



THE
HOLMESDALE
SCHOOL

POST 16 PROSPECTUS

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Welcome from Headteacher and Heads of Sixth Form

Welcome to The Holmesdale Sixth Form.

You will be joining a dynamic Sixth Form, with lots of different opportunities to develop your, skills, further your education and your personal success. The journey through our Sixth Form will be exciting and unique right from the beginning as we support, guide, and empower you to reach your potential.

Employers and universities are looking for resilient, independent and solution focussed young people. Here at The Holmesdale Sixth Form, we offer a unique educational experience where we prepare our students for the demands of the real world by developing both academic and emotional intelligences. We embrace a growth mind-set and put progress first in all we do. We offer a range of subjects, enrichment activities, community events and leadership development opportunities, which personalise each individual journey through to the end.

Our ultimate aim is to prepare you for life after you leave school. Some of you will follow the higher education route and progress to university, whereas others will follow different routes, perhaps into apprenticeships or the workplace. Most important to us is that our students leave us as confident, independent and resilient young people who are able to follow the path best suited to them as individuals.



Mr Glenn Prebble
Head of School



Lead Ambassador's Welcome

My Name is Ellis Rowden and I am currently the Lead Ambassador at the Holmesdale school. I joined Holmesdale in year 7 in 2015 and currently I'm in year 13 where I am studying Double Sport and Business. In the future I'm looking to either go to university or get an apprenticeship in Football Coaching, which I hope will help me become a PE teacher. I decided to stay at The Holmesdale School's Sixth Form as I have enjoyed my time at this school, it's been the best years of my life. I also knew that I was in safe hands as it's reassuring how supportive the teachers at Holmesdale are. For me Holmesdale has helped me grow as a person from a young boy joining in year 7 to a young adult and I'm going to miss the school a lot when it's my time to leave.

The Sixth Form rooms are upstairs in the Harvey building, the rooms are right next to the Head of Year 12 and Head of Year 13s office, Mrs Pyrke and Miss Moody. This is brilliant as if there are any issues we can go straight to them to ask for help. There are enrichment lessons, which students take if they are not retaking English and Maths, and these are quality times to get advice and guidance on UCAS applications, CV's and many more things from the teacher and Mrs Hamilton, our Careers Advisor.

The best part of being a part of the Holmesdale leadership team is that it allows students to be able to get more involved with the school community and it's a privilege to help out other year groups when they need some support or guidance. This involves doing assemblies, roaming duty, fundraising events, meeting with Head of School to make changes and work with the lower school to support them and give them skills to become a part of the student leadership team in the future.

The Holmesdale School Sixth Form has been amazing for me and if I could stay here for the rest of my life I would. It will be sad for me when I leave as I have made lots of memories here and enjoyed every second of it, which I know you will do too. I hope you enjoy your experience at The Holmesdale School Sixth Form as well!

Ellis Rowden

Lead Ambassador 2021-2022

The Sixth Form Team

At The Holmesdale School, we take pride in the community structure in place in the lower school. For Post 16 study there is a different structure in place with Post 16 being recognised as a distinct phase of education. The Sixth Form team are all very experienced Post-16 specialists.

The Head of Year 12, Mrs Pyrke is responsible for your academic progress and your well-being, supported throughout your studies in Year 12 and is supported by Miss Moody who is responsible for Year 13 who will support you through your Year 13 journey and guide you through your next steps. You

You will also work with other members of staff who will replace the role of your tutor, this will be your Personal Development and Enrichment lessons, to support your wellbeing and development during your Post 16 journey. Our Head of School, Mr Prebble, currently meets with the Student Leadership Team on a regular basis in order to ensure close links between the Sixth Form and the student body. The Sixth Form community plays an active role in leading fundraising activities, ranging from specific Sixth Form activities to school-based, local and national events. Ms Hamilton also supports students as our Career's Advisor.

The Holmesdale Sixth Form is closely supported by the Swale Academies Trust Executive Headteacher for Sixth Form, Mrs Hodges.

Why Study at The Holmesdale School?

Unique to The Holmesdale School is our **Holmesdale Futures Programme**. We are pleased to be able to offer you a bespoke range of experiences and qualifications, which will provide you with the necessary support to fulfil your potential and access the best range of future courses or employment.

When you come to study at The Holmesdale School you will not just complete a series of qualifications. We have created a package of wrap around experiences, skills and knowledge that will develop the whole person – not just your academic profile. During your two years with us, you will have the opportunity to collect evidence of all your achievements, which will be stored in the Holmesdale Futures Portfolio – a record of your achievements over the two years. This portfolio will include evidence from the following areas.



The Holmesdale Futures Programme

Each area of development is outlined below;

1) The Qualifications

This is an essential part of your programme, which will require a significant time commitment. You will be supported by your current school environment to enable you to pick the most appropriate course for you and allow you to raise your aspirations for your future educational pathway.

2) Enrichment Programme

Alongside the formal qualifications, we offer an Enrichment Programme via our Currency, Character and Culture Programme. You will learn important skills and knowledge beyond your subjects such as communication, independence and resilience, financial awareness, mental health and well-being and British Values. This will take place during tutor times, assemblies and in specialist lessons to ensure that you have access to the wider skills that employers and higher education are looking for.

3) Student Leadership

You will have the opportunity to develop a range of leadership skills including project planning, visioning, decision-making, delegation and empowerment. You may be asked to chair student voice meetings and will learn to be an effective team member through a variety of leadership opportunities. The types of roles and responsibilities we will have an offer include, Head Prefects, Senior Prefects, Ambassadors and Literacy and Numeracy Leaders, Charity Prefects and Events Management.

4) Careers

We are fortunate to have a tailored careers support programme that focuses on employability skills. Each course has a link to a local employer and there will be opportunities to have hands on, work related experience, as well as a week in Year 12 dedicated to a work placement. We work with higher education providers who come into school to help you make decisions about your future. Trips to universities are also provided. In addition, you will have support with writing your curriculum vitae, personal statements and interview techniques as well as one to one support from the Careers Advisor.

5) Community

The local community is very important to us, and we know it is to you as well. Our community has helped everyone in some way and we feel that it is essential to support the wider community too. There will be opportunities to work with local charities and organisations by running fundraisers, volunteering for local care organisations and to help with local primary schools. The National Citizenship Service will also come in and provide you with links to all sorts of enriching work experiences. All this community work will be recognised through the different levels of awards that we offer.

The Holmesdale Futures Programme - Awards

You will have the opportunity to make the most of your time in the Holmesdale Sixth Form by accumulating a variety of evidence to present at interviews when you leave us. All students are required to participate in activities organised to enrich and widen their learning opportunities, which will contribute to their portfolio and enable them to gain our community awards. There are three levels of award that can be achieved: Bronze, Silver and Gold.

The minimum expectation for every student is that they will achieve the Bronze Award. Students will need to evidence the following for their Bronze portfolio:

Bronze Award

- Taken part in at least one community project
- Taken part in a public speaking event (e.g. assembly)
- Volunteered and carried out a Sixth Form duty (e.g. library duty)
- Taken part in a lower school buddy system e.g. reading or numeracy support
- Taken part in at least two days relevant work experience in line with school expectations
- Contributed towards a whole school enterprise project and evidenced that they can work as part of a team
- Has a good attitude to learning and solution focussed growth mind-set?
- Good attendance

The Silver Award is designed for those students who are highly resilient, independent and solution focussed. They will need to evidence the following for their Silver portfolio and build upon the Bronze Award.

Silver Award

- Led on at least one community project
- Led on at least one public speaking event
- Carried out a role as a Sixth Form leader (e.g. prefect) for the whole of Year 12
- Acted as a role model for THS lower school by taking part in two different mentoring or well-being schemes
- Undertaken regular (weekly) work related learning opportunities and completed a detailed reflective journal
- Completed the Level 2 LIBF Certificate in Financial Education
- Developed enterprise and entrepreneurial skills by co-leading on a whole school project and evidencing role taken
- Presented a preliminary proposal for the Extended Project Qualification

The Gold award is designed to be completed in Year 13 only. Students will need to evidence the following for their portfolio to build upon their Bronze and Silver Awards

Gold Award

- Led on community projects
- Planned, coordinated and led own community project
- Taken a lead on public speaking (oracy);
- Made a significant contribution to the Sixth Form Leadership Team (e.g. Prefect; Ambassador)
- Acted consistently as a role model for THS lower school in academic mentoring and well-being
- Undertaken a significant period of work related learning with clear evidence of reflection through a focussed reflective journal
- Developed enterprise and entrepreneurial skills through a whole school project (leadership - lead on interview process; numeracy; oracy; business like dress; evidence of professional values)
- Undertaken significant research towards the Extended Project Qualification
- Participated in an NCS accredited project
- Consistently good attitude to learning and solution focussed growth mind-set.

In addition, the Sixth Formers will work towards day-to-day rewards such as teacher commendations; Dress Down Friday; subject rewards, postcards home and end of term celebration events.

Qualifications

We have designed an applied pathway which we believe will offer you access to a good range of higher education courses or employability routes. We have taken into account the local entrepreneurial community character so that when you leave The Holmesdale School you will be in an excellent position to gain employment in the local labour market, or progress onto a degree qualification.

There are a number of pathways you could take by combining different subject options depending on the career direction you are interested in.

A	B	C	D	E
BTEC Sports Studies Single (Extended Certificate)	BTEC Health and Social Care Single (Extended Certificate)	BTEC Applied Psychology (Extended Certificate)	BTEC Health and Social Care Double (DIPLOMA)	BTEC Applied Science (Extended Certificate)
	BTEC Business Single (Extended Certificate)	LIBF Financial Studies (Level 3 Diploma)	BTEC Sports Studies Double (Diploma)	BTEC Business Double (Diploma)
ENGLISH OR MATHS GCSE RETAKE				
YEAR 13 ONLY: Extended Project Qualification				

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is offered to all Year 13 students who are exceeding targets as an extra qualification and helps to provide students with the opportunity to work independently and creatively, whilst developing skills that universities and employers look for. The EPQ aims to inspire, enthuse and motivate students by giving them the freedom to undertake a project on any subject they are studying or in an area of personal interest. Students spend their time focussed on a skills-based piece of work that can be a design, a performance, a report within findings from an investigation, a made artefact (such as a book or working model) or a dissertation.



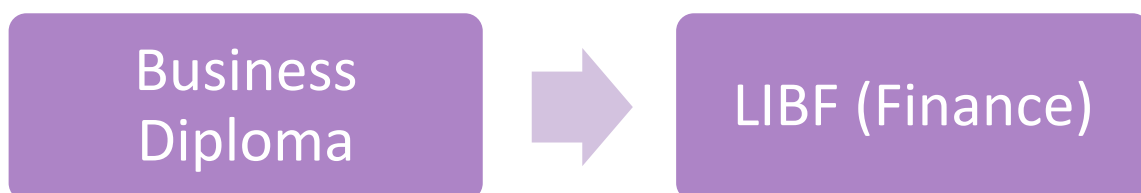
Qualification Pathways

Health pathway



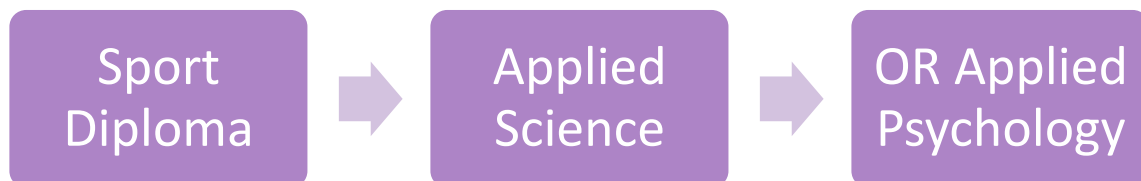
Students opting for this pathway could progress into many careers or university courses including Nursing, Childcare, Education or Midwifery. A different option is to secure an NHS degree apprenticeship or to progress directly onto a career in a health and social care setting.

Enterprise pathway



Students taking this option will be encouraged to develop entrepreneurial skills and could progress onto university to study a range of different qualifications including Business Management or Events Management. There are also plenty of degree apprenticeship opportunities in this field. In the local area, small businesses make up the largest employer so students will be well placed to secure full time employment at 18.

Sports pathway (Sport Diploma with Applied Science or Applied Psychology)



Students opting for this pathway may apply for a range of courses such as Physiotherapy, Sports Science or even a Science related degree. Again, degree apprenticeships are also available within this field and there are local science based industries where students could secure employment.



Business (BTEC Extended Certificate/National Diploma)

PEARSON

Why take this course?

Business is one of the most popular BTEC Level 3 courses. The qualification will help you succeed in your future career, no matter what you choose to go on to do. Our past students have gone on to study Business and related subjects at university or have moved into a range of careers, using the skills and knowledge they have acquired from their studies.

The principles of business that you will learn on your course underpin every shop, office and organisation in the UK economy – from presenting positive marketing messages and developing effective customer service skills to operating within a legal framework and managing finances. The skills you will develop on your course will be valued by employers in every sector. For virtually all careers in business, you will need to have the following skills, all of which can be gained during the course of the programme:

- Good communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills
- The ability to work well as a member of a team
- The ability to lead a team
- The ability to manage your time effectively

Aims of the course

The course is intended to provide the knowledge, understanding and skills that allow students to gain business sector experience that will prepare them for further study or training. The learning programme covers the following content areas:

- Business Environments
- Finance
- Marketing
- International Business
- Management

Students will also complete units of work on recruitment and selection, and training and development.

Course Structure and Content

BTEC Foundation Diploma (2 year course) - Equivalent in size to one and a half A Levels

Unit 1:	Exploring Business
Unit 2:	Developing a Marketing Campaign
Unit 3:	Personal and Business Finance
Unit 4:	Managing an Event
Unit 8:	Recruitment and Selection Process
Unit 21:	Training and Development

BTEC Diploma (2 year course) - Equivalent in size to two A Levels

- Unit 1: Exploring Business
- Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance
- Unit 4: Managing an Event
- Unit 5: International Business
- Unit 6: Principles of Management
- Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection Process
- Unit 21: Training and Development

Assessment

The BTEC Foundation Diploma consists of six units of which four are mandatory and two are external. Mandatory content (67%). External assessment (41%).

The BTEC Diploma consists of eight units of which six are mandatory and three are external. Mandatory content (75%). External assessment (46%).

Entry requirements

To be accepted onto the course a student should have at least five GCSEs at grade 4 including English and Maths. Strong literacy and numeracy skills are essential and it is preferable (though not a requirement) that students will have previously studied Business or Enterprise at Level 2.

What could this qualification lead to?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many Business and associated courses.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Business administration, marketing, finance/accountancy, human resource management, events management, training delivery, education, international relations and many more.



Health and Social Care (BTEC Extended Certificate/National Diploma) PEARSON

Why take this course?

Health and Social Care is extremely useful for a range of careers due to the many areas it covers, including early years, elderly care and the differing professions within any Health and Social Care setting. The option to attend university after the completion of the Level 3 HSC course is usually taken, with progressions on to nursing, midwifery and into the social care sector. The specification complements other Post 16 courses, such as Applied Science and Psychology. Health and Social Care is usually appealing to students that have an interest in the area or that have taken the subject at Level 2. There are both coursework and exam-based elements, with some extended writing. Health and Social Care students often choose careers in the public sector, such as nursing, as a care or social worker and teaching as the course helps them to learn the skills, roles and responsibilities needed.

Aims of the course

Health and Social Care aims to introduce or develop your understanding of a variety of skills, roles and responsibilities within the sector.

Course Structure and Content

BTEC Extended Certificate (2 year course) - Equivalent in size to one A Level

- Unit 1: Human Lifespan (Exam)
- Unit 2: Working in Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Unit 5: Mandatory unit (Coursework)
- Unit 12: Optional unit (Coursework)

BTEC National Diploma (2 year course) – Equivalent to size as two A Levels

Same units as above as well as:

- Unit 4: Current Research in Health and Social Care (Controlled Assessment)
- Unit 7: Mandatory Unit (Coursework)
- Unit 8: Mandatory Unit (Coursework)
- Unit 19: Optional Unit (Coursework)



Assessment

Extended Certificate - Four units of which two are coursework and two that are external exams.

Diploma – Eight units of which five are coursework, two are external exams and one is a controlled assessment.

Entry requirements

To be accepted onto the course, a student should have at least five GCSEs at grade 4 including English. Level 2 Health and Social Care is not essential but preferred. Essay writing skills are also desirable. Students are expected to have a wider interest in Health and Social Care.

What could this qualification lead to?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many relevant Health and Social Care jobs.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Medical professions such as, GP, Doctor, Nurse, Midwife and care professions such as, Social Worker, Counsellor, Care Home Workers.

Sports (BTEC Extended Certificate/National Diploma)

PEARSON

Why take this course?

Sport Studies is extremely useful for a range of careers, in a variety of different sectors within the sports profession. The course will suit many students as the pathway after completion of the course can take many routes including university, apprenticeships or straight in to work. The specification complements other Post 16 courses, such as Applied Science and Psychology. Sport Studies is usually appealing to students that have an interest in the area or that have taken the subject at Level 2 or equivalent (GCSE PE). There are both coursework and exam based elements, with some extended writing. Sport Studies students often choose careers such as teaching, coaching, leisure centre working or physiotherapists.

Aims of the course

Sport studies aims to provide the knowledge and understanding for a range of sporting jobs within the sector.

Course Structure and Content

BTEC Extended Certificate (2 year course) - Equivalent in size to one A Level

- Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology (Exam)
- Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health and Wellbeing (Controlled Assessment)
- Unit 3: Mandatory unit (Coursework)
- Unit 10: Optional unit (Coursework)

BTEC National Diploma (2 year course) – Equivalent to size as two A Levels

Same units as above as well as

- Unit 22: Business in Sport (Controlled Assessment)
- Unit 23: Mandatory Unit (Coursework)
- Unit 4: Mandatory Unit (Coursework)
- Unit 6: Optional Unit (Coursework)
- Unit 5: Optional Unit (Coursework)



Assessment

Extended Certificate -

Four units of which two are coursework, one is an external exam, and one is a controlled assessment.

Diploma –

Nine units of which six are coursework, one is an external exam and two are controlled assessments.

Entry requirements

To be accepted onto the course a student should have at least five GCSEs at grade 4 including English. Level 2 Sport or equivalent is not essential but preferred. Essay writing skills are also desirable. Students are expected to have a wider interest in sport.

What could this qualification lead to?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to sports related jobs.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Teaching, coaching, Physiotherapist, Sports Psychologist, Sports Journalist, Sports Researcher, Leisure Centre Manager

Applied Science (BTEC Extended Certificate/National Diploma)

PEARSON

Why take this course?

Applied Science is extremely useful for most careers because of the skills and practices that it includes.

There are many and varied careers to pursue in Applied Science. The Applied Science sector is diverse and wide-ranging, including, for example, biomedical, forensic, physical and chemical sciences. There are approximately 5.8 million people employed in science related occupations in the UK. This equates to approximately 20% of the workforce. The Applied Science sector has a crucial role to play in delivering economic growth in the UK and allowing companies to compete in a rapidly enlarging global market. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science is designed for learners who are interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in Applied Science. Applied Scientists that our teachers have taught have gone on to scientific careers such as midwifery, nursing, environmental research, forensic science, food hygiene and quantitative research and non-science based subjects such as accountancy, business management, law and even teaching!

The qualification is equivalent in size to one A Level, and it has been designed as part of a two-year programme.

Aims of the course

Applied Science is designed to support you through practical science, investigative research and exams to develop your thinking and application skills in science. In Applied Science, learners continue to enjoy a stimulating course of study and develop the skills and attributes that will enable them to progress.

Course Structure and Content

BTEC Extended Certificate (2 year course) - Equivalent in size to one A Level

- Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills
- Unit 4: Optional unit



Assessment

Four units of which three are mandatory and two are external. Mandatory content (83%).

External assessment (58%).

Entry requirements

To be accepted onto the course a student should have at least five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English. Analytical and mathematical skills are very useful in Applied Science and we would expect students to have a grade 5 or higher in Maths and Science. Strong essay writing skills are essential. You will also need to have the ability to complete written assignments in a professional manner and the desire to work hard, meet deadlines and achieve.

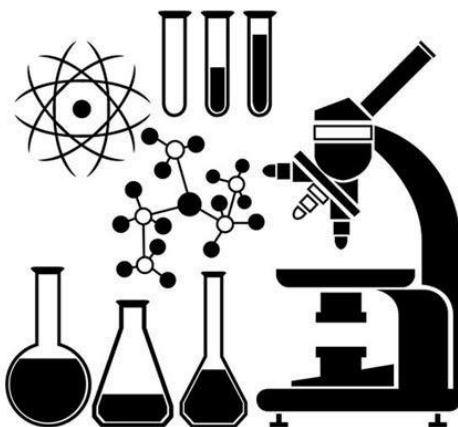
What could this qualification lead to?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many relevant Applied Science courses and many other courses where the analysis skills and report writing skills are valued.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Food hygiene, teaching, police, law, journalism, nursing, midwifery, publishing, radiography, family planning, social work, government agencies, research technician and many more.

This is a good basis to build on to continue your studies with the Open University whilst you work. BTEC students have found themselves well placed for the independent work necessary in an OU degree.



Financial Studies LIBF LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA (DipFS)

Why take this course?

As an Applied General qualification, the Diploma in Financial Studies (DipFS) is primarily designed for students aged 16–19 and provides an in-depth exploration of the key concepts of financial capability and how they are applied to achieve longer-term financial sustainability. Its purpose is to prepare students for further study through the development of the core skills of independent thinking, critical analysis and evaluation, synthesis, verbal communication (through classroom discussion) and written communication.

DipFS builds on the skills and knowledge acquired through successful completion of the Certificate in Financial Studies and extends this to include areas such as financial sustainability within the wider financial services system, and the long-term impact of debt. Within DipFS the student explores the political, economic, social, technological, ethical and legal impacts of personal finance in the short, medium and longer terms. Through this, a greater understanding of the impact that global events can have upon consumers and the wider financial services industry is developed. DipFS therefore enhances the ability to make informed financial decisions through effective planning to manage the risks and challenges involved in personal finance.

Course structure and content

You will study the following topics:

- Importance of financial capability in the immediate, short, medium and long term.
- The impact of external influences at different stages in the personal life cycle.
- Risk and reward in managing personal finance.
- Personal and external factors that lead to change.
- Maintaining financial sustainability and avoiding long-term debt.
- The financial services system and financial sustainability (individual and general).
- Marketing techniques.

Assessment

The course is assessed through two multiple-choice exams and two case study exams.

Entry requirements

To be accepted onto the course a student should have at least five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English and Maths.

What could this qualification lead to?

The course can lead to university, an apprenticeship or employment.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

For students who choose to move straight into employment, DipFS may support access to employment in areas such as in insurance, banking, and office administration, or in the voluntary sector such as with Citizens Advice.



English Language GCSE RESIT: AQA

Why take this course?

GCSE English Language is a vital qualification to help you onto the first, important stage of your career. The majority of employers will look for at least a grade 4 GCSE English qualification as a stepping-stone into their organisation. People with good GCSE grades in English also generally earn approximately £2,000 more per year than those who do not. English skills developed through this course will enhance not only your communication skills, which is a core skill looked for by most employers, but will also enhance your understanding of current affairs and politics so that you can make informed decisions in your future.

Aims of the course

- Read a wide range of texts fluently and with good understanding
- Read critically and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing
- Write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately
- Use grammar correctly, punctuate and spell accurately

Course Structure and Content

Using analysis of your performance in the summer examinations, we will design the course mapped to your needs. There will be many opportunities to practise examination questions that you most need to rehearse.

Assessment

Assessment is by examination only

Paper 1 Fiction and Imaginative writing

Paper 2 Non-fiction and transactional writing

Speaking and Listening examination

Entry requirements

You will be required to take this course if you have not secured a grade 4 in either GCSE Language or Literature.

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification is recognised as one of the basic qualifications required by employers, colleges and university.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Teaching, journalism, marketing, publishing, human resources, law, amongst many others.

Maths GCSE RESIT: OCR

Why take this course?

Students who do not achieve a grade 4 or above at GCSE maths will be required to re-sit their GCSE Maths during Year 12, and potentially Year 13 until a grade 4 or above is achieved.

Aims of the course

GCSE Maths aims to ensure all students achieve the baseline of a grade 4 at GCSE maths before leaving school.

Course Structure and Content

Number, algebra, geometry and data will be assessed. Students will have covered all of the content during their GCSE years; therefore, a gap analysis from their GCSE in the summer of Year 11 will be used to identify gaps in their knowledge. This will then inform teaching to help students achieve the desired grade.

Assessment

Students who achieve a grade 3 at the end of Year 11 will be given the opportunity to re-sit the GCSE in November of Year 12; the results of this will be released in the January. Students will still be required to attend sessions during this time in case they have not achieved a grade 4 or 5. Any students who achieved a grade 2 or below in Year 11 will be sitting the exam at the end of Year 12, along with any students who don't get a grade 4 or 5 in the November exam.

Assessment is via three examination papers: one non-calculator and two calculator exams.

Entry requirements

Only those students who achieve below a grade 4 at GCSE Maths in Year 11 will take this course and it is compulsory for those students. The government requires all students leaving school Post-16 to have achieved a grade 4.

What could this qualification lead to?

This could help you to get onto other courses in later years, and will replace your previous GCSE grade if above the one achieved in Year 11.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

Teacher, scientist, medicine, hairdresser, lawyer, graphic designer, gardener, accountant and many more who use the skills learnt through GCSE Maths.