language options are only available in the Priority Option, so students who wish to continue learning French/Spanish/Mandarin must pick this as their choice here, but they can still pick History and/or Geography in the Open choices option to achieve the EBacc.

We offer Computer Science as a GCSE choice, but there are strict entry criteria which must be proven to apply for this course. Please see the subject information page guide for further guidance.

The Open Choices (Pick two subjects and two reserves)

Having made your choice from the Priority Options, we then ask you to select your top 4 preferences from the remaining option choices. Students who would like to achieve the EBacc will need to pick the additional EBacc subject from the Open choice selection.

Please make sure you follow the instructions and check you have put your Open options choices in the correct order. We aim to meet your top two preferences, but you could end up with your reserve choices.

Triple Science does **not** count as one of the student's option choices. It is an additional subject leading to a ninth qualification. Students will be recruited to join Triple Science if Miss Shaffi (Head of Faculty for Science) has confirmed students have reached the required standard in Science. Students must demonstrate sustained ability and aptitude in science to secure a place in our Triple Science class. Students who take Triple Sciences will do a sixth science lesson each week, in place of a core PE lesson.

Timeline: What happens when?

What	Who	Deadline
<p>School Cloud Booking System opens</p> <p>By this time, we hope that you have had the chance to review the latest report with your child and take the opportunity to book appointments with subject teachers.</p>	Families	Monday 29 January
<p>Options Fair</p> <p>We invite all students and families into school to meet with subject teachers for all Key Stage 4 courses. This is a great chance to talk to staff about the courses on offer and find out whether they will suit you.</p> <p>Please join our Presentation in the theatre, where all students will receive a hard copy of the Options booklet, and a review of the process.</p>	Ms Yates SLT Lead	Thursday 01 February
<p>Trial Lessons</p> <p>We will be offering students the chance to attend "trial lessons" in subjects which they do not currently study. Students will be asked to nominate up to 2 subjects to join. Trial lessons will be timetabled for the week beginning Monday 12th February.</p>	Students	Wednesday 07 February
<p>Year 9 Parent's Evening</p> <p>Parents have the opportunity to discuss their individual child's progress with their current subject teachers</p>	Families	Thursday 29 February
<p>SIMS Options Online goes live</p> <p>Parents use their SIMS login to log into their account and review the option choices with their child. These can be amended as many times as you require, up to the deadline.</p>	Ms Yates SLT Lead	Friday 1 March
<p>Deadline for submitting Options Choices</p> <p>We must have all choices submitted by 15.15 on Wednesday 13th March. The system will be locked at this time.</p> <p>If you do not submit your choices by this time, then your child risks not securing their preferred choices for GCSE.</p>	Families	Wednesday 13 March 15:15
<p>Individual Student Appointments with SLT</p> <p>All year 9 students will meet with a member of SLT to confirm their option choices. If your child's chosen course is not running, they will be offered alternatives at this time.</p>	SLT	Wednesday 22 March

In addition, during the options process the year 9 tutor team, including Ms Morris and Ms Alexander will be available to answer questions, and support students making their choices. During the week of Monday 4th March, tutors will be regularly in touch to check that students are on track to meet the deadline on Wednesday 13th March. If families are unable to access the Options Online system, we will be able to submit choices on the students behalf.

After the 13th March, no further choices can be made as the timetable work will begin to find a solution that meets the requirements of the most students. We will confirm the student's confirmed courses in the summer term.

We cannot guarantee that changes requested after this process can be accommodated, and therefore we would encourage all students to take their time to make the right choices now.



STANTONBURY SCHOOL

Core Subjects 2024-2026

Subjects	Page
English Language	09
English Literature	10
Maths	11
Double Science	12
PSHCE (non-examined)	13
PE (non-examined)	14

English Language

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	Edexcel English Language 2.0
Subject Leader:	Ms Szladicsek
Contact details:	Kathryn.szladicsek@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The study of English Language is the exploration of how writers' viewpoints and perspectives are shaped through their language and structural choices. You will develop your understanding of how to use the written and spoken word to achieve particular effects and to encourage your reader to think in particular ways. It's all about how we communicate and develop meaning in what we say. We will support your exploration of a variety of different text types, both fiction and non-fiction and build on your skills in your own writing allowing you to communicate in a purposeful and effective way.

Assessment

At the end of Year 11 you sit two exams to formulate your grade. One paper is titled 'Non-Fiction Texts' and the second explores 'Contemporary Texts' and each is worth 50% of the final grade. Within the course of the two years, you will also complete a Spoken Language assessment which you will be awarded a separate Pass/Merit/Distinction for and involves you creating a presentation on a topic of your choice.

Would it suit me?

This GCSE enables students to develop their own creative writing, as well as formulating opinions on a range of different topics so they can argue their viewpoint effectively. It also exposes students to a range of texts, that they might not typically choose to read.

Future Careers:

Studying English Language supports your preparation for most careers. The ability to communicate purposefully and effectively is something that most professions need and it's an important life skill. It is also very effective in developing transferable skills such as interpretive abilities, an understanding of how language works, close analysis, and the ability to construct a well-argued case. These are highly valued in a range of graduate careers such as Teaching, Business and Finance, Journalism, Publishing - even Politics.

English Literature

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8702
Subject Leader:	Ms Szladicsek
Contact details:	Kathryn.szladicsek@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

English Literature is the study of written texts, including prose, plays and poetry, from across the world and across different time contexts. The study of English Literature focuses on analysis, debate and critical evaluation of the effects and intentions developed by writers. We study a range of texts covering current issues and themes that are relevant to the young people we teach. World renowned writers such as Shakespeare, Charles Dickens and J.B. Priestley form the main part of our study along with a broad range of poetry. Through English Literature you are able to broaden your understanding of the world and a wide range of cultural and intellectual traditions. The texts that students will study for English Literature are: An Inspector Calls, A Christmas Carol, Macbeth and poetry around the themes of power and conflict.

Assessment

At the end of Year 11 you sit two exams to form your final grade. The first paper focuses on Shakespeare and a pre-1900 text and the second explores modern texts and poetry. You will develop essay writing skills in building up to these exams and understand how to present an interpretation effectively.

Would it suit me?

This GCSE enables students to read a range of different texts, from different eras. It provides opportunities to debate the themes and ideas within the text and to consider their relevance to the world today, as well as exploring the context of when the text was written.

Future Careers:

The study of English Literature supports success in many different careers and industries; to understand the written word is to be able to communicate effectively. Some specific careers related to English Literature are Media and journalism, publishing, teaching and academic careers, advertising and marketing, careers in law, editing and proof-reading.

Mathematics

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	Pearson Edexcel 1MA1 and OCR
Subject Leader:	Mr Francis Mensah (Head of Maths)
Contact details:	Francis.Mensah@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Mathematics is the music of reason (**James Joseph Sylvester, English mathematician**)

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and Rates of Change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

Assessment

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher (content is defined for each tier).

Each student is permitted to take assessments in either the Foundation tier or Higher tier.

The qualification consists of three equally weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier. Each examination is taken over a 90 mins period. The assessment consists of 1 non-calculator and 2 calculator papers for each tier.

Future Careers:

Mathematics is applicable to nearly every industry today, from science and technology to business, retail, healthcare, and more. Professionals with advanced degrees in math are highly desirable for their mastery of certain skills—particularly for their critical thinking and problem-solving expertise. Some careers in mathematics include: Acoustic consultant, Actuarial analyst, Actuary, Astronomer, Chartered accountant, Chartered certified accountant, Data analyst, Data scientist, Investment analyst, Research scientist (mathematics), Secondary school teacher, Software engineer, Sound engineer, Statistician, CAD technician, Civil Service fast streamer, Financial manager, Financial trader, Game designer, Insurance underwriter, Machine learning engineer, Meteorologist, Operational researcher, Private tutor, Quantity surveyor, Radiation protection practitioner and Software tester

There is a demand for mathematicians and statisticians across a range of sectors. Mathematicians work in the petroleum and nuclear industries, medicine and health, IT, business consultancy and operational research, space science and astronomy, as well as many forms of engineering and different government departments. Typical employers include: the NHS, local and central government, educational establishments, the pharmaceutical industry, IT companies, engineering companies, insurance companies, market research and marketing companies, finance, banking, and accountancy firms.

Double Science

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8464
Subject Leader:	Miss Shaffi
Contact details:	Zarina.shaffi@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The AQA combined science trilogy is a Linear course allows students to develop knowledge of all three sciences, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students get the opportunity to develop a broad and deep understanding of the world around them and how it works. Below is a list of the core topic areas covered.

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell Biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation	The rate and extent of chemical change	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Forces
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Waves
Inheritance, variation and evolution	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Magnetism and electromagnets
	Chemical analysis	
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using resources	

Assessment

Students write a total of 6 exam papers at the end of the course in Year 11. There are 2 papers for biology, 2 for Chemistry and 2 for physics. Each paper will test the students' knowledge of distinct topics. Students are awarded two grades for the GCSE Science.

Would it suit me?

This would suit all students of all abilities and interests. If you like to do practical work, think independently and draw your own conclusions then combined science is the course for you.

Future Careers:

Engineering, Sports, Education, Health care services, Mechanics, Music and the arts.

PSHCE

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Skills for Life
Qualification type:	Non-examined
Exam board and specification:	N/A
Subject Leader:	Miss L Canning
Contact details:	lorellie.canning@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

PSHCE stands for Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education. In KS4 we mainly focus on the RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) and RE (Religious Education) elements of this compulsory subject. As of 2020 PSHCE (RSE) became compulsory for all students at primary and secondary to be taught. Our curriculum reflects the government curriculum.

Assessment

There are no examinations in this subject. Students will complete self and peer assessment tasks throughout KS4.

Would it suit me?

The subject teaches life skills. You will look at key topics and consider your own values and how you wish to develop as an adult. It looks at Parenthood for example and you will learn the process of how someone can become pregnant and follow the cycle through to birth and what you do with a child and how you care for it (including the financial implications).

Future Careers:

Social Care, Health, Education, Family Planning, etc

Core PE

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Physical Wellbeing
Qualification type:	Non-examined
Exam board and specification:	N/A
Subject Leader:	Mr Anthony Lee
Contact details:	Anthony.Lee@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

In key stage 4 core PE we aim to prepare students for life after school, so that our pupils will be physically and mentally capable to compete and succeed within their chosen field. We will teach pupils the benefits of teamwork, enthusiasm and self care as well as emotional literacy, wellness and optimism. Through a practical setting.

Pupils will be taught a range of sports and will take a leading role in coaching their peers and will experience life as a valued member of a team.

Assessment

There are no examinations in this subject.

How will this help me?

Our KS4 curriculum will be an opportunity to relieve stress and strengthen your emotional literacy. It will allow you to take control of your learning whilst improving your physical fitness and social wellbeing. You will demonstrate leadership skills and know what it's like to work in a functioning team. You will learn new skills, not only in sport but also in interaction and resilience.

Your teachers will work with you and the rest of your class to pick engaging lessons and sports to teach all whilst helping you prepare for your future.



STANTONBURY SCHOOL

Optional Subjects 2023-2025

Art, Craft and Design	16	Mandarin	29
Business Studies	17	Media Studies	30
Child Development*	18	Music	31
Citizenship Studies	19	Physical Education	32
Computer Science	20	Photography	33
Dance*	21	Religious Studies	34
Design Technology	22	Sociology	35
Drama	23	Spanish	36
Food and Nutrition	24	Sport Studies*	37
French	25	Travel and Tourism *	38
Geography	26	Triple Science	39
History	28		

* Courses marked with an asterisk are vocational and BTEC qualifications.

Art, Craft and Design

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	EDUQAS C650QS
Subject Leader:	Nicola Hodgson
Contact details:	nicola.hodgson@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

This course will lead on from the work you have done in year 9. You will explore a wide range of arts materials and techniques and will get the opportunity to focus on developing your own style and skill in drawing, painting, graphics, textiles, and three-dimensional work. You will be given themes and materials to focus on, but the course is designed to be highly personal and for you to take your own direction.

There are no limits to where your creativity can take you in this course and we are highly trained in all art forms to support you achieve your goals.

Assessment

The benefit of this course is that it is entirely assessed on the work set in school, there are no written exams.

From day one in year 10 you will be producing work which will be assessed towards your final grade. You will work on several themes over the course and the combination of the best work from these will form a portfolio of work which will be assessed as a non-examined assessment. This equates to 60% of your final GCSE grade.

In Year 11 you will then have a theme to choose, set by the exam board, and have just over 6 weeks to complete experiments and tests before producing a personal response to the theme set. This forms your practical exam and is the final 40% of your GCSE grade.

Would it suit me?

This course would suit anyone who enjoys making and creating. If you have enjoyed the artwork set in Year 9 you will love this course. This course would complement those who are opting for performing arts or design courses, it equally supports those who are looking for a creative outlet to go alongside their other academic courses.

You will be expected to take the projects in personal directions, and we would like you to bring your own interests into lessons to choose the direction your work goes in.

Future Careers:

The arts can be a passion and a career. The creative thinking, presentation and communication skills will support your personal development and future career choices.

Students who have studied the visual arts have gone on to work as architects, designers, stage and set designers. The careers in the arts industry are endless and one of the largest sectors in the UK economy.

Business Studies

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Skills for Life
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8132
Subject Leader:	Tyrone De Silva
Contact details:	Tyrone.DeSilva@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Business Studies is a subject that gives pupils the opportunity to develop a wide range of transferable skills. Pupils will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, analysing data and preparing for industry. They will not only gain business knowledge and understanding, but will gain the opportunity to put it into practice through a range of business activities and projects.

Assessment

GCSE Business is assessed by two end of Year 11 exams. Paper 1: Influences of Operations & HRM on Business. Paper 2: Influence of Marketing and Finance of Business activity. Each paper is worth 50% of your GCSE.

Would it suit me?

Assume no prior knowledge of business, but you will need to be outward thinking and resilient! Studying business we can develop these skills and establish those building blocks. You won't be disappointed. All we ask is for you to try your best and aim high always.

Students apply their knowledge and understanding to different business contexts ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts. Students develop an understanding of how these contexts impact on business behaviour. Students will apply their knowledge and understanding to business decision making including:

- the interdependent nature of business activity, influences on business, business operations, finance, marketing and human resources, and how these interdependencies underpin business decision making.
- how different business contexts affect business decisions.
- the use and limitation of quantitative and qualitative data in making business decisions.

Future Careers:

There are a wide range of careers available. Business studies is a well-respected qualification, developing transferable skills useful in a wealth of careers from human resource officers to risk managers. Additionally, studies suggest that over half of students who go to study A-Level business studies will own their own business within 10 years.

Child Development

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Skills for Life
Qualification type:	Cambridge National Technical Award
Exam board and specification:	OCR J809
Subject Leader:	Emma Smith and Charley Gravestock
Contact details:	Emma.Smith@Stantonbury-tove.org.uk Charley.Gravestock@Stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

This is for students who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in child development. It involves both theoretical and practical elements.

Unit R057: Health and well-being for child development- Students will learn about the importance of pre-conception health and reproduction, antenatal care and preparation for birth. They will also learn about postnatal care, postnatal checks, childhood illnesses and creating a child safe environment.

Unit R058: Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years- Students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices.

Unit R059: Understand the development of a child from one to five years- Students will gain knowledge of the physical, intellectual and social development norms of children and their stages of play from one to five years. Students shall also observe, plan and evaluate play activities for a child in their chosen area of development.

Assessment

Examination and non-examined assessment. One examination (R057) worth 40% and two non-examined assessment units (R058 and R059) totalling 60%. The exam is 1 hour and 15 minutes comprising of multiple choice, short, medium and extended response questions. The non-examined assessment involves students completing set tasks issued by OCR under controlled conditions in relation to the topics covered in R058 and R059 above.

Would it suit me?

Good English reading and writing skills and the ability to analyse case studies and written materials is important. Students will be required to continue assignment work outside of lesson time; therefore students should be self-motivated and organised.

Future Careers:

By following this course, you will be able to access further training within care services, e.g. nursery nursing, care assistants and working with children. Students may also progress onto advanced courses in subjects such as Health & Social Care or Children's Play, Learning and Development. Apprenticeships at Intermediate and Advanced level are also available in this sector.

Citizenship Studies

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship / Skills for Life
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8100
Subject Leader:	Miss Canning
Contact details:	Lorellie.Canning@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Citizenship is about the world around us. How it works and how we can be an active force for change. In the course you will learn new transferable skills through the Active Campaign element that can be applied in real situations and help you in your future career prospects.

Assessment

There are 2 examinations at the end of the GCSE course. Paper 1 (Political Participation and Active Citizenship) is all about the Active Campaign you choose to complete and what you achieved by doing it as well as how countries like the UK are run. Paper 2 (Life in Modern Britain and Rights and Responsibilities) is about what life is like in the UK, British Values and Traditions, Immigration and its impacts, democratic freedoms, Media and the regulation of it and how the UK relates to the rest of the world for trade, settling conflicts, humanitarian aid and working in partnership to develop countries (NATO, EU, UN, COMMONWEALTH etc). It also looks at the UK Legal system and how it works as well as what your rights and responsibilities are within it.

Would it suit me?

Citizenship students are enquirers, creative thinkers, and risk takers. They push the boundaries of their own knowledge and often feel comfortable talking with people in power (MPs/Local Councillors/Head Teacher) to make meaningful changes. If you would like to do a GCSE that combines practical application and theory this is the course for you.

Future Careers:

Citizenship covers a vast number of topics and thus gives you great career prospects with a grounding in Media, Law, International Organisations, Immigration, the Economy, Politics etc. This GCSE also complements the Edexcel A-Level Politics offered at Stantonbury and gives students a good grounding for such an A Level.

Computer Science

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	OCR J277
Subject Leader:	Ms J Dawkins
Contact details:	judy.dawkins@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

GCSE (9-1) Computer Science is relevant to the modern, changing world of computing, it is designed to boost essential computing skills for the 21st century. Computational thinking as its core, helping students to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand human and machine intelligence, applying the academic principles, they learn in the classroom to real-world systems in an exciting and engaging way.

Students will understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation. They will analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs. They will think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically, understanding the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another. Students will also understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society and apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

Assessment

Computer Science is assessed through two written examinations. Each exam is worth 50%. Practical programming is a core skill which continues to be a focal point of the GCSE course. Students are required to develop programming skills as part of the GCSE. These skills reinforce and support access to the content in the GCSE written examinations.

Would it suit me?

Learning is delivered through a creative blend of practical and theoretical lessons. Students are given the opportunity to design, write, test and refine programs using a text-based high-level programming language. If you are a logical thinker, who has an aptitude for solving mathematical problems this could be the course for you. This course is a selective option and you will only be able to select this subject if you meet the additional entry criteria:

- You must be working at minimum of "On target" in Computer Science, and in both Maths and English in your year 9 report.

Future Careers:

Computer science can lead to lucrative careers in many different fields including software engineering, website development, programming and information security. With skills ranging from programming languages to report writing, the skills you will learn in this degree can be applied to many job roles, including, Database administrator, Software developer, Computer hardware engineer, Computer systems analyst, Computer network architect, Website developer and Information security analyst.

Dance

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts / Physical Wellbeing
Qualification type:	BTEC Technical Award
Exam board and specification:	Pearson - Technical Award in Dance Level 1/2
Subject Leader:	Kelly Cirket
Contact details:	Kelly.Cirket@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

All 3 strands of performance, composition and appreciation have been introduced to students at Key Stage 3. During Key Stage 4 they are developed and build in complexity.

- **Performing:** Students will develop their own personal performance through improving physical, technical and expressive skills. Students will perform a choreographed group piece as well as a group repertoire performance work.
- **Composing:** Students will learn how to choreograph and create their own dances. Students will work on producing creative and original movement material.
- **Appreciating:** Students will learn how to describe, interpret and evaluate both their own and professional dance work. Students will study a number of professional works in a range of dance styles such as Contemporary, Hip Hop and Cultural dance.

During the Dance course students will take part in a number of performances at Stantonbury School and other theatres around the country. Although there is some written work (understanding professional repertoire, choreographic process, evaluations etc) the majority of the course is performance-based work. This means that students will be expected to attend rehearsals, and performances.

Assessment

The course is coursework based and students will study three units. The coursework will be in the form of assignments that are set by the exam board and will use practical skills students will develop from across the course. Some parts of the assignments will need to be completed under exam conditions.

Would it suit me?

The Dance course is suitable for students who have an interest or passion for Dance. Dance is a fresh and vibrant course which includes popular performance and choreography, alongside a diverse and accessible professional works to engage and inspire students.

Future Careers:

There are many possible careers within the Dance industry that this course can prepare students for. The list below is not exhaustive but provides a few examples of possible job roles: Performer, choreographer, teacher, dance journalist, dance movement therapist, dance film maker, dance project coordinator, dance press and public relations officer, costume/set designer and dance photographer.

Design & Technology

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8552
Subject Leader:	Mr O'Malley
Contact details:	Sean.Omalley@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Our GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques, and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Assessment

The GCSE Design and Technology specification sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to undertake the iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating. Much of the specification will be delivered through the practical application of this knowledge and understanding. Topics and themes have been grouped to help teach the specification. There is one exam (2 hours) at the end of year 11, and an NEA project (non-exam assessment). Each is worth 50% of the final grade.

In the spirit of the iterative design process, the above should be awarded holistically where they take place and not in a linear manner. You will produce a prototype and a portfolio of evidence.

Would it suit me?

This course would suit anyone who enjoys making and creating. If you have enjoyed the design work set in year 9 you will love this course.

This course would complement those who are opting for arts and design courses, it equally supports those who are looking for a creative outlet to go alongside their other academic choices.

Future Careers:

GCSE Design & Technology will inspire and bring out the best in all students, whilst equipping them with the skills to continue the subject with confidence at AS, A-level and beyond.

Leading to potential careers within design, engineering, and the creative industries. This can be anything from product design to architecture as well as the use of digital media in the design and development of solutions.

Drama

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	Edexcel 1DR0
Subject Leader:	James Anderson
Contact details:	James.Anderson@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The Arts are crucial to everyone's lives especially in the current climate where most of us are making the most of streaming sites such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, reading books and plays etc to escape reality. GCSE Drama could be one of the first stepping-stones for anyone who would like to explore the art form in more detail or to pursue a dream of being on stage or television.

GCSE Drama is broken down into 3 main components of study, each one aimed to expand and explore different aspects of Drama.

1. Component 1 is a Devising Unit, similar in style to the one covered in Year 9. You will be given a Stimulus (source of inspiration) to work from and from there, you are able to do whatever **you** want with the story! There is also a section of this Unit which looks at different styles of performance through the various practitioners throughout the years including (but not limited to) Brecht, Stanislavski, and Frantic Assembly.
2. Component 2 is a text-based Unit which focuses on the actor using 2 extracts from known scripts and applying their acting skills to it. This unit follows on from many aspects of KS3 performance and challenges the actor to perform as though they were a professional actor.
3. Component 3 is a Unit that tasks you with 2 parts. The first is to study a play in full, exploring its themes, understanding the characters and getting to grips with the story as a whole. The second part is to watch a piece of live theatre to experience professional theatre. Looking at lighting, sound, staging, costuming, directing and acting.

Assessment:

Each of the above components of the course are assessed, Component 1 will have you perform your devised piece in our Theatre and then write a portfolio about your experiences and devising process. Component 2 will also be performed in our theatre with an external examiner coming to watch your performances. Component 3 is a written exam at the end of the course.

Would it suit me?

The Drama course is suitable for students who have an interest or passion for Drama or performance. Drama is a subject where you can stretch your creative muscles and build skills such as: collaboration/teamwork, public speaking, self-discipline, cultural appreciation, time management alongside many more.

Future Careers:

There are many possible careers within the Drama industry that this course can prepare students for. The list below is not exhaustive but provides a few examples of possible job roles: Performer, director, teacher, theatre journalist, film maker, stage manager, costume/set designer.

Food & Nutrition

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Skills for Life
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8585
Subject Leader:	Sean O'Malley
Contact details:	Sean.Omalley@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The new Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE will help you to develop a greater understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. You will also learn about food from around the world, through the study of British and international culinary traditions as well as developing an understanding of where food comes from (food provenance) and the challenges surrounding food security. You will master culinary skills and appreciate the science behind food and cooking.

Assessment

There will be one exam for this qualification, which will assess your knowledge of the theory behind food preparation and nutrition. The exam will be 1 hour 45 minutes long. 50% of the GCSE. The second part of the assessment will be non-examination assessment and will consist of two tasks, involving practical work. 50% of the GCSE.

Task 1: Students will carry out an investigation into the scientific principles that underpin the preparation and cooking of food. This task will provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and practically apply your understanding of the science behind cooking. You will practically investigate ingredients and explain how they work and why.

Task 2: Students will plan, prepare, cook, and present a 3-course menu. This task will provide you with an opportunity to cook up a storm and showcase your creativity and cooking skills.

Would it suit me?

The skills you develop through the study of food preparation and nutrition will support your study of a wide range of other subjects and can be studied in combination with any other GCSE course. In terms of subject knowledge, the nutrition and health may particularly complement the study of biology and physical education. Food preparation and nutrition also helps you to learn how to work independently and manage your time - skills valued by both higher education institutions and employers alike.

Future Careers:

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition will equip you to go on to further study. After taking this course, you could embark on AS or A-level study, begin an apprenticeship or perhaps begin employment in the catering or food industries.

French

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8652
Subject Leader:	Ms Underwood
Contact details:	Sandra.Underwood@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

With developments in communication systems and transport making the world seem ever smaller, the ability to function in a second European language for both leisure and work is becoming ever more important.

The French GCSE course covers up to date topics, including

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

'People and lifestyle' covers the following three subtopics: Identity and relationships with others; healthy living and lifestyle; education and work. Popular culture covers the following three subtopics; free-time activities; customs, festivals and celebrations and celebrity culture. 'Communication and the world around us' covers the following subtopics; travel and tourism, including places of interest; media and technology; the environment and where people live.

By studying GCSE French, students will not only be able to communicate and share their ideas with French-speaking people, but also enhance their cultural knowledge and add an international dimension to their choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for.

Assessment

Assessment is set in the context of the three themes. There are 4 exams which are taken at the end of Year 11, one in each skill area listening, speaking, reading and writing. Each exam is worth 25% of the total grade. The speaking exam is a one-to-one exam assessment with the class teacher.

Would it suit me?

The study of a language requires a degree of resilience and perseverance! You will need to be open minded and ready to participate in lessons, which may take you out of your comfort zone. Risk takers are particularly welcomed!

Future Careers:

The study of French is a skill that you can use in both your personal life and future career. It can be combined with any other subject to give you an international edge in the working world. Common combinations include French with Journalism, Politics, History, Business in fact almost anything!

Careers that you might consider as a French specialist include teacher, translator, copywriter or any other career in a French speaking country.

Of course, many students chose to study French simply because it is useful when on holiday!

Geography

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	Edexcel GCSE Geography B
Subject Leader:	Ms Eisa
Contact details:	Natalie.Eisa@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Geography is about the world around us, how it works and what makes it special and unique. In the course you will learn new transferable skills that can be applied in real situations and help you in your future career prospects. These include writing at length, maths and science application, and use of ICT such as GIS (Geographical Information Systems).

Assessment

There are 3 examinations at the end of the GCSE course:

Paper 1 - Global Geographical Issues (Hazardous Earth, Development Dynamics, Urbanising World)

Paper 2 - UK Geographical Issues (Rivers, Coasts, Urban Environment, Fieldwork)

Paper 3 - People and the Environment (Resource Management, Forests Under Threat, Decision Making)

Would it suit me?

Geographers are enquirers and critical thinkers. Research plays a big part in geographical study and fieldwork skills are essential. In addition to this you should be able to

- write at length, answering essay style questions.
- remember facts and figures so that you can apply case study knowledge throughout your exams.
- be able to apply maths and science knowledge throughout.
- be able to work independently as well as in groups - you will regularly need to access the independent study materials such as Seneca.
- approach the course sensibly - for example, you will need to be trusted to conduct fieldwork in an unfamiliar environment.

Future Careers:

Geography helps students to understand the world around them and think about how they can impact the future of the planet.

Geographers are amongst the most employable of all university graduates, as can be seen in numerous Guardian league tables. Geographers enter finance, business, or the sciences, as well as careers such as working for charities or town planning. Geographers are at the forefront of climate studies and environmental protection. Other possible career routes include the travel and tourism industry, economics, journalism, and architecture. At a time when numerous companies are looking at their carbon footprint and sustainability, we are a valuable resource. A good grade in GCSE Geography shows you have sound analytical skills, which are highly respected by employers and universities.

History

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	Pearson Edexcel 1HI0
Subject Leader:	Wayne Mernagh
Contact details:	Wayne.Mernagh@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

This course will build on the skills you have developed throughout KS3. It covers a wide range of topics that will ensure you are engaged in your learning, and you further develop your historical skills and understanding of the complexity of the factors that shape modern society. The course will offer you opportunities to explore different themes and concepts while promoting your knowledge of British and world history. The aim of the course is to help you become an independent learner and a critical and reflective thinker.

Assessment

The course will be assessed at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 makes up 30% of the course, Paper 2 40% of the course, and Paper 3 30% of the course respectively. Each paper comprises of a variety of questions, from single mark questions to essay writing.

Throughout your two-year studies, you will practise exam questions to master the exam technique and be able to access primary/secondary sources and interpretations effectively. Your lessons will also include tasks of retrieval nature to help you consolidate your learning. At the end of each module, you will also have a summative assessment to assess your skills and knowledge, in preparation for the GCSE exams at the end of KS4.

Would it suit me?

This course would complement student interested in history, civil and political rights, activism, and politics. It is also suitable for students who are interested in exploring the changing nature of society and drawing substantiated conclusions based on personal research and enquiry. The course will help you become an advocate for change offering you the conceptual foundation necessary to reach informed decisions. You will also be expected to bring in your own experience and opinions and engage in respectful conversations that might challenge your viewpoints.

Future Careers:

Your passion for history can lead you into a successful career. Studying history offers the springboard for personal development through the development of cognitive, communication and transferable skills.

Students who have studied history have gone on to have success in a wide range of careers including becoming a history teacher, a researcher, an archivist, a political advisor and many more. If you are an aspiring individual, this course will give you the confidence, knowledge and skills to embark on a rewarding learning journey.

Mandarin

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8673
Subject Leader:	Ms Underwood
Contact details:	Sandra.Underwood@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Languages for the future report by British Council has identified Mandarin Chinese as the second priority language among the ten most important languages for the UK's future. Learning Mandarin Chinese provides young people with an understanding of a unique culture as well as the feeling of empowerment to be able to explore opportunities beyond Europe and English-speaking countries.

The Mandarin Chinese GCSE course covers up to date topics, including 'Identity and culture' (sub-topics: relationships, technology, free-time activities, festivals in Chinese-speaking countries,) 'Local, national and international and global areas of interest' (sub-topics: your town, voluntary work, the environment, travel,) and 'Current and future study and employment' (sub-topics: studies, life at school, jobs.)

By studying GCSE Mandarin Chinese, students will not only be able to communicate and share their ideas with Mandarin-speaking people, but also enhance their cultural knowledge and add a wide international dimension to their choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for.

Assessment

There are 4 exams which are taken at the end of Year 11, one in each skill area -listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Each exam is worth 25% of the total grade. The speaking exam is a one-to-one exam assessment with the class teacher.

Would it suit me?

The study of a language requires a degree of resilience and perseverance! You will need to be open minded and ready to participate in lessons, which may take you out of your comfort zone. Risk takers are particularly welcomed!

Future Careers:

The study of Mandarin Chinese is a skill that you can use in both your personal life and future career. It can be combined with any other subject to give you a wide international edge in the working world. Common combinations include Mandarin with Journalism, Politics, History, Business in fact almost anything!

Careers that you might consider as a Mandarin specialist include teacher, translator, professor, businessman or any other career related to a Chinese speaking area.

Of course, many students chose to study Mandarin simply because it is different to other European languages and their unique culture!

Media Studies

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8572
Subject Leader:	Mrs Ridley
Contact details:	Amy.Ridley@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

GCSE Media is an exciting course that looks at a variety of different sources within Media ranging from print design work to film and TV, to gaming and music videos. During this course students will gain a solid understanding of Media Language, Media representation, Media industries, and Media audiences. Over the course of the GCSE you will develop your theoretical understanding of media, including how to analyse texts to explain how they communicate meaning to the audience. You will also practically apply your understanding of the theoretical framework to a broad range of production tasks in preparation for your NEA coursework. You will complete production tasks such as print based advertising using Photoshop, produce test sequences for TV dramas and films, produce extracts for music videos, create vlogging websites, and much more.

Assessment

There are 2 written exams which are taken at the end of Year 11 - Media One and Media Two and they will be based on the Close Study Products covered across the course. The two exams make up 70% of the grade for the GCSE. In addition to the written exams there is a practical NEA coursework task which is launched in the summer term of Year 10 and is worth 30% of the overall GCSE grade.

Would it suit me?

Students wanting to take the course should have a passion for Media and its various forms such as online, print and film. Students must be creative and think outside the box. Students should be self-motivated to explore relative media products in relation to the CSPs they are studying to provide themselves with a wider understanding of the context each CSP was created in. Students should also be willing to try out creative tasks such as filming, exploring camera angles, film editing, the use of Photoshop to design and create their own media print and much more.

Future Careers:

The course can lead to many opportunities, such as students entering higher education to complete undergraduate and postgraduate courses at university. Many of our students go onto study Media related courses at university including some going to RADA and the BFI Film Academy, both prestigious courses for postgraduate students looking to study film at a higher level. This could lead to careers such as television broadcasting, journalism and web designer, and much more.

Music

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	Eduqas 601/8131/X
Subject Leader:	Mr A Cormican
Contact details:	Andrew.Cormican@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Over the last two years, Music has become more important in our lives than ever, as we have all tried to cope with the privations of the global pandemic. Everyone listens to music and relies on this art form to comfort and console us, lift us up and soundtrack the important events in our lives.

GCSE Music is an exciting course that looks in detail at music in its infinite variety. Over the course you will develop as both a solo and ensemble performer, refine your ability to compose original music, and study music from the Western Classical tradition, stage and screen, popular genres, and traditional cultures from around the world.

Assessment

Performing (30%): Two performances (one solo, one ensemble)

Composing (30%): Two original compositions

Listening (40%): A written listening examination covering the topics studied in years 10 & 11.

All assessment take place at the end of Year 11

Would it suit me?

This course would suit anyone who is interested in music and has enjoyed the subject at Key Stage 3. It is particularly suitable for students who are learning to play a specific musical instrument and enjoy performing both as a soloist and as part of a group, as well as students who enjoy creating their own music.

Future Careers:

The opportunities presented by studying this course are infinite. In the past, students have gone on to study music at university, as well as become theatrical actors and singers. Students have also gone on to work in the film and television industry as composers, directors, and even presenters. Others have gone on to success as performers in bands and as soloists.

PE GCSE

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Physical Wellbeing
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	OCR J587
Subject Leader:	Mr Lee, Ms Smith
Contact details:	Anthony.Lee@stantonbury-tove.org.uk Emma.Smith@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Please remember that if you pick this course, you cannot pick Sport Studies Technical Award

Introduction to the course

GCSE PE is based on the theory of sport and fitness. The course is predominantly theoretical. However, you will need a keen interest in team sports and individual sports. We will cover anatomy and physiology, Movement Analysis, Physical Training, Sports Psychology, Socio-cultural Influences, Health, Fitness and Wellbeing

Assessment

Paper 1 - Physical factors affecting performance: Students explore how parts of the human body function during physical activity and the physiological adaptations that can occur due to diet and training. They also develop skills in data analysis, and an understanding of the principles of training, why we train in different ways and how training plans can be made to optimise results.

Paper 2 - Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology: Students develop their knowledge of the social-cultural and psychological influences on levels of participation in sport, and also how sport impacts on society. This includes the individual benefits to health, fitness and well-being of participating in physical activity, as well as the influences of commercialisation, sponsorship and the media.

Practical Performances (Non exam assessment): Students are assessed in performing three practical activities and one performance analysis task. In the practical performance, they demonstrate effective performance, the use of tactics or techniques and the ability to observe the rules and conventions under applied conditions.

Analysis and Evaluation of performance (AEP): Students must demonstrate their ability to analyse and evaluate their own or a peer's practical performance to produce an action plan for improvement.

Would it Suit Me?

- The study of a physical education will require interests in team sports and individual sports, as a player/performer or official.
- You will enjoy your favourite sports and be introduced to a variety of different sports, which will enable you to improve your own performance.
- 60% of course is theory based and you will need an interest in learning about the human body, anatomy, and its movements, as well as sports psychology.

Future Careers:

Athlete, Events Manager, Health Trainer, Leisure Centre Manager, Outdoor Activities Instructor, PE Teacher, Personal Trainer, Physiotherapist, Primary School Teacher, Sport and Exercise Psychologists, Sports Agent, Sports Coach, Sports Commentator, Sports Professional, Sports Scientist.

Photography

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Arts
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	EDUQAS C656QS
Subject Leader:	Nicola Hodgson
Contact details:	nicola.hodgson@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

This course will lead on from the artwork you have done in year 9. You will explore a wide range of arts materials and techniques and will get the opportunity to focus on developing new skills in photography. You will be given themes to explore using studio lighting and digital editing alongside other art skills. The course encourages you to find personal directions for you to produce your work. We have a dedicated computer suite, photographic studio, and a wide range of arts materials for you to learn how to tell your stories and document and discover what you find interesting.

Assessment

The benefit of this course is that it is entirely assessed on the work set in school, there are no written exams. From day one in year 10 you will be producing work which will be assessed towards your final grade. You will work on several themes over the course and the combination of the best work from these will form a portfolio of work which will be assessed as a non-examined assessment. This equates to 60% of your final GCSE grade. You will then have a theme to choose, set by the exam board, and have just over 6 weeks to complete experiments and tests before producing a personal response to the theme set. This forms your practical exam and is the final 40% of your GCSE grade.

Would it suit me?

This course would complement those who are opting for other arts courses, it equally supports those who are looking for a creative outlet to go alongside their other academic choices. If you love taking pictures and want to learn how to do more with them this course will suit you. You will be expected to take the projects in personal directions and want to bring your own interests into lessons to choose the direction your work goes in.

Future Careers:

The arts can be a passion and a career. The creative thinking, presentation and communication skills will support your personal development and future career choices. Students who have studied photography have gone on to have success in a wide range of careers including photojournalism, cinematography, fashion journalism, forensic science and the visual arts.

Religious Studies -

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8062
Subject Leader:	Mrs Ariel Allen
Contact details:	Ariel.Morris@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The AQA GCSE course builds upon the key concepts introduced through the KS3 Religious Studies curriculum, which focuses on a range of ethical topics looking at moral understanding as well as the philosophical component and addressing the main world religions. By studying this subject, learners will be able to show an awareness and understanding of world religions and different views on beliefs which will help them to thoroughly appreciate and understand the views and opinions of those around them.

The course will start with a skills-based focus looking at the skills required to be successful at GCSE RS. This will include the basic understanding of beliefs in the world alongside analytical questioning, balanced argument writing and debating skills in the context of philosophical and ethical issues in society today.

In Year 10 and Year 11 learners will complete the examination requirements with a focus on the study of religious beliefs, teachings, and practices on two world religions as well as the thematic studies which addresses philosophical and ethical themes such as: Relationships and Families, Religion, Crime and Punishment, Human Rights and Social Justice

Assessment

External assessment will take the format of two examinations during the summer of Year 11, Paper 1 – The study of Religions, beliefs and teachings and Paper 2 – Thematic Studies. The types of assessment questions will range from small mark recall and response questions to longer extended responses.

Internal assessments will take place at termly assessment points in school; these assessments are based on GCSE questions and will be marked in accordance with the mark schemes provided by AQA. This will allow teachers to assess and monitor progress at regular intervals. Within lessons, class work and home learning will also enable the regular monitoring of learner progress. Peer assessment is also used during each lesson time.

Would it suit me?

If you realise that a lot of questions about life cannot be looked up on Google and have an interest in the big questions of life, then this is the course for you! We will look at big moral questions relating to topics such as Abortion, Euthanasia, Human rights, and War. We will also look at the nature of God and discuss arguments relating to God's existence.

Future Careers:

Studying R.E doesn't mean you have to become a priest or an Imam. It is useful in lots of future careers as it encourages you to be open minded and tolerant of perspectives that you may not hold personally. The skills you will develop will give you a variety of transferable skills that will be useful in Law, Media, Politics and International relations and Theology.

Sociology

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8192
Subject Leader:	Mrs Saunders
Contact details:	Kathryn.Saunders@stantonbury-tove.org.uk Aaron.Davies@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

GCSE Sociology helps students to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes, and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification. Students will develop their analytical, assimilation and communication skills by comparing perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements, and drawing reasoned conclusions. By studying sociology, students will develop transferable skills including how to:

- investigate facts and make deductions
- develop opinions and new ideas on social issues
- analyse and better understand the social world

Students study key ideas of classical sociologists including Durkheim, Marx, and Weber, referencing their view of the world and their contribution to the development of the discipline. Students will also learn how to apply various research methods to different sociological contexts. They will be introduced to sociological terms and concepts concerned with social structures, social processes, and social issues.

Assessment

This course is 100% exam. Students must show their breadth of knowledge and understanding, over two examination papers:

Paper 1	Paper 2
Section A - Families	Section A - Crime and Deviance
Section B - Education	Section B - Social Stratification

Would it suit me?

You are fascinated by popular trends, and you wonder what makes them so appealing. You frequently find yourself thinking about the consequences of trends. You like talking to people about what is going on in their lives, what they think about the world and the issues that course through it.

Future Careers:

Sociology will prepare you for the following careers:

- Police and probation services.
- Local and central government.
- Social and market research.
- Charitable, counselling, and voluntary organisations.
- Public relations, journalism, and communications.
- Media and marketing.

Spanish

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8692
Subject Leader:	Ms Underwood
Contact details:	Sandra.Underwood@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

Students will have the opportunity to develop their Spanish language skills to their full potential, equipping them with knowledge and confidence they can use both in and outside of the classroom.

The Spanish GCSE course covers up to date topics, including:

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

'People and lifestyle' covers the following three subtopics: Identity and relationships with others; healthy living and lifestyle; education and work. Popular culture covers the following three subtopics; free-time activities; customs, festivals and celebrations and celebrity culture. 'Communication and the world around us' covers the following subtopics; travel and tourism, including places of interest; media and technology; the environment and where people live.

Assessment

There are 4 exams which are taken at the end of Year 11, one in each skill area listening, speaking, reading and writing. Each exam is worth 25% of the total grade. The speaking exam is a one-to-one exam assessment with the class teacher.

Would it suit me?

To be successful in Spanish you need to be prepared to learn vocabulary and to listen to as much spoken Spanish as possible. It is important to have a go and not worry about being 100% perfect, with practise you will gain both confidence and fluency. Spanish is a perfect choice if you are interested in travelling, connecting with people in other countries, and broadening your horizons.

Future Careers:

Language students are very attractive to prospective employers due to their knowledge, skills and experience with different cultures. England needs to become a global market so knowing another language is more important than ever. Studying Spanish opens up a range of career opportunities such as:

Interpreter, translator, careers in diplomatic service, telecommunications, journalism, finance, tourism, human resources, marketing, and teaching.

Sports Studies

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Physical Wellbeing
Qualification Type:	Cambridge National Technical Award
Exam Board and Specification:	OCR J829
Subject Leader:	Mr Anthony Lee
Contact details:	Anthony.Lee@stantonbury-tove.org.uk Emma.Smith@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Please remember that if you pick this course, you cannot pick GCSE PE

Introduction to the course

Cambridge National Sport Studies will help you develop a range of skills through involvement in sport and physical activity in different contexts and roles. It will also allow you to develop your ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations. This is a perfect course if you would like a career in the sports industry.

Assessment

Contemporary issues in sport: In this unit, you will learn about a range of topical and contemporary issues in sport, relating to; participation levels and barriers, promotion of values and ethical behaviour, the role of high-profile sporting events, the role of national governing bodies and how technology is used within sport.

Performance and Leadership in sports activities: In this unit, students will learn how to develop their skills as both a performer, in two different sporting activities, and as a leader in one activity. As a leader they will have the opportunity to plan, deliver and review safe and effective sporting activity sessions. They also have the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills. Students will work both independently and as part of a team, including communicating with team mates as well as being in front of an audience when they perform. They will perform under pressure, both as a participant and as a leader, and will use their initiative to solve problems and make decisions. They will also deal with rapidly changing conditions and situations.

Sport and the media: In this unit, students will learn to explore media sources and apply real life examples to demonstrate the nature of the relationship between media and sport. They will develop their ability to evaluate and interpret the different ways in which sport is represented by the media.

Would it suit me?

This course takes a more sector-based focus, whilst also encompassing some core sport/physical education themes. Learners can apply theoretical knowledge about different types of sport and physical activity, skills development and sports leadership to their own practical performance. They will learn about contemporary issues in sport such as funding, participation, ethics and role models, and sport and the media. Learners will develop an appreciation of the importance of sport locally and nationally, different ways of being involved in sport and of how this shapes the sports industry.

Future Careers:

Athlete, Events Manager, Health Trainer, Leisure Centre Manager, Outdoor Activities Instructor, PE Teacher, Personal Trainer, Physiotherapist, Primary School Teacher, Sport and Exercise Psychologists, Sports Agent, Sports Coach, Sports Commentator, Sports Professional, Sports Scientist.

Travel and Tourism

Stantonbury Entitlement:	Global Citizenship
Qualification type:	BTEC Technical Award
Exam board and specification:	Pearson BTEC Level 1/2
Subject Leader:	tbc
Contact details:	tbc

Introduction to the course

The qualification provides an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of travel and tourism giving you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will explore some of the key areas within the sector, including accommodation, tourism development and promotion, transport and visitor attractions. You will investigate the importance of the travel and tourism sector to the UK and investigate different types of customer and UK destinations. You will also have the opportunity to study international travel and tourism.

Assessment

There are 3 assessed parts to this course:

Component 1: Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations - internally assessed.

Component 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism - internally assessed.

Component 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism - final exam.

Would it suit me?

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Travel and Tourism is for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge through vocational contexts by studying the aims, products and services of different travel and tourism organisations, their use of consumer technologies, the features of tourist destinations, how organisations meet customer needs and preferences, and the influences on global travel and tourism as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification enables learners to develop their transferable skills, such as researching, planning, and making decisions and judgements. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement GCSEs. The qualification will broaden learners' experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

Future Careers:

The travel and tourism sector is the UK's third largest employer, accounting for 9.5 per cent of total employment. Tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK in employment terms, employing nearly 3 million people, and the value of tourism to the UK economy is approximately £121 billion (7.1 per cent) of UK GDP. In 2016, travel and tourism contributed 10.2 per cent of the world GDP, and the sector now supports 292 million people in employment - that's one in ten jobs worldwide.

Triple Science

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8461, 8462, 8463
Subject Leader:	Miss Shaffi (Head of Faculty)
Contact details:	Zarina.Shaffi@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

All Stantonbury School students study Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Those students who enjoy and excel in science may be invited to join triple science as an additional course, covering additional topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Sometimes referred to as separate science, this option leads to three GCSEs rather than the usual two.

Students who do Triple Science will take an additional 6th Science session instead of a second PE session. This will enable our most able students to achieve 9 qualifications, instead of 8. Due to the demanding nature of this course, students will be recruited to the Triple Science pathway the Head of Faculty for Science, based on aptitude and progress made in science in year 9.

Assessment

Assessment is 100% based on exams taken at the end of Year 11, with two papers for each of the three sciences. There is an element of assessed practical work, with required practical activities completed throughout the course and questions on these make up 15% of the questions on the exam papers.

Would it suit me?

Students who do triple science will be strong communicators, able to organise their own work, confident in manipulating numbers and equations, happy to work individually or in a group, and most importantly curious and motivated to learn about the universe they live in!

Future Careers:

Triple science is extremely helpful, although not essential, for A level science, making it the first important step towards a number of science-based careers such as medicine, veterinary studies, engineering, forensics, ecology, meteorology, zoology, astronomy, environmental science and pharmacy.

An overview of each of the qualifications follows on the next 3 pages.

GCSE Biology

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8461
Subject Leader:	Miss Rimmer
Contact details:	Alison.Rimmer@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The AQA GCSE Biology course is a Linear course allows students to develop knowledge of Biology. Students get the opportunity to develop a broad and deep understanding of the world around them and how it works. Below is a list of the core topic areas covered in GCSE Biology.

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology

Assessment

Students write 2 exam papers at the Year of the course in Year 11. Each paper will test the students' knowledge of distinct topics. Paper 1 tests knowledge from Topic 1-4 and is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Paper 2 tests knowledge from Topics 5-7 and is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Both papers are weighted equally and represent 50% of the total GCSE grade. Students will receive one grade for GCSE Biology. Students will complete a set of required practicals as part of the GCSE biology course which will also be tested in the exam papers.

Would it suit me?

If you are thinking of pursuing A level sciences, it is recommended you study GCSE biology to help prepare you for the breadth and depth of knowledge that you will learn at Key stage 5. If you have a natural flare for Biology and have an interest in the natural world and how the body works, this is the course for you.

Future Careers:

Veterinary sciences, Dentistry, Medical sciences, Health care services, Marine Biologist, Ophthalmologists and Pharmacy are just a few of the careers you can enter with a GCSE in Biology.

GCSE Chemistry

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8462
Subject Leader:	Mr Rahman
Contact details:	Muntasir.Rahmani@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The AQA GCSE Chemistry course is a Linear course allows students to develop knowledge of Chemistry. Students get the opportunity to develop a broad and deep understanding of the world around them and how it works. Below is a list of the core topic areas covered in GCSE Chemistry.

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding structure, and the properties of matter
- Quantitative changes
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic Chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

Assessment

Students write 2 exam papers at the Year of the course in Year 11. Each paper will test the students' knowledge of distinct topics. Paper 1 tests knowledge from Topic 1-5 and is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Paper 2 tests knowledge from Topics 6-10 and is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Both papers are weighted equally and represent 50% of the total GCSE grade. Students will receive one grade for GCSE Chemistry. Students will complete a set of required practicals as part of the GCSE Chemistry course which will also be tested in the exam papers.

Would it suit me?

If you are thinking of pursuing A level sciences, it is recommended you study GCSE Chemistry to help prepare you for the breadth and depth of knowledge that you will learn at Key stage 5.

Future Careers:

Veterinary sciences, Dentistry, Medical sciences, Health care services, Engineering, Analytical chemist, Environmental chemist, Forensics and Pharmacists are just a few of the careers you can enter with a GCSE in Chemistry.

GCSE Physics

Stantonbury Entitlement:	STEM
Qualification type:	GCSE
Exam board and specification:	AQA 8463
Subject Leader:	Mr Osborne
Contact details:	Matthew.Osborne@stantonbury-tove.org.uk

Introduction to the course

The AQA GCSE Physics course is a Linear course allows students to develop knowledge of Physics. Students get the opportunity to develop a broad and deep understanding of the world around them and how it works. Below is a list of the core topic areas covered in GCSE Physics.

- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle model and matter
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Space physics

Assessment

Students write 2 exam papers at the Year of the course in Year 11. Each paper will test the students' knowledge of distinct topics. Paper 1 tests knowledge from Topic 1-4 and is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Paper 2 tests knowledge from Topics 5-8 and is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Both papers are weighted equally and represent 50% of the total GCSE grade, each. Students will receive one grade for GCSE Physics. Students will complete a set of required practicals as part of the GCSE Physics course which will also be tested in the exam papers.

Would it suit me?

If you are thinking of pursuing A level sciences, it is recommended you study GCSE Physics to help prepare you for the breadth and depth of knowledge that you will learn at Key stage 5. If you have a natural flare for Physics and have an interest in the natural world and the universe in its entirety, then this is the course for you.

Future Careers:

Astrophysicist, Medical sciences, Engineering, Nanotechnologist, Sound engineer, Clinical scientist are just a few of the careers you can enter with a GCSE in Physics.

How to access SIMS Options Online

We are launching a new process this year for students to make their options choices using an online facility, which links through to our SIMS (School Management Information System) in school.

Parents will need to register to be able to use this system.

You will receive a registration email to set up your account shortly after the February half term. This will be sent to the email address we currently have on your record. If you have not received an email, please check it has not gone to your spam/junk folder and then please email Enquiries@Stantonbury-tove.org.uk with the full name of your child and tutor group so that we can update our records.

When you receive your registration email, please click on the link. This will bring up the following screen:



Parents will need to set up their own account and sign in using one of the accepted providers and then enter the registration code, which was included in the registration email. Once you have set up your account, you will not need to enter this code again.

You will have to answer a security question to verify your account for the SIMS Online Options platform. This will be to enter the correct date of birth for your child. If this matches the date we have for your child, then your account is verified. Once logged in, parents can only see their own child's choices screen, and no personal details are displayed.

We encourage parents to complete the account set up as soon as possible, upon receipt of the link, so that any issues can be resolved before the Options Platform opens on the 1st March.

When the verification process is complete, parents and students can sign in via this direct link: <https://www.sims-options.co.uk> using the account details they entered initially.

How to confirm choices on SIMS Options Online

SIMS Options Online will not be available until **Monday 1st March**. Please do not log in until this time, as you will not have access. You can set up your verified account in advance.

Please watch this video, made by the Options Online providers to see how easy it is to make your choices: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMC1yUw5M7c>

From Friday 1st March, you can log in, using your pre-registered account from this link: <https://www.sims-options.co.uk>

Once you have logged in, the first choice will be made from the Ebacc suite. Simply click on the subject you want to study. When you click on it, it will appear at the top right-hand corner of the screen.

You will then make your remaining choices from the "Open Choices" selection. You will pick 2 choices and 2 reserve choices from a full range of subjects. We would like you to order your choices in preference order. The menu bar on the right-hand side of the screen shows your choices in order of preference, you simply drag and drop them until they are in the right order for you.

You can also add a comment at the bottom of the screen which can be seen by the administrator. You might add a comment about why you have chosen a particular subject.

Please remember that you can only choose one from each of the following subjects:

- Sport BTEC or PE GCSE

This is because they all lead to a level 2 qualification in the same subject group. It is essential that students understand the differences between these courses and select the appropriate course. If you would be happy to transfer to the alternative qualification/course, please add this into the "Student comments" box.

When you are finished, don't forget to click on SAVE in the top left of the screen!

