



Curriculum Overview

Key Stage 4

What you need to know

This is it - this is it where it all counts. This is where you decide where you want your future to take you. The school year is 190 teaching days, 380 days for two years. Given that exams take place 7 weeks before the end of the summer term that means it will be less than one year of education until you are taking your final assessments.

Globally 244 million children do not go to school. Not only do you go to school, but you also receive education in a way that not even the most expensive private schools can match (in my opinion).

You may not understand the value of what you are learning right now, but trust me when I say that everything we share with you over the coming months will have a part to play in your future – we just don't know what that may look like yet.

Education is a gift from us to you so please don't waste it – be brave and believe in yourself.

Mr Brown (Head Teacher)

10-year-old Tilly Smith saw the ocean pull back in Thailand—and remembered her geography lesson. She warned others of a coming tsunami, helping save her family and over 100 people. One child's knowledge turned into a life-saving act of courage.

English Language & English Literature

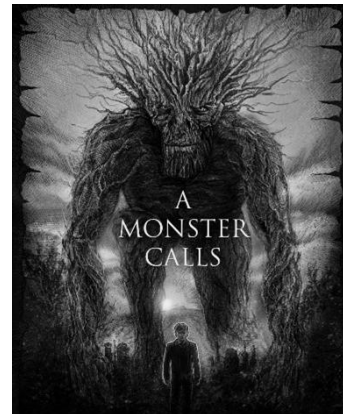
- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- Functional Skills: Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2
- AQA GCSE (Pending approval)

I am really excited about our English lessons over the next two years. Throughout Years 10 and 11, you'll have the chance to explore how language is shaped by our world — from powerful speeches that spark change to gripping stories that leave a lasting impression. You'll dive into a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts, analyse how writers create impact, and learn to craft your own writing that informs, persuades and entertains. You'll develop skills in expressing your ideas clearly, creatively, and confidently — both on paper and via spoken language. English Language isn't just about exams; it's about becoming a strong communicator, a sharp thinker, and someone who understands the power of words in everyday life. Whether you dream of a career in media, law, business, or something completely different, the ability to use language effectively will open doors. And who knows? In 5, 10, or even 30 years, your voice could be one that inspires others.

English Literature lessons help you explore, understand, and analyse a wide range of literary texts from different time periods. The course focuses on developing skills in reading, interpretation, and written communication. This includes exploring William Shakespeare and 19th Century novels with a focus on themes, character development and historical context. You will also explore plots, characters, modern plays/novels and poetry.

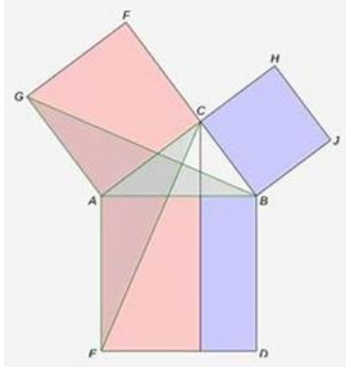
Key skills that you will develop:

- Critical thinking and analysis
- Understanding of historical and social contexts
- Essay writing and argument building
- Confidence in interpreting unseen texts



Maths

- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- Functional Skills: Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2
- AQA GCSE (Pending approval)



The transition from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 mathematics is an exciting step forward in your journey to become a mathematician.

It opens the door to more advanced topics like algebra, geometry, and statistics, encouraging deeper thinking and problem-solving. You will begin to see how maths connects to real-life situations and future careers. This stage builds confidence and independence, as you will tackle more complex challenges and develop strategies to solve them. It's a time of growth, where curiosity is rewarded and mathematical thinking becomes more refined. With new opportunities to explore patterns, logic, and reasoning, students often discover a renewed enthusiasm for the subject. Key Stage 4 is where maths truly comes to life! Just imagine what lies within the world beyond.

Key Skills that you will develop:

- Number Skills
- Algebra
- Geometry and Measures
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change
- Statistics and Probability
- Problem Solving
- Reasoning and Communication

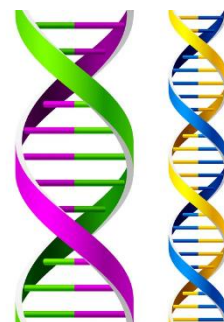


Science

- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- AQA Entry Level Certificate
- AQA GCSE (Pending approval)

This year as we dive into the incredible world of Biology, Chemistry and Physics! I've always believed science is more than just facts in a textbook—it's a journey of discovery, wonder, and understanding the universe that surrounds us. I'm passionate about sharing this adventure with you, and I can't wait to see your curiosity spark as we explore these subjects.

In Biology, we'll unravel the mysteries of life itself. From the intricate complexities of the cells in your body to the ecosystems that sustain our planet, we'll explore how living things connect and thrive. You'll discover how your DNA makes you unique, how evolution shapes the diversity of life, and why understanding biology can inspire us to protect our environment.



In Chemistry, get ready to be amazed by the building blocks of everything around us. We'll dive into the periodic table, where elements tell stories of reactions and bonds that create everything from the air we breathe to the materials in our phones. You'll mix, experiment, and uncover the magic of chemical reactions—trust me, there's nothing like the thrill of seeing a reaction you predicted come to life in the lab! Our goal is to show you how chemistry shapes our world and fuels innovation.



In Physics, we'll chase the forces that govern the universe. From the energy that powers our homes to the gravity that keeps our feet on the ground, physics is the key to understanding how things move, work, and exist. We'll explore waves, electricity, and even the stars above us. We still get goosebumps thinking about how physics connects us to the cosmos, and we are eager to share that sense of awe with you as we experiment and question the "why" behind it all.

This year, science will come alive with hands-on experiments, discussions, and moments that make you go "Wow!"

Humanities (History & Geography)

- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- (AQA GCSE, Pending approval)

In Key Stage 4 you will explore so many events and key processes that shaped our world and continue to shape the way we think and plan. We will delve into the wars between natives and settlers in the American West, recognise the impact of the Cold War on our world and get amazed with experiments that helped the development of medicine through time. In this journey you will be learning to analyse and interpret historical sources and develop your critical thinking skills building your ability to form reasoned arguments about change, causation, and significance. History is crucial for understanding our present, learning from past mistakes, and shaping our future. It will also strengthen your communication and research skills, which are valuable in careers like law, journalism, and education which is very exciting because we have no idea where you might be 5, 10 or even 30 years from now, but who knows, by then, you may have made your own history.





In Geography we are go through some fascinating topics about our natural world. We'll have an adventure through natural hazards like earthquakes and storms, walk through the UK and the rest of the world's amazing landscapes from cold glaciers to hot deserts and think about their importance. But it's not just about learning from books — you'll get out into the field and explore real environments to develop skills like map reading and using GIS technology. This will help you identify how landscapes are shaped. Geography is a way of seeing the world through its human and physical



complexity. It opens doors to careers in environmental science, urban planning, travel, and more. Most importantly, it helps you become a thoughtful, informed global citizen who can help meet the challenges our planet faces head on.

PSHCE (Personal development, social development, health education & Citizenship)

- ASDAN units
- Independence Plus – AQA Unit Awards



Citizenship will empower you with the knowledge and skills to actively participate in society, understand your rights and responsibilities, and make a positive impact on the world around you. You will explore democracy and politics in the UK, rights, responsibilities and the law, and the UK and the Wider World. You will also get the opportunity to plan and research a citizenship action project.

We will explore important life skills, personal development, and diverse beliefs and values. These subjects are essential for your growth and understanding of the world. In Key Stage 4 we have dedicated lessons for careers and Relationships and Sex Education. We Also have dedicated religious studies lessons where we will explore spiritual beliefs, moral values, social justice and cultural traditions.

Digital Skills (ICT)

- Functional Skills: Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2
- Creative I Media – Cambridge Nationals (Option)



NCFE Digital Skills qualifications are designed to equip you with the essential digital knowledge and practical skills needed in today's technology-driven world. These courses cover a range of key areas such as using digital devices, online safety, communication tools, creating digital content, and solving technical problems.

Ideal for preparing you for further study, apprenticeships, or the modern workplace, NCFE Digital Skills helps build confidence with everyday technology while encouraging responsible and effective use of digital tools.

Courses are hands-on, relevant, and tailored to meet the needs of learners at different levels of ability and experience.

PE

- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- Duke of Edinburgh Award (Bronze)



Our Key Stage 4 PE curriculum promotes physical fitness, teamwork, and personal development through a wide range of sports and activities. Students build skills in leadership, resilience, and healthy living while taking part in competitive and recreational physical education.

As part of the wider PE experience, students also complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) — a nationally recognised programme that encourages independence, commitment, and outdoor adventure. Through volunteering, physical challenges, skill-building, and expedition training, students grow in confidence and develop key life skills valued by employers and colleges alike.

This combined approach to PE and DofE supports both physical and personal growth, helping you to become well-rounded, motivated individuals ready for life beyond school.



Arts Award



- Bronze Award
- Silver Award (Y11 Option)

Art will unleash your creativity, allowing you to express yourself in unique and imaginative ways. You will learn various techniques and mediums, and you will have the chance to observe your interests and showcase your talents.

Arts Award is a nationally recognised qualification that celebrates young people's achievements in the arts. Open to all, it encourages creativity, independent learning, and leadership through a wide range of art forms — from music, drama, and dance to visual arts, film, and creative writing.

Students develop their skills by taking part in arts activities, researching inspiring artists, sharing their experiences, and leading their own creative projects. Arts Award helps build confidence, communication skills, and a strong portfolio for further education or employment in the creative industries.

Food Technology (Option)

- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- V Cert Level 1 / 2



Our Food & Cookery lessons in key stage 4 are going to be awesome. We will be working through the V-Cert course designed to teach you far more than just how to cook. It's a practical, hands-on course that blends essential cooking techniques with the science and nutrition behind the food we eat.

You'll gain confidence in the kitchen as you explore skills such as roasting, baking, boiling, frying, and following recipes accurately. We'll explore topics like food safety, dietary needs, and conduct food experiments, helping you understand not only what you cook, but why you make certain choices—whether for health, taste, or budget.

You'll have the opportunity to showcase your creativity and knowledge, preparing you for further education or careers in the food industry.



Health & Social Care (Option)

- ASDAN units & AQA Unit Awards
- V Cert Level 1 / 2



The NCFE V Cert in Health and Social Care is a practical, engaging course designed for students who are interested in working with and helping people. It introduces key topics such as human growth and development, health and well-being, and how to support individuals with different needs.

Through real-life case studies, project-based learning, and hands-on activities, students develop important skills like communication, teamwork, empathy, and problem-solving — all of which are essential in health and care-related careers.

This qualification is ideal preparation for further study at college, apprenticeships, or careers in areas such as nursing, childcare, social work, or community support. It gives students a strong foundation in understanding how to care for others and make a positive difference in their communities.

Business Studies (Option)

Business Studies helps students understand how businesses work, grow, and make decisions. Students learn about finance, marketing, human resources, operations, and entrepreneurship using real-life business examples.

The course develops:

- Problem-solving skills
- Communication skills
- Decision-making
- Financial awareness
- Analytical and evaluation skills



School Development & ASDAN Units

We also have access to a full range of ASDAN short courses which you can work towards.

- Uniformed Services Short Course
- Esports Short Course
- Expressive Arts Short Course
- Food-Wise Short Course
- Gardening Short Course
- Hair and Beauty Vocational Taster
- Languages Short Course



How does this look in Key Stage 4?

Frequency of Teaching and range of subjects

Subject	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2	Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
English	4	4	4	4	4
Reading	5	5	5	5	5
Maths	4	4	4	4	4
Science	3	3	3	3	
Music	1	1	1		
MFL	1	1	1		
DT	1	1	1	Option 2	
Food	1	1	1	Option 2	Option
Art	2	2	2	Arts Award (Bronze) 2	Option – Arts Award (Silver)
Geography	1	1	1	Option 2	
History	1	1	1	Option 2	
Duke of Edinburgh				Bronze	Bronze/Silver
RE	1	1	1	1	
PE	2	2	2	2	Option
Computing	1	1	1	1	1
PSHCE / Ind+	1	1	1	1	2
Ind+ / Careers	1	1	1	1	5
Personal Development	5	5	5	5	5
Health & Social Care				Option 2	Option
Business Studies				Option 2	Option