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## **WHICH WAY NOW?**

### ***A guide to your Options for Year 10 and 11 courses***

#### ***Introduction***

This booklet provides valuable information that will help students and parents / carers to make an informed choice about the subjects and types of qualifications they wish to study for in Year 10 and 11. A copy of this booklet is available on the school's web site ([www.jmonline.org.uk](http://www.jmonline.org.uk)).

As part of the Year 9 Options process John Masefield High School is committed to:

1. Providing choice and flexibility in the options process so that students can tailor the curriculum to meet their strengths as learners and their career aspirations
2. Supporting students to making the right choices through providing high quality information, guidance and support
3. Ensuring that students have access to a wide range of subjects and qualifications that are challenging, motivating and rewarding
4. Equipping students with the skills and competencies that enable them to confidently meet the challenges of working and living in the twenty-first century
5. Offering progression beyond Year 11, either at John Masefield Sixth Form or other post-16 providers

#### ***The Core Subjects***

The following subjects are compulsory: English, Maths, Science, ICT, PE, RE & Citizenship and PSHE . These are called core subjects and all students have to study these (this is the case in all high schools in England). In Science most students will study the new Core Science and Additional Science GCSE, which combines Biology, Chemistry and Physics and is worth two GCSEs. If you are very strong in Science then you may be able to study the three science subjects separately, leading to three GCSEs. Another alternative is to study for a vocational Science qualification. At this stage you will need to indicate if you would like to be considered for Triple Science on the options application form.

#### ***The Option Subjects***

Students will follow three option courses through Years 10 and 11, with an average of two and half hours per week spent on each. Option subjects are blocked together at certain points of the school week. Once students have selected from the options list on page 26 we will endeavour to block groups of subjects together to ensure that the vast majority of students get their preferred options. Students are asked to pick three subjects and rate them in order of preference plus two reserve choices also in order of preference. It is important to point out that all courses are subject to change or withdrawal depending on uptake and changes to staffing.

- For more information about the option subjects please refer to pages 7-18
- For guidance on the different type of qualifications offered please see the table on page 3

Getting to grips with these choices is not easy and you probably have a number of questions about making choices. Check the Frequently Asked Questions section on page 4. You will also have the opportunity to ask direct questions at the Year 9 Options Evening.

We survey all students before finalising the Options Table to maximise the number of course combinations that students want to take. Although we aim to maximise choice there are limitations. For example, there may be combinations that are not possible or desirable courses that are not offered.

### *Guidance on different qualifications*

Qualification	Description	Examples of what this can progress to
GCSEs	GCSEs are academic qualifications and there are 10 to choose from. All are assessed through exams and coursework. Coursework counts for between 25 and 65 percent of the final mark – depending on the course. GCSEs are the most common qualification in Year 10 and 11 and most students are likely to choose at least one.	ASs and A2s
BTEC First Certificates	These are vocational qualifications that relate learning closely to the world of work. BTEC Firsts are available as Certificates (equivalent to 2 GCSEs) in Business, Dance, Drama, Engineering, Fashion and Sport. They are assessed entirely through assignments and building up a portfolio.	BTEC Nationals Applied ASs and A2s
Young Apprenticeships/Specialist diplomas	Apprenticeships are available in six subjects as shown on page 1. The courses are structured around BTEC First Diplomas (equivalent to four GCSEs) and students will study off site for two days a week (Wed / Thur). There are only a limited number of places on these courses. Level 2 Diploma in Business and Finance will also run on similar timings out of the Hereford Academy.	BTEC Nationals Applied ASs and A2s

### *Vocational Qualifications*

At JMHS we are working to provide opportunities to undertake and achieve vocational qualifications, meeting the Government's agenda for increased flexibility and choice for students aged 14-16 years. High quality, work-related learning can help students of all abilities to develop new skills and abilities, find new motivations and interests, and make a full and significant contribution to their progress in Years 10 and 11. 'Learning for work' in vocational programmes can raise achievement by improving motivation and standards.

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'Learning for work' through the development of key skills and career management skills can improve students' transition to adulthood and working life.

Vocational qualifications are part of the national qualifications programme and are available at different levels. Students choosing these courses will not, therefore, be disadvantaged in any way should they choose at age 16 to carry on studying AS/A levels in the Sixth Form, a full or part-time course at a College of Further Education, or as a Modern Apprentice in industry. In fact, many employers and teaching professionals consider a vocational qualification to be a positive advantage.

## *Performing Arts subjects in Year 10 and 11*

John Masfield is in its eleventh year as a Performing Arts College. If you choose to continue your study of Dance, Drama or Music into Year 10, the additional funding, resources and staff we receive will provide you with a richly creative, challenging and successful time. Your experience in these subjects is significantly enhanced through expert teaching, improved facilities and resources, and increased enrichment experiences, both inside and outside the classroom. If you choose to continue your study of Dance, Drama and Music in Years 10 and 11 you will be giving yourself the chance to:

- Be awarded a **high examination grade**, showing your achievement primarily through practical and creative work
- Work in an environment where there are **no right answers**, only you thinking imaginatively and creatively to solve problems
- Bring your individual **talents and interests** to work as **part of a team** sharing the responsibility for devising, developing and performing original work
- Become a **better communicator**, in words, images, movement, sound
- Understand **yourself and others** better
- Create a **balanced programme** of learning for the next two years with your performing art subject acting as a change from classroom based work
- Learn to be more **resilient, resourceful and reflective**

All these qualities and achievements are eagerly sought by employers in industry and the professions. Studying a performing art in Years 10 and 11 will form the foundation for hours of informed pleasure as an adult – going to the cinema, watching a play, attending a concert, playing a musical instrument, becoming a member of a local arts group.

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **Can I do more than three option subjects if I want?**

You can only choose up to three option subjects. However, there is still opportunity for you to build in more challenge – for example, you may opt for three separate sciences or to take a third language. As a school we believe it is best for students in general to opt for up to three subjects in addition to the core. This ensures that there is more teaching time available for each of these options, which in turn gives students more chance of achieving top grades. You should remember that there are up to 7 GCSE awards available in the core curriculum.

**Will I get my first choice subjects?**

We will do our best to ensure that this happens. In some cases however, it is not always possible - and this is why we ask you to make a second choice. If the number of students choosing a particular course is low then we may not be able to run it. Already we predict high levels of interest in our Design Technology options and we may have to limit students to one of these choices.

**Can I change subjects in Year 10?**

It is very difficult to change subjects once you have started a course in Year 10. Only in exceptional circumstances can a change be made and this must take place before the end of Week 4 in the autumn term of Year 10. This is because the numbers of students taking each course and the resources available have been carefully planned and changing can have a serious effect on a student's chances of success.

**What happens to the rest of my timetable if I follow an off-site Apprenticeship course?**

The school makes every effort to accommodate the needs of students who spend two days at another school, college or work placement. The timetable is set up so you will miss the bare minimum of core subject time, although it is likely you will need to follow a single Science GCSE award. It is sometimes possible to choose one of the *in school* options as well as follow a diploma or Apprenticeship course.

***Supporting students to make the right choices***

Over the next two months there are a range of opportunities for students and parents / carers to access support and guidance, some of which have already started. These include:

25 January	Options booklet	Published and given to all students
27 January 6.00 – 8.00 pm	Options Evening	The process of choosing subjects will be explained in detail. Individual subjects will have displays providing information and there will also be the opportunity to speak to subject leaders and teachers.
1 – 12 February	Options Interviews	These interviews are with Mr Collard, Mr Evans, Mr Hammond or Mr Williams. If parents would like to attend, please contact reception to arrange an appointment. During this meeting the application form should be completed and submitted to indicate initial choices.
4 March	Progress Check Report issued	Update on subject progress.
10 March	Year 9 Parents' Evening	Detailed information on subject progress. Even though forms will be in by now, this will be an opportunity to reflect on choices and make changes.
During the whole of this period subject leaders and teachers will provide information to students during lesson time and tutors will follow a series of support activities in registration time.		

## *Information and advice from Connexions*

### **Connexions**

Connexions Hereford & Worcester is the local advice and information service for 13-19 year olds. It produces a useful publication called 'Year 9 Choices' which will be distributed to all year 9 students. You can also access this booklet online, as well as a range of additional services and information, from their website at [www.connexions-hw.org.uk](http://www.connexions-hw.org.uk). The '13+ Choices' page of the website gives answers to commonly asked questions at this stage, regarding subject choices and careers.

Nationally the Connexions service also publishes a useful guide to choices for year 9 students called 'Which Way Now?' which is designed as a workbook leading year 9 students through all the stages of making their option choices. Most sections contain exercises to help students relate the information given to their own thoughts. You can access this resource as a link from [www.connexions-hw.org.uk](http://www.connexions-hw.org.uk) or directly from [www.connexions-direct.com](http://www.connexions-direct.com).

### **Connexions advisors**

In addition to the advice and support you receive from John Masefield staff you can also make an appointment to see the school's Connexions advisors. To make an appointment please place a request in the Connexions box outside room 40 or make the request at your school interview. The Connexions advisors will also be at the Year 9 Options Evening.

### *Next Steps*

- Read this option booklet carefully
- Return reply slip to letter about Options sent out earlier this term
- Attend the Options Evening and talk to teachers about different subjects
- Complete the *Options Applications Form* which you will receive at your Options Interview

# OPTION SUBJECTS

## **ART AND DESIGN : BTEC First Certificate**

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

The BTEC in Art and Design has been developed for students who are interested in the possibility of becoming employed in visual art based work; as a fine artist, a graphic designer or an illustrator, or simply want to further develop their keen interest in the visual arts.

**Content:**

Art and Design unit 1 involves researching visual information, manipulating materials, using drawing to record, explore and develop ideas for a final outcome. Students will develop their skills in a variety of media and a range of techniques and processes. Studying how other artists explore ideas will enhance students' understanding of their own work and forms a key element of unit 2. In unit 3 the aim is to encourage learners to respond to a specialist visual art brief and produce an exciting personal outcome.

The course has a strong vocational aspect, which allows students to develop essential life skills through visiting artists, letter writing, questionnaires and interviewing.

**Assessment:**

Students study three internally assessed units one of which is externally moderated. There is no formal written examination.

- Unit 1: 2D and 3D Communication (developing drawing skills)
- Unit 2: Vocational Context (researching artists and designers)
- Unit 3: Working to Art & Design Briefs

**Skills and Qualities:**

- A strong interest in art and design
- An ability to meet regular coursework deadlines and motivation to work independently as well as within a group
- Confident use of ICT to present work in different formats

## **BUSINESS : BTEC First Certificate**

**Examination Board:** OCR

**What is a BTEC First Certificate in Business?**

The BTEC First Certificate is a vocational or work related, practical award which gives you the knowledge and skills which are relevant to the business world. All BTEC courses expect you to take responsibility for your own learning, while at the same time getting sufficient help and support from your teacher. This means that you have to be highly self motivated from the outset.

**How will I be assessed?**

On a BTEC course, you will be assessed by means of assignments set by your teacher and given

to you to complete throughout the course. Your teacher will use a variety of assessment methods such as case studies, projects and presentations in order for you to obtain knowledge and demonstrate your skills. The course will also enable you to enhance your knowledge by means of external visits, visiting speakers and work experience.

***What grades will I be awarded?***

BTEC assignments will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade. A BTEC First Certificate in Business is equivalent to two GCSE's at grade A\* to C.

***Content:***

In order to achieve the BTEC First Certificate the students are required to complete 3 Core Units, which in total account for 180 guided learning hours. The assignments will be given throughout the course and each assignment will have a deadline.

***Unit 1 Exploring Business Purpose***

This unit looks at different types of business ownership, and compares and contrasts the different forms of ownership. It also considers the aims and objectives of business organisations, using examples of real life organisations as the basis for an investigation. Students will gain an understanding of the Primary, Secondary and Tertiary sectors of the economy, and investigate the changes that have taken place in these sectors in recent years. The unit also examines the functional areas of business.

***Unit 2 Developing Customer Relations***

This unit examines how firms provide customer service. It examines the different types of customers that a firm may have and their differing needs. It considers the importance of presentation and attitude for good customer service, and will require students to consider the different approaches that might be required in different customer service situations. Students will gain an understanding of the importance of good customer service for both the customer and the business. Industry codes and ethical standards will be used in order to evaluate a firm's customer service provision.

***Unit 3 Investigating Financial Control***

This unit will examine the different types of costs and revenues that a firm might have, and will use this information to develop their understanding of Break Even Analysis. The focus of this unit is the preparation of simple financial records for a business. You will learn why profit is so important, and how firms calculate profit. Students will develop an understanding of how to prepare simple Cash Flow Forecasts, and will learn about the importance of cash flow for a business. Students will also learn how to assess how well a firm is performing compared with previous years or with other similar firms.

***Skills and Qualities:***

In order to be successful on this course it is important that you:

- Have an interest in what is going on around you in the world and in your local area
- Enjoy research and investigation
- Work consistently hard
- Take responsibility for your own learning. You should be keen and motivated enough to work hard without being continually monitored.

- Meet deadlines, particularly for completion of the assignments. Some tasks will have to be completed quickly for the next lesson, whereas other tasks may take some time to complete and may have a longer deadline.
- Are organised and keep good notes from the start of the course
- Have excellent attendance

## **DANCE : BTEC First Certificate**

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

**Content:**

CORE UNIT	
A4 - Performing Dance 33.3%	Practical assignment - performing in two dance styles
	Group presentation
	Individual written evaluation
SPECIALIST UNITS	
A3 - Understanding Dance 33.3%	Written assignment - history/ development of dance
	Choreograph two dances
	Written analysis/ programme note for the dances you have created
A7 - Contemporary Dance 33.3%	Teacher assessment of approach/ attitude towards lessons
	Perform two dances taught to you by your teacher or a visiting professional dancer
	Evaluation assignment in technical skills

**Assessment:**

All units are internally assessed, with an external monitoring process to ensure that marking has been in line with national standards. The BTEC First Certificate is equivalent to two GCSEs. Grades available are Pass (C equivalent), Merit (B equivalent) or Distinction (A equivalent).

**Skills and Qualities:**

- Confidence to perform on stage, both alone and as part of a group
- Interest in all forms of dance - to participate in, create, write or speak about
- Willingness to find out about, and write about, different dance styles and approaches
- Dedication and teamwork are essential - you need to be reliable and motivated
- The ability to work with anyone in the class, as well as sometimes working as an individual, remaining focused for long periods of time

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## **DRAMA (ACTING) : BTEC Level 2 Extended First Certificate**

**Examination Board:** EDEXCEL

**Content:**

You will be studying three units on this course from the following choices:

**ACTING SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES**

You will learn the skills necessary to act – vocal skills, movement skills, how to interpret and develop characters and how to perform in an acting role successfully. At the end of this unit you will perform two contrasting pieces of work.

**DEVISING PLAYS**

You will learn about dramatic techniques, forms and styles and you will be able to devise your own pieces of work from a starting point, progressing through all of the stages of development until you have a polished performance piece. At the end of this unit you will perform two devised pieces of work.

**PERFORMING ARTS PRODUCTION PROCESS**

In this unit you will be working as a team to stage an event for a public audience. There is the opportunity for you to perform or to work on the technical or management side of the event. You will plan the event, publicise it and generally operate as a production team throughout this exciting and rewarding process.

**PERFORMING SCRIPTED PLAYS**

This unit is about the rehearsing and performing of play scripts. In this unit you will develop the skills required to interpret a role as written by a playwright. You will rehearse a role within a group and perform it before an audience.

**MUSICAL THEATRE**

The aim of this unit is to develop learners' skills in musical theatre performance. Learners are required to use relevant skills from the disciplines of dance, drama and music in equal measure in a performance of a musical theatre work.

**Assessment:**

All units are internally assessed, with an external monitoring process to ensure that marking has been in line with national standards. A BTEC Extended First certificate is equivalent to two GCSEs. It is graded as Distinction, Merit or Pass.

**Skills and Qualities:**

- You should be prepared to work hard and develop your skills as an actor.
- You should be keen to develop your confidence and attack a challenge head on
- You should have the courage to try out new ideas and experiences
- You should be interested in acting and also how performance work is put together
- You should be a strong team worker
- You must be reliable and motivated and have the energy to see a project through

## **ENGINEERING : BTEC First Certificate**

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

The BTEC in Engineering has been developed for students who are interested in the manufacture of products. It is designed to aid their ability to use and understand material properties as well as machining processes and making systems.

**Content:**

Engineering involves a manipulation of materials to produce a whole range of products. The aim is to enable learners to develop a wide range of confidence making skills through a series of short projects, using a variety of materials. The course has a strong vocational aspect which allows students to develop essential life skills through visiting manufacturers, letter writing, questionnaires and interviewing.

**Assessment:**

Students study three units, which are assessed both internally and externally. There is no formal written examination.

- Unit 1: Engineering processes and techniques
- Unit 2: Manufacturing technology
- Unit 3: Engineering materials

**Skills and Qualities:**

- A strong interest in design and manufacture
- An ability to meet regular coursework deadlines and the motivation to work independently as well as within a group
- Confident use of ICT to present work in different formats

## **FOOD TECHNOLOGY : GCSE**

**Examination Board:** AQA

**Assessment:**

Towards the end of Year 10, a controlled assessment portfolio to design and make a new food product is started. This is completed in the Spring term of Year 11. It takes a maximum of 40 hours and carries 60% of the marks.

At the end of the two year course, there will be a two hour written examination which carries 40% of the marks.

**Skills and Qualities:**

You will be able to:

- Apply knowledge and understanding of food as a material when making products
- Carry out processes, techniques and use a variety of equipment

- Design and make using creative skills and working systematically
- Investigate, analyse and evaluate familiar products
- Work safely and hygienically, meeting standards for 'due diligence'
- Use critical thinking skills
- Use a range of key skills - communication, application of number, ICT, managing own learning, problem-solving

## GEOGRAPHY : GCSE

**Examination Board:** Edexcel – Syllabus B (“Evolving Planet”)

**Content:**

There are four main components to this course. Details can be seen below:

UNIT	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1: 'Dynamic Planet'	Section A: Introduction to the Dynamic Planet 'Restless Earth': Earthquakes/volcanoes/tsunamis. 'Climate and Change': Ice Ages/Extinctions/Global Warming. 'Battle for the Biosphere': Deforestation, resources. 'Water World': future of oceans and the water cycle. Section B: Small Scale Dynamic Planet 'River processes, landscapes and pressures'. Section C: Large Scale Dynamic Planet 'Extreme Climates': Rainforests/deserts - challenges + change'	1 hr written examination (25%)  January or June entry

UNIT	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 2: 'People and the Planet'	Section A: Introduction to People and the Planet 'Population Dynamics': growth, change, migration and policies. 'Consuming Resources': why? Problems and solutions. The future. 'Living Spaces': Cities, countryside and change and challenges. 'Making a Living': Employment, business and industry. Section B: Small Scale People and the Planet 'Changing Countryside' - why/where? Problems/solutions? Section C: Large Scale People and the Planet 'World at Work': Global economic change, technology and business.	1 hr written examination (25%)  January or June entry
Unit 3: 'Making Geographical Decisions'	This is an examination where the topic is known at the start of the Year 10 course. The pre-release materials will be available online in January of the examination year. The paper assesses student's ability to make and justify decisions based on materials provided about a theme. It includes the pressures (conflicts), players and options that are involved in decision-making and are related to sustainable development and environmental issues.	1 hr written examination (25%)  June entry

Unit 4: 'Researching Geography'	This element is fieldwork related and involves students investigating and reporting on a task provided by Edexcel. It will either be on: rivers, coasts, countryside or cities. Two tasks will be set for the chosen theme. Twenty hours are allocated in classroom time and a day in the field for data collection, processing, presentation and analysis.	25% controlled assessment  June entry
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Students are entered for the Higher or Foundation tier written papers based on their aptitude for the subject. The Higher Tier gives the opportunity to achieve a grades A\*-D, and Foundation Tier where grades C-G are available.

***Skills required:***

Students will need to show:

- A knowledge of places covered in the course.
- An understanding of environments and themes.
- An ability to apply their knowledge and understanding in a variety of human and physical contexts.
- That they also have the potential to select and use a variety of appropriate graphical, diagrammatic and statistical techniques in their work.
- The ability to use ICT effectively to research, present and analyse information in its many forms

## **HISTORY : GCSE**

This GCSE History course is designed for those who like to debate, discuss and analyse the key events of the past which have shaped the world around us today. It's about having an opinion and being prepared to share it with others.

***Examination Board:*** EDEXCEL

***Content:***

- 1) War: A series of disasters that ends in Victory  
Britain & The Experience of World War : The Making and Breaking of Britain?
- 2) So powerful, so rich, so successful, so DIVIDED  
Why is the USA's recent history so full of inequality? (1941-75)
- 3) One finger-tip from destruction  
How and why did mankind nearly destroy itself? Super power relations 1945-75
- 4) All that is needed for evil to conquer, is for good men to do nothing  
How and why was Germany condemned to the dictatorship of Hitler?

***Assessment:***

- Four modules which can be taken at four different points during Year 10 and Year 11.

- Each module is worth 25%
- One module (Module 2) is a Controlled Conditions Assessment done in class

***Skills and Qualities:***

Students should be prepared and able to:

- Contribute to discussions and join in debates
- Have an opinion and share it with other
- Investigate historical sources to learn about the past including cartoons, propaganda, written accounts and film
- Take on advice to move forward and improve their performance in history
- Enjoy finding out about the past and see the importance of historical events and personalities

***History and Your Future:***

- A GCSE in History shows you are a thinker and an analyser. It shows you have good communication skills and make reasoned judgements when presented with a number of different ideas. History develops your Life Skills.
- In short, it shows that you have all the qualities desired in occupations as varied as journalist, police, catering, office worker, management, lawyer, tradesman, sales, armed services, consultancy, higher education..... Whatever you want!!

**MODERN LANGUAGES : GCSE French, German and Spanish**

***Examination Board:*** AQA

***Skills:***

As in Key Stage 3, the four communication skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are covered.

***Content:***

- Leisure: free time, shopping, fashion, money, new technology
- Holidays: plans, experiences, travel, destinations practical situations
- Lifestyle: health, family, friends, future plans, social issues, equality
- Home & Environment: special occasions, home, town, environmental issues
- Work & Education: school, future plans, part time work, work experience

***Assessment:***

This is spread across two years and integrated into the scheme of work at the right time to give students the best chance of success.

Weighting of skills: Speaking 30%      Writing 30%      Reading 20%      Listening 20%

During Year 10, students will do a speaking assessment (a recorded conversation with their teacher about a recent topic, completed under exam conditions in the classroom).

During Year 11, students will do a second speaking and writing assessment and at the end of

Year 11 will complete the course with a reading and listening assessment based on all work covered throughout the two years.

***Requirements:***

- You should be prepared to work on your speaking skills whenever you have the opportunity
- You should pay attention to detail, using support resources to check and develop work
- You should be prepared to learn new vocabulary and grammar thoroughly
- You need to take pride in your notes and organisation
- You should have an interest in other cultures and travel

***Future benefits:***

As always there are a number of specialist language occupations but increasingly in an international market, employers look for language experience combined with other skills. Having a language qualification gives you the edge in a global market!

Travel opportunities for pleasure, work and setting up home are more common. Having knowledge of a foreign language is a huge asset and provides an excellent basis for learning other languages.

## **MUSIC : BTEC First Certificate**

***Who is the course for?***

This course is designed for students who are enthusiastic about music, but may lack playing experience. Some experience of performing or music technology will be very useful.

***What will I study on the course?***

This two-year course gives an introduction to a wide range of music related subjects. It is made up of units that develop practical music skills, arranging and composing using software packages and knowledge of the music industry.

***Core Unit:***

- Production Project – Planning and Creating a Music Product – Your own Music CD or Plan your own Concert

***Specialist units include:***

- Performing Music – Ensemble work – with some solo work. Forming your own Band.
- Exploring an Area of Music – A detailed project about a Performer, Style of Music or Concert Venue

All students take the specialist units in Year 10 and the Core unit in Year 11 depending on their area of interest and experience. Successful completion of the course will give you a nationally recognised qualification worth two GCSEs.

***What other skills will I acquire?***

You will learn how to work as part of a team and to lead and take the initiative in group work.

You will develop a greater all round confidence that will help you in all areas of life.

***What will I need for the course?***

An interest in Music Technology, Performing and Arranging – Being able to read Keyboard Notation / Guitar Tab would be an advantage and preferable. If you enjoy practical music lessons, enjoy performing with others, if you have a good sense of rhythm and if you would like to develop your musical skills further then this course is for you. You need to be prepared to perform in different environments in and out of school including Assemblies and Concerts.

***What is special about studying Music at JMHS?***

- Dedicated staff that encourage your learning skills
- Purpose built Music Classrooms – Based around PCs with Cubase Studio 4, Sibelius 5 and Dance eJay software, M-Audio & Yamaha MIDI Keyboards, Rock /Popular Instruments, twenty-four Track Powered Mixing Desk and Amplifiers
- Dedicated Music Computer Studio running industry standard score-writing packages and sequencer package Cubase Studio 4 – digital recording and mastering
- Music Practice Rooms – for individual / group work
- Range of vocal and instrumental performing groups including rock and popular music.
- Specialist one-to-one music lessons are available to students taking this course – You can also take graded music exams while studying this course

***How will I be assessed?***

- Assessment is by coursework based on assignments set in each unit
- Assignments will involve: Performance projects, group and individual project work as well as written work and research
- Assessments are graded at Distinction, Merit or Pass level
- On successful completion of the course, you will be awarded an overall Distinction, Merit or Pass grade

***What can I do on completion of this course?***

On completion of the First Certificate students can progress onto the BTEC First Diploma in Music or Music Technology in Higher Education.

For further information please contact Mr P L Bull, Director of Music.

## **SCIENCE : GCSE**

***Examination Board:*** Edexcel

This Science syllabus places its emphasis on ‘How Science Works’, which means not just learning theory but understanding the practical side of science and its relation to the world in which we live. The Department has adopted the EDEXCEL 360-Science course as it offers the greatest flexibility for our students. There are three options that students can follow:

1. Core Science and Additional Science, leading to two GCSEs, covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics.

2. Triple Science leading to three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.  
*NB This includes a compulsory hour-long lesson after school every Tuesday.*
3. A BTEC in Countryside & Environment (equivalent to two GCSEs) and Core Science, leading to three GCSEs in total. This will either take place within timetabled science lessons or will form one of students' three additional options. A decision will be made depending upon levels of interest shown on the options forms.

The majority of students will follow Option 1.

*Students wishing to follow Option 2 or 3 should see Miss Bayley or Mrs Black for more information and should tick the relevant box on the option form to express an interest.*

## **SPORT : BTEC First Certificate**

*Examination Board:* Edexcel

All assessment is by coursework with no terminal examination. You will study, and need to produce, four Assignments in each of the following areas over the two years:

### *Planning and Leading Sports Activities* (Year 10)

In this Unit you will study what it takes to be a good Sports Leader. This will include leading a Sports Festival for Year 2 and 3 students. A great deal of time can be spent applying theory into practice in this Unit.

### *Health, Safety and Injury in Sport* (Year 10)

In this Unit you will learn about the many injuries and illnesses that are associated with sport. You will be able to identify causes and ways to minimise the risk of injury. You will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge you gain in this Unit to the 'Planning and Leading Sports Activities'.

### *Practical Sport* (Year 11)

During this Unit you **will not** be assessed on how good you are in a particular sport. However, you do need to show a basic level of skill and that you can apply some simple tactics to a team and individual sport. You also have the opportunity to highlight strengths and weaknesses in the performance of others and suggest ways in which others can improve.

You must be prepared to answer assignments in a number of ways: writing a report; making an information leaflet; giving a presentation to the class; performing; organising and leading a sports event; officiating at sports events.

### *Grading*

- You must **complete all the designated Units** in order to pass the course.
- You must achieve a minimum points score of eighteen points for the First Certificate (see below).
- You must achieve a Pass grade for all designated Units. (You cannot pass a Unit unless

you have met all the assessment criteria.)

The Units that are covered on the course are sixty hours long. If you gain a Pass in a Unit that takes sixty hours of teaching, you will score six points. If you achieve a Merit, you will score twelve points for that Unit, and eighteen points should you score a Distinction.

We cover three Units in total. Therefore, if you gain a Pass in one Unit and a Merit in the other two Units, you will score a Merit overall as you will have achieved a total of thirty points.

**To gain a Pass overall:** 18–29 points, which is equal to a CC grade at GCSE

**To gain a Merit overall:** 30–41 points, which is equal to a BB grade at GCSE

**To gain a Distinction overall:** 42–53 points, which is equal to a AA grade at GCSE

**To gain a Distinction\* overall:** 54 points, which is equal to a A\*A\* grade at GCSE

# OFF-SITE OPTIONS

## **DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS, ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

Available at Key Stage 4 and Post-16

Delivered by: The Hereford Academy, Hereford College of Technology,  
Riverside Training and Hereford Group Training Association.

The Business, Administration & Finance Diploma consists of the usual diploma components – functional skills, project work, generic learning, work placements and the principal learning units. The units are delivered by specialists over two days of the week. Students should expect to be taught in a variety of locations and the courses have strong links with local employers who contribute their experience to enhance the learning experience for the students.

If you would like more information please contact:

[swilliams@theherefordacademy.org.uk](mailto:swilliams@theherefordacademy.org.uk) or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **DIPLOMA IN CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Available at Keystage 4 and Post-16

Delivered by: Herefordshire College of Technology, Primary Care Trust.

The Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment is a new and different way of learning about construction and the built environment sector. It will give you the right skills to start a career in engineering or go on to university, college and other training.

Like everyone else at school, you'll also do English, Maths and ICT. And while you're doing the Diploma, you can also still do GCSE's or A Levels.

If you would like more information please contact:

Adrian Morris at Herefordshire College of Technology – 0800 032 1986 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE & MEDIA**

Available at Keystage 4 and Post-16

Delivered by:

Whitecross High School: Level 2 Graphics and Media

John Masefield High School Level 2 Performing Arts (including music & dance)

Aylestone Business and Level 2 Technical Theatre

Enterprise College

Kingstone High School Level 2 2D/3D Art & Design

Hereford College of Arts: Level 3 All disciplines

The Creative & Media Diploma is an exciting new qualification for 14 to 19 year olds that combines theory and practice to offer a mix of studio learning, creative thinking and hands-on experience for anyone interested in a career in the creative industries.

Level 2 Higher Diplomas are worth up to seven GCSEs at grades A\* - C

Level 3 Advanced Diplomas are worth either 2.5 or 3.5 A Levels

If you would like more information please contact:

Helen Vine: HCA 01432 845343 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **DIPLOMA IN ENGINEERING**

Available at Keystage 4 and Post-16

Delivered by: Herefordshire College of Technology, Herefordshire Group Training Association, ASPIRE Centre.

The Diploma in Engineering is a new and different way of learning about the world of engineering. It will give you the right skills to start a career in engineering or go on to university, college or other training.

In year 10 you can do the:

- Foundation Diploma (equivalent to 5 GCSE's at grades D to G)
- Higher Diploma (equivalent to 7 GCSE's at grades A\* to C)

after which you can do other Diploma levels, A Levels, a job, an apprenticeship or other training.

If you would like more information please contact:

Adrian Morris at Herefordshire College of Technology - 0800 032 1986 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council.

## **DIPLOMA IN HOSPITALITY & CATERING**

Available at Keystage 4 and Post-16

Delivered by: St Mary's RC High School, The Hereford Academy, Hereford College of Technology

The Diploma in Hospitality is designed to develop in you a thorough understanding of the catering and hospitality industry and how it operates. The main units are as follows:

- The Hospitality Industry
- People in Hospitality
- Business and Finance
- Hospitality Operations

If you would like more information please contact:

John Mortimer - [jmortimer@stmaryshigh.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:jmortimer@stmaryshigh.hereford.sch.uk) or Jo Hayden-Woodward - [jhayden@stmaryshigh.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:jhayden@stmaryshigh.hereford.sch.uk) or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP IN CONSTRUCTION**

Delivered by: The Hereford Academy

The aim of the Young Apprenticeship programme is to provide skills, knowledge and experience of working in the construction industry, considered essential for progression onto an apprenticeship or a post 16 course of study or training.

This qualification is equivalent to 4 GCSEs grades A\*- C

If you would like more information please contact: Denise Boughey at The Hereford Academy - 01432 355213 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP IN HAIRDRESSING**

Delivered by the Hereford Academy

The aim of the Young Apprenticeship programme is to provide skills, knowledge and experience of working in the hairdressing industry, considered essential for progression onto an accelerated apprenticeship or post 16 course of study or training.

This qualification is equivalent to 5 GCSEs grade A-C

If you would like more information please contact: Jane Morse at The Hereford Academy- 01432 355213 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

Delivered by Herefordshire College of Technology

The Young Apprenticeship programme in Health & Social Care provides an exciting route to gaining the equivalent of 4 GCSE's whilst studying in a vocational area. The qualification gives you an opportunity to study in the health, social and childcare sectors both through accredited qualifications and work experience.

You will undertake the following qualifications:

- BTEC First Diploma in Health & Social Care

- OCR Preparation for Employment
- First Aid at Work
- Food Hygiene

If you would like more information please contact: Jan Roberts at Herefordshire College of Technology- 0800 032 1986 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council.

## **YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP IN HOSPITALITY & CATERING**

The Hospitality Young Apprenticeship takes place over two days each week in both years 10 and 11. The qualifications gained through the course are currently:

BTEC First Diploma in Hospitality & Catering (equivalent to 4 GCSE passes at grades A\* - C dependent on graded coursework)

OCR Ready to Work Level 2 (equivalent to 1 GCSE pass)

NCFE Certificate in Customer Service Level 2 (equivalent to 1 GCSE pass)

NCFE Certificate in Customer Service Level 2 (equivalent to 1 GCSE pass)

Food Hygiene Certificate

If you would like more information please contact:

John Mortimer at St Mary's R C High School - 01432 850416 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP IN THE MOTOR INDUSTRY**

Delivered by Aylestone Business and Enterprise College and Motov8.

This new and exciting course gives young people the chance to study for level 2 qualifications alongside gaining some real, hands-on practice experience in the motor industry. Applications are welcomed from students who are motivated by the opportunity to work in the motor industry, with good attendance and the potential to success in this area.

If you would like more information please contact: Sian Alderton at Aylestone Business and Enterprise College - 01432 357371 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council

## **YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND COACHING**

This course will be delivered in a range of workplaces and at the Hereford Academy. Transport from schools will be both managed and paid for by the project. It has at its centre the BTEC qualification at first diploma level. A BTEC first diploma is equivalent to 4 GCSE's at grade A\*-C and will be delivered over two days per week throughout years 10 and 11. Students are awarded grades at Pass, Merit and Distinction level which have GCSE equivalence as follows:

- Pass - 4 x C grades
- Merit - 2 x A, 2x B grades
- Distinction - 2 x A\*, 2 x A grades

If you would like more information please contact: Denise Boughey at The Hereford Academy- 01432 355213 or refer to the 14-19 Programme booklet issued by Herefordshire Council.



## YEAR 9 OPTIONS APPLICATION 2010-2012



Name ..... Tutor Group .....

### ***PART A: OPTION SUBJECTS - to be completed by every student***

Students are asked to tick 3 option choices and 2 reserve choices in order of preference from the table below:

Subject	Course	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Choice	Choice	Choice	Reserve	Reserve
French	GCSE					
Geography	GCSE					
German	GCSE					
History	GCSE					
Art & Design	BTEC					
Business	BTEC					
Countryside & Environment	BTEC					
Drama (Acting)	BTEC					
Engineering	BTEC					
Food/Hospitality & Catering	*					
Music	BTEC					
Sport	BTEC					

*\*A decision will be made between Food GCSE and Hospitality & Catering BTEC depending upon the time allocation available and the number of students interested in the course*

### ***PART B: COMPULSORY SUBJECTS***

All students will follow the following courses:

Maths GCSE

English GCSE (double award)

OCR National Award in ICT

Non-examination courses in RE, Citizenship, PSHE and PE

Science - students can opt to study Triple Science which will involve an extra curricular lesson on a Tuesday after school

*Please Tick all that apply*

I would like to be considered for Triple Science	
I would like to be considered for Spanish GCSE (this will be taught as an after school session)	
I would like to study Dance BTEC instead of the core PE course	

**PART C: OFF SITE COURSES**

Please indicate if you would like to be considered for the off site courses below.

Young Apprenticeships	Hospitality and Catering	
	Sports Management, Leadership and Coaching	
	Construction	
	Hairdressing	
	Motor Industry	
	Health & Social Care	
Diploma	Business, Administration & Finance	
	Engineering	
	Construction and the Built Environment	
	Hospitality and Catering	
	Creative & Media	

*Notes:*

This form is only a sample. An A4 version form will be given to students at their Options interview to complete and hand in at the time or to Student Services by Friday 12 February 2010.