



THE  
**HOLGATE**  
— ACADEMY —

# Year 9 pathways 2023

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We empower | We respect | We care



Part of  
**Diverse  
Academies**



- 04 Introduction
- 06 Choosing your subject options
- 08 Frequently asked questions
- 10 Our curriculum
- 11 Timeline and deadlines
- 12 Pathways

## 14 Subject guide

---

- 15 Art
- 16 Business and Enterprise
- 17 Child Development and Care
- 18 Computer Science
- 19 Creative iMedia/ICT
- 20 Creative Textiles
- 21 Drama
- 22 English Language and Literature
- 23 Film Studies
- 24 Food and Cookery
- 25 French
- 26 Geography
- 27 Graphic Communication
- 28 History
- 29 Mathematics
- 30 Media Studies
- 31 Music
- 32 Personal Development
- 33 Physical Education (core)
- 34 Physical Education (option)
- 35 Photography
- 36 Product Design (Design Technology)
- 37 Science (Combined)
- 38 Science (Separate)
- 39 Statistics



At The Holgate Academy, students are given a great range of choices in their education and have access to different pathways that align with their future aspirations. All students who move into key stage 4 can select a wide range of engaging courses which are academic, practical, and suited to meet the specific needs of our students. We want all individuals to reach their full potential, whether that be continuing into further and higher education, or moving into employment or apprenticeships.

To support students in making the right choices for their future, this booklet outlines our courses and their associated future pathways and careers. This information should be used to make decisions about which subjects to take, and we encourage all students to use it alongside other sources of information before submitting their pathway choices.

Following our pathways evening, you will have until 22 March 2023 to submit your pathway choices.

You will also have the chance to discuss your options with a senior member of academy staff to ensure that you get the best possible provision – as we are always looking to improve our curriculum, new courses have been added recently. Please take more time to investigate these courses with staff, to gain a full understanding of the content and whether these courses are right for you. Senior leaders will ask you for the reasons behind your choices when you meet with them.

We hope that you have enough information to make the right choices for your future. However, if you have further questions about the process or a specific course, please speak to your tutor in the first instance.

## Please encourage your child to:

**Read this booklet and focus on courses they enjoy and excel in**

**Speak to their teachers about specific subjects**

**Do their research into careers and what you need to go into them**

**Talk to parents, carers, family and friends about what they would like to do**

Final student numbers will determine whether the qualifications offered in this booklet will be available.





# Choosing your subject options



## How might you choose your pathway subjects?

- Choose subjects you will enjoy and think about the subjects you are good at
- If you have a particular job or career in mind that you wish to pursue, find out if any subjects are a requirement
- Research optional subjects that you haven't studied before and find out exactly what is involved by talking to the subject teacher
- Consider the balance of examinations and coursework - check the breakdown for each subject you want to study. If you like doing coursework, then consider more coursework intensive courses
- Do not choose a subject based on what your friends might be doing. They might be in a different class
- Do not choose a subject because you enjoy being taught by your year 9 teacher. They may not be your teacher next year
- Talk to your teachers, year leader or family for further advice
- Remember, your year 9 choices will not limit your future pathway at this early stage

## How do we personalise key stage 4 learning pathways?

All students' pathways at key stage 4 are individual and personalised. Each student will be placed on the most suitable and beneficial pathway to help them reach their potential and provide them with a solid springboard for the future.

All students' progress and achievement in their chosen subjects is monitored and assessed at regular intervals throughout key stage 4.

## GCSE grading and assessment

The government recently changed the way GCSEs are assessed. Students now receive their GCSE results in the new 9 to 1 format, with grade 9 being the highest.

The examinations are set to reward positive achievement, allowing candidates to demonstrate what they know, understand, and can do. This means that most students are able to take the GCSE examinations. All GCSEs are assessed by examinations at the end of the course, with the amount of exams taken varying by student.







## What is a BTEC?

A BTEC stands for Business and Technology Education Council. BTECs are equivalent to GCSEs but are more vocational in nature. Often, they include more coursework than examination content.

## What is coursework?

Coursework includes any work that is carried out and assessed whilst the course is in progress. Coursework gives students the opportunity to demonstrate skills and techniques they would be unable to use in a final examination. These are delivered within controlled conditions within the academy.

## What demands does coursework place upon students?

The amount of coursework and its contribution to the final grade will vary from subject to subject. When making choices students should be careful to consider where their strengths lie. Coursework can take a lot of pressure off the final examination, especially now that these are done at the end of the course.

## What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate (or EBacc) is a performance measure for academies, schools and colleges. It is not a qualification. The measure recognises where students have secured a grade 5 (or equivalent) or better across a core of academic subjects.

The English Baccalaureate is made up of English, mathematics, history or geography, the sciences and a language. These subjects were included to ensure that students had the opportunity to study a broad range of subjects, so that doors were not closed off to them in terms of future progression.

For example, for students hoping to go to university, the Russell Group\* guide on making informed choices for post-16 education identifies 'facilitating subjects' at A Level. These are the subjects most likely to be required for preferred entry to degree courses and ones that will keep most options open. The subjects they identify are those included in the English Baccalaureate. This core of subjects is deliberately kept small to allow the opportunity for further and wider study options.

Whilst the academy has a focus on academic achievement and high aspirations for our students, we aim to provide suitable pathways for all students to achieve their potential.

*\*The Russell Group represents 24 leading UK universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, and Nottingham.*



# Our curriculum

We offer a wide range of subjects that gives all students access to a broad, balanced and rich curriculum. These include the core subjects of English language and literature, mathematics and science (including triple science at key stage 4). We also offer a number of English Baccalaureate subjects, including computing, geography, history and French.

The arts faculty broadens choices further by offering drama, music, photography, art, media studies and graphic communication. Within technology, students can study product design, food and cookery, and textiles.

Our physical education curriculum at key stage 3 is based on practical sporting activities and promoting a healthy, active, balanced lifestyle. At key stage 4, students can choose BTEC PE as an option - all students will continue to participate in core PE.

We offer further choices for key stage 4 - these currently include film studies, business studies, ICT and childcare. We provide a wide range of academic and vocational courses within these subject areas and are continually looking to run courses that cater for student interests. As well as supporting individual progress, we work hard to ensure we also meet the changing needs of our community.

Our academy currently runs a three year key stage 3 and two year key stage 4, with students making their pathway choices towards the end of year 9.

## Timeline and deadlines



# Pathways

Students moving into year 10 at Holgate will follow one of two distinct pathways with a wide variety of course options available. These tables outline the core subjects and the other options available on your selected pathway.

	Core	Humanities choice	Open choices
<b>Blue pathway subjects</b>	All students will study these subjects	Students choose <b>one</b> subject in this box	Students pick <b>three</b> subjects and one reserve subject  Students can pick both geography and history if suitable  Separate science will earn students three GCSE's
	English Language and Literature Mathematics Personal Development Core Physical Education Combined Science (2 GCSEs)	Geography History	<b>Art</b> <b>Business and Enterprise</b> Child Development and Care Computer Science Creative iMedia/ICT <b>Creative Textiles*</b> Drama <b>Film Studies</b> French Geography <b>Graphic Communication</b> History Food and Cookery* Music <b>Media Studies</b> BTEC Physical Education Photography <b>Product Design (Design Technology)*</b> Separate Sciences (Triple) Statistics

## Things to consider

You can only select one of the three technology subjects highlighted below with an asterisk - you cannot take art with either product design, creative textiles or graphic communication, due to timetabling conflicts. Ensure that you also select one reserve option from the open choices.

	Core	Humanities choice	Open choices
<b>Red pathway subjects</b>	All students will study these subjects	Students choose <b>one</b> subject in this box	Students pick <b>two</b> subjects and one reserve subject  Students can pick both geography and history if suitable  Separate science will earn students three GCSE's
	English Language and Literature French Mathematics Personal Development Core Physical Education Combined Science (2 GCSEs)	Geography History	<b>Art</b> <b>Business and Enterprise</b> Child Development and Care Computer Science Creative iMedia/ICT <b>Creative Textiles*</b> Drama <b>Film Studies</b> French Geography <b>Graphic Communication</b> History Food and Cookery* Music <b>Media Studies</b> BTEC Physical Education Photography <b>Product Design (Design Technology)*</b> Separate Sciences (Triple) Statistics

Please also note that you can only choose one of the subjects that are in the same colour (e.g. **green** or **red**).

If you need clarification on any of these choices, please speak with your tutors, **Miss Bassett, Mr Page or Mr Ellis.**



- 15 Art
- 16 Business and Enterprise
- 17 Child Development and Care
- 18 Computer Science
- 19 Creative iMedia/ICT
- 20 Creative Textiles
- 21 Drama
- 22 English Language and Literature
- 23 Film Studies
- 24 Food and Cookery
- 25 French
- 26 Geography
- 27 Graphic Communication
- 28 History
- 29 Mathematics
- 30 Media Studies
- 31 Music
- 32 Personal Development
- 33 Physical Education (core)
- 34 Physical Education (option)
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- 36 Product Design (Design Technology)
- 37 Science (Combined)
- 38 Science (Separate)
- 39 Statistics

## Art

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mrs Draper tdraper@holgate-ac.org.uk

### Why study art?

Art is open to everyone – the only criteria is that students are prepared to work hard, complete coursework and homework, work independently at times and enjoy what they are doing.

The art and design course encourages the development of imagination, sensitivity, observational and analytical skills.

### What will I learn?

Students are required to demonstrate how they can:

- record responses to direct experience
- develop ideas for their work, investigating visual and other sources of information
- explore and use a range of media for working in two and/or three dimensions
- review, modify and refine work as it progresses and realise intentions
- identify the distinctive characteristics of art, craft and design and relate them to the context in which the work was created, making connections with their own work
- make critical judgments about art, craft and design, using specialist vocabulary

### How will I be assessed?

- Coursework
- Examinations

### Future pathways and careers

- Art and design qualifications
- Fine art
- Fashion and/or interior design
- Design
- Advertising
- Illustration
- Teaching
- Art therapy
- Product design
- Photography





# Business and Enterprise

EXAM BOARD	NCFE
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Level 1/2 Technical Award
CONTACT	Mrs Hague ahague@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study business and enterprise?

The business and enterprise course is a good preparation for the world of work. All students will eventually work in some sort of business environment, with some possibly becoming budding entrepreneurs - this is an ideal option for students with that potential.

## What will I learn?

Students will gain a broad understanding of business and enterprise, including the following:

- entrepreneurship, business organisation and stakeholders
- market research, market types and orientation and marketing mix
- human resource requirements for business and enterprise
- operations management
- business growth
- sources of enterprise funding and business finance
- the impact of the external environment on business and enterprise
- business and enterprise planning

## How will I be assessed?

- Project work (internally assessed)
- Examination

### Future pathways and careers

- Business studies qualifications
- Business management
- Marketing and communications
- Politics
- Operations management
- Administration
- Most office-based occupations



# Child Development and Care

EXAM BOARD	CACHE/NCFE
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Level 1/2
CONTACT	Mrs R Holder rholder@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study child development?

This course would be suitable for anyone who has a career interest in working with children. It also supports careers that involve communicating and working with other people. Students must consider themselves to be a caring person and have an interest in the subject area.

The course will not involve a work placement but we can support interested students in finding suitable childcare placements as part of their year 10 work experience.

## What will I learn?

- child development
- factors that influence the child's development
- care routines, play and activities to support the child
- early years provision
- legislation, policies and procedures in the early years
- expectations of the early years practitioner
- roles and responsibilities within early years settings
- the importance of observations in early years childcare
- planning in early years childcare

## How will I be assessed?

- Examined assessment
- Internal assessment



### Future pathways and careers

- Childcare
- Nursing
- Teaching
- Adult carer

# Computer Science

EXAM BOARD	OCR
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mr Brown abrown@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study computer science?

This subject will suit students with a genuine interest in ICT and computers. The course involves a great deal of investigation into the way computers work and how they understand the commands we give them, so a keen interest is a must with this course. Students will be expected to find solutions to problems by developing their own computer programs, so should be able to work independently and with a high level of self-motivation.

Students should have a good understanding of mathematics to take this course. A good guide is a target in mathematics of grade 4 or above.

## What will I learn?

The course is focused on preparing the game, software and website developers of tomorrow, so will introduce programming languages to students for the first time.

They will also learn:

- about the latest and developing technologies and how they impact on our lives today
- how to use algorithms to help solve solutions when writing computer programs
- how to write computer programs using program languages such as python
- how to use computers in a safe and responsible manner, including the requirements of computer users set in law, and how laws affect our use of computers today

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations
- Coursework

## Future pathways and careers

- Computer programmer
- Software developer
- Website developer
- Games developer
- ICT technician
- Systems analysis
- Project management
- Teaching



# Creative iMedia/ICT

EXAM BOARD	OCR
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate
CONTACT	Mr Brown abrown@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study creative iMedia?

This course will suit students who have a genuine interest in ICT, media and those with a creative or artistic flair.

Students need to be able to organise their work effectively, in terms of presentation and the way it is stored on the network. Students need to be self-motivated for a course which rewards hard work. They should be willing to experiment with unfamiliar software and be able to make effective use of help files and video tutorials.

## What will I learn?

The creative iMedia course gives students an opportunity to express their digital artistic side, encouraging students' creativity and teaching the key skills and tools associated with powerful, industry standard programs, such as Flash, Dreamweaver and Photoshop.

The course includes two mandatory units:

- creative iMedia in the media industry
- visual identity and digital graphics

A third required unit can be chosen from a selection of the following subject areas:

- characters and comics
- animation with audio
- interactive digital media
- visual imaging
- digital games

## How will I be assessed?

- Examination
- Coursework

## Future pathways and careers

- Digital media
- Media production
- Film production
- Journalism
- Web development
- Graphic and product design



# Creative Textiles

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mrs Draper tdraper@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study creative textiles?

Creative textiles will suit students who like experimenting with art and textiles, sewing, drawing and working with their hands to create 2D and 3D pieces of work.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy being creative and who are thinking about further education or careers in textiles, fashion and art and design.

## What will I learn?

This qualification allows students to develop a wide range of creative skills including textiles, craft and design. They will be able to develop their creative skills to explore, develop and communicate ideas using art and textile medium.

Students will develop skills to:

- record responses to direct experience
- develop ideas for their work, investigating visual and other sources of information
- explore and use a range of media for working in two and/or three dimensions
- review, modify and refine work as it progresses and realise intentions
- identify the distinctive characteristics of textiles, craft and design, and relate them to the context in which the work was created, making connections with their own work
- make critical judgements about textile, craft and design, using specialist vocabulary

## How will I be assessed?

- Coursework
- Examination

### Future pathways and careers

- Clothing/textile technologist
- Colour technologist
- Interior and spatial designer
- Fashion designer
- Textile designer
- Costume designer

# Drama

EXAM BOARD	BTEC
QUALIFICATION TYPE	BTEC Tech Award Level 1 and 2 in Performing Arts
CONTACT	Miss Holmes sholmes@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study drama?

This course involves the study of not only performance based skills but also practical and personal skills which are key to any career path. This course combines theory and practical through the elements of performance, presentation and evaluation. Students who like to perform and have enjoyed learning drama at key stage 3 are ideally suited to this subject.

## What will I learn?

Students will study different styles of acting and theatre, and devise their own work, as well as perform scripted plays. They will learn about all aspects of performance including the rehearsal process, practitioners, character development, context and plot and staging while also taking part in live performance workshops. Students will also learn the technical side of drama by focusing on the use of semiotics including lighting and sound effects and more.

## What skills will I learn?

- developing confidence
- communication skills
- leadership skills
- developing creativity
- problem solving
- presentation and public speaking skills
- co-operation and teamwork skills
- concentration and focus

## How will I be assessed?

- Internal assessment
- External assessment
- Recordings of performances and workshops
- Written process journals and presentations

### Future pathways and careers

- Acting
- Directing
- Screenwriting
- Stage management
- Teaching and drama therapy
- Public speaking
- Lighting and sound technician
- Costume design



# English Language and Literature

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Miss Terrey cterrey@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study English language and literature?

Our key stage 4 curriculum provides students with the knowledge and skills they need to successfully complete GCSEs in both English language and literature. We supply opportunities to ensure progress in years 10 and 11 through learning in the classroom and at home.

The study of English is important because:

- all future employers will ask for this qualification
- students develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing effectively
- students will be able to use language to effectively communicate with others
- it is a pathway to future opportunities both in employment and education



## What will I learn?

Students will work to fully develop skills in speaking and listening, reading and writing. They will explore a range of stimulus material including prose, non-fiction and information about spoken language tasks. Students will develop key skills including:

- valuation
- synthesis
- analysis
- articulation
- organisation
- conceptualisation

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations

## Future pathways and careers

- Further study of English
- Higher education
- English skills are vital for any job role

# Film Studies

EXAM BOARD	WJEC
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Miss S Titterton stitterton@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study film studies?

Students who have equally balanced creative, technical and writing skills will be ideal for the film studies course. The course demonstrates how all films begin with a written concept and then develop into an audio-visual artistic piece - students will learn and understand the processes behind this.

Students who would like to develop their artistic skills are ideal for the course - it allows individuals to demonstrate their creativity through production tasks.

## What will I learn?

Over the duration of the course, students will learn to develop an interest and enjoyment of film in its national and global contexts.

Students will study patterns of similarity and difference across a range of films as well as how to recognise the ways in which films represent people, places, ideas, issues and events to different audiences. The course will also teach the technical and creative skills that are needed to work in the film industry.

## How will I be assessed?

- Controlled assessment
- Examinations

## Future pathways and careers

- TV and film production
- Media
- Arts
- Broadcasting
- Journalism
- Marketing
- Humanities



# Food and Cookery

EXAM BOARD	NCFE
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Level 1/2 certificate
CONTACT	Miss Rodger hrodger@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study food and cookery?

This qualification is designed for students with an interest in food and cookery. You will apply all the skills and knowledge learnt during the key stage 3 rotation food and cookery sessions.

## What will I learn?

This course will provide students with experience of using different cooking skills and methods to enable them to use these within further education or apprenticeships.

Students could progress into employment or onto an apprenticeship. The understanding and skills gained through this qualification could be useful to progress onto an apprenticeship in the food industry through a variety of occupations that are available within the sector, such as kitchen assistant, catering assistant, chef, and sous chef.

## How will I be assessed?

The qualification has 2 assessments externally set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment and one written examined assessment.



## Future pathways and careers

- Further qualifications in food and cookery
- Professional catering
- Hospitality management
- Ideal preparation for a variety of careers in the food industry

# French

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Ms Medjdoub smedjdoub@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study French?

French is a challenging and engaging subject that gives students the confidence and skills to communicate in another language. It is ideally suited to those who enjoy the subject at key stage 3 and have achieved a level 5, and see a future involving travel and dealing with people from other places and cultures.

The study of French allows the possibility of study at AS/A2 and degree level and is widely offered as a module in other subject areas. Many businesses now consider a second language to be a valuable asset, particularly in international trade and commerce.

## What will I learn?

Students will build on the skills and knowledge achieved at key stage 3. A variety of up-to-date course material will be provided to maximise the potential of all students and work will be based upon communication skills and interaction in French.

Students study all the following themes:

- identity and culture
- local, national, international and global areas of interest
- current and future study and employment

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations - writing /reading/speaking/listening

## Future pathways and careers

- Further study of languages
- Interpreters
- Translation and teaching
- Business, marketing and sales
- Travel and tourism
- Banking and finance



# Geography

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mr Cook dcook@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study geography?

Geography is suitable for students who have a keen desire to find out about the world around them. It revolves around real issues that are happening right now in the world. Students should enjoy asking questions and using their skills and knowledge to find answers in our rapidly changing world. This qualification is highly useful for a huge range of jobs or to lead on to further education.

## What will I learn?

We study several themes exploring the geography of the UK, including:

- landscapes of the UK
- environmental issues
- people of the UK

We also study aspects of the world around us, including:

- ecosystems of the planet
- world cities
- people of the planet

Students are also given opportunities for trips out of the academy to undertake fieldwork, with students encouraged to define and carry out their own projects.

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations

### Future pathways and careers

- Further education study
- Higher education courses
- Tourism
- Ecologist
- Journalism
- Law
- Business management



# Graphic Communication

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mrs Draper tdraper@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study graphic communication?

This course helps to build and encourage creative thinking and problem solving. Students will work on projects that are relevant and accessible to all. The course encourages students to interpret and react to design problems by creating design solutions.

## What will I learn?

- communication graphics
- design for print, advertising and branding
- illustration
- package design, signage and exhibition graphics
- typography
- interactive design and multi-media
- motion graphics

## How will I be assessed?

- Coursework
- Controlled assessment

### Future pathways and careers

- Advertising
- Animator
- Designer for film and television
- Exhibition designer
- Graphic designer
- Illustrator
- Interior and spatial designer
- Marketing
- Publishing
- Production designer
- Scientific or medical illustrator
- Studio manager
- Teacher
- Typographer
- Web and app designer



# History

EXAM BOARD	Edexcel
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mr Hudson chudson@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study history?

History is an engaging and interesting subject that will suit students who have an interest in exploring events, developments, and personalities from the past.

## What will I learn?

The main components of the course are as follows:

- **Thematic study and historic environment**  
Medicine in Britain, c1250-present  
The British sector of the Western Front, 1914-18 (injuries, treatments and the trenches)
- **Modern depth study**  
Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939
- **Period study**  
The American West, c1835-c1895
- **British depth study**  
Anglo Saxon and Normans, c1060-88

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations

## Future pathways and careers

- Further study in history or related subjects
- Research
- Journalism
- Conservation
- Archaeology
- Teaching
- Law
- Civil services
- Media



# Mathematics

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mrs Tinley ztinley@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study mathematics?

Mathematics is a core subject and is compulsory until the end of year 11. However, a mathematics qualification is a key requirement for many college courses and job roles - passing this qualification demonstrates an understanding of numbers and an ability to work with them.

Additionally, mathematics graduates earn, on average, a significant amount higher than the average starting salary.

## What will I learn?

GCSE mathematics has a foundation tier (grades 1-5) and a higher tier (grades 4-9). The course covers five strands, including:

- number
- algebra
- ratio
- geometry
- probability and statistics

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations

## Future pathways and careers

- Post-16 study in pure mathematics, core mathematics, or further mathematics
- Animator
- Computer game designer
- Robotics engineer
- Pilot
- Sports announcer and/or statistician
- Photographer
- Mathematics teacher
- Medical career



# Media Studies

EXAM BOARD	EDUQAS
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mr Rodgers lrodgers@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study media studies?

The aim of this exciting course is to develop students' knowledge and understanding of media and gain an appreciation for the role media plays in society and our daily lives. This course will enable students to develop creative, analytical and decision-making skills through key issues that are relevant to the real world we live in.

The GCSE media studies course by EDUQAS is demanding and requires students to analyse and evaluate a range of media forms and create and evaluate their own media products. Throughout the course, students will explore the media industries and their functions. If you have an interest in English and a genuine interest in media, then media studies is for you.

## What will I learn?

The GCSE media studies course encourages pupils to develop their creative, analytical and communication skills through exploring a range of media forms and perspective. Throughout the duration of the course, students will learn to develop an interest and enjoyment of various media forms in their national and global contexts.

Throughout the course, students will be assessed on:

- media language and media representations
- media industries and media audiences
- understanding different media forms and products linked to television and music

## How will I be assessed?

- Two written exams
- One piece of coursework

### Future pathways and careers

- Journalism
- Advertising
- Event management
- Public relations
- Writer
- Television and film industry

# Music

EXAM BOARD	Edexcel
QUALIFICATION TYPE	BTEC
CONTACT	Mrs Mathews kmathews@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study music?

Our BTEC music course will be of interest to students who have a love of music, have enjoyed the subject at key stage 3, can play an instrument and/or sing and are interested in the music industry.

## What will I learn?

Students will study a variety of pieces in different contexts and genres. They will develop their music theory knowledge and learn how to analyse music both aurally and by reading musical notation.

Students will develop skills as a performer, producer and composer, developing skills through solo and ensemble work.

## How will I be assessed?

- Internal assessments
- External assessment

### Future pathways and careers

- Music can be continued to AS and A Level
- Professional musician
- Music technician and recording
- Music therapist
- Broadcasting
- Theatre
- Teaching





# Personal Development

CONTACT | Mrs R Holder  
rholder@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study personal development?

Personal development is a compulsory subject at key stage 4 and is taught for one lesson each week in years 9, 10 and 11.

An important aim of the course is to support students in feeling confident about making post 16 choices. CV building, job applications and interview techniques all form part of the careers guidance work. Careers resources are used to identify and explore a range of potential career routes so that students are in a strong position for moving on and making the right decisions at the end of year 11.

As part of this work, students are also guided in building a personal record of achievement (RoA) document, which can then be used at college or job interviews.



## What will I learn?

Students will study aspects of citizenship and what it means to be a good citizen. By focusing on a range of current topical issues, students are encouraged to think hard about their own values and opinions, their role in society as young citizens, and about some of the big decisions they face as citizens of the future. Attitudes towards different groups in society are challenged and discussed.

The nature of the topics discussed can be difficult and be based on opinions. The topic of sex and relationships is explored including contraception, relationships, sexuality and support available to young people.

Finance modules are also delivered and include student finance, budgeting, loans and borrowing, and preparation for students for independent living.

The emphasis in all these lessons is on good quality discussion and sharing thoughts and ideas, preparing students for their role in wider society.

# Physical Education (Core)

CONTACT | Miss Lunney  
clunney@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study physical education?

All students in years 10 and 11 will participate in two lessons of core PE a week, which will include a range of activities including trampolining, football, netball, rounders, table tennis and fitness.

During these lessons, students will develop social, emotional and intellectual skills, including improved:

- leadership skills
- communication and trust
- tolerance
- independence
- co-operation
- loyalty
- fairness and respect
- acceptance of responsibility, as well as helping to improve physical and mental wellbeing

## What will I learn?

While participating in each of the different activities, students have the opportunity to develop individual skills and techniques in each. Students will also take on the role of referee/umpire to showcase an understanding of the rules and apply them in a leadership role.

Built into the lessons will be various roles for students to take on, such as team captains, coaches and managers. They will also benefit from developing an understanding of how physical exercise can positively impact on overall health and fitness, and hopefully setting them on the correct track to maintain a healthy lifestyle.



# Physical Education (Option)

EXAM BOARD	Edexcel
QUALIFICATION TYPE	BTEC
CONTACT	Miss Lunney clunney@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study BTEC sport?

This is a vocational course that is predominantly theory based with some aspects being taught through practical activity. It is suited to those who want to develop their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology, develop their ability to plan and deliver sports activity sessions as well as having an interest in sports leadership.

This course is taken in addition to the two lessons of core PE that students receive each week in year 10 and 11.

## What will I learn?

The course comprises of the following three components, one and two will be assessed by the teacher and three will be assessed externally by the examination board (Pearson).

**Component 1:** preparing participants to take part in sport and physical activity

**Component 2:** taking part and improving other participants' sporting performance

**Component 3:** developing fitness to improve other participants' performance in sport and physical activity

## How will I be assessed?

- Internal assessment
- External assessment

### Future pathways and careers

- Further study in sport and leisure
- Teaching and coaching
- Sports therapy
- Sports analyst
- Physiotherapist
- Sports lawyer



# Photography

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Miss Brackett ebrackett@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study photography?

Photography is a creative subject and this course suits students with an interest in photography who are considering a career in this area. The course supports students' abilities to work independently outside of the classroom, and to use complex pieces of equipment.

## What will I learn?

Students will demonstrate their ability to:

- explore a range of approaches to a theme and experiment with a variety of technical processes, materials and media
- research and investigate photographers to help develop ideas in their work
- develop, refine and evaluate their ideas through a variety of records such as mood boards, sketchbooks and notebooks
- show a technical development and exploration of lighting, equipment and locations
- produce and present a personal response
- extend ideas through the use of image manipulation software, formal elements and compositions

## How will I be assessed?

- Coursework
- Examinations

### Future pathways and careers

- Further study of photography
- Photographer
- Filmmaker
- Graphic designer
- Marketing





# Product Design (Design Technology)

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mrs Draper draper@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study product design (design technology)?

To learn and develop practical skills in resistant materials. You will be able to build up your creativity, problem solving, planning and evaluation skills. You will apply all the skills and knowledge learnt during the KS3 rotation technology sessions.

## What will I learn?

The course introduces some of the key themes within the industry, enabling students to develop and apply their knowledge of the sector while also developing a range of relevant practical skills and techniques. Students will follow a practical and technical study using some of the following materials and techniques:

- wood
- metal
- plastic
- design
- CAD
- CAM
- electronics
- systems

## How will I be assessed?

Year 10 is skills building, which you then apply to course work (worth 50%) and a final written exam (worth 50%)

## Future pathways and careers

- Carpenter
- Aerospace engineer
- CAD technician
- Teacher of design and technology
- Pattern cutter
- Product designer



# Science (Combined)

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Miss Driscoll adriscoll@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study combined science?

Science impacts on almost every area of the world in which we live, and a good science qualification is required for a huge range of occupations. The study of science teaches us a number of essential skills that are transferable across other subjects and pathways.

The list of jobs which involve science is endless – childcare, police service, forensics, military careers, sports science, fitness instructors, electricians, plumbers, painting and decorating, catering, beauticians, hairdressing, engineering, veterinary science and many more!

## What will I learn?

Students will study all three science subjects (biology, chemistry and physics) and will be awarded two GCSE qualifications. This course allows students to develop their skills and knowledge in each aspect of science.

Within lessons, there will be a set of core practical skills that students will need to cover, with both practical and written content to develop skills in investigation and analysis.

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations – two each in biology, chemistry and physics

## Future pathways and careers

- Further study of science
- Medicine – doctors, nurses, radiographers, pathologists, paramedics, etc.
- Engineer
- Veterinary scientist
- Research scientist
- Personal trainer
- Sports scientist
- Forensic scientist
- Architecture
- Finance
- Psychologist



# Science (Separate)

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Miss Driscoll adriscoll@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study separate science?

In this course, students will study all that is covered in the combined science course and more. Some topics will be covered in greater depth. For example, the structure of the eye and the brain will be studied as part of a topic on the human nervous system. Other topics are unique to the separate science course. In physics, for example, students will study a space topic.

Students who are interested in a career in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) will find separate science essential. Students will have eight lessons of science a week, so a genuine interest in the subject is the most important criteria.

## What will I learn?

Students will study all three science subjects (biology, chemistry and physics) and be awarded three GCSE qualifications. This course will allow students to develop skills and knowledge in each aspect of science. There will be a set of core practical skills that will be covered, and lessons will have both practical and written content to help develop skills in investigation and analysis.

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations - two each in biology, chemistry and physics

## Future pathways and careers

- Further study of science
- Medicine - doctors, nurses, radiographers, pathologists, paramedic, etc.
- Engineering - aeronautical, chemical, civil, electrical, structural
- Veterinary scientist
- Astrophysicist
- Research scientist
- Forensic scientist
- Biomedical scientist
- Or any other career in STEM



# Statistics

EXAM BOARD	AQA
QUALIFICATION TYPE	GCSE
CONTACT	Mrs Tinley ztinley@holgate-ac.org.uk

## Why study statistics?

Statistics is about making decisions when there is uncertainty. Perhaps one of the most versatile areas of mathematics, it gives students the skills to collect, analyse, interpret and present data.

Studying statistics complements other subjects such as:

- science
- psychology
- geography
- business
- economics

## What will I learn?

GCSE statistics has a foundation tier (grade 1-5) and higher tier (grade 4-9). The course will cover:

- data collection for hypothesis testing
- representing data sets pictorially
- calculating statistical measures to compare data
- probability
- using data analysis to interpret trends and make predictions
- statistical enquiry cycle

## How will I be assessed?

- Examinations

## Future pathways and careers

- Further study of maths
- Statistician
- Biological scientist
- Analyst
- Actuary
- Market researcher



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