

CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

Aspiration, Character & Excellence



Options Booklet
2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am very pleased to present to you our Key Stage 4 Curriculum Booklet for our current Year 9 pupils.

It is designed around our school vision, to fully prepare every pupil to live highly successful adult lives by:

- Providing the skills, attributes and aspirations necessary to instil a love of lifelong learning and the pursuit of academic excellence;
- Delivering an ambitious, challenging and enriching curriculum that ensures outstanding outcomes across a breadth of experiences;
- Building the strength and depth of character that combines a strong moral purpose with excellent social skills;
- Ensuring that our pupils become adults that can go on and make a real difference locally, nationally and globally.

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum offer is both broad and balanced, offering pupils a high degree of choice, whilst being aspirational for all. Where appropriate, pupils will be guided to select a combination of options that is best suited to them as individuals. Senior staff and Form Tutors will be available throughout the options process to help pupils make the best choices.

The following pages give general information about the Key Stage 4 curriculum and outline the content of the courses on offer, as well as provide guidelines on how to choose. More detailed information on our subjects can be found on the "Curriculum" tab on our webpage. We will make every effort to accommodate the wishes of pupils and parents/carers, although we cannot always guarantee to meet first choices.

Please keep this booklet in a safe place as you will need to refer to it in the coming months.

Partnership is the key to our pupils' achievements and we hope that parents/carers will take the opportunity to discuss option choices with their child.

Yours faithfully



Mr. M Suttwood
Headteacher



CHASE HIGH SCHOOL
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The Curriculum Offer is Ambitious

We ensure that every pupil studies the subjects that will enable them to have the widest possible life choices, by ensuring that the Key Stage 4 curriculum is broad and balanced.

By following our option paths, pupils will be prepared for an ever-changing world and opportunities will remain open to them.

The EBacc is a cornerstone of our offer and this is the “gold standard” for progression to further and higher education.

We expect all students to study Single Sciences (3 GCSEs) from the outset but some students may sit Combined Science (2 GCSEs) to best meet the needs of individual students.

It is not permitted to choose both Creative Media and Games Development Media, or Art & Design and Photography, as these are variations of the same subject.

How the Curriculum is Organised in Key Stage 4

All pupils will study 30 hours a fortnight of core subjects:

- Nine hours of English, split between English Language and English Literature GCSE;
- Ten hours of Science;
- Eight hours of Mathematics;
- Two hours of Physical Education (no exam);
- One hour of Personal Development (no exam).

In addition, they will choose four subjects to study at GCSE or equivalent, and will have five hours per fortnight of lessons in each. These choices must adhere to the following:

- One GCSE subject MUST be either History or Geography;
- It is expected One GCSE subject should be a language for the majority of students;
- The other two GCSE subjects are a free choice.

The school will do its best to allocate the pupil choices, but the subjects offered will only run if enough pupils choose them, and there will only be as many classes as there are teachers to teach them.

Instructions for SIMS Options Online

Registration Process

An email from noreply@sims.co.uk will be sent to your school email address to invite you to register for SIMS Options.

To access your school email; open a web browser and go to this URL: <https://outlook.com>, enter your school email address and password and open the email from noreply@sims.co.uk. The email will look like this:

Hi Jack,

Simply accept this invitation and register within 90 days.

Accept Invitation

If the button above doesn't work, copy and paste the following link into your browser.

<https://registration.sims.co.uk>

Should you need to enter it, your personal invite code is: **QT8HRDXHKD**

Sent on behalf of,

Chase High School

Make a note of your invite code
Click where it says "Accept Invitation"

You will be directed to the SIMS Register page. Do not enter a username or invitation code – instead select register with an external account

SIMS

Activate Your Account

So that we can confirm your identity, please enter your email address and personal invitation code.

Username
jack.black@cl...h.org

Invitation Code
QT8HRDXHKD

Next

Alternatively you may complete the registration using an External Account.

Register with an External Account

Secured by SIMS ID
ESS Hosted Services: [Check Service Status](#)



The register account screen is displayed.

Do not enter a username or password.

Click the third party you wish to use to sign in with and you will be transferred to the third party to complete the registration. Apple ID/Facebook/Google/Microsoft/Twitter

Select the icon that shows the windows symbol and then sign into your school account like you would normally do in school.

Register your account for SIMS products

Username
This is usually a...ress

Password
Password

Show Password [Forgot Password?](#)

Sign in

OR

ESS | SIMS

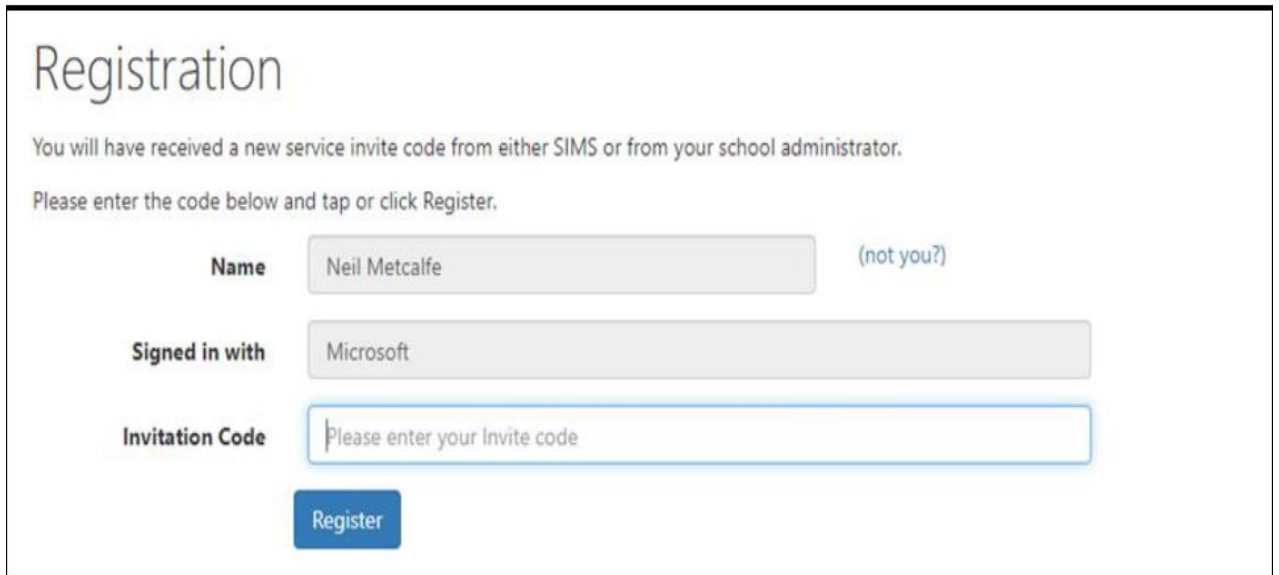
ESS: [Check Service Status](#)

Secured by SIMS ID



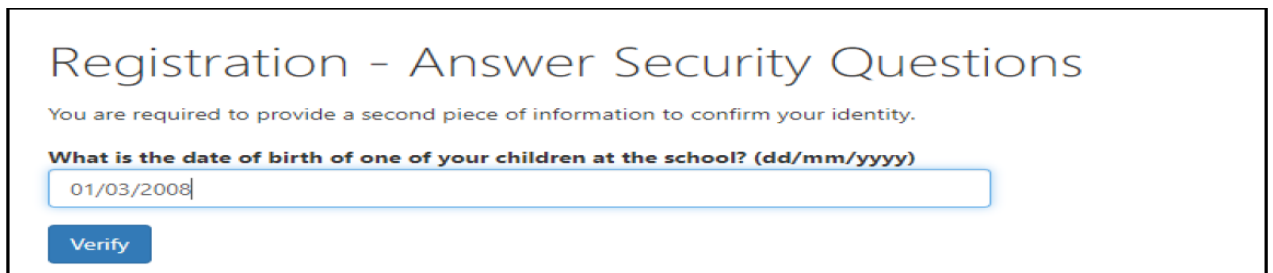
Click **yes** to confirm that the app can access your information (email address and basic profile)

Enter the registration code from the email here and then **register**.



The screenshot shows a registration form titled "Registration". Below the title, there is a message: "You will have received a new service invite code from either SIMS or from your school administrator. Please enter the code below and tap or click Register." The form contains three input fields: "Name" with the value "Neil Metcalfe" and a "(not you?)" link; "Signed in with" with the value "Microsoft"; and "Invitation Code" with the placeholder text "Please enter your Invite code". A blue "Register" button is located below the "Invitation Code" field.

Answer the security question and **verify**

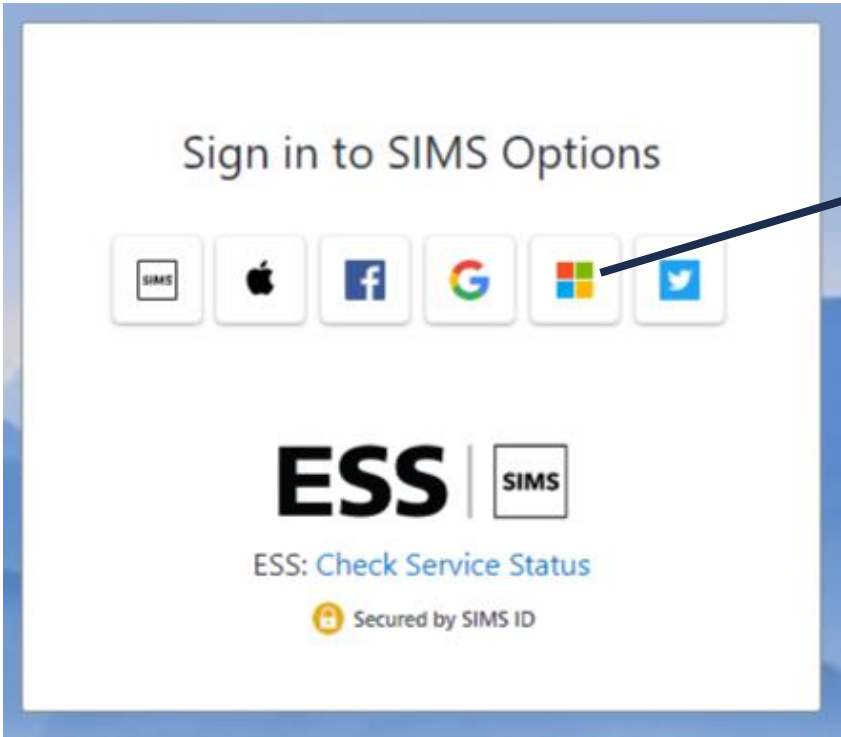


The screenshot shows a form titled "Registration - Answer Security Questions". Below the title, there is a message: "You are required to provide a second piece of information to confirm your identity." The form contains one input field with the question: "What is the date of birth of one of your children at the school? (dd/mm/yyyy)" and the value "01/03/2008". A blue "Verify" button is located below the input field.

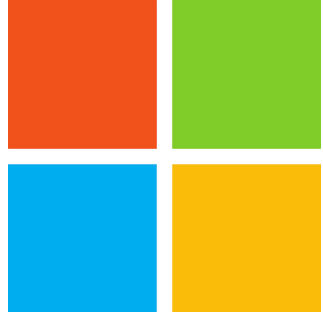
Your online services account will then be created.

Once the registration process is complete users can sign into Options online via the following link:

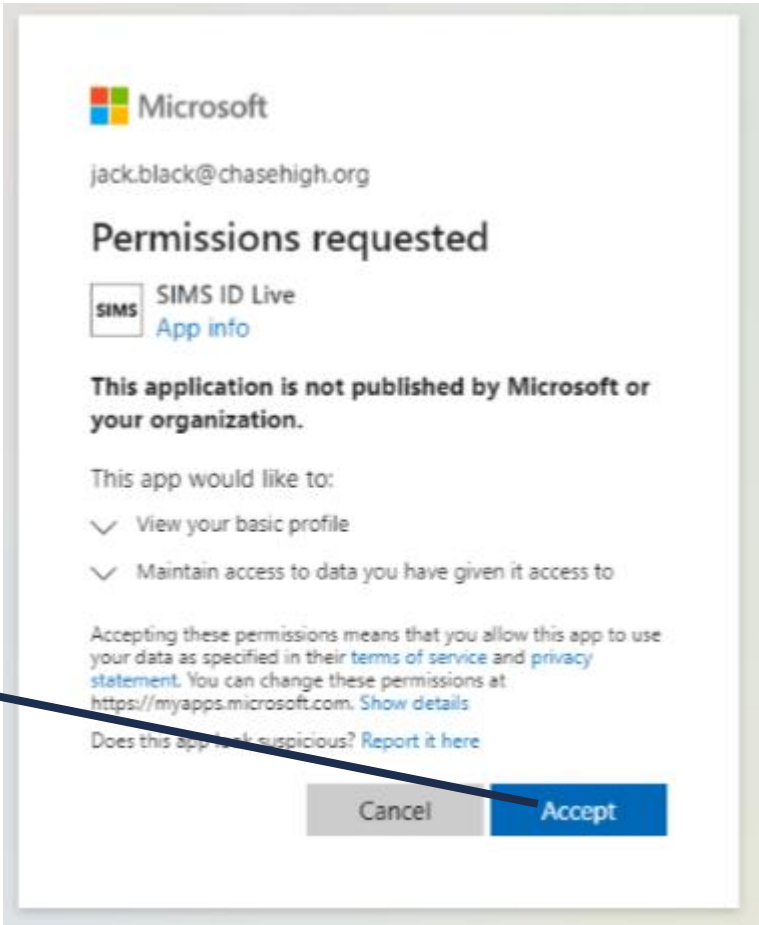
<https://www.sims-options.co.uk>



You will be given a range of options to sign into SIMS, click on the Microsoft icon



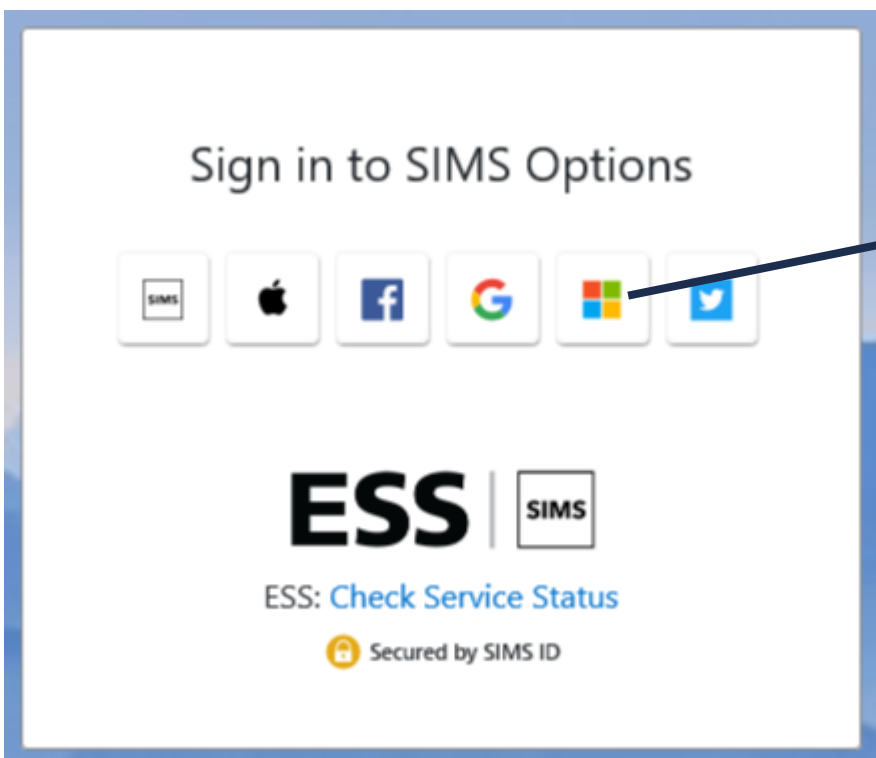
You will be asked to accept permission – simply click on 'Accept' button



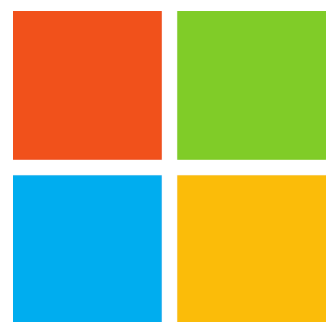
Accessing SIMS Options

Once registered, you will need to go to the SIMS Options website and login to access the Options page.

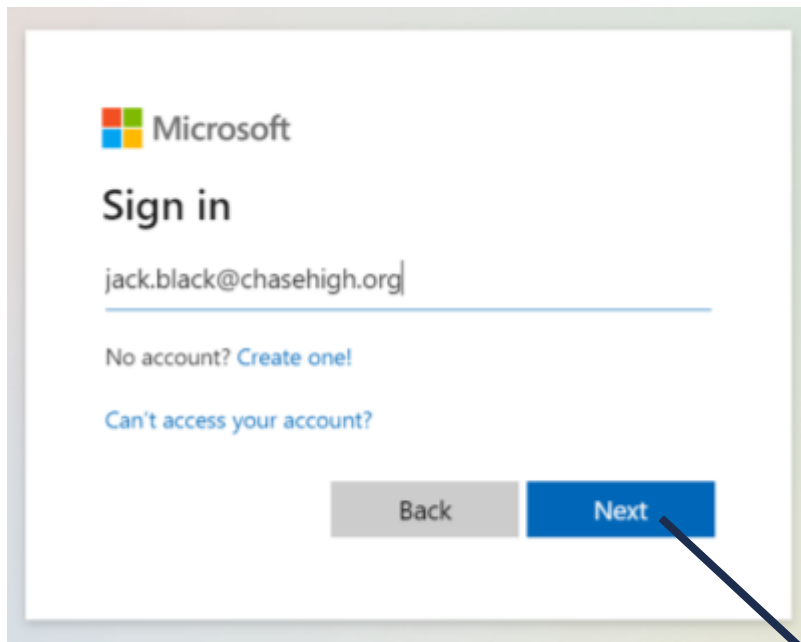
Type <https://www.sims-options.co.uk> in your web browser and the following page will open:



Click on the Microsoft icon



You will then be asked to Sign in



Enter your school email address and click “Next”, enter the password you created in the next window. Once logged in, the Options page will be displayed

Chase High School is ambitious for its students and has structured the curriculum to ensure they study subjects that give them the widest range of opportunities for their future studies.

Please select one subject from each guided option. For free choices, please choose in a order of preference and two reserves.

Remember to SAVE after you have picked your options.

Thank you

You can then make your choices by clicking on the course items from the screen displayed

You have chosen courses and reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Business S GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Games development Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve	Health&Soc BTEC Award Level 2	Reserve
Media Stud Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Physical E Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve
Photography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Religious GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Sociology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Food tech GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Triple Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve

Humanities

You have chosen courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
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Selections are displayed to the right of the screen and the order of preference can be changed by selecting the course name and then clicking on which course you wish it to replace.

Options will move the other courses down a level of preference by default

The screenshot displays the 'Options' interface. At the top, it shows 'You have chosen 4 of 4 courses and 2 of 2 reserves from this list.' Below this is a grid of course options, each with a 'Reserve' button. The selected courses are highlighted in blue: History, French, Computer Science, and Sociology. The reserved courses are highlighted in orange: Info Techn and Psychology. To the right of the grid are two preference lists. 'My Choices In Order of Preference' (Total Choices: 4) lists: 1 History, 2 French, 3 Sociology, 4 Computer Science. 'My Reserves In Order of Preference' (Total Reserves: 2) lists: 1 Psychology, 2 Info Techn.

Remember to pick four choices and two reserves- some will be guided and others free choice. (reserves will turn orange when selected).

You can add comments in the Student Comments field

Student Comments

Please can I have Computer Science as I want to be a software developer

When all selections have been made, the choices should be saved by clicking the "Save" icon to the top left.

You should then sign out of Options Online



Core Curriculum

GCSE English

Language & Literature

Exam Board: AQA

What will I be studying?

English Language GCSE

- Writing to present a viewpoint across a range of forms.
- Descriptive writing.
- Narrative writing.
- Reading – critical comprehension to include comparison, evaluation, summary and analysis.
- Spoken word.

English Literature GCSE

- Shakespeare play.
- Modern drama.
- Poetry (unseen and anthology).
- 19th Century Novel.

Assessment:

English Language GCSE: two written exams plus English Language spoken word: oral assessment (separate award):

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing	50%
Paper 2 Writer's viewpoints and perspectives	50%

English Literature GCSE: two exams:

Paper 1 Shakespeare and 19th Century novel	50%
Paper 2 Modern Drama and Poetry	50%

Progression Opportunities:

- English Language and Literature A-Level at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- English Literature A-Level.
- English Language A-Level.

GCSE Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

What will I be studying?

GCSE is the final stage in the compulsory study of Mathematics at school. All pupils will follow the Edexcel GCSE Mathematics course, which requires pupils to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts.

Pupils will be assessed on:

- Number.
- Algebra.
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change.
- Geometry and measure.
- Statistics and probability.

Assessment:

Mathematics GCSE: Three exams: **Equal weighting**

Paper 1 non-calculator

Paper 2 calculator is allowed

Paper 3 calculator is allowed

Content is assessed across all three papers.

There are two tiers of entry; Higher and Foundation.

Foundation grades are from 1 to 5 and higher grades are from 4 to 9.

Progression Opportunities:

- A Mathematics GCSE is a vital component of Sixth Form life and is a requirement in almost every career pathway.
- Chase High School Sixth Form offers Core Mathematics and A-Level Mathematics.

GCSE Single Sciences

Exam Board: AQA Biology, Chemistry, Physics

What will I be studying?

Single Science consists of three separate GCSEs and each is assessed individually. The content will include everything covered in the Combined course, plus these additional topics:

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Monoclonal Antibodies	Polymers	Astrophysics
The Brain	Chemical cells	Electrical Fields
The Eye	Nanoparticles	Pressure
The Kidney	Chemical Analysis	Light
Cloning	Ceramics	Momentum
Bacterial Growth	Transition Elements	Nuclear Fission/Fusion

Assessment:

There are six exam papers, each with equal weighting:

- Two exams each in Biology, Chemistry and Physics worth 100 marks each.
- Practical work is part of the course, and knowledge of this is assessed in the exams.

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Applied Science at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- BTEC Sport and City & Guilds Beauty at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- A-Level Science at other schools' Sixth Forms.
- A wide range of science-based courses at Further Education College.

GCSE Combined Science

Double Award

Exam Board: AQA (Combined Science Trilogy)

What will I be studying?

GCSE Combined Science is one award, worth two GCSEs. There are two grades awarded on average performance across all three Sciences.

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cells	The Periodic Table	Energy
Animal Coordination and Control	Rates of Reaction	Waves
Plant Structure and Function	Chemical Analysis	Electricity in the Home
Genetics	Atmospheric Chemistry	Radioactivity
Health and Disease	Chemical Changes	Vectors and Scalars
Ecology	Organic Chemistry	Electromagnetism

Assessment:

There are six exam papers, each with **equal weighting**:

- Two exams in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics worth 70 marks each.
- Practical work is part of the course and knowledge of this is assessed in the exams.

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Applied Science at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- BTEC Sport and City & Guilds Beauty at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- A-Level Science at other schools' Sixth Forms.
- A wide range of Science-based courses at Further Education College.



EBacc Curriculum

GCSE French

Exam Board: Edexcel

What will I be studying?

Pupils will learn about the French language and the culture of French-speaking countries.

- **Theme 1:** Identity and culture (me and my family, technology in everyday life).
- **Theme 2:** Local area, holiday and travel (home, town, eating out, social issues, holidays).
- **Theme 3:** School (school type, school day, subjects).
- **Theme 4:** Future aspirations, study and work (employment, volunteering, jobs, careers).
- **Theme 5:** International and global dimension.

Assessment:

The GCSE comprises four exams testing the four skill areas. Each paper has equal weighting of 25%:

- **Paper 1:** Listening and understanding — pupils listen to audio and answer exam questions.
- **Paper 2:** Speaking — pupils are assessed on their ability to speak in French.
- **Paper 3:** Reading and understanding — pupils answer comprehension and translation questions.
- **Paper 4:** Writing — pupils are assessed on their ability to write in French.

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level French.
- Studying a language supports pupils to work in all areas and increases their value to employers. It enables them to have more choice in where they work and opens up opportunities abroad.
- Studying one language makes it easier to learn others later in life.

GCSE German

Exam Board: AQA

What will I be studying?

Pupils will learn about the German language and culture.

- **Theme 1:** Identity and culture (me and my family, technology in everyday life, free time activities, Customs and festivals in German-speaking countries/communities).
- **Theme 2:** Local, national, international and global areas of interest (home, town and neighborhood, social issues, holidays).
- **Theme 3:** Current and future study and employment (my studies, life at school and college, jobs and career choices).

Assessment:

The GCSE comprises four exams testing the four skill areas. Each paper has equal weighting of 25%:

- **Paper 1:** Listening and understanding — pupils listen to audio and answer exam questions.
- **Paper 2:** Speaking — pupils are assessed on their ability to speak in German.
- **Paper 3:** Reading and understanding — pupils answer comprehension and translation questions.
- **Paper 4:** Writing — pupils are assessed on their ability to write in German.

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level German.
- Studying a language supports pupils to work in all areas and increases their value to employers. It enables them to have more choice in where they work and opens up opportunities abroad.
- Studying one language makes it easier to learn others later in life.

GCSE Geography

Exam Board: AQA

What will I be studying?

Pupils will learn about physical and human geography, whilst building geographical skills.

- Living with the physical environment: natural hazards, the living world, physical landscapes in the UK.
- Challenges in the human environment; urban issues, the changing economic world and the challenge of resource management.
- Geographical applications and skills, including fieldwork. This paper includes pre-release material related to fieldwork.

Assessment:

The GCSE comprises three exams:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • Paper 1: Living with the physical environment | 35% |
| • Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment | 35% |
| • Paper 3: Geographical applications | 30% |

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level Geography at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- A GCSE in Geography is an excellent preparation for a career in planning, resources and countryside management, tourism and recreation and environmental management and development. Many geographers also move into general management careers or branch out into journalism, banking or publishing.

GCSE History

Exam Board: Edexcel

What will I be studying?

- Thematic Study and Historical Environment: Warfare Through Time – history of warfare from 1250 until present.
- Modern Depth Study: Germany 1918 to 1939 — the rise of Hitler and the fall of the Weimar Republic.
- Period Study: Elizabethan England — how Elizabeth dealt with religious, political and social challenges.
- British Depth Study: Superpower Relations — the Cold War between the USA and the USSR after WW2.

Assessment:

There are three exams for GCSE History:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • Paper 1: Warfare Through Time | 30% |
| • Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England and Superpower Relations | 40% |
| • Paper 3: Germany | 30% |

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level History at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Other humanities A-Levels at Chase High School Sixth Form, such as government and politics, sociology and psychology.
- Other humanities A-Levels at other schools/colleges such as politics and law.
- Many careers in law, politics, economics, journalism and education.



Optional Curriculum

W

This subject is assessed with significant extended writing

C

This subject is assessed with significant coursework

P

This subject requires you to perform in front of others

H

This subject needs you to practise outside of lessons

IT

This subject involves significant time spent on computers

G

This subject requires you to work in groups for assessment

M

This subject requires you to use mathematical skills

GCSE Art & Design



Exam Board: Edexcel

Introduction:

Pupils should have the ability and an interest in all aspects of Art & Design. During Year 9, their work should demonstrate a good general development of art skills and techniques, as well as an appreciation of a range of artists and designers.

Please note: Pupils will be required to buy a folder and sketch book, together with basic materials at a cost price of approximately £20. Further art materials will be available at discounted rates.

What will I be studying?

The Art & Design qualification covers four criteria:

- Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Assessment:

- **Portfolio:** Coursework delivered through project themes. **60%**
- **Exam:** Ten hours of practical to produce a final piece. **40%**

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Level 3 Art & Design Course at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Further education at Level 4 Foundation and Degree.
- A range of careers in the creative industries.

GCSE Business

W

M

Exam Board: Edexcel

Introduction:

Pupils will start by exploring the world of small businesses through the lens of an entrepreneur. How and why do business ideas come about? What makes a successful business? Pupils will learn how to develop an idea, identify an opportunity and turn it into a successful business. Pupils will understand how to make a business effective, manage money and see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

What will I be studying?

Year 10 - Investigating a Small Business

- Entrepreneurship.
- Identifying a business opportunity.
- Making the business effective.

Year 11 - Building a Small Business

- Growing the business.
- Making financial decisions.
- Marketing.
- Human Resources.

Assessment:

- **Paper 1:** Investigating a Small Business **50%**
- **Paper 2:** Building a Small Business **50%**

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Progression routes to university or a higher apprenticeship.
- Careers in banking, finance and business.

BTEC Tech Award Level 2 in Creative Media



Exam Board: BTEC Tech Award Level 2 in Creative Media Production

Introduction:

If pupils are interested in media products such as magazines, advertisements, films, and television programmes, then Media Studies is the subject to choose! Pupils will create their own media products, learn about pre-production skills and develop an awareness of the industry. This subject enables them to explore their creative and analytical skills. They learn how to manipulate digital images and develop an understanding of how media products are created.

What will I be studying?

- How to work to a professional media brief.
- How to use Photoshop.
- Analyse and research media products. Create their own media products.
- Develop skills in pre-production, drawing visualisation diagrams, storyboarding, digital mock ups, typography layout and design.
- Target Audiences and the purpose of media products.
- Production techniques of media products.

Assessment:

- **Component 1** : Exploring Media Products
- **Component 2**: Developing Digital Media Production Skills
- **Component 3**: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Media Studies Level 3 at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- This qualification can help pupils to progress into different media sectors in the future, such as: film, print, advertising, journalism, marketing, TV, social media and graphic design.

GCSE Design & Technology



Exam Board: AQA

Introduction:

The aim of this qualification is to prepare pupils to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Pupils will gain and learn from wider influences on Design & Technology, including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. They will have the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making, applying technical and practical expertise.

What will I be studying?

Core technical principles:

- New and emerging technologies.
- Energy generation and storage.
- Developments in new materials.
- Systems approach to designing.
- Mechanical devices.
- Materials and their working properties.

Specialist technical principles:

- Timber-based materials.
- Designing and making principles.

Assessment:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • Written exam | 50% |
| • Practical assessment of skills (NEA) | 50% |

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level Design & Technology at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Apprenticeships.
- Level 2/3 courses in the following:
Carpentry, architecture, building trade, jewellery trade, engineering, graphic design, product design and plumbing.

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition



Exam Board: AQA

Introduction:

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition provides pupils with the opportunity to creatively develop their prior application of knowledge and understanding creatively by thinking imaginatively with food. It develops a pupil's understanding of food, its origins, diversity and more so it's nutritional content. Whether a pupil is taking the subject to become a chef, dietician, personal trainer or just work in the food/hospitality industry, it will develop their own skills to improve their food experience. The course will develop all aspects of knowledge, understanding and application from source to presentation.

What will I be studying?

- Nutritional needs and health.
- Food science.
- Food safety.
- Food choices.
- Food provenance.
- Complex cooking skills.
- Healthy lifestyle.

Assessment:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • Written exam | 50% |
| • Practical assessment of skills (NEA) | 50% |

Progression Opportunities:

- Food Science & Nutrition at Level 3 at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Westminster Kingsway College Catering.
- Apprenticeships in catering.

BTEC Tech Award Level 2 in Games Development Media



Exam Board: Pearson BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Creative Media Production

Introduction:

This qualification is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work in the Creative Media sector – with a clear focus on the exciting and vibrant games industry whilst exploring how the games industry overlaps with other creative sectors such as film; television; web and app development, and publishing – giving students an introduction that keeps all of their options open and allows them to make an informed decision about their future learning and career.

What will I be studying?

The Tech Award enables learners to develop sector-specific skills and knowledge of the production processes and techniques that underpin them, across a range of media products using a combination of practical exploration, experimentation, and realistic vocational contexts. They will also develop key skills such as investigating and developing ideas through pre-production, production, and post-production, managing their creative projects, documenting progress of skills and work, responding to briefs, presenting work, and reflective practice. In addition, learners develop employability skills such as teamwork, time management and communication.

Assessment:

This qualification takes a fully practical and skills-based approach to learning and assessment, with no written exam. All components, including the externally assessed synoptic component, are assessed through engaging, open, and flexible set tasks, designed to stimulate creative ideas without restricting the type or direction of learner response.

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Levels, T-Levels, apprenticeships or further advanced vocational qualifications at Level 3, such as Cambridge Technical Awards at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Creative Digital Media Production.
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Digital Games Design and Development.

GCSE Information Technology



Exam Board: OCR Cambridge National Certificate

Introduction:

Cambridge National in IT will inspire and equip you with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the IT sector. It's a vocational qualification, equivalent in value to a GCSE and contains both practical and theoretical elements. The Cambridge National in IT will encourage students to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of IT, including the use of IT in the digital world, Internet of Everything, data manipulation and Augmented Reality. They will develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the IT sector and more widely.

What will I be studying?

- The key principles and concepts when creating IT products.].
- Creating complex spreadsheet solutions to meet requirements.
- How augmented reality can be used to present information.
- Creating an augmented reality model prototype to be tested and reviewed.

Assessment:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| • Unit R050: IT in the digital world | Final exam of 40%. |
| • Unit R060: Data manipulation using spreadsheets | NEA (coursework) of 30% |
| • Unit R070: Using Augmented Reality to present information | NEA (coursework) of 30% |

Progression Opportunities:

- Cambridge Technical Award — IT Level 3 at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- BTEC Creative Digital Media — Games Development at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Information Technology is constantly evolving, and new jobs are developing all the time – you could work for tech giants or create your own products. So much is possible

GCSE Music



Exam Board: OCR

Introduction:

“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.” – Plato.

The study of music develops expression, creativity, communication, team-building, self-confidence, self control and responsibility. It enhances creativity and artistic abilities in a very skills-based qualification, which draws on greater independence and self reliance. GCSE Music looks at practical music-making skills as well as the theory and history behind the subject.

What will I be studying?

There are three components:

- Performing.
- Composing.
- Listening and theory.

Assessment:

- **Coursework:** Performance, both solo (on a chosen instrument) and ensemble (with others) – internally assessed – externally moderated. **30%**
- **Coursework:** Two compositions: one is free and the second is from a brief set by the Exam Board in the final year – internally assessed – externally moderated. **30%**
- **Written Exam:** Listening exam based on schemes of work: popular music; film and game music; rhythms of the world; and the concerto through time. **40%**

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level Music or Music Technology in Chase High School Sixth Form.
- BTEC Level 3 courses in Performing Arts; Music Composition; Music Technology; Performing Music; Music Industry; Sound Engineering; Game Design (sound); Musical Theatre.

BTEC Tech Award Level 2 in Performing Arts



Exam Board: Pearson BTEC Tech Award Level 2

Introduction:

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through realistic vocational contexts. Learners will have the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in the following areas:

- Development of key skills that prove their aptitude in performing arts, such as reproducing repertoire and responding to stimuli .
- Processes that underpin effective ways of working in the performing arts, such as development of ideas, rehearsal and performance.
- Attitudes that are considered most important in the performing arts, including personal management and communication.
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, processes and attitudes in the sector, such as roles, responsibilities, performance disciplines and styles.

What will I be studying?

There are three components:

- Devising.
- Performing a text.
- Exploration of a text as a director, performer and designer, and live theatre evaluation.

Assessment:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • Exploring the Performing Arts | Internal 30% |
| • Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts | Internal 30% |
| • Responding to a Brief | External 40% |

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Level 3 courses in Performing Arts at Chase High School.
- Courses in technical theatre, musical theatre, acting, stage craft and design, costume, make-up and script writing.
- A Level Drama.
- Theatre apprenticeships.

GCSE Photography



Exam Board: AQA

Introduction:

Photography is well suited to creative pupils with an interest in digital art, design and media. Pupils will learn practical photography skills, regularly planning and completing different photo shoots relating to their project themes, using DSLR cameras. They will use these photographs in their sketchbooks and edit them using a variety of different manual and digital processes to show creative development. Photography work is printed, presented, and annotated in detail with written analysis and personal commentary using relevant key words.

What will I be studying?

Over the two year course, pupils will complete a variety of different photographic projects to fill their sketchbooks. They will cover a variety of different themes, whilst exploring three key areas of photography: still life, portraiture and digital manipulation.

Specific photography briefs studied can vary depending on cohort size, but previous topics have included 'Altered Nature', 'Distortion', 'Music', 'Glitch in the System' and 'Pop Art'. Pupils also complete a mock exam-style project to prepare them for Component 2.

Assessment:

Coursework: 60% Pupils will complete a portfolio of work over the two years, consisting of a variety of photographic themes and concepts, recording their work in a sketchbook format.

Practical Exam: 40% In the spring term of Year 11, pupils receive an externally-set assignment from AQA with seven themed questions. The pupils will then spend, approximately, two months researching and experimenting with artistic ideas, which will lead to the creation of a final piece in a ten hour exam that takes place across two school days.

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level Photography can be studied at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Employment in creative fields such as photo-journalism, fashion photography, graphic design, advertising, illustration, print media, film and television, publishing and interior design.
- Freelance photography opportunities.

GCSE Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Introduction:

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour; looking at how our biology and environment influence what we do and why we do it.

The GCSE course covers a wide range of human experience including the role of researching scientists, intellectual development in babies, to the effects of hormones on behaviour and what we can learn from the communication of bees.

What will I be studying?

Paper 1;

- Memory
- Perception
- Development
- Research Methods

Paper 2:

- Social Influence
- Language, thought and communication
- Brain and neuropsychology
- Psychological problems

Assessment:

The course is assessed through two papers to be sat at the end of year 11

- Paper 1 – 1 hour 45 minutes - 50% of GCSE
- Paper 2 – 1 hour 45 minutes – 50% of GCSE

Progression Opportunities:

- A Level Psychology at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- A range of career opportunities in further study of Psychology, HR, Journalism, Health and Social Care and Education.

GCSE Religious Studies



Exam Board: AQA

Introduction:

Why are we here? Who is responsible for the creation of the universe? What happens when we die? If pupils are interested in expanding their knowledge and understanding of philosophy and ethics, as well as studying beliefs, teachings and practices from two different world religions, then this course is perfect.

Pupils do not have to be religious to take Religious Studies, but they do have to be inquisitive and keen to find out more about the world around them and how it all began!

What will I be studying?

Philosophy and Ethics (Religious Education)

Religious and non-religious views on:

- Religion and life, peace and conflict, crime and punishment, human rights and social justice.
- Beliefs, teachings and practices from Christianity and one other world religion.

Assessment:

- **Paper 1** - Religious, philosophical and ethical studies in the modern world 50%
- **Paper 2** - Study of beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and one other world religion 50%

Progression Opportunities:

- Philosophy and Ethics is a good stepping stone to any Humanities A-Level as well as being a useful qualification to have for careers in the following: law, travel, teaching, police, NHS, armed services, journalism and many more!

GCSE Sociology



Exam Board: AQA

Introduction:

Sociology is all about studying the society in which we live, comparing it, contrasting it with other societies in the past and in different parts of the world. It will help pupils to reflect upon their own experience of the social world and understand how society is made up, exploring the relationships between individuals, groups and social institutions. Sociology is empowering and a great subject for helping to improve an individual's life chances.

What will I be studying?

- The sociological explanations of socialisation, culture and individual identity.
- How social institutions family, education, peer groups, work, media and religion influence us and equip us with skills for life.
- How social characteristics such as age, ethnicity, gender and social class affect the formation of identities, and an individual's life chances.
- We look at topics such as crime and deviance and social differentiation and stratification affect the individual, and how individuals affect them.
- Applying research methods and techniques.

Assessment:

The GCSE comprises two exam papers

- **Paper 1:** The sociology of families and education **50%**
- **Paper 2:** The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification **50%**

Progression Opportunities:

- A-Level Sociology at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- Level 3 Health & Social Care, Media Studies and A-Level Psychology at Chase High School Sixth Form.

BTEC Tech Award Level 2 in Sport



Exam Board: Pearson

Introduction:

The BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award explores the provisions for sport and equipment and facilities to enhance sport, the planning and delivery of sport sessions and the fitness for sport including testing and methodology. The syllabus provides candidates with an opportunity to study both the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education.

What will I be studying?

Component 1: Preparing participants to take part in Sport and Physical Activity (Coursework)

Pupils will be assessed on their ability to suggest appropriate physical activities for an individual justifying the benefits of doing so. Pupils will also look at ways to overcome barriers to participation and explore the different technology in sport and how this impacts performance. Finally, they will plan and lead a warm-up.

Component 2: Taking part and improving other participants sporting performance (Coursework)

Pupils will learn about the different components of fitness required for a variety of sports and justify the impact this has on performance. Pupils will then demonstrate their practical skills in a sport of their choice both in isolation and in a competitive situation. Pupils will also explore the rules and regulations of a chosen sport and explain their knowledge and understanding of this.

Component 3: Developing fitness to improve other participants performance in sport

(Exam) Pupils will develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and different types for performance as well as develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing.

Assessment:

- **Coursework:** Preparing participants to take part in Sport & Physical Activity 30%
- **Coursework:** Taking part & improving other participants sporting performance 30%
- **Written Exam:** Developing fitness to improve other participants performance in sport 40%

Progression Opportunities:

- BTEC Sport Level 3 Certificate, Diploma and Extended Diploma at Chase High School Sixth Form.
- This course provides the basis for progression onto appropriate A-Level courses or vocational programmes in sport.

Where can I go for help?

There are many people in the school, who would be happy to provide pupils with any extra support and guidance needed. These include:

Your Form Tutor;

Your Subject Teachers;

Mr Baxter, Head of Year 9:

richard.baxter@chasehigh.org

Mrs Ringrose, Year 9 Administrator:

natasha.ringrose@chasehigh.org

Mrs Lamb, Head of Key Stage 3:

amy.lamb@chasehigh.org

Mr Brodigan, Assistant Headteacher – Exams and Timetable

colin.brodigan@chasehigh.org

More detailed information about the content of the examination courses taught can be found on the "Subjects" page of the Chase High School website:

<https://www.chasehigh.org/curriculum/subjects>

Notes Page

Use this page to make notes on the subjects that you would like to choose, before logging into SIMS Options Online.

My Option Choice

First Option Choice	Geography OR History
Second Option Choice	Language?
Third Option Choice	
Fourth Option Choice	
First Reserve	
Second Reserve	



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Aspiration, Character & Excellence

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