Leytonstone School

KS4 Curriculum Choices Booklet

2023 – 2024

Leytonstone SCHOOL

Everything you need to know is here:

Getting started

Dear Year 9,

The time has come! I am sure you are very excited about beginning the process of specialising your learning and beginning the final stages of your journey towards GCSE/BTEC qualifications and progressing on to life beyond Leytonstone School.

This letter aims to help you get your heads around what is coming next.

What does it mean to 'specialise' or to 'choose'?

It means that you now have an opportunity to choose which parts of your learning you would like to explore more deeply. You may already have an idea about what you would like to do in the future in terms of further study and work – now is the time where you take your first step on that journey. There are some subject areas you will leave behind and you will have more time to spend on the subjects which interest you.

What are GCSEs and BTECs like? What will I need to do well?

GCSEs and BTECs are known as 'level 2' qualifications. Most further study and employment routes in the UK require you to pass GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics at grade 4.

GCSEs have changed a lot over the past few years in particular. You can be awarded a grade between 9 (highest) and 1. If you study a BTEC qualification, you can be awarded a distinction (highest), a merit or a pass. You will soon learn what your target grades are for the qualifications you are examined in at the end of Year 11.

All level 2 qualifications require you to take an exam at the end of the course.

It is important that you begin to get a sense of what these exams will require of you. Level 2 qualifications:

- *Focus on retaining a lot of knowledge and key facts*
- *Focus on high-quality written communication*
- *Focus on understanding and recognising links between other subjects and disciplines*
- *Focus on links to L3 learning (A levels and L3 BTEC qualifications)*

What can I choose?

You have three choices to make for continuing your KS4 learning.

Choice 1

You must choose one of the following subjects:

Exploring the world

- Triple Science
- History
- Geography
- French
- Spanish

Choice 2

You must choose one of the following subjects:

Creative expression

- Art
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Resistant Materials
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Graphics
- Textiles

Choice 3

You must choose one of the following subjects (if you have not already chosen it!):

Broadening my perspectives

Computer Science

Sociology

Business Studies

French

Spanish

Health & Social Care

OR any of the other options if it has not already been selected.

Why do I not have complete free choice?

As a school we are expected to ensure that we provide you with access to a wide range of learning, even at KS4. The reason we need to do this is to ensure that you have a really broad range of pathways available to you when you leave school. You may change your mind about certain subjects after having studied them for GCSE and we need to be sure that you still have progression opportunities available to you if this happens.

As your teachers, we also know that individual subjects do not 'come to life' when taught in isolation; we know that particular subjects complement (match) other really well. We know that guiding your choices will lead to you developing a razor-sharp and deep knowledge as well as ensuring that you perform excellently in your GCSE exams. We are also committed to developing you as a young person and not just an exam number! Qualifications are an important part of the tools you gather as you make the journey towards adulthood, but more important is the kind of person we help you develop into. We want you all to leave us as kind young adults with curious and enquiring minds, ready to make positive contributions to your local, national and even international communities.

What is 'progression'?

Progression is a term which refers to what you will do once you leave Leytonstone School. Unfortunately, we do not have a sixth form and so at the end of Year 11, you will all leave us for pastures new.

We need to be sure that the qualifications you gain at the end of Year 11 lead on to further study, training or employment.

You may decide to:

- Begin a sixth form or college
- Begin an apprenticeship
- Begin a specialist training programme

We have worked very hard to ensure that all the level 2 qualifications we offer are widely available at a number of further education institutions.

What now?

Once you have made your choices, discuss them with your teachers and parents or carers. You will also need THREE reserve choices.

We have to work with minimum group sizes for each option subject. For most option subjects, at least 15 pupils must opt-in in order for the subject to run as a KS4 curriculum choice. Equally, where some subjects become very popular, it may mean that classes cannot exceed the maximum class size.

It is important you are aware that we cannot always guarantee that you will get your first choice, but we promise to make every effort to do so.

You will receive further guidance from your tutor and teachers, after this, your curriculum choices will become final.

We have high hopes for you all and we are certain you will experience a very successful KS4 curriculum which will open your eyes and minds to the best of all that has been thought or said.

Ms McQuaid
Head Teacher

Making the right choices

Do:	Do not:
• Choose subjects that you enjoy. If you enjoy the subject, you are more likely to put time and effort into it. The more time and effort you put in, the more successful you are likely to be. • Read the subject pages carefully. Pay attention to how much of the final grade is based on exam and how much is based on coursework. • Remember that you may possibly change your mind regarding a career route before you leave school. Many people also change career during their working life. That is why it is important to opt for choices that are broad and balanced. • If you have no definite career in mind choose subjects that you are good at, that you like doing and that give you a broad and balanced range of subjects. The majority of subjects can be picked up at sixth form or college without earlier study.	• Base your choices on what your friends choose. You are on your own path and you have your own interests. You must choose subjects which excite and/or interest you. • Think that you are not 'clever' enough to choose a particular subject. We are an inclusive school; this means that we teach our curriculum to all our pupils no matter what they might have achieved in the past. • Choose a subject just because you like the teacher. Teachers change every year.

KS4 Core curriculum

At Key Stage 4, everyone follows a core curriculum. The core subjects that you will study are:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
- Physical Education non-examined
- PSHRE (Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education) non-examined

Literature is where I go to explore the highest and lowest places in human society and in the human spirit – Salman Rushdie

English Language & English Literature

Why is this learning important?

The knowledge and skills students master in English allows pupils to thrive in all aspects of life. No matter what path you take after school, skills taught in English play a key role in your personal, social and academic development.

- *The key English skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening are required in all academic courses and all careers.*
- *The study of English will develop your confidence in utilising the English language and also deciphering it!*
- *The study of English can provide a life-long love of literature.*
- *You will achieve critical skills that are applicable in a wide range of contexts*
- *The English curriculum is built to engage you with a range of current themes, ideas and perspectives; from the 'Me Too' movement and misogyny in rap to Black Lives Matter and other topical ideas, using a range of different text types.*
- *Success in English truly unlocks success in other subjects and beyond. It is a well-known fact that strong reading ability will enable children to absorb and understand new information and affect their performance in all subjects – from History to Science and even Mathematics!*
- *A successful grasp of the curriculum in English will open up countless options for students when they leave school. Many lucrative careers require you to have a good grasp of the English Language. Many A-levels such as Law, Sociology and Psychology require pupils to coherently write essays showcasing their ability to analyse information, with flair.*

What will I learn?

As a department, we are dedicated to morally educating our students so you leave school as responsible, young citizens who have a strong sense of community. In lessons, we will be encouraging you to express your views (and challenging them!) in the form of discussions. In English Literature, you will read and enjoy a wide range of modern and classic literature. You will be exposed to exceptional writers from various social periods, from George Orwell to Charles Dickens. The English department have carefully selected the texts so that the themes you explored in KS3 are revisited such as war, democracy and redemption. We want you to feel empowered with the knowledge you acquired in Years 7, 8 and 9.

In English Language, you will engage with fiction and non-fiction texts with a critical eye. Along with analysing the writing of great writers, you will have the opportunity to become a writer for yourself! You will develop your craft as a writer in the form of creative writing skills and non-fiction writing, such as speeches, articles and letters. These are all skills you will be able to utilise in life after Leytonstone school.

Mathematics is not about numbers, equations, computations, or algorithms: it is about understanding - William Thurston

Mathematics

Why is this learning important?

Mathematics is a universal language. We use it daily, whether we realise it or not, in both our personal life and at work. By studying mathematics, students gain an essential life skill which they will take with them as they progress through their academic studies and then in later life. Mathematics develops students' key skills in numeracy, mathematical reasoning and independence in handling and quantifying information, allowing them to think through a wide range of real-life situations.

Studying Maths will provide a strong foundation for further academic and vocational study and for employment, it gives students the appropriate mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding to help them progress to a full range of courses in further and higher education. This includes maths courses as well as courses in other disciplines such as science, geography, buisness and many others, where the understanding and application of maths is crucial.

What will I learn?

As a department we will teach you to:

- develop an understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- use maths to solve problems
- reason mathematically, make deductions, and draw conclusions
- understand, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.

This is across 5 main topic areas:

1 Number
2 Algebra
3 Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4 Geometry and measures
5 Statistics and probability

Where several topics might not have direct use for some of you outside of academic mathematics, in learning maths you will learn to problem solve as well as how to think critically and systematically. Learning maths is not just about learning algebra and geometry, you will also learn how to think logically and mathematically in order to make judgements and solve problems.

I am among those who think that science has great beauty - Marie Curie

Double or Triple Science

Biology - Chemistry - Physics

Why is this learning important?

The Science Department offers students the triple and combined pathways. Please note that choosing triple science will take up one of your choices whereas double science is compulsory. Both our curriculum pathways aim to enrich students academically, but also incorporate science culture capital, to help students make links between scientific knowledge and everyday applications. Moreover, the science curriculum highlights diversity in science and promotes scientists from different backgrounds, showing their contributions to different fields in science. Studying science at GCSE not only provides a good grounding in the fundamental scientific ideas, it also develops a range of transferable skills including, literacy, numeracy, reasoning and deduction.

What will I learn?

We use a 5-year curriculum for both triple and combined, where the KS3 curriculum covers the foundations of science and then builds up to more complex concepts at KS4. This is organised in a spiral manner in order to enable students to revisit concepts several times but with more layers of complexity. Every lesson builds on knowledge, skills and understanding from previous lessons and prior learning at KS3. We divide out curriculum into three key areas:

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Forces
Inheritance, variation and evolution	The rate and extent of chemical change	Waves
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Magnetism and electromagnetism
	Chemical analysis	Space Physics
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using resources	

Knowledge: All Science lessons follow the 2014 National Curriculum & AQA exam specifications. We study a wide range of topics in all the three disciplines, which have been summarised in the table below (please refer to Table 1).

Table 1: Table of key topics in the three disciplines; Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

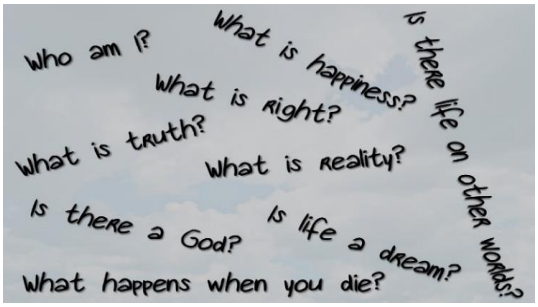
Practical science: Science is a practical subject, whereby our curriculum content is fortified with a range of experiments, which aid understanding of different scientific phenomena and enthuse our students about the subject. There are a total of 30 required practicals across the three disciplines in triple science and 26 in combined, which will be completed across KS4. These practicals will be carried out in class and assessed in exams. The required practicals usually form 17%of each exam paper in science.

Extracurricular: The science department also provides outside of the classroom learning, where students can broaden their scientific knowledge in topics that are not assessed, but will contribute towards a better

appreciation for the curriculum being studied and prepare them for studying sciences at a higher level. These include bringing in outside speakers, STEM careers and trips to universities.

Comparing Combined and Triple Science:

	Combined Science	Triple Science
Disciplines studied	Biology Chemistry Physics	Biology Chemistry Physics
GCSE Qualifications gained	Science Double Award Two grades for science.	Three separate grades Biology Chemistry Physics
Content	20% less content than triple science, across the three disciplines.	20% more content than combined science, across the three disciplines.
Tiers offered and grades	Higher and Foundation Can only sit one tier for all three disciplines.	Higher and Foundation Can sit different tiers for different disciplines.
Number of papers completed at GCSE	6 papers Biology x 2 Chemistry x 2 Physics x 2	6 papers Biology x 2 Chemistry x 2 Physics x 2
Length of each paper at GCSE	1 hour 15 minutes (70 marks)	1 hour 45 minutes (100 marks)
Possible Grades	9-4 on the higher paper 5-1 on the foundation Reported as a double grade. Example: 9-9 8-7 6-5 5-4	9-4 on the higher paper 5-1 on the foundation Reported as a single grade for each discipline. Example: Biology- 6 Chemistry- 9 Physics- 8



This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness - Dalai Lama

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

Why is this learning important?

- Religious Education contributes dynamically to young people's education in school by provoking challenging questions and debates about meaning and purpose in life, beliefs, God, and reality. In the fast paced 21st Century we live in, it is rare that people get the time to critically think about concepts such as morality (right and wrong) and what it means to be human. GCSE Religious Education at Leytonstone allows young people that opportunity to do so.
- Our RE curriculum allows pupils to learn how to evaluate wisdom from different sources, to develop and express their insights in response, and to agree and disagree respectfully.
- The learning will also promote the development of inclusivity by developing students' understanding of a broad range of values such as tolerance, respect, equality, and responsibility.

What will I learn?

- Students will learn how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture, and develop valuable skills that will help prepare them for further study.
- The Religious Education GCSE course will delve deeply into the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam. This fulfils Unit 1 of the examination.
- For Unit 2 you then relate your knowledge of multiple world religions and also non-religious perspectives to a range of life themes:
- Religion, Crime and Punishment, where we will look into topics such as the causes of crime, religious attitudes to lawbreakers and the ongoing debate of the use of the death penalty.
- Religion, Relationships and Families, including topics such as religious teachings about marriage and sexual relationships before and outside marriage.
- Religion, Peace, and Conflict, including topics such as different reasons for war, religious responses to victims of war and the arguments for and against weapons of mass destruction.
- Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice including topics such as prejudice, discrimination, religious freedom, and freedom of expression.

The truth is: the natural world is changing and we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it - Sir David Attenborough

Geography

Why is this learning important?

The knowledge and skills students master in Geography allows pupils to thrive as active; informed citizens capable of thinking sustainably. No matter what path you take after school, skills taught in Geography supports you in taking a number of courses beyond GCSE level. In fact, Universities and Further Education Establishments rate Geography highly, due to its focus on problem solving skills. Geographers are highly employable, in a recent survey of university graduates it was shown the unemployment rates for Geographers to be among the lowest recorded due to the wide variety of career options you can pursue.

- *The study of Geography can ignite a passion to seek solutions for a sustainable and socially just future.*
- *The key Geography skills of critical thinking skills and the ability to apply knowledge, creatively, to real world contexts are highly sought after in all academic courses and all careers.*
- *The study of Geography will develop your confidence in inferring information from a wide range of sources to support well-reasoned conclusions.*
- *You will be encouraged to think scientifically by collecting and recording appropriate evidence from a range of sources, including fieldwork. You will critically assess this evidence and reach conclusions.*
- *The Geography curriculum is built to engage you with a range of current themes, ideas and perspectives; from Climate Change, Globalisation and Development.*
- *A successful grasp of the curriculum in Geography will open up countless options for students when they leave school as it is seen to be a facilitating subject along with Math, English and the Sciences.*
- *If you plan to continue the further study of Geography beyond Leytonstone you will have many career paths available to you.*

What will I learn?

Leytonstone Geography Department uses a curriculum designed to empower students to shape change for a socially just and sustainable future. Geography inspires curiosity and wonder about the diversity of environments and cultures on Earth. Through a structured way of exploring, analysing and understanding the characteristics of the places that make up our world. The Geography curriculum is designed to help you to question why the world is the way it is, and reflect on your relationships with and responsibilities for that world.

In Geography you will develop knowledge on The Physical Environment, The Human Environment and Geographical Investigations, Fieldwork and UK Challenges. You will extend your knowledge of locations, places, environments and processes, at different scales, including global; social, political and cultural contexts. As well as gain an understanding of the interactions between people and environments; and change in places and processes over space and time,

History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future - Robert Penn Warren

History GCSE

In the rapidly changing world, employers want people who are open minded,

Why is this learning important?

disciplined, good at problem solving and able to select important information easily, History teaches all of these skills and offers you the opportunity to explore vibrant and intriguing events whilst studying a balanced curriculum which sets you up well for the future

- *GCSE History is a stepping stone to many A Level and BTEC courses such as History, Law, Government and Politics and Sociology. Key skills such as, using and interpreting evidence, and making judgements will also help if you are considering Geography, science and maths as possible sixth form courses*
- *Every area of employment and higher education needs the transferable skills that History has to offer, such as communication and critical thinking. History is therefore the ideal subject for those considering careers in Journalism, the Legal Profession and Business Management to name but a few.*
- *Good citizens are always informed citizens and History will enable you to be a more effective member of the community and a discerning future voter. By looking at a wide range of viewpoints in History you will learn to develop your own opinion and also listen to others points of view.*
- *Above all else History is a subject for you if you have a passion for discovery and learning. The lessons are engaging and varied and will allow you to discuss a wide range of topics. If you have a desire to find out more about what motivates people , why we need to constantly check the information we read for bias and propaganda and what really happened in the past , then History is the subject for you.*

What will I learn?

In the History department you will have the opportunity to explore and discover a wide range of topics in world History. For example, with the developmental study of medicine through time you will be able to find out about key medical breakthroughs and make links to the work that you do in science. You will also be able to use and interrogate Historical evidence and Historians' interpretations of the past as you look at the injuries and treatments of First world war soldiers and the reasons why Adolf Hitler came to power in Germany.

The History lessons will enable you to develop your own opinions whilst critically analysing others' views of the past. Being able to detect bias and propaganda, is a skill which will help you navigate the wide range of information available in our modern media world. The 8 key skills which you have learnt in KS3 will continue to be important as you learn to develop your historical writing to enable you to be successful to GCSE standard.

Finally you will be able to continue to investigate your own passion for History , in a department , which prides itself on supportive and inclusive lessons , sharing a desire to learn new things each day in an enjoyable and collaborative way.

Man is a moral being, only because he lives in society. Let all social life disappear and morality will disappear with it - Emile Durkheim

Sociology

Why is this learning important?

- *The knowledge and skills learnt in Sociology will allow students to develop their analytical and communication skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions.*
- *Sociology aims to broaden students' minds, helping them to see their world from different perspectives and in new and thought-provoking ways.*
- *Studying Sociology GCSE exposes pupils to real life society around us through a range of different theoretical perspectives which will support pupils embarking on an A Level Sociology course.*
- *Students are encouraged to be curious and voice their opinion on different matters that arise in modern British society such as institutional racism and inequality within society.*
- *Having Sociology as a GCSE will help you on your journey after school where you could study, A Level Sociology, Philosophy, Psychology, Politics, Law and History. The subject content and skills covered at GCSE and A Level will be useful for careers in the legal system, education, government, social care, and social research.*

What will I learn?

- *Choosing to study sociology will mean you can study the world around you as it is a subject that you will have experience of and one that will help you understand many aspects of your future.*
- *You will study four different topics: Family, Education, Crime & Deviance and Social Stratification and research methods is a theme that is included in both units.*
- *You will have a chance to investigate different criticisms of families, loss of traditional functions, the status and role of women within families.*
- *Different views of the role and functions of education, serving the needs of the economy, facilitating social mobility, and fostering social cohesion.*
- *Behaviour including social class, gender, ethnicity, age, delinquent subcultures, women, crime, and poverty.*

If you talk to someone in a language they understand, that goes to their head. If you talk to them in their own language that goes to their heart

- Nelson Mandela

MFL French & Spanish

Why is this learning important?

Having a second language broadens your perspective, opportunities and skills .

Languages are a skill for life. They will broaden your personal and professional experience in many ways.

- *Learning a language to GCSE level provides us with new perspectives and enriches how we see the world. Knowing a second language exposes opportunities to experience cultures, and all of the wonderful things within these cultures. This includes food, music, dance and the millions of people that speak Spanish or French as their first language!*
- *Future study: Languages are highly regarded by the top universities. At university level you can combine languages with a wide range of other subjects to enrich your studies and have the experience of living abroad as part of your course.*
- *Beyond studying: In all career paths, the transferable skills you gain from studying a language will bolster your application and your success in the role. Learning a second language improves your communication in your first language, problem solving skills, creativity and memory.*

What will I learn?

- *You will study topics across 4 different themes : Me, my family & friends, Technology in everyday life, Free time activities and Customs & festivals. The themes are all based in practical language that is relevant to you and would support you in a variety of situations. They are also aimed at broadening your cultural awareness of the communities that speak the target language.*
- *You will take four exams in the skills needed for successful communication in a second language. Listening, Writing, Reading and Speaking. These are all equally weighted at 25%(there is no coursework).*
- *We follow the AQA textbook to support your learning but we also use lots of dynamic activities to develop your language skills beyond this. These include listening to music, reading authentic texts and watching TV and films in the target language.*

Languages are for everybody! If you are interested in other cultures, communication and understanding the world from different perspectives, this course is for you.

Creativity take courage - Henri Matisse

Art and Design GCSE

Why is this learning important?

Are you a creative and curious student? Can you generate original ideas? Do you like to express yourself visually? Do you enjoy experimenting with a range of media and materials? Art and Design could be the course for you!

If you see yourself working in the creative sector then a GCSE in Art and Design is an essential foundation to branch off into many exciting career directions; such as architecture, animation and illustration amongst many more.

The top skills needed in the work place has changed dramatically this year, with creativity now in the top three of most in demand skills. 1 in 11 jobs are now within the creative sector so chances of employment are good, especially in London.

Art and Design helps you explore the world around you and develop your visual literacy skills; in an increasingly visual world, this could be invaluable as the world changes.

Most GCSE artists move onto study A Level or BTEC courses, a GCSE in Art and Design will prepare you for this as the assessment and course structure is similar so will feel familiar in 6th form. You will be introduced to a range of artists and techniques that will form the foundation for the more personal and involved work you create in 6th form.

Art and Design observe British values within the curriculum such as tolerance, respect, kindness and freedom of speech; this is reflected within the choice of projects, artists and outcomes you will learn about and create.

What will I learn?

The themes covered in Art and Design include Fantastic and Strange, Portraiture and Light & Dark amongst others, we are fortunate to be able to change and adapt of projects regularly to keep things new, exciting and relevant to the students we teach and reflect the world around us.

You will explore a range of printmaking such as mono, Lino and stenciling, painting with watercolour and acrylic, mixed media such as photo transfer and sewing, 3D with clay and plaster and a variety of drawing skills.

You will be taught about a range of traditional and contemporary artists from a range of backgrounds and disciplines. You may be familiar with some of these, but we hope a lot will be new to you; such as Frida Kahlo, Van Gogh and Picasso to Victoria Villasana and Tracy Emin.

The qualities you will need to have to study Art and Design are curiosity, playfulness and risk taking as well as a strong work ethic and pride in your work and presentation.

The skills you will learn are many, but expect to gain confidence, verbal and written analysis, visual literacy, personal organisation and exploration of a range of media.

Art is about looking, thinking and discussing as well as creating, some of the big questions you will consider during your studies will be;

- *How does art change the way you think about a particular topic?*
- *What feelings and emotions do you get while looking at art?*

I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.— Oscar Wilde

Drama

Why is this learning important?

The knowledge and skills students master in Drama allows pupils to thrive in all aspects of life. No matter what path you take after school, skills taught in Drama play a key role in your personal, social and academic development.

- *When studying Drama GCSE you will be exposed to a wide range of literature that then broadens your knowledge, which can support you when embarking on an A 'level English course.*
- *When studying Drama GCSE you will develop a wide range of interpersonal and social skills that are vital for success in every career; from team working skills, to critical thinking skills.*
- *GCSE Drama gives you the opportunity to explore your creativity in both devising and performance units.*
- *GCSE Drama encourages you to develop empathy, as you place yourself in others shoes for a wide range of roles.*
- *Being successful in drama opens up opportunities in a wide range of professions such as acting, directing, broadcast journalism, writing, A stage manager, a teacher, costume designer and much more.*
- *The social skills you learn in drama are also essential in any career path you may choose.*

What will I learn?

As a department we are committed to equipping our students to develop into well rounded and successful young adults. We work as a community to encourage curiosity and critical thinking skills. We build up self-confidence to enable our students to both receive and give constructive feedback so they can, through hard work, grow and develop as performers and directors. Students learn to be self-reflective in Drama by developing performances to ever higher standards and learning the written and verbal skills, to communicate how they achieve their successes.

If you choose Drama you will develop these skills as you explore an eclectic mix of drama styles from naturalism to abstract physical theatre. You will explore the historical contexts of the Salem witch trials through study of the play text 'The Crucible' by Arthur Miller. You will have the opportunity to practically explore literature a wide range of authors. Experiment with tragedies, comedies and everything in between. You will get the opportunity to develop your own theatre styles through working in groups to create your own devised performances. Ultimately you will hone your craft as a performer, writer, director, lighting designer and more.

These are some of the skills and knowledge you will learn if you choose GCSE Drama. We hope to see you in our classes next year.

Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them – a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement – G. Ford

Music

Why is this learning important?

Music is around us everywhere: we hear music on the television, on the Internet on computer games, in advertising, at the gym, in the cinema, in restaurants. Music has always been used to support social occasions, to celebrate important events, including family occasions such as birthdays and weddings, as well as in religious services and festivals such as New Year or Easter. It is used in sporting events in clubs and stadiums across the world, for important political and royal celebrations, and, obviously, in dedicated music events such as concerts and music festivals... the list really is endless! So why not learn about it in greater depth?

- *GCSE Music involves building written, analytical, practical, and social/personal skills such as:*
  - *independent learning: having to be disciplined about practising on their instrument or voice*
  - *team working: particularly if they're involved in weekly groups or ensembles, concerts, and performances*
  - *performance and presentation skills which are useful for any job/career*
  - *listening: this is highly developed in musicians and it is an important part of the course*
  - *analytical and essay-writing skills*
  - *confidence and self-esteem: which has a positive effect in all areas of life and learning*
  - *creativity and self-expression: helping young people to think differently and many more...*
- *Graded music qualifications in performance and music theory will always look great on a CV. Not only do they show your musical capabilities, but they also demonstrate skills of creativity, working towards an end goal, self-motivation, collaboration, communication, and numerical skills. You may choose to continue with Music, by studying A-level or BTEC Music or Performing Arts.*

What will I learn?

- *You will be engaging actively in the process of music study, develop performing and composing skills to communicate musically, and use appropriate resources.*
- *The course is organised in the four main areas of study to ensure that you learn about the range of types of music: Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music*
- *You will be learning how to listen to a piece of music to identify various musical elements within a historical context, performing on your instrument or singing, and composing your own music*

Please note:

- *If you like listening to music, learning about musicians, creating your own music and you enjoy performing in front of others, this is the perfect course for you*

Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do - Pele

Physical Education

Why is this learning important?

The GCSE Physical Education course is a course that will allow you to investigate, and develop a fascination of the exciting things happening in the wider, modern day sporting world all around us.

Through the GCSE Physical Education course you will learn the importance of teamwork, how to be resilient, how to respond to losing, how to win graciously and many more personal characteristics that will support your development in so much more than just the GCSE PE course.

The curriculum is designed to focus on development of you, as a person to assist in your transition into adulthood far beyond just your GCSE PE exam in the summer of Year 11.

You will understand the absolute importance of everyone's physical, social and mental wellbeing in modern day society, as well as what you can do to contribute to not only your own but also others'.

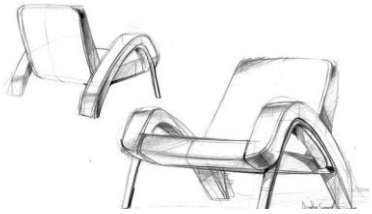
What will I learn?

Through the duration of the course, together we will attempt to answer such interesting questions as 'Why cheat?', 'Can somebody be fit but not healthy?', 'How important is leadership?', 'How do you beat a player who is better than you?' as well as many more.

Throughout the course there will be a continued focus on practical development of the sporting skills that you have learned and developed during KS3, both during your PE lessons and in your participation in the extracurricular activities. You will develop greater understanding of more advanced tactics and strategies used to improve performance and also an understanding of your own strengths and weaknesses and how to apply them to get the better of your opponent.

The theory syllabus will introduce you to a range of social and cultural concepts to investigate as well as developing your understanding of applied anatomy and physiology in relation to training, movement and performance. In these areas we will discover fascinating aspects of the cardio-respiratory system, the musculoskeletal system and how planes, levers and axes in the body contribute to movement.

It truly is an exciting time to be studying GCSE Physical Education!



As an engineer I am constantly spotting problems and plotting how to solve them – James Dyson

Design Technology – Resistant Materials

Why is this learning important?

Design and Technology offers a unique opportunity for learners to identify and solve real life problems by designing and making products from Resistant Materials.

- As a department, we are dedicated to ensuring students can express themselves creatively. Drawing, sketching, designing and creating are at the heart of this subject and we will be encouraging you to explore your creative interests!
- This subject offers an excellent opportunity to analyse products made from wood, plastics and metals with a critical eye which will help train you to become an innovative designer for yourself!
- There are many cross curricular links in this subject; including the use of mathematical skills, the application of science, the study of design throughout history, design within different cultures and the effect of design on the environment.
- You will gain a board understanding of all DT materials. This core knowledge could prepare you for a career in product design, engineering, business, sales and merchandising, product testing, computer aided design or architecture.
- This subject will prepare you to participate in an increasingly technological world where computers, phones and artificial intelligence are advancing and becoming part of our everyday lives.
- These skills and experiences are ones you will utilise in life after Leytonstone school whether or not you choose further education in design or a career in this field.

What will I learn?

- Students who choose Design Technology: Resistant Materials will study all Technology materials but specialise and create a product made from woods, plastics and metals.
- All Technology students regardless of their material specialism will learn exam topics such; electronic systems, programmable components & mechanical devices, papers & boards, natural & manufactured timber, ferrous & non-ferrous metals, thermoforming & thermosetting polymers and fibres and textiles.
- Students will research a design brief and develop a prototype model to meet the needs of their target customer.
- In year 10 you will be designing and making a lamp for a specific target customer.
- You will learn technical skills such as marking, measuring, cutting and joining, computer aided design, modelling and computer aided manufacture.
- You will use specialised tools, equipment and machines such as use of pillar drills, saws, laser cutter, power tools and hand tools.
- You will have an excellent understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including the work of other designers such as Zaha Hadid, Sir Jony Ive, Phillipe Starke.

"Fashion is very important. It is life-enhancing and like everything that gives pleasure, it is worth doing well." - Vivienne Westwood

Design Technology – Textiles

Why is this learning important?

Design and Technology offers a unique opportunity for learners to identify and solve real life problems by designing and making products from fabrics.

- *As a department, we are dedicated to ensuring students can express themselves creatively. Drawing, sketching, sewing and modelling with fabrics are at the heart of this subject and we will be encouraging you to explore your creative interests!*
- *This subject offers an excellent opportunity to analyse fashion and interior textiles products with a critical eye, which will help train you to become an innovative designer for yourself!*
- *There are many cross-curricular links in this subject; including the use of mathematical skills, scientific links, and computer aided design, the study of fashion and design throughout history, design within different cultures and the effect of textiles products on the environment.*
- *You will gain a board understanding of all DT materials. This core knowledge could prepare you for a career in product design, fashion, textiles, interior design, costume, footwear, fashion buying, merchandising, fabrics technology, retail, dressmaking and tailoring.*
- *These skills and experiences are ones you will utilise in life after Leytonstone School whether or not you choose further education in design or a career in this field.*

What will I learn?

- *Students who choose Design Technology: Textiles will study all Technology materials but specialise and create a product made from fabrics.*
- *All Technology students regardless of their material specialism will learn exam topics such; electronic systems, programmable components & mechanical devices, papers & boards, natural & manufactured timber, ferrous & non-ferrous metals, thermoforming & thermosetting polymers.*
- *Students will research a design brief and develop a prototype model to meet the needs of their target customer. In year 10 you will be designing and making a sustainable item of clothing your choice.*
- *You will learn technical skills such as machine sewing, printing, dying, applique, fashion drawing, pattern cutting and surface decoration.*
- *You will use specialised tools, equipment such as sewing machines, over-lockers, embroidery equipment and heat transfer machines.*
- *You will have an excellent understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including the work of other designers such as Virgil Abloh, Vivienne Westwood and sustainable brands such as Lucy and Yak.*

People who love to eat are always the best people - Julia Child

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Why is this learning important?

Students who choose this subject will learn to make informed decisions about food in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

- *The study of Food Preparation and Nutrition can provide a life-long love of healthy and nutritious food*
- *As a department, we are dedicated to ensuring students can cook creatively and explore cultural foods, various cuisines and ingredients of their choice.*
- *Cooking, preparing, planning, organising and experimenting are skills that are at the heart of this subject and we will be encouraging you to cook independently which will train you to become a confident chef.*
- *There are many cross-curricular links in this subject; including the application of food science, nutrition, the study of food testing, researching different cultural foods and the effect of food commodities on the environment.*
- *A GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition could prepare you for a career in food science, dietary nutrition, food marketing, food technology, product buying and testing, baking or the restaurant and catering industry.*
- *These skills and experiences are ones you will utilise in life after Leytonstone school whether or not you choose further education in food or a career in this field*

What will I learn?

- *In year 10 you will conduct scientific investigations into different raising agents used in baking. You will work under controlled conditions where you will develop your understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food.*
- *You will prepare, cook and present a three-course menu including a starter, main course, dessert and sides. This project will be themed 'sustainability and local food'*
- *You will be able to demonstrate hygienic and safe cooking skills*
- *You will master professional and highly skilled cooking techniques such as baking, making reduction sauces, making pastries, blanching, and garnishing and knife skills.*
- *You will use specialist equipment such as pasta makers, food processors, temperature probes and piping bags.*
- *Food Preparation and Nutrition students will study theory topics for an exam, which include; food commodities, principles of nutrition, diet and good health, calculating energy and nutritional values, food related illnesses, the science of food, where food comes from, special diets, cultural cuisine, sustainability, food safety and food preparation.*

There are three responses to a piece of design: yes, no, and wow. Wow is the one to aim for - Milton Glaser

Design Technology – Graphics

Why is this learning important?

Design and Technology offers a unique opportunity for learners to identify and solve real life problems by designing and making products from papers, cards and boards.

- *As a department, we are dedicated to ensuring students can express themselves creatively. Drawing, sketching, designing and creating are at the heart of this subject and we will be encouraging you to explore your creative interests!*
- *This subject offers an excellent opportunity to analyse products with a critical eye, which will help train you to become an innovative designer for yourself!*
- *There are many cross-curricular links in this subject; including the use of mathematical skills, the application of science, the study of design throughout history, design within different cultures and the effect of design on the environment.*
- *You will gain a board understanding of all DT materials. This core knowledge could prepare you for a career in graphic design, advertising, sales and merchandising, product testing, computer aided design, animation, multimedia design, interior design or architecture.*
- *This subject will prepare you to participate in an increasingly technological world where computers, phones and artificial intelligence are advancing and becoming part of our everyday lives.*
- *These skills and experiences are ones you will utilise in life after Leytonstone School whether or not you choose further education in design or a career in this field.*

What will I learn?

- *Students who choose Design Technology: Graphics will study all Technology materials but specialise and create a product made from papers, cards and boards.*
- *All Technology students regardless of their material specialism will learn exam topics such; electronic systems, programmable components & mechanical devices, natural & manufactured timber, ferrous & non-ferrous metals, thermoforming & thermosetting polymers and fibres and textiles.*
- *Students will research a design brief and develop a prototype model to meet the needs of their target customer. In year 10 you will be designing and branding architectural designs for hotels and coffee shops.*
- *You will learn technical skills such as marking, measuring, computer aided design, embossing, technical drawing, architectural drawing, logo design, font and packaging design.*
- *You will use specialised tools, equipment and machines such as the laser cutter, craft knives, use of illustrator and block prints.*
- *You will have an excellent understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including the work of other designers and design movements such as Bauhas, Zaha Hadid and Milton Glaser.*

A Business is simply an idea to make other people's lives better - Richard Branson

Business Enterprise

Why is this learning important?

The knowledge and skills students master in Business Enterprise allows pupils to thrive in all aspects of life. No matter what path you take after school, skills taught in the subject play a key role in your personal, social and academic development.

The key Business Enterprise skills of researching, analysing information/data, problem solving, planning and pitching are skills that will definitely assist in other academic courses and careers. The study of Business Enterprise will give you a better understanding of the business environment and develop your confidence in understanding the business realities surrounding you. The learning acquired within the subject will give you clarity in how different types of businesses operates and the pros and cons of various business factors subsequently assisting you in career choices.

What will I learn?

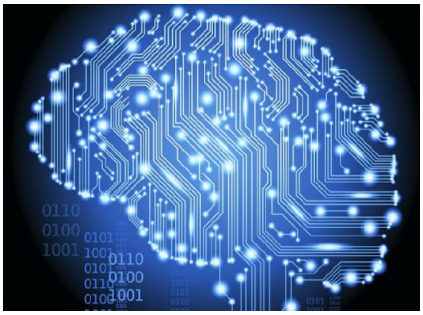
Learners will examine different local enterprises to develop their knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of enterprises and the skills needed by entrepreneurs.

You will have the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the different types of enterprise and their ownership, looking at the characteristics of small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs with reasons for levels of success. You will learn about Sole Trader and Private Limited Company; what they are? Also the pros/cons of choosing to start a business as a Sole Trader, Partnership and as a Private Limited Company.

You will understand the importance of having a clear focus on the customer and the importance of meeting their needs. Enterprises can struggle if they do not carry out market research. It is important for you to develop relevant skills in market research and to analyse and be able to interpret your findings to support your understanding of customers and competitors. You will learn about the methods of market research; primary and secondary market research. Furthermore, you analyse how market research (quantitative/qualitative data) can be utilised to understand how to meet customer needs.

You will explore why enterprises are successful, looking at the impact of factors both inside and outside the control of the enterprise, and investigate ways in which situational analysis can be used to support decision making (identifying the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats). Here you will learn about the internal factors (factors within the control of the enterprise) i.e. employee retention, customer service and marketing. You will also explore external factors (factors outside the control of enterprise) i.e. government legislation, social trends and competitors.

You will discover how success can be monitored in a small and medium enterprise, looking at sales revenue, profit levels and market share. This component will give you an understanding of the factors that contribute to a successful enterprise.



I view computer science as a liberal art. It should be something that everyone takes - Steve Jobs

Computer Science

Why is this learning important?

For many companies and employers, programming is important. It shows that you can think logically and creatively. It develops your resistance to 'giving up' when things go wrong.

Being able to identify solutions to problems, build/create those solutions and then make sure those solutions work are transferable skills.

Computer Science is defining the future, while the world proceeds to advance technologically, there's always going to be a need for people in this field. Programming is an important skill in many jobs such as Cyber Security, Robotics and Artificial Intelligence. You are building skills for the future!

What will I learn?

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Computer Science will encourage students to:

- *understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation*
- *Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs*
- *Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically*
- *Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems*
- *understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society*
- *Think algorithmically when solving mathematical computing problems*

GCSEs (9–1) are qualifications that enable students to progress to further qualifications, either Vocational or General, including BTECs and A Levels.

One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.
– John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Health and Social Care

Why is this learning important?

Health and social care will motivate learners, and open doors to progression into further study and responsibility within the workplace. This subject provides students with a taste of what the health and social care sector is like, enabling them to make informed choices about their future career.
The skills learnt in studying Health and Social care will aid progression to further study and prepare students to enter the workplace in due course.
It will also give students the opportunity to develop and apply skills in English and mathematics in naturally occurring, work-related contexts.
After leaving Leytonstone School students will have the opportunity to go on to a Level 2/3 course or an apprenticeship.
This course involves many practical skills and students must be prepared to work independently and in groups. Maintaining professional standards is an essential part of assessment and therefore students must act professionally at all times.
This course will expose students to mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. Students will draw on current and real life themes such as the Black lives matter movements, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, gender reassignment and social class.

What will I learn?

This exciting course provides pupils with the opportunity to study a range of issues relating to human growth and development across life stages, care values that underpin current practice in in health and social care, the effects of health and wellbeing on individuals, the importance of non-discriminatory practice in health and social care and the impact these issues have on individuals.
We will explore thought provoking questions such as, what factors affect human growth and development and how are they interrelated? How can we empower individuals who use health and social care services? How do we ensure a person-centred approach to improving health and wellbeing? How do health and social care practices promote equality and diversity?
You will learn about how to support young people facing challenging circumstances or older people with dementia or mental health conditions. You will learn the skills to support and care for individuals with a variety of needs.
This course will enable you to communicate effectively with different people, give you greater self and social awareness and skills to work in teams build professional relationships.
You will have opportunities to develop a range of personal skills and attributes, as well as transferable skills like interview techniques.
Students will learn key skills including team working; working from a prescribed brief; working to deadlines; presenting information effectively; and accurately completing administrative tasks and processes.
Students are encouraged to use their personal, learning and thinking skills, they will be team workers, self-managers, independent enquirers, reflective learners, creative thinkers and effective participators.