



WORKSOP COLLEGE

GCSE Curriculum Booklet

Our GCSE curriculum is designed to be flexible, offering an extensive choice across a wide range of subjects to suit all learners. All pupils are prepared for GCSEs in the following core subjects.

1. English
2. Mathematics
3. Science

Pupils are required to choose four options in addition to the core subjects.

When choosing options, it is important that pupils pick subjects that they enjoy and are good at, however it is also important to keep options open for their future. Tutors will help support pupils in making informed and appropriate decisions.

Look out for the following symbols, which denote which subjects are which:

- C** Core
- O** Optional





Our Subjects

Core

English
Mathematics
Science

Humanities

Classical Civilisation
Geography
History
Religious Studies

Languages

French
Latin
Spanish

Arts, Practical and Technology

Art & Design: Fine Art
Art & Design: Photography
Computer Science
Design & Technology
Drama and Theatre Studies
Food Preparation and Nutrition
Music
Physical Education

Social Sciences

Business
Child Development
Psychology

Study Support

English Language

C



One of our core subjects at GCSE, the design of the Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) English Language A qualification aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills.

The qualification tests a broad range of skills through the study of an interesting and varied range of material in the Anthology. The materials address a range of cultural backgrounds.

The course will provide appropriate stretch and challenge whilst ensuring, as far as possible, that the assessment and texts are accessible to the full range of students.

In preparation for the exam, you will develop the skills of interpretation, analysis and evaluation. Text types studied will include a range of non-fiction forms, and students will be given the opportunity to practise a range of non-fiction writing techniques and planning and proofreading skills.

Assessment:

40% coursework
60% exam

This subject is for you...

Because you will develop your abilities to: read and respond to materials from a variety of sources; make comparisons between texts and analyse the ways in which writers achieve their effects; and, construct and convey meaning in written language, matching style to audience and purpose.

IGCSE

2 years

Pearson

English Literature

Pupils in the higher sets for English also study English Literature, a subject that brings timeless texts to life. You'll explore prose, poetry, and drama, uncovering the art of storytelling and the techniques that create compelling characters and powerful narratives. Through analysis, you'll discover the themes and issues that inspired writers, and how these resonate with our own lives - 40% coursework, 60% exam.

For more information:

Mr Sackey-Ambler, Head of English
t.sackey-ambler@wsnl.co.uk

Mathematics

International GCSE Maths is a core subject that you will begin learning in Year 9. By Christmas of Year 11, you will have covered the required knowledge and skills that will be assessed in the exams. The remaining time will be dedicated to practice, helping you reinforce and remember the methods.

International GCSE Maths is similar to the standard GCSE, there are only minor differences in the topics covered. International GCSE permits the use of a calculator on all examinations and consists of two papers instead of the three that are in GCSE.

To support you in retaining the skills and methods, we will guide you through our 10-step revision programme starting in December or January of Y11. We will support you in making progress through our 10 levels that we have designed, gradually building your knowledge and aiming to be fully exam-ready by the end.



IGCSE

2 years

Pearson

The course is for you...

Because the course not only provides a strong foundation for A-level studies but also helps you develop and demonstrate the essential numeracy and mathematical skills needed for the workplace and higher education.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Mrs Thornton, Head of Maths
b.thornton@wsnl.co.uk



Science

GCSE Science is a core subject that you will begin learning in Year 9. Study a range of scientific principles across a variety of areas. In Biology, you'll look at cells, infection and response, biogenetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution. In your Chemistry lessons you'll visit atomic structure and the periodic table; quantitative chemistry, chemical analysis and chemistry of the atmosphere. In Physics, you'll look at energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure, forces, waves and magnetism.

With the majority of lessons taking place in one of our eight newly-refurbished science labs, you'll work in small groups, as well as on your own individual projects.

All pupils start with Combined Science, with the decision regarding entry into Triple Science determined after the Year 11 mock examinations.

This subject is for you...

Because you'll enjoy understanding why things work the way they do! You'll be excited by the natural world and will be keen to prove or disprove your theories based on sound research and presentation of the facts. You'll enjoy working as part of a team and will have a keen passion for science.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Miss Dalby, Head of Science
s.dalby@wsnl.co.uk

C

GCSE

3 years

AQA



Classical Civilisation



This GCSE has something for everyone: Art, History, Literature, Architecture, Philosophy, Mythology and Politics. All these concepts are brought together and explored through the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome. You don't need to have studied Classics or Latin before, you can do this GCSE entirely from scratch and you don't need to know any foreign languages, everything is in English.

You will look at the Gods and Goddesses, heroes such as Theseus and Hercules, temples such as the Parthenon, death and burial, the foundation myths of both Athens and Rome, the daily life of families, the impact of war both civil and foreign invasions. You will be provided with a pack of 'prescribed sources' and be expected to engage with both literary and visual sources including biographies, statues, archaeological artefacts and much more.

You will have a day trip to the British Museum where we will investigate a great number of the sources in the exam. You will also have the opportunity to join us on a trip to either Rome or Athens to get a first-hand experience of what life was like in the Ancient World.

This subject is for you...

If you have an interest in the ancient world and like to piece together evidence, think critically and problem solve. As such it will support any other subject since you will learn how to answer comprehension style exam questions and develop essay writing skills.

O

GCSE

2 years

OCR

Assessment

100% Exam

For more information

Mrs Beresford, Head of Classics
s.beresford@wsnl.co.uk

Geography

Learn how features of the natural landscape are formed and how they evolve over time. You'll look into dynamics of population, exploring where people live, why they live there and what causes the movements of people. You'll also explore the ways in which humans use the natural environment for economic gain and the impact on the world we live in.

You will use real-world examples to demonstrate the concepts you've grasped. You'll develop your numeracy skills through graph interpretation and simple statistical analysis, as well as becoming adept at proving your point through explanation.

The majority of learning takes place in the classroom, but you can expect a number of excursions to help support your learning.

Assessment

27.5% coursework
72.5% exam

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy learning about the world around you, are interested in how the landscape is formed and why the people are distributed as they are. You will enjoy being challenged and will be excited by the idea of proving a theory or idea based on your sound research.



For more information

Mr James, Head of Geography
r.james@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

Cambridge IGCSE

History



Study History and you will gain a real understanding of key historical moments and their impact on our daily lives today. You'll learn in depth about the Great War – from the big battles to the tinned jam - and the quest for peace in the years that followed.

You'll look at peace treaties, the League of Nations and the collapse of peace as a result of the actions of Hitler and Mussolini. You'll explore the Cold War in Europe and the Gulf – from the Shah to Saddam. You will study original sources from a range of different media – from posters, cartoons and diaries, to novels, biographies and textbooks.

You'll discuss, debate and share your ideas, using ICT to help your subject come to life. Understanding the deep impact that historical figures and events have made on all aspects of our lives is at the heart of this fascinating subject.

This subject is for you...

If you have an interest in studying how history affects, and is affected by, both 'important' and 'ordinary' people, and in seeing how societies, people and cultures change - and don't - over time. You won't be afraid of challenge and will enjoy articulating your point – using research to back up your argument. You'll be excited by the past and keen on passionate discussion.

Assessment

100% exam



GCSE

2 years

Cambridge IGCSE

For more information

Mr Cavender-Handley, Head of History
t.cavender-handley@wsnl.co.uk

Religious Studies

Are you ready to explore the world's biggest ideas and address the issues shaping our future?

This isn't just about studying religions – it's about uncovering the beliefs, values, and ethics that drive human behaviour, inspire change, and challenge us to think differently.

You Will Learn To:

- Think Big: Tackle life's most fascinating questions: Why are we here? What's right and wrong? Can there ever be true peace?
- Explore Diversity: Gain insight into the core beliefs, teachings, and traditions of two major religions and how they shape the lives of millions around the world.
- Examine Real Issues: Discuss and evaluate current topics like social justice, equality, war, the environment, and human rights.

What You'll Do:

- Debate and Discuss: Share your views and challenge others in lively, thought-provoking classroom discussions.
- Think Critically: Evaluate religious texts, ethical dilemmas, and the pressing challenges of the modern world.
- Build Life Skills: Develop persuasive arguments, question assumptions, and explore multiple perspectives.
- Make Connections: Relate your learning to real-world scenarios, from global conflicts to personal values.

This subject is for you...

If you want to develop skills that set you apart - critical thinking, empathy, communication, and cultural awareness - Religious Studies isn't just another subject. It's an opportunity to explore these skills. Whether your future lies in law, journalism, medicine, teaching, social work, or simply gaining a better understanding of the world, Religious Studies is the perfect starting point.

For more information

Mrs Skelton, Head of Religious Studies
e.skelton@wsnl.co.uk



GCSE

2 years

AQA

French



With a significant number of French-speaking countries across the world, this GCSE will help unlock a number of opportunities, as well as helping you explore this beautiful culture in more detail.

You'll develop a better understanding of language in general, as well as developing and expanding your knowledge of vocabulary. You'll learn about the structures in the French language and will develop greater competence and confidence in using French, in both written and spoken forms.

You'll begin to understand the impact the language has made across the world, as well as an appreciation of the cultural aspects of the countries where French is spoken.

You'll develop an understanding of modern French society and take part in overseas trips and field studies. You will need to take an active part in lessons, listening carefully, contributing to discussions and fulfilling your projects in a small group environment.

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy challenge, variety and communication. You'll enjoy discovering new things – as well as connecting with other people and cultures. You won't mind being challenged and will have an aptitude for problem-solving.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Miss Rodriguez, Head of Modern Foreign Languages
m.rodriguez@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

AQA

Latin

Latin is a fascinating subject - designed to inspire, motivate and challenge. This GCSE brings you up close and personal to the Romans: how they lived and loved along with their entertainment, customs and beliefs.

During your GCSE in Latin, you will gain knowledge and understanding of the Roman world through reading and responding to its language, literature, and culture. You will learn to read, analyse and respond to un-adapted Latin on various different subjects such as education, entertainment, love and marriage and the lives of the rich and poor throughout the Roman Empire. We will read selections of texts from a variety of different Roman authors. The literature is also accompanied by a prescribed selection of source material (e.g., paintings, mosaics, sculptures, buildings, graffiti) and you will be asked to analyse and respond to these sources, making connections between literary and archaeological evidence from the Roman world.

This GCSE also encompasses the study of Roman civilisation. This part of the course is entirely in English. You will have to analyse and respond to ancient source material on different aspects of Roman life such as entertainment and leisure, Religion, daily life in a Roman town and Roman Britain.



This subject is for you...

If you enjoy puzzles, reading and critical thinking. You will enjoy learning about life in the ancient world, languages, and reading.

Assessment

Students should be aware that they will never be examined in speaking and listening in Latin.

100% exam

For more information

Mrs Beresford, Head of Latin
s.beresford@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

Eduqas

Spanish

Studying GCSE Spanish will give you a deep understanding of Spanish culture and its influence on the world. You will discover the origins of Spanish and how the language has evolved over time.

You'll develop a better understanding of language in general, as well as being able to expand your knowledge of vocabulary. You'll begin to understand the different structures that exist in language, and to develop competence and confidence in using Spanish in both written and spoken forms.

You will develop a better understanding of modern Spanish society and have the opportunity to take part in overseas trips and field studies.

You should expect to take an active part in lessons, listening carefully, contributing to discussion and fulfilling work both independently and as part of a small group.

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy challenge and variety. You'll have an aptitude for communication and will enjoy thinking for yourself. You'll be excited about other cultures and will enjoy the challenge of conversing in another language.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Miss Rodriguez, Head of Modern Foreign Languages
m.rodriguez@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

AQA



Fine Art: Art and Design



Learn how to draw from direct observation, to use your imagination and to take photographs to develop your work, as well as working from secondary sources.

You'll be introduced to a range of media, processes and approaches, responding to historical and contemporary artists, and working in a range of forms - such as sculpture, painting, drawing, mixed-media, conceptual art, printing, textiles and graphics. There is an expectation that you be willing to accept challenge, learn from mistakes and take risks.

You'll learn how to explore ideas - developing personal and meaningful outcomes. Key elements of Art will be explored, such as line, shape, tone, form, colour, texture, pattern, symmetry and balance.

Y10 projects are initially quite prescriptive in nature, however, as you move into Y11 expect to develop your own brief, to select artists of your own and to work more independently.

The Art School is open to all Art students during lunchtimes, priority sessions and until 8.30pm on a Thursday night each week. Every half-term there is a life class you'll be encouraged to attend. There is an expectation that Art students will spend at least two hours beyond taught lessons each week developing their work. Drawing is an essential part of all Art courses, as well as the ability to analyse the work of others, expressing your thoughts and opinions clearly in written form as well as visually.

O

GCSE

2 years

AQA

This subject is for you...

If you don't mind working hard. You're creative and comfortable working independently. In Art, there is no such thing as right and wrong – so you'll enjoy exploring ideas and learning to be selective, creating displays of your own work in mini pop-up exhibitions.

Assessment

60% coursework

40% exam

Photography: Art and Design

During this GCSE, you will learn about the rules of composition and when to break them. You will learn to operate your camera confidently and control it in order to capture the image you want, rather than working in auto and letting the camera decide. You'll learn the effects of light on a photograph and how it makes a difference to the outcome of a shot.

You will work in our spacious studio, but also take your work outdoors – visiting urban and rural locations to create original artwork of your own in response to historical and contemporary artists. Your work will be personal and meaningful, developing themes such as structures, animals and movement in your coursework projects.

The Art School is open to all Art students during lunchtimes, priority sessions and until 8.30pm on a Thursday night each week. Every half-term there is a life class you'll be encouraged to attend. There is an expectation that Art students will spend at least two hours beyond taught lessons each week developing their work. Drawing is an essential part of all Art courses, as well as the ability to analyse the work of others, expressing your thoughts and opinions clearly in written form as well as visually.



O

GCSE

2 years

AQA

This subject is for you...

If you're passionate about graphic communication and eager to explore creative avenues such as:

- Interactive media (web, app, game design)
- Advertising and packaging design
- Print design (magazines, posters)
- Illustration and branding
- Multimedia and motion graphics
- Film and TV design

If you enjoy combining creativity with technology and visual problem-solving, this subject is perfect for you

Name of Units:

- Personal Investigation
- Externally Set Assignment

For more information

Mrs Massen, Head of Art
i.massen@wsnl.co.uk

Computer Science



Learn the principles and practices of computing and gain confidence in computational thinking and programming.

You'll learn to program by writing computer code and develop your understanding of problem-solving using computers.

You'll learn to appreciate current and emerging computing technologies and the benefits of their use, as well as the ethical issues and potential risks involved in digital technology.

You'll apply your understanding to develop computer-based solutions to problems, using algorithms and a high-level programming language. You'll also develop a range of technical skills as well as the ability to test effectively and to evaluate computing solutions.

Learning takes place in one of our three ICT suites, with lessons split between theory and practical. We aim to ensure that every pupil learns to develop confidence and problem-solving skills, whilst learning a new computer language, right from the very start of the year.

This subject is taught in a supportive, friendly environment that encourages everyone to fulfil their potential.

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy solving problems. You'll have an aptitude for logical-thinking and attention to detail, but you'll also be creative. You'll be excited by the idea of learning new skills and putting them into practice.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Mr Smith, Head of Computer Science & ICT
i.smith@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

Cambridge GCSE

Design & Technology

Investigate a host of different influences on design and technology, gaining a real understanding of what it means to be a designer.

You'll take part in both practical and theoretical study and enjoy opportunities to put your learning into practice by creating a variety of products.

The concept of sustainability is also introduced as well as learning about the impact of different materials on the environment and the increasing need for products to be environmentally-friendly.

Lessons take place in our well-equipped, custom-built, Design and Technology school – including a spacious workshop and extensive CAD/CAM facilities.

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy problem-solving, being creative and are keen to develop your skills through a combination of practical and real-world design challenges. You will be excited by new challenges and open-ended problems.

For more information

Mr Dane, Head of DT
o.dane@wsnl.co.uk



Assessment

50% coursework
50% exam

O

GCSE

2 years

AQA



Drama and Theatre Studies

Learn about a wide variety of different ways in which theatre is created, what it means to us as human beings and how to create it successfully for yourself.

You'll study a wide repertoire of historical and modern theatre, from researching and investigating real life human topics, and learning to understand and use the various components to create a theatre production.

Much of your learning will take place through experimentation, and the drama studio is a perfect environment you to work in small groups with other pupils, under the direction and guidance of your teacher. Theoretical knowledge will be introduced and explored in a practical context before being further investigated through written assignments. Watching live theatre is, of course, essential and there are regular opportunities for this.

This subject is for you...

If you already love theatre and performance, or wish to increase your ability, skills, knowledge and importantly – confidence. You can be a shrinking violet or comfortable in the limelight, but successful participation is equally possible. Knowing there are no limits to how something may be interpreted on stage is an exciting concept and this subject invites you to take up that challenge.

O

Cambridge IGCSE

2 years

AQA

For more information

Mrs Evans, Head of Drama and Theatre
v.evans@wsnl.co.uk

Food Preparation and Nutrition



A highly creative course, your focus will be on developing practical cooking skills to ensure you develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the characteristics of different types of food. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing practical cookery skills to provide a strong understanding of nutrition.

You'll be involved in a mixture of theory and practical work – including culinary skills and food science investigations. Although there is a strong practical element to this course, there is also a theoretical component, as you learn about the effects of food on the body, how food is grown and the industries it supports.

Your lessons will take place in our dedicated Food & Nutrition Department and ICT suites.

How is it assessed?

- 50% coursework (two pieces) – including:
 - 15% Food Investigation Assessment
 - 35% Food Practical Assessment
- 50% exam

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy hands-on practical work, food and science. You will have an interest in cooking in the kitchen at home, as well as being organised! You'll enjoy testing out new ingredients as well as understanding why ingredients behave in the way they do.

For more information

Mrs Scouler, Head of Food & Nutrition
e.scouler@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

Eduqas

Music

For keen musicians, the GCSE course is a natural progression from Year 9 and seeks to develop musicianship through focus on the key areas of performing, composing and understanding music.

You 'll develop the skills to organise musical ideas and make use of appropriate resources, broadening your musical experience and interests in a way that develops imagination and fosters creativity.

At the beginning of the course, you will be taught the fundamentals of composition through short tasks. The best composers develop their ideas through experimentation and refinement of ideas played on their instrument. These are then transferred onto specialist notation software for easy editing and playback, giving you an immediate realisation of your creative ideas. Listening and appraising skills are taught via study of set works and these form the basis of the examination.

Your lessons will take place in the Mountgarret Music school, which houses our 9-foot Grotian Steinweg concert grand piano, composition-focused computer suite and a recording studio. Most students also attend our Music Department foreign tours and day trips.



This subject is for you...

If you have an aptitude for developing thoughts independently and musical ideas linger in your mind. You'll enjoy a wide range of musical styles and will be excited by learning to recognise contrasting genres, styles and traditions of music.

Assessment

60% coursework (30% Performance, 30% Composition)

40% examination

For more information

Mr Uglow, Director of Music

t.uglow@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

Pearson

Physical Education

Physical Education is an increasingly respected and popular subject for pupils to study at GCSE level.

We have a long history of sporting excellence at Worksop College, boasting a number of sporting greats across a wide variety of sports.

Taking a GCSE in Physical Education is ideal preparation for our A level PE qualification, and the course content links closely to Biology and Food Preparation & Nutrition.

During this course, you will have the opportunity to specialise in one sport, develop an ability to coach or officiate, as well as apply your knowledge of the subject matter to a piece of coursework relating to your own practical strengths. You will also examine the effects of exercise and training on performance.

This subject is for you...

If you are interested in the way the body works and how physical exercise can have an impact. During this course, you will have the opportunity to be assessed in 3 sporting activities, one being individual and one being a team game. You will also be able to apply your knowledge of the subject matter to a piece of coursework and complete an 8 week training programme.

Assessment

60% exam
40% practical

For more information

Mr Paish-Plunkett, Head of PE
g.paish-plunkett@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

Eduqas



Business



Study this course and you will learn the steps you need to take when starting and then growing a business. From marketing to raising finance, people management to operations - this course is an exploration of the world of business.

During this course, you will learn about how businesses work. You'll learn how to put together a business strategy and the key elements of the marketing mix. You'll work on real-life briefs and visit businesses to understand how strategy is put into practice.

You will also develop an appreciation of globalisation, and how the internet and digital era has transformed the way we do business - creating both opportunities and threats for businesses of all shapes and sizes.

You'll have the opportunity to hear from business speakers, as well as visit a number of organisations to understand how this works in practice.

This subject is for you...

If you want to develop an understanding of the world of business. This course provides a great foundation to go on to study a business-related subject at A level, such as Business or Economics.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Mrs Crouch, Head of Economics and Business
a.crouch@wsnl.co.uk



GCSE

2 years

Pearson Edexcel

Child Development

Offering a 'real-life' element as pupils work with our youngest learners at Ranby House School, pupils can expect hands-on, vocational opportunities - making this qualification perfect for those exploring career options in education or professional childcare.

Health and wellbeing for child development

This unit provides an overview of parenthood's roles and responsibilities, from pre-conception through antenatal to postnatal care. Pupils develop an appreciation of the importance of creating the best conditions for a child to thrive and understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to 5 years.

Pupils also learn about the range of equipment and nutritional and hygiene requirements of children from birth to five years in a practical setting.

Understand the development norms of a child from birth to 5 years

Pupils investigate children's developmental norms from birth to five years and develop an understanding of the impact. Knowledge and understanding is demonstrated through practical activities.

This subject is for you...

If you enjoy developing and learning practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations. Child Development could be the first step of a career as a Nursery Nurse, an Early Years Teacher, Family Support Worker, Nursery Manager, Children's Nurse, Social Worker and more.

Assessment

60% coursework (two pieces worth 30% each)

40% exam

For more information

Mrs Scouler, Teacher of Child Development

e.scouler@wsnl.co.uk

O

2 years

Cambridge Nationals



Psychology

Our Psychology GCSE is made up of two components over two years. In the first component we research criminal psychology, developmental psychology and psychological problems; in the second, we look into social influence, memory, sleep and dreaming.

Through these topics, we delve into the many facets of Psychology, developing an understanding of human behaviour from cognitive perspectives (understanding thought and mental processes), social perspectives (the impact of society and the environment on human behaviour) and biological perspectives (considering brain structure and genetics).

We also focus heavily on research methods used by Psychologists, critically assessing the science that underpins research into human behaviour.

Psychology is a subject which complements most other GCSE choices and which can lead to professions in a broad variety of sectors; from education and sport to forensics and health.

This subject is for you...

If you are interested in learning about human behaviour and the principles that underpin it. You'll have an inquisitive mind that will question the scientific nature of human research.

Assessment

100% exam

For more information

Mr Jordan, Head of Psychology
d.jordan@wsnl.co.uk

O

GCSE

2 years

OCR



Study Support

We recognise that taking four GCSE options (on top of the four core subjects) may not be an appropriate choice for everyone. Some students with Special Educational Needs and other students identified by the English and Mathematics departments may benefit from some extra support to help them achieve.

The study support group is specifically focused on the requirements of the students mentioned above and if you feel that this would be of benefit, please arrange to discuss this further with both Miss Dalby (Head of Key Stage 4) and the Learning Support Department before choosing this option.

For more information

Miss Dalby, Head of KS4

s.dalby@wsnl.co.uk

Learning Support Department

send@wsnl.co.uk



**Contact us**

Call 01909 537 100

Email admissions@wsnl.co.uk
wsnl.co.uk/senior