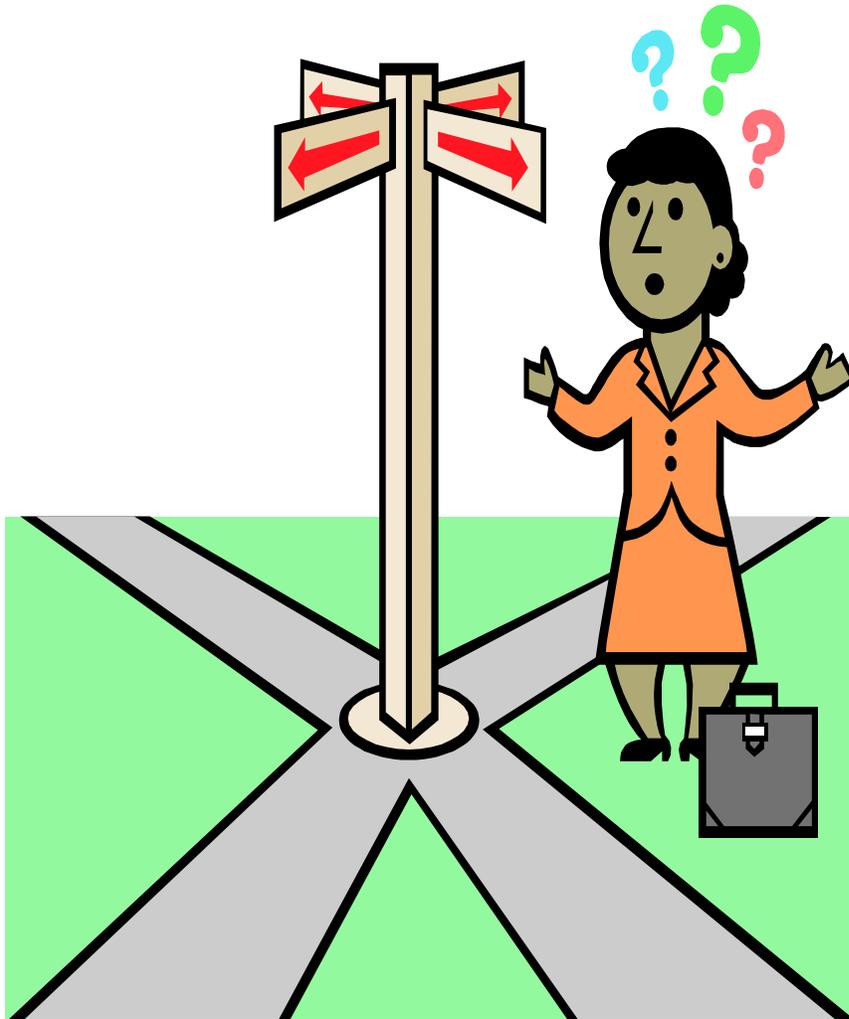




**KEY STAGE 4  
CURRICULUM GUIDE  
COURSE  
INFORMATION  
FOR  
SEPTEMBER 2015**



# **KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM— INTRODUCTION**

This guide is to support pupils and parents in choosing their Key Stage 4 options.

New National Curriculum directives have meant a complete change to the organisation of the curriculum for Years 10 and 11. Some subjects are compulsory whilst others must be offered and yet more are additional to the National Curriculum.

Pupils will study all the compulsory subjects and will be able to choose from groups of options. We will endeavour to run courses in all options but this will only happen where a viable group can be set up. Courses will run for two years.

On the following pages you will find a curriculum map and a brief description of what each subject area contains. These descriptions will also explain examination opportunities available in each subject.

At the end of the booklet is an options sheet where your child will need to record their own options in terms of first and second choice. Please fill in this form with your child and return to the school office no later than FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2015.

# YEAR 10 CURRICULUM

## Core Subjects (number of lessons)

- ♦ English—5
- ♦
- ♦ Maths—5
- ♦ Science—4
- ♦ ICT—3
- ♦ PE—4
- ♦ RE/PSD—2
- ♦ History—1
- ♦ Assembly—1

## Option Subjects (number of lessons)

- ♦ Art/Music/Home Cooking Skills—4
- ♦ DT—4 or Drama/Horticulture/Photography—2 AND Media/Duke of Edinburgh—2
- ♦ Construction Skills/PE/French—2

**35 lessons in total**

# ENGLISH

## **GCSE—AQA**

Students will have the opportunity to complete two GCSE's one in English Language and one in English Literature, there is no longer a combined GCSE for these subjects. Both qualifications are terminal and have two examinations each. These GCSE's are separated into the following components:

### English Language

- Paper 1 - Reading A literature fiction Text  
- Writing Descriptive or narrative writing
- Paper 2 - Reading One non-fiction text and one literacy non-fiction text  
- Writing Writing to present a viewpoint
- Speaking & Listening Presenting  
Responding to questions

### English Literature

- Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel
- Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry

## **ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE—AQA**

This is a two year course aimed at pupils who experience difficulties with literacy and for whom achieving a Grade G at GCSE is unlikely.

The course of study is unit based, and pupils are required to complete five of the units provided. These focus on the skills of Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing.

# MATHS

## **GCSE Foundation —AQA**

For pupils at Level 3 and above, an appropriate linear GCSE course will be followed leading to external assessment at end of Year 11.

## **ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE—OCR**

This qualification is aimed at students who may not be ready for a GCSE, or who will benefit from reinforcing their basic mathematics skills while studying towards the GCSE.

# SCIENCE

In Key Stage 4, most pupils have 4 lessons per week in science. These lessons are aural, visual and kinaesthetic with pupils having the opportunity to carry out experiments and use ICT to reinforce topics. These lessons will lead to the following accreditations:

## **ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE — AQA**

Pupils will submit evidence for 3 units from the list below, which must include at least one from Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Course content:

- 1) Keeping Healthy
- 2) Inheritance, Evolution and the environment
- 3) Materials from the Earth
- 4) Oils, Earth & Atmosphere
- 5) Energy transfer and efficiency
- 6) Electricity and waves

Externally set assignments—50%

Teacher devised assessments—50%

These units are a subset of the GCSE Science A Specification.

## **GCSE—AQA**

Some pupils will study core science over two years and sit 3 written papers with structured and closed questions:

Biology	Human Biology - Evolution & Environment	25%
Chemistry	Products from rocks—Oil, Earth and Atmosphere	25%
Physics	Energy and Electricity—Radiation and the Universe	25%

They will also complete a centre assessed unit 25%

# P.E.

## ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE—AQA

For each activity the candidate is assessed on:

- ◆ the performance of individual and group skills;
- ◆ application of skills in the group situation;
- ◆ knowledge of rules and regulations;
- ◆ the ability to evaluate and make judgments on their own and others performance;
- ◆ and, **for one activity**, the ability to undertake a safe health promoting exercise/training schedule

**Three** activities to be chosen from **at least two** of the following groups, including at least one activity from **Group 1**.

**GROUP 1** . Game Activities: Association football, badminton, basketball, cricket, golf, hockey, lacrosse, netball, rounders or softball, rugby football (league or union), squash, table tennis, tennis, volleyball.

**GROUP 2** . Gymnastic Activities: Artistic gymnastics, compositional gymnastics, trampolining.

**GROUP 3** . Dance: Modern educational dance.

**GROUP 4** . Athletic Activities: athletics, weight lifting/weight training.

**GROUP 5** . Swimming: competitive swimming, life saving, personal survival.

**There is no written paper; this specification is 100% coursework**, this specification provides for the learning and assessment of those candidates for whom the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is not appropriate. Consequently the assessment will make demands that are **lower** than those made by the full course GCSE in Physical Education.

# RE

Pupils in Key Stage 4 will continue to study RE as part of the school curriculum. Topics are likely to include some or all of the following:

- Religious and moral arguments about contentious issues
- The work of religious charities
- Famous followers of religion
- Religious festivals
- Places of worship
- Social and moral issues.

For each module studied, a variety of teaching and learning styles will be used, for example pupils may use the internet to carry out research or group and class discussions may be held. Assessment will be school based and will take place over the two years.

# PERSONAL & SOCIAL EDUCATION

## **ENTRY LEVEL 3, LEVEL 1, 2 - AQA**

The course is designed to help students gain practical knowledge and skills in order to lead confident, healthy and responsible lives.

Over the course of two years they will complete 7 units of coursework to achieve a certificate in Personal and Social Education.

Unit 2: Drugs Education

Unit 3: Sex and Relationship Education

Unit 4: Personal Finance

Unit 5: Emotional Wellbeing

Unit 6: Healthy Lifestyles

Unit 8: Applying for Jobs and Courses

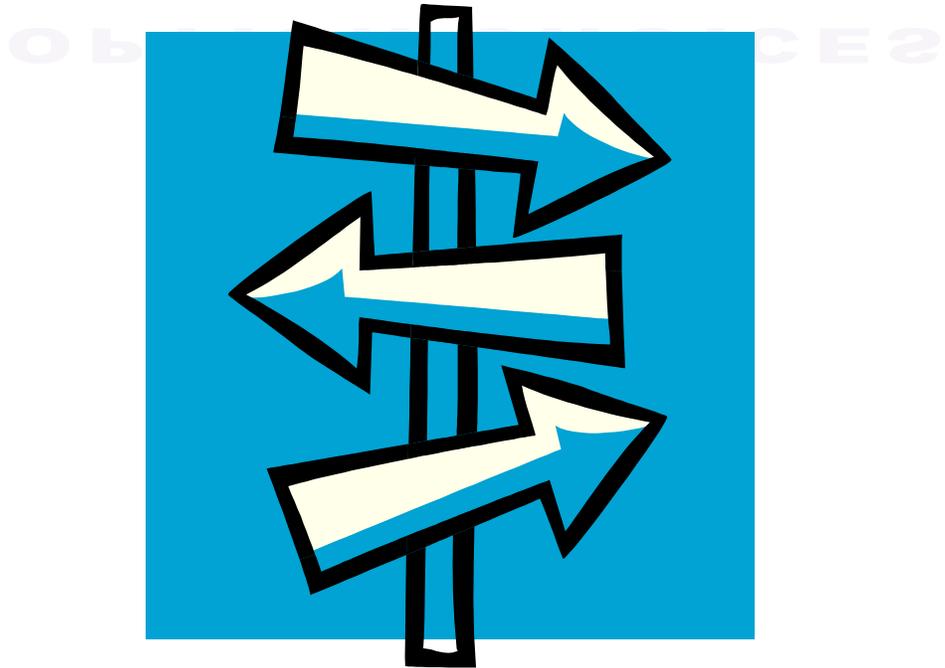
Unit 10: Personal Safety

# HISTORY

## **ELC—AQA**

This is a two year course where pupils will study a number of 'Modern World' modules. Assessment of the course is via four externally set module question papers. These assessments will be spread throughout the two years with no opportunity to re-sit. The Entry Level is available from Level 1 (the lowest) to Level 3 (the highest).

# OPTION CHOICES



## OPTION A

# ART

### GCSE—AQA

This course is open to pupils who are completing art work to a higher standard. Each pupil needs to produce a minimum of 2 pieces of coursework and a final exam. In general the topics for the coursework pieces are chosen by the teacher, but each pupil can develop the theme in a more personal direction if they wish. For the GCSE there is strong emphasis on individual ideas and pupils are encouraged to use a range of media to explore these ideas. Pupils should be aware that they will need to be self motivated with the ability to work independently under instruction.

### ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE—AQA

To be eligible for an Entry Level Award, pupils will need to complete four units of work. Units 1 and 2 are compulsory and are set by the examination board. Units 3 and 4 will be optional units set by the teacher. They will include working in a range of media such as:

- ◆ Painting and drawing
- ◆ Printmaking
- ◆ Graphic design
- ◆ Ceramics

# MUSIC

### GCSE—OCR

### ENTRY PATHWAYS QUALIFICATION IN CREATIVE, MEDIA AND PERFORMING ARTS—WJEC

Both courses require an equal emphasis on listening, composing and performing and follow on in a natural progression from work done in Years 7 – 9.

The GCSE course is made up of 4 main areas of study:

- ◆ My Music – focusing on your favourite instrument or singing
- ◆ Shared Music – studying how musicians work together in different styles and groups (classical music, rock bands, choirs, jazz bands)
- ◆ Dance Music (disco/club styles, salsa, waltz, line dancing, bhangra)
- ◆ Descriptive Music (e.g.: film and TV)

GCSE practical work is assessed by coursework. Listening skills are assessed by an examination at the end of Y11. For the Entry Pathways course pupils build up a portfolio of listening, composing and performing work throughout the course.

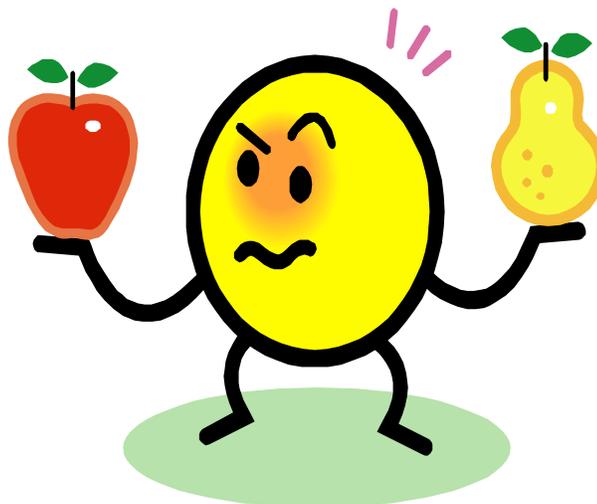
There are many elements common to both courses. In Year 10 pupils will work on these common topics. In Year 11 it will be possible for them to decide which qualification to aim for and so work can be tailored according to their individual strengths.

# HOME COOKING SKILLS

## LEVEL 1/ LEVEL 2—EDEXCEL

This is a two year course which provides the pupils the opportunity to extend food work which has been undertaken in the lower school. This includes practical work to enable the pupils to further develop their confidence and competence. In addition, discussion will take place about food sourcing, nutrition, hygiene and food labelling. The pupils will be encouraged to reflect upon the dishes made and record this along with the evidence of them making their dish.

Level 1 is examined by continual assessment and an examination. Level 2 is examined by continual assessment and a practical examination where the pupils demonstrate they are able to plan a nutritious two-course meal.



## OPTION B

# DESIGN TECHNOLOGY RESISTANT MATERIALS

## ENTRY PATHWAYS QUALIFICATION IN CREATIVE, MEDIA AND PERFORMING ARTS— WJEC

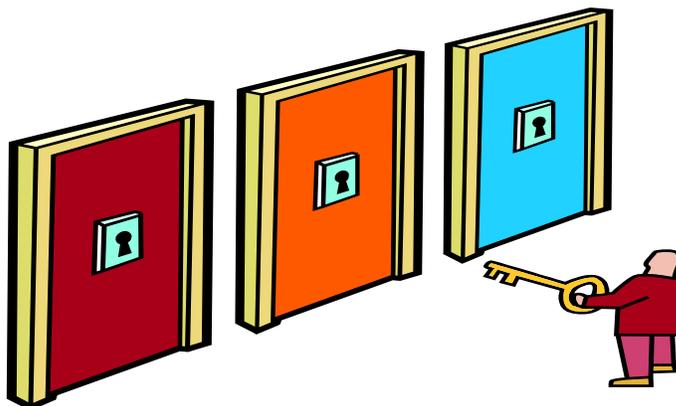
**A practical approach** that encourages students to design and make products with creativity and originality in a variety of practical activities, using a range of materials and techniques. A working knowledge of woods, metals, plastics and composite materials are required but other materials may be used in addition.

**Entry level qualifications** can help you build skills, increase your knowledge and boost your confidence. They are known as 'certificates' or 'awards', and are open to anyone interested in gaining a nationally recognised qualification. There are no entry requirements. Entry level qualifications focus on a particular subject or area of learning. They develop basic knowledge, skills and understanding and help you build confidence and prepare for further learning and work.

This course is designed to meet the needs of students with a range of abilities who want to study for a qualification in resistant materials.

Units studied are Health and Safety, Planning, Designing and modelling, and Making a Product. It includes a wide range of disciplines and areas of study. These will include Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM), along with product analysis, design history, materials research, and environmental issues.

This course will be made up of four lessons per week.



## OPTION B

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh Program is a real adventure from start to finish. Pupils can do the programmes at three levels, which when completed lead to Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards.

Pupils will start on the Bronze Award here at Samuel Cody School. Pupils achieve the awards by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections. These are titled Volunteering, Physical Activity, Skills and an Expedition.

Pupils will find themselves helping others in the community, increasing their personal fitness, developing new skills and eventually taking part in an expedition.

Places on this option are limited due to regulations on Duke of Edinburgh group sizes. This option also requires students to commit time away at weekends in Year 11 so please bear this in mind if selecting this option.

### MEDIA STUDIES

#### GCSE—AQA

This is an optional two year course during which pupils study all aspects of Media text from films, newspapers and magazines. They are required to show understanding of the different genres and then create their own interpretation.

The course is divided into two units.

Unit 1 – Investigating the Media is externally assessed by a written paper: 40%.

Unit 2 – Understanding the Media is assessed by the successful completion of three assignments: Introductory assignment; Cross-media assignment and Practical Production and Evaluation : 60%

## OPTION B

# DRAMA

### GCSE—EDEXCEL

This is a two year course that is made up of three components:

- ◆ Unit 1—Drama Exploration
- ◆ Unit 2—Explaining Play Texts
- ◆ Unit 3—Drama Performance

The majority of the course is practically based but pupils must be aware that they are also required to present portfolios of evidence to support their work. This can be either written or video based. They should also be aware that preparation for Performance work (Unit 3) will involve them staying after school for additional rehearsals.

# HORTICULTURE

### LASER LEVEL 1 CERTIFICATE

This is a practical, modular based course open to any pupil who is keen to develop a wide range of skills in horticulture.

Pupils must be prepared to work outside in all types of weather and will be expected to have the appropriate clothing e.g. good pair of boots, wet weather gear, jeans/old clothes which is a basic health and safety requirement.

As well as the practical work, pupils will also be expected to keep a written portfolio of work to meet the exam requirements. All pupils will be able to access the written work at their appropriate level. Topics covered will include:

- ◆ Seed sowing
- ◆ Propagation
- ◆ Garden maintenance
- ◆ Tool maintenance
- ◆ Floristry
- ◆ Herbs, vegetables and flowers

## OPTION B

# PHOTOGRAPHY

This two year course gives students the opportunity to achieve an entry level qualification in digital photography. Over two years students will build a coursework portfolio and learn:

How to use a digital camera.

Manipulating images using computer software.

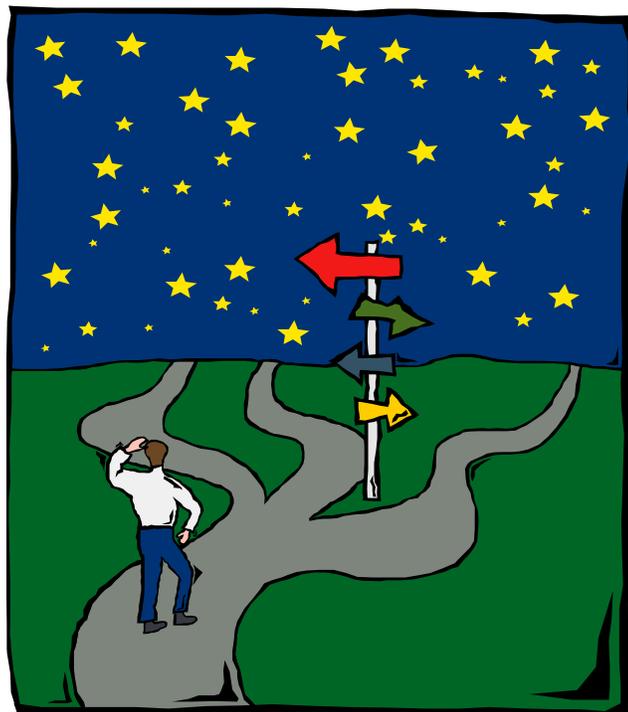
How to compose an image considering depth of field, rule of thirds and the formal elements.

How to analyse artists work to inspire our own ideas.

To investigate a range of genres such as landscape, portraits and macro.

The portfolio is 60% of the final grade. The remaining 40% is achieved through a 10 week task and 10 hour exam set by the exam board.

This course provides natural progression onto GCSE photography at a later date.



## OPTION C

# P.E.

### GCSE—EdEXCEL

This GCSE is 60% practical (based on performances in 2 activities (for Short Course) or 4 activities (for Full Course) and 40% written examination. This course will enable pupils to achieve a GCSE award in Physical Education compared to an Entry Level award which they would be entered for in general core PE lessons. The Short Course offers the opportunity for students to still receive a GCSE grade.

#### **Choosing GCSE Physical Education would allow for:**

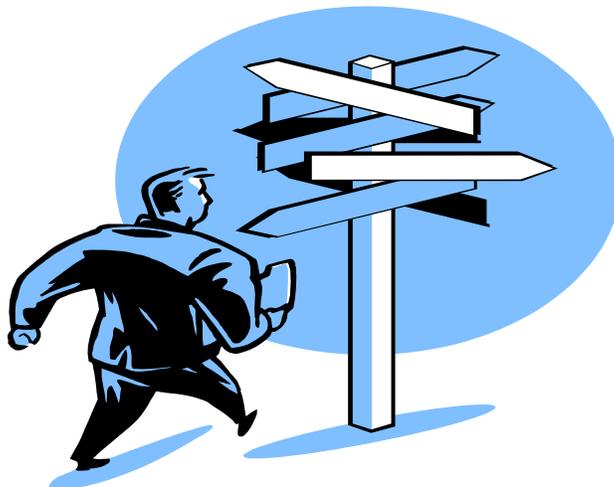
**More variety:** A wide choice of roles and activities, giving students the flexibility to be a leader/official as well as a player to expand their enjoyment of the course

**A practical focus:** This is a very practical course that gives students ample opportunity to show what they can do

**Accessible exam papers** with a great choice of questions, including multiple choice, short and long answers.

The GCSE specification will enable students to:

- develop knowledge and practical skills in a range of physical activities
- examine the effects of exercise and how training can improve performance
- find ways to improve their own performances in a variety of roles
- identify ways to develop and maintain a healthy and active lifestyle through participation in physical activity
- appreciate the benefits of promoting 'sport for all'.



## OPTION C

# FRENCH

Pupils who choose this subject follow the OCR Entry Level examination course in French as a Modern Foreign Language. During the two year course pupils experience, understand and respond to language related to the following areas of experience:

- ◆ Home and local area
- ◆ Health and sport
- ◆ Leisure and entertainment
- ◆ Travel and the wider world
- ◆ Education and work

There is no final examination. Assessment is school based and is carried out when pupils reach the end of each module, between the Autumn Term of Year 10 and the Spring Term of Year 11. The continuous assessment results are then added together and an overall grade is awarded by the examination board at the end of the course.

# Drama

GCSE

Entry Level Pathway WJEC Creative, Media and Performing Arts

This is a two year course at either GCSE or EL Pathway 2/3 which comprises of both written and practical work. Pupils must be prepared to perform in front of others and work to deadlines. They should also be aware that their preparation for final performance work will involve them staying after school for some additional rehearsals.

Pupils involved with Drama usually support school productions and other performance events as well.

# ICT and Computing

Pupils will follow a range of courses which give them the opportunity to develop a range of practical skills which will allow them to work confidently, effectively and independently in life.

## **OCR Entry Level Certificate - Computing**

This course provides pupils with opportunities to become familiar with how computer technology works. The course covers the following content.

Hardware, Software and Logic, Programming and Trends in Computing.

## **OCR Entry Level Certificate – ICT**

This course provides learners with opportunities to become more familiar with practical applications.

The course covers the following content:

Animation Skills, Control Skills, Database Skills, Digital Imaging Skills, Spreadsheet Skills and Video Editing Skills.

## **OCR Functional Skills in ICT**

The Functional Skills in ICT courses are designed to help students develop practical skills in Office based software. The course is assessed at different levels and pupils have the opportunity to move through the levels if appropriate.

The levels are: Entry Level Certificates 1, 2 and 3, Level 1 and Level 2.

## **EdExcel BTEC Level 1 Award for IT Users**

Some pupils may be given the opportunity to undertake this course which provides an introduction to the technical skills, qualities and knowledge that may be required for employment.

Please note the level of entry to a course will be determined by the Head of ICT and Computing.





# DECISION TIME

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor group \_\_\_\_\_

In each box put your first and second choice of subject. We will try to give you your first choice wherever possible.

## OPTION A

<b>Art (4)</b>	
<b>Music (4)</b>	
<b>Home Cooking Skills (4)</b>	

## OPTION B

<b>Photography (4)</b>	
<b>Design Technology (4)</b>	

Or

<b>Drama (2)</b>	
<b>Horticulture (2)</b>	

&

<b>Media (2)</b>	
<b>Duke of Edinburgh (2)</b>	

## OPTION C

<b>Construction Skills (2)</b>	
<b>PE (2)</b>	
<b>French (2)</b>	

**Please return this form to the school office no later than  
Friday 15th May 2015**