Mangotsfield School

Key Stage 4
Learning Pathways
Curriculum 2026-28
Current Year 9

Content

Mangotsfield School

Introduction letter to the Key Stage 4 Curriculum and Options Process

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Section 2:

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- Sociology GCSE
- Separate Sciences GCSE (Triple)
- Statistics & Further Maths

Options Pathway 2026-28

Dear Year 9,
I am writing to share with you the process and timeline for KS4 Options. For some this will be a decision you are looking forward to and you may already have a clear idea of the subjects you wish to study. For others, making this choice may be quite a daunting decision. Either way, all students will be offered the support and guidance needed to make informed choices and to shape the way you want your future to be.

The options you choose will impact how you spend the next two years at Mangotsfield School. It is important to choose subjects that will interest and motivate you, that will make you love learning. Please take the next few weeks to think about what you **enjoy** doing, what you are **good at,** how you like to learn**,** how you like to be **challenged,** what keeps you **interested** in something and what makes you want to rise up to be the **best version** of you.

When thinking about what to choose, you should consider the following:

- What will I actually study on this course?
- How will I learn it?
- In what way will I be tested and assessed?
- What qualification will I get?
- What options will it give me when I finish?

Some of you may have a firm idea of your chosen career path and so will need to choose subjects that will allow you to make these next steps on your journey. In school we use a fantastic careers website called www.careerpilot.org.uk to explore future career paths. Find out about the subjects you need to go into further or higher education or onto an apprenticeship. Make sure you have done your research carefully as entry requirements are not always obvious. For example, some universities require all successful applicants to have achieved a good GCSE in a modern language, regardless of the university choice being chosen.

If you have no firm idea of your post 16 pathway, then I would advise you to take subjects that will allow you to keep your options open. The core subjects at Mangotsfield School ensure that most options will be available to you when you finish your time here. Use your option choices to study subjects that are of interest to you. Please ask for help and advice from your teachers, your mentor or myself. If you know students in Year 10 and 11 then contact them and talk to them about the subjects they are studying.

The following would be a good reasons for choosing a course:

- You are good at the subject
- The course sounds interesting and you think you will enjoy it
- It compliments your other choices
- It will allow you to have plenty of choice in the future
- You believe it is something you might study when you are older

On the school website you will find a video from each subject to give you a better understanding of the courses on offer. This is the first stage of the Options process where we encourage you to find out more about the subjects that you might be interested in taking. You can find the videos on our dedicated Y9 Options page: https://www.mangotsfieldschool.org.uk/Students/Y9-Options/

Some frequently asked questions

When will you choose your options?

It is Y9 Options Evening on Thursday 5th March. The final options form will be sent via email on Friday 6th March with a deadline for completion of Friday 13th March.

What subjects do all students have to study?

All students study Maths, English Language, English Literature, Science (Combined) as well as Core Religious Studies, Core PE and PSHE as part of the core curriculum. Some students may wish to study Separate sciences (Triple) and this is available as an option. Core PE, PSHE and Religious Studies are not examined but many students go on to choose GCSE Religious Studies or GCSE Physical Education as an option subject.

How many option subjects will my child choose?

In total students choose 4 option subjects. All students must choose one option from the following subjects:

- Geography
- History
- Separate Sciences (Triple Science)
- French or German

Students will then need to choose 3 more option subjects from the following:

Geography	History	Triple Science	French	German
Computer Science	PE	Dance	Sport Studies Cambridge National	Religious Studies
Further Maths and Statistics	Engineering Design	Engineering Manufacturing	Construction	DT Textiles
Food and Nutrition	Music	Art	Photography	Performing Arts (Drama)
Health and Social Care	Child Development	Sociology	Business Studies	

Key Questions

Can students choose more than one from Geography, History, French or German or Triple Science?

Yes, students could choose the following if they wished:
Option 1: Geography
Option 2: Separate Sciences
Option 3: History
Option 4: French or German

Are there any subjects that cannot be chosen together?

Yes, the following subjects cannot be chosen together:

- GCSE PE and BTEC Sports Studies.
- Cambridge Nationals Engineering Design (DT), WJEC Engineering or Construction
- Engineering Design and DT Textiles
- Cambridge Nationals Health and Social Care and GCSE Sociology

Do any subjects have entrance criteria?

Yes, the following subjects have entrance criteria:

Computer Science	Students need to be strong at Maths (working at a grade 5 or higher) to consider taking Computer Science.
PE	We offer GCSE PE and Cambridge National Sports Studies. To be considered for GCSE PE you need to play a sport competitively and be working at a grade 5 or higher in Science.

How can I find more about the Y9 Option subjects?

The Year 9 Options page will be going live on our website on Thursday this week. It will contain videos and further information about the different subjects available for option choices, helping students and parents make informed decisions about the next stage of their studies.

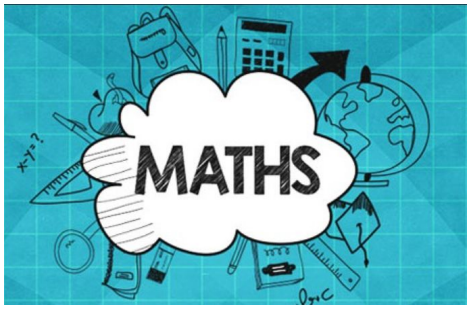
Yours faithfully

Mrs G Lenon

Deputy Headteacher-Curriculum and Assessment

Mangotsfield School

Section I: Core Curriculum – Compulsory Subjects



Maths

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: Edexcel

Exam weighting: 100% exam

Assessment:

You will take three exam papers in the May/June of Year 11. Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes long and worth 80 marks. Paper 1 is non-calculator and Papers 2 and 3 are calculator.

Content:

There are five broad areas of study; Number, Algebra, Ratio, proportion and rates of change, Geometry and measure and Statistics and probability.

Number

You'll use fractions, decimals and percentages to solve a variety of different number problems. Learn how to use standard form and estimate values.

Algebra

In this unit, you'll learn how to form and solve equations and use formulae to problem-solve.

Ratio, proportion and rates of change

In this unit, you'll learn how to divide in a given ratio, solve problems involving direct and inverse proportion and units including speed, rates of pay, area, volume, density and pressure

Geometry and measure

Here, you'll look at 2D and 3D shapes, including triangles, trapeziums and circles. The unit includes using vectors to describe movement and directions and using rules and formulae to find angles in shapes. You will also learn how to use scales to draw plans and read maps.

Statistics and probability

In this unit, you'll learn how to interpret, analyse and compare different sets of data, and how to present your own data to share with others. You'll look at how trends can be predicted and how to ensure that the interpretation of data is trustworthy. You'll learn how to use probability to describe the chance of events happening and the language of probability to explain likelihood. You will also use diagrams, tables and techniques to explore the idea of chance in different situations.

You will be entered for one of two tiers; Higher Tier (grades 9 - 5) and Foundation Tier (grades 5 - 1).

The weighting of content for the two tiers is shown below.

Tier	Topic area	Weighting
Foundation	Number	22 - 28%
	Algebra	17 - 23%
	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	22 - 28%
	Geometry and Measures	12 - 18%
	Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%
Higher	Number	12 - 18%
	Algebra	27 - 33%
	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	17 - 23%
	Geometry and Measures	17 - 23%
	Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%

English Language GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: In English Language, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with two external exams. Speaking and listening skills are assessed by teachers and awarded with a separate endorsement.

Content:

- **Explorations in creative reading and writing**

Students will learn to analyse a range of literary fiction texts in order to consider how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques. They will learn to apply these techniques to their own creative writing.

- **Writers' viewpoints and perspectives**

Students will study the different perspectives and themes in a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. They will learn how texts seek to influence the reader and will learn how to structure an analytical response to a piece of writing. Students will also learn how to write to persuade or to argue a point of view.

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Close analytical reading of a range of texts
- Creative, imaginative writing skills
- Development of accurate, appropriate use of spoken and written English for a range of audiences and purposes
- Exposure to a broad range of reading material from different genres and time periods.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Success in reading and writing unpins success in every other subject; the skills developed in English will support students' learning across the curriculum
- English Language is an essential qualification for all further education course and training
- This course develops students' communication skills and group work skills, all essential in the workplace and in later life
- This course also helps students to develop the ability to read a huge range of texts with insight and understanding.

English Literature GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: In English Literature, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with two external exams.

Content: Students will study the following – texts choices are examples only and are subject to change.

- A Shakespeare play *(Macbeth)*
- A 19th Century novel (*A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens)
- A modern play (*Lord of The Flies* by W. Golding)
- A selection of modern poetry (AQA *Power and Conflict* poetry cluster)

The poetry exam also contains an 'unseen' element, where students are required to respond to a poem that they have not read before.

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Analytical reading: learning to identify ideas and perspectives in literary texts; learning to identify and comment on the effect of writers' techniques
- Analytical writing: learning to respond to literary texts, using quotations and references to support ideas and developing a cohesive line of argument
- Communication: the study of literature involves many opportunities for students to discuss and debate ideas about texts
- Making links between texts and historical/social contexts: students will learn about the way that meanings in a text are affected by the context in which they are written and received

Enrichment:
Theatre trips and author visits will be available when these are of interest to the students and relevant to the course. Next month, we will be taking 150 Year 11s to see Macbeth at the Bristol Old Vic.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Essential critical reading skills and analytical writing skills, which can be applied to every other subject
- Broadening of knowledge of culture and literary traditions; making links with other subjects such as history and RS
- A highly respected qualification, useful for numerous future routes into college, 6th form and university

A detailed content list can be found by clicking here.

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

Maths is one of the best subjects to develop your analytical, research and problem-solving skills. Not only will studying maths help give you the knowledge to tackle scientific, mechanical, coding and abstract problems, it will also help you develop logic to tackle everyday issues like planning projects, managing budgets and even debating effectively. Maths is also valuable in developing your communication and time management skills.

Enrichment:

Currently the Maths Department is running after school revision session for Year 11 on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.20pm until 4.20pm. You will be able to join a Higher or Foundation tier group to give you more exam practice and to go over topics where you need more help.

We also participate in the UKMT Mathematics Challenge which is a national competition for students across KS3 and KS4.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

Maths is a central part of your progression to other courses and employment. It isn't just about knowing how to carry out certain calculations. It is about you recognising problems, pursuing solutions and communicating explanations. From adding up the total of our weekly shop to the engineering behind our cars and our computers. Maths is everywhere, which is why it is so important to have a solid grasp of the basics.

The majority of employers look for at least GCSE grade 4 in maths. So gaining a good pass in Maths will help you in getting a job or promotion, even many years in the future. Achieving a grade 4 in maths will also enable you to apply for university courses.

Religious Studies Core

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: N/A

Exam weighting: N/A

Assessment: Students complete key vocabulary tests and self-assessment against the key concepts studied at the end of units.

Content:

- Students will take part in a range of units related to the beliefs and practices of different faiths. This will include aspects of Christianity and other world faiths.
- Students will explore topics surrounding a range of ethical, moral and philosophical issues which encourage them to think about the wider world. This will include the Holocaust, Ultimate questions and matters of life & death amongst others.

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Debate – Students will develop the skills of structured debate and argument.
- Teamwork – Students will have the opportunity to develop their ability to work as a team in a range of activities.
- Reflection and evaluation – Students will have the opportunity to reflect upon a range of issues and arguments before using these ideas to come to balanced and detailed conclusions.
- Empathy – Students will develop an understanding of the beliefs and practices of others. They will also be able to make comparisons with their own beliefs.

Enrichment:

There may be opportunities for speakers from different faiths organisations to visit lessons.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Religious Studies helps students to develop an understanding of their own values and beliefs, gaining a greater sense of their own identity.
- In the 21st century, religion still addresses a wide range of eternal human questions about life and death, values and relationships, right and wrong.
- Ethical and philosophical issues appear in the news on a daily basis. Religious Studies helps students to form ideas and opinions on these in a safe and nurturing environment.
- The skills gained and developed in Religious Studies are not used in isolation. These will be used in a range of subjects across the curriculum.

Personal, Social,Health and Economic Education

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: N/A

Exam weighting: N/A

Assessment: Students complete assessments at the end of each unit of work.

Content:

- Students will explore of key Citizenship based content including The Justice System, Crime, Extremism and Human Rights
- Students will be presented with a range of PSHE based issues that are fundamental to their health and well-being, these include Sex and Relationships, Education, Healthy Living, Mental Health and Post 16 Choices

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Active Citizenship
- Analysis

Enrichment:

- Potential for guest speakers when relevant to the course content
- Active Citizenship opportunities through charity based activities

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

Students develop a firm understanding of issues and inequalities on both a local and global scale

- Students are able to actively contribute to society
- Students are able to give informed opinions on wide range of relevant topics that impact them on a day to day basis
- Students gain a strong grasp of worldwide conflicts and issues

Physical Education
Core

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: N/A

Exam weighting: N/A

Assessment: N/A

Content:

- Students will take part in a range of units related to a range of activities that develop personal fitness and promote an active, healthy lifestyle.

Skills:

Students will;

- Use and develop a variety of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in team and individual games.
- Develop their technique and improve their performance in other competitive sports (for example, athletics and gymnastics) or other physical activities (for example, dance).
- Take part in further outdoor and adventurous activities in a range of environments which present intellectual and physical challenges and which encourage pupils to work in a team, building on trust and developing skills to solve problems, either individually or as a group
- Evaluate their performances compared to previous ones and demonstrate improvement across a range of physical activities to achieve their personal best
- Continue to take part regularly in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs

Enrichment:

There are opportunities to participate in extra-curricular clubs and also represent the school. We are always keen to add new clubs to meet the needs of all students.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Students will be inspired to succeed and excel in competitive sport and other physically demanding activities
- Students will be given the opportunity to become physically confident in a way which supports their health and fitness including managing and receiving stress
- Students will be given opportunities to compete in sport and other activities build character and help to embed values such as fairness and respect which will aid them in securing positions in further education and employment opportunities

Science Combined Trilogy

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: Students will follow a linear course structure and complete six equally weighted exams at the end of year 11, including the assessment of required practical activities. Students must study all three Sciences and will receive two GCSE grades that combine all three Sciences into an average.

Content:

- Forces, waves, magnetism, electromagnetism and space physics, energy, electricity, particle model of matter and atomic structure
- Cell biology, organisation, infections and the immune system, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance and variation, ecology
- Atomic structure and bonding, quantitative chemistry, energy and chemical changes and the rate of these, chemical analysis, chemistry of our atmosphere

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Scientific skills – students will complete a range of prescribed experiments to develop their practical skills and awareness of the scientific method
- Literacy – the explanation of observable and non-observable scientific phenomena
- Numeracy – being able to select, reorganise and use a range of equations, use ratios to calculate chemical masses, and the uses of statistics in the animal kingdom

Enrichment:

Through Science Week and wider reading, students will be able to grasp the impact of Science in the wider world.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

An understanding of the world around us:

- Awareness of the role Science plays in the exploration of the universe, the development of new technologies and the understanding of the natural world
- Using both numeracy, literacy and investigative skills to explore the scientific world
- Appreciation of how developments and discoveries over time shape our world.

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Section 2: Optional Subjects

Art and Design GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 40% Examination 60% Coursework

Assessment: Student's coursework and exam are assessed at the end of year 11; the work is externally moderated by AQA

Content: For the coursework component students will begin with a series of workshops to develop skills and build confidence in working with a range of media 2D (drawing and painting) and 3D (clay).

Two extended projects will be created over the course of year 10 and 11 in which students will develop their own ideas in response to a theme, in a chosen media. Students are encouraged to work individually exploring their own ideas and selected media.

The exam is set by the exam board, students will create a project in response to one of the starting points given. Students will create a project over a period of 4 months; this will culminate in a 10 hour exam in May in which students create a final outcome for their exam projects.

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Be able to develop the skills to explore, create and communicate own ideas visually
- Develop skills in a variety of different media and materials (2D and 3D media)
- The skills to be able to work critically and independently

Enrichment:

Galleries visit (Harry Potter Studios)
Visiting Artist Workshops

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Developing individuality, creativity and imagination for a working world that is ever changing
- For enjoyment, enrichment and to add breadth to your range of courses (and skills you develop within them)
- To develop the skills necessary to enter a sector of employment (creative and media sector) that is the second biggest employer in the country
- Explore ideas about self, community and the world in which we live

Business Studies

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: EdExcel

Exam weighting:

GCSE Business Studies: 2 x 90 minute papers Each paper is a mix of multiple choice, short answers and long answer questions.

Assessment:

Content:

This course will provide a unique insight into the world of work. Students will learn about how and why businesses operate in the way they do and their key elements and essential business functions: including; Business Start-Up, Production, Marketing, Finance, Managing People, Business Growth and Business Planning. Subject content will be applied to different business contexts ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Business Studies is a real life subject and will give the student a wider perspective on organisations they encounter and use in everyday life.
- You will either end up owning your own business or working for one – so you can't avoid it. It's best to have knowledge of business to help you decide which aspect of business you wish to work in and to help you with applications and interviews etc.
- You will have a better understanding of the policies the government set.
- You will have a better understanding of the laws that protect you.
- Promotes an enquiring, critical approach to distinguish facts and opinions, to build arguments and make informed judgements.
- The course will prepare students for many different routes after Year 11, such as A levels or a vocational qualification where Business is studied from a work-related viewpoint. This may be followed with a degree in Business Studies or a number of related subjects such as Law, Accounting, Human Resources, Marketing or ICT. Associated employment might involve setting up your own business, a project manager, solicitor, financial adviser, marketing or human resource executive.

Possible Careers:

Business Advisor, Business Development, Investment Banker, Project Manager, Financial Advisor, Build your own Business (Self Employed)

Skills:

- Use business terminology to identify and explain business activity.
- Apply business concepts to familiar and unfamiliar contexts
- Develop problem solving and decision making skills relevant to business
- Develop on mathematical skills by applying them to a financial situation
- Investigate, analyse and evaluate business opportunities and issues
- Make justified decisions using both qualitative and quantitative data; including its selection, interpretation, analysis and evaluation
- Presenting – thinking through problems in groups and presenting ideas professionally to others

Design and Technology
Textile Specification
AQA GCSE (9-1)

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA design and technology

This course empowers students to explore and express their creativity through an exciting range of textile media. By combining traditional craftsmanship with contemporary techniques, students develop the skills to design and create their own textile products — from fashion garments to accessories, home furnishings, and innovative, experimental concepts.

Throughout the course, students will explore key textile practices, including:

- Garment construction
- Fabric dyeing and surface decoration
- Fabric construction techniques such as felting, weaving, and knitting
- Pattern cutting and layout planning
- Machine and hand embroidery

Exam: Core technical principles

- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles
- at least 15% of the exam will assess maths
- at least 10% of the exam will assess science.
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

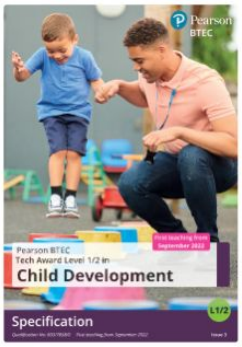
Non-exam assessment (NEA): 30–35 hours approx

- 50% of GCSE
- 100 marks non-exam assessment (internally assessed and externally moderated)
- Learners should produce a portfolio of design brief research, specifications, design ideas, make and evaluate

Progression steps: This course is the first step towards a creative future in the design and fashion industries. It equips students with the practical skills, creative confidence, and industry awareness needed to progress to **A-Level 3D Product Design**, **BTEC Art and Design (3D Products)**, or **A-Level Fashion and Textiles**, and onward to a wide range of art and design degree courses.

Graduates of this course go on to shape careers across the creative industries, turning ideas into innovative products, garments, and visual concepts. Potential career pathways include:

- Fashion Designer
- Fashion Buyer
- Textile Designer
- Fashion Illustrator
- Pattern Cutter / Grader
- Stylist
- Garment Technologist
- Personal Stylist / Personal Shopper



Child Development Level 1/2

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: OCR Cambridge National

Exam weighting: 40% Examination
Assessment: Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) Weighting: 60% Coursework

Content:

Unit 1 - <u>Understand the development of a child from one to five years</u> This unit is assessed by a set assignment (NEA).

In this unit you will:

- **Investigate the expected development norms for a child aged between 1–2 years.**
- **Complete an observation of a child aged between 1–2 years.**
- **Compare your findings with the developmental norms for the physical development area.**

<u>Unit 2 - Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years</u> This unit is assessed by a set assignment (NEA).

In this unit, you will:

- **learn how to create a safe environment for children from birth to five years in childcare settings.**
- **You will investigate and choose equipment that is both suitable and safe for use**
- **learn about their nutrition and dietary needs**

Unit 3 - Health and well-being for child development This unit is an external exam

In this unit you will

- **learn about the importance of both preconception health and creating conditions in which a child can thrive, including the prevention and management of childhood illnesses and creating a safe environment.**

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the Childcare sector.
- The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:
- research skills – for example, within the NEA set assignment students will need to complete research for equipment to help make decisions on which to choose and explain why
- communication skills – for example, within the NEA set assignment students will need to make recommendations to the nursery on how accidents can be prevented.

Enrichment:

Students will be encouraged to participate in external visits to local nurseries and primary schools to enhance their learning experience and gain practical skills in childcare.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Love of learning: students make strong academic progress, many of whom opt to take Child Development as part of their 16+ education.
- Embrace challenge: students develop ambitious aspirations which extend beyond 16+ education and into University degrees such as social work and Early Education (Primary Teaching)
- Respect: students grasp an understanding of the qualities desired of people who work with vulnerable children,; qualities such as respect, compassion and empathy.
- Community: students become well informed about different communities within society enabling them to be an asset within our local community, helping and guiding others.

Computer Science GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: This qualification is linear. In Computer Science students will take 2 exams in the summer at the end of their course both worth 50% of the final grade each. One exam will assess Computational Thinking and programming skills, and the other will assess Theoretical Content.

Content: Students will study the following: Fundamentals of algorithms, Programming, Fundamentals of data representation, Computer systems, Fundamentals of computer networks, Fundamentals of cyber security, Relational databases and structured query language (SQL), Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy.

Skills: Studying Computer Science will enable students to:

- build on their knowledge, understanding and skills established through the computer science elements of the programme of study for computing at Key Stage 3
- meet the computer science elements of computing at Key Stage 4
- enable students to progress into further learning and/or employment
- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs
- think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?
Students will complete this course equipped with the logical and computational skills necessary to succeed at A-level, the workplace or beyond.

Construction and the built environment
Eduqas Level 1 & 2

Mangotsfield School

This course is ideal for students who enjoy practical work, problem-solving, and learning how buildings and spaces are created and maintained.

Exam - Written Examination – 40% (80 marks)

The exam assesses students' understanding of the construction industry and how the built environment is planned, developed, and managed. Topics include:

- Roles and careers within the construction industry
- Health, safety, and site procedures
- Construction materials, tools, and equipment
- Sustainability and environmental impact
- Understanding and interpreting construction information

The exam focuses on applying knowledge to realistic construction-based scenarios.

NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) Coursework and Practical Assessment – 60% (120 marks)

Students complete a range of assessed tasks across the course, including:

- Responding to a construction-based brief
- Practical construction activities and demonstrations
- Research into construction methods and materials
- Producing plans, drawings, and supporting written evidence
- Evaluating work and reflecting on outcomes

Assessment is completed throughout the course, allowing students to demonstrate progress, practical ability, and understanding over time.

Course Content - You will study key aspects of construction and the built environment, including:

- The construction industry and career pathways
- Health and safety in construction
- Construction tools, materials, and processes
- Sustainability and environmental considerations
- How buildings and the built environment are designed and constructed

The course combines classroom learning with hands-on practical experience.

Skills Developed

- Practical construction and workshop skills
- Problem-solving and decision-making
- Teamwork and communication
- Planning, organisation, and time management
- Understanding workplace health and safety
- Applying maths and literacy in real-life contexts

These skills are transferable and valued across many industries.

Benefits of Taking This Option

- Practical, hands-on learning
- Clear links to real construction careers
- Builds confidence using tools, materials, and plans
- Develops strong employability skills
- Excellent preparation for Level 3 courses, apprenticeships, and future employment

Build your future from the ground up. *Construction and the Built Environment opens doors to further study, apprenticeships, and careers in a growing industry.*

Dance
BTEC Tech Award
(BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Performing Arts)

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: Edexcel

Exam weighting: 40% - externally assessed performance 60% Coursework – internally assessed **Assessment:** In BTEC Performing Arts (Dance), official assessments take place in Year 10 and Year 11 of the course. Year 9 will be used to build the skills and foundations needed for the assessed work.

Content:

- **Component 1 –** Exploring the Performing Arts (Internal Assessment). Students will develop their understanding of the Performing Arts by examining professional dance works and the processes used to create performance. Students will study the skills and techniques of various dance styles such as ballet; contemporary; jazz; urban and international.
- **Component 2 –** Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts (Internal Assessment) Students will develop performance skills and techniques by taking part in workshops and classes. They will develop technical, practical and interpretive skills through the rehearsal and performance process. This will be displayed in a showcase to an audience.
- **Component 3 –** Performing to a Brief (External Assessment) Students create a performance to a given brief which is set by the exam board. In groups of between 3 and 7, students will perform a piece lasting 10-15 minutes (which is filmed) to their chosen target audience.

Skills:

- **Numerical skills** students will demonstrate an understanding of number and draw conclusions
- **Written skills** students will develop the student's ability to express ideas and information clearly, explore questions, solve problems and develop ideas.
- **Personal, learning and thinking skills** students will develop their skills in teamwork, self-management, Independent enquires, reflective learners, effective participators and creative thinking.
- **Vocational skills** students will develop a variety of skills to increase their chances of securing a position within the Dance/Performing Arts Industry as a result of being a versatile dancer.

Enrichment:

There will be an opportunity to perform in productions in each of the 3 years. It is compulsory that students attend extra-curricular practices as scheduled with their groups. We will also organise trips to see professional dance pieces outside of school.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Students gain an understanding of what is required when auditioning for positions in productions.
- Students are able to develop their current dance skills.
- Students learn the skills required to progress to Level 3, higher education, apprenticeships and employment in the Dance and Performing Arts Industry.

Please Note: This is a **PERFORMING ARTS** course. As such, performance to an audience is an **ESSENTIAL** part of this course. Students choosing this course **must** be prepared to perform regularly to their classmates, their teacher and also to invited audiences of parents, siblings, other staff etc.

DRAMA - PERFORMING ARTS (Level 1&2 Vocational Award)

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: Eduqas

Unit weighting: Unit 1 & 2 - Internally assessed worth 30% each, Unit 3 - Externally assessed worth 40%

Assessment: The assessment is comprised of three units. Units 1 & 2 will be completed and assessed in Y10 and Unit 3 will be completed and assessed in Y11. There is no written examination.

Content:

- **Unit 1 Performing:** students will be assessed on their performance of an extract of a professional piece of work and students may choose between straight acting or musical theatre.
- **Unit 2 Creating:** students will be assessed on their creation of an original piece of drama or dance giving students the freedom to choose whether they will devise or choreograph their final piece. There is also an option for some students to explore design options.
- **Unit 3 Performing Arts in Practice:** students will conduct research and explore a company or practitioner of their choice (for drama, dance, or musical theatre) and then apply this to the creation of a theatrical event (of which they will rehearse and perform an extract).

Skills:

- Learn about the work of real theatre and/or dance companies
- Develop of range of performance and creating skills within a choice of drama, dance and musical theatre
- Develop the ability to work in a team and solve problems
- Gain knowledge and understanding of the Performing Arts industry
- Learn and develop life skills and employability skills

Enrichment:

Students will experience live theatre and dance during the course. This will include visits to the theatre, watching productions from theatre companies who visit the school as well as watching live digital performances in class.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Development of the capacity to be creative and solve problems in a range of situations
- The ability to work collaboratively and supportively as part of a team
- Development of self-discipline, conduct and confidence
- Improved performance and presentation skills
- No written exam
- Wear PE kit/Performing Arts hoody on Drama days!

Engineering Design
OCR Level 1/ level 2
Cambridge National

Mangotsfield School

This qualification is delivered through **OCR (Oxford, Cambridge and RSA)** as part of the **Cambridge Nationals** suite. These courses are designed to combine academic knowledge with practical, real-world skills valued by employers and colleges.

Written Examination – 50% (80 marks) The exam assesses students' understanding of engineering design principles and how engineers solve real-world problems. Topics include:

- Engineering design processes
- Research and idea development
- Materials, tools, and manufacturing methods
- Health and safety in engineering environments
- Interpreting design briefs and technical information

The exam focuses on applying knowledge to realistic engineering and design scenarios.

NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) Coursework / Design-and-Make Project – 50% (80 marks)

Students complete a substantial practical project based on an engineering design brief. This includes:

- Investigating a design problem
- Developing and presenting design ideas
- Using CAD and technical drawing
- Making and testing a prototype or engineered outcome
- Evaluating the final product and suggesting improvements

Assessment takes place throughout the course, rewarding creativity, problem-solving, and practical skill.

Course Content -The course blends theory with hands-on workshop activities to bring learning to life. You will explore key areas of engineering design, including:

- The engineering design process
- Problem-solving and innovation
- Materials and manufacturing techniques
- Computer-Aided Design (CAD)
- Testing, evaluation, and improvement
- Health and safety in engineering contexts

Skills Developed

- Creative and logical problem-solving
- Practical workshop and making skills
- Technical drawing and CAD
- Planning, organisation, and time management
- Teamwork and communication
- Confidence in presenting and evaluating ideas.

Benefits of Taking This Option

- Learn through practical, hands-on projects
- Develop skills used in real engineering industries
- Build confidence in design and making
- Strong preparation for Level 3 Engineering or Product Design
- Excellent foundation for apprenticeships and STEM careers

Design it. Build it. Improve it. *OCR Cambridge Nationals Engineering Design gives students the skills to shape the future through creativity and innovation*

Engineering Manufacturing Eduqas Level 1/2 Awards

Mangotsfield School

This qualification is delivered through **Eduqas**, a UK exam board recognised for high-quality vocational courses that prepare students for further study, apprenticeships, and employment within technical and engineering industries.

Written Examination – 40% - The exam assesses students' understanding of manufacturing engineering principles and industrial practice, including:

- Manufacturing processes and production methods
- Engineering materials and their properties
- Health and safety in manufacturing environments
- Quality control and inspection
- Sustainability and environmental considerations in manufacturing

The exam focuses on applying knowledge to realistic manufacturing and engineering scenarios.

NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) Coursework and Practical Assessment – 60% - Students complete a range of practical and project-based assessments throughout the course, which may include:

- Responding to a manufacturing or engineering brief
- Planning and producing engineered components or products
- Using tools, machinery, and equipment safely
- Recording processes and producing supporting evidence
- Testing, evaluating, and improving manufactured outcomes

Assessment is ongoing and allows students to demonstrate practical ability, problem-solving skills, and understanding over time.

Course Content - Students will study key areas of manufacturing engineering, such as:

- The manufacturing engineering industry and career pathways
- Engineering materials and production techniques
- Workshop practices and safe use of tools and machinery
- Quality assurance and control
- Sustainable and efficient manufacturing methods

Learning is delivered through a combination of classroom theory and hands-on workshop experience.

Skills Developed

- Practical manufacturing and workshop skills
- Safe and confident use of tools and equipment
- Problem-solving and logical thinking
- Accuracy, precision, and attention to detail
- Teamwork and communication
- Planning, organisation, and time management

These skills are highly transferable and valued by employers across engineering and manufacturing sectors.

Benefits of Taking This Option

- Strong focus on practical, hands-on learning
- Develops skills used in real manufacturing environments
- Excellent preparation for engineering apprenticeships
- Supports progression to Level 3 Engineering or Manufacturing courses
- Builds confidence, independence, and employability

This course is ideal for students who enjoy practical work, understanding how products are made, and developing skills for technical and engineering careers.

Make it. Improve it. Engineer the future. *Manufacturing Engineering with Eduqas equips students with the skills and knowledge to succeed in a modern engineering world.*

Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: Eduqas

Exam Weighting: 50% Examination

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) Weighting: 50% Coursework

Assessment: Students will be assessed through a 1 hour and 45 minute examination at the end of year 11. Students will also be assessed through controlled assessment where they will complete two pieces of work. The first will be a scientific investigation into the function of ingredients in a specific food item and the second assessment will involve preparing, cooking and presenting a menu of food to restaurant standards.

Content:

- Food commodities - e.g. cereals, fruit and vegetables, sugars, dairy, fats, meat/fish and vegetarian alternatives. The course will look at their value in the diet, their working characteristics, experiments to understand changes occurring during cooking and also current recommended guidelines for a healthy diet.
- Principles of nutrition - the role of the main nutrients in the diet, their sources, function and deficiency diseases.
- Diet and good health – studying the nutritional needs that change during life and how to plan diets to suit them.
- The science of food - the scientific principles behind preparing and cooking foods.
- Where food comes from – food provenance, sustainability and its security and the impact on the environment.
- Cooking and food preparation – range of practical tasks using all the commodity groups to demonstrate skill.

Skills:

- Practical skills - weighing and measuring ingredients, knife skills, use of equipment, sauce making, dough making (bread, pasta and pastry), setting of mixtures.
- Teamwork - students will have the opportunity to work together in theory and practical work.
- Time management - students will need to demonstrate excellent time management especially during practical work.
- Organisation - students will need to demonstrate excellent organisational skills especially during practical work.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

Students studying this course will be prepared for further study such as:

- AS/A level courses in Food Technology/Food Science and Nutrition/ Design and Technology
- Culinary school
- Further Education courses to study Food Science, Food Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Technology

French GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Final Examination: 25% Reading, 25% Listening, 25% Speaking, 25% Writing

Assessment: Students are taught grammar and vocabulary according to topics, all assessed in the final examination.

Content: There are three themes at GCSE. Theme 1. People and lifestyle. Theme 2. Popular culture. Theme 3 Communication and the world around us.

Skills:
Student will learn to:

- Interact in French to understand gist as well as specific details
- Deduce meaning from a variety of short or longer texts
- Give strong opinions on a variety of topics
- Be creative when expressing themselves
- Express themselves accurately
- Translate a range of texts

Enrichment:
Trips to France are offered to students and students are encouraged to use language learning websites to support their studies.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Learning French is fun!
- French is the second most widely learned language after English and the sixth most widely spoken language in the world
- French is both a working language and an official language of many international organisations such as the United Nations and the European Union, so knowledge of French offers many career opportunities
- French is an important language in many industries including retail, automotive, luxury goods, aeronautics etc.
- You will develop strong communication skills
- You will broaden your cultural horizons
- Learning French can improve your literacy/communication in English
- Creates job and study opportunities
- Develops confidence and resilience
- You will be able to converse with French speakers
- You will be able to understand authentic texts

German GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Final Examination: 25% Reading, 25% Listening, 25% Speaking, 25% Writing

Assessment: Students are taught grammar and vocabulary according to topics, all assessed in the final examination.

Content: There are three themes at GCSE. Theme 1. People and lifestyle. Theme 2. Popular culture. Theme 3 Communication and the world around us.

Skills:
Students will learn to:

- Interact in German to understand gist as well as specific details
- Deduce meaning from a variety of short or longer texts
- Give and develop opinions on a variety of topics
- Be creative when expressing themselves
- Express themselves accurately
- Translate a range of texts

Enrichment:
Trips to Germany are offered to students. Students are encouraged to use language learning websites to support thei studies.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Learning German is fun!
- German is the most widely spoken language in Europe
- Germany is the number one export nation in the world, so knowing German creates business opportunities
- German is an important language in many industries including engineering, tourism, research and development, science, business and economics
- You will develop strong communication skills
- You will broaden your cultural horizons
- Learning German can improve your literacy/communication in English
- Creates job and study opportunities
- Develops confidence and resilience
- You will be able to converse with German speakers
- You will be able to understand authentic texts

Geography GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination, equally weighted across three exam papers.

Assessment: In Geography, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with three external exams, each lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes. Paper 1 - Living with the Physical Environment, Paper 2 - Challenges in the Human Environment and Paper 3 - Geographical Applications.

Content:

- PAPER 1 - Living with the Physical Environment - Section A; Challenges of Natural Hazards - Tectonic Hazards, Weather Hazards, Extreme Weather and Climate Change; Section B - The Living World - Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests and Hot Deserts; Section C - Physical Landscapes - Coastal Landscapes and River Landscapes.
- PAPER 2 - Challenges of the Human Environment - Section A; Urban Issues and Challenges - Urban growth, NEE/Megacity Case Study (Lagos) and UK City (Bristol); Section B - Economic World Development Gap, NEE growth (Nigeria) and UK Economic Change; Resource Management and Water as a global resource.
- PAPER 3 - Issue Evaluation, unseen fieldwork skills and write up of two fieldwork experiences.

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- **Cartographic skills** relating to a variety of maps at different scales including atlas maps, Ordnance Survey maps and maps in association with photographs.
- **Graphical skills** to select and construct appropriate graphs and charts, representation of data, use and understand gradient, contour maps, plot information and interpret different types of maps, graphs and charts.
- **Numerical skills** to demonstrate an understanding of number, data collection techniques and draw conclusions.
- **Written skills** will develop the student's ability to identify questions and sequences of enquiry and write descriptively, analytically and critically.

Enrichment:

There will be at **least two** different day activities to contrasting locations such as a river study and an urban investigation. These are compulsory and form the basis of the Geographical Applications exam which is worth 30% of the final examination mark.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Geography is essential in teaching us about the world we live in and our role within it.
- Geography develops empathy and understanding about other people's lives.
- Geography teaches about the issues our world faces and how these can be managed.
- Geography teaches life skills such as map reading and data and image analysis.

Health and Social Care Level 1/2

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: OCR Cambridge National

Exam Weighting: 40% Examination

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) Weighting: 60% Coursework

Content:

Unit 1: Principles of care in health and social care settings - This unit is assessed by an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the key topics that are important when caring for and protecting people in health and social care.
Topics include:

- The rights of service users in health and social care settings
- Person-centred values (e.g. respect, empathy)
- Effective communication in health and social care settings
- Protecting service users and service providers in health and social care settings (e.g. safeguarding, infection prevention and safety procedures)

Unit 2: Supporting individuals through life events - This unit is assessed by a set assignment (NEA).

In this unit you will learn about growth and development through the life stages. You will also learn how to understand the needs of individuals who have been affected by life events and how to recommend support to meet their needs.
Topics include:

- Life stages
- Impacts of life events such as bereavement, illness and genetic disorders
- Sources of support (e.g. hospices, hospitals, Age UK)

Unit 3: Health promotion campaigns - This unit is assessed by a set assignment (NEA).

In this unit you will research health promotion campaigns and learn about their benefits to society. You will also plan and deliver your own health promotion campaign.
Topics include:

- Current public health issues and the impact on society (e.g. obesity, flu and viruses, heart disease and mental health)
- Factors influencing health (e.g. smoking, diet, sun exposure)
- Plan and create a health promotion campaign
- Deliver and evaluate a health promotion campaign

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Love of learning: students make strong academic progress, many of whom opt to take Health and Social Care as part of their 16+ education.
- Embrace challenge: students develop ambitious aspirations which extend beyond 16+ education and into University degrees such as paramedic science, midwifery, teaching and beyond.
- Respect: students grasp an understanding of the qualities desired of people who work with vulnerable children and adults; qualities such as respect, compassion and empathy.
- Community: students become well informed about different communities within society enabling them to be an asset within our local community, helping and guiding others.

History GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: In History, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with two external exams – Paper 1: "Understanding the Modern World" and Paper 2: "Shaping the Nation".

Content:

- Students will study four units in total –
  Paper 1: Germany, 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship and Conflict and Tension: The first World War, 1984-1918
  Paper 2: Britain: Health and the People: c1000 to the present day and Elizabethan England c1568-1603

Skills:
Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied
- The ability to explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using historical concepts such as continuity, change, cause, consequence, significance, similarity and difference
- The ability to analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied
- The ability to analyse, evaluate and make substantiated judgements about interpretation (including how and why interpretations may differ) in the context of historical events studied

Enrichment:
Visits to places of historical importance will be available when these are of interest to the students and relevant to the course.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- History enables students to make sense of their place in the world
- Students will develop their literacy and analytical skills
- History promotes critical thinking and the ability to put forward persuasive arguments
- There are a range of career possibilities ranging from teaching and lecturing, journalism, law the heritage industry and broadcasting

Music GCSE

Mangotsfield School

The GCSE Music course is designed for students who would like to develop their musical skills in performing, composing and listening. You will learn processes that underpin effective ways of working as a musician, such as developing musical ideas, rehearsal techniques and understanding how music is created and used in different styles and contexts.

GCSE MUSIC

Exam Board: Eduqas
Exam Weighting: 60% coursework, 40% exam

ASSESSMENT:

- **Component 1 – Performing (30%)** Internally assessed, externally moderated
- **Component 2 – Composing (30%)** Internally assessed, externally moderated
- **Component 3 – Appraising (40%)** Externally examined listening and written exam

CONTENTS:

- **Performing**
  Students perform a minimum of two pieces (solo and ensemble), lasting a total of 4–6 minutes. One performance must be an ensemble and one must link to an Area of Study.
- **Composing**
  Students create two compositions (3–6 minutes total):
- **Appraising (Listening & Understanding Music)**
  Students study and listen to a wide range of music across four Areas of Study: Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music, Popular Music

SKILLS:

- **Performing** – Playing or singing pieces of music on their chosen instrument or voice, developing accuracy, expression and confidence.
- **Composing/Production** – Creating original music, developing musical ideas and using music technology and notation to produce compositions.
- **Understanding Music (Listening)** – Analysing and answering questions about a wide variety of musical styles, using correct musical vocabulary.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Students will be encouraged to take part in concerts, performances and a range of musical activities in school. There may also be opportunities to attend live music events and take part in workshops.
- Advanced instrumental skills are not required at the start of the course. However, students must be willing to practise regularly, perform and develop their musical and compositional skills.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Music develops creativity and imagination, which are highly valued by employers. It also builds self-discipline, as regular practice is essential for improvement and success.
- Music is a well-regarded academic subject and can lead to further study such as A Level Music, BTEC Music and other creative courses.
- Students also develop teamwork and social skills through ensemble and group performances. Performance and music technology skills can be valuable strengths for future education and careers.

Photography GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 60% Coursework Units, and 40% Exam Unit

Assessment: Students are assessed on several units of work. The exam theme is selected from the exam paper by the student and takes roughly 12 weeks. All units cover the following areas of assessment:

1. How students' own ideas are developed, in part through exploring others' works and techniques.
2. Range and quality of experimentation undertaken, plus students' ability to refine and develop.
3. The quality of photographs in their original state; methods used to record and present the work.
4. Students' ability to develop their own purposeful and meaningful imagery, creating final pieces.

Content: This course will show you how to view the world differently, how to capture it creatively, and how photography and the skills you will develop can be valuable assets in many other vocations. Students undertake several units of work, each of which explores a different theme, new techniques, and requires development of personal outcomes. Themes include: Formal Elements, Still Life, Movement, Light Painting, Food/Commercial, Portraits/Studio, Album Covers Plus Exam genres ranging from Landscape, Social Documentary, Low Light, Architecture, Urban and Rural Imagery to Conceptual and Advertising. Written work is in the form of annotation. The skills for analysing and annotating work are built gradually. Research, planning and writing are an integral section of the GCSE and form part of the Assessment Objectives.

Technical Skills - You will develop exciting camera skills with digital SLR cameras exploring different shoot modes to create a range of effects.

Visual Language Skills – Learn the essence of a great photograph – how composition and light are key regardless of the equipment you are using.

Industry Standard Software Skills - Cutting edge design software 'Photoshop' is used to process, edit and layer imagery.

Creativity and Innovation - We get creative with image making, props and editing, as well as understanding Photographic ideas and concepts and writing about the work of others to show how this inspires your creative image making.

Enrichment: This includes a Shoot Trip after which students create a photo book of the location.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Photography and the digital skills it develops have been found to be very useful in other GCSE subjects including Art, Graphics, Textiles, and Film Making & Media.
- This is an enjoyable and practical course, and one which can complement more academic choices.
- A very appropriate course for young people growing up in the age of digital media and increasingly visual communication. The Digital Industries are now one of the UK's leading employment sectors.
- Cameras are provided by the school, though students are welcome to bring their own in.

Physical Education GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 60% Examination 40% Coursework

Assessment: In Physical Education, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with two external exams. The first of which focuses on the human body and movement in physical activity and sport and the second focuses on socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport. The remaining 40% is a non-exam assessment of practical performance.

Content:

- Students will study Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Movement Analysis, Physical Training, Use of Data, Sports Psychology, Socio-Cultural influences and health, fitness and well-being. Students will be expected to complete multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions
- Students will be assessed in 3 practical activities. One of these assessments must be a team activity, the other must be an individual activity and the third can be either a team or individual activity
- Students will be assessed on their ability to analyse and evaluate performance in one activity.

Skills:

- **Numerical skills** to demonstrate an understanding of number, data collection techniques and draw conclusions
- **Written skills** will develop the student's ability to identify questions and sequences of enquiry and write descriptively, analytically and critically
- **Social skills** to develop the capacity to working independently or with others to be creative and solve problems in a range of situations

Enrichment:

It is compulsory that students attend extra-curricular practices and they should play competitive sport outside of school for a club. Students will also be able to participate in new activities outside of lessons such as climbing.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Students enjoy and understand the benefits of living a healthy and active lifestyle
- Students acquire the skills to make informed choices about their own physical development, whilst getting involved in physical activities that meet their needs
- Students learn how to analyse and evaluate performance, making effective plans for improvement
- Students learn the skills required to progress to Level 3, higher education, apprenticeships and employment in the sport, fitness and teaching sectors

Religious Studies GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: Eduqas

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: In Religious Studies, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with three external exams.

Content:

- Students will study the beliefs and practices of two religions in one section of the course. These are Christianity and Sikhism (50% of the course)
- Students will study a range of ethical and philosophical issues in the other section of the course. These will include Human Rights, Good & Evil, Life & Death and Relationships (50% of the course)

Skills:
Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Debate – Students will develop the skills of structured debate and argument
- Use of evidence – Students will develop skills of using key evidence and beliefs to support their arguments
- Writing – Students will develop structured writing skills
- Reflection and evaluation – Students will have the opportunity to reflect upon a range of issues and arguments before using these ideas to come to balanced and detailed conclusions
- Empathy – Students will develop an understanding of the beliefs and practices of others. They will also be able to make comparisons with their own beliefs

Enrichment:
There may be the possibility of visits to places of worship or guest speakers coming into the classroom.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Religious Studies helps students to develop an understanding of their own values and beliefs, gaining a greater sense of their own identity and how to contribute to wider society
- In the 21st century, religion still addresses a wide range of eternal human questions about life and death, values and relationships, right and wrong
- The skills gained and developed in Religious Studies are not used in isolation. These will be used in a range of subjects across the curriculum
- Religious Studies is looked on favourably by 6th forms and Universities leading into a whole range of courses including medicine and law

Sports Studies
OCR Level 1/2
Cambridge National

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: OCR (Pearson)
Exam weighting: Externally assessed exam 40% and internally assessed 2 coursework units 60%
Assessment: Students are taught specific units and are assessed over the 2 year course. Work is completed in the classroom and within practical lessons.

Content:

Unit 1 - R185: Performance and leadership in sports activities. Coursework unit (40%)
Key topics include:

-Key components of performance
-Applying practice methods to support improvement in a sporting activity
-Organising and planning a sports activity session
-Leading a sports activity session
-Reviewing your own performance in planning and leading a sports activity session

Unit 2 - R186: Sports and the media. Coursework unit (20%)
Key topics include:

-The different sources of media that cover sport
-Positive effects of the media in sport
-Negative effects of the media in sport.

Unit 3 - R184: Contemporary issues in sport. Exam unit (40%)
Key topics include:

-Issues which affect participation in sport
-The role of sport in promoting values
-The implications of hosting a major sporting event for a city or country
-The role National Governing Bodies (NGBs) play in the development of their sport
-The use of technology in sport

Skills:

The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:

- Completing research
- Working with others
- Planning training programmes
- Evaluating and making recommendations to help improve performance
- Creating and delivering presentations
- Writing reports
- Leadership skills
- Healthy living and lifestyle skills.

Enrichment:

It is encouraged that students attend extra-curricular practices committing to at least one club.

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

You will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that you can apply to a range of approaches that are relevant to the workplace or higher education.
You will be able to work with independence to create material which shows effective planning, development and evaluation, and an ability to demonstrate practical skills and qualities.
These skills will help you progress onto further study in the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector.

Sociology GCSE

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA

Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: In Sociology, students are taught a linear course and assessed at the end of Year 11 with two external exams.

Content:
Students will learn about debates within sociology including how sociological knowledge and ideas have changed over time and how these ideas inform our understanding of the social world.
Students will study key classical sociologists Durkheim, Marx and Weber referencing both their view of the world and their contribution to the development of the discipline.
Students will learn to comment on different sociological perspectives through reading and responding to extracts from key sociological texts.
Students will make links between the core areas of sociology and learn how to use sociological research methods and how they apply in each context.
Students will learn key sociological terms and concepts concerned with social structures, social processes and the explanation of social phenomena including: norms, values, discrimination, power and authority.

Topics:
Families
Education
Crime and deviance
Social stratification

Skills:
Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Applying sociological knowledge, understanding and skills to develop an understanding of the world around them
- Critically analyse information and use evidence to make informed arguments
- Evaluate sociological methodology and research methods
- Use and develop written and oral communication skills

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

- Success in sociology enhances students' understanding of society, social systems and social processes; a deeper understanding of the wider world is useful knowledge to have for entry into adulthood.
- This course will develop students' analytical and evaluative skills, all essential in the workplace and in later life.
- This course will help students to develop the ability to read academic texts with insight and understanding.

Separate Sciences (Triple)

Biology, Chemistry and Physics GCSE

Students will be advised of suitability for separate sciences

Mangotsfield School

Exam Board: AQA
Exam weighting: 100% Examination

Assessment: Students will follow a linear course structure and complete six equally weighted exams at the end of year 11, including the assessment of required practical activities. Students will receive a separate grade for Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Content:

- Forces, waves, magnetism, electromagnetism and space physics, energy, electricity, particle model of matter and atomic structure
- Cell biology, organisation, infections and the immune system, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance and variation, ecology
- Atomic structure and bonding, quantitative chemistry, energy and chemical changes and the rate of these, chemical analysis, chemistry of our atmosphere

Skills:

Students will gain skills in the following areas:

- Scientific skills – students will complete a range of prescribed experiments to develop their practical skills and awareness of the scientific method
- Literacy – the explanation of observable and non-observable scientific phenomena
  Numeracy – being able to select, reorganise and use a range of equations, use ratios to calculate chemical masses, and the uses of statistics in the animal kingdom
  In addition to reaching the required entry standard students must be able to keep up with the increased speed and content knowledge of the course and its additional units. They should have a real enthusiasm for all sciences

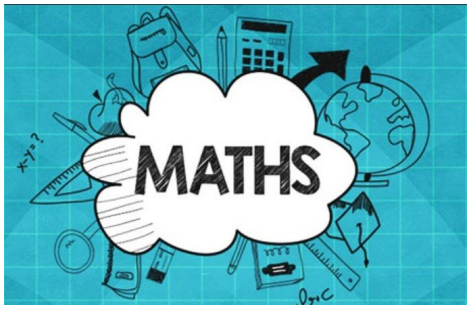
Enrichment:

Through Science Week and wider reading, students will be able to grasp the impact of Science in the wider world. There may also be trips and visiting specialist speakers to support the learning

What are the benefits of studying this course now and for the future?

An understanding of the world around us:

- Awareness of the role Science plays in the exploration of the universe, the development of new technologies and the understanding of the natural world
- Using both numeracy, literacy and investigative skills to explore the scientific world
- Appreciation of how developments and discoveries over time shape our world



Statistics & Further Maths

Mangotsfield School

This option allows students who love the world of maths to gain two further qualifications: a GCSE in statistics and a Certificate in further maths. These qualifications are both entirely exam based and are a valuable basis for those wanting to study mathematics at A-level and beyond.

Exam Board: Edexcel Statistics, AQA Certificate in Further Mathematics

Exam weighting: 100% Exam

Assessment: Statistics - 2 x 1hr30 mins exam (sat in year 10), Further Maths 2 x 1hr45 mins exam.

Content:

Statistics

Students are introduced to the skills of statistical enquiry, and practise the statistical calculations and interpretation using real world data and authentic contexts. This course opens up opportunities for progression to a range of subjects and develops an awareness of statistics beyond the classroom.

Content is divided into three key areas:

- The collection of data
- Processing, representing and analysing data
- Probability

Assessment is a range of short, medium and extended response questions focusing on statistical methods and the statistical enquiry cycle.

A fantastic course for students who want to explore how maths can be applied in the real world.

Further Maths

This course bridges the gap between GCSE and A-level Mathematics by assessing higher order mathematical skills, with a particular focus on algebraic reasoning. It provides students with stretch and challenge which builds on and supports the GCSE curriculum.

Further Maths helps to develop skills in trigonometry, functions and graphs which can be used in the GCSE examinations, as well introducing topics such as calculus and matrices for the first time.

This course is suitable for those considering pursuing maths or maths-related courses beyond GCSE.

COMMUNITY
LOVE
LEARNING
RESPECT
CHALLENGE