

# Curriculum Pathways Key Stage

4

NORTH  
BROMSGROVE  
HIGH  
SCHOOL



**NORTH** BROMSGROVE  
HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

# Introduction



## **Dear Parents/Carers,**

Welcome to our Curriculum Pathways for Key Stage 4. At North we are committed to providing a broad, ambitious and inclusive curriculum that empowers all students to achieve academic excellence, develop strong character and become responsible global citizens.

Rooted in our core CARE values of Community, Aspiration, Respect and Endeavour, our curriculum fosters a lifelong love of learning and prepares students for success in further education, employment and wider society. Alongside this, our teaching and learning principles of Connect, Adapt, Respond and Engage underpin learning across all key stages, ensuring lessons are inclusive, challenging and responsive to students' needs. Our curriculum is carefully planned and sequenced to build detailed subject knowledge, transferable skills and cultural capital that support future learning and personal development. Through CARE (PSHE) lessons, students develop resilience, confidence and independence, while CORE Physical Education lessons promote both physical and mental wellbeing.

At Key Stage 4, students follow a curriculum that ensures academic rigour while offering flexibility through a wide range of GCSE and vocational pathways. This stage enables learners to specialise

in subjects that reflect their interests, strengths and future ambitions. We offer a rich and balanced academic curriculum that reflects our school motto, 'Studies Determine Character'. Every student, regardless of ability, is encouraged to achieve their full potential. We place high value on the arts and creative subjects, including art, photography, music, drama, dance, design technology and food. For students aspiring to university study and degree-linked careers, we recommend studying a modern foreign language such as French or Spanish.

Alongside our traditional GCSE offer, we recognise that many students enjoy subjects that include Non-Examined Assessment (coursework). Practical subjects such as Media, Health, Dance, Performing Arts and Music are all offered at Level 2 (GCSE equivalent).

We take great care in designing a student-centred curriculum and supporting learners throughout the options process, helping them to select courses that reflect their interests, strengths and future aspirations. We encourage families to read through the subject information carefully and discuss possible career pathways together. GCSE courses provide a strong foundation for progression to our Sixth Form, with further details available via the links on each page outlining the pathway into post-16 studies.

This is an exciting stage in your child's academic journey, and we look forward to working in partnership with you to unlock the potential of every student and celebrate their future successes and achievements.

## **Mrs Bridges**

*Associate Assistant Headteacher*



# Contents



## Core Subjects

English Language  
English Literature  
Maths

Science (Combined)\*

\*Please note that students wishing to study A-levels in Biology, Chemistry or Physics will be better suited to the Separate Science option.

## Humanities Compulsory Choice (Ebaac)

Choose one or both:

History  
Geography



## GCSE Subjects

Choose 3 option from the lists below and right:

Art & Design: Fine Art\*  
Art & Design: Graphic Communication\*  
Art & Design: Photography  
Business  
Computer Science  
3D Design\*\*  
Film Studies  
Food Preparation & Nutrition  
French  
Physical Education  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Science (Separate)  
Spanish

\* Please note that students cannot take more than one of **Art, Graphics** or **3D Design**

\*\* Students can only take either **3D Design** or **Engineering**, not both

## Level Two Subjects

CNAT Creative iMedia  
BTEC Dance  
CNAT Health Studies  
BTEC Performing Arts  
BTEC Technical Music Practice

## Information

Option Blocks



# English Language

For further information, please contact: Ms Winer - [lwi@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:lwi@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE English Language  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

English Language is invaluable for your future, no matter what you are aiming to do. A good command of the spoken and written word will help you every day – and benefit all your other GCSEs too, by allowing you to appreciate the most powerful tool you have at your disposal: your ability to communicate. Whatever you end up doing, English is a must have subject for sixth form, university, work and life!

## How is the course structured?

Students study a wide range of non-fiction and fiction texts to help develop critical analytical skills. These are from 19th-21st century writing and are often linked by theme. Students also develop their understanding of writing fiction and non-fiction accurately for different purposes and audiences.

There are two exams. The first asks students to respond to one literary fiction text through a range of reading tasks and one writing task. The second asks you to respond to two linked non-fiction texts from different time periods through a range of reading tasks and one writing task. A significant proportion of the final marks are based around accurate use of

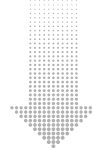
spelling, punctuation and grammar. Students need to build a range of cross-transferable skills and apply these to any text they may face.

## Please note that:

- Attaining a grade of 4 or higher is seen as essential for most college or sixth form courses. Without it, students will have to resit GCSE English.
- You will also receive a separate certificate based on performances linked to speaking and listening tasks.

Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

English Language



Criminology, English Language, Politics

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level and possibly degree study in English Language or English Language and Literature
- Linguistics
- Speech therapy
- Teaching
- Careers in journalism, television, radio or other forms of media
- Creative writing.



# English Literature

For further information, please contact: Ms Winer - [lwi@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:lwi@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE English Literature  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

English Literature is a core subject as it provides a firm foundation for all other subjects you take and for your future, no matter what you are aiming to do.

By exploring interpretations of a wide range of poetry, plays and novels you build confidence in your reading skills and interpretations regarding how writers use language and structure to achieve particular effects. You can then apply the same skills to texts beyond the English classroom.

## How is the course structured?

Students study a wide range of poetry, plays and novels from across a wide time period. This includes one Shakespeare play and the ability to compare literary texts based on language and theme. Text choices include *An Inspector Calls*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Power & Conflict Poetry*, *Unseen Poetry* & *Macbeth*. There are two exams. The first assesses your ability to write in detail about a Shakespeare play and a 19th century novel. The second asks students to analyse one modern text, compare two poems already studied in lessons before finally analysing and comparing two unseen poems.

## Please note that:

- English Literature examinations are closed text – students are not allowed copies of the texts with them and therefore need to know quotations from memory.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level and possibly degree study in English Literature or English Language and Literature
- Courses and careers linked to history
- Law
- Teaching
- Careers in journalism, television, radio or other media.

Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

English Literature

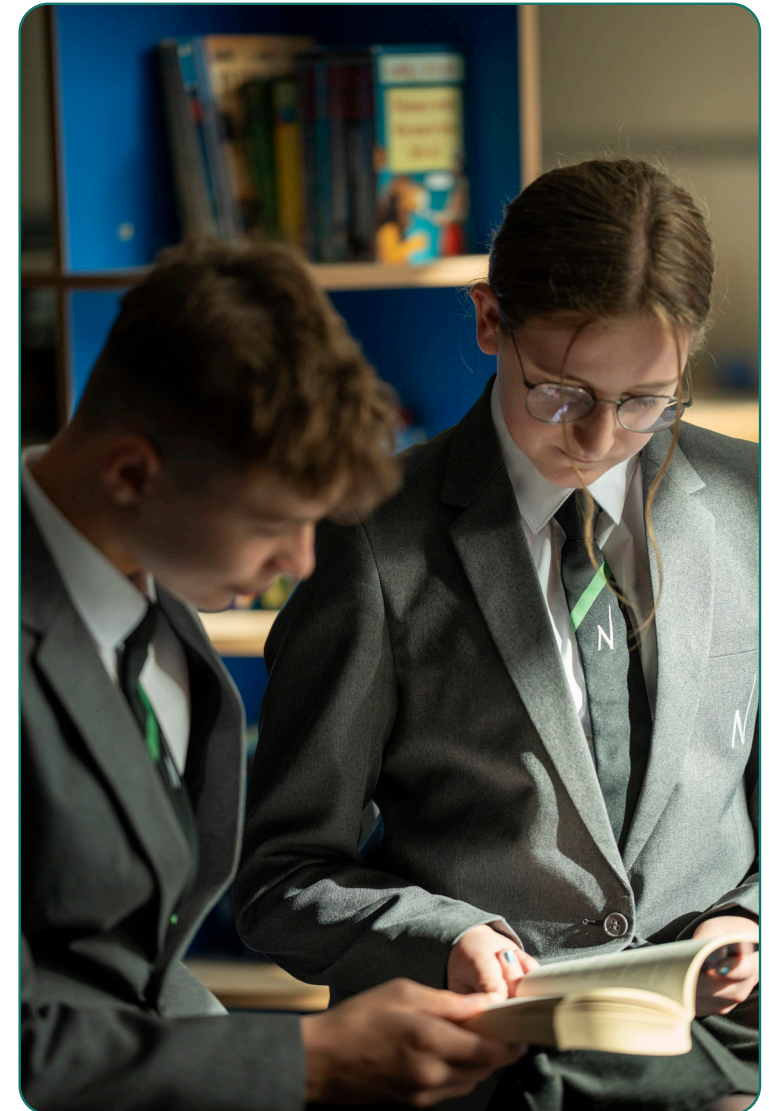


Criminology, English Lit, Film Studies

## Case Study

I feel like English has really boosted my There's always so much to debate in the literature we study and everyone listens and learns from one another. Seeing a play adaptation of *Macbeth* with the school really brought the text's messages home to me and showed me how powerful its themes are, even today.

**Sarah**



# Mathematics

For further information, please contact: Mr Darby - mda@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Mathematics  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

Mathematics is at the corner stone of all GCSEs and is essential to any further employment, education or career. A good grasp of mathematical concepts and the ability to problem solve is what is driving all businesses now and will do in the future. Our society demands young people to be not only numerate, but be able to apply a range of concepts in order to solve problems throughout every facet of life.

## How is the course structured?

The course, as has been the case for several years, is 100% examination and takes the form of three examinations at the end of year 11. With the new GCSE the focus is on reasoning, fluency and problem solving. Students are required to understand a range of skills and concepts across the following key areas:

1. Numbers
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry
5. Statistics and Probability

Students are expected to develop detailed thinking and demonstrate their understanding

of mathematical proofs, whilst formulating clear mathematical arguments. The move away from purely learnt material is a leading factor in this change of assessment focus.

## Please note that:

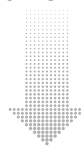
- Achieving a grade of 4 or higher is seen as essential for most college or sixth form courses. Without it, students have to resit GCSE mathematics.

## What might the course lead to?

- Any further educational course
- A Levels or equivalent in mathematics-based subjects, including: mathematics, economics, further maths, accountancy and psychology
- A confidence in mathematical applications, including engineering and finance
- Careers in any field – most employers will be asking for a grade 5 or higher.

Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Mathematics



Maths & Further Maths



# Science (Combined)

For further information, please contact: Mrs Farmer - [jfa@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:jfa@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Science  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

Every aspect of our lives is now touched by science: medicine, astronomy, technology, engineering, drug research, and environmental issues like global warming. Science is a key to understanding the world around us. We teach science following the AQA syllabus, which has an exciting and fun approach to learning science relevant to the world about us.

We know that our work force has a shortage of scientists and we need to develop more young people with science based skill sets.

## How is the course structured?

The majority of students will follow a combined science course. This is made up of all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics and leads to an award worth two GCSEs. Both the combined and separate science routes are appropriate preparation for further science study at A level and beyond.

## Case Study

Science is a challenging subject, where you strive to question and understand the world around you. The most interesting challenge was to identify how things work, before applying the concepts to

Students will sit the following exams:

- Biology Paper 1 (1 hr 15mins)
- Chemistry Paper 1 (1 hr 15mins)
- Physics Paper 1 (1 hr 15 mins)
- Biology Paper 2 (1 hr 15 mins)
- Chemistry Paper 2 (1 hr 15mins)
- Physics Paper 2 (1 hr 15mins)

## Please note that:

- *Students wishing to study A-levels in Biology, Chemistry or Physics will be better suited to the Separate Science option.*
- There are 21 required practical activities that must be carried out during the course.
- 15% of exam marks test understanding of practical work; 20% of exam marks test mathematics skills.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Levels or Btec Level 3 courses in Science.
- Working in any technology-based industry.
- Apprenticeships in science, health and social care or engineering.

real life situations. With a little perseverance, you realise how powerful science can be. The practicals bring science to life!

**Noah**



Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Science (Combined)



Human Biology, Health, PE, Psychology

# History

For further information, please contact: Miss Sparey - [esp@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:esp@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE History  
EXAM BOARD: EdExcel  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

The GCSE covers a broad study of history ranging from periods studied in great detail, from Elizabethan England to the Cold War, with additional breadth studies on Medicine in Britain and a comparative study of the USA's domestic and foreign struggles.

This enables you to understand some of the forces, events and issues that have shaped our modern world.

Understanding history helps shape your understanding of how we live today, and will live in the future.

## How is the course structured?

The course is designed to allow students to experience a wide range of history: local, national and international history is studied as well as a wide chronology including medieval, early modern and modern history. The course is divided into three exams:

**Paper 1** – Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and

The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches

**Paper 2** – Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88.

Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91

**Paper 3** - The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home (Civil Rights) and abroad (Vietnam War)

## Students should take the course if they:

- Enjoy learning about people and major events in the past.
- Have strong opinions and enjoy defending their point of view.
- Are interested in understanding the motives and experiences of different people
- Show skills in analysing concepts such as change, continuity, significance, causation and consequence.
- Are willing to read and interpret a range of sources and texts.

## What might the course lead to?

- Professions such as law, journalism, management and broadcasting all of which value and use the skills developed in History.
- Specific history-related professions such as heritage management.
- History is a facilitating subject which enables students to access all, including the Russell Group universities.



Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

History



History, Politics

# Geography

For further information, please contact: Mr Bird - mbi@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Geography  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

Geography is all around us; from the country we live in, our culture and beliefs, our understanding of global events, to even something as simple as our routes to school or work.

Studying the GCSE allows you to look at the world through a range of stimulus from maps, to documentaries, articles to photos. The wide ranging content linked to geography means that there is something for everyone!

## How is the course structured?

The course develops an understanding of fundamental topics in physical and human geography.

Students will travel the world from the classroom, exploring case studies in the UK, newly emerging economies and lower income countries.

Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use.

Students are encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

The majority of learning will be classroom based. Each student is required to undertake

two fieldwork study sessions and develop a coursework-style project which will be externally examined rather than traditionally marked.

There are three exams which are at the end of the course:

- Paper 1 covers the three physical topics
  - Paper 2 examines the three human topics
  - Paper 3 which examines the skills learned through fieldwork as well as a pre-release booklet from which students will need to employ their decision-making skills
- Examinations for all three of the sections have short- and long-answer questions, based around knowledge and understanding as well as stimulus-based responses.

### Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Geography



Geography

## Students should take the course if they:

- Want to understand the world around them.
- Are prepared to display a strong work ethic and respond to feedback.
- Like to display a range of skills including discussion, writing and the use of creativity.
- Are empathetic to the experiences of others around the world.
- Have a good standard of literacy to facilitate strong exam responses.

## What might the course lead to?

- A-Level and a degree in geography.
- A wide range of careers including conservation, cartography and surveying, GIS, and landscape design.
- More developed awareness of the world around you which will help in a multitude of service related fields.



# Art & Design: Fine Art

For further information, please contact: Mrs Fello - [gfl@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:gfl@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Art & Design: Fine Art  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 40% Externally set assignment, 60% Personal portfolio

## What's the course about?

Fine Art, also known as "high art," is a creative work made purely for artistic enjoyment and display. GCSE artists explore an idea, convey an experience or respond to a theme or issue of personal significance, whilst developing skills in drawing, painting and mixed media.

## How is the course structured?

*Component 1: portfolio (60%)*

A portfolio includes a sustained project, evidencing the journey from initial ideas to the completion of a finished piece and a selection of further work undertaken during your course of study.

*Component 2: externally set assignment (40%)*

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

*Please note that students are not permitted to study more than one GCSE Art and Design specialism. Therefore, they must choose between Fine Art, Photography or Art Textiles.*

## Students should take the course if they:

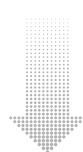
- Enjoy creating artwork and are motivated and curious in their approach.
- Are resilient and know that success does not happen overnight – it requires hard work and perseverance.
- Are prepared to work hard outside lesson time as well as in lessons.
- Can concentrate effort and attention for long periods of time.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Levels or further study in art and design
- Graphic designer, web designer, fine artist or craft specialist
- Marketing, gallery curation, animation, theatre, TV or film production.
- Teaching

### Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Art



Art

## Case Study

I have really enjoyed being able to develop my own ideas and it's great when I create work I am proud of. I also like the fact that it's fine to make mistakes and really that's how you learn and develop your skills. People choosing art need to realise you have to work hard outside lessons in order to get everything done. On the plus side there is no revision and all the work I create goes towards my GCSE.

**Katie**



# Art & Design: Graphic Communication

For further information, please contact: Mrs Fello - [gfl@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:gfl@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Art & Design

EXAM BOARD: AQA

ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 40% Externally set assignment, 60% Personal portfolio

## What's the course about?

In this subject students learn how to design visual materials to convey information, ideas, meaning and emotions in response to a given or self-defined brief. Areas of study include communication graphics, advertising, branding, package design, typography and illustration.

The biggest difference between Fine Art and Graphics is that Fine Art is created for the artist themselves and graphic work is generated for a purpose through a business client.

*Students are unable to study both Fine Art and Graphic Communication, but it can combine with a GCSE in Photography.*

## How is the course structured?

*Component 1: portfolio (60%)*

A portfolio includes a sustained project, evidencing the journey from initial ideas to the completion of a finished piece and a selection of further work undertaken during your course of study.

*Component 2: externally set assignment (40%)*

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

## Students should take the course if they:

- enjoy creating artwork and are motivated and curious in their approach
- are resilient and know that success does not happen overnight – it requires hard work and perseverance
- are prepared to work hard outside lesson time as well as in lessons
- can concentrate effort and attention for long periods of time

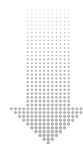
## What might the course lead to?

- A Levels or further study in art and design
- graphic designer, web designer, fine artist or craft specialist
- marketing, gallery curation, animation, theatre, TV or film production
- teaching



**Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form**

**Graphic Communication**



**Art, Photography**

# Art & Design: Photography

For further information, please contact: Mrs Brierley - kbr@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Art & Design: Photography  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 40% externally set assignment, 60% personal portfolio

## What's the course about?

The GCSE photography course allows you to engage in lens-based art, which encourages you to be imaginative, thoughtful and technical whilst also balancing this with the ability to analyse, deconstruct and explore the work of photographers.

The course will introduce you to the basics of photography, using a DSLR camera and developing your work using Adobe Photoshop.

## How is the course structured?

*Component 1: portfolio (60%)*

A portfolio includes a sustained project, evidencing the journey from initial ideas to the completion of a finished piece and a selection of further work undertaken during your course of study.

*Component 2: externally set assignment (40%)*

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

*Please note that students are not permitted to study this course as well as GCSE Art and Design: Textiles or GCSE Art and Design: Fine Art.*

## Students should take the course if they:

- Enjoy taking photographs and are motivated and curious in their approach.
- Are resilient and know that success does not happen overnight – it requires hard work and perseverance.
- Are prepared to work hard outside lesson time as well as in lessons.
- Can concentrate effort and attention for long periods of time.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Levels or further study in art and design.
- Photographer specialist.
- Marketing, website design, animation, theatre, TV or film production.
- Teaching

## Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

**Photography**



**Art, Photography**



## Case Study

I have really enjoyed taking photographs in the style of Sarah Graham as part of the homework in our year 9 art rotation. I can't wait to take GCSE Photography to learn

more about the art of taking pictures. I like the idea of researching other photographers and learning about how they produce their images.

**Libby**

# Business

For further information, please contact: Mr Jenkinson - [aje@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:aje@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Business  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% examination

## What's the course about?

GCSE Business is an engaging and inspiring qualification, and reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving business environment.

This course enables students to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals whilst thinking about the ethics and the long term effects of business decisions. A significant number of young people will end up working in business and this course provides a perfect starting point to learning about a diverse range of related occupations.

## How is the course structured?

Theme 1 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 be introduced to local and national business contexts and will develop an understanding of how these contexts impact business behaviour and decisions.

Theme 2 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 emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. Theme 2 also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

## Students should take the course if they:

- Have an interest in how businesses operate, from sole traders to multinationals.
- Want to develop the skills needed to run their own business.
- Want to gain an insight into business ethics.
- Are interested in the effects of politics and the economy on the business environment.
- Wish to understand how to make effective human resource decisions.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level Business.
- Cambridge Technical in business related subjects.
- Apprenticeships.
- Vocational qualifications in business enterprise.



## Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

**Business**



**Business**

# Computer Science

For further information, please contact: Mr Jenkinson - [aje@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:aje@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Computer Science  
EXAM BOARD: OCR  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

Computer Science is all around you. Every aspect of your life has been impacted by the developments of Computer Science: Mobile Phones, Internet, AI, Social-Media, Farming, Medicine and more. Computer Science is fundamental in modern society. By studying OCR J277, you will not only possess the essential skills for the future, but also unlock endless possibilities to shape the digital world around you. Develop programming skills to allow you not just buy, play and use the latest apps or games, but design them.

## How is the course structured?

The qualification is made up of two units.

### *Unit 1: Computer Systems*

Introduces students to the basics of Computer Science, covering computer systems, networks, cyber security, storage and programming. It provides both theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

### *Unit 2: Algorithms and Programming*

This unit focuses on programming and problem solving. Students learn concepts such as algorithm development and undertake a

variety of different programming tasks. This component enhances programming skills and prepares for not only further study, but real-world application in the future life.

Both components are externally assessed at the end of the course. This is completed by two exam papers. Both papers being 90 minutes long and having a total of 80 marks. Each paper being worth 50% of their total GCSE mark.

## Students should take the course if they:

- Can think logically.
- Enjoy solving problems.
- Enjoy using computers.
- Are interested in how a computer works
- Want to learn more about how modern technology affects our society and how we communicate with one another.

## What might the course lead to?

- Computing A Level
- Apprenticeships in computing or ICT fields
- Cambridge Technical qualification in ICT
- Principal Learning in Engineering
- Any computer or engineering based careers pathway

## Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

**Computer Science**



**Computer Science**



# Design Technology- 3D Design

For further information, please contact: Miss Bell - [abe@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:abe@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE

EXAM BOARD: AQA

ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 60% NEA personal portfolio and 40% practical exam

## What's the course about?

The course has a huge focus on practical, hands-on design projects, allowing students to apply their skills to model and make successful outcomes and reflect current trends in the design industry. There is a strong emphasis on coursework where students will take influence from designers and trends to research and create their own unique products using wood, metal and plastic, with a wider scope for success. Students will gain the most relevant and up-to-date knowledge in the rapidly advancing field of product design and use to most up to date CAD technology to help aid final outcomes (laser cutting and 3D printing). We want our students to be fully prepared for the future and to have the opportunity to develop skills that are directly applicable in the professional world. The course content will not only provide a broader skill set for using tools and machines but will also offer more opportunities for creative problem-solving and innovation design work. We want to ensure projects are now designed to be more interactive and practical based. Our goal is to foster a dynamic and engaging learning environment that prepares students for both higher education and creative careers.

## How is the course structured?

### *Component 1: Portfolio (60%)*

The course has a main focus on design and making using wood metals and plastics, with a wider scope for achievable outcomes making it an exciting GCSE option. Students will begin the subject with short project based work to build the practical skills the students need for the subject. The first portfolio includes a sustained project, evidencing the journey from initial ideas and influences from designers to the completion of a finished product and a selection of further work undertaken during your course of study. The course focuses on practical, hands-on design projects, allowing students to apply their skills to real-world challenges and reflect current trends in industry.

### *Component 2: Externally set assignment (40%)*

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives. This is a research, design, manufacture and evaluation of a final outcome students must complete in a practical 10 hour exam. This qualification shows learners how to:

- Conduct effective research
- Communicate ideas (drawing)
- Develop ideas with practical outcomes
- Manufacture 3D outcomes

## Students should take the course if they:

- Are creative
- Like independent project work
- Can manage their time effectively
- Enjoy drawing and designing innovative ideas
- Enjoy developing practical skills
- If they are considering a career in design or manufacturing
  - Are resilient and are prepared to work hard outside lesson time as well as in lessons
  - can concentrate effort and attention for long periods of time

## What might the course lead to?

- A level Product Design at North Bromsgrove
- Industrial Design
- Mechanical Engineering
- Structural engineer
- Product Design honours degree
- Digital design and creative fields
- Carpentry apprenticeship

# Film Studies

For further information, please contact: Mrs Badham - lba@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: GCSE  
EXAM BOARD: WJEC  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 70% Exam  
30% Coursework

## What's the course about?

The WJEC Film Studies GCSE is designed to introduce students to the world of film analysis, filmmaking techniques, and the cultural significance of film. It focuses on developing critical thinking and analytical skills, allowing students to appreciate the art of filmmaking while understanding the techniques used in the creation of films. Studying a diverse range of films from several different contexts is designed to give learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding of how films are constructed to their own filmmaking and screenwriting. This is intended to support learners in producing creative films and screenplays as well as enable their production work to provide an informed filmmaker's perspective on their own study of film.

## How is the course structured?

### *Component 1: Exam*

Key Developments in US Film

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

35% of qualification

Learners will study three US films for this component and this will be one pair of films for

comparison.

There will then be the study of one US independent film .

### *Component 2 Exam*

Global Film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 35% of qualification

Learners will be required to study three films from outside the US for this component.

### *Component 3 Production Non-exam*

assessment 30% of qualification (production, 20%, evaluative analysis, 10%)

The production may take the form of:

- either a filmed extract from a genre film (2 minutes to 2½ minutes)
- or an extract from a screenplay for a genre film (800 to 1000 words).

## Students should take the course if they:

Have a huge enthusiasm and excitement for film. Want to explore the art of filmmaking, analyse film techniques, and understand the

cultural, social, and historical contexts of films. Want to develop critical thinking, creativity, and practical skills, such as filmmaking, writing, and teamwork.

The course provides a strong foundation for further studies in film, media, or arts, and equips students with transferable skills valued in various industries, including communication, analysis, and technical proficiency.

For those passionate about cinema, it offers a fun and dynamic way to deepen their understanding of the medium

## What might the course lead to..

The Film Studies GCSE can lead to further studies in A Level Film Studies or Drama, as well as university degrees in Film Production, Screenwriting, Cinematography, Media Studies, or Animation.

It can also open doors to careers in the film industry, such as filmmaking, screenwriting, editing, cinematography, film criticism, and media production, as well as roles in advertising, public relations, and digital content creation.

# Food Preparation and Nutrition

For further information, please contact: Mrs O'Grady - [sog@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:sog@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

## QUALIFICATION:

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

EXAM BOARD: AQA

ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 50% Examination

50% Non-Examined Assessment

## What's the course about?

This creative course focuses on practical cooking skills and ensures students develop a strong understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food. The specification is covered in a variety of practical, experimental and theory-based lessons.

Across the course, students will build an extensive repertoire of practical skills. They will plan, prepare and cook dishes regularly, often based around a food commodity, a specific nutrient or to suit particular groups of people. Most weeks, students will be required to bring ingredients in from home to complete a practical activity, which will be assessed.

## How is the course structured?

The course focuses on five core elements:

1. Food, nutrition and health.
2. Food science.
3. Food safety.
4. Food choice.
5. Food provenance.

Twelve food preparation skill groups are integrated through practical activities.

The non-exam assessment in Year 11 involves

a food investigation and a food preparation assessment. During Year 10, students are prepared effectively for these through science investigations and a three-hour practical mock examination. There is also a written exam at the end of Year 11.

## Students should take the course if they:

- Enjoy cooking at home.
- Enjoy eating a variety of dishes and trying new flavours.
- Like being creative with ingredients and presentation.
- Keep up to date with food issues.
- Are organised and committed to bringing in the necessary ingredients.

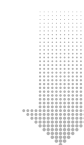
## What might the course lead to?

- Dietician or nutritionist
- Food sales and promotion
- Product development
- Chef, baker, restaurateur
- Food journalist or critic
- Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition



**Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form**

**GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition**



**Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition**

# French

For further information, please contact: Miss Loble - [rlo@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:rlo@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE French  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

We believe languages should be accessible for all students. The authentic situations and material in this course allow students to see language used in a real situation and to learn about the culture of France.

Assessments will provide plenty of opportunities for students to apply their knowledge independently and creatively.

## How is the course structured?

French consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills:

- Listening: Students are assessed on their understanding of standard spoken French in a range of public and social settings. Students will respond to multiple-response and short-answer questions.

- Speaking: Students are assessed on their ability to communicate and interact effectively in French for different purposes and in different settings, for instance a role-play and a discussion of a picture-based stimulus followed by a conversation based on two themes.

- Reading: Students are assessed on their understanding of written French across a range of different types of texts, including: advertisements, emails, letters, articles and literary texts. This area includes a short

translation passage.

- Writing: Students are assessed on their ability to communicate effectively through writing in French for different purposes and audiences. Students are required to produce extended responses of varying lengths and types to express ideas and opinions in French.

## Students should take the course if they:

- Have an interest in learning a language
- Wish to travel and potentially work abroad.
- Wish to broaden their cultural horizons as well as study a subject which is considered highly academic by colleges and universities.
- Are prepared to work independently to strengthen their grammar and writing skills.

## What might the course lead to?

- Progression to A-Level French. Languages is a popular choice to study alongside another subject (joint honours)
- There are many routes you can take with languages, such as journalism, business management, translation or teaching
- Being competent in a language will give you broader career options, whatever you decide.



## Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

French



French

# Physical Education

For further information, please contact: Mr Stanford - bst@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Physical Education  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 60% Examination  
40% Non-Examined Assessment

## What's the course about?

The content has been designed to allow learners to study Physical Education in an academic setting, allowing them to critically analyse and evaluate physical performance and apply their experience of practical activities in developing their knowledge and understanding of the subject. It is therefore vital that students are actively engaged in sports participation beyond lessons in extracurricular clubs or outside clubs to gain a degree of skill and expertise. Students will learn about a variety of topics:

- The structures and functions of different body systems
- The physics behind motion
- Personal Exercise Programs (PEP)
- Physical, emotional and social health
- Energy use, diet, nutrition and hydration
- Sport psychology
- Social and cultural influences

## How is the course structured?

Five lessons – Three theory (classroom based) and two practical lessons.

To complete the course students will need to complete four components.

1. Written exam (36%) 80 marks – 1.5 hr exam
2. Written exam (24%) 60 marks – 1 hr exam
3. Practical performance (30%) – Students will need to perform in 3 sports
  - One team activity
  - One individual activity
  - One activity of their choice either team or individual activity.
4. Coursework (10%) – Personal Exercise Programme (PEP)
  - Students will plan, perform and carry out their own individual personal exercise programme

## Students should take the course if they:

- Currently play/perform in two sports outside of school
- Are willing to attend extra-curricular activities and play in the school teams
- Bring their PE kit to every lesson
- Want to learn about how the body adapts to training
- Aspire to work within the industry or study the body at further education

## What might the course lead to?

- Level 3 courses including A-Level & BTEC
- Sport & Exercise Science
- Health & Medical Careers
- Psychology & Behaviour Industry
- Management, Business & Media

## Transferable Skills

- Data Interpretation
- Evaluation & Judgement
- Applying theories to situations
- Leadership

## These are valued in

- Medicine
- Engineering
- Law
- Business
- Psychology

**Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form**

**Physical Education**



**Physical Education, Health, Biology, Medical Science**

# Psychology

For further information, please contact: Mr Rogers - jro@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Psychology  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

Psychology at GCSE level gives you the opportunity to study a broad range of topics in psychology and makes an interesting introduction to the approaches of the subject. Through this, students will scientifically explore the human mind and its functions, especially how we behave in particular situations.

## How is the course structured?

Paper 1 topics: Memory, Development, Perception, Research Methods

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 2 topics: Social Influence, Language/ Communications, Brain / Neuropsychology Psychological Problems

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

## Students should take the course if they:

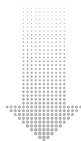
- Would like to attempt to explain how our mind works
- Are interested in human behaviour
- Are interested in the nature / nurture debate
- Enjoy relating real life situations to theoretical explanations
- Can follow scientific procedures to complete research

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level studies and beyond in psychology
- A range of psychologist roles, such as clinical, forensic or educational psychology
- Teaching
- Nursing, counselling and psychiatry
- Marketing
- Careers linked to human resources

### Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

**Psychology**



**Criminology, Psychology**



# Religious Studies

For further info, please contact: Head of Faculty Miss McKinney - [rmc@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:rmc@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Religious Studies  
EXAM BOARD: AQA  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

A GCSE in Religious Studies is all about understanding the way people live and the choices they make through exploring big questions. Why do some people support the death penalty? Can war ever be just? Is marriage outdated? Why do Muslims pray? Why do Christians run food banks? Should Euthanasia be legalised? Is sex before marriage acceptable? And many more. We look at both religious and non-religious beliefs thinking about what influences people and their responses to these big questions. Religious Studies is a course that develops skills beneficial to a wide range of further study options or careers, it is a subject that is considered a good all-rounder and does not directly feed into any one pathway rather it opens doors to many.

## How is the course structured?

There are two exam papers, both 1 hour and 45 minutes each. Paper 1 is the study of religion; looking at key beliefs in Christianity and Islam. Paper two is Philosophy and Ethics; looking at Crime and Punishment, Relationships and Families, War and Peace

and Life issues. Both papers are of equal weighting (50%) each and your grade will come from both papers added together.

## Students should take the course if they:

- Currently enjoying their RS lessons and are doing well
- Like being able to debate and discuss big questions
- Can appreciate different viewpoints
- Like to question the world we live in (think critically)
- Are keen to study a course that will support study of a range of other subjects, including history and English literature
- Wants to study a subject that can develop skills necessary for further study or a career in a range of fields

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level study of RE, Philosophy, Criminology or similar routes
- Media and journalism
- Working with others: teaching, youth or community based work, social work, law

## Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

### Religious Studies



### Religious Studies



# Science (Separate)

For further information, please contact: Mrs Farmer - [jfa@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:jfa@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Science

EXAM BOARD: AQA

ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

Every aspect of our lives is now touched by science: medicine, astronomy, technology, engineering, drug research, and environmental issues like global warming. Science is a key to understanding the world around us. We teach science following the AQA syllabus, which has an exciting and fun approach to learning science relevant to the world about us.

We know that our work force has a shortage of scientists and we need to develop more young people with science based skill sets.

## How is the course structured?

Those students intending to continue with A-level science should study this course. This is made up of all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics and leads to three GCSE grades; one for each science. Both the combined and separate science routes are appropriate preparation for further science study at A-level and beyond, however the Separates course has additional A-level units to stretch our learners and better prepare them for a future career within Science.

Students will sit the following exams:

- Biology Paper 1 (1hr 45mins)
- Chemistry Paper 1 (1hr 45mins)
- Physics Paper 1 (1hr 45 mins)
- Biology Paper 2 (1hr 45 mins)
- Chemistry Paper 2 (1hr 45mins)
- Physics Paper 2 (1hr 45mins)

## Please note that:

- There are 28 required practical activities that must be carried out during the course 10 Biology, 8 Chemistry and 10 Physics.
- 15% of exam marks test understanding of practical work; 20% of exam marks test mathematics skills.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Levels or BTEC Level 3 courses in Science
- Apprenticeships in science, health and social care or engineering
- Working in any technology-based industry
- Degree level study of dentistry, medicine, veterinary science, forensic science or engineering to name just a few.

**Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form**

**Science (Separate)**



**Biology, Chemistry, Physics**



# Spanish

For further information, please contact: Miss Loble - [rlo@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:rlo@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Spanish  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 100% Examination

## What's the course about?

The ability to communicate in another language is an excellent opportunity to broaden and exercise the mind, immerse yourself in the vivid culture of Spain and Hispanic culture and equip yourself for travel, tourism and future careers. Previous learning in French or another language will be a vital base and a dedication to vocabulary learning is of great value.

## How is the course structured?

Spanish consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills:

- Listening: Students are assessed on their understanding of standard spoken Spanish in a range of public and social settings. Students will respond to multiple-response and short-answer questions.
- Speaking: Students are assessed on their ability to communicate and interact effectively in Spanish for different purposes and in different settings, for instance a role-play and a discussion of a picture-based stimulus followed by a conversation based on two themes.
- Reading: Students are assessed on their understanding of written Spanish across a range of different types of texts, including:

advertisements, emails, letters, articles and literary texts.

- Writing: Students are assessed on their ability to communicate effectively through writing in Spanish for different purposes and audiences. Students are required to produce extended responses of varying lengths and types to express ideas and opinions in Spanish.

## Students should take the course if they:

- Have an interest in learning a language.
- Wish to travel and potentially work abroad.
- Wish to broaden their cultural horizons as well as study a subject which is considered highly academic by colleges and universities.
- Are prepared to work independently to strengthen their grammar and writing skills.

## What might the course lead to?

- Progression to A Level Spanish. Languages is a popular choice to study alongside another subject (joint honours) at university
- There are many routes you can take with languages, such as journalism, business management, translation or teaching
- Being competent in a language will give you broader career options, whatever you decide.



Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Spanish



Spanish

# Creative iMedia

For further information, please contact: Mr Goodyear - ago@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: Cambridge National  
Creative iMedia  
EXAM BOARD: OCR  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 40% Exam  
60% Coursework

## What's the course about?

Creative iMedia allows students to gain knowledge in a number of key areas associated to the media field. It offers a hands-on approach to learning where as each unit has practical tasks rather than majority theory approach.

The course focuses more on the creative use of media such as, websites, digital video, interactive multimedia products, digital sound, image manipulation and more.

The qualification will assess the application of creative media skills through their practical use and it will provide learners with essential knowledge, transferable skills and tools to improve their learning in other subjects with the aims of enhancing their employability when they leave education.

## How is the course structured?

iMedia is split into 3 parts, 40% exam & two units of coursework make up the further 60%. Students are required to complete two compulsory units these are:

*Unit R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry*

This is assessed by taking an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the media

industry, digital media products, how they are planned, and the media codes which are used to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences.

Topics include:

- o The media industry
- o Factors influencing product design
- o Pre-production planning
- o Distribution considerations

*Unit R094: Visual identity and digital graphics*

This is assessed by completing a set assignment. In this unit you will learn to how to develop visual identities for clients and use the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics to engage target audiences.

Topics include:

- o Develop visual identity
- o Plan digital graphics for products
- o Create visual identity and digital graphics

Once these two mandatory units are complete, students will then complete a further unit. This unit is assessed in the same way as R094, through coursework.

The proposed unit is: R097: Interactive digital media. You will learn how to plan, create and review interactive digital media products.

Topics include:

- o Plan interactive digital media
- o Create interactive digital media
- o Review interactive digital media

## Students should take the course if they:

- Have an interest in developing their IT skills to cover a range of software.
- Want to learn how IT is used in Media creatively.
- Enjoy using a computer creatively.
- Are interested in a career in the Creative Media field.

## What might the course lead to?

- L3 Technicals in Digital Media
- Apprenticeship in computing/IT field
- Cambridge Technical in IT
- A Level Computer Science

**Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form**

**Creative iMedia**



**Business, Computer Science**

# Dance

For further information, please contact: Mrs Needle - [cne@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:cne@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: BTEC Tech Award in  
Performing Arts – Dance  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 40% External  
Assessment 60% Non-Exam Assessment

## What's the course about?

Designed to give learners a wider understanding and appreciation of performing arts through a defined pathway, this is a course where experienced dancers can use their skills and ability to create and learn performance pieces individually and as a group.

- Provides education and training for dance students.
- Gives opportunities for performing arts students to achieve a nationally recognised level one or level two vocationally specific qualification.
- Gives successful learners the opportunity to progress to other vocational courses.

## How is the course structured?

Students complete three units of work. These include practical and theoretical elements. The units include performance pieces that have to be recorded in front of an audience.

Core units

1. Exploring the Performing Arts
2. Demonstrating Skill and Techniques in the Performing Arts
3. Responding to a Brief

## Students should take the course if they:

- Have a keen interest in participating in dance.
- Want to learn about how the body adapts to training as a dancer.
- Like working as a team as well as individually.
- Are willing to attend rehearsals and performances beyond school.
- Have dance school experience.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level in PE /Dance
- BTEC Level 2 or 3 at college in a performing arts based course
- Choreographer
- Dance teacher

### Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Dance



Dance & Drama



# Drama

For further information, please contact: Mrs Needle - [cne@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:cne@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: BTEC Tech Award in  
Performing Arts – Drama  
EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 40% External  
Assessment 60% Non-Exam Assessment

## What's the course about?

Designed to give learners a wider understanding and appreciation of performing arts through a defined pathway, this is a course where experienced actors can use their skills and ability to create and learn performance pieces individually and as a group.

- Provides education and training for drama students.
- Gives opportunities for performing arts students to achieve a nationally recognised level one or level two vocationally specific qualification.
- Gives successful learners the opportunity to progress to other vocational courses.

## How is the course structured?

Students complete three components of work. These include practical and theoretical elements. The components include performance pieces that have to be recorded in front of an audience.

Components:

1. Exploring the Performing Arts.
2. Demonstrating Skill and Techniques in the Performing Arts.
3. Responding to a Brief.

## Students should take the course if they:

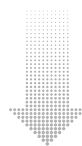
- Have a keen interest in participating in drama.
- Want to learn about skills and techniques needed to become an actor.
- Like working as a team as well as individually.
- Are willing to attend rehearsals and performances beyond school.

## What might the course lead to?

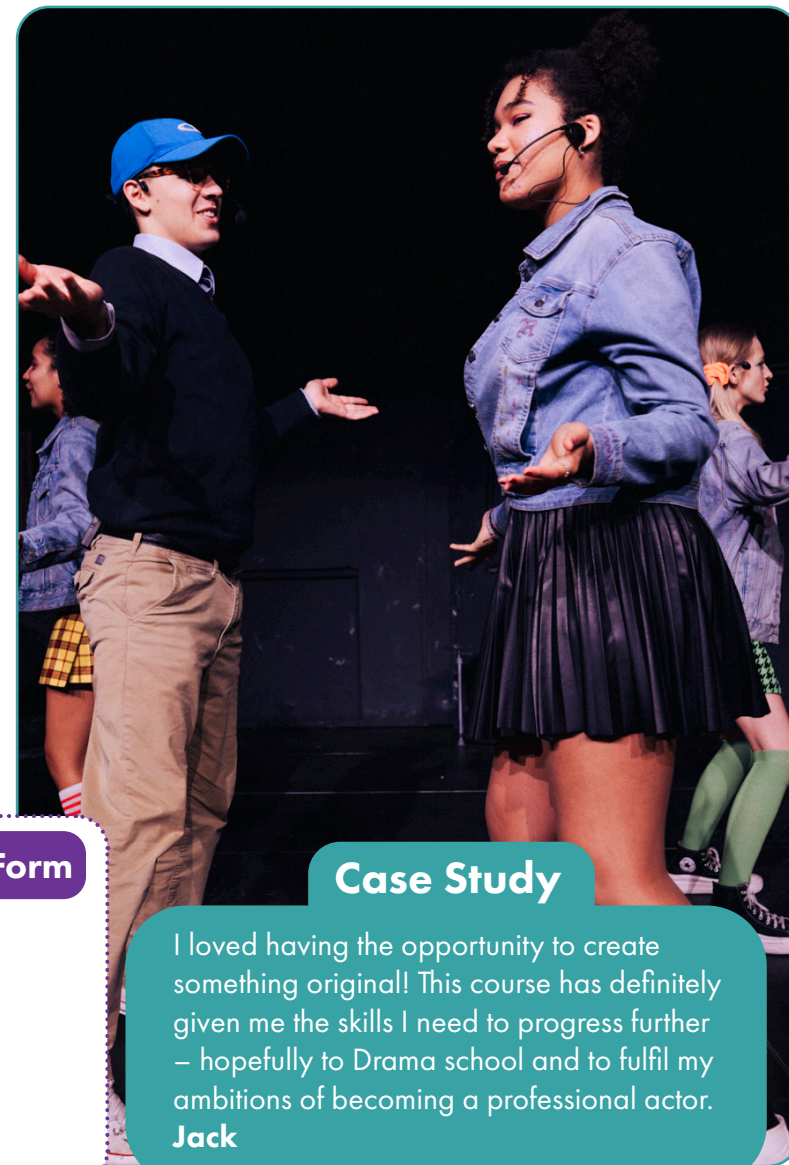
- A Level Drama
- BTEC Level 2 or 3 at college in a performing arts based course
- Stage management
- Directo
- Actor

### Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form

Drama



Dance & Drama



### Case Study

I loved having the opportunity to create something original! This course has definitely given me the skills I need to progress further – hopefully to Drama school and to fulfil my ambitions of becoming a professional actor.  
**Jack**

# Health Studies

For further information, please contact: Ms Chalmers - hch@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

QUALIFICATION: Cambridge National  
Certificate in Health and Social Care  
EXAM BOARD: OCR  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 34% Examination  
66% Non-Examined Assessment

## What's the course about?

The Cambridge National Certificate will equip students with an up to date knowledge of issues arising in health care, social care and early years settings. This qualification provides learners with a stimulating and engaging introduction to the health and social care sector. It presents learners with knowledge, skills and understanding in a meaningful, work-related context, allowing them to understand both the theories and their application to real life.

## How is the course structured?

*Unit R032: Principles of care in health and social care settings - Written paper set and marked by OCR, 33.3%*

In this unit you will learn about the importance of the rights of service users, person-centred values and how to apply them. You will also learn about the importance of effective communication skills when providing care and support for service users in health and social care settings and the procedures and measures used to protect individuals such as safeguarding, hygiene and security. Students will sit this exam in the January of Y11.

*Unit R033: Supporting individuals through life*

*events – Centre assessed tasks, 33.3%*

In this unit you will learn about life stages and the factors that affect them. You will understand expected and unexpected life events and the impact they will have on physical, social/emotional and socio-economic aspects in an individual's life. You will research the service providers and practitioners that can support individuals, recommend support and justify how this will meet the needs of a specific individual.

*Unit R035: Health promotion campaigns – Centre Assessed tasks, 33.3%*

In this unit you will have the opportunity to explore the various public health challenges the country faces, the approaches used to encourage health and wellbeing and the importance of this to society. You will understand the factors affecting a healthy lifestyle so that campaigns can be designed to target different groups of people. You will also learn how to plan and deliver your own small-scale health promotion campaign and how to evaluate your planning and delivery.

**R033 & R035 are completed in Year 10.**

*Due to the amount of overlap, we recommend students do not study this course as well as Child Development.*

## Students should take the course if they:

- Are considering a career in a related area.
- Would like to apply theories to real life case studies.
- Are interested in why this sector affects everyone.
- Enjoy practising skills that will help you in real life, like communication in the workplace.

## What might the course lead to?

- A Level or Level 3 equivalent in subjects linked to health and social care.
- A university degree in health & social care.
- Any career within health, early years and/or social care, like nursing, teaching, midwifery, social worker, counsellor, youth worker or a care assistant.

**Pathway to studying at North's 6th Form**

**Health Studies**



**Health Studies, Human Biology**

# Music

For further information, please contact: Mr Neale - [one@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:one@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

QUALIFICATION: GCSE Music (2018)  
EXAM BOARD: OCR  
ASSESSMENT DETAILS: 60% Internally Assessed  
40% Externally Assessed

## What's the course about?

GCSE Music gives you the opportunity to develop your skills as a performer, composer, and informed listener. Through exploring a broad range of musical styles - including pop and film music to classical traditions and global genres, you'll build your knowledge of how music is created, structured, and communicated. The course is practical, creative, and exciting, offering you the chance to express yourself creatively and appreciate music at a deeper level.

### *Performing Music (30% NEA):*

You will perform on your chosen instrument or voice, either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble. Throughout the course, you'll improve your technique, confidence, and musicianship through regular practice and performance opportunities in lessons, concerts, and extracurricular groups. By the end of Year 11, you will record two performances that showcase your best work.

### *Composing Music (30% NEA):*

You'll learn how to create your own music from scratch. You'll explore different styles, learn how to shape musical ideas, and use digital software to bring your compositions to life. You will create two compositions: one to a set brief provided by OCR, and another entirely of your own design. This is your chance to experiment with melody, harmony, rhythm, and texture—to find your creative voice and develop the skills of a music creator.

### *Appraising Music (40% Listening Exam):*

The listening and appraising component helps you understand how music works in detail. You will study four areas of study, covering a mix of classical, contemporary, and world music. Through guided listening, you'll learn to identify musical elements, describe features accurately, and make connections between pieces. This prepares you for the listening exam at the end of the course, where you will answer questions on both familiar set works and unfamiliar music extracts.

## How is the course structured?

The qualification is 60% internally assessed (NEA), and 40% externally assessed (Listening Exam). The internal assessments take the form of two music performances (30%), and two compositions (30%), which will be completed over the two-year programme. A 1.5h Listening Exam is marked externally, and will take place at the end of Year 11.



## Students should take the course if they:

- Have a passion for music.
- Have been studying an instrument/voice with an instrumental teacher or would like to learn how to play an instrument and/or have vocal lessons.
- Are open to and enjoy listening to a variety of different contemporary musical styles.
- Are able to perform in front of others, in the classroom, and at concerts, or are willing to develop their confidence in order to do so!
- Are aiming to improve their individual musical skills and enjoy working as part of an ensemble.
- Wish to consider a career in the creative arts, or have an interest in performing, composing or music technology.

## What might the course lead to?

- Study of music at level 3, such as A Level Music, BTEC L3, or RSL L3 Music
- Songwriter
- Recording Artist
- Performer
- Session Musician
- Music Promotion/Management
- Artist Support Services
- Producer & Engineer
- Live Music Production

## OPTION BLOCK A

Business Studies  
Creative iMedia  
Dance  
Film Studies  
Food & Nutrition  
French  
Geography  
Health Studies  
History  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
3D Design\*

## OPTION BLOCK B

Computer Science  
Drama  
Food & Nutrition  
Geography  
Graphics\*  
History  
Photography  
Physical Education  
Religious Studies  
Spanish  
3D Design\*

## OPTION BLOCK C

Art\*  
Business Studies  
Creative iMedia  
Geography  
History  
Photography  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Separate Science:  
Biology/Chemistry/Physics  
3D Design\*

## OPTION BLOCK D

Art\*  
Business Studies  
Computer Science  
Film Studies  
Food & Nutrition  
French  
Geography  
History  
Music  
Physical Education  
Psychology  
Spanish

\*Please note that students cannot take more than one of **Art**, **Graphics** or **3D Design**