



Kelmscott School

“Putting Learning First”

Moving to Key Stage 4

Options Booklet

2026



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Introduction

Until now, choices about what you study have been made for you. However, when you choose your options, you start to take more control – and have more responsibility. This responsibility must be taken very seriously as the subjects you choose to study – and the ones you leave behind – may affect what you can do in the future.

It is time to start thinking about your career. You don't necessarily need to have a job in mind, just an idea of what you like doing and what you are good at. It can help you if you choose subjects that might be useful, and avoid missing a subject you might need later on. Above all, the decisions should be made in each individual student's best interest, balancing those subjects that are going to provide a wide range of opportunities further down the line of education and employment, with those that you most enjoy and have a particular ability in.

Choosing your subjects

- English, Maths, Science and core PE are compulsory
- Your choice may be from GCSEs or also from vocational qualifications such as Cambridge Nationals.
- Some may be subjects you don't know much about - for example, Ancient History

How your option choices may affect your future

A Levels

- Some A Levels need a GCSE in the same subject - for example, Art or French
- A Level Maths requires the GCSE Higher tier
- You need double award science or separate sciences to study A Level sciences

BTECs

- BTEC stands for Business and Technology Education Council and they offer vocational qualifications in areas such as work skills and health and social care
- You can do a BTEC - equivalent to one GCSE - alongside other GCSEs

University

- Most university degrees require at least five good GCSEs including Maths and English – some will accept alternatives like BTECs, others may not – so check course entry requirements carefully
- Primary teaching degrees require GCSE Science as well as Maths and English (plus two others) and some want 'good' grades (5 or above) in one of these, and some say a language is 'desirable'
- A language is also useful for accountancy, air cabin crew, computer games testing, fashion and law

Apprenticeships

By taking an apprenticeship you go straight into your chosen career. You get on-the-job training, which gives you the chance to develop skills and gain relevant work experience. Plus, you get a formal qualification at the end of it. This could be a good alternative for you to choose when you finish Kelmescott at 16.

There are three levels of apprenticeship:

- Intermediate apprenticeships - equivalent to 5 GCSEs 9-4
- Advanced apprenticeships - equivalent to 2 A' Levels
- Higher and degree apprenticeships - equivalent to university level education

The one you choose will depend on your current skills and qualifications. Complete a higher apprenticeship and you will earn a qualification that could be equivalent to a Master's degree. If you lack work experience or basic qualifications, you can also do a traineeship to gain experience before applying for an apprenticeship.

Bear the following in mind when choosing your Options:

- No subjects are 'easy' – find out exactly what you will be studying if you are unsure
- Choosing subjects just because your friends are doing them is not a good idea, they may have different aims than you and you may well be put in different sets.

GCSE Courses

GCSE stands for the General Certificate in Secondary Education. GCSEs are studied by most students in Years 10 and 11. These courses indicate that a student has achieved a certain level of general education and gives them a route into higher level qualifications such as A' Levels, BTECs, or a Modern Apprenticeship.

How you will be assessed

The majority of new GCSEs are assessed in examinations at the end of the two-year course. GCSEs are now reported on a grade of 9-1 (see below), with nine being the highest. Those students who do not achieve the standard required for a grade 1 are reported with a 'U' (Unclassified).

Note: An option course may not run if there is not enough uptake

The English Baccalaureate

To achieve the EBacc students need to attain:

- A grade 5 or above in English language GCSE and any grade in English literature GCSE
- A grade 5 or above in Mathematics GCSE
- A grade 5 or above in either History or Geography GCSE
- A grade 5 or above in a language GCSE
- A grade 5 or above in Double Award Science, or students need to enter three single sciences and achieve grade 5 or above in at least two of them (the single sciences are Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Physics)

EBacc subjects are indicated throughout the booklet in purple

NB: Some Russell Group universities (the top 20 universities in the UK) request that students have a foreign language as entry for all courses

Who to see for advice

Who to see for advice	What they can help you with
Tutors	General information and advice about careers and options
HOY/AHOY	General information and advice about careers and your option choices
Options Co-Ordinator (Ms Thorp)	Advice about picking or changing option subjects
Heads of Department	Information about specific subjects
Careers Advisers	Advice on careers and the qualifications they require

Making Choices

Am I guaranteed to get the subjects that I choose?

Unfortunately, if there are not enough students choosing a subject, we cannot run it - therefore, you may not get your first choice which makes your reserve choices just as important. Normally this doesn't happen to many students. We could limit the number of subjects we offer and make sure they all run but then we would limit your choice. It may be the case that two of the subjects you choose have to run on the timetable at the same time and this will mean you will have to choose between them. Again, this doesn't happen often. All students will be informed if they do not receive their first choice or reserve subjects.

- All courses need enough students to run.
- There are limited places in some subjects.
- As a result, we cannot guarantee that students will automatically be given all of their first preferences.
- Information in the booklet is accurate at the time of writing but the introduction of new national regulations may mean that amendments are made at a later stage. This is out of our control.
- Once your choices have been returned they will be checked individually to see that each student has chosen courses which are challenging and that offer a chance of success.
- This process does take some time and final confirmation of choices will be made in the Summer term.
- Students on the Enhanced English/Maths pathway will study three option subjects rather than four. When submitting subject choices online, this will be clearly indicated, as Enhanced will appear as the first option choice. Students enrolled on this pathway must not modify their first option choice.

What happens after?

After the deadline for the return of option choices, each student's chosen subjects will be scrutinised by the Options Coordinator, Head of Year 9 and Heads of Department to ensure that the choices that have been made are appropriate for each student.

On the following pages you will find more detailed information about each of the subjects to help inform your choices

Please note: The following subject combinations cannot be chosen:

- **Design & Technology and Engineering**
- **Computer Science and Information Technology**
- **Business Studies and Economics**
- **More than one Art & Design subject**
- **Modern History and Ancient History**

GCSE English

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: AQA

The course is 100% exam-based. There is no coursework, no early-entries and therefore no re-sits. There are also no tiers of entry, which means that all students will sit the same paper, regardless of ability or need.

The English Language exam is made up of 2 papers. One focuses on fiction and descriptive writing; the other focuses on non-fiction and argumentative/persuasive writing. Both papers are 1 hour and 45 minutes long. An ability to read is vital. Anyone with a reading age below 15 years-old will struggle with these exams.

The English Literature exam is made up of 2 exam papers. Students will study *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Macbeth*, *Power and Conflict* poetry and *Unseen Poetry*. One paper is 90 minutes and the other is 2 Hours 15 minutes. Students will NOT be allowed to take the texts into the exam with them. Therefore, they MUST know the set texts very well. The texts are very challenging and students with a low reading age will struggle to access them. Therefore, it is vital that all students continue to improve their reading ages.

Enhanced English

Enhanced English provides additional English support for selected students.

Students in this group will be taught English skills that will work alongside and combine with what they are learning in their main English classes and help to consolidate their learning.

Ultimately, this course will support students in achieving or exceeding their minimum target grade.

Please email Mr Hogg, Head of English, for more information: d.hogg@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Mathematics

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: AQA

In line with the new GCSE specifications, GCSE Mathematics is now harder and more demanding for all students. The major changes to the curriculum include an increase in the volume and demand of subject content as well as an increase in examination time and a new grading structure.

There is now a greater emphasis on problem solving and mathematical reasoning with more marks being allocated to these higher order skills.

How is Mathematics taught at Kelmscott?

The Maths department follows a mastery approach in the delivery and teaching of Mathematics. The department follows the White Rose Maths schemes of learning in years 7-9, where we seek to provide students with the foundation to acquire a deep long term and secure understanding of the subject.

Methodology and aims:

To use mastery principles such as concrete manipulatives and representations of mathematical ideas, alongside more abstract concepts to help students develop in their understanding of mathematics, and to make connections within the broad body of knowledge that they encounter.

To make the learning of Maths engaging and to captivate the imaginations of students through the exploration and connection of mathematical ideas.

The long-term aim is to develop well rounded students, confident in the application of their mathematical knowledge both inside the classroom as well as the real world.

What Curriculum is taught at both Key stages 4?

At Key stage 4 (GCSE) the Maths department follow the OCR (Cambridge) Specification of learning. This is a two-year course that builds on the progress made by students at Key Stage 3.

Broadly speaking the mathematics specification can be broken down into 5 strands, namely:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio & Proportion
- Geometry
- Statistics

How are students assessed?

At key stage 4 students are assessed using OCR 'check in tests' at the end of units taught. The final GCSE assessment comprises of the following:

- 3 x 90-minute papers at both Foundation & Higher tiers
- 2 x calculator papers and 1 non-calculator paper
- All papers carry 100 marks and are equally weighted

Students sitting Foundation can achieve grades 1-5

Students sitting Higher tier can achieve grades 3-9

Are students taught in sets or mixed ability groups?

In year 11 students are set by ability. In year 10 we set by ability for higher tier and have mixed ability groups for Foundation tier students. This set-up best allows teachers to support students.

What resources do we use to support students' learning?

The Maths department uses **the SPARX Maths** learning platform as the main source of homework and independent learning/student revision. It is a comprehensive online learning tool which presents the curriculum in a carefully sequenced, scaffolded and connected manner for both teachers and students. It contains many exciting features including 'Memri' and 'fix up 5' which help students embed knowledge into their long-term memories and address areas where they are struggling the most.

Teachers are also able to set homework through the google classroom platform to support students' learning needs.

What extra-curricular activities are offered by the Maths department?

The Maths department offers sessions to help prepare students for the UKMT Maths challenge. We have also re-launched the Further Maths provision. This is a free standing Maths qualification to help students bridge the gap between GCSE and A' Level maths.

Enhanced Maths

Enhanced Maths provides additional Maths support for selected students.

Students in this group will be taught Maths skills that will supplement with what they are learning in their main Maths classes and will help to consolidate their learning.

Students will deepen their knowledge in the core Maths strands of Number, Algebra and Ratio & Proportional reasoning and have the opportunity to practice materials that will help them become exam ready.

Ultimately, this course will support students in achieving or exceeding their minimum target grade and help equip students with the grade they need to access suitable courses at post-16 entry.

Please email Mr Rumjon, Head of Maths, for more information: j.rumjon@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: AQA

This specification is designed to be taken over two years. This is a linear qualification. In order to achieve the award, students must complete all assessments at the end of the course and in the same series.

The qualification will be graded on a 17-point scale: 9-9 to 1-1 – where 9-9 is the best grade. A student taking Foundation tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 5-5 to 1-1. Students who fail to reach the minimum standard for grade 1-1 will be recorded as 'U' (unclassified) and will not receive a qualification certificate. A student taking Higher tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 9-9 to 4-4. A student sitting the Higher Tier who just fails to achieve grade 4-4 will be awarded an allowed grade 4-3. Students who fail to reach the minimum standard for the allowed grade 4-3 will be recorded as 'U' (unclassified) and will not receive a qualification certificate.

Aims

Courses based on this specification should encourage students to:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding of science
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science
- develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem-solving skills, both in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments
- develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively

Topics

Biology: Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology

Chemistry: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure, and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere, using resources

Physics: Forces, energy, waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, particle model of matter, atomic structure

How is the course assessed?

There are six papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics; each paper has:

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

What careers does this course lead to?

Courses based on this specification form a firm basis for level 3 courses in the sciences such as AS and A' Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Please email Mr Ngirandi, Head of Key Stage 4 Science, for more information:

w.ngirandi@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Triple Science

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: AQA

This specification is one of a suite of GCSE Science specifications offered by AQA. The specification leads to three single awards: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics.

Each of these single award GCSEs would provide the basis for the study of the corresponding GCE science. Each of these sciences emphasise explaining, theorising and modelling in science.

Aims

Courses based on this specification should encourage students to:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding of science
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science
- develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem-solving skills, both in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments
- develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively

GCSE Biology:

Topics: Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology

How is the course assessed?

There are two papers, each paper has:

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

GCSE Chemistry:

Topics: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure, and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere, using resources

How is the course assessed?

There are two papers, each paper has:

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

GCSE Physics:

Topics: Forces, energy, waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, particle model of matter, atomic structure, and space physics

How is the course assessed?

There are two papers, each paper has:

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

What careers does this course lead to?

A course based on this specification provides a worthwhile course for candidates of various ages and from diverse backgrounds in terms of general education and lifelong learning. It will follow naturally from a course based on the programme of study for KS3 Science. From a GCSE course, students could progress to GCE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Students can then progress onto science based careers for example: Doctor, Nurse, Dentist, Vet, Science Teacher, Engineer, Science Researcher or Pilot.

Please email Mr Ngirandi, Head of Key Stage 4 Science, for more information:

w.ngirandi@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Religion, Philosophy & Ethics

Exam board: Pearson

The students at Kelmscott School will have two solid years of specific and intensive study to prepare them for their Religious Studies GCSE. The course focuses on a study of Christianity, Islam and Humanist Philosophy and their impact on society's beliefs, customs and practices.

Aims

This course of study encourages students to:

- Objectively analyse issues surrounding belief and lack of belief in God, issues connected to life, death and the afterlife and how it impacts on people's everyday lives
- Discuss critically the impact and role that religion and philosophy has on issues within society, for example: marriage, family, community cohesion, law and politics, medicine, situation ethics, the environment, and crime and punishment
- Develop a range of skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for progression to further learning

Topics

- Christian and Muslim beliefs
- Matters of life and death
- Marriage and the family
- Living a Christian life/Living a Muslim life
- Peace and conflict on a world scale
- Crime and punishment

How is the course assessed?

GCSE Religion, Philosophy and Ethics full course has eight units which will be examined in two exams as a written paper. The exams are 1 hour 45 minutes

What careers does this course lead to?

Students who do Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Key Stage 4 can then study AS and A' level in Religious Studies, Philosophy and a range of other humanities subjects such as Sociology, History, Geography and English. The course gives students the opportunity to develop skills in evaluation and consideration of issues from a range of perspectives. These skills are highly valued by a range of employers. Students could potentially go on to have a career in theology (religious leader), teaching, counselling, writing, television or radio broadcasting, social work, philosophy, politics and journalism.

Please email Ms Passa, Head of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics, for more information:

s.passa@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Geography

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: OCR Syllabus B

Geography is the study of broad physical and human patterns of activity, it is a subject for enquiring minds, a subject that investigates some of the larger issues of today and the future, for example climate change and urban redevelopment.



There are three sections to the syllabus:

- Our natural world (includes global hazards, changing climate, landscapes, ecosystems)
- People and Society (includes urban areas, development, UK in the 21 century, resources)
- Geographical exploration (includes fieldwork and a decision making exercise. This includes two fieldtrips, usually to Stratford and Epping Forest that give students information to answer the exam skills-based questions)

There are three written papers, 1 hour 30 minutes for each of the three exam papers.

This is an Ebacc subject, literacy based with numeracy content. Students have to show initiative and independence when completing fieldwork tasks and questions.

After completing the fieldwork units in year 10, we run a further fieldtrip in year 11, investigating some of the issues in London. Previously we have visited London Docklands and the Kings Cross redevelopment.

At college, Geography forms part of pathways with the sciences (through the environment), with humanities to subjects like law and journalism, or economics with its focus on global patterns and the future.

Please email Mr Paine, Head of Geography, for more information: j.paine@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Modern History



This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: Pearson

The History GCSE course teaches students about some of the key events that have shaped Britain and the modern world. The course focuses on teaching students how to research, support and develop an argument, and to interpret and question the world around them. Further, in the History department we try to include off-site teaching and trips into our courses, wherever possible.

Students follow a course in '*The Making of the Modern World*'. Specifically, students will study:

- Crime and Punishment through Time (1000-present)
- Early Elizabethan England (1558-88)
- Superpower Relations and the Cold War (1943-91)
- Mao's China (1945-76)

How is this course assessed?

- 100% of the grade for this course will be from the exams taken at the end of year 11.
- There will be three papers sat:
 - > Paper 1 worth 30% (Crime and Punishment),
 - > paper 2 worth 40% (Cold War and Elizabethan England)
 - > Paper 3 worth 30% (Mao's China).

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in history is good preparation for AS and A' Levels in History, Humanities and Law.

At the end of this course, students can go on to study a History-related course at Sixth form or college and then progress on to a career using the analytical skills developed, for example by studying law, media, politics, archaeology, social work and teaching.

Finally, don't forget Prime Ministers Gordon Brown and Tony Blair both had degrees in History!

Please email Ms Briand, Head of History, for more information: m.briand@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Ancient History



This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: OCR

The GCSE course in Ancient History will be looking at ancient Roman and Greek civilizations and how they interacted with societies around them. We hope it will also incorporate learning at heritage sites locally, nationally and maybe even internationally.

Specifically, this course will be looking at ancient artefacts and documents that re-awaken students' awareness of the world of Julius Caesar and Cleopatra, the Romans, Alexander the Great and the Persian Empire which they may previously have studied at Key Stage 2.

This GCSE is recognised as a leading academic qualification.

This course will involve handling original documents; this requires the utilisation of quite advanced skills. Students will find it advantageous to be working to at least a grade 5 or above in both History and English with a reading age of 15 years old or above to best tackle this enjoyable but challenging course. Students are advised to speak to their History teacher and undertake some preparatory reading before choosing this option.

How is the course assessed?

- Over years 10 and 11 students will prepare for written exams at the end of year 11. The written exams will focus on stories about the Origins of Rome, Cleopatra and Julius Caesar, Classical Greece and the Persian Empire
- The exam is divided in two – Component 1: Rome and its neighbours, and Component 2: Greece and Persia
- Both exams are worth 50% of students' total GCSE grade

What careers does this course lead to?

A qualification in the Classics is a pre-requisite for many courses at the elite universities and is excellent preparation for professional employment and further academic study.

Note: This course would be ideal for students thinking about taking History, Literature or Archaeology at college

Please email Ms Briand, Head of History, for more information: m.briand@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Spanish

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: Pearson

GCSE Spanish teaches students how to speak, read and write in Spanish. The course covers topics relating to personal life, family, home, leisure, school, work, holidays and personal interests. It gives students an insight into the culture of Spain and the countries of Latin America. GCSE Spanish also prepares students for travel, visits to, and work in Spanish speaking countries. Students develop fluency and a greater depth of knowledge of the Spanish language through practicing their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Being able to communicate in a foreign language is a key skill which has become an entry requirement for some professions and universities.

It is expected that by the end of year 11 students should be able to take part in discussions in Spanish where opinions are shared.

Students will need to buy a Spanish-English bilingual dictionary for use in lessons, at home and with their coursework.

We organised a very successful study trip to Barcelona for GCSE students in 2026 and we hope to repeat this in the future.

How is the course assessed?

- The examinations for listening, reading, speaking and writing take place at the end of year 11

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Spanish is a good preparation for A' Level Spanish or for anybody considering a career in travel, leisure & tourism, business, law, IT, engineering, retailing, journalism, medical, fashion, politics and the arts.

At the end of the course students can go on to study Spanish at college and then progress on to a career using Spanish, e.g. travel agent, tour organiser, airline worker, airport official, wine and food importer, art gallery manager, international events organiser, diplomat or Spanish teacher.

Employers value workers who can speak a foreign language. Some Russell Group universities (the top 20 universities in the UK) request a foreign language as entry for all courses. A language is a skill for life!

Please email Mr Ravoux, Head of Languages, for more information: d.ravoux@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE French

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: AQA

GCSE French teaches students how to speak, read and write in French. The course covers topics relating to personal life and interests, as well as preparing students for travel, visits and work in French speaking countries. It gives students an insight into the culture of France and francophone countries. Students are also prepared to live in a multi-cultural society where communication in different languages is a key skill for employment and for entrance to some universities. Students develop fluency and a greater depth of knowledge of the French language through practicing their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

It is expected that by the end of year 11 students should be able to take part in discussions in French where opinions are shared.

Students benefit from developing their listening and speaking skills by working with a French assistant.

Students will need to buy a French-English bilingual dictionary for use in lessons, at home and with their coursework.

How is the course assessed?

- The examinations for listening, reading, speaking and writing take place at the end of year 11

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in French is a good preparation for A' Level French. A GCSE in French is also useful for anybody considering a career in travel, leisure & tourism, business, retailing, journalism, restaurant work, fashion, politics, IT, engineering and law. A qualification in a foreign language is a skill for life that is transferable to many professions, especially nowadays where communication is vital. At the end of the course students can go on to study French at college and then progress into a career using French, for example travel agent, airport official, fashion house rep, international banker, chef, personal assistant, diplomat or French Teacher. Employers value workers who can speak another language. Many universities also prioritise applicants who have previously studied a foreign language. Some Russell Group universities (the top 20 universities in the UK) request a foreign language as entry for all courses.

Please email Mr Ravoux, Head of Languages, for more information: d.ravoux@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Urdu

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: AQA

GCSE Urdu teaches students how to speak, read and write in Urdu. This is an Ebacc subject. The course covers topics relating to personal life, family, home, leisure, school, work, holidays and personal interests. GCSE Urdu also prepares students for travel, visits and work in Pakistan, or for jobs working with the Pakistani community. Students develop fluency and a greater depth of knowledge of the Urdu language through practising their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

It is expected that by the end of year 11 students should be able to take part in discussions in Urdu where opinions are shared.

Students will need to buy an Urdu-English dictionary for use in lessons and at home.

How is the course assessed?

- Exams take place at the end of year 11
- The exams cover listening, reading, writing and speaking

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Urdu is a good preparation for AS' Level and A' Level Urdu. A GCSE in Urdu is also useful for anybody considering a career in travel, leisure & tourism, business, retailing, IT, engineering, politics, social work and interpreting and translation work.

At the end of the course students can go on to study Urdu at college and then progress on to a career using Urdu, for example travel agent, airline worker, airport official, community worker, social work, Urdu teacher, translator, working in an import and export business, the Civil Service or as a diplomat.

Employers value workers who can speak a Foreign Language. Some Russell Group universities (the top 20 universities in the UK) request a foreign language as entry for all courses.

Please email Mr Ravoux, Head of Languages, for more information: d.ravoux@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Latin



This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: OCR

GCSE Latin is available as a full-time option for students to take and follows the OCR syllabus.

Students will not only study grammar, but also a selection of prose and poetry written in Latin. This unique approach to studying a language and its literature is both challenging and rewarding. The skills developed are also highly transferable to other subjects, particularly English.

Students sit 3 examinations:

The language paper is worth 50% of the marks overall and students must:

- answer comprehension questions on unseen passages about history and mythology
- translate an unseen passage
- either translate some short sentences in Latin or identify grammar and syntax from a sentence

The two literature papers are each worth 25% of the overall marks and students must:

- develop responses to the original Latin texts
- answer comprehension questions
- translate a short passage

The texts we will study this year are:

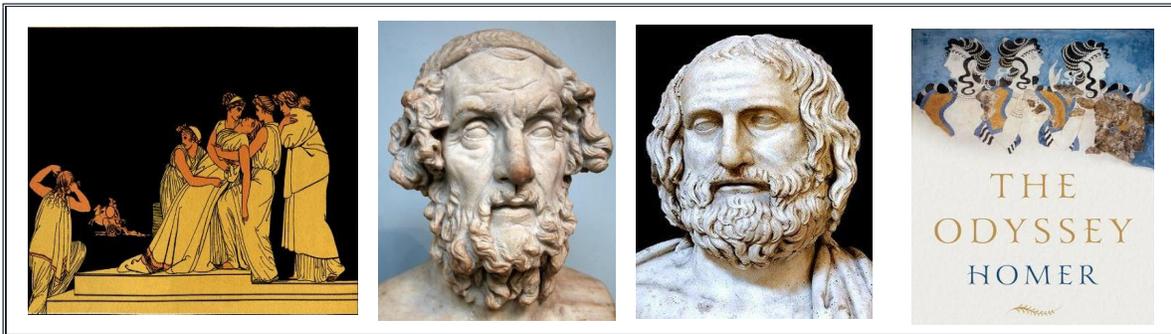
Prose - Cupid and Psyche (extract from Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*) - a story of magic and witchcraft, focusing on the relationship between the god Cupid and the mortal Psyche. These two give way to two quite well known words in English; you will discover more as you read this enticing text.

Verse - The Aeneid by Virgil. Regarded as one of the greatest works in the history of literature, Virgil's epic poem tells the legendary story of Aeneas, a Trojan who flees the fall of Troy and must overcome many challenges in his search for a new homeland. He travels to Italy, destined to found Rome. The section of the set text focuses on the story of the Trojan horse, a story students will undoubtedly be familiar with!

Studying this GCSE is a unique opportunity in a state school.

Please email Ms Kyrou, Head of Classics for more information: a.kyrou@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Classical Greek



This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: OCR

GCSE Classical Greek is available as a full-time option for students to take and follows the OCR syllabus.

Students will not only study grammar, but also a selection of prose and poetry written in Classical Greek. This unique approach to studying a language and its literature is both challenging and rewarding. The skills developed are also highly transferable to other subjects, particularly English.

The language paper is worth 50% of the marks overall and students must:

- answer comprehension questions on unseen passages about history and mythology
- translate an unseen passage
- either translate some short sentences in Classical Greek or identify grammar and syntax from a sentence

The two literature papers are each worth 25% of the overall marks and students must:

- develop responses to the original Classical Greek texts
- answer comprehension questions
- translate a short passage

The two texts we will study this year are:

Prose - Herodotus - extracts focusing on mortals' interactions with gods and oracles, including some themes of punishment and revenge. One character, however, may get saved by a dolphin!

Verse - The Odyssey by Homer. This poem is regarded as one of the most significant works in the history of literature. This extract deals with the hero Odysseus' encounter with the witch Circe as he's trapped on her island!

Studying this GCSE is a unique opportunity in a state school.

Please email Ms Kyrou, Head of Classics for more information: a.kyrou@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Classical Civilisation



The GCSE course in Classical Civilisation will provide students with a broad study of the culture of the classical world. They will study the literature and visual/material culture of Greece and Rome in order to develop an understanding of their social, historical and cultural contexts.

Specifically, this course will be looking at the 'Myth and Religion' and 'The Homeric World' units. Myth and religion explores the religion and mythology in the ancient Greek and Roman world, for example, the role of gods and heroes; the study of sacrifice, festivals, death and beliefs in the afterlife, and the remarkable temples and works of art. The second unit provides the opportunity to study Homer's *Odyssey* and study the life in Mycenaean times. The Mycenaean Age is rich in sculpture, frescos and jewellery, as well as the famous tombs and their treasure.

This GCSE is a very unique offer in state schools.

How is the course assessed?

- **Component Group 1:** Myth and Religion - this is a written test worth 90 marks (50% of the GCSE)
- **Component Group 2:** The Homeric World - this is a written test worth 90 marks (50% of the GCSE)

What careers does this course lead to?

A qualification in Classics provides you with relevant and transferable skills for a number of sectors, including museum, archaeology, legal, banking, film and television. This course would be ideal for students thinking about taking Classics at college and/or university.

Please email Ms Kyrou, Head of Classics for more information: a.kyrou@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Computer Science

This is an EBacc subject

Exam board: OCR

This course will help students prepare for the world of work in our continually changing society. GCSE Computer Science is now part of the Ebacc and can be counted as one of the Sciences that contribute towards the Ebacc qualification.

The course:

- Gives learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works
- Provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science
- Develop critical thinking, analysis, logic and problem-solving skills

Students intending to study A Level Computing should study GCSE Computer Science instead of the Vocational IT course.

How is the course assessed?

The course is divided up into 2 components:

- **Component 01** – Computer Systems
Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science. **(50%, 1 hour 30-minute exam)**
- **Component 02** – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming
Students develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators. **(50%, 1 hour 30-minute exam)**

The GCSE grades awarded for Computing range from GCSE grade 9-1 (highest grade is 9).

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Computer Science is a good preparation for AS' Level and A' Level Computer Science as well as BTEC Level 3 Computing.

At the end of the course, students can go on to study Computer Science, or a course which involves analytical thinking and then progress on to a career using the skills developed through the study and application of Computer Science, for example, computer programming, software designer, program analyst, computer network management, computer sales, or any job using computer technology.

Please email Mr Lowe, Head of Computing, for more information: r.lowe@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Vocational Information Technology

Course: Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT (Technical Award) **Exam board:** Eduqas

ICT skills are required for success both in the workplace and in higher education. This course will provide learners the opportunity to develop their skill set using various software packages as well as learn about computer systems. It is extremely popular nationally and will provide an exciting challenge for those who want to enhance their ICT skills. The majority of the course is practical though there is an examined element worth 40% of the final mark.

How is the course assessed?

It is the equivalent of a GCSE and the course is divided into two components:

- **Unit 1:** ICT in Society (40%, examination, 1 hour 20 minutes, 80 marks, sat at the end of year 11)
- **Unit 2:** ICT in Context (60%, controlled assessment completed within lessons, task set by Eduqas, 120 marks, practice controlled assessment in year 10 followed by live controlled assessment in year 11)

How is the course graded?

The course is graded from L2 D* to L1 P

Grade	Equivalent in GCSE
L2 Distinction*	8
L2 Distinction	7
L2 Merit	5
L2 Pass	4
L1 Distinction*	3
L1 Distinction	3
L1 Merit	2
L1 Pass	1

How can this qualification help me when I leave school?

This qualification is especially useful for those who are thinking of a career in ICT and who may wish to study a Level 3 vocational ICT course at college. It is also extremely useful for anyone who wishes to pursue an apprenticeship, start their own business or start work early as the skills developed in this course will no doubt be in demand.

Those who wish to study A-Level Computer Science are advised **not** to do this course and do GCSE Computer Science instead.

Main differences between ICT and Computer Science GCSE

GCSE Computer Science is 100% exam based and has a programming task. The Vocational award course is only 40% exam based and 60% is controlled assessment.

Entry Requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for this course but we do expect all students to show enthusiasm and a willingness and desire to develop their IT skills.

Please email Mr Lowe, Head of Computing, for more information: r.lowe@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Business

Exam board: OCR

If you enjoy:

- Communicating and explaining your ideas
- Thinking creatively and making decisions
- Working with numbers to solve business problems
- Learning about the world of business through real and relevant local and international brands

... Then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you.

Course Structure

The course consists of two units

Unit 1: Investigating Small Business

This unit concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

Students will cover this unit during Year 10. This unit contains five topics:

Written Examination: 105 minutes	50% of qualification (90 marks)
Content overview Topic 1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship Topic 1.2 Spotting a business opportunity Topic 1.3 Putting a business idea into practice Topic 1.4 Making the business effective Topic 1.5 Understanding external influences on business	
Assessment overview The paper is divided into three sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Section A: 35 marks•Section B: 30 marks•Section C: 25 marks	
The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions. Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts given in the paper. Calculators may be used in the examination.	

Unit 2: Building a Business

This unit examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with an emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. It also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

Students will cover this unit during Year 11. This unit contains five topics:

Written Examination: 105 minutes	50% of qualification (90 marks)
Content overview Topic 2.1 Growing the business Topic 2.2 Making marketing decisions Topic 2.3 Making product decisions Topic 2.4 Making financial decisions Topic 2.5 Making human resource decisions	
Assessment overview The paper is divided into three sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A: 35 marks• Section B: 30 marks• Section C: 25 marks	
The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions. Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts given in the paper. Calculators may be used in the examination.	

This GCSE qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total subject mark where 9 is the highest grade.

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Business is a good preparation for AS and A' Level Business Studies, Economics, Accounting, Law, Business and Management, Computing and ICT, and Finance courses.

At the end of this course students can go on to study business related courses at college then progress a career in business, for example banker, accountant, estate agent, financial adviser, insurance broker, production manager or finance officer.

Please email Mr Caceres, Head of Business and Economics, for more information:
m.caceres@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Vocational Business

Name of course: Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Enterprise and Marketing

Exam board: OCR

Vocational Business will introduce students to the world of Enterprise and Marketing to acquire the relevant business skills needed for the business industry. It has been developed to enthuse and inspire learners about a career in business and enterprise. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to either set up their own business, move into employment or progress onto A Level/Level 3 BTEC Business and University.

How is the course assessed?

It is the equivalent of a GCSE and students will complete all 3 units below

Unit 1: Enterprise and marketing concepts – 40% external exam

You will develop essential knowledge and understanding of enterprise and marketing concepts. You will understand the main activities that will need to happen to support a start-up business, and what the key factors are to consider when starting up a business. This unit is assessed as an external exam which is set and marked by OCR.

Unit 2: Design a Business Proposal – 30% controlled assessment (coursework)

You will develop the skills to design a business proposal to meet a specific business challenge. You will identify a customer profile for a specific product, complete market research to generate product design ideas, and use financial calculations to propose a pricing strategy and determine the viability of their product proposal.

Unit 3: Market and Pitch a Business Proposal – 30% controlled assessment (coursework)

You will develop the skills to create a brand identity and promotional plan for your specific business product proposal developed from unit 2. You will develop pitching skills in order to pitch your business proposal to an external audience. Finally, you will review your pitching skills and business proposal using your learning, self- assessment and feedback gathered.

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

Grade	Equivalent in GCSE
L2 Distinction*	8
L2 Distinction	7
L2 Merit	6
L2 Pass	4/5
L1 Distinction	3
L1 Merit	2
L1 Pass	1

What careers does this course lead to?

Vocational Business is a good preparation either for employment or more advanced study at college. At the end of the course, students can go on to college and then progress into a business related career, for example accounting, administration, customer service, management trainee, finance and IT related jobs, retail or sales.

Please email Mr Lowe, Head of Computing & IT, for more information: r.lowe@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Economics

Exam Board: OCR

The GCSE Economics course is designed to enable students to develop the following:

- understand how markets operate and the roles of consumers, producers or workers within markets
- understand how the economy works nationally and globally and the levers employed by governments to reach desired social and economic objectives
- actively engage in the study of Economics to develop as effective, self-motivated students, and as critical, reflective thinkers with enquiring minds, able to distinguish between fact and opinion
- understand and apply their economic knowledge and skills to investigate current and historical economic situations and issues in a range of national and global contexts
- build economic arguments, making informed judgements by using economic concepts and quantitative evidence through the use, application and interpretation of data
- understand the perspectives of different economic agents, including consumers, producers and government in relation to economic activity
- read economic articles to appreciate how leading economists approach economic problems
- consider moral, ethical and sustainability issues that arise as a result of the impact of economic activity.

Course Structure

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
Introduction to Economics The role of markets and money	Introduction to Economics 80 marks 1 hour 30 minute written paper	50% of total GCSE
Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
Economic objectives and the role of government International trade and the global economy	National and International Economics 80 marks 1 hour 30 minute written paper	50% of total GCSE

A learner's overall qualification grade for GCSE (9–1) in Economics will be calculated by adding together their marks from the two components taken to give their total weighted mark where 9 is the highest grade.

What careers does this course lead to?

At the end of the course, students can go on to college to study economics, government and politics, finance, accountancy and/or other business related courses. They can progress to a career in related fields for example as an economist, stock broker, accountant, journalist, civil servant or teacher of Economics, business studies and humanities.

Please email Mr Caceres, Head of Business and Economics, for more information:
m.caceres@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Physical Education

Exam Board: AQA

The GCSE Physical Education course consists of 2 externally-examined papers and 2 non-examined (moderated) assessment components.

The 4 components are as follows:

Theory

1. Fitness & Body Systems: Applied anatomy & physiology/Movement Analysis/Physical training/Use of Data
2. Health & Performance: Health, Fitness and Well-being/Sport Psychology/Social-cultural influences/Use of Data

Practical & Coursework

3. Practical Performance: Performance in 3 different sports
4. Analysis & Evaluation of Performance: Written coursework where students analyse the strengths and weaknesses of their sporting performance and evaluate how to improve the weaknesses.

Students studying GCSE PE are expected to take part in lunchtime and after-school sports clubs and activities.

How is the course assessed?

Theory – 60% Practical – 30% A&E of Performance coursework– 10%

- Component 1: 30% - Exam paper
- Component 2: 30% - Exam paper
- Component 3: 30% - Practical
- Component 4: 10% - Analysis & Evaluation of Performance

The grades awarded for GCSE Physical Education range from GCSE grade 9-1.

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Physical Education is a good preparation for AS' Levels, A' Levels and advanced vocational courses in Sports, Physical Education and Leisure. It will also help with students wanting to do A' Level Biology.

At the end of the course, students can go on to study a sports related course at college, as well as A' Level Physical Education and then progress on to a career in nutrition, physiotherapy, personal training, sport, leisure, PE teaching or coaching.

Please email Mr Fuschillo, Head of Physical Education, for more information:

b.fuschillo@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Design & Technology

Exam board: Pearson

Topics/units covered

GCSE Design and Technology covers a wide range of activities based on designing and making products that are manufactured using any of the following material categories:

- Metals
- Papers and boards
- Polymers
- Systems
- Textiles
- Timbers



Over the course of two years, students will develop a whole range of creative designing and making skills, technical knowledge and understanding. The course builds on prior knowledge gained from Textiles, Resistant Materials and Electronics, studied from Year 7 through to Year 9. Students will also have the opportunity to apply knowledge from other subject areas.

This course is made up of two components as detailed below:

Component 1

This is a written exam that is worth 50% of the qualification. The exam will be 1 hour 45 minutes long and will be marked out of 100. It will consist of 2 sections, which are, the **Core Content** and the **Material Categories**.

The Core Content

This section is worth 40 marks and contains a mixture of different question styles, such as:

- open-response
- graphical
- calculation and extended-open-response questions

There will be 10 marks for calculation questions in the exam. The exam questions will also focus on all the material categories listed above in the **Topics/Units covered** section.

Material Categories

This section is worth 60 marks and contains a mixture of different question styles as above, e.g. open-response, etc. Students will however, be able to pick a material category that they have studied, such as timbers or polymers to answer questions on.

There will be 5 marks for calculation questions in this section.

Component 2

This is a Non-Examined Assessment, e.g. it is a designing and making task that is marked out of 100. This component makes up the other 50% of the qualification.

Students will undertake a Design and Make project based on a contextual challenge released by the Exam Board each year before certification on the 1st of June. This section will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

Design Advantages of achieving the qualification - Careers/progression routes

- Students will be able to go on and study Design and Technology at A/AS level
- A Level Art and Design, Media and/or Film
- BTEC Nationals in Art and Design or Media
- Building studies.

If you are thinking of a craft apprenticeship with a company don't worry, employers will value the GCSE Design and Technology qualification, as it develops creative and technical transferable skills.

Places are limited so first come first served, at the Head of Department's discretion.

Please email Mr Maynard, Head of Design & Technology and Engineering, for more information:
g.maynard@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Note: Students cannot study GCSE Design & Technology and Engineering together

GCSE Engineering

Exam board: AQA

This qualification is linear, this means students will sit the exam and submit the non-exam assessment (design and make assignment) at the end of this two-year course.

Subject content

- Engineering materials
- Engineering manufacturing processes
- Systems
- Testing and investigation
- The impact of modern technologies
- Practical engineering skills



Assessment

The course will be assessed by an exam and a non-exam assessment, e.g. a design and make assignment.

The Exam

The written exam will be 2 hours long and will be marked out of 120. It will be worth 60% of the course.

The question paper will be made up of:

- Multiple choice questions assessing breadth of knowledge
- Short answer questions assessing in depth knowledge, including calculations
- Multiple choice questions related to the application of practical engineering skills
- Extended response questions drawing together topics from the specification

Non exam-exam assessment: Practical engineering

This element of the course will be marked out of 80 and will be worth 40% of the course.

What is assessed?

- Application of skills, knowledge and understanding in a practical context
- Analysis and evaluation of evidence In other words, students will:
- Produce engineering drawings or schematics to communicate a solution to the brief, set by AQA
- Manufacture and make an engineering product that solves a problem

The design brief will be given by AQA on the 1st of June, in the first year of the course, e.g. Year 10.

Advantages of achieving this qualification

You will get an insight into the world of engineering and the many opportunities it has to offer. The course leans towards mechanical and electronic engineering, manufacturing and design.

Careers/progression routes

A GCSE in Engineering is a nationally recognised work-related qualification designed to provide you with a choice of routes into further education such as, BTEC nationals in engineering or any other level 3 engineering course.

In terms of seeking employment as an apprentice in the engineering sector, this course will give you an advantage over others. It will also help you, if you chose to do an Engineering or Architecture Degree as you will already be able to use a Computer Aided Designing system.

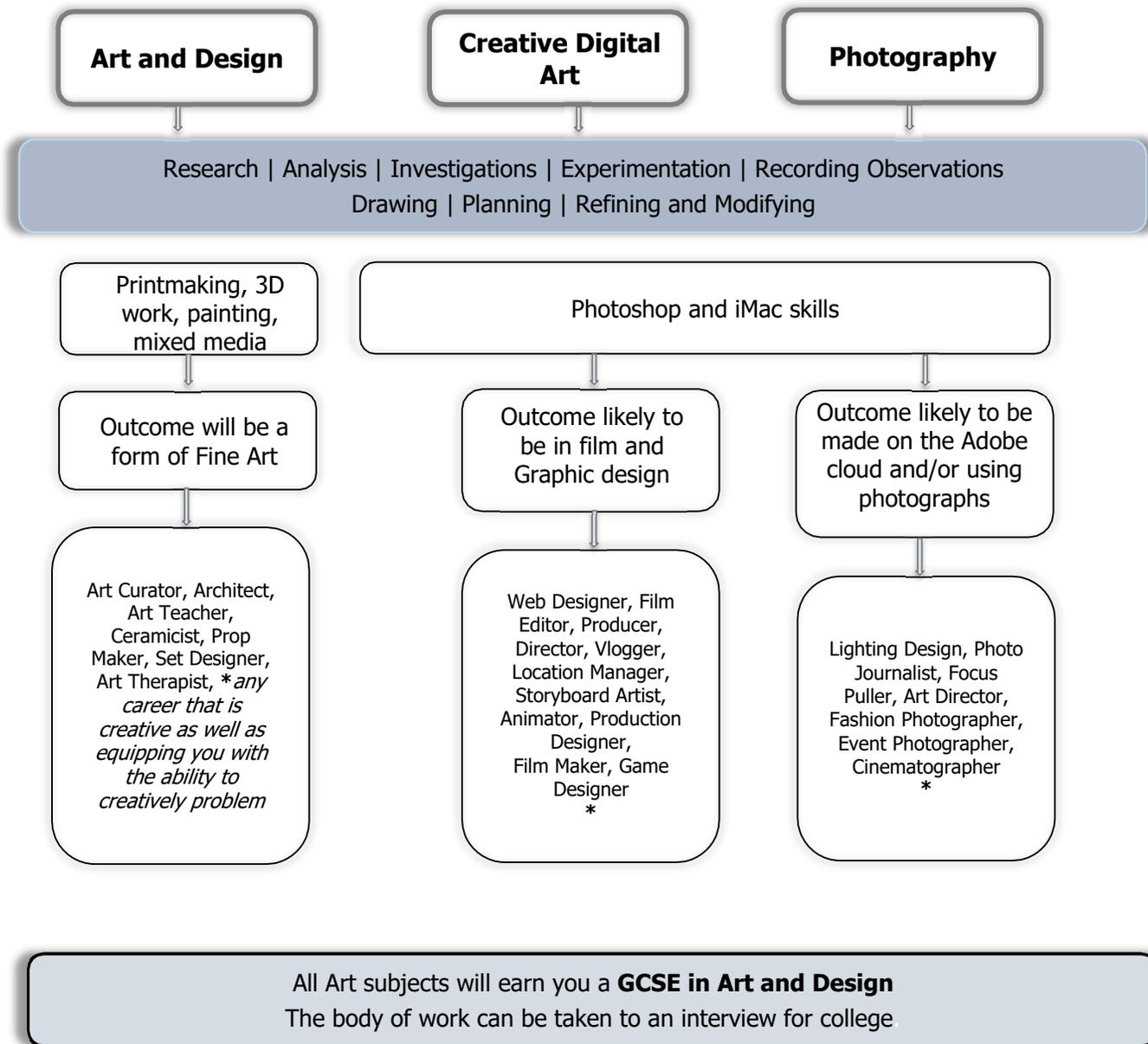
Places are limited so first come first served, at the Head of Department's discretion.

Please email Mr Maynard, Head of Design & Technology and Engineering, for more information:
g.maynard@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Note: Students cannot study GCSE Design & Technology and Engineering together

GCSE Art – Subject Overview

Exam board: AQA



Please see the following pages for further information on each Art and Design subject

GCSE Art & Design

All the GCSE Art courses will provide you with the chance to explore and respond to a range of inspiring topic titles. You will develop a range of skills including drawing and composition to produce work in a variety of materials such as pastel, paint, mixed media, printmaking, digital art and sculpture. These will communicate your ideas and responses to the theme.

The skills you will develop are:

- Exploring themes and artists from different genres, cultures and times utilising analytical skills
- Experimenting with a range of materials and papers including digital and photographic media
- Recording your observations through drawing, photography and analytical annotation
- Developing and planning to resolve your ideas in the final pieces
- Do not take this subject if you do not like drawing or being creative

How is the course assessed?

- 60% coursework made during lessons (3 per week) and 90 minutes' preparation made in your own time during the week
- 40% exam, the title of which is given in the January of year 11 and set by AQA
- The exam itself is completed over two days
- The sketchbook provides 75% of each project
- The GCSE grades awarded for Art range from 9-1



What careers does this course lead to?

Art and Design as a subject is about developing a visual language and creative problem solving. These skills prove to be beneficial in the broad selection of subject options that colleges and universities see as a 'rounded' and thorough education. Creativity is a skill desired throughout industry.

Creative subjects have the capacity to unlock alternative ways of learning. GCSE Art and Design is excellent preparation for the study of AS and A' Level Art, Art History, Graphic Design and Expressive Arts. At the University College of London medical students will take an Art based subject to supplement their medical education to practice hand eye coordination.

The Creative Industries are the second biggest employer in the UK after finance. Jobs and careers can vary as far and wide as eBook Designer, Interior Designer, Prop Maker, Fashion Consultant, Graphic Novelist, Museum or Gallery Curator, Film Maker, Editor, Tattooist, Digital Illustrator as well as more traditional art roles.

Students may only study one GCSE Art course - Photography, Art and Creative Digital Art are all GCSE Art and Design courses so choose to your strength

Please email Ms Dempsey, Head of Art & Design, for more information: s.dempsey@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Creative Digital Art

The Creative Digital Art course is an opportunity to develop creative skills using digital equipment. This course will be awarded as an Art and Design GCSE and therefore the Assessment Criteria is identical. Your portfolio of work will show the development of your skills in:

- Filmmaking- using digital film cameras, lighting, editing and the use of apps in the Adobe Cloud
- Creating digital artwork and animations
- Photography and image manipulation using Photoshop including graphic design
- Developing critical and analytical skills
- Development of **drawing** and **composition** skills

Students will develop skills in drawing, composition, storyboarding, directing, filming, editing as well as photography and lighting. Final outcomes will derive from work made and developed digitally from carefully planned sketchbook work.

How is the course assessed?

- 60% coursework made during lessons (3 per week) and 90 minutes' preparation made in your own time during the week
- 40% Exam, the title of which is given in the January of year 11 and set by AQA. The exam itself is completed over two days
- The sketchbook provides 75% of each project
- The GCSE grades awarded for Art range from 1-9

What careers does this course lead to?

Film Editing, Film Directing, production of Film, Animator, YouTube Video Creator, Storyboard Artist, Special Effects Design, Web Designer, Graphic Design, Illustrator. There are jobs within the creative field that have not been invented yet in an ever-evolving industry that makes in excess of £80 Billion a year for the UK. Creativity is a skill desired throughout industry.

Note: This is a course for creative individuals interested in design and film, this is NOT a course for those who want to act or present on television



"Drawing is the root of everything"- Vincent Van Gogh

Please email Ms Dempsey, Head of Art & Design, for more information: s.dempsey@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Note: Students cannot study more than one Art GCSE subject

GCSE Art Photography

This is awarded as an Art & Design GCSE and therefore the Assessment Criteria is identical.

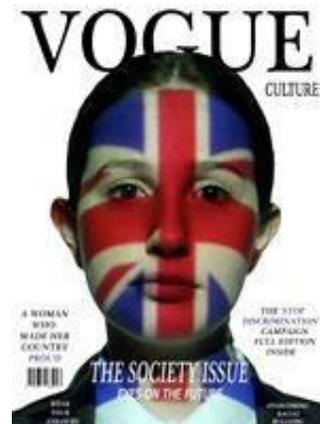
You will experiment with a variety of equipment, processes and technology to develop your ideas using digital cameras and film cameras - including black and white photography in the dark room and digital art. High quality drawing and composition skill will support the planning and development phases of this course.

Photoshop and Adobe cloud apps are also used to manipulate, enhance and present your ideas. You will also be expected to develop your skills with a range of materials. As with the other art options you will explore artists and photographers from a range of cultures; historic to contemporary examples to inspire and develop your own ideas as well as present your personal responses.

How is the course assessed?

- Coursework 60%
- 40% Exam the title of which will be given in the January of Year 11 and set by AQA.
- The exam itself is completed over two days.
- The sketchbook provides 75% of each project
- The GCSE grades awarded for Art range from 1-9

A strong ability and skill in drawing is integral to the success of the course.



What careers does this course lead to?

GCSE Photography is excellent preparation for the study of AS and A' Level Photography, Art, Graphic Design and Expressive Arts.

Examples of career progression related to photography and art could be advertising, photo journalism, designer, digital illustrator, animator and storyboarding, fashion photography, video, television or film production.

"Drawing is the root of everything" - Vincent Van Gogh

Please email Ms Dempsey, Head of Art & Design for more information: s.dempsey@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Note: Students cannot study more than one Art GCSE subject

GCSE Music

Exam board: Pearson

The GCSE Music course encourages the study of various aspects of composition and performance within the context of a range of musical styles and genres.

The Music course is divided into three parts:

Component 1: Performance – in this unit students develop their performance skills in both solo and ensemble contexts. They rehearse, perform and record two different pieces on the instrument of their choice.

Component 2: Composing Music – students are introduced to the technical and creative skills required by a composer and are encouraged to explore a range of compositional starting points and ideas for manipulating and developing their own pieces of music.

Component 3: Music Listening and Appraising – students study a broad range of musical styles and genres in relation to a series of set works. This allows for the development of an appreciation of musical expression and compositional ideas and techniques used by composers throughout history.

How is the course assessed?

- **Unit 1 (30%)** – in each piece they submit, students are assessed on technical accuracy and musical expression depending on the instrument they choose for performance and the difficulty of the piece. **The two performances combined should be a minimum of 4 minutes**
- **Unit 2 (30%)** – students develop musical ideas in the form of compositions and/or arrangements. They must compose two separate and original pieces of music. They must be submitted with appropriate forms of musical notation. **The two compositions combined should be a minimum of 3 minutes**
- **Unit 3 (40%)** - A listening paper 8 questions on each area of study; **Area of Study 1:** Musical Forms and Devices. **Area of Study 2:** Music for Ensemble. **Area of Study 3:** Film Music. **Area of Study 4:** Popular Music.

What careers does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Music can lead to further study at AS Level or A' Level in Music (for the study of composition and performance) and advanced courses in BTEC Music and Performing Arts (performance in popular music, music technology and the music business).

It is important to note that GCSE Music is often viewed as complimenting a student's skills-base (creative, social and communication skills) and adds weight to applications for college and university.

Please email Ms Lawrance, Head of Drama and Music, for more information:
k.lawrance@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Drama

The GCSE Drama course teaches you the skills involved in creating, performing and staging theatre and exploring plays written by others. Drama helps you build self-esteem, self-awareness and self-confidence. You will also learn the importance of team-work. You will watch a live theatre performance in the West End as part of the course. You will develop your writing skills to be able to evaluate live theatre and texts. You will study *An Inspector Calls* as a set text which will also help you with your GCSE English course.

The Drama course is divided into three components:

Component 1: Devising

- You will create a performance (or support if your skill is design) in a group based on a given idea or theme
- You will create a 900 word portfolio of evidence of the rehearsal process, and a written controlled assessment Evaluation.
- You can be assessed on either acting, set design and props, costume, hair and makeup, stage lighting or sound in all components. You do not need to perform.**



Component 2: Performance of a text

- You will rehearse or develop your design skill and perform **two** extracts from a script to a visiting examiner or produce models and examples for a design skill.

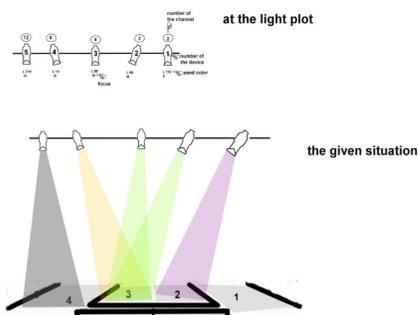
Component 3 Theatre Makers in Practice

- You will have a written exam answering questions relating to characters, design and staging in *An Inspector Calls*.
- You will write an evaluation of a live theatre performance seen during the course.

You will need to have a good level of written English and be able to commit to being involved in extra-curricular activities, theatre visits and events in order to support your achievement.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of a 40% written exam and 60% practical work (with written elements)



Please email Ms Lawrance, Head of Drama and Music, for more information: k.lawrance@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

Exam Board: Eduqas

What will I study?

- Food Commodities
- Principles of nutrition
- Diet and health and
- The science of food
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation



What skills will I develop?

- How to prepare and cook a variety of different foods
- To carry out effective and safe cooking using a range of equipment
- Understand the different properties of food
- How to nutritionally analyse foods
- How to make informed food choices
- How to research and analyse
- To be able to critically evaluate
- Develop recipes and meals to meet specific needs

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition Written Examination:
1 hour and 45 minutes, 50% qualification.

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action Non-examination assessments
Assessment 1: 8 hours: The Food Investigation Assessment A scientific food investigation – 20% of qualification.

Assessment 2: 12 hours: The Food Preparation Assessment - 30% of qualification. Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food.

Food Preparation and Nutrition is suitable for you if you enjoy:

- Cooking and learning about food
- Practical tasks where you can work independently to produce coursework tasks
- Finding out about traditional food and international cuisine
- Understanding the scientific principles about food and how it affects the body

Why should I study Food Preparation and Nutrition?

To equip you with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages you to cook, enables you to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows you to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed yourself and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life. It allows you to study at A level, Further Education or enter an apprenticeship.

Please be aware, for the practical component of the course, there will be charges for ingredients and your child may need to bring extra ingredients in for certain dishes.

Please email Miss Unsworth for more information: s.unsworth@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

BTEC Workskills

Aims of the Course

The purpose of this course is to equip you with the skills to obtain employment and build confidence so that you can successfully find and retain jobs and improve your life chances.

Why study BTEC Work Skills?

Within this course you will develop a wide range of skills which will be useful both in your studies and for your progression once you leave school. As well as developing skills needed for employment you will learn how to manage your finances, develop and demonstrate enterprise skills, build effective communication skills and learn how to solve a variety of problems.

Course Breakdown

In order to achieve the qualification, you have to successfully complete minimum of 13 credits worth of units. Each of these units is assessed through coursework (role plays, interviews, creating and delivering presentations, creating wall displays, producing guides and working with others). The units and their credit ratings are listed below:

Unit	Title/Description	Assesment	Guided learning hours
1	Considering Your Own Work related Skills and Behaviours	Coursework	35 hours
2	Selecting and Applying for a Job	Coursework	35 hours
3	Recognising Types of Employment Contract	Coursework	35 hours
4	Prepare and Participate in an Interview	Coursework	35 hours
5	Understanding Equality and Diversity in the Workplace	Coursework	35 hours
6	Knowing Workplace Rights and Responsibilities	Coursework	35 hours
13	Contributing to Teamworking in the Workplace	Coursework	35 hours

Progression routes available after the course

One of the great things about this course is the fact that the skills you develop through its completion are appropriate to any career you may choose. You will have an improved understanding of how to successfully apply for jobs and how to work with others in an organisation to give you the best chance of having a job for life. You will also learn and develop skills such as managing money, using ICT and effective communication. (There may be the opportunity in some situations for students to attempt the BTEC Level 1 Extended Certificate in Work Skills which requires successful completion of 13 credits).

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/WorkSkills/Level-1/2021/specification/btec-l1-ws-spec.pdf>

Please email Mr Nelson, SENDCo, for more information: b.nelson@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Functional Skills English

Exam Board: Pearson

Functional Skills English helps students develop the practical communication skills needed for everyday life, further education and employment.

The course focuses on building confidence in **reading, writing, and speaking and listening**, using real-life texts, situations and tasks that reflect the demands of the modern world.

This qualification is particularly suitable for students who require additional support with literacy, including many **Multilingual Learners (MLL)**.

What will students learn?

Students will develop skills such as:

- Reading and understanding everyday texts such as emails, letters, leaflets and articles
- Writing clearly and accurately for different purposes and audiences
- Taking part in discussions, presentations and spoken activities

Course structure

Functional Skills English consists of three components:

- **Reading** – externally assessed examination
- **Writing** – externally assessed examination
- **Speaking, Listening and Communicating** – internally assessed and externally moderated

Students must achieve a **pass in all three components** in order to be awarded the qualification.

Levels

Students will be entered for the most appropriate level based on their current attainment and learning needs:

- **Entry Level / Level 1** – supports progression to further study, training or employment
- **Level 2** – widely accepted as equivalent to **GCSE grade 4 (standard pass)** for many college courses and apprenticeships

Who is this course for?

Students are selected for this course based on individual learning needs and current English attainment. Parents and students will be informed where Functional Skills English is identified as the most appropriate pathway.

Please email Ms Miron for more information: c.miron@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

Completing Options Online

For guidance on how to submit your option choices online via SIMS Options, please see the link below:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yZt0wgTYKzYy3GV4M9MsjgYEp2GPuRX8/view?usp=share_link

It is vital that you complete this process carefully and submit your subject choices by the **Monday 20th April deadline**. Option choices should be made in conjunction with your child's interests **following the Options Evening on Thursday 26th March**.

Once you have read through the options process with your child, you should choose **four** option subjects and **two reserve** subjects from the **subjects offered**.

If you have any difficulties with this process or have any questions, please get in touch using the following email address: options@kelmscott.waltham.sch.uk

** We endeavour to allocate every student their first option choices, however, where this is not possible, their reserve options will be considered.*