



KEY STAGE 4

CURRICULUM GUIDE

**COURSE
INFORMATION
FOR
SEPTEMBER 2021**

All different. All equal. All achieving

KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM INTRODUCTION

This guide is to support students and parents in choosing Key Stage 4 choices of study.

Some subjects are compulsory, some must be available to study and others are designed to be selected.

Students 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. As the examination methods have changed pupils will follow subjects based on exam syllabus but tailored to meet vocational needs as well.

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 by 28 May 2021.

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM

Core Subjects (number of lessons)

- ♦ English—5
- ♦ Maths—5
- ♦ Science—5
- ♦ PE—2
- ♦ APSE—1
- ♦ Assembly—1

Option Subjects (number of lessons)

Option Block A

- ♦ Food Technology or Drama or Photography(4)

Option Block B

- ♦ PE or French or ECDL(4)

Option Block C

- ♦ Geography or Junior Sports Leaders or Life Skills(2)

Option Block D

- ♦ Music or Photography or Art (2)

Option Block E

- ♦ Duke of Edinburgh or Horticulture or History(2)

Option Block F

- ♦ Technology/Craft or Digital Lifestyles or Extra Literacy/Numeracy

35 lessons in total

ENGLISH

GCSE—AQA Functional Skills—Edexcel

At KS4 students study English language and literature. A range of qualifications are offered from Entry Level 1 to Level 2/GCSE. Students are entered for the qualification/s that are most appropriate for them.

In Y10 some students will have the opportunity to complete the English Literature GCSE, for those whom this is not appropriate they will begin studying English Functional Skills and they may also have the opportunity to complete an Arts Award qualification.

In Y11 students will complete a qualification in English Language, either:

Edexcel English Functional Skills, this qualification is available from Entry Level 1 to Level 2;

or

AQA English Language GCSE.

These qualifications have similar requirements: students have to complete a spoken language assessment and assessments testing their ability to read and write. Students completing the Functional Skills qualifications will have opportunities to complete assessments throughout the course, students completing the GCSE course will sit exams at the end of Y11.

MATHS

AQA GCSE Mathematics (specification 8300)

This is a two-year course covering a wide range of mathematics designed to stretch and extend students. There are six main topic areas: number, algebra, ratio and proportion, geometry and measures, probability and statistics. This course focuses on extending mathematical skills, learning new skills such as trigonometry, and preparing students for further courses in mathematics. At the end of year 11, students will sit three 1.5-hour exams covering all topic areas. This course is suitable for students who have strong mathematical skills in all areas as determined by their KS3 assessments.

AQA Functional Skills in Maths - This course provides a level one qualification in Maths, which is equivalent of Grades 2-3 at GCSE. This course follows the same topic matter as the GCSE so can be taught alongside the GCSE course. This course focusses on using maths in real life contexts and teaches pupils how maths can be used in real life situations. If a pupil achieves level one functional skills it will enable them to undertake level two courses at college whether that be a functional skills level two or a GCSE in maths to grade four and above. Functional skills is assessed via two exams which take place at the end of the course, there is no coursework element to this course.

SCIENCE

In key stage 4, pupils have 4 science lessons each week. Pupils will study a selection of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics and will have the opportunity to gain the following accreditations:

GCSE combined Science: Trilogy (AQA)

Pupils who are working at a suitable level will study extra Biology, Chemistry and Physics content to allow them to sit science GCSE exams at the end of the course. Pupils must complete 21 required practical investigations in class over the two year study period and will sit a series of exams at the end of year 11.

Entry Level Certificate in Science (AQA)

All key stage 4 pupils have the opportunity to gain an Entry Level Certificate in Science. Pupils will study 6 units of work over a two year program. They will sit a short exam paper at the end of each unit of study and complete 6 associated practical investigations over the two years. Pupils best work will be submitted at the end of year 11 for accreditation.



P.E.

Core Physical Education

All pupils will have 2 lessons of PE a week. Pupils will learn the importance and value of leading an active lifestyle through exercise and sport.

Pupils will participate in a variety of activities including Team invasion games, Athletics, Dance, Outdoor activities and Fitness. They will develop their skills and techniques in these activities to improve their performance and competence.

KS3 will be looking to learn and develop new skills. This is where they will need to be able to apply their skills into game situation. KS4 will extend their knowledge and focus more towards their games for understanding. In addition to this pupils in KS4 will be encouraged to officiate and have more insight to the importance of fitness and its impact



PERSONAL & SOCIAL EFFECTIVENESS

Award of Personal and Social Effectiveness (APSE)

APSE is a Level 1 Award run by ASDAN for Y10 and Y11 students.

This course covers the statutory requirement to study RE at KS4 as well as delivering a comprehensive accredited PHSE programme.

The module units are based upon projects designed and managed by students with the support of staff. The Award is moderated by ASDAN and students are assessed based upon a folder of evidence which they gather during the course. Students will follow three units over 2 years. This curriculum will run in conjunction with the ASDAN Beliefs and Values short course qualification and offers a flexible, more accessible alternative to religious education at GCSE.

Students study the following units.

Unit one: Developing myself and my performance

Health and wellbeing

International links

Digital communications

Financial literacy

Beliefs and values (Short Course additional certificate – see below)

Unit two: Working with others

Citizenship and community

Sport and leisure

Environment

Enterprise

Beliefs and values (Short Course additional certificate – see below)

Unit three: Problem solving

Science and technology

Expressive arts

Independent living

Vocational preparation

Beliefs and values (Short Course additional certificate – see below)

This program will effectively support students when preparing for life beyond school and support their development of the skills necessary for adult life.

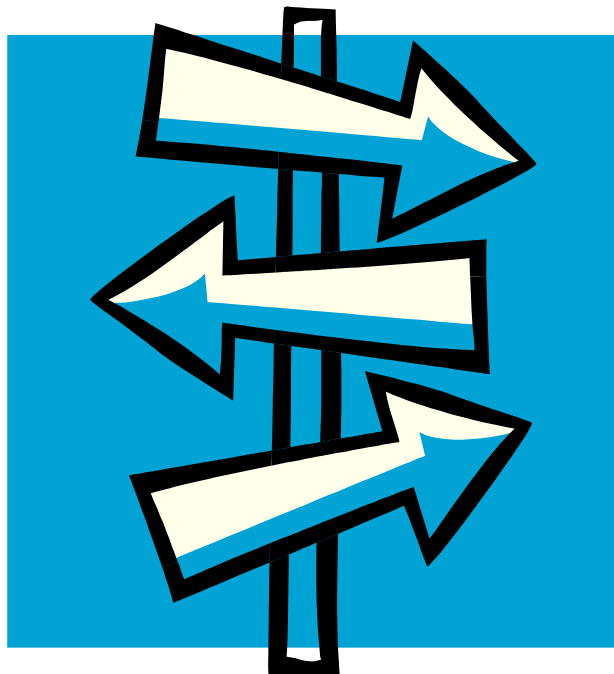
Beliefs and Values Short Course

The Beliefs and Values Short Course helps learners to develop the personal and social skills they need to play their role in our modern multicultural society. It will be delivered in conjunction with the Award for Personal and Social Effectiveness.

The course will enable learners to:

- respect different beliefs and values, and how they contribute to a multicultural society
- gain an awareness of the impact that humans have on the environment and how to protect our planet
- become a responsible citizen and understand the laws needed for a fair and just society
- appreciate the value of peace in society and understand the impact of conflict
- understand how different religions express their beliefs through worship and actions
- explore the concept of inspiration from religious and non-religious perspectives

OPTION CHOICES



Option Block A

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

BTEC EDEXCEL Level 1 and Level 2

This course provides the pupils with the opportunity to extend the food work undertaken in the lower school.

This includes practical work to further develop their confidence and competence. In addition discussion will take place about food sourcing, nutrition, hygiene and food labelling. The pupils will record the dishes and be encouraged to reflect upon the practical session to consider improvements.

Level 1 is examined by a practical test where the pupils plan, prepare and cook a dish demonstrating they are able to work independently showing hygiene, safety, sound practical skills.

Level 2 is also assessed with a practical examination, where the pupils demonstrate they are capable of planning a two course meal taking into consideration nutrition, sourcing of the ingredient's, preparation and cooking time. To cook their chosen meal independently using the relevant food preparation and cooking skills.

DRAMA

There are two levels of qualification for our students wishing to study Drama at KS4.

GCSE Drama Edexcel:

This qualification is a full GCSE and has three components.

- Devising or planning a performance

- Performing in or designing a performance from a text

- Aspects of practical understanding of a performance text

Students will learn how to talk about how they would perform in certain roles, and how they might direct and design the performance for different types of texts. Practical work is at the heart of this qualification.

Pearson BTEC Level 1 Tech Award in Performing Art:

The option is for learners who want to learn technical knowledge and technical skills by studying acting, dance or musical theatre.

The main aspects of this course are:

- Development of key skills that develop the students ability to perform

- Ability to respond to stimuli and develop ideas

- Skills in rehearsal and performance

- Personal management and communication

- Development of understanding about roles, responsibilities, performance disciplines and styles.

PHOTOGRAPHY GCSE

GCSE—OCR

This two year course will give you the opportunity to achieve a GCSE in digital photography. If you are creative and imaginative, with **lots of ideas** you will enjoy photography.

What have I got to do?

Throughout year 10 and 11 you will build a coursework portfolio and learn to:

- Analyse and write about artists work to inspire your own ideas,
- Develop your drawing and written skills to explain your ideas, meanings and intentions,
- Use specialist vocabulary to review your own and artists work,
- Investigate a range of genres such as landscape, portraits and macro,
- Use photographic techniques such as slow shutter speeds to show movement,
- Manipulate and edit images using Adobe Photoshop,
- Create an image considering depth of field, rule of thirds and the formal elements.

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

Option Block B

PE GCSE

GCSE—Edexcel

This two-year GCSE PE Short course involves both theory and practical elements. The theory elements cover applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, health & wellbeing, principles of training and training methods.

The theory element is then tested in year 11 with a 60-minute exam out of 50 marks. The theory element of the course is worth 50%.

As well as the theory units the course also has a practical element to it. Students will complete practical modules on Basketball or Netball, Table Tennis, Badminton, Athletics and Rounder's. In these modules students are assessed on skills, decision making, rule following and tactics. Students must select two sports to be assessed in and one must be an individual sport and the other a team sport. The final sports mark will be out of 58 and this is worth 50% of the final mark.

Students are videoed and assessed after each sport block which lasts between 8-12 weeks.

A good level of literacy is required to access the theory course content and students should be a committed, enthusiastic all-round sports person. Candidate should ideally be attending sports clubs after school regularly.

FRENCH

AQU Unit Awards

This is a two-year course in French as a modern foreign language.

Pupils will experience, understand and respond to language related to a wide area of experiences, e.g.

- Home and Local Area
- Health and Sport
- Leisure and Entertainment
- Travel and the Wider World

Education and Work

Pupils' achievements are recognised with the AQA Award Scheme (UAS). This gives access to a great number of units and can be tailored to pupils' preferences. Pupils can be presented with a certificate for each unit that they have completed. It is likely that pupils will achieve between 6 and 10 unit awards over the 2-year course.

In the unlikely event that a pupil is unable to attain any unit awards an overall grade will be awarded by the school at the end of year 11, based on classroom assessment over the 2-year course.

The logo consists of a purple oval with a black outline. Inside the oval, the text "IT ECDL" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and vertically.

IT ECDL

ECDL Level 1 or 2 (IT Equivalent GCSE)

ECDL is the European Computer Driving Licence, recognised by employers across the globe as the benchmark in digital and IT user skills.

This suite of qualifications gives learners the opportunity to:

- Progress to employment;
- Prepare for employment;
- Progress to further study;
- Develop further or more advanced skills by completing the qualification at a higher level.

This qualification is designed for learners who are looking to gain a basic understanding and capabilities in the use of IT applications and provides the skills and knowledge needed to progress to the next level of learning in IT user skills or any subject where basic IT skills are required, such as administration.

All students will start the qualification at a Level 1.

After successful completion of Level 1, students can progress to Level 2. A level 2 pass is equivalent to a GCSE grade 5-9.

Modules cover the following:

- IT user fundamentals
- Internet and email
- Word processing
- Spreadsheet software
- Presentation software
- Database software
- Online collaboration
- Improving productivity
- Project planning
- IT security for users

Many employers look for applicants who possess an ECDL certificate as they know that these candidates have a good all-round knowledge of basic software applications because they have been through practical training.

Option Block C

GEOGRAPHY

Entry Level 1/2—OCR

The Entry Level qualification in Geography, aims to encourage our pupils to think like geographers through an enquiry approach to a range of topics. The aim is to help develop their knowledge of locations, places and environments which in turn will embrace their personal life skills for their future progression. Pupils will be able to gain an understanding of the connections between people and places and how environments change over time. They will also develop a range of skills whilst taking part in practical based field work enquiry.

The topics covered will include:

- Our World

- Destructive World

- Resourceful World

Pupils will also be required to fill in a Fieldwork Notebook based on their own personal experiences on a designated topic e.g. Our World: How is the UK changing?

Further to this pupils will also be required to complete a project based on an area of specification such as Resourceful World: Why should tropical rainforests matter to us? Pupils must be prepared to take on a very practical based and hands on subject, no matter what the weather!

SPORTS LEADERS AWARD

Sports Leaders Award (GCSE equivalent) - SLO

This is an excellent opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills in a sports setting.

Over two years the students will follow the Go Lead Award which is a great introduction to leadership, giving young people aged 14 and over knowledge of how to organize and lead small games and activities that can be used as a part of uniformed organization, community club or sports club sessions.

The course allows the Young Leader to help learners develop leadership skills such as organization, communication and teamwork, as well as helping to build confidence and self-esteem as they take on responsibility of leading their peers and younger children.

During the course the students will complete several projects including Referee skills, leading a circuit training session, becoming a personal trainer, presenting sports awards, risk assessment and organising festivals for Football, Golf and Orienteering.

This course is ideal for those who are looking to develop skills to work in the fitness or leisure industry.

LIFE SKILLS

A supportive option for Y10 and Y11 students.

This course enables students to develop and build on basic skills necessary to experience independence and success in everyday life.

This course is most suitable for vulnerable students who struggle to build and maintain social relationships and who are under confident in exploring the world outside of home and school. This course is designed to give students the skills with which to transition into successful early adulthood.

Each student will receive a tailor made approach to developing these skills. Examples of possible modules are listed here. (There are over 1000 in all to choose from. Each student will have a personalised approach).

- Developing awareness of self and others
- Planning a journey
- Managing personal finance
- Health and hygiene in the home
- Planning a healthy budget meal
- Resilience
- Wellbeing
- Personal life choices
- Relating to others
- Friendship skills
- Being part of a family
- Communication skills
- Eating and nutrition
- Shopping skills
- Exercise, health and hygiene
- Getting a job
- Working
- Handling problem situations
- Making decisions

Each module will be certified with an AQA unit award. There is no limit to the number of unit awards a students can acquire over a 2 year period.

Option Block D

MUSIC

AQA Units or GCSE - AQA-OCR

The music courses are assessed on performance, composition and appraisal (listening) work and follow in progression from lessons in years 7-9.

The GCSE course is made up of five main 'Areas of Study' (AoS).

AoS 1 – My Music – This is the study of a chosen instrument or voice.

AoS 2 – The Concerto Through Time – This is where we study how the concerto developed from around 1600 to 1910.

AoS 3 – Rhythms of the World – We study music from India and the Punjab region, Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East, Africa and Central and South America.

AoS 4 – Film Music – We study music composed for films and classical music used within films. We will also explore music composed for video games.

AoS 5 – Conventions of Pop – This covers music from the 1950s to the present day focussing on:

Rock 'n' Roll in the '50s and '60s.

Rock Anthems in the '70s and '80s.

Pop Ballads in the '70s '80s and '90s.

Solo Artists from the '90s onwards.

Course Work – The course work is split up into two modules worth 30% each.

Integrated portfolio (Completed in year 10 and recorded at the start of year 11)

Performance 1 – a solo performance on own instrument

Composition 1 – you get to make up your own piece of music in a style of your choice.

Practical Component (Completed and recorded in year 11)

Performance 2 – this is an ensemble performance where you play as part of a group.

Composition 2 – This is based on a brief set by the exam board in year 11. You are given a choice of different briefs.

The Exam – 40% of the total marks

At the end of year 11, there is a Listening and Appraising exam where you will be played a selection of music from the AoS' we have studied and asked questions about them.

AQA Unit Awards

Within the AQA Unit awards, students will complete tasks to achieve certificates. Within year 10, students will aim to complete Entry Level certificates and Year 11, we will focus on achieving Level 1 Certificates. Students will be given the opportunity to explore music technology as part of the awards.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Entry Level—OCR

This two year course will give you the opportunity to achieve an Entry Level Certificate in digital photography.

It is ideal to enable students of all abilities to access a qualification and grow in confidence. It also provides you with a perfect opportunity to progress onto further educational pathways such as GCSE Photography at college.

The course is assessed in 2 parts:

Portfolio (60% of the total Entry Level Certificate)

Externally set task (40% of the total Entry Level Certificate)

What have I got to do?

Throughout year 10 and 11 you will build a coursework portfolio and learn to:

- Look at artists work to inspire your own ideas,
- Develop your drawing skills to explain your ideas, feelings and meanings,
- Investigate landscapes and portraits,
- Edit your images using Adobe Photoshop,
- Create an image considering colour, shape and texture.

ART

GCSE—AQA

All pupils who take Art as an option will follow the GCSE syllabus and will be entered for this exam.

Over the two years, each pupil will produce a minimum of two pieces of coursework and a final exam.

The coursework topics will be set by the teacher but there will be room for each pupil to follow and develop the theme in a more personal direction if they wish. Each topic will be based around an artistic style and concept in which pupils will learn a variety of techniques and the use of different mediums. All tasks will be set to cover for all ability levels.

For the GCSE Exam there is a strong emphasis on individual ideas and pupils are encouraged to use a range of styles and 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.

Option Block E

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Bronze Award—Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh Program is a real adventure from start to finish. Pupils can do the programme at three levels, which when completed lead to Bronze, Silver and 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 to after school clubs so please bear this in mind when selecting this option. Also note transport for clubs will not always be available.

Finally, a love of the outdoors and walking is a must if you are to pass the award.

HORTICULTURE

Level 1 qualification—Laser

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 or old trainers, wet weather gear, jeans/old clothes. This 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:

- Planting a container
- Floristry skills
- Using and maintaining garden tools
- Pruning skills
- Cultivating herbs
- Garden maintenance

HISTORY

Entry Level Qualification—AQA

In Year 10 and 11 the pupils study many Historical topics. While we continue to work towards improving our reading and writing skills in Key Stage 4. We also learn to improve our understanding of History. In particular, we learn to interpret sources and analysis of major people and events to be able to draw conclusions.

There are three assessments. First there are two short answer and matching tests on the topics which are related to topics listed below. Finally there is a Biography which the students must write independently of 400 words. There are three parts to the assessment which are internally assessed and then externally moderated.

History Topics for this Key Stage 4:

- America 1920 – 1975 Land of Opportunity?
- Crime and Punishment (1100AD – 1900AD)
- America 1750 – 1900 Growth of a Nation

Option Block F

TECHNOLOGY/CRAFT

AQA Unit Awards/Level 1—AQA

Technology/Craft is a technology based subject that builds upon the skills and techniques learned during DT lessons in key stage 3.

Students are encouraged to develop these skills in a more independent way, researching existing products and developing their designs from this research.

They will be taught how to further advance their CAD/CAM skills to produce drawings for their own designs which they will manufacture from a range of different materials such as Plastic, Wood, and Metal.

They will be expected to work as independently as possible whilst still receiving the teaching and support to make this possible.

DIGITAL LIFESTYLES

Entry Level/Level 1/2—AQA

DIGITAL LIFE - This new option looks at all the skills needed in the modern world to work in the digital workplace. Students will be developing skills such on publisher, photo editing software and finally video editing.

Each student will be placed in a team and over two years they will have the task of promoting a new blockbuster movie.

The movie will be horror themed so students should be able to work with this genre. Each team will be responsible for making promotional material for their movie including, a short trailer, remaking scenes from the movie, a soundtrack cd, comic book and finally some designs for online games.

This option will include some evenings away filming in the new forest and possibly some overnight stays on locations.

At the end of the project in Year 11 the students will display all their work at a premier.

This course is about skill development and does not lead to any formal qualifications. However, the skills gained will be valued by employers who work in digital design and publications.

Finally, some acting will be required for making the films and whilst amazing drama skills are not essential students must be able to participate in the scenes.

EXTRA LITERACY/ NUMERACY

AQA Unit Awards/FSELC

A supportive option for Y10 and Y11 students.

This course covers real-life examples of using literacy and numeracy in order to build on skills being taught in our core curriculum. This course is most suitable for students who have struggled with the core curriculum in English and Maths and is designed to give them the skills with which to transition into successful early adulthood.

Each student will receive a tailor made approach to developing these skills. Examples of possible modules are listed here. (There are over 200 in all to choose from. Each student will have a personalised approach).

BASIC LITERACY SKILLS FOR LIFE

WRITING FOR DIFFERENT PURPOSES

SIGN AND SYMBOL LITERACY: DIARY ENTRIES

LITERACY SKILLS: STUDY OF SOAP OPERAS

LITERACY: WRITING INSTRUCTIONS

LITERACY: WRITING FOR PURPOSE

LITERACY: VOCATIONAL READING SKILLS

LITERACY: SPEAKING AND LISTENING FOR PURPOSE

LITERACY: VOCATIONAL SPEAKING AND LISTENING SKILLS

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS: COMMUNICATION AND LITERACY

LITERACY: GRAMMATICAL AWARENESS: SENTENCES

READING A 12 HOUR DIGITAL CLOCK

INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL LITERACY

MONEY MATTERS: USING MONEY

NUMERACY (UNIT 1): CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY

NUMERACY (UNIT 2): DOMESTIC AND EVERYDAY LIFE

NUMERACY (UNIT 3): LEISURE

NUMERACY (UNIT 4): ICT

Each module will be certified with an AQA unit award. There is no limit to the number of unit awards a students can acquire over a 2 year period.

YR 9 Option Blocks

NAME:

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

Option Block A	Qualification	Exam Board	1 st /2 nd Choice
Food Tech	BTEC level 1/2	Edexcel	
Drama	Entry Level or GCSE	BTEC/Edexcel	
Photography	GCSE	OCR	
Option Block B			
PE	GCSE	Edexcel	
French	AQA Unit Awards	AQA	
IT ECDL (GCSE)	Level 1 or 2	BCS	
Option Block C			
Geography	Entry Level 1/2	OCR	
Sports Leaders Award	GCSE Equivalent	SLO	
Life Skills	AQA Unit Awards	AQA	
Option Block D			
Music	AQA Units or GCSE	AQA/OCR	
Photography	Entry Level Qual	OCR	
Art	GCSE	AQA	
Option Block E			
Duke of Edinburgh	Bronze Award	D of E	
Horticulture	Level 1 Qualification	LASER	
History	Entry Level Certificate	AQA	
Option Block F			
Technology/Craft	AQA Unit Awards/Level 1	AQA	
Digital Lifestyles	Entry Level/ Level 1/2	AQA	
Literacy/Numeracy	AQA Unit Awards/ FSELC	AQA	