Sir Thomas Boughey High School

Subject Information: Year 9

2017-19

Booklet 3: Choices

Name

Sir Thomas Boughey High School

Year 9 Key Stage 4 Pathways 2017-2019

You will study a core curriculum of:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Science
- GCSE Geography or History
- GCSE RE

Non GCSE:

- PE
- PHSE

These subjects have been carefully chosen to provide the core of the broad range of qualifications you need to prepare you for life after Sir Thomas Boughey. You must choose between Geography or History and make three further choices. Please choose one subject from each of the blocks below. You may only choose one of Fine Art or Art, Craft and Design, not both.

Please tick ONE subject	
GCSE Geography	✓
GCSE History	

Please tick ONE subject	
GCSE Fine Art	
GCSE French	✓
GCSE Geography	
GCSE Music	

Please tick ONE subject	
GCSE Computer Science	
GCSE French	
GCSE PE	✓
Tech Award Health & Social Care	
Tech Award IT	
Tech Award Sport	

Please tick ONE subject	
GCSE Art, Craft and Design	
GCSE Drama	
GCSE Fine Art	✓
GCSE Psychology	
Tech Award Materials Technology	
Tech Award Visual Communication	

Pupil Name:	John Smith
Pupil Signature:	John Smith
Parent Signature:	James Smith

This completed form must be returned to your tutor by Wednesday 26th April.
We may not be able to run some option subjects if they are not chosen by a sufficient number of pupils.

INTRODUCTION

This booklet will help you to consider the content of the subjects which are available to you. You should consider all the advice given to you in the 'Key information' booklet and speak to all your teachers for advice before making your choices.

Please remember we will do our very best to give your first preferences, however please be aware that we can only confirm all choices when all pupils have selected their preferences and the timetable has been produced.

CONTENTS

GCSE ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

GCSE art, craft and design involves learning across a variety of experiences and through various processes, tools, techniques, materials and resources to generate different kinds of evidence of working and outcomes. Emphasis is on an increased breadth of approach commensurate in demand with the other titles.

Students must explore and create work associated with areas of study from at least two titles listed below:

FINE ART: for example drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, lens-/light-based media, photography and the moving image, printmaking, mixed media and land art.

TEXTILE DESIGN: for example art textiles, fashion design and illustration, costume design, constructed textiles, printed and dyed textiles, surface pattern, stitched and/or embellished textiles, soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors, digital textiles and installed textiles.

PHOTOGRAPHY: for example portraiture, location photography, studio photography, experimental imagery, installation, documentary photography, photo-journalism, moving image: film, video and animation, fashion photography.

COMPONENT 1: must show evidence of working in areas of study drawn from two or more of the titles taking into account the distinguishing characteristics of art, craft and design.

COMPONENT 2: must show evidence of areas of study drawn from one or more of the titles.

The areas of study selected for Component 1 can be the same as, or different from, those selected for Component 2.

Students must explore, through a range of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional processes and media, practical application of skills and relevant critical and contextual sources such as the work of contemporary artists, craftspeople and designers and the different purposes, intentions and functions of art, craft and design as appropriate to their own work.

GCSE – COMPUTER SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

Are you interested in how computer games and software are written?
Would you like to become a games designer?
Have you ever wondered how a mobile phone app is invented?

This course has real relevance for the skills and knowledge of the modern world. The course looks at what goes on behind the scenes and pupils will use computer programming, develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills.

Paper	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Paper 1	Computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing and applied computing as well as theoretical knowledge of computer science.	**Written exam set in practically based scenarios:** • 1 hour 30 minutes • 80 marks • 40% of GCSE **Questions** A mix of multiple choice, short-answer and longer-answer questions assessing a student's practical problem solving and computational thinking skills.
Paper 2	Theoretical knowledge of subject knowledge.	• Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 80 marks • 40% of GCSE **Questions** A mix of multiple choice, short-answer, longer-answer and extended response questions assessing a student's theoretical knowledge.
Controlled Assessment Task	The non-exam assessment (NEA) assesses a student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve a practical programming problem. Students will be expected to follow a systematic approach to problem solving, using programming languages.	• Report: detailing 20 hours of NEA work • 80 marks • 20% of GCSE

HOW WILL THIS COURSE HELP ME IN THE FUTURE?
Students will complete this course equipped with the logical and computational skills necessary to succeed at A-level, the workplace or beyond.

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

A GCSE COURSE

Drama is an exciting, creative and challenging course which allows pupils to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of performance skills. Drama students will be expected to create, perform and evaluate their own performance skills. Time will also be spent developing an awareness of the social, historical and cultural context of dramatic productions through the study of theatre makers and play scripts.

HOW WILL THE WORK BE ASSESSED?

GCSE Drama is divided into three components for study:

Component	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Component 1: Understanding Drama	Pupils will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of a set play. They are also required to analyse and evaluate the work of live theatre makers.	• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes • 40% of GCSE
Component 2: Devising Drama	This is one of the practical elements of the course where pupils create and perform their own devised piece of Drama. They will be required to document their preparation for performance and also evaluate their practical work.	• Work is marked by the teacher and moderated externally by the exam board. • 40% of GCSE
Component 3: Texts in practice	Pupils perform two extracts of a play chosen by themselves or the teacher.	• Extracts are performed to a live audience and are marked by an external examiner. • 20% of GCSE

ARE THERE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ENTRY?

Drama has only a single tier of entry.

GCSE FINE ART

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

Fine art is the need to explore an idea, convey an experience or respond to a theme or issue of personal significance.

AREAS OF STUDY

In Component 1 and Component 2 students are required to work in one or more area(s) of fine art, such as those listed below:

- drawing
- painting
- sculpture
- photography
- printmaking
- mixed media

They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas.

Through these areas of study pupils will improve their knowledge of:

- how sources relate to individual, social, historical, environmental, cultural, ethical and/or issues-based contexts
- how ideas, themes, forms, feelings and concerns can inspire personally determined responses that are primarily aesthetic, intellectual or conceptual.

The ways in which meanings, ideas and intentions relevant to fine art can be communicated including the use of:

- figurative representation, abstraction, stylisation, simplification, expression, exaggeration and imaginative interpretation
- visual and tactile elements, such as:
    - colour
    - line
    - form
    - tone
    - texture
    - shape
    - composition
    - rhythm
    - scale
    - structure
    - surface

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

The GCSE French follows the AQA syllabus and consists of the four key elements of a language:

- speaking
- listening
- reading
- writing

The themes covered within the GCSE include:

- family and friends
- technology in everyday life
- leisure activities
- customs and festivals
- travel
- life at school and college
- career choices and ambitions

Pupils will build on their knowledge and understanding gained in Year 7-9 but the complexity of the language will increase, ensuring that pupils are able to use grammar effectively and translate with confidence. Speaking and listening becomes more important at GCSE, and there will be regular opportunities to respond to written and spoken French.

Examinations are taken at the end of Year 11 in the four key skills. All carry an equal weighting of 25% and are available in both higher and foundation tiers. Foundation tier will test grades 5-1, higher will test grades 9-4. Students will be entered for one tier across all four papers.

FUTURE CAREERS

A qualification in French can lead to many opportunities. Many university courses now include language modules within their Arts and Science degrees. Languages help to develop confidence, communication and problem solving skills. Languages also combine well with other GCSE subjects and further education courses.

Languages are nationally a very highly regarded subject and a GCSE in this subject shows an ability to work hard and sustain concentration, whilst showing potential employers that you have many transferable skills and strong communication skills. A GCSE in a foreign language forms part of the Ebacc, a measure which sets the more academically able apart.

GCSE MUSIC

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

The course has three elements; listening; performing and composing. Each element is explored throughout the course. The four areas of study include: Western classical tradition 1650-1910, Popular music, Traditional music and Western Classical tradition since 1910.

All pupils taking this course should already be skilled and be grade 3+ standard in playing an instrument or using their voice and having lessons on that instrument and therefore will be encouraged to have **further lessons** in their chosen instrument. These can be provided through the school, or taken privately on a regular basis.

DETAILS OF ASSESSMENT

Component	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Component 1: Understanding Music	Listening exam in Year 11	• 40% of GCSE (Section A Listening, Section B Contextual Understanding).
Component 2: Performing Music	• **Performance 1** – Solo • **Performance 2** – Ensemble (Minimum of 4 minutes in total = equivalent to grade 3+ standard)	• 30% of GCSE
Component 3: Composing Music	• **Composition 1** – composition to a brief in Year 11. • **Composition 2** – free composition. Minimum 3 minutes, maximum 4 minutes 30 seconds in total.	• 30% of GCSE
Controlled Assessment: Composition	There are two pieces of coursework to be completed within time limits.	• **Task 1 - Completed in Year 11:** Composition is directed by the examination board in terms of content. • **Task 2 - Completed in Year 10:** Composition is directed by the areas of study • 30% of GCSE

ARE THERE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ENTRY?
Music has just one tier of entry.

GCSE – PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

In GCSE psychology pupils will study the following broad areas:

Cognition and behaviour:

- memory
- perception
- development
- research methods

Social context and behaviour:

- social influence
- language, thought and communication
- brain and neuropsychology
- psychological problems

DETAILS OF ASSESSMENT

Paper	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Paper 1: **Cognition and behaviour**	- memory - perception - development - research methods Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.	- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks 50% of GCSE **Questions** **Section A**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks) **Section B**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks) **Section C**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks) **Section D**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)
Paper 2: **Social context and behaviour**	- social influence - language, thought and communication - brain and neuropsychology - psychological problems Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.	- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE **Questions** **Section A**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks) **Section B**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks) **Section C**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks) **Section D**: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all exams at the end of the course.

Technical Award - HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

EXAM BOARD - PEARSON (for more information visit **http://qualifications.pearson.com/gcse**)

This award prepares pupils who may wish to have a career in the health and social care industry, or in an early years setting (e.g. a nursery).

However, due to the nature of the course, and the level of study, the course is applicable to anybody with an interest in how, as human beings, we are influenced by everything around us. This course is a pathway to a large variety of career options and can also lead directly on to a higher level college course or apprenticeship in the industry.

The course consists of 3 components:

What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Component 1: Human Lifespan Development	• Controlled assessment • 30% of award
Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values	• Controlled assessment • 30% of award
Component 3: Health and wellbeing	• Externally assessed • 40% of award

DETAILS OF ASSESSMENT

This course is a combination of controlled assessment tasks and one external examination task.

There are 2 levels of entry. Grades - Pass, merit, distinction, distinction*

REMINDER

It is **essential** that candidates who opt for this course organise at least one week of their Year 10 work experience in an appropriate health, social care or early years setting, as determined by the examination board controlled assessment criteria for component 2.

Technical Award - IT

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

This qualification will study the fundamental aspects required in the three important IT occupational areas: Creative, Data Management and Technical. Each area will cover the theory behind the topic in depth with a mixture of real life case studies, practical tasks and a study of theoretical concepts, enabling students to develop their IT knowledge, understanding and skills. Learning will take place in a vocational context, allowing students to create products or artefacts that demonstrate their ability to put theory into practice.

The occupational areas have been chosen from industry research showing current shortages of skilled people within the creative, data management and technical areas.

Two units are internally assessed, the third is externally assessed.		
	What is assessed?	**How is it assessed?**
Unit 1: Understanding IT systems	**A range of core IT skills.** Creative - creating a website or creating an interactive entertainment product. Data management - creating a spreadsheet and creating a database. Technical - creating a small office network and building and configuring a PC.	• Internally assessed • 36 GLH approx • 60 marks • 30% of Technical Award
Unit 2: Creating IT systems	**Learners' ability.** This unit focuses on one occupational area with a view to developing understanding and skills in designing, creating, testing and evaluating a complete IT system to meet the requirements of an end user.	• Internally assessed • 36 GLH approx • 60 marks • 30% of Technical Award
Unit 3: Fundamentals of IT	**The core knowledge and understanding of the course studied:** • IT systems • Hardware • Software • Networks • Securing IT systems • Data and information • Emerging technologies	• Externally assessed • Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 48 GLH approx • 80 marks • 40% of Technical Award

Technical Award - MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

This course allows pupils to have the opportunity to develop skills in making high quality products using woods, metals and polymers.

They will be expected to make a range of products, prototypes and samples, applying their skills and technical knowledge to ensure that the product is fit for purpose.

Pupils will have the opportunity to use traditional craft skills and modern technologies.

Upon leaving school, pupils can progress from this course onto A- Level Product Design, or BTEC courses in Engineering, or Construction and the Built Environment.

DETAILS OF ASSESSMENT

Unit	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Unit 1: Skills Demonstration	Pupils will complete several mini projects in Year 10 that will allow them to be assessed against 12 practical skills.	• 30% of GCSE
Unit 2: Extended Making Project	Pupils will complete an extended making task during Year 11. This will showcase the skills that they have developed in Unit 1. Pupils will produce a practical outcome plus a small portfolio of evidence to show planning, development, testing and evaluation of the product.	• 30% of GCSE
Unit 3: Examination	The examination will test pupils' knowledge and understanding of materials, manufacturing processes and career opportunities related to the subject.	• One exam lasting 1.5 hours • 40% of GCSE

ARE THERE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ENTRY?

This is a level 2 course but pupils who do not gain sufficient marks to achieve this level will certificate at level 1.

Technical Award - SPORT

EXAM BOARD - EDEXCEL (for more information visit **http://qualifications.pearson.com/gcse**)

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport is a high-quality work-related qualification, offering unique progression and career opportunities for students who wish to work in the sport and leisure sector. Highly transferable and recognised by employers, colleges and universities, Technical Award qualifications are suitable for anyone who wants to take sport seriously. The qualification prepares young people for careers in the sports sector.

ASSESSMENT

- The Level 2 First Award in Sport Course consists of 75% Internal Assessment (through assignment based evidence) and 25% External Assessment (through an online exam set by the board).
- The assignments allow the student to demonstrate they have skills and knowledge to achieve a Level 1, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction and Level 2 Distinction* Grade.
- At the end of the course, the student's assignment grades are placed together to determine the overall grade for their qualification.
- Students will complete 4 units of work to achieve their qualification.

Unit	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Content Method of Assessment Fitness for Sport and Exercise	• Knowledge of the components of fitness and the principles of training. • Explore different fitness training methods. • Investigate fitness testing to determine fitness levels.	Externally assessed using an onscreen test. Edexcel sets and marks the test. The test lasts for one hour and has 50 marks.
Practical Sports Performance	• Understanding the rules, regulations and scoring systems for selected sports. • Practically demonstrate skills, techniques and tactics in selected sports. • Be able to review sports performance.	Assessed internally through assignment based evidence and externally verified by Edexcel.
Training for Personal Fitness	• Design a personal fitness training programe. • Know about exercise adherence factors and strategies for continued training success • Implement a self-designed personal fitness training programme to achieve own goals and objectives • Review a personal fitness training programme.	Assessed internally through assignment based evidence and externally verified by Edexcel.
Leading Sports Activities	• Knowledge of the attributes associated with successful sports leadership • Undertake the planning and leading of sports activities • Review the planning and leading of sports activities.	Assessed internally through assignment based evidence and externally verified by Edexcel.

SUMMARY
The qualification is equivalent to 1 GCSE and offers a direct progression on to BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Sport. The qualification also offers learners an opportunity in the leisure sector for employment.

Technical Award - VISUAL COMMUNICATION

EXAM BOARD – AQA (for more information visit **www.aqa.org.uk**)

This course focuses on developing drawing, design and layout skills. Pupils have the opportunity to use traditional skills such as drawing and sketching in 2D and 3D and also modern technologies such as CAD, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator and web design.

The course is designed for pupils who want to study graphics in a practical and imaginative way, developing graphic design skills needed to create materials for marketing and promotion.

Upon leaving school, pupils can progress from this course onto A- Level Product Design or Graphics or BTEC courses in Graphics.

HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	What is assessed?	How is it assessed?
Unit 1: Skills Demonstration	Pupils will complete several mini projects in Year 10 that will allow them to be assessed against 12 practical skills.	• 30% of GCSE
Unit 2: Extended Making Project	Pupils will complete an extended task during Year 11. This will showcase the skills that they have developed in Unit 1. Pupils will produce a practical outcome plus a small portfolio of evidence to show planning, development, testing and evaluation of the product.	• 30% of GCSE
Unit 3: Examination	Pupils' knowledge and understanding of visual communication techniques, graphics materials, manufacturing processes, social and environmental issues, health and safety, and career opportunities related to the subject.	• One exam lasting 1.5 hours • 40% of GCSE

ARE THERE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ENTRY?

This is a level 2 course but pupils who do not gain sufficient marks to achieve this level will certificate at level 1.

Please note that parents will be asked to make a contribution towards the cost of consumable materials. (£10 per year.)