



TDMS

PART OF FOUR STONES GATEWAY

Key Stage

4

Options



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Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child is now approaching Year 10 and preparing for the next stage of their education at TDMS. On the following pages you will find information about the options process, advice about how to choose subjects, which subjects are compulsory, and which are available as options to your child at Key Stage 4. The booklet also contains an overview of each Key Stage 4 course.

We hope that this information will support you and your child to make an informed decision.

Should you have any queries in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me on kgreen@tdms.worcs.sch.uk or Miss Povey, Head of Year 9, on gpovey@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Yours faithfully



Katie Green
Deputy Headteacher



The Option Process

Where will this subject take you?

As a school, we recognise that knowledge is power and that for your child to make an informed and educated decision about which subject to study in Year 10 and Year 11, they need as much information as possible.

GCSE picks morning

During spring 1, your child took part in our GCSE picks morning where they had taster sessions in those subjects that are new at Key Stage 4.

Year 9 progress evening

This evening provided you with the opportunity to speak to your child's teachers about their progress to date as well as their suitability to continue to study the subject at Key Stage 4.

Future choices evening

Our future choices evening on Thursday 5 February 2026 provided further information regarding the two pathways, as well as an opportunity to talk to individual subject staff and find out more about the subjects available.

Support in school

Your child's teachers have been speaking to them in lessons about their subject to provide students with as many opportunities as possible to ask questions and find out further information so that they can make an informed decision. Tutors are also speaking to students about their choices and the options process.

How to choose subjects

Students often ask us what factors they should consider when choosing subjects to take in Year 10 and Year 11. We do not expect every student to know exactly what they want to do in their future lives, although we are aware that some students will already have an idea. When deciding between option subjects, we advise that students ask themselves the following three questions:

- Which subjects do I enjoy studying?
- Which subjects am I strongest in?
- Do I need a specific subject to get to the next step in my education and/or career plan (if known)?

Often answers to question 1 and 2 will be the same. However if a student does know exactly what they want to do at the next level, post-16 education, university, and/or employment, then they should give consideration to which qualifications will enable them to achieve this.

Making options choices

Following options evening, we ask that you finalise your child's options by Monday 23 February 2026.

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Introduction

We believe in a broad and balanced, knowledge rich curriculum which is academically rigorous and ambitious for all learners. Key Stage 4 is the first time that students have some choice in the subjects that they learn. English, mathematics, and science continue as core subjects, studied by all students.

Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages are also studied by the majority of students, as fundamentally important cornerstones of a knowledge-rich curriculum.

The Key Stage 4 curriculum can be split into the following three categories:

- Compulsory examined subjects
- Compulsory non-examined subjects
- Option subjects

Compulsory examined subjects

At Key Stage 4, all students will study English Literature, English Language, mathematics, science, and PE. The majority of students will also study French and either Geography or History.

Selected students will start on a Triple Science timetable, with a decision about whether students will be entered for Triple Science (a separate GCSE in Biology, Chemistry and Physics), or Combined Science (a double GCSE in Science) towards the end of Year 10.

Compulsory non-examined subjects

In addition to these examined subjects, students will study Ethics (a combined PSHE, careers and Religious studies curriculum) and core PE.

Options subjects

Within the Key Stage 4 curriculum, students also have an element of choice. Firstly, students can choose between history and geography. Secondly, students can make two 'free choice' options for their remaining two subjects.

Pathways

To support the needs of the students within the year group, we will run two pathways. They are as follows:

Pathway one, which the majority of students are likely to follow, is aimed at allowing students to study a range of facilitating subjects. These are the subjects which the country's top universities and employers consider important. In this pathway, your child would study French, and history or geography, alongside two other options.

Pathway two allows students to study either history or geography, alongside three other options. Your child will be able to study both academic and vocational subjects which allows students to develop a range of different skills.

Useful Information

Websites

The following websites contain useful advice for students when making their options choices:

■ **Career Pilot:** Offers advice about how to and how not to choose GCSE courses, and how different courses relate to different future pathways.

■ **The Russell Group's Informed Choices:** Gives advice for students who know what they want to do in the future, and for those who do not. This website will inform students of the qualifications required by certain degree courses, allowing them to work backwards to ensure they choose the qualifications relevant for their future plans, if they know them.

■ **Careers – TDMS:** The careers section of our school website has a range of links and helpful information relating to a variety of pathways.

Frequently asked questions

Question	Answer
How many free choices do students have?	Dependant on their selected pathway, students have either two 'free choice' options once they have chosen their humanities option, or three 'open choices'.
Why do I need to choose a reserve option?	Whilst we hope that everyone will be able to do the options they choose, we want everyone to choose two reserve options in case one of their main options cannot run due to lack of numbers.
Will students be given careers advice to help them to select their options?	Yes, students are receiving assemblies relating to their options and presentations from their subject teachers about what their Key Stage 4 subjects involve and how they link to future courses. This booklet also contains advice about option choices, to allow parents/carers to support their children accordingly. Form tutors will be talking to students about their options during the process.
How are you guiding the children about making the best choices?	We are ensuring that students find out about every subject offered, through tasters, in lessons or in assemblies. This booklet also contains the fundamental information relating to each course. We have advised students to consider a number of factors when choosing their courses.
Are you ensuring that children feel that practical subjects are just as important as the more academic ones?	Our curriculum is broad and balanced, with a number of opportunities for students to engage in practical subjects. Each subject is recommended on its own merits and students are advised to choose courses based on what they enjoy, are good at, or need for the next step in their educational journey.

Option Blocks

Option 1	Option 2
Business Studies	Art
Sport BTEC	Travel and Tourism
Drama	Business Studies
Religious Studies	Sport BTEC
Health and Social Care	Music
Food preparation and nutrition	Psychology

Students will also be asked to make two reserve choices. Please complete the online form here: [Option choices 2026](#) or using the QR code below.





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Compulsory examination subjects





English

For further information email: tfreeman@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: English Language and Literature GCSE

Students who are successful in English...

- Love reading, writing and problem solving.
- Love to discover details about characters and settings through close reading and discussion.
- Love to travel to different places and times through texts, and to consider the historical influences and the writer's message.
- Have a good imagination and a thirst for new and varied vocabulary.
- Get involved in discussions and have strong feelings and opinions.
- Try their best.

Where will this subject take you?

Having a grade 9-4 in English is a crucial passport to the future. Employers and post 16 education providers look at a student's English results.

At TDMS, a good English pass could lead to A level English and Film Studies, as well as other essay based (and non essay based) subjects.

Being good in English can often mean strong skills of empathy and communication - key skills for a happy life.

Additional information

Everyone has to study English to GCSE level, so the English Department work hard to create engaging learning experiences which include a wide range of texts types and topics - from Shakespeare to Stephen King; from Designer Dogs to Natural Disasters!

Learning also goes outside the classroom; we love to visit the theatre and welcome theatre companies into school.

Writing good narratives and descriptions, as well as producing non fiction texts aimed at a specific audience is a huge part of the course.

Students study GCSE Language and GCSE Literature as two separate GCSEs.

Course structure: We follow the AQA English Language and AQA English Literature 9-1 course.

Students get a separate GCSE for each qualification.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	An Inspector calls	Poetry and Language Paper1	Macbeth	Macbeth	Poetry and spoken Language	Poetry and Language Paper1
11	A Christmas Carol	A Christmas Carol Language and paper 2 Mock preparation	Poetry revision and Language paper 2	Language paper 1 and revision of Literature texts	Exam preparation	

Maths

For further information email: jfield@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Maths GCSE

Students who are successful in Maths...

- Are able to do more than just apply methods.
- Can apply their knowledge to increasingly complex problems and are able to explain, reason, justify and compare effectively.
- Have the confidence to make mistakes and learn from them, as identifying when things don't work is often as important as identifying when they do work.
- Are receptive to feedback and being willing to put the effort and time into work both within lessons and outside of the classroom.
- Don't give up.

Where will this subject take you?

Having GCSE maths at grade 9-4 is a crucial qualification for future study regardless of your post-16 choice. Employers and future destinations (post-16 and post-18) will always look at your maths grade.

At TDMS, we offer both A-level maths to higher tier students and Core maths, a qualification designed for students achieving grade 4+ on either foundation or higher tiers.

Maths can take you into careers such as:

- Engineering.
- Business.
- Computing.
- Finance.

Additional information

GCSE Maths is studied by all students and they follow the Edexcel specification. Students will all sit one non-calculator and two calculator exams which make up their overall grade. There are two tiers of entry; Higher and Foundation. The Higher course awards grades 9-1, whilst the Foundation course awards grade 5-1. Around one third of content assessed is common to both tiers of entry. All students will be covering similar topics at the same time, but this will be at different paces depending on grouping, with some groups going on to study higher tier content. No decision will be made on tiering until spring term of Year 11 and every child has an equal opportunity to study higher tier content dependent on their understanding of foundation tier content.

Course structure: We follow the Edexcel GCSE Maths 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Types of number and sequences Non-calculator methods	Pythagoras and trigonometry, Solving equations and inequalities	Simultaneous equations, Angles and bearings, Working with circles.	Vectors, Ratios and fractions	Percentages and interests, Probability Indices and roots	Manipulating expressions, Collecting, representing and interpreting data
11	Gradients and lines, Non linear graphs, Expanding and factorising	Functions, Working algebraically	Multiplicative reasoning, Transformations and constructions	Bespoke revision	Bespoke revision, Examination	

Science

For further information email: michaelbrown@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Science GCSE

Students who are successful in Science...

- Enjoy logical thinking, analysing information, and evaluating evidence.
- Engage in experiments, build models, and participate in scientific projects.
- Are curious and have a passion for discovery.
- Can explain their ideas clearly, write reports, and collaborate with others.

Where will this subject take you?

Studying Science can take you into careers such as:

- Astronomer
- Chemical Engineer
- Clinical Scientist
- Ecologist
- Forensic Scientist
- Robotics Engineer
- Zoologist

Additional information

GCSE science is studied by all students as either combined science or triple science. There are two tiers of entry; higher and foundation. The higher course awards grades 9-4, whilst the foundation course awards grades 5-1. Decisions on tiers will take place in year 11 following the mock examinations.

Course structure: We follow the AQA GCSE Science specification 9-1 course.

Year		Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Biology	Bioenergetics	Homeostasis and Response		Inheritance and Variation		
	Chemistry	Structure and Bonding		Energy Changes	Rate and Extent of Chemical Change	Organic Chemistry	
	Physics	Radioactivity	Forces	Forces and Motion	Newton's Laws	Momentum	
11	Biology	Inheritance and Variation	Ecology			Revision	
	Chemistry	Organic Chemistry, Quantitative Chemistry	Quantitative Chemistry	Chemical Changes			
	Physics	Momentum, Waves and EM Waves	Free topic choice continued	Magnetism and Electromagnetism			



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Option examination subjects





Art and Design

For further information email: sharris@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Fine Art GCSE

Students who are successful in Art and Design...

- Enjoy a hands on practical approach.
- Want to learn new knowledge and skills.
- Can create work based on media that links to their own skills and interests.

Additional information

Students might take Art and Design as a first step towards a higher-level qualification in Art and Design, or just to develop independence and creativity to support other GCSEs.

The course attracts students who are creative thinkers, organised, hardworking and resilient. They will have a passion for Art. Motivated to apply their skills both in and outside the classroom.

Where will this subject take you?

Art and Design is a course that combines the practical and academic study of the subject. It is a broad-based course that could be a stepping stone to a wide range of creative and visually focused careers. Art and Design studies can take you into careers such as:

- Graphic Designer.
- Fashion Designer.
- Interior Designer.
- Web Designer.
- Game Designer.
- Illustrator.
- Photographer.
- Set or Costume designer.
- Textile Designer

- Art Teacher/lecturer
- Art therapist and many more...

It will develop students' ability to think and be creative and innovative and will teach them to work with independence. We encourage students to work in areas that will most inspire them and by mid year 10 they will be making many creative choices of their own with our help, including which artists will inform their own work. Personalised topics are devised to suit individual skills and strengths. The department is vibrant and encouraging with many students coming and using the facilities in their own time as they enjoy it so much.

Course structure: We follow the AQA Fine Art specification 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Component 1: Wabi Sabi - growth and decay	Component 1: Wabi Sabi - growth and decay	Component 1: Wabi Sabi - growth and decay	Component 1: Free choice topic from a given set of starting points	Component 1: Free choice topic from a given set of starting points	Component 1: Free choice topic from a given set of starting points
11	Free topic choice continued	Free topic choice continued	Component 2: AQA externally set assignment	Component 2: AQA externally set assignment	Component 2: AQA externally set assignment	

Business

For further information email: jhooley@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Business GCSE

Students who are successful in Business...

- Have a clear passion for business and make a conscious effort to keep up to date with relevant business news and topics.
- Have a head for numbers and enjoy studying business related finance.
- Take part in business-related activities such as clubs and enrichment sessions provided.

Where will this subject take you?

Studying Business can take you into careers such as:

- Business teaching.
- Business coaching.
- Financial analyst.
- Marketing specialist.
- Entrepreneur.
- Business consultant.
- Research and Development.
- Event organiser.
- Human Resources manager.

Additional information

The Eduqas GCSE Business course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of business concepts, practices, and the environment in which businesses operate. This qualification is designed to develop students' analytical, critical thinking, and decision-making skills, which are essential for success in the business world. The course is assessed through two written exams, each contributing 50% to the final grade. These exams test students' knowledge and understanding of business concepts, as well as their ability to apply this knowledge to real-world scenarios.

Course structure: We follow the Eduqas GCSE Business 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Unit 1 - Business Activity		Unit 2 - External influences on businesses		Unit 3 - Operations Unit 4 - Finance	Unit 4 - Finance
11	Unit 5 - Marketing		Unit 6 - HR	Revision	Examination	

Drama

For further information email: hhall@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Drama GCSE

Students who are successful in Drama...

- Are passionate about storytelling and eager to explore the many facets of theatrical performance.
- Possess a curious mind and an open heart, ready to dive into different characters and worlds with enthusiasm and creativity.
- Are not afraid to take risks and make bold choices on stage, whether in acting, directing, or designing.
- Value teamwork and communication, supporting their peers and contributing to a positive, energetic classroom environment.
- Are independent, hardworking and resilient.

Where will this subject take you?

Taking Drama GCSE opens up a world of benefits and potential career paths. Beyond the excitement and creativity it brings, drama helps build essential skills like confidence, communication, and teamwork. These skills are invaluable, whether you're on stage or behind the scenes. Drama studies can take you into careers such as:

- Acting.
- Directing.
- Playwriting.
- Stage management.
- Lighting engineer.
- Sound design.
- Set design.

Additional information

Taking Drama GCSE isn't just about performing on stage; it's an adventure into the realm of creativity and self-expression. Through acting, you'll dive into a world where you can explore different characters, emotion, and stories, honing your ability to empathise and connect with others. Beyond acting, the design aspects of drama - like set, costume, and lighting design - offer a fantastic outlet for your creativity and technical skills. Imagine transforming a blank stage into a bustling marketplace or a mystical forest through your visionary designs. Drama GCSE equips you with confidence, teamwork, and communications skills that are invaluable in any career path. Students will complete three components including a written exam in year 11.

Course structure: We follow the Eduqas GCSE Drama specification 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Masterclass	Project	Emma Rice - Mock component 1 in style of Practitioner	Brecht - Practitioner and script work, Mock of component 2	Component 1: Devising - Includes practical exam, Portfolio course work and Evaluation controlled assessment	Component 1 development
11	Component 1 examination	Component 3: Written exam - broken into two sections. Section A: Questions based on a studied text, section B: A live theatre review	Component 2: Scripted - Practical exam and 150 words coursework piece		Examination preparation	

Food

For further information email: hhall@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Food GCSE

Students who are successful in Food...

- Are curious, detail-oriented, and passionate about both science and food.
- Have a strong interest in how food is made, processed, and how it impacts health and the environment.
- Are interested in sustainability, food safety, and innovation.
- Are able to work well in teams, communicate effectively, and think critically, as food technology often involves collaboration across different sectors.
- Have a genuine desire to make a positive impact on the food industry and help tackle global challenges like food security.

Where will this subject take you?

Studying food technology can lead to many different career paths, as it combines science with practical solutions to improve how food is produced, processed, and consumed. Within the subject you will also develop key practical cooking skills and leading to working in areas such as restaurants, developing menus and working to create new and exciting dishes. Food can take you into careers such as:

- Food manufacturing.
- Product development.
- Quality control.
- Food safety.
- Hospitality.

Additional information

Throughout Year 10 the focus of the course is on building the knowledge of Food Nutrition and Food Science. In addition to this there is a key focus on developing complex practical skills and perfecting these over the course of the year to make the transition to Year 11 seamless. The first two terms of Year 11 are based on coursework, the NEA 1 (Non examined assessment) is a food science based task where trials and investigations are undertaken. This then leads on to the spring term where the focus is NEA 2, a cooking based coursework task that uses the students' knowledge of nutrition and cookery skills.

Course structure: We follow the AQA GCSE Food preparation and nutrition 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Principles of Nutrition	Factors effecting food choice	International cuisine	Food Safety	Food Science	Mock science based coursework task, Mock cooking based coursework task
11	NEA 1 Science based coursework task		NEA 2 Cooking based coursework task		Revision and Examination	

French

For further information email: charris@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: French GCSE

Students who are successful in French...

- Are sought-after, outward-looking communicators.
- Display grit as they try out new things, mastering vocabulary, grammar and phonics over time. The result is finding your voice, something invaluable, as you express yourself with greater confidence. This gives students a platform to continue their French as well as the ability to turn to other languages, opening up routes personally and professionally later in life.
- Are resilient in their learning, as we know that hard work is what brings a feeling of 'I can do it' in languages.

Where will this subject take you?

Studying French can take you into careers such as:

- Translation.
- Teaching.
- Marketing.
- Civil and diplomatic services.
- Sports industries.
- Security services.
- Journalism.
- Business.
- Engineering.
- Finance.
- Politics.
- Fashion.

- Sales.
- Travel Industries.
- Hospitality.
- Law.

Linguists are everywhere!

Additional information

Students may well choose to continue their French studies at TDMS by taking A level French in the sixth form, but even if not, a GCSE language is an asset to any young person and will give them reading, listening, writing and speaking skills that are transferable into lots of different settings.

Course structure: We follow the Edexcel GCSE French 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Holidays	Holidays (Revisit hobbies)	Our environment	Our environment (Revisit family and friendships)	Where I live	Where I live (Revisit School)
11	Future Careers	Future Careers (Revisit healthy living)	Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking preparation		Speaking exam and final exam preparation	Final examination

Geography

For further information email: jbuckley@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Geography GCSE

Students who are successful in Geography...

- Have strong analytical skills to interpret various types of data, such as maps, graphs, and statistics. This involves understanding patterns and trends and making connections between different pieces of information.
- Are critical thinkers as evaluating sources, questioning assumptions, and developing well-reasoned arguments are central to the course.
- Have research skills conducting fieldwork and investigations. This includes the ability to gather, record, and analyse data accurately. Students should be comfortable using different research methods and tools, such as surveys and GIS.
- Have a genuine interest in the world and its diverse environments, cultures, and issues will drive engagement and motivation. Curiosity about current events and global challenges, such as climate change and urbanisation, will enhance learning and understanding.

Where will this subject take you?

Geography can take you into careers such as:

- Environmental Consultant.
- Urban Planner.
- Cartographer.
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) specialist.
- Conservation Officer.
- Climatologist.
- Hydrologist.
- Disaster Risk Management Specialist.
- Transport Planner.
- Geography Teacher.

Additional information

The AQA GCSE Geography course covers a broad range of topics divided into three main papers:

Paper 1 focuses on physical geography, including natural hazards, ecosystems, and UK landscapes.

Paper 2 addresses human geography, exploring urban issues, economic development, and resource management.

Paper 3 involves geographical applications, emphasising issue evaluation and fieldwork. Student develop skills in data analysis, critical thinking, and fieldwork techniques, preparing them for further education and various career paths.

Course structure: We follow the AQA GCSE Geography 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	The Challenge of Natural Hazards	Urban Issues and Challenges		Rivers	Changing Economic World	
11	Living World		Glaciers	Resource Management	Issue Evaluation Pre-Release Materials	

Health and Social Care

For further information email: tallcoat@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

**Qualification: Health and Social Care BTEC
technical award level 2**

Students who are successful in Health and Social Care...

- Are able to manage their time effectively, meet coursework deadlines whilst applying knowledge learned from the health and social care industry.
- Show a deep understanding of others and empathy towards people in a different position to themselves.
- Show a willingness to support and help others through their issues and want to improve the health and wellbeing of other people.

Where will this subject take you?

Studying Health and Social Care can take you into careers such as:

- Doctor.
- Nurse.
- Dentist.
- Optician.
- Social worker.
- Teacher.
- Mental health therapist.
- Charity worker.
- Organ specialist.
- Counsellor.

Additional information

Health and Social Care is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK with demand for both health and social care employees continuously rising. The course explores the life stages and key characteristics in the physical, intellectual, emotional and social (PIES) development classifications and the different factors that can affect an individual's development. Students will investigate how individuals can adapt or be supported through changes caused by life events. Students will understand health and social care conditions and how they can be managed by the individual and the different health and social care services available. This course looks closely at the barriers and obstacles an individual may encounter when accessing services, or improving health, and how these can be overcome.

Course structure: We follow the BTEC technical award in Health and Social Care level 2 (D*-P).

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Component 1: Human Growth and development	Component 1: Different types of life events and coping with change caused by life events	Component 1: Non-examined Assessment	Component 2: Health and Social Care services and barriers accessing services.	Component 2: Skills and attributes and values in HSC.	Component 2: Values and skills in HSC and obstacles individuals may face.
11	Component 2: Non-examined assessment	Component 3: Factors affecting health and wellbeing	Component 3: Physiological and lifestyle indicators	Component 3: Barriers to health and wellbeing	Revision	Component 3: Written exam

History

For further information email: sjennings@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: History GCSE

Students who are successful in History...

- Have high levels of literacy (reading and writing).
- Are able to evaluate, analyse and interpret sources.
- The critical thinking and writing skills you'll develop will give you an advantage in whatever you choose to pursue in life. Our world would look very different today, if we all just read a little bit more history!
- Love finding out about the past and how it has shaped our present. History isn't just about memorising old dates and facts. History is about critical thinking, problem solving, and using evidence to make arguments.
- Display grit as they tackle large amounts of content.

Where will this subject take you?

History GCSE can take you to many places. Having a high grade shows you've mastered skills like the ability to conduct further research, reach well-informed conclusions, and excellent written and verbal communication. Studying History can take you into careers such as:

- Academic Librarian or Researcher.
- Archaeologist.
- Archivist.
- Economist.
- Heritage Manager.
- Historic buildings inspector/Conservation officer.
- Journalist.

- Museum education officer.
- Museum/Gallery curator.
- Policy officer.
- Solicitor/Lawyer.
- Teacher.

Additional information

The GCSE course inspires students' enthusiasm for history. They develop their understanding of the present by studying significant periods and themes from the past at a local, national and global level, engaging with a range of contemporary sources and later interpretations. Students will study a mixture of British and world history. British history includes a study of people's health from medieval times and how governments have responded to health emergencies. There is also a unit on the later Elizabethan period which focuses on themes like power and culture. World history looks at how America was formed into a modern state through war and conquest as well as a study of what it was like to live under the Nazi regime in 20th century Germany. Students will also analyse a castle through a site visit.

Course structure: We follow the OCR GCSE History specification 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	People's Health 1250-Present		The Elizabethans 1580-1603			History Around Us: a study and site visit of Stokesay Castle
11	The Making of America 1789-1900		Living under Nazi rule 1933-1945	Revision	Examination	

Music

For further information email: pstones@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Music GCSE

Students who are successful in Music...

- Demonstrate a passion for music and commit to rehearsals and practice on an instrument of their choice.
- Have a genuine love for music, which drives them to explore it beyond the classroom. This enjoyment will lead onto engagement within lessons and commitment to extra-curricular offerings within the department.
- Are able to manage the demands of both practical and written coursework, including deadlines for performances, compositions and written exams.
- Are interested in a broad spectrum of musical styles (classical, jazz, pop, world music, etc.).
- Are capable of actively listening to, and critically evaluating, a wide range of music.
- Can identify musical features such as melody, harmony, dynamics, and form in diverse pieces of music from a variety of genres and cultures.
- Are comfortable working both solo and as part of a team (e.g. in group performances or collaborative composition).
- Show initiative and self-motivation in independent practice and study.

Where will this subject take you?

Music is a course that combines the practical and academic study of the subject. It will develop students' ability to think creatively and stimulate their listening skills and musical knowledge through the study of a wide range of genres. Music studies can take you into careers such as:

- Performer. A music performer can be a classical soloist, singer songwriter, band member, electronic artist etc.
- Composer
- School teacher/University lecturer
- Conductor/Musical director
- Music Manager
- Music Producer

Additional information

Music GCSE is a creative and exciting course which enables students to engage actively in music. The course is divided into three stands: performance, composition and listening. Students will develop their awareness of music technologies and their use of the creation and presentation of music. GCSE music enables students to develop musical performance skills both individually and in groups. Students also create two original compositions further enhancing their ability to communicate effectively as musicians. Students who study music at GCSE will also engage with and appreciate an exciting and diverse range of music from all over the world.

Course structure: We follow the Eduqas GCSE Music 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Film music	Musical forms and devices	Popular music	Composition 1	Music for ensemble	Musical forms and devices recap
11	Composition 2 Ensemble performance	Film music revision	Popular music Solo performance	Music for ensemble revision	Exam revision	Written Exam

Psychology

For further information email: vchristodoulou@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Psychology GCSE

Students who are successful in Psychology...

- Are able to demonstrate an ability to present information, develop arguments and draw conclusions through a critical approach to psychological evidence.
- Have strong essay writing skills, an open mind and a good grasp of biology and mathematics.
- Have an eagerness to unfold the intricacies of why people act in the ways they do is also key in ensuring success.

Where will this subject take you?

Taking psychology as a GCSE allows students to access A Level with a foundation understanding, which aids success. Psychology can take you into careers such as:

- Psychotherapy.
- Teaching.
- Nursing.
- Social work.
- People management.
- Marketing.
- Media.

Additional information

During this course, students will acquire a knowledge and understanding of psychology, developing a keen awareness of themselves and others. Students will investigate how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena, they will also identify how psychological research is conducted, including the role of the scientific method and data analysis. During the course, there will be opportunities to develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and culture issues, obtaining an appreciation for key issues in psychology.

Course structure: We follow the OCR GCSE Psychology 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Criminal behaviour, Research methods	Development, Research methods	Development, Research methods	Memory, Exam skills	Psychological problems, Exam skills	Neuro-psychology, Exam skills
11	Social influence, Revision	Social influence, Revision	Sleep and dreaming, Revision	Sleep and dreaming, Revision	Revision, Examination	

Sport

For further information email: tallcoat@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

**Qualification: Sport BTEC technical award
level 2**

Students who are successful in Sport...

- Are able to manage their time effectively, meet coursework deadlines and write extended pieces of work whilst applying knowledge learned from the health and social care industry.
- Have a clear passion for sport and make a conscious effort to keep up to date with relevant sports news and topics.
- Actively take part in practical PE and aim to represent the school and external clubs in sporting fixtures and events.
- Are excited about the opportunity to lead and assist with the organising and running of primary sporting events alongside inter school house matches.

Where will this subject take you?

Sport BTEC can take you into careers such as:

- PE Teaching.
- Sports coaching.
- Physiotherapy.
- Diet and nutrition coach.
- Sports analyst.
- Research and Development.
- Sports event organiser.
- Leisure and gym.

Additional information

The Sport BTEC award provides learners with the opportunity to develop sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through realistic vocational contexts. They will explore the different types and providers of sport and physical activity, as well as the equipment and technology available. Building on this, students will look at individuals' differing needs, to gain an understanding of how to increase participation in sports while further developing their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology in a contextualised way.

They will then apply their knowledge and skills to planning and delivering sports activity sessions for participants in practical sessions. Students develop skills including evaluation, assessment, communication, justification, to name a few.

Course structure: We follow the BTEC technical award in Sport level 2 (D*-P).

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Component 1: Taught Content	Taught Content	Our environment	Our environment (Revisit family and friendships)	Where I live	Where I live (Revisit School)
11	Future Careers	Future Careers (Revisit healthy living)	Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking preparation		Speaking exam and final exam preparation	Final examination

Travel and Tourism

For further information email: tallcoat@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

**Qualification: Travel and Tourism BTEC
technical award level 2**

Students who are successful in Travel and Tourism...

- Are very aware of how business, marketing and global holiday destinations are connected.
- Are able to build their knowledge about a rapidly growing industry where there is currently an estimated 100 million people employed within the sector worldwide.
- Have a desire to travel the world and experience new places.
- Can manage their time effectively and meet coursework deadlines.

Where will this subject take you?

Studying Travel and Tourism can take you into careers such as:

- Events planning
- Air hostess
- Travel agent
- Tour guide
- Security
- Entertainer

Additional information

Travel and Tourism students need to be open minded and understand other cultures.
Successful students also need to be able to work independently and meet coursework deadlines
Travel students will be able to build a set of skills that are incredibly transferable to other industries and make them increasingly more employable in the future.

Course structure: We follow the BTEC technical award in Travel and Tourism level 2 (D*-P).

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Component 1: Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations			Component 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism		
	Demonstrate an understanding of the UK travel and tourism industry	Demonstrate an understanding of the UK travel and tourism industry	Explore popular visitor destinations.	Demonstrate an understanding of how organisations identify customer needs and travel and tourism trends	Demonstrate an understanding of how organisations identify customer needs and travel and tourism trends	Recognise how the needs and preferences of travel and tourism customers are met.
11	Component 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism		Influences on Global Travel and Tourism			
	Recognise how the needs and preferences of travel and tourism customers are met.	Coursework Deadline	Factors that influence global travel and tourism	Impact of travel and tourism and sustainability	Destination management	Examination

Religious Studies

For further information email: kgreen@tdms.worcs.sch.uk

Qualification: Religious Studies GCSE

Students who are successful in Religious studies...

- Love to explore new cultures and traditions, discussing different opinions and values and how these impact how people behave. Students should love to read and analyse quotes and texts, in order to pick out and develop written answers on different world views.
- Interested in the world around them and able to apply different beliefs to real life examples, such as crime and human rights.

Where will this subject take you?

Study Religious Studies at GCSE can support with future careers, such as:

- Health and social care.
- Law.
- Public services.
- Medicine.
- Journalism.
- Teaching.

RS is about understanding what and how different religions think and worship, and applying this to how they will respond to different situations; this makes it an ideal subject for anyone who is interested in learning about the world and working with people.

Additional information

Our GCSE covers Buddhism and Christianity and four contemporary ethical themes, ensuring our students have a diverse choice of intriguing subjects to explore. Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues. Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. They will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare them for further study.

Course structure: We follow the OCR GCSE Religious Studies specification 9-1 course.

Year	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
10	Buddhist beliefs and teachings	Theme A: Relationships and families	Christian beliefs and teachings		Theme B: Religion and Life	Christian practices
11	Buddhist practices	Theme E: Religion, Crime and punishment	Theme F: Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice	Revision and exam preparation		



TDMS

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**FOUR STONES
GATEWAY TRUST**

Four Stones Gateway Trust is a 'family' of like minded schools, that collaborate to provide mutual support, share their good practice and learn from each other. Our students deserve the best and we do this most effectively by working together.



AMBITION

We set high expectations and standards to achieve excellence



COMMITMENT

We give 100% in all that we do, constantly looking to improve ourselves and our service



CREATIVITY

We always seek innovative solutions so we achieve everything we are capable of



INTEGRITY

We always do the right thing showing principle and character to support each other

