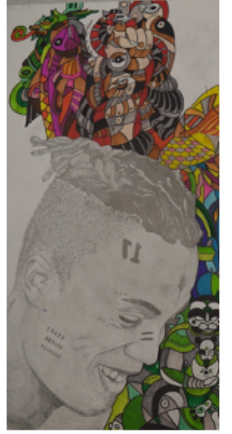


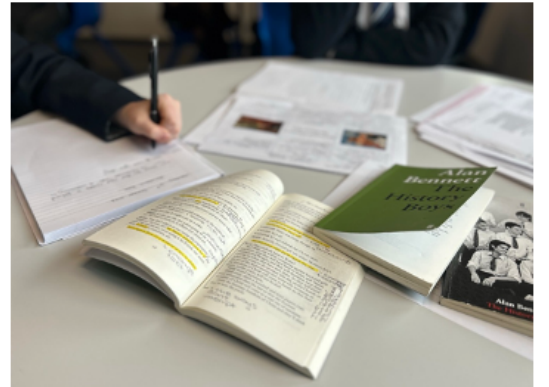


SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE

— SECONDARY SCHOOL —



KS4 Options 2024



Introduction from the Headteacher

Welcome, you have succeeded in the first part of your GCSEs, you are reading the options booklet. This is a significant milestone in your education. Until now, you have had little or no choice in the subjects you are taught. You are now at a stage where you can reflect on your learning and start to identify a clear pathway to your future. Choosing your options is a significant task and requires careful consideration. If you get this decision right and apply yourself to your learning, then you can go on to great things.

As the world becomes more competitive and challenging, you need to ensure you stand out. It's important to pick a language, to be able to communicate with others around the world, and to broaden your possibilities and your horizons. It's important to pick a subject that teaches you more about the world we live in - and how it came to be the way it is - subjects like History, Geography and RE. It's important to pick subjects that enrich your experience at school and develop your skills in the widest possible sense. Finally, it's important to consider variety in your study - and to see each subject as a cog in your wheel of success.

When choosing your options, you need to have a clear sense as to why you have chosen specific subjects. Therefore, it is important that you pick subjects based on valid criteria that make sense to you. These could be from the following: do you have a particular strength or talent you want to really excel at? Are you interested in learning more about a specific subject? Is that subject a good route to a future career you want to pursue? Do you know older students who have already studied the course and given you some experience of what it is all about? Have you listened to the advice around university admissions, and which subjects they are looking for?

There is much to ponder. One piece of advice would be to embrace this process and treat it as an opportunity to have ownership over your education. However, the most important thing is that you pick the courses that make you happy, that make you love to learn, and open opportunities for your future.

Let's RISE to challenge of our Key Stage 4 studies here at Sir Thomas Fremantle

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GCSE and Level 1 & 2 Qualifications

Key Stage 4 qualifications have gone under large reforms during the last 7 years, including more demanding content than the old 'legacy' qualifications. The reason for this reform and challenge is to better prepare students for further academic or vocational study, or for the workplace through an apprenticeship.

Below are the grades that are awarded for the KS4 Qualifications and how it compares to the previous grading structure many are familiar with.

GCSE Grading

New Grading Structure	Old Grading Structure
9 8 7	A*
6 5 4	B C
3 2 1	D E F/G
U	U

Vocational Grading

Cambridge National Grade	9 – 1 Grade Equivalent
Level 2 Distinction*	8.5
Level 2 Distinction	7
Level 2 Merit	5.5
Level 2 Pass	4
Level 1 Distinction	3
Level 1 Merit	2
Level 1 Pass	1.25

Overview of KS4 Curriculum

During Year 10 and Year 11 students will be required to study the core subjects English and Mathematics. There will also be allocated time in the curriculum for other statutory requirements including Ethics and Philosophy, Core PE and PSHCE which is all non-examined at the end of Key Stage 4.

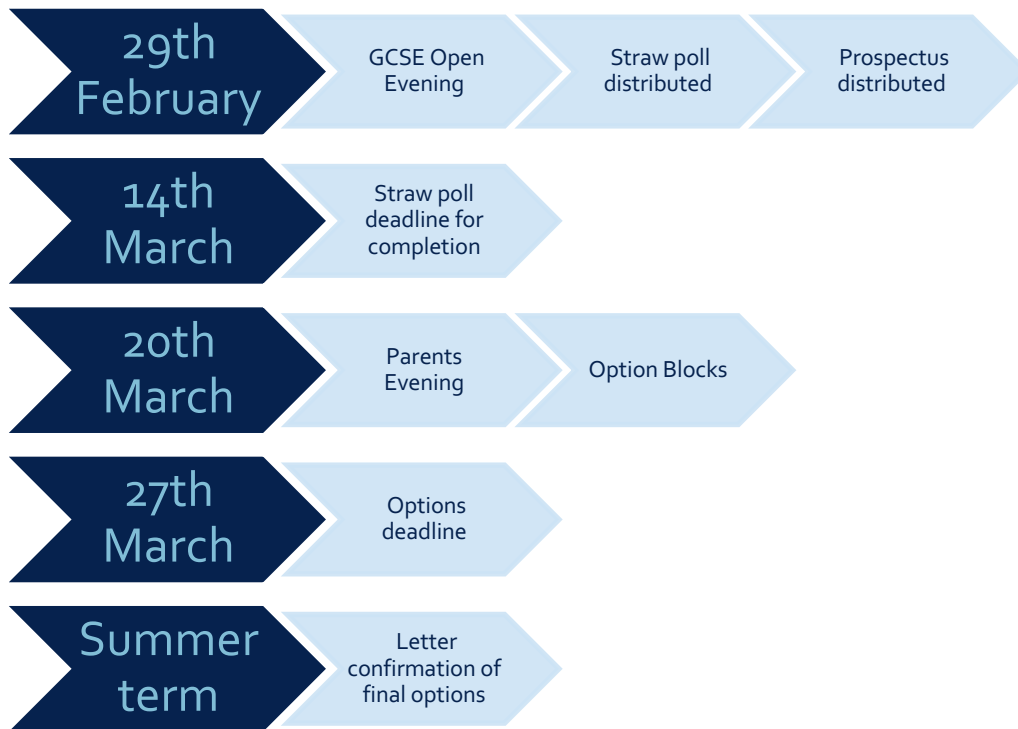
Students will then have the following choices:

- Science subjects either Triple or Combined Science;
- A humanities subject such as History or Geography;
- A modern foreign language such as French or Spanish*
- Two additional subjects from our variety of options

*Route A only, Route B the FCSE in Languages will be taken

KS4 Option Process

Please see the timeline of events linked to the Year 9 options process.



To ensure our option blocks match our cohorts year on year, this process begins with a straw poll to gauge interests for each subject and the best combinations. The straw poll will then inform the distribution of subjects in each option block and then the formal option choices can be made post the Year 9 parents evening. It is important that all students take the opportunity to participate in the straw poll to ensure the option blocks will reflect their preferences.

The Straw Poll

Once you have explored the subject choices on offer with family and teachers, please can you complete the Straw Poll electronic form using the links below:

By using this link

<https://forms.office.com/e/Q4XqdJX4E8>

OR

By the QR code:



The deadline for the completion of the Straw Poll is **14th March 2024**. At this point the option blocks will be informed ready to distribute at parents evening.

GCSE Pathways: Route A or Route B

Below provides a brief description of possible pathways at GCSE for you to consider.

Route A: The Traditional Pathway

This is the typical pathway students will take to enable a broad curriculum at KS4. The option choices within this pathway enables the English Baccalaureate qualification to be achieved (see next page for further information on this. It is also the pathway to support applications for local Sixth Forms and later university choices.

Core Curriculum (Maths and English)	Science Option	Humanities Option	Language Option	Option 1	Option 2
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Route B: The Adapted Pathway

This is a recommended pathway for a small number of students (Please speak to the SEND team), where the students will not take a GCSE language choice and instead complete the FCSE in languages under the RISE programme. The RISE programme enables more time on core and students are given the opportunity for Level 1 and 2 Functional Skills. They are also recommended to choose Health and Social Care or Hospitality and Catering to access technical qualifications.

Core Curriculum (Maths and English)	Combined Science	Humanities Option	The RISE Programme	Technical Award	Option 1
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Understanding the EBACC

The English Baccalaureate is a qualification in its own right combining a variety of subjects to give a range of knowledge, skills and options as they prepare for beyond Key Stage 4. It consists of the following:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Maths
- Science (either Combined or Triple)
- History or Geography
- A language



Department
for Education

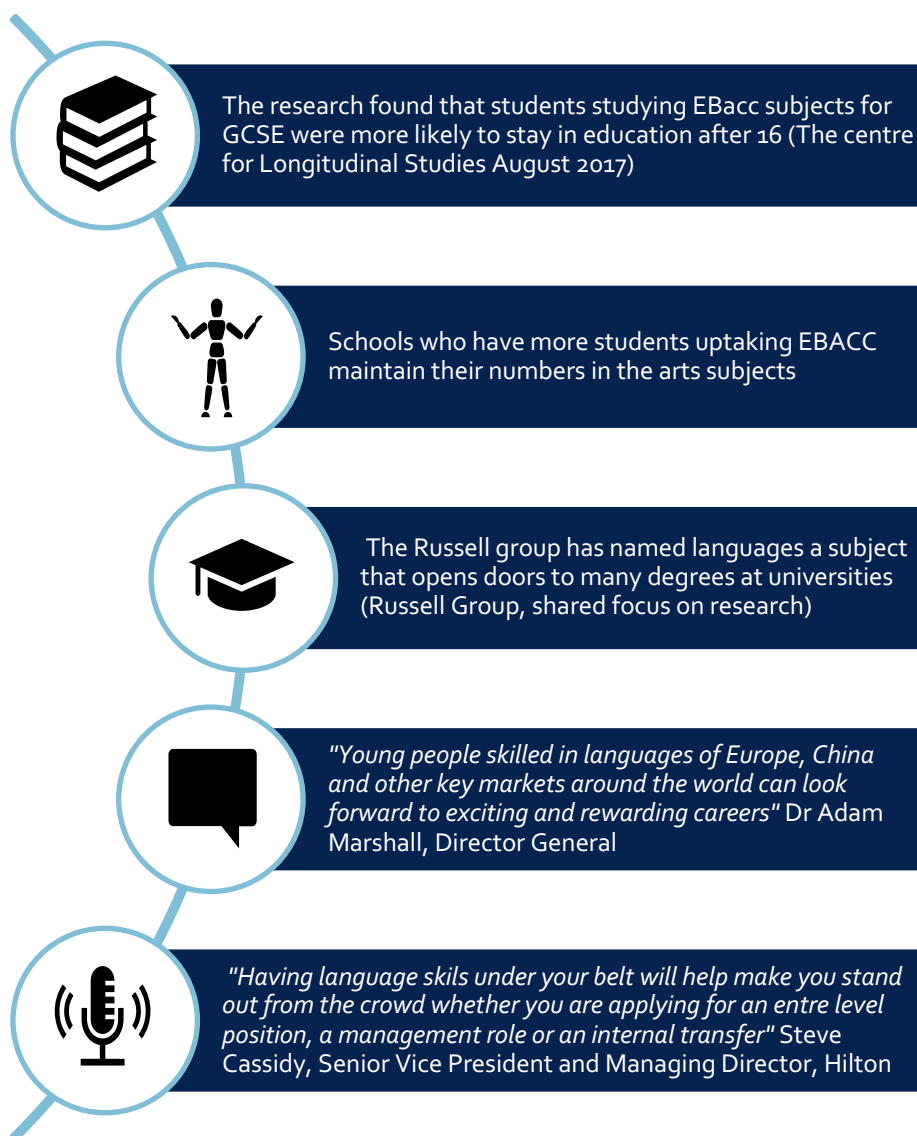
Why study a language?

Languages give young people a competitive edge. It provides an insight into other cultures and can open doors to travel and employment opportunities. It can broaden horizons, and enable them to flourish in new environments. In the global market today, languages continue to be such an important aspect of everyday life.

What about other subjects such as art and music?

While arts and music are not included in the EBACC, every child should experience a high-quality arts and cultural education through the balanced curriculum. If the arts are an area you enjoy, make sure that you make use of the additional option slots to include these.

For further information on the EBACC, please do take a look at the gov.uk website for further recommendations



How can families support the process?

Ask your child to consider these questions when putting together their final list of choices...

Should I choose subjects I'm good at for GCSE?

The answer is often yes – your child will get good results, which will help build their confidence and understanding

Should I choose GCSE subjects based on my likes and interests?

Enjoyment helps students progress in their studies. It's fine to do a subject just because you like it. For example, drama could lead to a career in theatre – but it could also help your child learn to express themselves with confidence AND memorise and retain information. These transferable skills are useful in any future career). Your child should consider if they would be interested in the things they'd be learning, and if they could build the skills the subject requires.

Should I choose a GCSE subject because I like the teacher?

Teachers come and go – but they can also inspire a child to do their best. The person the child most needs to impress is themselves.

Should I choose a GCSE subject because my friends are doing it?

Your child will most likely retain their current friendship groups and also make new friends through their choice of subjects. Doing different GCSEs shouldn't have any effect on a child's friendships

Should I think about high paid jobs when I'm choosing GCSEs?

If your child is thinking about future money goals, it may be that they are still open to options and don't have a set career in mind. They will feel happiest if they progress into jobs they enjoy and feel able to do well and grow in. Time and passion does often correlate to a higher salary in a wide range of jobs, and GCSE options need not play a huge part in this aspect of decision making

Should I go for more or fewer GCSE subjects?

Both employers and further education establishments like universities typically look for high passes in student qualifications. Universities and colleges may only accept 9-4 GCSE pass grades for many degree courses. More GCSEs means a well-rounded education and lots of variety learning. Streamlining the number of GCSEs may help your child give more time to each subject and increase chances of a high pass. Do keep in mind that each GCSE your child takes on will require a substantial amount of work. If both you and your child aren't sure, recommend that they talk to their Learning Coach or Head of Year about how many GCSE subjects they should take.

Are my A-level choices affected by my GCSE choices?

Some A-level options don't require you to have studied them at GCSE first – for example, psychology, economics, media studies or politics. For other subjects your child will most likely need the GCSE, so they can check with a teacher to make sure. Some A-levels, like science, may no longer be open to your child if they choose a single science at GCSE. Taking double award science (core + additional) or triple award science (physics, chemistry and biology) at GCSE will help to keep your child's future options open. They don't have to be a chemist or scientist when they grow up, but we live in an age of tech, and that dream phone design job or specialised journalist job might be harder to achieve without that extra GCSE science qualification

Do my GCSE options affect my university chances?

Most universities need you to have English and maths GCSEs... which is good, because you'll be studying them as core GCSE subjects anyway.

For some degrees, or careers, their requirements for GCSE and A-level subjects aren't too limiting. For example, most universities don't mind which subjects you've studied before if you want to do a law degree – they just want you to have done well in the subjects you chose and that you chose a broad range of choices.

In some cases, your child may need specific A-levels (and therefore the GCSEs they need to do those A-levels) to get on certain university courses (e.g. the sciences, history or foreign languages).

English Language

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Why study GCSE English Language?

GCSE English Language is a compulsory GCSE course at Sir Thomas Fremantle School. It offers students the opportunity to study a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, and to learn how to write creatively in different forms.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into four sections.

Reading Fiction → Students learn how to respond to short extracts of unseen 20th/21st century fiction. Students learn to respond to writers' uses of language and structure to create meaning and have impact on a reader.

Writing Fiction → Here students write their own short piece of descriptive or narrative prose. They are given a brief and have to match their writing style to fit it.

Reading Non-Fiction → Students learn how to respond to short extracts of unseen 19th and 20th/21st century nonfiction. Students learn to respond to writers' uses of language and structure to create meaning and have impact on a reader.

Writing Non-Fiction → Here students write their own short non-fiction to present a viewpoint – using formal rhetoric. They are given a brief and have to match their writing style to fit it.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

English Language skills are fundamental across all subjects. Not only does studying language support reading comprehension, writing composition and analysis in other subjects, any career will rely on the communication and cognition skills developed in English.

How will I be assessed?

This GCSE is 100% exam assessed. There are two exam papers, and each of the four GCSE components is worth 25% of the overall GCSE for Language. The exam papers include short, medium and long form questions.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mrs Stone: rebecca.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

English Literature

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Why study GCSE English Literature?

GCSE English Literature is a compulsory GCSE course at STFS and one that the vast majority of students in the country take. It offers students the opportunity to study a variety of fiction texts and genres and develop a sense of insight into both a writer's craft and the historical settings of a text.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into four sections:

Shakespeare: Macbeth

Students study the themes and concerns of Shakespeare's fierce political tragedy.

Poetry: AQA poetry Anthology

Students study a collection of modern and pre-1900 poems on one of three themes. We take a comparative approach to the collection to encourage students to consider the similarities and differences in the presentation of a common concept.

Pre 1900 Text: A Christmas Carol

Students learn about characteristics of Victorian Literature and consider the presentation and development of character and theme in this classic tale of greed and redemption.

Modern Texts: An Inspector Calls

Students explore theme, character and stagecraft by studying a post 1914 drama text.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Just as English Language develops skills of communication and comprehension, the study of English Literature encourages students to develop a sense of empathy and perspective. Students who would like to pursue careers in the Arts, History, journalism, screenwriting and Film all draw on skills developed in English Literature.

How will I be assessed?

This GCSE is 100% exam assessed. There are two exam papers, and each of the four GCSE components is worth roughly 25% of the overall GCSE for Literature. The assessment is essay based.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mrs Stone: rebecca.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

Mathematics

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Maths

Why study GCSE Mathematics?

GCSE Mathematics is a compulsory subject at GCSE here at STFS as it is a national requirement for all students. Getting a good or standard pass at GCSE Mathematics enables the students to further their studies in any subject post-16 whether it be A-levels, college or apprenticeship courses.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into five sections and continues to build on the skills learnt at Key Stage 3. Depending on content, students will either be studying foundation or higher mathematics. This decision is made by the department, based on success at KS3.

- *Number*
- *Algebra*
- *Ratio, proportion, and rates of change.*
- *Geometry and measures*
- *Probability and statistics*

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

GCSE Mathematics enables students to develop problem-solving skills, through reasoning and justification. Mathematics is essential in a variety of careers, most notably branches in science, technology and engineering.

How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of Year 11, one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers. These are all equally weighted, are 1 hour 30 minutes long and each worth 80 marks. The two tiers are graded as follows -

Foundation: Grades 1 - 5

Higher: Grades 4 - 9

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mr Trott: ian.trott@sirthomasfremantle.org

Further Mathematics

Qualification Type: Level 2 Grades (5 – 9)

Exam board: AQA



Maths

Why study GCSE Mathematics?

Level 2 Further Mathematics is a course for high achievers in mathematics. It places an emphasis on higher order proficiency, rigorous argument and problem-solving skills. It is a good preparation for those students intending on progressing to mathematics at A-level. It should be stressed that this is not an 'option subject'. It is an additional qualification separate to the option subjects outlined below.

What does the course involve?

It gives higher achieving students an introduction to AS level topics that will help them to

develop skills in:

Number	Algebra	Geometry	Calculus
Matrices	Trigonometry	Functions	Graphs

The course will be integrated into the current maths course as extension work and, where needed, further work, practice and opportunity will be given during additional sessions.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

If you enjoy mathematics and are considering taking mathematics to A-level this course is great to deepen your understanding. It also will help complement physics and computer science subjects, as well as assist in careers in engineering, sciences and business.

How will I be assessed?

There will be two exams at the end of Year 11, one non-calculator paper and one calculator paper. These are equally weighted, worth 80 marks each and are each 1 hour 45 minutes long. Grades 5-9 are awarded.

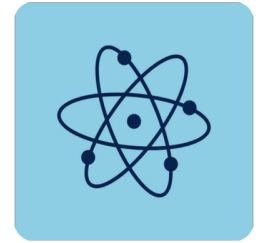
Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mr Trott: ian.trott@sirthomasfremantle.org

The Sciences

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Science

Why study the Sciences?

Science is everywhere. It is involved in all aspects of our lives and as the rate of scientific development increases constantly it will remain a very important part of our lives. Some of our students will need to have studied science to help understand and have an opinion on the implications of new scientific discoveries whilst others will be involved in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) industries.

What does the course involve and how will I be assessed?

Science is a compulsory subject for all students; however, students will still need to choose between two distinct pathways. Either pathway will allow successful students to move onto science A-levels.

GCSE Combined Science (AQA Combined Science: Trilogy) à This option means that the students will gain two GCSEs. The course consists of multiple units of biology, chemistry and physics. This will be assessed through exams at the end of the course. There is no longer a controlled assessment element to the course; students will have to complete 16 'Required Practicals' in class, which will be assessed alongside the content of the course. The final assessments will be in the form of six exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes.

OR

GCSE Separate Sciences (AQA Biology, AQA Chemistry and AQA Physics) à This is the more challenging of the two options and all three GCSE must be taken together. Each GCSE contains all the subject content of the Combined Science and an additional 50% as well. Each qualification has 8 'Required Practicals' which will be assessed alongside the content of the course. The final assessment will be in the form of six exams lasting 1 hour 45 minutes.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Science teaches people to analyse information and develop solutions which are skills applicable to a whole range of occupations. There are also a whole range of STEM professions. The broad range of science helps prepare students for careers ranging from the medical profession to nuclear scientists and engineering to forensic science.

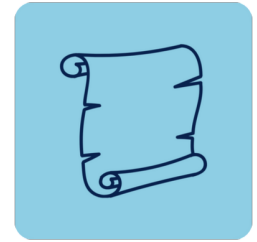
Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mr Matthews: gary.matthews@sirthomasfremantle.org

History

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



History

Why study GCSE History?

Understanding the world in which we live is very difficult if you don't know the story of the past, and our history GCSE topics have been chosen to deepen the understanding students have gained through years 7, 8 and 9 as well as to introduce new material and topics that students will find interesting and informative. The subject challenges students to consider a range of factors that have influenced the world we live in today. Studying history builds skills that will help in other subjects and are useful when looking at the next steps after GCSE and being in high demand in the workplace. Above all this though, history is interesting and fun!

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into four sections.

Norman England c.1066-1100 → How did the Norman invasion affect the lives of peasants in the villages? What impact did it have on the English Church? How did local government evolve over time? In our investigation, we will focus on these questions and more as we establish the lasting and important economic, religious, social and political impacts the Normans had on the history of Britain.

Britain: Power and the people, c1170 to the present day → This thematic study tells the story of the development of Britain's system of rights and democracy over the last 850 years. It begins with the first successes in controlling the power of the king or queen in the medieval period. We look at changes under the Tudors and the English Civil War before moving on to the reforms of the 1800s, including the growing demand for votes for all that finally happened at the start of the 20th century. This is a very interesting and informative unit that can also serve as a good foundation for potentially doing politics as an A level subject, as well as generally being useful in understanding our country and how it works.

Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship → Students will have the opportunity to investigate the radical political, economic and social changes that occurred in Germany over half a century. From the challenges Germany faced under Kaiser Wilhelm to the day-to-day impacts of World War II on German lives. This social history explores how life changed for the German people during this interesting period of time.

Conflict and Tension 1919-39 → This topic investigates the breakdown of peace in the late 1930s by critically assessing the international attempts to lay the foundations for a peaceful future after World War I. Students will consider the long-term role of the Treaty of Versailles, the creation of the League of Nations to solve international disputes, and the road to war.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

History is not an 'easy' subject, but rising to the challenge will lead to not only an interesting and rewarding GCSE experience, but also to developing skills which a student will use for the rest of their lives no matter what they do. History is a fantastic 'foundation' subject that can support other writing and analysis-based subjects at A level and beyond into higher education or the workplace.

Studying history involves critically assessing politicians' speeches, political cartoons, posters and extracts of history journals. History is one of very few subjects which help build these critical thinking skills, including the ability to recognise context and nuance when exposed to new information. Students will also develop their ability to write long, flowing arguments that are substantiated with evidence and detailed knowledge. Becoming independent learners is also something history encourages as students will complete their own research outside of the classroom to support their learning within. All of these skills are in demand in both higher education and beyond, making history a great choice of subject for GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

Students will complete two exams in the summer term of Year 11. Both will last 2 hours and consist of knowledge and source questions on the topics we have studied.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email a member of the history team: andrew.simpson@sirthomasfremantle.org; barry.cooper@sirthomasfremantle.org or matthew.stanton@sirthomasfremantle.org

Geography

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Geography

Why study GCSE Geography?

The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before. Geography explains why and helps to prepare you for those changes. The transferable skills which geography fosters are an asset in the complex world of employment today. Geography is about the future and encourages flexible thinking. Whilst geography is a rewarding subject it requires a high degree of effort to fully appreciate the varying nature of the course. If the subject interests you and you are prepared to put in the work you will be rewarded with a fascinating two years.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into three sections.

Physical Geography

Students investigate the challenge of natural hazards in the living world, physical landscapes of the United Kingdom and human interaction with them. This unit develops an understanding of the tectonic, geomorphological, biological and temporally. Students will develop an understanding of the factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments; the dynamic nature of these environments that change over time and place; the need for sustainable management; and the areas of current and future challenge and opportunity for these environments.

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork Investigation

The focus of this unit is for students to carry out independent research, fieldwork and analysis of results. The students will complete two fieldwork projects based on the Physical and Human Geography options and will use these findings to prepare for the paper 3 examination. This is worth 30% of the final grade. We have run a 4-day residential trip in both the Isle of Wight and Dorset for previous Year 10 students. This has been provisionally booked for next year.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

“So many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning research and report writing, working in a team, using new technologies and communication skills – and much more. You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs, from the City to planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities or retail.” Sir Michael Palin.

How will I be assessed?

You'll have three written exams. Papers 1 and 2 are 1 hour 30 minutes long and together, they contribute to 70% of your final mark. Paper 3 is 1 hour 30 minutes and contributes to the final 30% of your GCSE grade.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email a member of the geography team: nicola.flanagan-graham@sirthomasfremantle.org; or catherine.lear@sirthomasfremantle.org

Classical Civilisation



Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: OCR

Why study Classical Civilisation?

Classical Civilisation focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome and is a wide-ranging subject involving the study of literature, art, artefacts, archaeological sites, and the ancient historical context. You don't need to know any languages, all the texts are in translation, and it doesn't matter if you haven't studied the Greeks and Romans since primary school; all you need is an interest in the Ancient World and its cultures. From myths and legends in the Ancient World, to the study of religious beliefs and ancient ideas about war, Classical Civilisation involves interesting discussions about things that are still important today. One of the best things about Classical Civilisation is how many different things there are to study. If you enjoy subjects such as History, English, Philosophy, Politics and Sociology, then Classical Civilisation lets you do a bit of everything whilst studying two of the most important civilisations of the Western world.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into two equally weighted sections, both culminating in a 90-minute written exam:

Myth and Religion

You will study myths regarding the role of the gods and heroes in the founding of Athens and Rome and the importance of Heracles/Hercules to both the Greek and Roman world. Myth as a symbol of power will also be explored, as will ever popular myths about the underworld. The study of temples, sacrifice, festivals, death and beliefs in the afterlife will give a broad overview of religion in the ancient world, and provides opportunity for the study of a wide variety of material remains, including remarkable temples and works of art.

War and Warfare

War is one of the most significant aspects of human behaviour, and war and warfare in the classical world holds an endless and compelling fascination. This component highlights different aspects of warfare in the ancient world, including the purposes, conduct and effects of war, as well as how the military interacted with, and impacted upon, wider society. This component covers both Greek and Roman civilisation, focusing on Athens and Sparta in the 5th century BC, and on Rome in the Imperial period. In the 'Culture' section the military systems and tactics of each society will be studied, as will the interplay between war, politics and society.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Classical Civilisation is just as useful as other humanities subjects like History, Geography and Religious Studies. Subjects like this give you good skills like essay writing and source analysis and teach you how to structure a good argument. They show you are good at thinking and evaluating and that you are interested in people and cultures. If you are planning to go on to sixth form then Classical Civilisation GCSE is great preparation for A Levels in a wide variety of subjects, from Art History to Politics to Law. It is usually counted alongside your other humanities choices when sixth forms are looking at your application. If you want to go on to do vocational courses at sixth form, or go straight into the working world after your GCSEs, Classical Civilisation gives you a really wide range of knowledge and skills that you can use. Employers will be able to see that you are someone with broad interests who can communicate their ideas well.

RESILIENCE – ■ – INTEGRITY – ■ – SUCCESS – ■ – EMPATHY

How will I be assessed?

Both sections of the course are assessed through a 1 hour 30-minute exam. Each exam is worth 50% of the final grade.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email victoria.osborne@sirthomasfremantle.org or barry.cooper@sirthomasfremantle.org

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Why study Food Preparation and Nutrition?

This GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

What does the course involve?

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

Food, nutrition and health	Food Science	Food Safety	Food Choice	Food Provenance
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Students will study:

- Nutrition - developing understanding and knowledge.
- Function of ingredients and properties of food.
- Science behind food ingredients and explore why they react in the way that they do when combined.
- Cooking methods, use of equipment and changes.
- Food safety at each stage of preparing, storing and cooking
- Design of food products to meet the needs of particular clients and consumers.
- Social, moral, environmental and sustainability issues of food production and consumption.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Success in the Food GCSE can lead onto many careers in catering, hospitality, food science, working in the retail industry, design developmenta range of careers is possible!

How will I be assessed?

Exam

Paper 1 consists of an external exam whereby theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition is assessed by a written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes. A total of 100 marks, made up of multiple-choice questions (20 marks) and five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks). The total paper is worth 50% of the GCSE.

Non-Exam assessments

NEA Task 1: Food investigation (30 marks)

Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.

NEA task 2: Food preparation assessment (70 marks)

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.

Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence.

This course comprises of approximately 50% practical and 50% theory work. Therefore, students will be expected to bring ingredients on a weekly basis to ensure their practical skills are regularly improved.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Mr Murray: lorne.murray@sirthomasfremantle.org

Hospitality and Catering (L1 and L2)

Qualification Type: Technical Award

Exam board: WJEC



Why study Hospitality & Catering?

Hospitality and catering is a dynamic, vibrant and innovative sector delivering vital jobs, growth and investment in the heart of our local communities - important culturally, socially and economically. Students develop the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to consider to be successful.

Students have the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations.

What does the course involve?

Unit 1:	The Hospitality and Catering Industry
Unit 2:	Hospitality and Catering in Action

In this qualification, students also develop food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, budgeting, organisation and time management.

You will learn by: We will have practical lessons every week in which we aim to build up your skills and gain knowledge in cooking a variety of different dishes.

You will also have regular theory lessons to enable you to gain the knowledge required to successfully learn the skills you will need to pass the exams.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Hospitality & Catering is not only a life skill, it can also lead into many different careers and not only in the Hospitality trade. In the UK, the Hospitality & Catering sector is one of the largest employers in the UK.

Potential careers include: Chef, sports science, dietician, food journalism, product development, home economist, events management, hospitality, front of house, conference management, buyer, production manager, public relations, hygiene control, National Health Service, health promotion, technical management, food quality, food preparation and retail.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 (40%) The Hospitality and Catering Industry: externally assessed with an on-line examination that lasts 90 minutes. You will be graded as follows: Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction.

Unit 2 (60%) Hospitality and Catering in Action: internally assessed and externally moderated. This involves you completing a Non-Examined Assessment in school under examination conditions. You will be set a task by WJEC and you will have to safely plan, prepare, cook and present dishes to satisfy the task.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Mr Murray: lorne.murray@sirthomasfremantle.org

Religious Studies

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Why study Religious Studies?

There has arguably never been a more important time to understand and empathise with those of different faiths than in the modern world. Students who choose this course will have a unique opportunity to consider and empathise with the worldview of over two billion people. They will learn how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture, and develop valuable skills that will help prepare them for further study.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into two sections.

The Study of Christianity and Sikhism: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices

This element of the course considers what it means to be a Christian or Sikh by investigating the beliefs, teachings and practices of both religions.

Thematic Studies

Students investigate religious, philosophical and ethical issues including the existence of God, issues of life and death including abortion and euthanasia, exploration of perspectives on the afterlife and crime and punishment.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

The course awards 50% of the marks available for demonstrating an ability to evaluate, reason, argue and assert a point of view. It requires students to demonstrate a detailed understanding of both different faiths, but also divergent views within faith groups on complex and controversial issues. These skills of empathy, evaluation, analysis and argument are useful across a wide range of A Levels, degree programmes, and careers.

How will I be assessed?

Each section of the course is assessed through a 1 hour 45 minute exam. Each exam is worth 50% of the final grade.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email a member of the religious studies team: matthew.pike@sirthomasfremantle.org or lorne.murray@sirthomasfremantle.org

Modern Foreign Languages

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Why study a Modern Foreign Language?

At STFS students can choose between French or Spanish (or both) to continue at GCSE. Both are truly global languages that are spoken across the continents, not just in Europe. Learning languages is not only important in the world we live in today but also provides students with the opportunity to develop skills that will serve them for the rest of their lives. The internet has brought everyone much closer together so chatting, blogging and networking with people of different languages from all over the world is easier than ever. STFS language students will be able to communicate with people all over the world and travel to amazing places to visit or to work, while becoming more tolerant individuals in the process.

What does the course involve?

GCSE modern foreign language courses require students to develop an understanding of topic work from three themes.

- *Identity and Culture*
- *Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest*
- *Current and Future Studies and Employment*

During the course students will be expected to compile their own exercise book featuring grammar notes, vocabulary and key phrases. Homework will be set weekly or bi-weekly with tasks ranging from comprehension activities, vocabulary learning or preparation for an assessment.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

At the heart of language learning is the skill of communicating effectively. The confidence students will build over the course of the GCSE through expressing ideas and justifying opinions are invaluable for any job or career. Students also develop their ability to elicit key points and comprehend information in reading or listening tasks which is an important skill for many jobs. So regardless of whether students go on to use the language itself or not, the skills they will learn along the way are useful for any future path.

How will I be assessed?

The course requires students to display competency in four key skill areas which are assessed in the structure set out below. There is a foundation tier (grades 1–5) and a higher tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier.

Listening - Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language - 25% of final grade.

Speaking - Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes - 25% of final grade

Reading - Understanding and responding to different types of written language - 25% of final grade

Writing - Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes - 25% of final grade.

I am unsure if I can manage a GCSE in Modern Foreign Languages- is there an alternative?

The aim is for every student at Sir Thomas Fremantle to continue to study a language until the end of KS4. However, if you have significant concerns that your son or daughter will struggle academically to access a language GCSE and feel this extra stress would be detrimental to their education, please contact Mrs Togneri. Subject to discussion, it may be that we can offer them the foundation language certificate qualification offered by AQA (the FCSE) via Route B where students can study this within the RISE curriculum.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Mrs Togneri: elsa.togneri@sirthomasfremantle.org

Art & Design

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Art & Design

Why study Art & Design?

Studying Art & Design is about being creative, but it will help you explore the world around you and see it differently. You will develop transferable skills that will enable you to develop visual awareness and an understanding of a multitude of art based techniques. Art allows you to explore our own and other cultures, histories and societies. It is about unpicking and reflecting on ideas and thoughts which will allow you to look at the world from different viewpoints.

What does the course involve?

GCSE Art & Design is very much about you developing as an artist in your own right.

Year 10 develop a portfolio based around exploring contemporary artists and testing new materials and techniques. This is a large part of the 60% weighting of course work students need to build up. Throughout each mini project you will record ideas and thoughts visually, ranging from drawing, printing, painting, photography, collage, textiles and 3D work.

In year 11 you will be set project briefs which will require you to explore a wide and varied array of sources of inspiration from different artists, designers and craftspeople. You will reflect on your research and use it to inform and inspire your own artistic experiments and outcomes.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Future job prospects for those taking the Art route can be Art therapists, Community arts worker, Fashion designer, Fine artist, Graphic designer, Illustrator, Printmaker and Textile designer. Jobs where your degree would be useful include: Advertising account executive, Arts administrator, Multimedia specialist, Museum/gallery curator and Youth Worker. Industries that will look for a creative or arts-based education are marketing, advertising, internet, publishing and education.

Studying Art GCSE doesn't mean you have to only be interested in the arts. The future needs cultural and creative industries and broader innovation for growth in the UK. We need creative scientists as much as we need designers who understand the property of materials, affordability and sustainability of new technologies.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Portfolio of work/coursework - 60%

Unit 2: Exam - 40%

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mrs Coughtrey: harriet.coughtrey@sirthomasfremantle.org

Physical Education

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: OCR



Why study Physical Education?

GCSE PE offers students the opportunity to gain an understanding of sport from a theoretical perspective and improve their own practical ability. The course involves a mixture of focused practical sessions and interesting theoretical content that is applicable to students' own experiences within sport.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into three sections.

Physical factors affecting performance. → In this section students will study topics such as the skeletal, muscular, respiratory and cardiovascular systems. As well as learning about movement analysis and types of training.

Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology → .In this section of the course students will consider the factors that affect participation, the commercialisation of sport and the psychology of sport.

Practical performance. → Students must choose three different sports to be assessed in, at least one of which must be a team sport and at least one an individual sport. Students are assessed on their range of skills, quality of skills, physical attributes and decision making in a competitive situation.

Students will also complete a 14-hour piece of coursework, in which they will analyse the performance of an athlete and design an action plan to improve one aspect of their performance.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

The GCSE Physical Education course includes content from the areas of biology, physics, maths, nutrition, psychology and sociology. A wide range of content is covered within a sporting context, providing students with both skills and knowledge that could prove valuable regardless of which path they choose afterwards. GCSE PE is particularly valuable if you are considering a career in the sport, fitness or nutrition industries or if you are planning to study PE, biology or psychology in further education.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Physical factors affecting performance (1 hour exam) - 30%

Paper 2: Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology (1 hour exam) - 30%

Practical performance (Internally assessed and externally moderated) - 40% - broken up below:

Team sport - 10%	Individual sport - 10%	Team or individual sport - 10%
Evaluation and analysis of performance (14 hour written coursework) - 10%		

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Mr Graham: josh.graham@sirthomasfremantle.org

Department for Education

List of Activities

Team activity		Individual activity	
Association football	Netball	Sculling	Amateur boxing
Badminton (doubles)	Rugby league	Skiing (cannot be dry slopes)	Athletics
Basketball	Rugby Union	Snowboarding	Badminton
Camogie	Squash	Squash	Canoeing
Cricket	Table tennis	Swimming	Cycling
Dance (can only be used once)	Tennis	Table tennis	Dance
Futsal	Volleyball	Tennis	Diving (platform diving)
Handball	Specialist activities	Trampolining	Equestrian
Hockey (Ice and Field)	Blind cricket	Gymnastics (acrobatic incl)	Specialist activities
Hurling	Goal ball	Gymnastics (Floor routines and apparatus)	Boccia
Inline Roller Hockey	Powerchair football	Golf	Polybat
Lacrosse	Table cricket	Kayaking	Windsurfing
Wheelchair rugby	Wheelchair basketball	Rock climbing	Figure Skating

Music

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Music

Why study Music?

Music and Performing Arts is one of the most lucrative industries in the UK, and careers and opportunities are expanding exponentially in line with the growth of electronic and online platforms. Studying music offers students the opportunity to develop their musical skills in both theory, composition and performance, and balances discipline and rigour with creativity and expression. It is a great way to balance out fully written subjects with a practical study.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into three components.

Component 1: Performance (NEA Coursework) à Student perform two piece of music, one solo and one ensemble. They can perform as an instrumentalist or vocalist in any musical style or genre. The expected standard for GCSE music is to be performing at ABRSM grade 4 standard by the end of Y11.

Component 2: Composition (NEA Coursework) à Students create two compositions, one to a brief and one as free choice. They have the option of using music notation (MuseScore) or sequencing (Garageband) to produce their pieces.

Component 3: Appraising (Written Exam) à Students complete questions based on two set works that they study throughout the course, with a choice of composers such as Hadyn, Mozart, The Beatles, Stephan Schwatz and Copeland. There is also an element of answering questions from listening to music not heard before. 1hr 30 minute exam.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Music teaches a wide range of skills that are attractive both in and out of the music industry, ranging from teamwork skills, discipline in completing regular practice and meeting regular deadlines. GCSE Music also develops fundamental music theory knowledge and concepts vital for performing arts study beyond Y11.

How will I be assessed?

The Appraising music element is assessed through a written exam lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. It is worth 40% of the final grade. The performance and composition elements of the course are each worth 30% and are NEA (Non-Examined Assessments) units which are completed throughout the two years of study.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mrs Greene: louise.greene@sirthomasfremantle.org

Health and Social Care (L1 and L2)

Qualification: Cambridge National

Exam board: OCR



Why study Health and Social Care?

Students will be introduced to the core values of care as well as the rights of individuals and the legislation that is in place to protect individuals. Students will develop their communication skills and apply them to a practical situation. In addition students will develop knowledge and understanding of human growth and development, how people deal with major life events, health and social care services and the opportunity to practically demonstrate creative activities and reflect on their own performances.

What does the course involve?

The course is made up of three units of equal weighting:

RO32: Principles of Health and Social Care (1 exam paper sat in the summer of Year 11).

Focus: To examine how health and social care services can support individuals' rights, value their diversity and provide them with equal opportunities in order to meet their needs. You will learn about individual rights, person-centred values, effective communication and how service-users are protected in health and social care settings.

RO33: Supporting Individuals through Life Events

Focus: To examine the different physical, intellectual, emotional and social needs that may be experienced in each of the different life stages. You will learn how development and certain life events affects the PIES of individuals.

RO34: Creative and Therapeutic Activities

Focus: To explore different types of creative and therapeutic activities that help meet the needs of different service-users. Activities and therapies range from aromatherapy to art therapy and Tai Chi. You will also plan and deliver a creative session to your classmates, which you will then evaluate.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

RESILIENCE – INTEGRITY – SUCCESS – EMPATHY

This qualification introduces students to the biggest employment sector in the UK, which includes elements of the NHS, local authority adult and childcare services as well as a range of independent providers which provide care in a variety of settings. It introduces students to this vocational sector and the role it plays in the health, well-being and care of individuals across all age ranges. Students will also develop transferable skills, in particular communication and aspects of team working.

How will I be assessed?

There will be 2 large pieces of coursework (NEA). This will be in the form of 2 set assignments that the exam board create. Each set assignment will be broken down into 3 or 4 mini assignments which will be completed individually in class. These 2 pieces of coursework will be done throughout the 2 years of study and will be broken down to help with completion. Your teacher will teach you lessons, you will have a variety from different classroom activities to do, and then when the class are ready, you will then do a part of a set assignment. Coursework is highly controlled so the teacher can explain it and can explain the success criteria, but the rest must be completed by you in the lesson, without your teacher helping you too much. At the end of Year 11, you will then sit 1 exam which tests your knowledge of RO32 only. This exam is a mixture of small mark to larger mark extended answers.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Miss Stone: abigail.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

Drama

Qualification: GCSE (9 - 1)

Exam board: AQA



Drama

Why study Drama?

GCSE Drama is not just about acting. It is the study of theatre, performance and creation.

Drama is amongst the oldest art forms, used to speak to vast audiences, deliver tales of comedy and tragedy and allow the audience to experience catharsis. Drama develops performance and collaboration skills, self-confidence, and provides students with an opportunity to develop across many areas including acting, directing and designing.

GCSE Drama is a lively and creative course designed to balance the practical and academic study of Drama. Students work together to understand and experience for themselves the roles and responsibilities of a theatre company. Working as part of a creative team of actors, directors, designers and technicians, students build confidence and develop skills in communication, cooperation and performance.

The course enables students to work imaginatively and develop their understanding of how to create thought-provoking and well-made theatre. In addition to acting and directing, students will be encouraged to consider a range of design and technical skills including stage lighting, sound design, set design, stage management, make-up, costume and puppet design.

What does the course involve?

The course is divided into three components, which includes the study of a set text, audience experience of live theatre, devising original work and scripted performance.

Component 1: Understanding Drama (Written exam)

This component culminates in a written exam in which students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed, including in connection to a set play and on their ability to analyse and evaluate the live theatre work of others.

Component 2: Devising Drama (Practical non-examination assessment)

This is a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for theatrical performance, apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance and analyse and evaluate their own work.

Component 3: Texts in Practice (Practical exam)

This is also a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance. Students must perform two extracts from two sections of a published and previously professionally produced play. This is attended and assessed by an external examiner.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

The course is an excellent preparation for A Level and provides a perfect foundation in creative, practical performance and production skills. With the focus on working imaginatively, collaborating creatively and communicating effectively, GCSE Drama provides a solid base for further studies in Drama and Theatre with a skills set that opens up many vocational opportunities. The course inevitably covers all sorts of transferable skills that will be useful throughout life: communication, presentation/public speaking, group and leadership skills, problem solving, time management, initiative and the ability to work to a deadline and get it right first time (there are no re-runs!). Drama is also a subject to take if you want a job in the entertainment industry, in front of an audience or behind the scenes. It is also relevant and interesting to people who are interested in culture or social issues.

How will I be assessed?

The Understanding Drama element is assessed through a written exam lasting 1 hour 45 minutes. It is worth 40% of the final grade. Devising Drama is worth 40% and is an NEA (Non-Examined Assessments) unit, while Texts in Practice is worth 20% of the final GCSE grade and is an externally assessed practical exam.

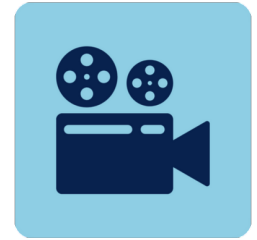
Who do I need to contact?

For more information contact Mr Martindale: gary.martindale@sirthomasfremantle.org

Film Studies

Qualification: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: EDUQAS



Film

Why study Film Studies?

Film Studies is a fun and challenging subject that teaches students how to 'read' and analyse film texts from a variety of contexts, including Hollywood Blockbusters, UK films and well-loved classics.

What does the course involve?

There are 3 components to this course:

Component 1: Key Developments in US Film (exam) → Questions based on your knowledge of 2 US films from 1930 to present day

Component 2: Global Film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style (exam) → Questions based on your knowledge and understanding of 3 Global films

Component 3: Production (NEA coursework) → This component assesses your ability to apply knowledge and understanding of film in producing one genre-based film extract (either from a film or from a screenplay), and one evaluative analysis of the production, where you analyse and evaluate your production

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

In addition to the knowledge and understanding students gain from their GCSE study of film, you will also develop a range of literacy, communication, analytical, production, IT and other transferable skills. Employers will value these skills if you choose not to carry on in the study of Film, and a number of universities, including several Russell Group universities now offer stand alone and combination degrees in Film Studies.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written exams in this course and one Non-Examined Assessment project:

Component 1 35% written exam

Component 2 35% written exam

NEA 30% coursework

The exams consist of stepped questions and extended essay- style questions; the NEA will be based on a Production Brief released by the exam board. New briefs have been released this year.

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email Mrs Stone: rebecca.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

Media Studies

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: OCR



Media Studies

Why study Media Studies?

The average person consumes media for almost 8 hours a day, and within that time, they are being bombarded by other people's ideas and opinions and images of the world and its people. How someone responds to that will affect their ideas about people, places and society. Doesn't that sound like something we should know more about?

What does the course involve?

You will analyse how media products like TV programmes and music videos use images, sounds, language, and representations to create meaning. You will learn about the media industry and how the industry affects how media products are made. You will investigate media audiences, exploring who are the people who watch, read and consume the products, and how different people might be affected by media products differently, and why. You will study many different media forms, such as:

Television	Online Media	Advertising
Film Marketing	Magazines	Newspapers
Social Media	Music Video	Radio
Video Games	Participatory Media	Marketing

There's also a significant amount of practical work where you might create music videos, magazines, television programmes, advertisements and more. You will become familiar and competent with professional level editing software such as Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Pro.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

You will develop skills that you'll be able use in your other subjects such as critical thinking, analysis, research, planning, practical skills, time management, essay writing skills and more. During the GCSE Media course you'll develop and practice a range of skills which will equip you for progression to A Level study.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Written examination: 1 hour 30mins

Component 2: Written examination: 1 hour 30mins [2 exams = 70% of qualification]

Component 3: Non-exam assessment: Media Production [coursework = 30% of qualification]

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Mrs Stone: rebecca.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

Photography

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Photography

Why study photography?

Studying Photography is about being creative, but it will help you explore the world around you and see it differently. You will develop a range of skills that will enable you to develop visual awareness and an understanding of how to use a camera to create thoughtful and powerful imagery. Photography allows you to explore your own and other cultures, histories and societies. The course teaches you how to follow a brief, frame and edit a shot and develops a student's ability to create a visually successful image. Students learn about unpicking and reflecting on ideas and thoughts which will allow you to look at the world from different viewpoints.

What does the course involve?

The Photography course is made up of two elements. In year 10, students build up a portfolio of work that explores a range of different types of photography, students build projects surrounding the following themes- still life, portraiture, and 'points of view'. Students are taught how to achieve successful photographs through understanding how a DSLR camera functions; how lighting affects an image; how to edit images in photoshop; and how composition influences the perception of an image. Students use year 11 to develop projects that stem from their own interests, and push them to explore areas of photography further. Students complete a 10 week exam period in the January- March of year 11, culminating in a 10 hour exam where they create a final piece. This course is a digital photography course.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

The skills taught in Photography GCSE are transferable across a range of jobs, it gives a visual understanding of the imagery that we are exposed to everyday through marketing campaigns we see on posters at the station, on a bus, on our phones or on the television.

Future job prospects for those taking the photography route can include photographers, merchandisers, graphic design, advertising, fashion, marketing, journalism, and many many more.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Portfolio of work/coursework - 60%

Unit 2: Exam - 40%

Who do I need to contact?

For more information please email

Mrs Coughtrey harriet.coughtrey@sirthomasfremantle.org

Sociology

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: AQA



Sociology

Why study Sociology?

Sociology is the study of different groups in society. Sociologists try to explain patterns of behaviour using nurture (social environment) arguments. A scientist may try to explain behaviour from a biological point of view whereas a sociologist tries to explain group behaviour by exploring factors such as upbringing, role models, social class, ethnicity and gender. This is a theoretical subject that requires students to think about how different perspectives might try to explain certain attitudes and behaviours. It suits those who enjoy extended writing and debates about topics of human behaviour.

What does the course involve?

There are 5 key topics;

- **Families;** the functions/purpose of the family, different types of family, changing relationships, divorce and potential consequences, criticisms of and alternatives to the family
- **Education;** the functions/purpose of education, different types of school, achievement- why some achieve highly and others not, alternative education- homeschooling and unusual types of school/learning
- **Research Methods;** different ways of investigating social issues, different types of data
- **Social Stratification;** poverty, different social classes and the impact of money and culture, life chances, government laws, inequality, who has power and how/why
- **Crime and Deviance;** types of crime and deviance, ways of measuring crime, different methods of social control, patterns of crime, different types of punishment, media reporting and crime

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Sociology is a social science that will help you into a lot of different professions. These range from the Criminal Justice System, Social Work, Media and Journalism to Marketing, Teaching and Management. Sociology is good for any job that requires you to think analytically, from different points of view and where you work directly with people. You will develop extended writing and debating skills that are useful in many aspects of life and education.

How will I be assessed?

There are 2 exams taken in summer at the end of year 11;

Paper 1; The Sociology of Families and Education (1hr 45 minutes) - Small mark to long essay questions

Paper 2; The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification (1hr 45 minutes)- Small mark to long essay questions

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Miss Stone: abigail.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

Psychology

Qualification Type: GCSE (9 – 1)

Exam board: OCR



Psychology

Why study Psychology?

Psychology tries to explain individual human behaviour from both biological (scientific) and also social (environment) points of view. This course looks at different types of behaviour and considers how different types of psychologist might try to explain them. Students study different key approaches such as Behaviourism, Social Learning Theory, The Cognitive Approach, The Biological Approach and The Psychodynamic Approach. Students will expect to study some biological processes that affect the brain and its development as well as illnesses and medical/psychological treatments. This is a theoretical subject that involves looking at key studies/experiments. There are some small GCSE mathematical skills required and there is also focus on GCSE science (biology) knowledge in some lessons. You don't have to be a science or maths whizz to take psychology, your teacher will help break things down for you and they are only relatively small parts of the course.

What does the course involve?

There are 7 key topics;

- **Criminal Psychology;** defining and measuring crime, biological and social explanations, types of punishment, 2 key studies
- **Development;** the different life stages, functions of the brain, measuring intelligence, social explanations, changing role/purpose of education , 2 key studies
- **Research Methods;** types of method/ways of investigating behaviour, types of experiment and design, hypotheses, variables, sampling methods, data analysis
- **Memory;** models of memory, different types of memory, brain structure, reasons for forgetting, reconstructive memory and false memories, recall/remembering techniques, 1 key study
- **Sleep and Dreaming;** functions/purpose of sleep, the sleep cycle, theories of why we dream, sleep disorders/illnesses, neurology of sleep, insomnia treatments, 2 key studies
- **Social Influence;** situational factors affecting conformity and obedience (the impact of culture, authority, crowds), dispositional (personality) factors (self esteem, morality, brain processes) , changing attitudes to mental health, stigma and discrimination, 2 key studies
- **Psychological Problems;** defining and measuring mental health, how often and how important mental health is, changing attitudes to mental health, biological and psychological explanations of schizophrenia and depression, biological and psychological tests of and treatments for schizophrenia and depression

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

Psychology is a social science that will help you into a lot of different professions. These range from the Criminal Justice System, Science-based jobs, Media and Journalism to Advertising, Teaching and Management. Psychology is good for any job that requires you to think analytically, from different points of view and where you work directly with people.

How will I be assessed?

There are 2 exams taken in summer at the end of year 11;

RESILIENCE – ■ – INTEGRITY – ■ – SUCCESS – ■ – EMPATHY

Paper 1; Studies and Applications in Psychology 1 (Development, Psychological Problems, Criminal Psychology, Research Methods) (1hr 30 minutes) - Small mark to long essay questions

Paper 2; Studies and Applications in Psychology 2 (Memory, Sleep and Dreaming, Social Influence, Research Methods) (1hr 30 minutes) - Small mark to long essay questions

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Miss Stone: abigail.stone@sirthomasfremantle.org

The RISE Programme



Qualification Type: Foundation, Level 1 and Level 2

Exam board: AQA

Why study the RISE programme?

This is a tailored route which will span the KS4 two-year programme and will be recommended by staff for specific students. Students will use this time to work towards the following qualifications:

Level 1 (and 2) Functional Skills in Mathematics

Maths is for everyone. It is diverse, engaging and essential in equipping learners with the right skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be. AQA's Functional Skills qualifications allow teachers and learners to explore real life contexts together. Everyday mathematics forms the basis of our practical and engaging specification, giving teachers the freedom to shape what success looks like for every learner.

Level 1 (and 2) Functional Skills in English

The specification offers two equally-balanced papers across both levels. The Reading and Writing sources and stimuli provide learners with real-world situations and texts to engage their interest.

The speaking, listening and communicating unit will emphasise the wider benefits that speaking and listening skills have for learners. It allows learners to develop their presentation and discussion skills around topics of their own choice. This will enable the full range of learners to engage in a way that is tailored to their experiences and areas of interest.

FCSE in Languages (this can be in either French or Spanish)

This is a short course qualification where students can still access a language qualification, using skills that will prepare them in adult life.

How will the skills that I develop help me in my future career?

We have carefully selected the subjects above to support students with additional skills in preparation for adulthood. Using functional skills

Level 2 Functional Skills is equivalent to Grade 4 at GCSE. Any student who achieved Level 2 Functional Skills, but did not achieve Grade 4 in Maths or English Language would not have to resit this qualification in KS5.

How will I be assessed?

Level 1 (and 2) Functional Skills in English and Maths

This is examined in end of year papers during the exam season

FCSE in Languages (this can be in either French or Spanish)

This qualification is evidenced through a portfolio of work throughout the course, meeting each part of the specification

Who do I need to contact?

For more information, please email Mrs Ell: fiona.ell@sirthomasfremantle.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Will all the subjects in the prospectus be taught next year?

All subjects could potentially be taught but some of the option subjects are dependent on enough students choosing them.

Do I need to worry about the option blocks?

This prospectus outlines all the subjects we offer. However, schools cannot promise that students can take any combination of them due to timetabling issues. A straw poll will be taken after our GCSE open evening to gauge interest from students. From this, the option blocks will be formed. Students will need to choose a subject from each option block. The vast majority should be catered for by the option blocks but we do request a back-up option if the combination is not possible.

When will I take my exams?

All GCSEs will be linear in 2025 meaning that there are no longer opportunities to sit exams early. They tend to begin in May and end towards the end of June. Our Cambridge National Qualifications and Technical Awards have assessments throughout the course and is outlined in their course information.

What will my grades look like? Will they be letters or numbers?

All GCSEs will be graded between 9-1 with the highest grades being awarded a 9. Cambridge Nationals and Technical Awards are Grades with Level 1 and 2 Pass, Merit and Distinction. The conversions of these mapped against GCSE grades are at the beginning of this booklet.

Who should I contact if I have a query about the options process?

Please contact Mrs Shaw, via email at kayleigh.shaw@sirthomasfremantle.org

Further Places to gain information

BBC Advice

GCSE Options Advice from the BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p#zp3hsk7>

National Careers Service

Profiles on over 800 jobs with links to relevant GCSE subjects and careers path progression

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>

STEM Resources

Gives you opportunity to look into your future and see where studying science, technology, engineering and maths could take you

<https://www.stem.org.uk>

I Could

Use the 'career' icon to find out what jobs could suit you and check out the links between subject choices and career

www.icould.com

Apprenticeships

Everything you need to know about going into an apprenticeship after GCSE

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk



SIR THOMAS
FREMANTLE

— SECONDARY SCHOOL —

Year 9 Options Information Evening 2024

R E S I L I E N C E — ■ — I N T E G R I T Y — ■ — S U C C E S S — ■ — E M P A T H Y