

# Netherhall School Specialist Sports College

## Key Stage 4

### Course Outlines 2011-2012



Courses in Year 10 and Year 11 are geared around the achievement of the best possible set of examination results at age 16. This is very much a two year process, and this guide gives you details of these important years of study.

D M Sibbit, Headteacher

## **Maths**

In Years 10 and 11 students study a two year GCSE mathematics course. They study at Higher or Foundation levels depending upon their KS3 exam results. Throughout the year they cover the main areas of mathematical content but with an increasing emphasis upon developing their algebraic and problem solving skills, and during Year 11 the emphasis is upon making links between them.

We will assess their ability to apply these skills in a range of contexts. Students will be given homework for each unit, complete an end of unit test and sit a formal exam in the summer. We will report to you on how their mathematical skills have developed and provide you with a GCSE grade to show their progress. They will sit a mock exam and their GCSE exam will be in June of Year 11.

You may help your child by ensuring they bring a calculator to all lessons, meet all deadlines, revise thoroughly for their end of year exam, and have computer access to [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) and [www.samlearning.co.uk](http://www.samlearning.co.uk).

## **English**

### English/English Language

The two year course for English and English Language focuses on the three areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

Pupils will be assessed by both written examination (worth 40%) and a range of Controlled Assessments (worth 60%). The written examination will take place in January of Year 11 focusing on Reading and producing Non-Fiction and Media texts. Controlled Assessments are undertaken throughout Years 10 and 11, assessing the three core elements of the subject.

Pupils will study a range of texts including Shakespeare, English Literacy Heritage Poetry, and a Prose text from a different culture. English Language students will also complete a Spoken Language study. Pupils will also have the opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills in groups, individually and through role play.

### English Literature

Alongside English Language pupils also have the opportunity to study a further range of literature throughout Years 10 and 11. Assessment is again via Controlled Assessment and written examination.

The written examinations will take place at the end of Years 10 and 11. Pupils will study a range of poetry, Shakespeare, prose from a different culture and modern drama.

For both the English/English Language and English Literature there is an expectation to work independently on weekly homework tasks that will reinforce their learning in the classroom.

## **Science**

### Core Science

In Year 10 our students follow AQA Core Science A which means that we study 3 units of work. These are examined by end of unit course written response exams in June of Year 10. The tests combine to give 75% of the total marks. The other 25% is based upon teacher-assessed practical skills and investigative skills assessments (ISA), which take place in lesson time.

Whilst studying the traditional ideas behind Physics, Chemistry and Biology students have their skills for life and industry developed, as they understand How Science Works. This enables students to see how Science is an essential part of every day life and helps them to consider the implications and responsibilities of living and working in such an advanced, technological world.

### Additional Science

In Year 11 many students complete another full GCSE course. We use AQA Additional Science which means that we study 3 units of work. These are examined by three written response tests in January and June. The tests combine to give 75% of the total marks. The other 25% is based upon teacher-assessed practical skills and investigative skills assessments (ISA), which take place in lesson time.

Whilst studying the traditional ideas behind Physics, Chemistry and Biology students continue to have their skills for life and industry developed, as they understand How Science Works. This enables students to see how Science is an essential part of everyday life and helps them to consider the implications and responsibilities of living and working in such an advanced, technological world.

### Additional Applied Science

This course is taken in Year 11 by students who wish to specialise in a vocational approach after the general Science course. This course provides the opportunity to study the work of scientists outside the school environment in the fields of food, forensics and sports science. It empowers students to take charge of their own learning. The assessment is by two portfolio units and one externally marked paper.

### Triple Award Science

A small proportion of our students are invited to study: Physics, Chemistry and Biology GCSE's.

The courses are assessed by written response papers (75%) and teacher assessed investigative skill and practical skill assessments (25%). The assessments are in Year 10 and continue into January and June of Year 11.

Students are expected to apply their procedural knowledge understanding skills in a wide range of substantive Physics, Chemistry and Biological contexts. The course is delivered by subject specialists and is intended for students who are intending to continue to study Sciences at an advanced level.

### BTEC Science

A proportion of our students are invited to study Edexcel's BTEC courses. This vocational course is designed to introduce learners to the demands of working in the Science sector; whilst still requiring the student to gain an understanding of concepts encountered throughout traditional Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The First Diploma course is solely assessed through a coursework portfolio and upon completion is of similar value to four GCSE grades at A-C.

The First Extended Certificate course is solely assessed through a coursework and upon completion is of similar value to two GCSE grades at A-C.

The First Certificate course is solely assessed through a coursework portfolio and upon completion is of similar value to one GCSE grade at A-C.

## **Design and Technology**

Students opting for Design and Technology as a choice in Year 10 have the option of choosing from either Resistant Materials or Product Design.

### Resistant Materials

During KS4 students will continue to develop their skills in the design process through:

- Research
- Analysis
- Production of ideas
- Development
- Evaluation

Students will also be taught to modify, develop and make scale size models using CAD/CAM. Students will then realise these models using their chosen materials.

Basic skills will be developed through a series of mini projects including wood joints and welding. This will lead to various pieces of practical work using wood, metal and plastics. Students will also develop an understanding of economical, environmental, social and cultural aspects of designing and making.

The skills that have been learned during Year 10 will provide the basis to complete a major project during Year 11. The project will be portfolio based and is worth 60% of the final GCSE mark. The other 40% is a formal examination at the end of term. Both portfolio coursework and examination marks are then combined by the examination board to provide the final GCSE mark.

### Product Design

There are two elements to the AQA offered Design and Technology Product Design course.

In unit 1 there is a written paper which is worth 40% of total marks. This is a formal end of year 11 exam done under exam conditions. It will be two hours long.

In unit 2 there is a design and making practice (a major making project) which is worth 60% of total marks.

This should take approximately 45 hours of work and will be carried out throughout Year 11.

During Year 10 students will learn the skills and knowledge required within Product Design to undertake a final design and making practice in Year 11. These skills and knowledge will be learned by undertaking small projects throughout Year 10

Throughout KS4 students will develop their understanding of Product Design. This will include Materials and Components which will incorporate classification and working properties of materials, design and market influences and processes and manufacture.

Materials and Components will include, amongst others, paper and card, timber based materials, ferrous and non ferrous metals, plastics, electronic and control components, manipulating and combining materials and new/smart materials.

Process and manufacture will include product manufacture, industrial and commercial practice, methods of production, manufacturing systems and the use of information and communication technology.

The final design and making piece will be a single design and make activity selected from a range of board set tasks.

## **Physical Education**

Year 10 and 11 pupils will be continuing the second part of the two year BTEC level 2 course worth the equivalent of a GCSE grade A-C.

They will be starting their fitness testing and training unit which builds on their previous years and units work. In this unit students will study the basic factors of fitness, lifestyle and psychology in sport.

The first part of the unit will give students insight into the physical fitness requirements and training methods used to achieve excellence in sport. Students will also explore lifestyle factors which may affect sports performance. The second part of the unit will enable students to participate in a series of fitness tests to assess their current fitness levels and performance. Students can then compare their own level of fitness and potential with the demand of competing at their desired level.

In the final part of the unit students will examine psychological factors which may affect training and sports performance. There is no final exam to this course.

The course is assessed in the following way;

Pass – which is the equivalent to a GCSE C grade

Merit – which is the equivalent to a GCSE B grade

Distinction – which is the equivalent to a GCSE A grade

### Parents help

- You can help by making sure that your child has the appropriate equipment for every lesson.
- Help and encourage your child to be involved in Physical activity in and out of school to help improve their performance, health and fitness.
- Make sure that your child makes all course work and other work related deadlines in order ensure a good grade.

Any problems please contact Mr Fulton or Ms Wright

## **ICT**

All students will follow the OCR National Level 2 ICT Course which is equivalent to one full GCSE. During the two years they will study: the use of ICT for businesses, how to create web pages for a purpose, creating computer graphics for a new company and creating animation to attract attention to a web page.

The course has no end of year examinations as all coursework is assessed for this qualification.

## **History**

Year 10 GCSE History covers the main Twentieth Century theme of “Conflict in the Modern World”.

The course includes the study of the First World War, The Treaty of Versailles, The League of Nations, and the Causes of World War Two. Students will complete two coursework assignments on the impact of World War on the British People.

Key assessments and dates during Year 10:

- Courses of WW1 exam – November
- Treaty of Versailles and League of Nations exam – February
- Causes of WW2 exam – May
- GCSE Paper 1 – June

Year 11 GCSE History covers the theme of Governments in Action in the first half of the Twentieth Century, studying Germany and the USA during the 1920's & 1930's.

Germany:

- Weimar Germany, 1919-29
- Hitler's Germany, 1929-39

USA:

- Depression and the New Deal, 1929-41

Key assessment date during Year 11:

- Weimar Germany exam – November
- Hitler's Germany exam – February
- Depression and the New Deal exam – May
- GCSE Paper 2 exam – June

## **Geography**

We aim to complete more than half of the GCSE by the end of Year 10. This will include three out of a total of six units of physical and human Geography and collecting the data for the controlled assessment. This will involve a day's field trip out of school.

In Year 11 students will complete the GCSE course by doing the remaining 3 units of work and writing up their controlled assessments. Half way through Year 11, students will sit a mock GCSE exam and the results of this will help to determine if a pupil is best placed on the foundation or the higher level exam paper.

Prior to the summer exams during Year 11 a revision programme will be put in place, which will include after school sessions, to which all pupils are invited.

## **Travel and Tourism**

Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate is equivalent to 2 GCSE at grades A-C. It gives pupils the skills and knowledge relevant to this employment sector which can be transferred easily to any other service industry.

There are no exams so the course is assessed throughout both Years 10 and 11 by portfolio work. There are three mandatory units plus a choice of optional units allowing flexibility in the course, according to the interests of the group.

Pupils are expected to work independently to complete assessment activities and must be able to work to deadlines.

## **RE**

Full Course students follow a dynamic and demanding syllabus. They study eight topics in total over the 2 years of the course, ranging from Religion and Medical Ethics (the rights and wrongs of abortion, euthanasia and animal research) to Beliefs about Deity (does God exist? What proof is there that God does or doesn't exist? Are there such things as miracles?)

In Year 11 Full course students continue with their studies, going on to explore such topics as Religion, Poverty and Wealth (the causes of and solutions to poverty) and Religion and Equality (prejudice and discrimination against people of a different race, sex or faith).

Short Course students study just 4 topics, all of which are concerned with Ethics (the study of what it right or wrong with our choices).

Students are assessed through an end of topic test and regular independent learning tasks. Students develop the skills of listening, reflection, empathy and making links between belief and lifestyle practices. They are also asked to thoughtfully evaluate their own and others' beliefs.

### **Modern Foreign Languages**

In Years 10 and 11 we provide complete preparation for the GCSE examination. The course offers a lively communicative approach underpinned by a clear grammatical progression.

It is a suitable for a wide ability range. The activities and contexts provided throughout the course offer opportunities for students to apply skills from the six groups of the thinking and learning skills framework.

Students are encouraged to make the most of the varied resources available to them as well as take part in trips to French speaking countries and use the internet.

Assessments occur every half term in order to monitor and support each student's progress through the course. The course is designed to be the ideal springboard to A Level or other higher levels of learning French.

### **Health and Social Care BTEC**

Choosing to study for a BTEC Level 2 First in Health and Social Care qualification will open the doors to a number of career opportunities working with a range of people. This is a vocational and work related course, and you will gain specific knowledge, understanding and skills that will become relevant to your chosen profession.

During the course you will cover 4 mandatory units and optional units that will provide a combined total of 60 credits.

The units covered will be:

<b>Unit Number</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>Unit Name</b>	<b>Mandatory/ Optional</b>
1	5	Communication in Health and Social Care	M
2	5	Individual rights in Health and Social Care	M
3	5	Individual needs in Health and Social Care	M
4	5	Ensuring safe environments in Health and Social Care	M
5	10	Vocational experience in a Health and Social Care setting *	O
6	10	Cultural diversity for Health and Social Care	O
7	10	Anatomy and physiology for Health and Social Care	O
8	10	Human lifespan development	O
9	10	Creative a therapeutic activities in Health and Social Care	O
10	10	Health and Social Care services	O
11	10	The impact of diet on health	O

\* To successfully complete this unit learners will need to do 60 hours of work experience

## **Childcare**

CACHE foundation award in Caring for Children Level 1

The CACHE foundation course in Caring for Children provides students with the opportunity to develop basic skills in caring for children.

Three units of work are studied in Year 10:

- Personal development
- Human growth and development from birth to old age
- Care of children
- A further unit of play and practical activities is started in the last term.

Students are assessed by completing an end of unit portfolio for each unit

Each unit will be graded:

- Pass
- Merit
- Distinction

## **Construction**

The BTEC Construction course consists of both practical and class based work. It is designed to develop students' bricklaying and DIY skills; enabling them to get a 'head start' when seeking employment in the construction industry. During this year they will be taught about employment in the sector and will investigate both environmental issues and how the law affects workers in construction. They will learn how to: lay bricks, mix mortars and make water tight joints. They will also be taught how to mix concrete by hand and by machine whilst setting out and constructing pathways in the school garden. Their work is entirely assessed through portfolio development and they will not sit a formal exam.

This subject has equivalence to 2 GCSE grades D-G. To do well in this subject students need to have an interest in construction and be able to learn through practical work. They should be encouraged to help with DIY projects at home and they should take notice of local building projects. Watching TV programmes like 'Grand Designs' will help them gain further understanding of building issues.

## **Certificate of Personal Effectiveness**

COPE stands for Certificate of Personal Effectiveness and aims to develop skills that are useful in adult life and in work. Students work towards this certificate in Guidance and further develop their portfolios during this option.

During the two year course students will plan for and take part in a week's work experience. They will complete projects on the environment and sexual issues such as STIs and contraception. They will be working to complete 12 modules of work over two years.

## **Horticulture**

The GCSE Horticulture course consists of both practical and classroom work. It is aimed at developing students gardening skills; enabling them to manage a garden and be aware of the importance of environmental issues. Students will complete a scientific investigation linked to horticulture. In this course students will work in partnership with Flimby Garden Project.



Students will be taught about the management of and the improvement of soil. They will be taught to use tools effectively and safely. They will learn about the propagation of plants, sowing seeds and how to care for young plants. They will sit an online examination and will submit a portfolio for assessment. Students will be marked on their practical skills. This course is classified as a Science subject and can be counted as a Science subject when students leave school.

### **BTEC Level 1 Award, Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma in WorkSkills (QCF)**

The Edexcel Level 1 Award, Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma in WorkSkills have been designed to offer learners a flexible, relevant course to improve their understanding and application of work-based skills. These qualifications ensure that the knowledge, skills and understanding provided by these qualifications are relevant, current and useful for learners and potential employers. These qualifications have been designed to support employability.

#### Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Award

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Award provides an introduction to the skills, qualities and knowledge that may be required for employment in a particular vocational sector.

#### Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Certificate

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Certificate extends the work-related focus from the Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Award (QCF) and covers some of the knowledge and practical skills required for the workplace.

#### Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Extended Certificate

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Certificate further extends the work-related focus from the Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Award (QCF) and covers some of the knowledge and practical skills required for a particular vocational sector.

#### Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Diploma

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Diploma fully extends the work-related focus from the Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Certificate. There is potential for the qualification to prepare learners for employment.

#### Key features of the Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Award, Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma in WorkSkills

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1 Award, Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma in WorkSkills have been developed to give learners the opportunity to:

- Engage in learning that is relevant to them and which will provide opportunities to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life
- Achieve a nationally recognised Level 1 vocationally-related qualification
- Progress to employment in a particular vocational sector

### **Guidance**

#### Long course – 3 lessons per week

Students taking the PSE option in Year 10 will complete the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Personal and Social Education (equivalent to a B at GCSE). They will complete 7 units covering Personal Action Planning, Sex and Relationships, Emotional Wellbeing, Personal Safety, Personal Finance, Healthy Lifestyle and Applying for Jobs and Courses. The Certificate is 100% portfolio-based with no coursework or exam.

In Year 11, students will complete the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Preparation for Working Life (equivalent to a B at short course GCSE). This will cover Work/Life Relationships, The Changing World of Work, Employment Opportunities and Enterprise Activities as well as expanding on some of the topics covered in the PSE Certificate. This course has a 1½ hour exam and 20% coursework (requiring production of a CV, a letter of application for a job and preparation notes for an interview).

#### Short course – 1 lesson per week

Students taking the RE option in Year 10 will complete the AQA Level 2 Award in Personal and Social Education (equivalent to a B at short course GCSE). They will complete 4 units covering Personal Finance, Healthy Lifestyle and Applying for Jobs and Courses. The Certificate is 100% portfolio-based with no coursework or exam.

In Year 11, students will complete the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Preparation for Working Life (equivalent to a B at short course GCSE). This will cover Work/Life Relationships, The Changing World of Work, Employment Opportunities and Enterprise Activities as well as expanding on some of the topics covered in the PSE Certificate. This course has a 1½ hour exam and 20% coursework (requiring production of a CV, a letter of application for a job and preparation notes for an interview).

### **Art**

In Year 10 students will follow AQA GCSE Art and Design course syllabus. This is made up of one coursework unit (set by us) and a final externally set task (set by AQA). Students will use all of the skills built at Key Stage 3, alongside new approaches and techniques, to help complete an initial introductory unit; “Food and Drink”. This will provide the basis for the next unit of work; “I, Me, Mine” where students will work on independent ideas each creating two separate outcomes.

In Year 11 students will continue to work on the coursework unit started in Year 10. The end result of this will form a mock exam in October.

In January students will receive the externally set task and with guidance will complete this by April. It is expected that students complete weekly homework tasks for their coursework. During the externally set task students will focus on their own preparation work.

Homework is set on a weekly basis and is an important part of the coursework. Assessment will be in line with Assessment Objectives and students will receive regular written and verbal feedback along with self and peer assessment and target setting.

### **Art BTEC**

In both Years 10 and 11 you will explore a wide range of materials and create work both on your own and with others. You will work towards briefs set by your teacher and will mark progress by completing a series of tasks leading to a final piece or project. Each brief begins with a scenario which will help you to understand what is required.

Art BTEC is all coursework there will be no final exam. You will be continually assessed throughout the year and receive advice on how to improve. You will know what level you are on straight away and your teacher will explain the various criteria you are assessed on in September.

## **Drama**

Year 10 students explore elements of drama and other performing arts disciplines with specialised techniques using a variety of medium. Students can be entered for 1-3 GCSE's depending on work produced. Students will work independently and within groups to develop creative ideas through a sustained rehearsal process.

Students have a large choice of options to express their creativity in both performing (e.g, acting, singing, dancing etc) and through production (e.g, set design, consulting, and lighting etc). Students are assessed through practical observation and written work. The coursework is divided into three components: response to the topic and stimuli, the development process, and an evaluation of working practices.

During the Autumn Term, Year 11 students will finish their scripted piece of coursework and begin their final coursework project. Students are assessed through practical observation and written essays. The coursework is divided into three components: response to stimuli and the production, the development process, and an evaluation of working practices. Coursework accounts for 60% of the marks.

A visiting examiner will come and assess performance and design skills and moderate portfolios of the students work between February and April 2013. For their final production students can perform an acting role, or offer production support for a performance.

Homework assignments include practical and research preparation for project work, and written evaluations of productions. Parents, teachers and students will work together to maximise student effort within all assignments.

Parents can help by:

- Encouraging participation in the many performing arts extra-curricular activities on offer
- Attending live performances at theatres

## **Music (Multi-Media)**

Multi-Media covers: Music, Video, Arts, Drama and Dance. In Year 10 focus is on completing an introductory skills development unit, and two pieces of controlled assessment. Unit 1 controlled assessment is based around the topic of Past to Present and Unit 2 controlled assessment is based around the area of Contemporary Issues.

In Year 11 focus is on completing their second piece of controlled assessment, based around the topic of Contemporary Issues and preparing for their examination.

We will assess their ability to work in teams and individually to produce Multi-Media products. Student will select a homework task every week. These will lead to their end of unit portfolio.

For further information, please visit [www.netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk)

