

# Grace Academy Darlaston

## KS4 Options Booklet

### 2021-2023



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It is our vision to develop well-educated, considerate and caring citizens with a strong sense of values who will succeed in, and contribute to, modern society.

# KS4 Course 2021-2023



Parent/Carer,

During year 9 we work with students and their families to consider the Key Stage 4 curriculum that they will follow.

At Grace Academy Darlaston, we offer every student the personalised opportunity to achieve success and gain a range of valuable skills and qualifications for their future.

In order to secure this, we have an innovative and exciting curriculum that will provide your child with a variety of opportunities.

We offer a core curriculum that has a broad and balanced base of qualifications for their future, as well as a range of other subjects that are creative, practical and engaging.

Over the next few weeks, you and your child will have the opportunity to investigate the range of subjects we offer at Key Stage 4.

This booklet outlines key points that you should know in order to help your child make an informed decision throughout this process and you have the opportunity to consider the courses ahead of year 9. It also provides information on the 'English Baccalaureate'.

It is your child's opportunity to explore their interests, prepare for their future and begin further studies that may flourish into careers. It is important to consider carefully the courses that they will follow. We advise that your child's courses are based on their interests, their passions and their goals for the future.

I encourage you to contact Mrs J Wheeler (Head of Key Stage 4) if you require any further information or to discuss the Key Stage 4 subjects.

Yours sincerely,

**Julie Anstey**  
Associate Principal

# Grace Academy Darlaston Curriculum

At Grace Academy Darlaston, all students study a broad and balanced range of subjects. These subjects provide a variety of opportunities and ensure every student develops the skills and knowledge required to gain qualifications leading to further education, employment or training.

All students will study core subjects. In addition, some students will follow an Applied English Literature Pathway, some students will follow an Applied Maths Pathway, and some students will study Spanish in order to gain the 'English Bacculaureate'.

## Core Subjects

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Science GCSE- worth 2 GCSE's

History or Geography GCSE

Physical Education (recreational)

All students will receive regular lessons that contain RE, Citizenship and PSHE.

## Key

GCSE- General Certificate of Education

BTEC– Pearson Vocational award - Level 1/2\*

WJEC –Vocational award—Level 1/2\*

OCR Cambridge Nationals—Vocation award—Level 1/2\*

\*All vocational awards at level 2 are equivalent to 1 GCSE

## Key stage 4 Option Subjects

Religious Education GCSE

Citizenship GCSE

Engineering WJEC

Sport BTEC

Spanish GCSE

Performing Arts BTEC

Music BTEC

Business GCSE

Hospitality & Catering WJEC

Health & Social Care BTEC

Creative iMedia OCR CN

Travel & Tourism BTEC

Computer Science (Grade dependent – KS3 grade 5 in En/Ma/Computer Science)

Triple Science (Grade dependent – KS3 grade 5 in En/Ma/Sci)

## Grading

GCSE subjects will be graded using a 1 - 9 scale. A grade 9 is the highest grade that can be achieved by a student.

Vocational awards (which are equivalent to a GCSE) will be graded using a pass, merit, distinction or distinction\* system. Distinction\* is the highest award that can be achieved.

# Tutor Time in Key Stage 4

Tutor Times form a key part of Key Stage 4 life. Students will be allocated a tutor group and a designated tutor will help monitor progress and the personal development of each student. This will contribute to the SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural) delivery that the academy provides.

Tutor times will deliver Ethos information, SMSC and activities relating to the Grace Academy “values” to Key Stage 4 students, as well as citizenship and relationships. An exploration of key concepts in SMSC will give students the building blocks with which to construct their understanding of belief systems, and the context in which to develop the attributes of a spiritually-educated young person. Below is a typical week of tutor activities for a Key Stage 4 student.

## Typical Week (Key Stage 4)

For more information, please see Mr Miles (Assistant Principal).

<b>Mon</b>	Numeracy Tutor Housekeeping (Check Grace points/consequences/ attendance)
<b>Tue</b>	Literacy
<b>Wed</b>	Values/ SMSC/ Study Skills/ Wellbeing/ R.E
<b>Thu</b>	<b>Assembly (Year 10)</b>
<b>Fri</b>	Ethos Topic Work (Half-termly activities exploring the ethos and values of the academy).



# GCSE Mathematics

## What is it? What do you do?

This qualification in mathematics encourages students to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, mathematics and to recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society. This qualification prepares students to make informed decisions about the use of technology, the management of money, further learning opportunities and career choices. The course aims to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts, including:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Measures
- Statistics
- Probability

This will allow students to use their knowledge and understanding to make connections between mathematical concepts.

A key benefit of the course is gaining the ability to apply the functional elements of mathematics in everyday and real-life situations. There is a greater emphasis on problem-solving and mathematical reasoning, with more marks in the GCSE exams being allocated to these higher-order skills.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

Many of our students take on the GCSE in order to go into teaching. Others go on to study a Maths A level course with us.

Maths will give you a skill seen as a foundation for many career choices and will allow you to study other courses such as Business Studies, Accountancy, Investment banking, Computing and Engineering.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study A-Level Mathematics.*

## Course Details

Led by Miss N Robinson

Exam board: Edexcel

## Assessment Summary

100% exam



# GCSE English Language

## What is it? What do you do?

The course allows students to:

- Develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively when speaking and writing
- Learn how to use a wide range of vocabulary and the correct grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Learners are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which English can be used.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

**English GCSE is the prerequisite for all employment opportunities, training, college and post 16 courses**

English graduates are keenly sought after by employers who respect and desire the skills that are acquired through this subject. Popular career routes include education such as research or teaching, law, media, journalism, advertising, public relations and politics.

Famous English graduates in the media include cartoonist, writer and illustrator Quentin Blake, Danny Boyle, actress Emma Thompson and broadcaster Natasha Kaplinski.

### Course Details

Led by Mrs J Barratt

Exam board: AQA

### Assessment Summary

100% examination and spoken language assessment

# GCSE English Literature

## What is it? What do you do?

Students:

- Engage with and develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world
- Develop an appreciation of the ways in which authors use literary effects and to develop the skills needed for literary study
- Explore the author's use of language to create effects
- Find enjoyment in reading literature and understand its influence on individuals and societies.

English Literature requires students to demonstrate application and understanding of:

- Prose, poetry and drama texts, and their contexts
- The writers' use of characterisation, theme, plot and setting
- The writers' use of language to create literary effect  
-own views and opinions of texts.

## What can I do with this subject when I leave school?

**English Literature GCSE is the prerequisite for all employment opportunities, training, college and post 16 courses**

English Literature graduates are keenly sought after by employers who respect and desire the skills that are acquired through this subject. Popular career routes include education such as research or teaching, law, media, journalism, advertising, acting/drama, public relations and politics. Famous English Literature graduates in the media include movie producer Steven Spielberg, Stephen Fry, actress Renée Zellweger and actress Jodie Foster.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study A-Level English Literature.*

### Course Details

Led by Mrs J Barratt

Exam board: AQA

### Assessment Summary

100% exam



# GCSE Science

## Trilogy (Combined)

### What is it? What do you do?

GCSE Science is a two year GCSE course, graded 1 –9. This covers Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

### What will I be doing on the course? How will it be structured?

There are 24 units of work divided between Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. You will sit two examinations in each science in Year 11. There are no controlled assessments, but you will be required to carry out 21 required practical pieces of work. These will take place in lessons and are not completed in examination conditions. There will be questions about the required practical's in your final examinations.

### What skills do I need to develop to be successful at this course?

To be successful in science you need to be able to apply your knowledge to new situations. You need to have the ability to draw conclusions from data, and use the information to explain scientific theory. You should be confident in using a range of mathematical techniques.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Forensic and Criminal Investigations.*

#### Course Details

Led by Mr T Stephenson

Exam Board: AQA

#### Assessment Summary

100% exam

# GCSE Triple Science

## Triple\* (Single Sciences)

### What is it? What do you do?

Each area is taught separately (Biology, Chemistry & Physics) and each is worth one GCSE, graded 1-9. This means you will receive 3 GCSEs in total.

### What will I be doing on the course? How will it be structured?

There are 25 units of work divided between biology, chemistry, and physics. You will sit two examinations in each science specialism in Year 11. There are no controlled assessments, but you will be required to carry out 22 required practical pieces of work. These will take place in lessons and are not completed in examination conditions. There will be questions about the required practical work in your final examinations.

### What skills do I need to develop to be successful at this course?

To be successful in Triple science you need to be able to work independently, apply your knowledge to new situations and cross link concepts to demonstrate a clear understanding of theory. You need to have the ability to draw conclusions from data, and use the information to explain scientific theory. You should be confident in using a range of mathematical techniques.

### What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

GCSE's in science can open many doors. You may choose to continue and study for A levels in science, or opt for the BTEC Level 3 in Forensic & Criminal Investigation. Many universities and employers are keen for you to have good science grades as it shows you are a logical thinker.

\*Grade dependent – Student must be working at a grade 5 in English, Maths and Science at the end of KS3

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Forensic & Criminal Investigation.*

#### Course Details

Led by Mr T Stephenson

Exam Board: AQA

#### Assessment Summary

100% exam

# GCSE Citizenship

## What is it? What do you do?

Students have a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the topical events they study the rights, responsibilities and duties of citizens; the role of the voluntary sector; forms of government; and the criminal and civil justice, legal and economic systems. They obtain and use different kinds of information, including the media, to form and express an opinion. They evaluate the effectiveness of different ways of bringing about change at different levels of society. Students take part effectively in school and community based activities, showing a willingness and commitment to evaluate such activities critically. They demonstrate personal and group responsibility in their attitudes to themselves and others.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

**Citizenship gives students a knowledge of Britain, its Values, Law and how the country is run to enable them to participate in society when they leave school. After GCSE Citizenship, students could choose politics or Law at A-level and could go on to be Barrister, solicitors, politicians or teacher.**

*If you enjoy this subject there is potential for you to study similar subjects such as BTEC Level 3 Applied Law at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16.*

## Course Details

Led by Mrs Y Cooper

Exam board: Edexcel

## Assessment Summary

100% Exam

# GCSE History

## What is it? What do you do?

History helps you to develop your knowledge and understanding of selected periods and aspects of History. Apart from studying a wide range of exciting historic periods, you'll learn a range of handy skills that will help you with A-levels and future work. These include:

- excellent communication and writing skills
- how to construct an argument
- research and problem skills
- investigation and problem-solving skills
- analytical and interpretation skills.

This four-unit course requires you to develop your ability to understand, analyse and evaluate key features and characteristics of historical periods studied and the relationship between them.

We look at a range of fascinating aspects of History. They include a thematic study on Health and the People, a British depth study on Elizabethan England, a European Depth Study on Germany from 1918-1945, and finally we look at Conflict and Tension in the 20th century.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

History graduates find employers respect and desire the skills they acquire. Popular career routes include education such as research or teaching, politics, law, business, social care, arts and museum curatorship.

History skills also lend themselves to a diverse list of careers. You could be a barrister, a broadcast journalist, a solicitor, newspaper or magazine journalist, a police officer or a teacher.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study A-Level History.*



## Course Details

Led by Ms. R Morris

Exam board: AQA

## Assessment Summary

100% Exam

# GCSE Geography

## What is it? What do you do?

“Geography is everything.” Today, more than ever Geography is an extremely relevant subject outside of the educational boundaries. Consider what you have done during Geography lessons in year 7, 8 and 9? Climate change, sustainability, urbanisation, population, cold environments, coasts, rivers, natural resources, ecosystems, tropical rainforests, geographical skills, development and globalisation, weather and climate, Africa, Asia and Russia. These topics are not only relevant to everything we do on Earth but have thousands of jobs related to them.

GCSE Geography, will build on the knowledge and skills you have learnt at KS3 and KS2. It will enable you to become even more curious and knowledgeable about the world around you.

GCSE Geography, will give you the chance to engage with some of the challenging questions that exist in our society and affect our world. We will study the social, economic, environmental challenges and opportunities that exist in different parts of the world. While also focusing on how the physical forces and processes shape our planet.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

Geography is a crucial subject to better understand how our world works and your place within it. Through studying geography you will become better at problem solving, managing issues, discussing opportunities and challenges, evaluating, assessing, understanding different perspectives and empathising for others. What job in the world doesn't want somebody with those skills?

Michael Jordan, Prince William and Theresa May all have Geography degrees. If it is good enough for Michael, it's good enough for you.

The skills you learn in Geography can help support a huge list of different careers; Geoscientist, hydrologist, travel guide, environmental consultant, soil and water conservationist, transport planner, oceanographer, meteorologist, landscape architect, town planning, surveying, civil engineering, cartography and environmental management. There are also lots of other careers that you can apply the skill you have learnt in Geography to such as accountancy, market research, business, marketing, digital marketing, sales, human resources, management and the tourist industry.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study A-Level Geography or BTEC Level 3 Travel & Tourism.*

## Course Details

Led by Mr P Phipps

Exam board: AQA

Specification A

## Assessment Summary

**100% exam**

Paper 1: Physical Geography: 35%

Paper 2: Human Geography 35%

Paper 3: Geographical applications: 30%



GEOGRAPHY IS EVERYTHING

# GCSE Religious Studies

## What is it? What do you do?

We live in a rich and diverse world. Religious Studies helps you to develop your knowledge and understanding of various religious attitudes towards very real and relevant issues in our world today.

This two-unit course covers Religious beliefs, teachings and practices in both Christianity and Islam. In addition, four themes will be explored in-depth from Christian, Muslim and non-religious viewpoints. We will be studying religious attitudes towards themes such as relationships and families, religion and life, the existence of God and revelation, and religion, crime and punishment .

The course requires you to develop your sense of empathy; that is your ability to understand, argue and reason from a range of different viewpoints. A key skill developed will be to take key religious facts and phrases and apply understanding of them to a range of world issues.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

Understanding people and the ability to think for yourself are the two key skills employers need. GCSE Religious Studies is all about people, their views of the world and how we can successfully interact with others.

GCSE Religious Studies is an excellent foundation for A-Level studies, leading onto degrees that enhance your chances of careers where communication is key; such as **journalism, social work, law, education and many more**. In addition, it is suitable for a diverse range of candidates who wish to further their academic, research, enquiry and analytical skills.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study A-Level Religious Studies.*

## Course Details

Led by Miss Dainty

Exam board: **AQA**

Specification: A

## Assessment Summary

100% Exam



# GCSE Spanish

## What is it? What do you do?

GCSE Spanish helps students develop their language skills in a variety of contexts and a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. It encourages enjoyment of language learning and the recognition that language skills enable students to take their place in a multilingual global society.

This four-unit specification requires students to develop their ability to write and speak in Spanish and to understand Spanish when it is written down or spoken.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

Modern Foreign Language graduates are sought by universities and employers for their highly-specialised skills. Popular career routes include **education (such as research or teaching), law, media, journalism, advertising, public relations and politics.** Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally.

Jobs directly related to language learning include:

- [Interpreter](#)
- [Secondary school teacher](#)
- [Translator](#)

Jobs where language learning would be useful include:

- [Broadcast journalist](#)
- [Diplomatic Services operational officer](#)
- [English as a foreign language teacher](#)
- [International aid/development worker](#)
- [Logistics and distribution manager](#)
- [Marketing executive](#)

## Course Details

Led by Mr A. McIvor

Exam board: AQA

## Assessment Summary:

**100%**

25% Listening

25% Speaking

25% Reading

25% Writing



# GCSE Business Studies

## What is it? What do you do?

You will learn about how businesses operate and develop an understanding of the following key business concepts:

- E-commerce and digital communication
- The sales process and the importance to businesses of providing good customer service, including product knowledge, customer engagement and post sales service
- The role of procurement and the impact of logistical and supply decisions on businesses
- Gross and net profit ratios, break even and average rate of return

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

This subject will provide an excellent foundation for A-Level Business Studies and is the starting point for those wishing to study subjects like Business, Accounting, Finance and Economics at university level. GCSE Business Studies also provides a great overview of how organisations operate which is useful if considering starting a small business

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Business.*

## Course Details

Led by Miss A Brooks

Exam board: Edexcel

## Assessment Summary

100% Exam

# GCSE Computer Science\*

## What is it? What do you do?

### Computer systems

Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

### Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

### Practical programming

Students are to be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02 (section B).

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

GCSE Computer Science will lead into the following Post16 course choices:

- BTEC IT Single
- BTEC IT Double
- T-LEVEL in Digital Production, Design & Development

It can also lead to careers in:

App Development, Website Development, Game Development, Cyber Security Analyst, Network Manager, Software Developer, Systems Analyst

**\*Grade dependent – Student must be working at a grade 5 in English, Maths and Science at the end of KS3**

### Course Details

Led by J Pountney

Exam board: OCR

### Assessment Summary:



## What is it? What do you do?

This exciting, creative and practical GCSE is comprised of two parts. You will produce a portfolio of Controlled Assessment work; this is worth 60% of your overall grade. You will also complete an external exam unit worth 40% of your final grade.

This course uses a practical approach to encourage you to design and make products with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities, using a range of materials and techniques. Packaging, labelling and instructions are also encouraged as part of the complete design proposal. You are encouraged to take ownership of your ideas and to explore them in an inventive and expressive manner as a creative journey. This is an intense and time demanding course!

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

In a world where trends change from one minute to the next, there is a need for a new generation of textiles designers to help keep our fashion and homes up to date.

This qualification can be studied in Higher Education and Post 16 and can lead successfully to many career paths: **textiles designer, fashion designer, sportswear design, interior design, designer, illustration, film and television, fashion, teaching etc.**

### Course Details

Led by Ms E Irvine  
Exam board: AQA

### Assessment Summary

60% Controlled assessment  
40% Exam

# GCSE Art and Design

## What is it? What do you do?

Art GCSE is a really exciting and rewarding course which aims to build on the knowledge and skills you have established in Years 7 and 8. If you enjoy Art, you're creative and hard working and want to learn more, this could be the course for you. Creating great art does take time and the department offers lots of lunchtime and after school clubs so that you can practise your skills, explore new media and develop ideas. This is aimed at students who like all areas of art and enjoy working in both two and three dimensions. Not only will you develop your practical skills, but also your analytical skills. An appreciation of other artists' work is an important part of the course and learning about the techniques that artists use and the purpose of their work will help you to improve and make progress.

This is an intense and time demanding course!

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

In a world where we are constantly bombarded with visual imagery, visual literacy is increasingly important. A career within the Arts is possible, with hard work, dedication and commitment.

This qualification can be studied in Higher Education and Post 16 and can lead successfully to many career paths: **designer, animation, freelance artist, advertising, illustration, photographer, film and television, architect, interior designer, textile designer, fashion, teaching and gallery work/ curator etc.**

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study A-Level Religious Studies.*

## Course Details

Led by Miss T Kaur

OCR

## Assessment Summary

60% Controlled assessment

40% Exam



### What is it? What do you do?

BTEC Sport provides students with the a broad knowledge and understanding about sport and maintaining a healthy, active lifestyle. This course allows pupils to not only look into the sports they enjoy in greater depth but also allows them to learn about how their body responds to exercise.

Students will learn how to analyse and evaluate performances and develop their leadership skills as well as develop an understanding of fitness training and programming. Pupils will be assessed in a variety of ways including **report writing, presentations and an external exam**. Pupils will take part in both practical and theoretical lessons to develop their understanding of the content.

This course is equivalent to 1 GCSE.

### What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

In a world where P.E./Sport takes centre stage world wide in events as diverse as Football, The Olympics, and the Winter Olympics, students can take studies into further and higher education in order to pursue a career within a wide range of sports-related careers e.g. sports nutrition, athletics, coaching.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Sport.*

### Course Details

Led by Mrs S Biddlecombe

Exam board: Edexcel

Assessment Summary

75% Controlled assessment

25% Exam





### **What is it? What do you do?**

This course concentrates on the hospitality and catering industry. You will develop the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to take into account to be successful. You will have the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. In this qualification, you will also develop food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

**You will learn about the hospitality and catering industry by:**

- **Doing lots of practical work to learn new skills with weekly practical lessons.**
- **Practical competitions**
- **Visiting speakers/ case studies.**

**The great bonus of this course is that there is a strong emphasis on gaining the required skills and knowledge via practical work so it is great for anyone who wants to learn 'by doing'.**

**What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?**

Our food tastes are forever changing and there is a need for creative and talented people to join the catering industry.

This qualification can be studied in Higher Education and Post 16 and can lead successfully to many career paths:

**Head Chef, Chef, nutritionist, restaurant owner, food safety, Cake designer, Caterer, Diетarian etc**

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study WJEC Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition.*

### **Course Details**

Led by Ms A. Richardson  
Exam board: WJEC

### **Assessment Summary**

60% Controlled assessment  
40% Exam

### **How will I be assessed?**

**Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry** will be externally assessed with an on line examination that lasts 90 minutes. You will be graded as follows:

*Grading:* Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction

**Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action** is internally assessed:

This involves you completing a piece of controlled assessment in school under examination conditions. You will be set a task by WJEC and will have to safely plan, prepare, **cook** and present nutritional dishes.



### **What is it? What do you do?**

This exciting course will give you a vocational look into the world of Health and Social care. The course is split into 4 units. One unit will be assessed as an online exam and the other three units will be assessed by your teachers. Each unit counts for 25% of your final grade.

This course uses a vocational approach to the learning. It will give you a broad understanding of the knowledge needed to work in any area of the Health and Social care sector. From before birth all the way through life.

### **What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?**

This subject will give you a great foundation for further study at Post 16 or in Higher Education.

This qualification can lead successfully to many career paths: **Midwife, Nurse, Doctor, Nursery Nurse, Social Workers, Healthcare Assistants, Occupational therapists, Youth Workers, Care Assistance, Care managers, Support Workers and many more.**

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Health and Social Care.*

### **Course Details**

Led by Ms A. North  
Exam board: Edexcel Pearson

### **Assessment Summary**

75% Controlled assessment

25% Exam

# Music BTEC

## What is it? What do you do?

The external assessment (exam) will test your knowledge of the different types of organisations that make up the music industry and specific job roles such as musician, sound engineer, DJ, record producer, roadie, publisher and venue owner. You will investigate music organisations to find out about the work they do and how they relate to and reply on one another.

The controlled assessments comprise **three** further units of study that include:

**Music Performance:** Studying rehearsal technique and performing on your chosen instrument

**Composition:** Creating your own piece of music

**Music Sequencing:** Learning more about using a DAW such as logic

**Introduction to Live Sound:** Understanding health and safety at a live event as well as controlling the sound at a live event

**Managing a Music Product :** Creating and promoting a CD or Live music event

Throughout these units you will develop your music performance skills and review your own practice; explore creative stimuli to meet a brief (composing); develop, extend and shape music for performances; present compositions appropriately using Logic Pro X software; plan, develop and deliver and promote a music product.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

Successful completion of this course can be a springboard into further education for Performing Arts at level 3, Music Technology AS/A Level or BTEC Level 3 Music Technology or Drama.

## Course Details

Led by Mrs C Smith

Exam board: Edexcel

## Assessment Summary

75% Controlled assessment

25% External assessment

# BTEC Performing Arts (Acting)

## What is it? What do you do?

This qualification allows opportunities for students to build on their drama work in year 8, to investigate theatre styles and genres, develop and enhance their performance and presentation techniques, devise their own original drama and perform script extracts.

In Component 1 students watch different theatre productions, live and recorded, and investigate the different roles and responsibilities that go into creating a theatre production. The work produced will be written and practical. They also investigate the processes involved in creating different styles of theatre.

In Component 2 students will need to work as actors to perform an extract of a play before an audience. They will also be required to write about the skills and techniques they have used during rehearsals in a log book.

In the final externally assessed component, students will be given a real life practical scenario in which they are to devise a performance and complete written ideas and skills logs as well as a written evaluation.

**This is a rewarding but challenging course** which requires students to show commitment to their drama work by attending additional rehearsals after school when required. It suits confident, thoughtful students who enjoy performing, writing and working with others.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

This qualification can be studied at level 3 Post 16 and can lead to varied career paths in media, marketing, broadcasting, theatre, film, television, sales, management, social work, policing or teaching, to name a few.

### Course Details

Led By Ms C Beaven  
Exam board: Edexcel  
Pearson

### Assessment Summary

60% internal assessment  
(practical and written)  
40% external assessment  
(practical and written)



### **What is it? What do you do?**

### **What will I be doing on the course? How will it be structured?**

Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia are media sector-focused, including film, television, web development and animation, and have IT at their heart. The course has a focus on the application of creative media skills through their practical use. The qualification will encourage independence, creativity and awareness of the digital media sector.

The first mandatory unit involves learning how to plan and prepare for a creative project. This is a formal examination paper taken after studying the concepts and theory. The second mandatory unit involves creating digital graphics using specialist software and is a “project-style” task assessed within school.

There will be two further “project-style” tasks involving iMedia that require assessment within school, where students could will create a website and an interactive multimedia product.

### **What skills do I need to develop to be successful at this course?**

To be successful at this course you must have a passion for ICT and the media. The course has 3 project based tasks so the ability to work independently is essential in order to complete these projects.

Students will learn how this creative process works in its entirety, and units require research, planning, creation and evaluation. These skills are beneficial if looking to develop a creative career in ICT, design or creative media.

This course offers a truly unique and modern learning experience that has real world application and will lead to employment in the world of ICT.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston’s Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Creative Media or IT (Single or Double award).*

### **Course Details**

Led by Mr J. Pountney

Exam board: OCR Cambridge National

### **Assessment Summary**

25% exam

75% internal assessment

# BTEC Travel and Tourism

## What is it? What do you do?

In this course you will learn about the wide range of different travel and tourism organisations and their aims such as making a profit, providing services, promoting a cause or contributing to the community. You will explore how different travel and tourism organisations work with each other to offer products and services, and the importance of the travel and tourism sector to the UK economy, including direct and indirect contributions. People travel for different reasons, including leisure, business and to visit friends and relatives. Tourist destinations are likely to have several features that appeal to visitors such as coastal scenery, beaches, different types of accommodation and local attraction. They are often easy to travel to with a choice of transport options. You will gain an understanding of the different types of travel and tourism and the features of destinations that appeal to visitors.

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

There are many organisations involved with different aspects of travel and tourism, including travel agents, tour operators, transport and accommodation providers and visitor attractions.

This course will give you an understanding of the role of different travel and tourism organisations, and the features and appeal of tourist destinations. You will develop transferable skills such as research skills, which will support your progression to Level 2 or 3 vocational or academic qualifications.

*There is potential for you to continue to study this at Grace Academy Darlaston's Post 16 by opting to study BTEC Level 3 Travel & Tourism.*

### Course Details

Led by Mr P Phipps & Miss E Smith

Exam board: Edexcel Pearson

### Assessment Summary:

40% exam

60% internal assessment





## What is it? What do you do?

This exciting, creative and practical GCSE is comprised of three parts. You will produce need to produce a range of ideas to meet a problem, this is worth 30% of your overall grade. You will then produce a product to a given design this is worth 30% of your overall grade. You will also complete an external exam unit worth 40% of your final grade.

This course uses a practical approach to encourage you to design and make products with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities, using a range of materials and techniques. You are encouraged to take ownership of your ideas and to explore them in an inventive and expressive manner as a creative journey. This is an intense and time demanding course!

## What can I do with this subject when I join Post 16 or leave school?

In a world where new products and technologies are developing every day, there is a need for creative and hardworking people to develop and make new products for use.

This qualification can be studied in Higher Education and Post 16 and can lead successfully to many career paths: **designer, architect, interior designer, engineer, product designer, automotive design, textile designer, manual worker.**

### Course Details

Led by Ms A. North  
Exam board: Edexcel Pearson

### Assessment Summary

75% Controlled assessment  
25% Exam

# Post 16

## Where your KS4 studies can lead you...

Even though you are considering courses for KS4 some of you may also be thinking about your long term career choice and what options are available for you here at Grace Academy Darlaston after you have completed your GCSEs.

We at Grace pride ourselves in meeting your individual needs and we provide a comprehensive range of Level 3 and A Level courses. These courses develop the knowledge and understanding that you will have gained during your GCSEs and prepare you for university or the world of work.

Exciting opportunities await you in Post 16 . When you graduate into our Post 16 you will be given extensive extra-curricular choices. You can get involved in the Post 16 Committee and make a real difference both inside school and in our wider community. You will be given subject specific opportunities to extend your learning outside of the classroom and you can take part in charity initiatives. You will also get the opportunity to enjoy all of the social aspects of our Post 16.

You will get support with university applications and careers interviews. We will make sure that you are fully supported and encouraged to achieve your full potential!

I wish all of you the very best in choosing your options and I look forward to working with you in the very near future. If you have any questions about Post 16 please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Justine York*

**Associate Assistant Principal – KS5**

0121 568 3300 or via email: [justineyork@darlaston.graceacademy.org.uk](mailto:justineyork@darlaston.graceacademy.org.uk)



After  
successfully completing  
your KS4 courses we look  
forward to welcoming you  
into our thriving and  
vibrant Post 16



