

Year 9

Options Booklet



Option Pathways

Full EBacc:

Students will study Spanish, and either History or Geography in blocks A and B.

They then choose 1 subject for Block C and 1 subject for Block D

Part EBacc:

Students will study at least one of Spanish, History or Geography in blocks A and B.

They then choose 1 subject for Block C and 1 subject for Block D

Non EBacc:

Students can choose to study Spanish, History or Geography in blocks A and B but have the option of BTEC courses instead.

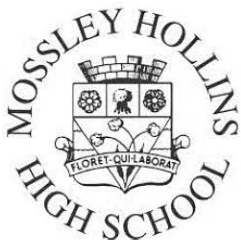
Then choose 1 subject for Block C and 1 subject for Block D

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up lots of doors.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths.

The government's ambition is to see 90% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2025.



Option Blocks

Block A

Spanish

History

Geography

BTEC Health & Social Care

Block B

Spanish

History

Geography

BTEC IT

Block C

Food and Nutrition

Business Studies

Dance

Design & Technology

Drama

PE

BTEC Health & Social Care

Block D

Creative iMedia

Music

Statistics

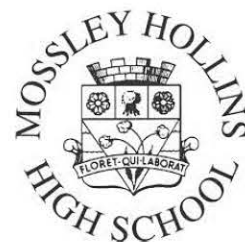
Food & Nutrition

Religious Studies

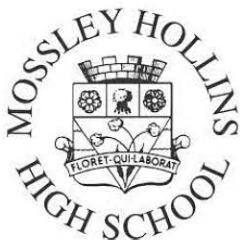
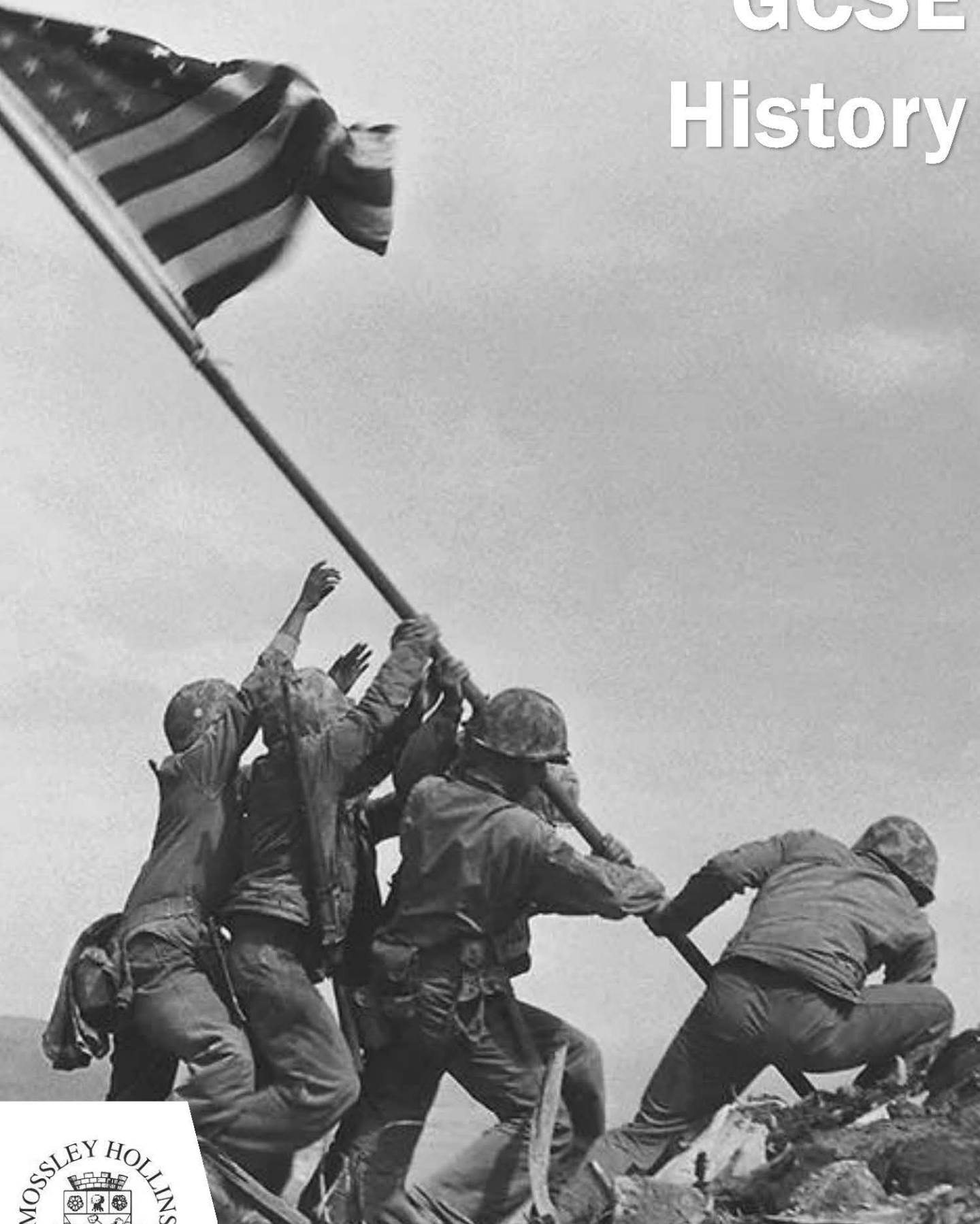
Media Studies

Art

BTEC Sport



GCSE History



Paper	Topics	Length
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict and Tension 1945-73 (Cold War) • Germany: 1890-1945 Democracy and Dictatorship 	2 Hour
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and the People: C1000 – present • Elizabethan England 1560 -1603 	2 Hour

Course Content:

In GCSE History you will learn about a range of events, people and issues that have helped make Britain and the modern world what they are today. Students will complete two exams (four modules):

Paper 1

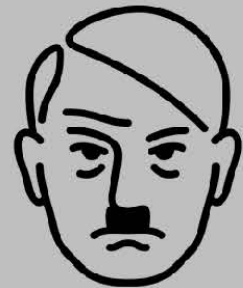
Period study: Conflict and Tension (Cold War) 1945-72

This examines the period of intense tension between the USA and USSR exploring how this changed and how it eventually ended.



Modern depth study: Germany 1890-1945

This is a depth study of Germany. We will explore what Germany was like before World War One under Kaiser Wilhelm. Afterwards, we will study between the two world wars to understand how Germany tried to recover after their defeat and become a democracy. Students also examine how Hitler came to power and how he controlled Germany.



Paper 2:

British depth study: Elizabethan England 1558-1603

This is a study of the reign of Elizabeth I covering challenges to her rule from inside England and abroad and what life was like during this period.



Thematic study: Health and the People - Britain c1250-present

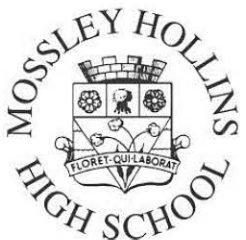
Students will learn about how people's ideas of what caused diseases has changed and how that has led to different methods of prevention and treatment and a much healthier nation.



Curriculum Leader: Mr B King



GCSE Geography



Why choose Geography?

- Geographers are among the most employable university graduates!
- Geography helps make sense of the world around us!
- We study a range of topics and relevant issues!
- Transferable skills: Teamwork, decision-making, critical thinking, organisation, analytical skills, research ability, visual communication.

Course Content:

Students will study the AQA course:

This course will enable students to build on their geographical knowledge and skills to:

- Develop and extend knowledge of locations, places, environments and processes. From Nigeria and its economic development to the effects of Hurricane Katrina, as well as Lagos and Manchester's development and challenges and much more!
- Gain understanding of the interactions between people and environments.
- Develop and extend competence in a range of skills including those used in fieldwork and in using maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

This will include undertaking fieldwork on 2 fieldtrips. One with a focus on physical geography (Rivers) and the other on physical and human geography (Physical and Urban environment).

The course will provide students with a solid grounding, whether they are going on to Further Education, or into the workplace. The qualification aims to inspire a passion for Geography within learners which encourages an interest in the subject beyond academic achievements, for the rest of their lives.

How you will be assessed

Paper 1 – 1 hour 30 mins

Exam: Living with the Physical Environment – 35%

- The challenges of natural hazards (weather hazards and tectonic hazards)
- The living world (rainforests, deserts, ecosystems)
- Physical landscapes in the UK (Coasts and Rivers)

Paper 2 - 1 hour 30 mins

Exam: Challenges in the human environment – 35%

- Urban issues and challenges (Lagos and Manchester development and sustainability)
- The changing economic world (Measuring development and Nigeria)
- The challenge of resource management (resource management, sustainability, energy)

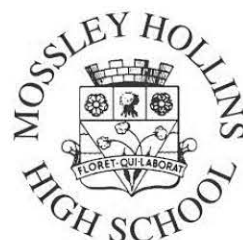
Paper 3 - 1 hour 30 mins

Exam: Geographical Skills – 30%

Geographical Exploration

- Geographical Skills
- Decision making exercise

Curriculum Leader: Mr Lewis Tomlinson



GCSE PE



Course Content

The Edexcel GCSE in Physical Education requires students to develop their knowledge and understanding of physical education and physical activity, in relation to balanced healthy lifestyles, including:

- Fitness and Body Systems
- Physical training
- Health, Fitness and Well being
- Sport Psychology
- Socio-Cultural influences on sport

Students will also develop their knowledge in relation to performance in physical activity. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how a healthy and active lifestyle in sport and training contributes to the growth and development of body systems, as well as general wellbeing.

How you will be assessed		
Exam	Controlled Assessment	Practical Sports Made up of 3 sporting marks from a team sport, one from an individual sport and a third of choice.
60%	10%	30%

How you will learn

You will have 2 lessons per week, which will be allocated to the theoretical content of the course and to the practical element.

Using your KS3 data you will be placed each half term into the physical activity where you will score the maximum possible marks. This will provide you with the opportunity to be assessed as a performer in skills and competitive games.

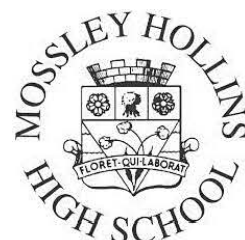
Course Requirements

It is important that you take part in sport outside of school which could include playing for teams including football, basketball or netball or taking part in individual sports such as karate, badminton, athletics, rock climbing.

For further information:

Speak to your PE teacher or any other member of the PE team. If you would like to see further details on the course specification, please access this on Edexcel's website: GCSE Physical Education.

Curriculum Leader: Mrs V Dodd



GCSE Drama



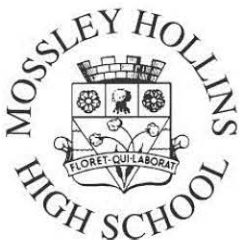
Course Content

GCSE drama gives students the opportunity to explore the subject from a range of perspectives

- by devising their own original work
- by bringing to life the work of a playwright
- as theatre critics, developing their own thoughts on what makes drama and theatre successful
- and as creative artists building and bringing a character to life through exploration and rehearsal

How you will be assessed:			
Written Examination (40%) 1 hour 30 minutes		Practical Assessment - including written components (60%)	
Section A (50 marks)	Section B (30 marks)	Devising Drama (60 marks)	Presenting and <u>Perfroming</u> texts (60 marks)
<p>You will be asked to prepare and perform extracts from a set text. You will then consider how you created meaning through the use of you acting skills and analyse potential technical elements that would support the themes and setting of the play. You will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding through written questions on characterisation and staging.</p>	<p>You will go to see many performances during the drama course. This section of the written exam will require you to evaluate and reflect on the experience of seeing a live performance in a single essay question. You will need to develop written skills to help you describe, analyse and evaluate the performance.</p>	<p>In this component you will create a devised performance in groups based on stimuli provided by the exam board. All performances will be supported by coursework evidencing the work in progress.</p> <p>40 marks: Coursework 20 marks: Performance.</p>	<p>In this component you will perform two extracts from a text. You will then be required to produce an accompanying concept document, which outlines your intentions for the performance.</p> <p>20 marks: Concept document 40 marks: Final performances.</p>

BTEC Dance



Course Content:

BTEC Dance is made up of three components.

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts

Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts

Component 3: Responding to a Brief – Externally assessed

You will learn and understand the skills required to enable you to complete each task with the two components.

How you will be assessed	
Component 1 and 2 will be internally marked externally moderated and will account for 60% of the marks.	Component 3 will consist of 3 written logs and one practical performance. This will make up the remaining 40% of the marks.

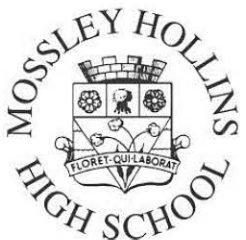
Throughout component 1 and 2, you will take part in practical workshops in over three different styles of dance. During component 1 you will appreciate and research three professional works and log your development as a dancer/choreographer. During component 2 you will learn how to evaluate your performance and set targets for your improvement as well as learning professional repertoire.

During Component 3 you will assess your knowledge and understanding of the choreographic processes and performing skills and you will respond to an externally set brief. As a group, you will create a dance for an audience.

How you will learn:

You will attend two/three lessons a week, where you will be mainly practically working. You will visit the theatre to see live performances to help our understanding and appreciation of the professional works we are studying. Theory lessons will be required throughout the course as well as written homework and coursework. Full Dance kit of black leggings and a Mossley Hollins black t-shirt is expected to be worn for each lesson. Ballet shoes/jazz shoes can be worn for non- assessment lessons.

GCSE Art



Course Content

Within the context of fine art, students must demonstrate the ability to:

use fine art techniques and processes, appropriate to students' personal intentions, for example:

- mark-making
- monoprint, collagraph and block printing
- assemblage
- construction
- carving
- film and video
- digital working methods

use media and materials, as appropriate to students' personal intentions, for example:

- charcoal, pastels, pen and ink, crayons and pencil
- watercolour, gouache, acrylic and oil paint
- found materials
- clay, wood and metal
- digital imagery
- different papers and surfaces on which to work.

How you will be assessed:

Coursework (2 units)

(60%)

Externally set Unit (1 unit)

(40%)

During the course you will complete 3 components of work, which consists of 2 components of coursework and 1 externally set unit.

Each unit will involve researching and developing ideas to create a final piece of art work.

The externally set unit allows you to choose an area of study from a selection issued by the examining body. This final component of work contains a time controlled 10 hour assessment where you will create your final piece of art work in response to the area of study you have chosen.

Pupils must be committed to complete extensive independent study.

Curriculum Leader: Mr R Hayward



GCSE Food and Nutrition



Course Content:

Investigate and produce nutritionally balanced dishes, whilst developing your food preparation skills, knowledge and techniques. Develop your understanding of food, through a series of practical research and investigation tasks:

The topics covered are:

1. Nutritional needs and health, including diet.
2. Food Science, and what happens to food when we cook it.
3. Food safety and how to prevent food spoilage and food poisoning.
4. Food choice, the factors that influence food choice and sensory testing.
5. Food Provenance, the environmental impact of food production and where our food comes from.

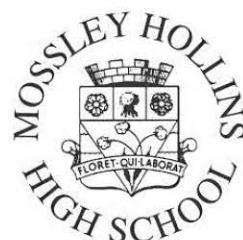
You will make a wide variety of dishes such as chocolate profiteroles, flaky pastry tart, quiche, lemon meringue pie, homemade burgers and mini bread roll, shepherd's pie and homemade pasta, and use a wide variety of commercial tools, equipment and processes.

How you will be assessed:	
Two pieces of coursework (Non-examined Assessment) (50%)	Exam (50%)

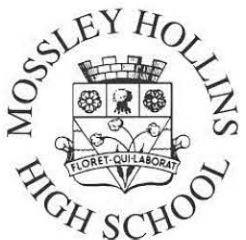
Candidates undertake two practical controlled assessment activities, a research task and an investigation task. You can choose from a variety of research and investigation tasks such as:

- Investigate the functional and chemical properties of the ingredients for pasta
- Investigate the functional and chemical ingredients when making bread
- Plan and develop a range of dishes from Italian cuisine
- Plan and develop a range of dishes which are high in calcium.

Please note that there will be a compulsory £35 charge per term (6 terms in total) to cover the cost of ingredients and materials that will be used in the course.



GCSE Religious Studies



Component One:

The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices

This examines the belief, teachings and practices of two religions:

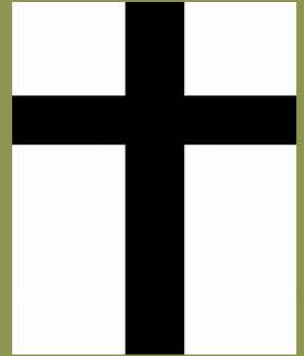
- Christianity
- Buddhism

Each religion is marked out of 48.

This is 50% of the course.

Component One is assessed in one exam: lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes.

The examination has a common structure of two five-part questions of 1,2,4,5 and 12 marks



Component Two:

Thematic Studies

This examines four religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes:

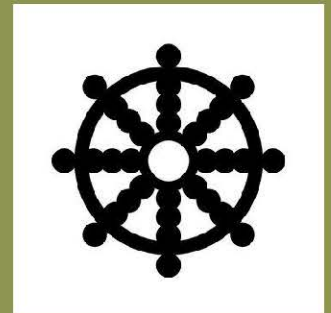
- Relationships and Families
- Religion and Life
- Religion, Peace and Conflict,
- Religion, Crime and Punishment

Each theme is marked out of 24

This is 50% of the course.

Component Two is assessed in one exam: lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes

The examination has a common structure of one five-part questions of 1,2,4,5 and 12 marks



GCSE Statistics



Course Content:

The Statistics qualification incorporates numerous examples of real-life data and contexts, which build skills that students will use in other subjects, such as maths, science and geography.

Based on the principles of the statistical enquiry cycle, students gain a rounded understanding of how to interpret and apply data to a number of scenarios, both across subjects and in the real world.

How you will be assessed	
Paper 1 (*Paper code: 1ST0/1F and 1ST0/1H) Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 80 marks Content overview 1. The collection of data 2. Processing, representing and analysing data 3. Probability Assessment overview <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Students must answer all questions● The papers assess all content● Questions on statistical methods, familiar and unfamiliar contexts and the component parts of the statistical enquiry cycle● The papers <u>contains</u> short response, medium response and extended response questions	Paper 2 (*Paper code: 1ST0/2F and 1ST0/2H) Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 80 marks Content overview 1. The collection of data 2. Processing, representing and analysing data 3. Probability Assessment overview <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Students must answer all questions● The papers assess all content● Questions on statistical methods, familiar and unfamiliar contexts and the component parts of the statistical enquiry cycle● The papers <u>contains</u> short response, medium response and extended response questions

Course aim and objectives

- The use of statistical techniques in a variety of investigations.
- Identifying trends through carrying out appropriate calculations.
- Apply statistical techniques across the curriculum.
- Evaluating data that would be encountered in their studies and in everyday life.
- Understanding how technology has enabled the collection and analysis of large quantities of data.
- Understand ways that data can be organised, processed and presented.
- Applying appropriate mathematical and statistical formulae.

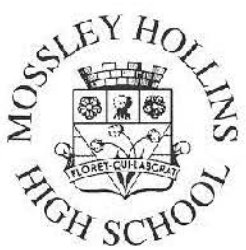
Additional Course Information:

To undertake this course you should have an interest in Maths. It will be taught by a maths teacher and will contain some of the same content of the GCSE maths course. It is likely to therefore boost your GCSE Maths grade. The skills that you learn could be transferable into careers such as financial trading, meteorology, medicine.

Curriculum Leader: Mrs L Higginson



GCSE Design & Technology



Design and Technology GCSE AQA

Examination paper (50% of the GCSE) 2 hour written paper:100 marks	Controlled assessment unit (50% of the GCSE) 100 marks
<p>A large proportion of the course is taken up learning and developing the core theory principles needed to complete the exam, and to underpin the CAU element of the course. This will be delivered through theory lessons.</p> <p><u>Section A – Core technical principles</u> A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions, assessing your knowledge and understanding of technical information. (Materials and processes)</p> <p><u>Section B – Specialist technical principles</u> Short style exam questions, including one extended response question analysing existing products. (Properties, comparisons, materials and manufacturing processes)</p> <p><u>Section C – Designing and making principles</u> Analysing existing design problems and generating suitable design proposals, including a 12 mark existing product analysis question.</p>	<p>15-20-page project based around investigating, designing, developing, evaluating and making a prototype model of a solution to a problem. This must be linked to the AQA contextual challenges.</p> <p>You will be assessed in the following sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigating (10 marks)• Producing a design brief and specification (10 marks)• Generating design ideas (20 marks)• Development of ideas (20 marks)• Realising the design idea through modelling and making (20 marks)• Analysing and evaluating (20 marks)

Course Content

This Design and Technology course follows an iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating. Throughout you will develop a solid understanding of core technical skills and specialist principles. This will cover a range of manufacturing processes and materials including modelling materials, plastics and paper/board.

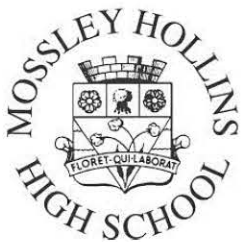
You will apply your knowledge and understanding to make a range of mini assessed projects for the first part of the course, along with learning the theoretical knowledge needed to complete the examination. You will then choose one area to specialise in and produce your controlled assessment unit (CAU). For the controlled assessment element of the course you will produce a prototype for your design to solve a client's problem. Examples include architectural models, packaging items, models of a storage item. The topics are set each year by the examination board and have previously included topics such as a teenager's lifestyle, playing games, climate change or storing or securing personal belongings.

All projects undertaken will maximise the use of facilities within the Design and Technology department, including use of CAD/CAM and the workshop which are needed to make the prototypes.

Curriculum Leader: Mr K McGuinness
Class Teacher: Miss R Heapey



GCSE Spanish



Course Content:

GCSE Spanish is made up of 4 units which all have equal weighting and are all assessed externally. These 4 units test 4 different skills (see table below) over 3 main themes:

- Theme 1:** Identity and Culture (this includes family and relationships, free time activities, entertainment and current trends, and health, fitness and celebrations)
- Theme 2:** Local, national, international and global areas of interest (this includes holidays and weather in the past, present and future, things to see and do in your local area, and where you live and environmental issues)
- Theme 3:** Current and future study, and employment (this includes school life, rules and subject choices and your plans for the future)

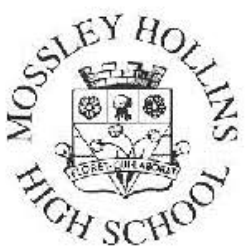
How you will be assessed	
Unit 1: Listening <ul style="list-style-type: none">Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language (interview, announcement, personal opinions, news reports)5 minutes reading time is given at the beginning of the examResponding to questions in English and SpanishExternally marked and moderated25% of the total marks	Unit 2: Speaking <ul style="list-style-type: none">Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.<u>7-12 minute</u> recorded exam with class teacher, comprising of a role play, photo card and general conversationExternally marked and moderated (but recorded by your teacher)25% of the total marks
Unit 3: Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">Understanding different types of texts in Spanish (publicity, newspaper reports, blogs, diary entries) andResponding to questions in English and SpanishTranslation from Spanish into English (length of texts to be translated dependent on tier of entry)Externally marked and moderated25% of the total marks	Unit 4: Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposesResponding to questions in Spanish that require a developed and extended answer (essay format)Translation from English into Spanish (length of texts to be translated dependent on tier of entry)Externally marked and moderated25% of the total marks

How you will learn:

- You will attend three lessons per week, where you will develop all 4 skill areas within each topic area
- You will undertake a speaking exam in the final term of Year 10 that will test your responses to the role play and photo card elements of the assessment
- We use the AQA GCSE Spanish Viva textbooks which provide listening and reading practice written by the exam board
- You will be encouraged to use a variety of digital resources inside and outside of lessons to complement the work completed in your exercise book
- You will be expected to regularly revise vocabulary related to the topic of study in lessons



BTEC Sport



Course Content:

The Edexcel Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Sport is the equivalent to one GCSE

There are 3 compulsory components. Component 1 is called 'Preparing participants to take part in Sport and Physical Activity', Component 2 is called 'Taking part and improving other participants in sporting performance' and finally Component 3 is called 'Developing fitness to improve other participants performance in Sport and Physical Activity'.

Component 1 and Component 2 are completed in Year 10 and 11 and this knowledge and understanding is then applied to Component 3 which is completed in Year 11. Component 1 and 2 are both coursework based assessments which are completed in lessons. Component 3 is an exam based assessment which is completed in school.

How you will be assessed	
Examination	<p>The BTEC Tech Award in Sport combines an externally assessed exam and two internally assessed pieces of coursework. The internally assessed coursework for Component 1 and 2 is completed in PE theory lessons and marked by teachers. The externally assessed exam for Component 3 is completed in school but marked by Edexcel examiners.</p> <p>The externally assessed exam is a 1 hour <u>30 minute</u> test totalling 60 marks. The exam will consist of short and extended answer questions on the topics of fitness, fitness testing, fitness training and psychology. The exam will be completed in Year 11.</p>
Controlled Assessment	<p>The internally assessed coursework is based on a vocational scenario about an individual taking part in sport. For both Component 1 and Component 2 the coursework assessments involve pupils completing 3 tasks which are both theory and practical based. The pupils complete the assessments in PE lessons. The portfolio of evidence will include a combination of written documents, video clips and <u>powerpoint</u> presentations</p> <p>The assessment coursework has specific deadlines to complete each part of the coursework which must be followed. The grades for the assessments will be graded Pass, Merit or Distinction and grades for all 3 components will be combined to provide an overall grade.</p>

Additional Information

All courses offer different progression onto BTEC National programmes (A-level equivalent)

This course offers a focused vocational qualification for learners who wish to follow a programme of study related to aspect of employment they might wish to move into.

This course will involve theory lessons which will include classroom based lessons (discussion and independent work), ICT to complete the assessments (Word/Powerpoint) and practical lessons when both coaching and performing.

Curriculum Leader: Mrs V Dodd



BTEC Digital Information



Course Content:

In this course you will develop a wide range of digital skills using a variety of software packages and exploring existing digital systems.

This course will provide you with an opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. User interfaces are vital in ensuring that users can interact with digital devices. You will explore different user interfaces such as smart devices and websites, you will then project manage, design, create and test their own user interface for a specific audience and purpose.

The 2nd unit provides you with an opportunity to learn about the different presentation features that can be used to ensure that information is understood clearly. You will create a dashboard to allow easy access to collect, present and interpret information.

The final unit allows you to get an understanding of how business use digital devices in everyday working practices. This unit is assessed via an external assessment which is set and marked by Edexcel, completed under supervised conditions.

The qualification is graded from Level 1 Pass to Level 2 Distinction*

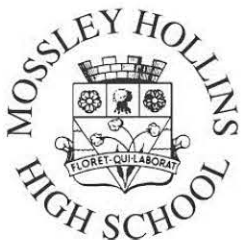
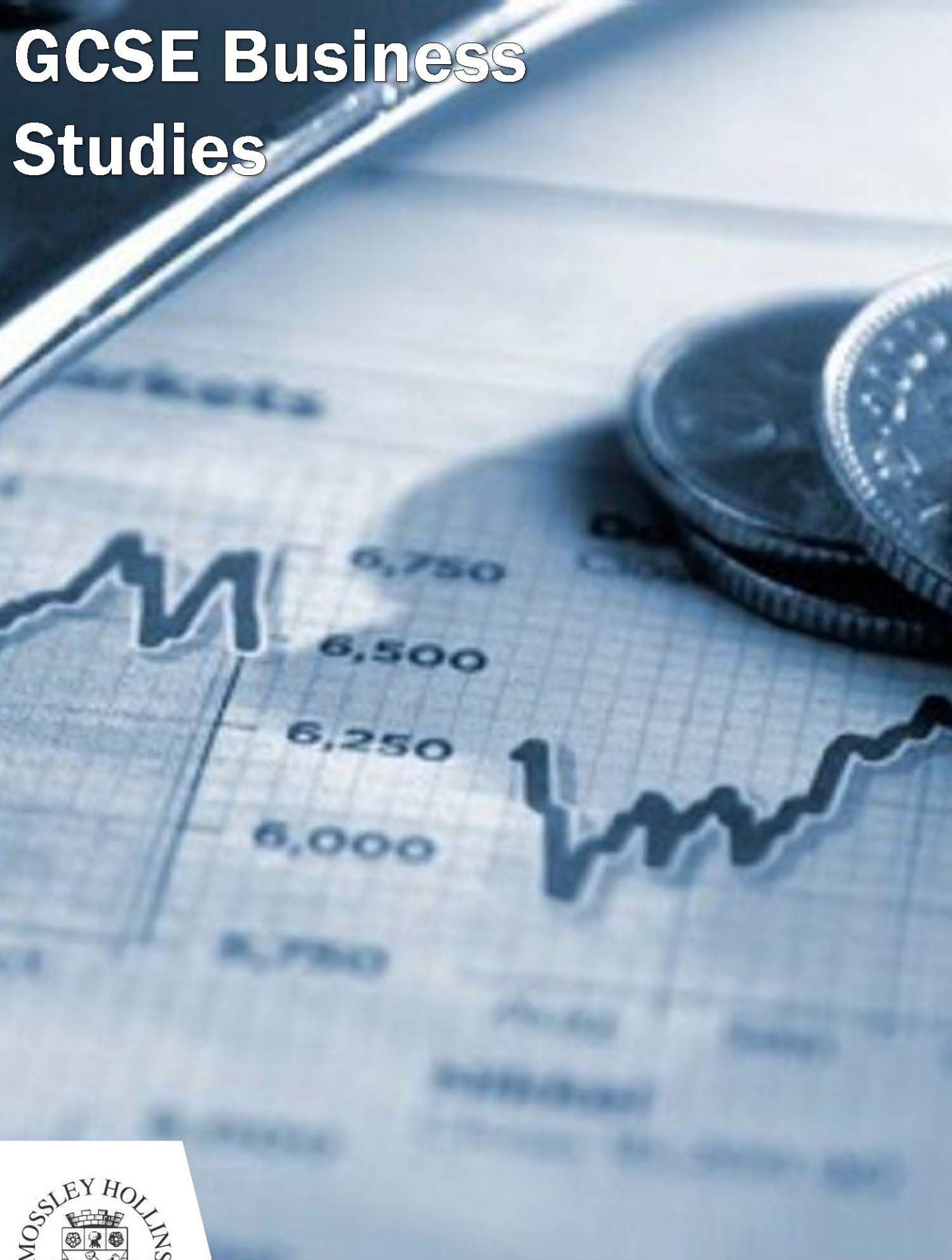
How you will be assessed:	
Two practical projects completed within timetabled lessons	External assessment conducted under supervised conditions – 1 hour and 30 minutes

Students will initially spend time building their skills in knowledge in the key areas before embarking on the project briefs for each component.

Faculty Leader: Mr K McGuinness



GCSE Business Studies



Course Content:

The GCSE in Business introduces you to the world of business, where you will look at what makes someone a successful business person and find out how to develop an idea or spot an opportunity and turn that into a successful business.

If you enjoy communicating and explaining your ideas, working with numbers to solve business problems, thinking creatively and making decisions then the GCSE in Business is the right subject for you!

The GCSE in Business is packed with plenty of exciting yet useful information that will broaden your horizons in preparation for your future career. Throughout the course, you will learn:

- What makes someone a successful business person
- How to develop an idea or spot an opportunity and turn that into a successful business
- How businesses promote themselves and keep their customers happy
- How businesses manage both their finances and the people who work for them

How you will be assessed

Component 1	How it's assessed	Questions
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business in the real world• Influences on business• Business operations• Human resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes• 90 marks• 50% of GCSE	Section A – multiple choice questions and short answer questions. Section B – one case study/data response stimuli with a range of question types. Section C – one case study/data response stimuli with a range of question types including <u>15 mark</u> question drawing on any areas of the specification.
Component 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business in the real world• Influences on business• Marketing• Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes• 90 marks• 50% of GCSE	Section A – multiple choice questions and short answer questions. Section B – one case study/data response stimuli with a range of question types. Section C – one case study/data response stimuli with a range of question types including <u>15 mark</u> question drawing on any areas of the specification.

How you will learn:

As part of your course, you will be required to complete assignments and essays at home. You will also be expected to revise for exams at home and will have to prepare for assessed practical assignments.

Additional information/skills:

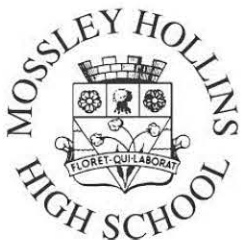
If you are interested in learning about how businesses are set up and what it is that makes someone a successful entrepreneur. This course will help you to understand all this and more. In order to achieve a higher grade in this subject, you will need to have knowledge and understanding of most aspects of the course content and be able to apply this knowledge and understanding - using terms, concepts, theories and processes - to address problems and issues. You should also be able to select, organise and interpret information and show the ability to organise and communicate it in an accurate and logical manner. The GCSE in Business Studies can prepare you for further and higher education courses in this subject, such as AS/A2 Levels and BTEC and NVQ courses. The GCSE course will develop your skills in communicating, creative thinking, decision making and problem solving. You will also become skilled in dealing with data and understanding finance. This course is a fantastic foundation for developing skills that you can take with you into a wide range of careers. It aims to give you an understanding of the workings of

businesses and can particularly help you in the following career paths: **Solicitor, Teacher, Administration roles, Finance roles, Human Resource Officer, Manager**



Faculty Leader: Mr K McGuinness

Cambridge National Creative iMedia



Course Content

The course consists of three units:

1. R093 Creative iMedia in the Media Industry

External written examination – 40%

This unit is a foundation in what makes up the media industry and how Creative iMedia fits into it. Students will learn about job roles and processes required to create a wide range of media products. As part of this, students will find out how to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences through the use of media codes when planning a product. Students will learn about pre-production techniques, media formats and distribution platforms to further develop their knowledge of the media industry.

1. R094 Visual identity and Digital Graphics

Non-exam assessment – 25%

There are two parts to this unit. The first is an exploration of visual identity and how this contributes to an overall brand identity for an organisation. From this students will learn about the key features and elements before designing a visual identity on Photoshop as part of an assignment. The second part of this unit is to learn about the design and creation of digital graphics for different products. This begins with graphic design conventions and how these are applied to different product requirements. Students will then move onto creating a digital graphic on Photoshop as part of an assignment brief, which will include the visual identity that students have designed.

1. R097 Interactive Digital Media

Non-exam assessment – 35%

In the creative media industry there are a huge variety of technical and creative job roles involving interactive digital media. This unit is all about creating digital interactive media. Students will learn how to design and create media assets which will engage a target audience. Students will also learn how to use these assets to create an effective interactive media product.

How you will be assessed:

R094 Visual identity and Digital Graphics – 25%

- OCR set assignment
- Total marks – 50

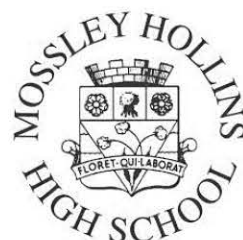
R097 Interactive Digital Media – 35%

- OCR set assignment
- Total marks – 70

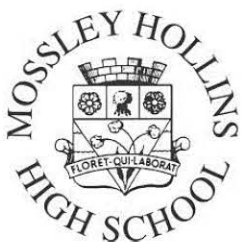
R093 Creative iMedia in the Media Industry – 40%

- 1 hour 30-minute external written examination
- Total marks – 70

Lead Teacher – Miss H Melfi



GCSE English Language



Course Content:

This GCSE is fully assessed by external exams. The exams cover the skills of reading and writing. There will be two exams to prepare for and students will study a range of texts and complete a range of writing tasks:

- Reading non-fiction texts such as newspapers, magazines, reviews, reports and letters
- Reading fiction texts – 19th Century prose fiction
- Writing imaginatively
- Transactional writing (writing non-fiction texts)

How you will be assessed:

- The qualification consists of two written examination papers:
Paper 1 – Explorations in creative reading and writing (worth 50% of your total mark)
Paper 2 – Reading and writing non-fiction texts (worth 50% of your total mark)
- The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1.
- You are assessed on: your understanding and analysis of the writers' uses of language, structure and form; the way a text is written and shaped; the effect of a text on a reader and your ability to adapt your writing style and techniques to suit purpose and audience. There are marks available for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- There is one tier of entry: all students complete the same exam paper.
- Students will also complete a Spoken Language Endorsement which consists of a speech on a chosen topic followed by questions. This is awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction; it does not contribute to the overall mark.

Paper 1 – The aim of this paper is to engage students in a creative text and inspire them to write creatively themselves by:

- in section A, reading a literature fiction text in order to consider how established writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers
- in section B, writing their own creative text, inspired by the topic that they have responded to in section A to demonstrate their narrative and descriptive skills in response to a written prompt, scenario or visual image.

Paper 2 – The aim of this paper is to develop students' insights into how writers have particular viewpoints and perspectives on issues or themes that are important to the way we think and live our lives. It will encourage students to demonstrate their skills by:

- in section A, reading two linked sources from different time periods and genres in order to consider how each presents a perspective or viewpoint to influence the reader
- in section B, producing a written text to a specified audience, purpose and form in which they give their own perspective on the theme that has been introduced to them in section A.

Course Content:

This GCSE is fully assessed by external exams. There will be two exams to prepare for and students will read a range of full texts including:

- A Shakespeare play (Macbeth or Romeo and Juliet)
- A Modern text (such as Lord of the Flies)
- A 19th century novel (A Christmas Carol or Jekyll and Hyde)
- A wide range of poetry: on the theme of Power and Conflict
- A selection of poems to develop skills of analysis

How you will be assessed:

- The qualification consists of two written examination papers:
Paper 1 – Shakespeare and The 19th Century Novel (worth 40% of the total mark).
Paper 2 – The Modern Text and Poetry (including both anthology and unseen poems) (worth 60% of the total marks)
- The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1.
- You are assessed on your understanding of the contexts, characters and themes within the texts and the writers' uses of language, structure and form.
- There is one tier of entry: all students complete the same exam paper.

Paper 1 – Shakespeare and The 19th Century Novel, 1 hour and 45 minutes

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

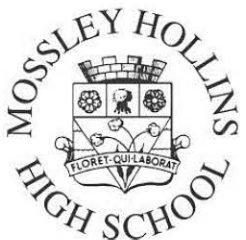
Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry, 2 hours 15 minutes.

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

BTEC Health & Social Care



Course Content:

Students will study BTEC level 1/level 2 Technical Award in Health and Social Care. This course will provide students with an insight in to what it's like to work in a Health and Social Care setting. Students studying this course will have the opportunity to discuss and explore a range of topics relevant to Health and Social Care whilst developing a wide range of skills that are essential for working life.

Students will study a variety of different components, including:

- Component 1 - Human Lifespan Development
- Component 2 - Health and Social Care Services and Values
- Component 3 - Health and Wellbeing

The Technical Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on three areas, which cover:

- Skills and processes, such as interpreting data to assess an individual's health, and designing a plan to improve their health and wellbeing.
- Attitudes, namely the care values that are vitally important in the sector, and the opportunity to practise applying them.
- Knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills, processes and attitudes, including human growth and development, health and social care services, and factors affecting people's health and wellbeing.

This course builds on and uses the knowledge and skills that students learn in their GCSE's, such as English. It will complement the more theoretical aspects covered by GCSE Biology by allowing students to apply their knowledge and skills practically in a vocational context.

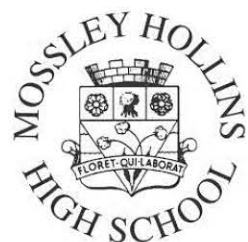
How you will be assessed:

- External assessment - a task in which students create a health and wellbeing improvement plan for someone based on a scenario. This work contributes to 40% of the qualification. This is completed under controlled conditions.
- Internal assessment (coursework) which contributes to 60% of the qualification.

Students studying this subject will need to be organised and have the ability to work independently. They will also need to be able to work as part of a team and act on the feedback they will receive to improve their work. They must be hard working and have a desire to succeed on the course. Due to the level of extended writing on the course, good literacy skills are required.

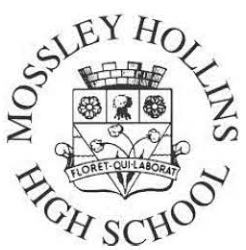
Other skills required are:

- The ability to analyse and evaluate evidence
- The ability to make reasoned judgements and present conclusions



Curriculum Leader: Mrs V Dodd

GCSE Maths



Course Content:

GCSE Mathematics **involves the study of mathematical methods, with practical applications**. It aims to develop students' skills in problem-solving and analytical thinking. It also aims to provide all students with a firm mathematical foundation that they will need for life, work and further study.

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

- 1 Number
- 2 Algebra
- 3 Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- 4 Geometry and measures
- 5 Statistics and Probability

How you will be assessed:

The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers.

Each paper has 80 marks.

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1.

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher.

Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5.

Higher tier: grades 4 to 9 (grade 3 allowed)

Paper 1 – Non-Calculator, 1 hour 30 min

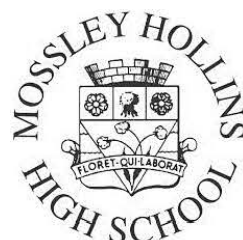
Paper 2 – Calculator, 1 hour 30 minutes.

Paper 3 – Calculator, 1 hour 30 minutes

The questions on each paper are graded, with easier ones at the beginning and more demanding problems at the end.

Each paper will include questions from all five main categories, with the following emphasis:

- **NUMBER** - encourages candidates to apply a range of methods of computation to a variety of problems - it includes the use of a scientific calculator and more traditional techniques.
- **ALGEBRA** - involves analysing situations that lead to algebraic terms and relationships, the manipulation of algebraic expressions, and the solution of problems through algebraic modelling.
- **RATIO, PROPORTION & RATES OF CHANGE** – a section devoted to these aspects that stresses the importance and relevance of the topic in everyday life.
- **GEOMETRY and MEASURES** - requires spatial awareness to understand the properties of shapes in two and three dimensions, the position, movement and transformation of such shapes, and the means of measuring them.
- **STATISTICS & PROBABILITY** - considers the collection, processing, representation and interpretation of data, and the calculation of probabilities.



Curriculum Leader: Mrs L Higginson

GCSE Media Studies



Course Content:

The Media Studies GCSE requires students to study and analyse:

Media language - how the media communicates meaning

Representation - how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups

Media Industries - the production, distribution and circulation of media

Audiences - How media targets and addresses audiences and how they interpret and respond.

Students will also be required to develop practical skills in media production including video production, editing, and image manipulation. They will plan and produce their own media productions which they will need to submit as part of the controlled assessment part of the course.

Students will be required to study the following types of media: television, film, online social media, music video, magazines, video games, advertising and marketing, newspapers and radio.

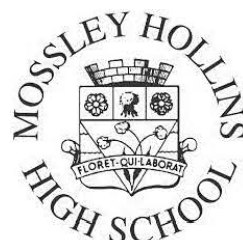
How you will be assessed

Examination	Students will complete two final examinations on all four aspects of the media. They will need to demonstrate their knowledge of specific media products which have been studied in depth as well as an understanding of the industry and context. This is worth 70% of the final grade
Non-Exam Assessment	Students will plan, produce and edit their own media products e.g. music videos, video and print advertising, film promotion, magazines. This is worth 30% of the final grade

Additional Information

Media Studies will help you to understand how the media is influencing how you think on both a surface and less obvious level. It will enable you to develop practical creative media production and IT skills to prepare you for a world where these are increasingly in demand. Media will also increase your knowledge and understanding of Communication, Design, Planning, Presentation, Evaluation, Creativity, Critical Thinking, Research, Technology, Politics, Business and Culture.

Curriculum Leader: Miss M Osbourne



GCSE Music



Course Content:

Music is constantly evolving, inspiring creativity and expression in a way that no other subject can. AQA have designed a relevant and contemporary GCSE qualification that offers our young musicians the chance to study a wider range of musical genres, with further opportunities for practical learning. We know that every student has different learning styles and musical tastes. The Music Department has carefully selected this AQA specification to help broaden students' minds and foster a love of all music with a qualification that students of all abilities and backgrounds will enjoy.

How you will be assessed

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Understanding Music A 90-minute examination assessing listening and contextual understanding of music. The examination will comprise of two sections: ❖ Section A: Listening (68 marks) ❖ Section B: Contextual understanding (28 marks)	Performing Music As an instrumentalist and/or vocalist and/or via technology students must present two performances in year 11: ❖ Performance 1: Solo performance (36 marks) ❖ Performance 2: Ensemble performance (36 marks)	Composing Music Over the course, students will compose two pieces of music. ❖ Composition 1: Composition to a brief (36 marks) ❖ Composition 2: Free composition (36 marks)
40% (GCSE marks)	30% (GCSE marks)	30% (GCSE marks)

How you will learn:

Students will acquire and apply knowledge, skills and understanding through:

- ❖ Listening to and appraising music from a wide range of genres.
- ❖ Performing as a class, a soloist or small group.
- ❖ Subsidised specialist instrumental/vocal lessons.
- ❖ Strategies for developing and refining ideas for compositions.
- ❖ Use of computer software to write/record compositions.

Skills and Qualities Required for Success

Students should play a musical instrument (this includes the voice) that can be used for performances in both solo and ensemble performances. A genuine passion for this subject is essential. This course is an opportunity to take creative risks, experience on-stage performances and explore independent thinking and group work in a close-knit setting.

Futures

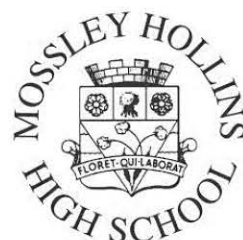
This GCSE Music course provides a solid foundation for AS and A level as well as preparation for a music related career. Even if music isn't a career path, universities prefer students who are well rounded and have skills outside of the chosen subject – GCSE Music demonstrates this well. Aside from this GCSE Music equips students with the skills that are preferable to employers such as teamwork, communication, presenting skills, confidence, perseverance and problem solving.

Further relevant information

Students must be committed to progressing on their instrument/voice by attending weekly instrumental/vocal lessons and independently practicing regularly. Students can access a full programme of instrument tuition in school.

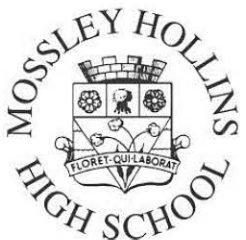
Students will study an instrument/voice in school with this course, and lessons will be subsidised by the school.

Attendance at one extra-curricular activity during the course (per week) is compulsory as this supports performance and musical growth.



Curriculum Leader: Miss V Lundberg

GCSE Separate Sciences



How you will be assessed

Written Examination
(2 externally- examined papers
for biology, chemistry & physics)

1 hour and 45 minutes worth **50%** of the qualification. **100 marks** available. A mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.
Your child will receive three GCSEs; one for biology, one for chemistry and one for physics

Biology

Paper 1 - Content overview:

● **Topic 1** – Key concepts in biology ● **Topic 2** – Cells and control ● **Topic 3** – Genetics ● **Topic 4** – Natural selection and genetic modification ● **Topic 5** – Health, disease and the development of medicines

Paper 2 - Content overview:

● **Topic 1** – Key concepts in biology ● **Topic 6** – Plant structures and their functions ● **Topic 7** – Animal coordination, control and homeostasis ● **Topic 8** – Exchange and transport in animals ● **Topic 9** – Ecosystems and material cycles

Chemistry

Paper 1 - Content overview:

● **Topic 1** – Key concepts in chemistry ● **Topic 2** – States of matter and mixtures ● **Topic 3** – Chemical changes ● **Topic 4** – Extracting metals and equilibria ● **Topic 5** – Separate chemistry 1

Paper 2 - Content overview:

● **Topic 1** – Key concepts in chemistry ● **Topic 6** – Groups in the periodic table ● **Topic 7** – Rates of reaction and energy changes ● **Topic 8** – Fuels and Earth science ● **Topic 9** – Separate chemistry 2

Physics

Paper 1 - Content overview:

● **Topic 1** – Key concepts of physics ● **Topic 2** – Motion and forces ● **Topic 3** – Conservation of energy ● **Topic 4** – Waves ● **Topic 5** – Light and the electromagnetic spectrum ● **Topic 6** – Radioactivity ● **Topic 7** – Astronomy

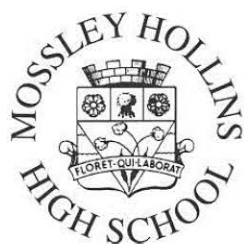
Paper 2 - Content overview:

● **Topic 1** – Key concepts of physics ● **Topic 8** – Energy - Forces doing work ● **Topic 9** – Forces and their effects ● **Topic 10** – Electricity and circuits ● **Topic 11** – Static electricity ● **Topic 12** – Magnetism and the motor effect ● **Topic 13** – Electromagnetic induction ● **Topic 14** – Particle model ● **Topic 15** – Forces and matter



Curriculum Leader: Miss S Walton

GCSE Combined Science



Course Content:

Combined Science consists of six externally examined papers. These are available at foundation & higher tier.

How you will be assessed

Examination

Each exam is assessed by a written examination of **1 hour 10 minutes**. Each is worth **16.67% of the qualification and each paper is out of 60 marks**. This GCSE qualification will be graded and certified on a 17-grade scale from 9-9 to 1-1 using total subject mark where 9-9 is the highest grade.

Paper 1: Biology 1 - Content overview

Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology, **Topic 2** – Cells and control, **Topic 3** – Genetics, **Topic 4**– Natural selection and genetic modification, **Topic 5** – Health, disease and the development of medicines

Paper 2: Biology 2 - Content overview

Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology, **Topic 6** – Plant structures and their functions, **Topic 7** – Animal coordination, control and homeostasis, **Topic 8** – Exchange and transport in animals, **Topic 9** – Ecosystems and material cycles

Paper 3: Chemistry 1 - Content overview

Topic 1 – Key concepts in chemistry, **Topic 2** – States of matter and mixtures, **Topic 3** – Chemical changes, **Topic 4** – Extracting metals and equilibria

Paper 4: Chemistry 2 - Content overview

Topic 1 – Key concepts in chemistry, **Topic 6** – Groups in the periodic table, **Topic 7** – Rates of reaction and energy changes, **Topic 8** – Fuels and Earth science

Paper 5: Physics 1 - Content overview

Topic 1 – Key concepts of physics, **Topic 2** – Motion and forces, **Topic 3** – Conservation of energy, **Topic 4** – Waves, **Topic 5** – Light and the electromagnetic spectrum, **Topic 6** –Radioactivity

Paper 6: Physics 2 - Content overview

Topic 1 – Key concepts of physics, **Topic 8** – Energy - Forces doing work, **Topic 9** – Forces and their effects, **Topic 10** – Electricity and circuits, **Topic 12** – Magnetism and the motor effect, **Topic 13** – Electromagnetic induction, **Topic 14** – Particle model, **Topic 15** – Forces and matter



Curriculum Leader: Miss S Walton