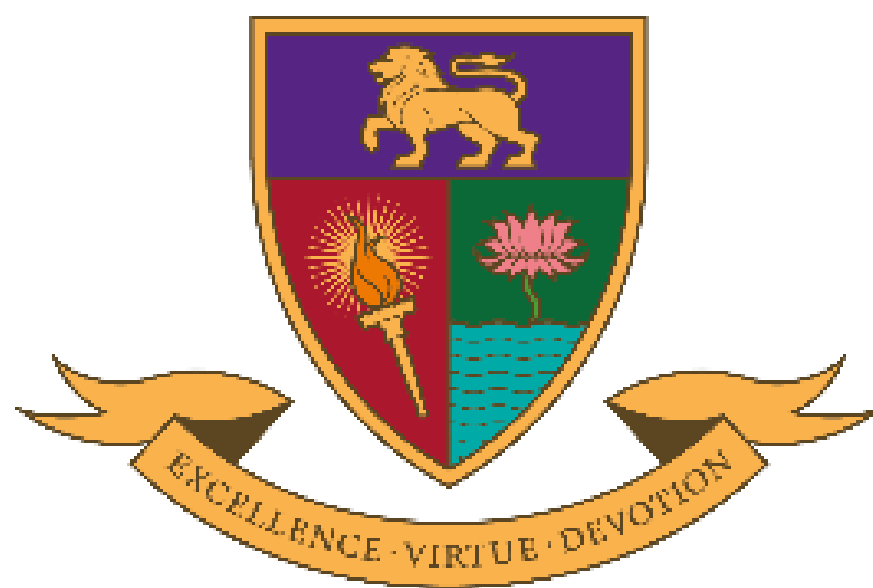


# OPTIONS BOOKLET 2024-25

At Avanti fields we strive to enable students to understand and develop into the best version of themselves, undertaking a journey of self-discovery in order to fulfil their intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual potential and so make the world a better place.



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SCHOOL

# OPTIONS INTRODUCTION



This is an important time in your education. In Key Stage 4, you have the opportunity to prepare for your future and gain the qualifications that will help you achieve this. It is important to take time, take good advice and to make choices wisely.

At Avanti Fields School, our curriculum is balanced with an academic core. You will find that most subjects are compulsory, which means that you have to study them to make sure that you have a broad education that prepares you for whatever you may choose to do in the future. We want to ensure that you have the right experience and qualifications that will lead on successfully to further study at college, employment or training.

The vast majority of students will study the CORE curriculum, which will include all the subjects that make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) as shown in the table below:

EBACC GCSE SUBJECTS
English Language
English Literature
Mathematics
Science (Combined Science or Separate Sciences)
Geography <b>OR</b> History
Foreign Language (Spanish)

This set of subjects has been shown year after year to provide the best preparation for future life. If you are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain’s most prestigious universities.

You also have some choices to make. As part of the options process, you will have a discussion with a member of senior staff who will help you with your decisions. After the meeting, you should discuss your ideas with people who you know will give you sensible advice – your family, teachers, and your form tutor. Use this booklet to find out more about the courses on offer at Key Stage 4.

Whatever subjects you choose, the learning that takes place at Key Stage 4 will enable you to understand and develop into the best version of yourselves, undertaking a journey of self-discovery in order to fulfil your intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual potential.

It is an exciting time but also a time you need to take seriously. Think carefully about what you are doing, make sensible decisions and work really hard for the rest of Year 9 so that you are ready for the challenge of Years 10 and 11.

**The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.**  
*The Centre for Longitudinal Studies*

**The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.**  
*(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)*

# KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

All students will follow GCSE level courses in:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Religious Studies

**ALL** students study science and this will lead to two GCSEs (Combined Science) or three GCSEs (Separate Sciences). [Students can still take any A Level science if they complete the Combined Science course]

The vast majority of students will also study Spanish as their main foreign language.

Students will also have core PE and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) as part of their curriculum; both valuable parts of the KS4 curriculum. These are non-examination subjects.

## OPTION SUBJECTS:

For the remaining curriculum time, students will be guided in choosing additional subjects.

Most students **must** choose **one** of the following humanities GCSE courses:

- Geography
- History

[Students CAN choose both humanities subjects if they wish, in which case one of these humanities will be part of the final free choice option]

Students can then select two of the following subjects as part of the free choice:

Art	Business Studies
Computer Science	Design Technology
Drama	Economics
Geography	History
Food Preparation and Nutrition	Cambridge National: Sport
Vocational Music	

Most students will study 10 GCSE subjects.

This booklet has a page dedicated to each subject, explaining what each course involves in more detail.

Students will also be asked to make a reserve choice. Wherever possible, students will be granted their first choices. However, the **courses will only run if they are a viable option, and there are many issues that may affect this.**

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”*  
**Nelson Mandela**

*“It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.”*  
**J K Rowling**

# CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION



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Below is a brief description of Core PE and PSHE. These are both valuable parts of the Key Stage 4 curriculum, but they do not lead to a qualification.

Physical Education remains a compulsory subject in Years 10 and 11 and all students have 2 lessons dedicated to the subject. The emphasis in Key Stage 4 is on developing Sports Leadership skills; to plan, deliver and critically evaluate their own performance and that of others.

We also place a high importance on participation and enjoyment to inspire and instil a lifelong love and interest in sport and physical activity in our students. In Year 11 there is an element of choice in provision to allow students to partake in physical activity in an enjoyable environment.

## PSHE Personal, Social and Health Education

During Key Stage 4, students develop their understanding of the rights and responsibilities they have as active British and Global citizens and members of society. There are opportunities to discuss significant topical issues and develop an understanding of how society works, and the skills and abilities needed to navigate this. Students have opportunities to develop skills such as debating, research techniques, negotiation and participation.

The careers programme at Key Stage 4 helps students to explore the range of opportunities available post 16. Students have opportunities to research their own career aspirations alongside advice and guidance from external providers. In Year 11, students complete applications for post 16 education and training. The application process is an opportunity for students to showcase their academic ability and their wider school and external contributions.

Through a carefully sequenced PSHE curriculum all students will be given the opportunity to reflect on key areas of wellbeing and resilience, which is aligned to both our core values and also the key learner and behaviour qualities of our unique Avanti Fields Way wheel that aims to promote success and happiness now and in the future. Additionally, through our PRE provision all students will be guided to reflect and develop spiritually and personally into the best version of themselves.

*"Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen."*  
**Michael Jordan**

*Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow."*  
**Anthony J D'Angelo**



# GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"If you want to change the world, pick up a pen and write."*  
**Martin Luther**

**Enrich students' lives through an introduction to the very best that has been thought and said in classic and contemporary fiction and non-fiction.**

Students will draw upon a range of literary fiction and extended non-fiction text, as reading stimulus, and engage with creative as well as real and relevant contexts. Students develop higher-order reading and critical thinking skills that encourage genuine enquiry into different topics and themes. They learn to read fluently and write effectively, demonstrating a confident control of Standard English. The ability to write grammatically correct sentences, deploying figurative and analytical language, and subject terminology, are all developed throughout the course. GCSE English Language is taught alongside GCSE English Literature, leading to two GCSE qualifications.

The AQA GCSE English Language course offers all students the opportunity of demonstrating their skills, and achieving their potential on the terminal examinations at the end of Year 11. There are no tiers for these examinations, so students of all abilities sit the same examination papers.

There is also a Speaking and Listening element to GCSE English Language, which is teacher-assessed and attracts a Pass / Merit / Distinction. It is reported separately on the list of results as a *Speaking and Listening Endorsement*.

## KEY SKILLS DEVELOPED THROUGHOUT THE COURSE

- Read fluently, and with good understanding, a wide range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, including literature and literary non-fiction as well as other writing such as reviews and journalism
- Read and evaluate texts critically and make comparisons between texts
- Summarise and synthesise information or ideas from texts
- Use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing
- Write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately
- Use grammar correctly and punctuate and spell accurately
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- Listen to and understand spoken language and use spoken Standard English effectively.

## ASSESSMENT

Two terminal examinations taken at the end of the two-year course (Year 11). Students also complete a Spoken Language Endorsement, which leads to a separate award (Pass / Merit / Distinction).

**GCSE English Language Paper 1: *Creative Reading and Writing*** is 1 hour 45 minutes long, and is worth 50% of the overall GCSE. The examination paper consists of two sections: Section A tests reading and analytical skills on an unseen fiction text, while Section B is an extended writing task, assessing fluency, use of Standard English, and accuracy of writing.

**GCSE English Language Paper 2: *Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives*** is 1 hour and 45 minutes long, and is worth 50% of the overall GCSE qualification. The examination paper consists of two sections: Section A tests reading and analytical skills on two unseen pieces of literary non-fiction, while Section B is an extended writing task, assessing fluency, use of Standard English, and accuracy of writing.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8700

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Publishing
- Technical writing
- Journalism
- Media industry
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Public Relations
- Public sector
- Law
- Teacher
- Librarian

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS P BALI**

# GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"Literature helps us transcend ourselves."*  
**Mohsin Hamid**

**Enrich students' lives through an introduction to the very best in classic and contemporary English literature.**

Through their study of English literature at GCSE, students develop their knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. The course enables them to develop culturally and acquire knowledge of the best that has been thought and written. Studying GCSE English Literature encourages students to read widely for pleasure, and as a preparation for studying literature at a higher level.

The AQA GCSE English Literature course offers all students the opportunity of demonstrating their skills and achieving their potential on the terminal examinations at the end of Year 11. There are no tiers for these examinations, so students of all abilities sit the same examination papers.

The content of the course includes works by the following writers from the pre-20<sup>th</sup> literary canon: William Shakespeare; Alfred Lord Tennyson; William Blake; William Wordsworth; R. L. Stevenson; Robert Browning and Christina Rossetti. It also encompasses works by significant writers from the 20<sup>th</sup> century and beyond: J.B. Priestley; Simon Armitage; Daljit Nagra and Imtiaz Dhakar.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

- **Paper 1: *Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel*** – 1 hour 45 minutes, and worth 40% of the overall GCSE. **Section A Shakespeare:** students will answer one question on the play they have studied (*Macbeth*). They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole. **Section B The 19<sup>th</sup>-century novel:** students will answer one question on the novel they have studied (*The Sign of Four*). They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.
- **Paper 2: *Modern Texts and Poetry*** – 2 hours and 15 minutes, and worth 60% of the overall GCSE. **Section A Modern texts:** students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on the text they have studied (*An Inspector Calls*). **Section B Poetry:** students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the 15 poems in the *Power and Conflict* anthology. **Section C Unseen poetry:** Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

## ASSESSMENT

- Two terminal examinations taken at the end of the two-year course (Year 11).
- **Paper 1: *Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel*** – 1 hour 45 minutes, and worth 40% of the overall GCSE.
- **Paper 2: *Modern Texts and Poetry*** – 2 hours and 15 minutes, and worth 60% of the overall GCSE.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8702

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Publishing
- Writer
- Journalism
- Media industry
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Public Relations
- Public sector
- Law
- Teacher
- Librarian

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS P BALI**

# GCSE MATHEMATICS



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." Malcolm X*

**Develop the mathematical thinking and reasoning to allow students to strategically solve problems and apply their mathematical knowledge in the real world.**

Students study Mathematics to gain essential skills, knowledge and develop a love for the subject. The Mathematics course allows students to reach their full potential by equipping them with the right skills that will be used in everyday life such as problem solving, reasoning, analysis and logical thinking.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Probability
- Statistics

Within each area students are required to:

- Use and apply standard techniques/formulae
- Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically
- Solve problems within Mathematics and in other contexts.

## ASSESSMENT

Mathematics is assessed only by examination at the end of the course in Year 11. There are two tiers of entry: Higher (aimed at grades 4-9) and Foundation (aimed at grades 1-5). Each tier consists of three papers. Each paper is 1.5 hours long. The first paper is non-calculator and the remaining two are calculator papers. All three papers carry an equal weighting, and a single grade is awarded at the end of the course.

The Mathematics GCSE course provides a solid foundation of knowledge and understanding in the subject, whilst also developing the real-life application.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8300

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Accountant
- Actuary
- Analyst
- Banking
- Computer programmer
- Computing
- Financial Advisor
- Finance Manager
- Engineer
- Game Designer
- Insurance Broker
- Software Developer
- Statistician
- Surveyor
- Teacher

**HEAD OF MATHEMATICS: MR B PARMAR**



# GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"Scientists have become the bearers of the torch of discovery in our quest for knowledge." Stephen Hawking*

**Develop a sense of awe and wonder at the world around us and explore the way everything interconnects.**

Students study the content of GCSE Science, which helps them make sense of the science they come across in everyday life. They develop inquiring minds and come to appreciate how science and technology affect their lives, environment and the Universe.

Students achieve two GCSE grades, with marks from each science (biology, chemistry and physics) combined to define an overall double grade. The overall grades are determined through linear examinations at the end of Year 11.

The content of the course includes 21 core practicals studied in class. Practical skills are assessed through the written assessment in the final Year 11 examinations.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

### • BIOLOGY:

- **PAPER 1:** Cell biology, organisation, infection and response and bioenergetics.
- **PAPER 2:** Homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.

### • CHEMISTRY:

- **PAPER 1:** Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes and energy changes.
- **PAPER 2:** The rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

### • PHYSICS:

- **PAPER 1:** Energy, electricity, particle model of matter and atomic structure.
- **PAPER 2:** Forces and motion, waves and magnetism

## ASSESSMENT

AQA Trilogy GCSE (9-1) in Combined Science consists of six externally examined papers. These papers are available at foundation tier (grades 1 to 5) and higher tier (grades 4 to 9).

Each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes in duration (70 marks per paper) and consists of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. The written papers examine fact recall, application of understanding, evaluation, practical apparatus and techniques and working scientifically skills.

GCSEs in Combined Science allow progression to a number of A Level and college courses. The course provides a solid foundation of knowledge and understanding in the subject, whilst also developing practical skills.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8464  
[Trilogy]

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Astronomer
- Biochemist
- Dentist
- Doctor
- Engineer
- Forensic scientist
- Optician
- Paramedic
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Science researcher
- Sports science
- Teacher
- Veterinary surgeon
- Zoologist

**HEAD OF SCIENCE: MRS R PATEL**



# GCSE SEPARATE SCIENCES



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." Marie Curie*

**Develop a sense of awe and wonder at the world around us and explore the way everything interconnects.**

Students study the content of GCSE Science, which helps them make sense of the science they come across in everyday life. They develop inquiring minds and come to appreciate how science and technology affect their lives, environment and the Universe.

Students achieve a separate GCSE grade in each of the three sciences – one in biology, another in chemistry and the third in physics. The overall grade for each separate science GCSE is calculated through linear examinations at the end of Year 11.

The content of the course includes 28 core practicals studied in class. Practical skills are assessed through the written assessment, incorporated into each of the individual Year 11 examinations.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

### • BIOLOGY:

- **PAPER 1:** Cell biology, organisation, infection and response and bioenergetics.
- **PAPER 2:** Homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.

### • CHEMISTRY:

- **PAPER 1:** Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes and energy changes.
- **PAPER 2:** The rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

### • PHYSICS:

- **PAPER 1:** Energy, electricity, particle model of matter and atomic structure.
- **PAPER 2:** Forces and motion, waves, magnetism and space

## ASSESSMENT

AQA GCSE (9-1) in biology, chemistry and physics consists of two externally examined papers for each GCSE. These papers are available at foundation tier (grades 1 to 5) and higher tier (grades 4 to 9).

Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes in duration (100 marks per paper) and consists of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. The written papers examine fact recall, application of understanding, evaluation, practical apparatus and techniques and working scientifically skills.

GCSEs in Separate Sciences allow progression to a number of A Level and college courses. The course provides a solid foundation of knowledge and understanding in the subject, whilst also developing practical skills.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification:  
8461    8462    8463

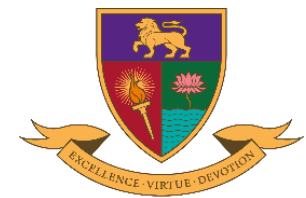
## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Astronomer
- Biochemist
- Dentist
- Doctor
- Engineer
- Forensic scientist
- Optician
- Paramedic
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Science researcher
- Sports science
- Teacher
- Veterinary surgeon
- Zoologist

**HEAD OF SCIENCE: MRS R PATEL**

# GCSE HISTORY

*"We study history not to be clever in another time, but to be wise always." Marcus Tullius Cicero*



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

**The History curriculum is focussed on creating a love of history through enlightening students to the stories of the past.**

The History GCSE curriculum History allows our students to appreciate the impact of the events studied and how they have shaped the world. We encourage them to think about the world they live in and aim to develop the oracy, thinking and literacy skills they need to be knowledgeable, critical, and questioning citizens.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED:

- **Medicine in Britain, c1250-Present:**
  - Causes of disease and illnesses
  - Approaches to prevention and treatment
  - Medicine on the Western Front, 1914-1918
- **Early Elizabethan England, c1558-1588:**
  - Queen, government and religion
  - Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad
  - Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration
- **Superpower relations and the Cold War 1941-91**
  - Origins of the Cold War 1941-58
  - Cold War Crisis' 1958-70
  - End of the Cold War
- **Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939:**
  - **The Weimar Republic, 1918-29:** challenges to the Weimar Republic, changes in Germany after First World War
  - **Hitler's rise to power, 1919-33:** the Nazi Party, Munich Putsch, growth in Nazi support
  - **Nazi dictatorship, 1933-39:** Reichstag Fire, the police state, Nazi control and opposition to Nazis
  - **Life in Nazi Germany, 1933-39:** Women, young, employment and persecution of minorities

## ASSESSMENT

Edexcel History consists of three externally examined papers. The total qualification mark is 168, students can achieve GCSE grades 1 to 9.

- **PAPER 1:** Medicine in Britain, c1250-Present. 1hr 15 mins. 52 Marks (30% of qualification)
- **PAPER 2:** Early Elizabethan England, c1558-1588 and Superpower relations and the Cold War 1945-91 1hr 45 mins. 64 Marks (40% of qualification)
- **PAPER 3:** Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939. 1 hr 20 mins. 52 Marks (30% of qualification).

A GCSE in History allows progression to a number of A Level and university courses. The course provides a solid foundation of knowledge and understanding in the subject, whilst also developing transferable skills.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: EDEXCEL
- Specification: 1HI0

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Archaeologist
- Broadcast journalist
- Business management
- Civil Service
- Economics
- Film Production
- Financial analysts
- Heritage manager
- Journalism
- Law
- Librarian
- Marketing executive
- Politician
- Public sector
- Researcher
- Solicitor
- Teacher

HEAD OF HUMANITIES: MR J FAIRCLOUGH

# GCSE GEOGRAPHY

*"The study of **geography** is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together." Barack Obama*

**Foster a sense of wonder and enlighten students about the world by becoming independent critical thinkers.**

Through our Geography curriculum, students will learn about the world's diversity of environments and cultures. They will gain a greater understanding of the complexity of both human and physical processes. They will also learn how mankind is changing our planet and how we can minimise the impact of this change.

This exciting GCSE course is based on a balanced framework of physical and human geography. It allows students to investigate the link between the two themes, and approach and examine the battles between the man-made and natural worlds. Students who complete the course will have the skills and experience to progress onto A-level and beyond.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

### UNIT 1. Living with the physical environment

Section A. The challenge of natural hazards

Section B. The living world

Section C. Physical landscapes in the UK

### UNIT 2. Challenges in the human environment

Section A. Urban issues and challenges

Section B. The changing economic world

Section C. The challenge of resource management

### UNIT 3. Geographical Applications

Section A. Issue Evaluation

Section B. Fieldwork

### UNIT 4. Geographical Skills

## ASSESSMENT

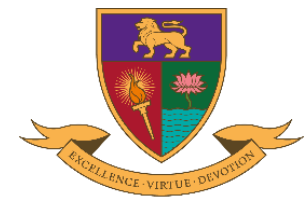
**Paper 1:** Living with the Physical Environment. Written Exam. 1hr 30 mins. 88 Marks (35% of qualification)

**Paper 2:** Challenges in the Human Environment. Written Exam. 1hr 30 mins. 88 Marks (35% of qualification)

**Paper 3** Geographical Applications. Written Exam. 1 hr 30 mins. 76 Marks (30% of qualification). Pre-release material made available 12 weeks before paper 3 exam. Includes questions on fieldwork carried out by students.

**Spelling, punctuation and grammar:** 3 marks in papers 1 & 2 and 6 marks in paper 3.

**All papers** include multiple-choice, short answer, levelled response and extended prose questions.



**AVANTI FIELDS**  
SCHOOL

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8035

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Cartographer
- Town Planning
- Surveyor
- Environmental Consultant
- Sustainability Consultant
- Transport Planner
- Remote Sensing Analyst
- Hydrologist
- Meteorologist

**SUBJECT LEAD: MR D CLARKE**



# GCSE SPANISH

*"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."*

**Nelson Mandela**

**Instil a sustained love of language learning, explore different customs and cultures and deepen all students understanding and appreciation of the world around them.**

The AQA GCSE Spanish specification is designed to ensure the assessments are clear and accessible, with a range of topics, which aim to expand students' cultural knowledge. Students will be tested in listening, reading, speaking and writing and will develop transferable skills, relevant to further study and the world of work. The range of topics within the specification aims to inspire students who are interested in Spanish culture and Spanish speaking countries.

Students studying AQA GCSE Spanish course will have three language lessons per week in Year 10 and 11. Throughout the two year course, students will learn key vocabulary, structures and high frequency language for all skills and themes. All students will study a range of interesting topics and are consistently supported with a range of appropriate resources and online learning to enhance language acquisition, retention and retrieval.

Languages are an integral part of prestigious EBacc measure and Spanish will offer a structured and fun GCSE.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based.

- Theme 1: People & Lifestyle - Identity and Relationships with Others, Healthy Living and Lifestyle, Education & Work
- Theme 2: Popular Culture – Free Time Activities, Customs, Festivals & Celebrations, Celebrity Culture
- Theme 3: Communication & the World around us – Travel, Media, Environment

## ASSESSMENT

### Higher /Foundation GCSE

This course is divided into four skills , writing, reading, speaking and listening. All four skills are examined separately.

All students will sit a final exam in each of the four skills.

### Writing exam 25%

- Higher tier 1 hour 15 minutes Foundation tier 1 hour 10 minutes

### Speaking exam 25%

- Higher tier 10-12 minutes Foundation tier 7-9 minutes

### Reading exam 25%

- Higher tier 1 hour Foundation tier 45 minutes

### Listening exam 25%

- Higher tier 45 minutes Foundation tier 35 minutes



**AVANTI FIELDS**  
SCHOOL

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8692

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Travel & tourism industry
- Interpreting/translation
- International business and marketing
- International law
- Medicine, Science
- Education , teaching

**Learning a foreign language can enhance any career choice**

*"We live in global society ... English is simply no longer enough!"*

**HEAD OF SPANISH: MRS J MORBEY**



# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

*“Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.” Albert Einstein*



**AVANTI FIELDS**  
SCHOOL

**The GCSE builds on the foundations of our KS3 PRE curriculum, which has a strong Hindu focus whilst also embracing comparative study from all of the world’s major religions and philosophical traditions.**

Closely aligned to the 2010 Non-Statutory Curriculum Framework for Religious Education and 2013 A Curriculum Framework for Religious Education in England, the learning is categorised into four aspects: knowledge, critical thought, application and experience:

## **Knowledge**

- Learning from and about religious philosophical concepts drawing from the Hindu and Christian traditions.

## **Critical thought**

- Teaching students how to construct arguments and debate (in written and oral ways), with critical analysis as essential.
- Teaching students to become skillful and articulate questioners, able to question ‘blind faith’, common assumptions or held views.

## **Application**

- Applying learning and skills to ethical and moral dilemmas.
- Debating and questioning ‘big’ philosophical questions and problems.

## **Experience**

- Experiencing religious life in real contexts.
- Learning about different religious rituals, festivals and ways of life.

## **KEY TOPICS STUDIED**

GCSE in Religious Studies will culminate in the choice of a specification, which allows students to demonstrate what they know and understand from the Hindu and Christian tradition alongside a broader assessment of philosophy and ethics influencing those of all religions and none.

### **Paper 1 – The Study of Two Religions: Hinduism and Christianity**

Beliefs and teachings

Practices

### **Paper 2 – Thematic Studies**

Relationships and Families

Religion and Life

Religion, peace and conflict

Religion, crime and punishment

## **ASSESSMENT**

There are two exams at the end of Year 11. Each paper is one hour forty-five minutes long and is each is worth 50% of the GCSE. Each paper has a range of multiple choice, short answer, and essay-style questions.

## **QUALIFICATION DETAILS**

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8062

## **POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS**

First and foremost, RS will offer a life skill in ethical decision making and critical thinking.

RS at GCSE will provide a good basis for study post-16 and on into positions in people-orientated career pathways. Some examples include:

- Teaching
- Administration
- Consultation
- Law
- Communications
- Social services
- Public services

**JOINT HEADS OF PRE: MISS KP PATEL & MR P PATEL**

# GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"We're changing the world with technology."*

*Bill Gates*

## Develop an appreciation of computing technology and develop logical reasoning and problem-solving skills

Students study and apply the fundamental concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation.

Students also design, create, debug and review computer programs. This develops their ability to think creatively, analytically and critically.

Furthermore, students will understand the components that make up digital systems and the impacts of technology on wider society and the environment.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

### Paper 1: Computer Systems

- Systems Architecture; Memory and Storage; Computer Networks
- Network Security; Systems Software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology

### Paper 2: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

- Algorithms; Programming Fundamentals; Producing Robust Programs; Boolean Logic; Programming Languages; Integrated Development Environments
- Practical Programming

## ASSESSMENT

There are 2 compulsory exams – each worth 50% of the overall qualification.

Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes and is marked out of 80.

All questions are mandatory.

Paper 1: Computer Systems

Paper 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: OCR
- Specification: J277

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Computer Programmer
- Cyber Security
- Network Technician
- IT Support
- Gaming Designer
- Quality Assurance
- Software Sales
- App Development
- Games Tester
- Website Development

SUBJECT LEAD: MR J CLAMPIN

# GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"I didn't get there by wishing for it or hoping for it, but by working for it."*  
**Estee Lauder**

**Equips students with the skills and confidence to explore how different business situations affect business decisions**

Students study business concepts, terminology, objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and its impacts on individuals and wider society.

Students are given opportunities to analyse and evaluate contemporary business issues in local, national and global contexts. They develop an understanding of entrepreneurship and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions.

In this way, students develop their abilities to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments demonstrating their business knowledge and understanding.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

### Paper 1: Business Activity, Marketing and People

- The role of enterprise and entrepreneurs; business planning; business ownership; stakeholders; business growth
- Marketing; market research; segmentation; the Marketing Mix
- Human Resources; Organisational Structures; Communication; Recruitment & Selection; Motivation & Retention; Training & Development; Employment Law

### Paper 2: Operations, Finance and Influences on Business

- Production processes; Quality of goods and services; The sales process; Customer Service; Consumer Law; Business Location; Working with suppliers
- The finance function; sources of finance; revenue & costs; profit & loss; break-even; cash and cashflow
- Ethical and environmental considerations; the economic climate; globalisation

## ASSESSMENT

There are 2 compulsory exams, each worth 50% of the overall qualification.

Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes and is marked out of 80.

All questions are mandatory.

**Paper 1:** Business 1: Business Activity, Marketing & People

**Paper 2:** Business 2: Operations, Finance & Influences on Business

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: OCR
- Specification: J204

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Entrepreneur
- Sales
- Marketing
- Business Analyst
- Accounting
- Market Research
- Human Resources
- Production
- Management
- Finance

**SUBJECT LEAD: MR J CLAMPIN**

# GCSE ECONOMICS



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

“No society can surely be flourishing and happy, of which the far greater part of the members are poor and miserable.” *Adam Smith*

When students understand how markets and economies work, they will develop an economic awareness to benefit them personally and professionally for years to come.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

### How markets work:

- 1. Economic foundations
- 2. Resource allocation
- 3. How prices are determined
- 4. Production, costs, revenue and profit
- 5. Competitive and concentrated markets
- 6. Market failure

### How the economy works:

- 7. Introduction to the national economy
- 8. Government objectives
- 9. How the government manages the economy
- 10. International trade and the global economy
- 11. The role of money and financial markets

## ASSESSMENT

### Paper 1

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks

50% of GCSE

### Paper 2

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks

50% of GCSE

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8136

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Local and national government
- Banking
- Insurance
- Large Multi-national companies
- Financial Consultancy
- Accountancy
- Local Authority work

*This is the intended specification at the time of writing. This may be subject to change (e.g., a different exam board) but provides a good indication of the subject content for GCSE Economics.*

SUBJECT LEAD: MR J CLAMPIN



# GCSE ART & DESIGN



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"Inspiration exists, but it has to find you working."*

*Pablo Picasso*

**Develop visual literacy so that we can appreciate the rich diversity of art and design within our world.**

Art develops and enhances so many skills... fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, problem solving skills, lateral thinking, complex analysis and critical thinking skills are just some.

No matter what career you choose, those who can think flexibly and are creative problem solvers will excel.

## KEY UNITS STUDIED

**Themed units are worked through covering all of the 4 following assessment objectives.**

- **AO1:** Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- **AO2:** Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- **AO3:** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- **AO4:** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Project themes are set by class teachers and students are encouraged to demonstrate their skills and ideas in ways that interest them most. All work completed in years 10 and 11 counts towards the final GCSE grade. Students will be expected to use their independent learning time to extend on classroom assignments. Students must be present for their Art Exam Preparation from January onwards. The Art Exam is a 10 hour exam that takes place in March/April in Yr11.

## ASSESSMENT

- **Component 1 (portfolio):** Students develop art projects for each unit of work and produce a portfolio of work over two years worth 60% of final GCSE grade. This includes drawing, painting, print, ceramics and more. Students study artists to inform their own practice.
- **Component 2 (externally set assignment):** In January of year 11, students are set a starting point provided by the exam board. They then produce project work during lessons in preparation for their art final pieces. During the examination period students then have 10 hours supervised time to use their preparation to complete a final piece. All of the project work and final piece is assessed. This is worth 40% of final GCSE grade.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: OCR
- Specification: J171

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Video game designer
- Digital illustrator
- Architect
- Artist
- Web designer
- Art Director
- Graphic designer
- Animator
- Fashion designer
- Photographer

**SUBJECT LEAD: MRS J WINTER**

# GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

- “In order to fix [something], you need a passionate anger about something that doesn’t work well.” *Sir James Dyson, Inventor and Founder of The Dyson Company*

A GCSE course in Design and Technology offers an opportunity to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems in a wide range of contexts relating to the skills learnt in Key Stage 3.

As a fundamental part of their course, students will design and make products. Design and Technology develops students’ interdisciplinary skills, all of the key skills, and their capacity for imaginative, innovative thinking, creativity and independence.

Design & Technology subject is not an easy option as it is a closely linked with the sciences. It will require dedication and an ability to complete work under one's own initiative.

There are 3 lessons a week in GCSE D&T, of these at least one will be theory work for the duration of the course.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

- Design considerations
- Maths skills
- Communicating design idea
- Material Considerations – timber, metals, polymers, textiles, paper and board
- Technical understanding
- Manufacturing processes and techniques

## ASSESSMENT

**QUALIFICATION AND WHAT TO ACHIEVE:** Students will achieve a GCSE grade 9-1 in Design and Technology. The GCSE is made up of 2 components. In the written exam students can chose one category to focus on for the in-depth knowledge section. The internal assessment contextual challenge is set by the exam board.

**Internal assessment:**  
Non examined assessment  
NEA (30-35 hours approx.)  
Start: June 1<sup>st</sup>- year 10  
100 marks  
**50% weighting**

**YEAR 11:** From June of Year 10 until the end of the spring term, students work independently to complete a 40-hour **Iterative design challenge** (non-examined assessment) from a contextual challenge set by the AQA examination board.

**External Examination**  
Students prepare for a 2-hour written paper that will be taken in the June of year 11. The written paper consists of 3key components

- Core Technical Principles **(20 marks)**
- Specialist Technical Principles **(30 marks)**
- Designing and Making Principles **(50 marks)**

100 marks  
**50% weighting**

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8552

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Engineering
- Architecture
- Visual arts
- Interior design
- Stage / theatre design
- Ceramic design
- Teacher

SUBJECT LEAD: MRS B PATEL

# GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

**"Diet is a bank account. Good food choices are good investments."  
Bethenny Frankel, founder of the "Skinnygirl "**

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and inspiring course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of food preparation, nutrition and the working characteristics of food ingredients and processes.

The course will involve carrying out scientific investigations into the functions of ingredients to give them an understanding of nutrition. During this course there will be a strong emphasis placed on gaining the required skills and knowledge through practical work so it will be appropriate for students who enjoy learning by a 'hands-on' approach.

Practical preparation tasks - learning new skills with practical lessons. It is essential that students are prepared to bring ingredients for the practical lessons, which follow the school's ethos.

There are 3 lessons a week in GCSE Food, of these at least one will be theory work for the duration of the course.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

**Food preparation skills are integrated into 5 core topics:**

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

**Students will develop 12 skills in practical lessons:**

General Practical Skills, knife skills, preparing fruit and vegetables, use of the cooker, use of equipment, cooking methods, prepare, combine, shape, sauce making, tenderise and marinate, dough making, raising agents, setting mixtures

## ASSESSMENT

**NEA1 Science Investigation 15%  
GCSE - 10 Hours 6 weeks from 1<sup>st</sup> September in Y11**

An understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. A written electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of a practical science investigation undertaken under controlled conditions.

**NEA2 Food Preparation Skill 35%  
GCSE 20 Hours –10 weeks from 1<sup>st</sup> November in Y11**

Knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition. Students prepare, cook and present three dishes. A written electronic portfolio including photographic evidence of three final dishes.

**External Examination**

**50 % GCSE**

Written Paper – 1 hr 45 min

Section A - Multiple choice 10%

Section B - Core topic 40%

Mock Examination: November

Final Examination: June Final Year

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification :GCSE
- Exam board :AQA
- Specification: Food Preparation & Nutrition

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Chef
- Sports scientist
- Dietician
- Events manager
- Buyer
- Teacher
- Food technician



# GCSE DRAMA

“ The mission of the theatre, after all, is to change, to raise the consciousness of people to their human possibilities.” – Arthur Miller



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

To develop skills that help promote a love of theatre and allow students to understand their greater purpose.

Imagine a lesson where you can be anyone, go anywhere, and create anything.

**Skills for life:** Drama helps you develop essential skills that colleges, universities, and employers value highly. Think leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, creativity, communication, and confidence.

**Exciting opportunities:** Theatre visits, workshops, performances.

**What will you learn?** The GCSE Drama course is designed to be both fun and challenging.

- **Performance skills:** Develop your physical and vocal skills to improve your performance work
- **Design skills:** Dive into the technical - lighting, sound, set design, and costume, hair, and make-up design.
- **Create your own theatre:** Collaborate with others to devise original plays and perform scenes from well-known texts.
- **Explore and watch:** Engage with a variety of texts and enjoy live theatre productions, broadening your understanding and appreciation of the art form.

Drama is more than just a subject - it’s an adventure. Develop your passion. Are you ready to take the stage?

Component 1: Devising Theatre 40%	You will participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre. You will produce: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A portfolio of supporting evidence based on the rehearsal process</li><li>• A performance lasting between 5-16 minutes (depending on the number of actors in your group)</li><li>• An evaluation of the final performance or design.</li></ul>	Teacher assessed, and externally moderated
Component 2: Performing from a Text 20%	You will study two extracts from the same text chosen by you or your teacher. You can choose to be assessed on acting or design. You will produce: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A performance lasting between 5-14 minutes using sections of text from both extracts.</li></ul>	Externally assessed by a visiting examiner
Component 3: Interpreting Theatre 40%	Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes You will answer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A: Set Text - A series of questions based on the set text that you have studied.</li><li>• Section B: Live Theatre Review – One question from a choice of two, analysing and evaluating a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.</li></ul>	Externally assessed examination

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: GCSE
- Exam board: Eduqas
- Specification: C690QS

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Actor
- Director
- Designer/Technician
- Stage Manager
- Theatre manager
- Box Office
- Education and Outreach
- Publicity and marketing

## CAREERS SUPPORTED BY DRAMA SKILLS

- Teacher
- Lawyer
- Events manager
- Press
- Publishing
- Occupational Health

- You will be required to act and learn lines.
- You will be required to go to the theatre during the course.
- You will need to buy a copy of the script used for Component 3.

SUBJECT LEAD: MRS A RASHLEIGH



# Cambridge National Level 1/2 SPORTS STUDIES



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"You must expect great things of yourself before you can do them."*

*Michael Jordan*

**Develop skills that can be applied in the real world and strengthen character formation and the confidence to progress.**

This course will help you to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the exercise, physical activity, sport and health sector. The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations.

## KEY CONCEPTS STUDIED

- Understanding contemporary issues in sport and how they impact on different sporting activities.
- Applying your skills as both a performer in two different sporting activities and as a leader in one sporting activity.
- How to be a sports leader, using initiative to solve problems and making decisions when dealing with rapidly changing conditions and situations.
- Understanding the relationship between sport and the media and applying this to real life examples.
- How to evaluate and interpret the different ways in which sport is represented by the media.

## ASSESSMENT

Unit R184: Contemporary issues in sport	
48 GLH 1 hour 15 minute written examination 70 marks (80 UMS) OCR-set and marked Calculators are not required in this exam	This question paper has three parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A – short answer questions focused on PO1</li><li>• Section B - includes PO1 and PO2, short and medium answer questions</li><li>• Section C – includes PO2 and PO3, short and medium answer questions, and the final question is a PO3 extended response question.</li></ul>
Unit R185: Performance and leadership in sports activities	
48 GLH OCR-set assignment 80 marks (80 UMS) Centre-assessed and OCR moderated	This set assignment contains 5 tasks. It should take approximately 16 GLH to complete.
Unit R186: Sport and the media	
24 GLH OCR-set assignment 40 marks (40 UMS) Centre-assessed and OCR moderated	This set assignment contains 3 tasks. It should take approximately 8-10 GLH to complete.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: Level 1/2
- Exam board: OCR
- Specification: J829

## POSSIBLE CAREER

### PATHWAYS

- Sports Journalism
- Teacher
- Sports Coach
- Physiotherapist
- Sports Psychologist
- Sports nutritionist
- Sports development officer

**SUBJECT LEAD: MRS V KANSARA**

# VOCATIONAL MUSIC

*"Music brings us together, helping us reflect upon who we are, where we have come from, and what lies ahead."*

**Barack Obama**



**AVANTI FIELDS**  
SCHOOL

At Key Stage 4 students will be studying the Level 1 / 2 Vocational Award, Performing Arts with WJEC. During the course students will study Performance, Composition and the Performing Arts Sector. This qualification will develop students' knowledge and understanding of the performing arts sector and provide them with opportunities to develop associated practical skills.

Students will submit coursework for these 3 units, which will form their final grade of either a Level 1 or 2 Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction \*.

## KEY TOPICS STUDIED

- Performance – In unit 1 students gain a holistic knowledge and understanding of the skills and techniques needed to reproduce an existing piece(s) of professional/published work. They can perform as a soloist or as part of an ensemble.
- Composition – Unit 2 enables students to gain, develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the skills and techniques needed to create and refine original compositions.
- Performing Arts in Practice - Unit 3 introduces students to areas of the performing arts that need to be considered when responding to an industry commission.

## ASSESSMENT

**Unit 1 30 %** - Students will be required to perform existing work that last between 3 to 6 minutes that fits to a brief set by the exam board. This could be either one piece or a portfolio of pieces. They can be performed individually or in groups of up to 10. Students will submit a portfolio of work and recordings that outline progress at three stages, i.e. beginning of the process, during the process and final performance. This assessment is internally assessed and will take 10 hours.

**Unit 2 30%** - Students will be required present original compositions. This could be either one piece or a portfolio of pieces that total between 3 – 6 minutes. Students will submit a portfolio of work and recordings that outline progress at three stages, i.e. beginning of the process, during the process and final performance. This assessment is internally assessed and will take 10 hours.

**Unit 30 40%** - This unit introduces Students to areas of the performing arts that need to be considered when responding to an industry commission. Students will need to draw on their knowledge of the skills and techniques needed to reproduce an existing piece of professional/published work from Unit 1 alongside their knowledge and understanding of the skills and techniques needed to create and refine original work from Unit 2. Students will be given 20 hours to respond to a brief given by the exam board that includes Planning performance work, promoting and pitching and evaluating and reflecting on their work.

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: Vocational Level 1 or 2
- Exam board: WJEC
- Specification:

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Performer
- Composer (Tv, Film, Computer Games, Animations, Adverts.
- Researcher.
- Songwriter
- Peripatetic Teacher
- Classroom Teacher
- Music Journalism
- Lawyer
- Sound design for TV and Film
- Music Producer
- Roadie
- Sound Technician

**SUBJECT LEAD: MISS S JONES**

# FUNCTIONAL SKILLS: ENGLISH



AVANTI FIELDS  
SCHOOL

*"Knowledge of languages is the door way to wisdom"*

*Roger Bacon*

## KEY TOPICS COVERED:

- Reading and Comprehension Skills
- Writing for a range of purposes and audiences
- Speaking and Listening

## ASSESSMENT

Edexcel Functional skills exams are linear. Students must sit both papers in the same series. There is the option of sitting Entry Level 1-3 exam papers and then move up to Level 1 and 2.

### Assessed by examination:

Reading exam 45 minutes

Writing exam 50 minutes

Speaking & Listening 10-20 minutes

Marked by Teacher

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: Functional Skills English
- Exam board: Edexcel
- Specification: 603/4286/9
- 603/4287/0
- 603/4288/2

### POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Progression to GCSE English, employment or vocational courses

# FUNCTIONAL SKILLS: MATHS

*"Mathematics is the music of reason."*

*James Joseph Sylvester*

Functional Skills Mathematics is for those students who have not completed their full GCSE.

## KEY TOPICS COVERED:

- Use of number and the number system
- Use of measures, shape and space
- Handling information and data

## ASSESSMENT

AQA Level 1 and 2 Functional Skills in Mathematics are linear. Learners must sit both papers in the same series. For both levels, 25% of the total marks are allocated to the assessment of underpinning skills and 75% of the total marks are allocated to the assessment of problem solving.

### Assessed by a written exam:

30 minutes

20 marks

Marked by AQA

### Questions are based on:

Section A: Underpinning Skills

A mix of multiple choice and short response questions

Section B: Problem solving

Short response questions

## QUALIFICATION DETAILS

- Qualification: Functional Skills Mathematics
- Exam board: AQA
- Specification: 8361 8362

### POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS

- Progression to GCSE mathematics or vocational courses