

West Kirby School and College



Year 9 Options
11th March 2021

Welcome to Year 9 Options

KS4 options are courses that offer you an opportunity to choose different subjects from the curriculum, to study in more detail and obtain a variety of qualifications.

- You will be able to choose **four** options.
- Pick **one** from each group.

*It is important that you consider your choices and choose subjects that **you are interested in**, you will be learning them for two years.*

All pupils will also study the following core subjects:

- GCSE English
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Science
- RE
- PSHE
- PE

This booklet gives you some information about the options which are on offer at WKS.

Please also talk or email the staff about the qualification you would like to learn.

Option Group	Subject	Staff
1	Classics GCSE	Miss K Hercules
	Sport BTEC	Mr R Musgrave
	Drama Arts Award/GCSE	Miss L Millington
	DT GCSE	Mr C Saunders
	Horticulture ASDAN	Mr M Jones/ Miss J Harris
2	Animal Husbandry BTEC	Mrs J Booth
	History GCSE	Miss K Hercules
	Music Arts Award/GCSE	Miss N Comber
	Geography Entry Level/GCSE	Mr E Cox
	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze	Mrs D Draycott
	Chinese GCSE/ FSCE	Mrs Y Cui
3	Horticulture ASDAN	M Jones/ J Harris
	Computer Science GCSE	Mr G Macdonald
	Food Tech BTEC	Miss R Meegan
	Art GCSE	Mrs R Davies
4	English Literature GCSE	Miss R Spence
	Literacy Skills ASDAN	Mrs E Wynne
	GCSE Plus	Mrs P Hesketh
	Chinese GCSE/ FSCE	Mrs Y Cui
	PSHE + ASDAN	Mrs S Brown

BTEC Sport

Mr Musgrave

rmusgrave@wkrs.co.uk

In Sport you will develop personally through practical participation and performance in a range of sports and exercise activities. You will gain a wider understanding and appreciation of health-related fitness, sports and exercise

This course will help you develop your people, communication, planning and team-working skills. You will also develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life

In this course you will complete a BTEC in Sports.

Assessment: Coursework. Pupils are awarded credits which are achieved through completion of study units and meeting learning outcomes.



ASDAN Horticulture

Mr Jones and Miss Harris

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This practical qualification is an introduction to Horticulture. It is designed to help you gain the skills they would need to work in the land-based sector and is ideal for students who have a keen interest in nature and enjoy being outdoors. Great emphasis is placed on the practical 'hands-on' aspect of this course.

You will be busy working in the horticulture area, learning all about how crops grow

As part of the course you will visit a wide variety of relevant locations; this will help you to develop an understanding of some employment opportunities.

Assessment: Coursework (Portfolio of evidence)



BTEC Animal Husbandry

Mrs Booth

jbooth@wkrs.co.uk

This is an option for you if you love animals and particularly if you like to work with animals when you leave West Kirby School.

Within this vocational course you will part in variety of exercises and activities to explore the animal care industry and provide you with a good background information to the care of animals.

You will take part in variety of theory and practical exercises and activities to explore the appropriate care of a small animals in order to ensure its health and wellbeing

We will also visit farms and the zoo to see how animals are cared for in different environments. We will complete the BTEC Animal Care qualification as part of this course.

Assessment: Coursework. Pupils are awarded credits which are achieved through completion of study units and meeting learning outcomes.



Arts Award / GCSE Drama

Miss Millington

lmillington@wkrs.co.uk

The Arts Award is a nationally recognised award endorsed by Trinity College, London. Here at WKS, we take pupils through the Bronze and Silver Arts Awards. The Bronze Award is comparable to GCSE Grade G-D, and the Silver Award compares to GCSE Grade A*-C.

In studying the Arts Award, pupils get the opportunity to: research Arts practitioners and careers opportunities; visit and review professional performances; improve their skills in their chosen area of the arts; create performance pieces; develop their leadership skills by running workshops for other pupils within the school. In Drama, pupils have the opportunity to study: acting, singing, dancing, technical theatre, directing, writing, filming and editing to name but a few!

Assessment: Arts Award—Coursework - Evidence in an individual arts log/portfolio. GCSE - Coursework & Exam



GCSE Art and Design

Mrs Davies: rdavies@wkrs.co.uk

In Art and Design pupils will work towards gaining a Entry level or GCSE in the subject, with the Eduqas exam board. The pupils can choose from: Photography, Textiles or other modules, which allow them to experiment with all these approaches and media.

Pupils have been successful in the past, with themes such as manga, portraiture, superheroes, anime and even Tattoo design. For the exam pupils have eight weeks prep time, within this time they research a theme, experiment with different media and then produce a final piece over two days. To help the pupils address all the assessment objectives they will be taken on trips to galleries and also have the opportunity to work with a practicing artist.

Assessment: The GCSE comprises of 60% coursework and 40% exam. The coursework is produced over two years on a very broad theme, which is chosen based on the pupils interests.



ASDAN Literacy Skills

Mrs Wynne

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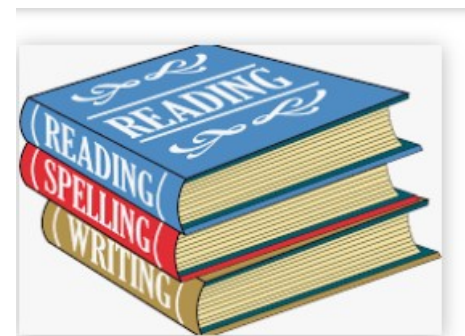
In literacy skills, we will be looking at ways to support and refine your English Skills. We will be complete workshops on reading, writing and speaking and listening.

Throughout the course, we will complete challenges that will go towards you achieving an ASDAN short course in English skills.

We will be entering national competitions , visiting libraries and bookshops and planning a theatre trip.

For all those who are creative writers and love to read and have some drama in your life, this is a great option choice.

Assessment: Coursework (Portfolio of evidence)



GCSE Plus

P Hesketh

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In GCSE Plus you get the opportunity to work in any extra areas of study. This can include completing course work, writing essays or learning study skills.

GCSE Plus is a chance for you to work with the Learning Mentor to receive help and support with any GCSE or other external qualification you are taking.

We look at online resources you can use to help you study including GCSEpod.

We can also help with revision skills, writing revision timetables and finding the best way for you to revise.

Assessment: Coursework



GCSE History

Miss Hercules

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GCSE History support you in learning more about the history of Britain and that of the wider world. The study of history at GCSE will inspire you to deepen your understanding of the people, periods and events studied and enable them to think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, make informed decisions, and develop perspective and judgement.

Paper 1—Understanding the Modern World—Germany 1890-1945 Democracy & Dictatorship and Conflict and Tension— The Inter War Years 1918—1939

Paper 2— Shaping the Nation—Britain, Health and the People c1000—present day

History is a fantastic subject to learn at WKS and with the right commitment and work ethic, you can achieve a good grade at GCSE.

Assessment: 100% external examination - two papers, 2 hours each



BTEC Food Technology

Miss Meegan

rmeegan@wkrs.co.uk

Within the course you will look at health and safety including: hygienic food preparation, safe food storage and knife safety. You will be given opportunities to develop your skills in; choosing the right ingredients for a recipe, weighing, measuring and preparing ingredients and a wide range of different cooking techniques. You will also be looking at the nutritional value of foods, learning about planning a meal and timings.

You have the opportunity to study BTEC Level 1 and 2 qualifications.

Assessment: School assessed coursework. Pupils are awarded credits which are achieved through completion of study units and meeting learning outcomes.



ASDAN PSHE Plus

Mrs Brown

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Personal, social and health education (PSHE) will enable you to become healthy, independent and responsible members of a society. It aims to help you to understand how you are developing personally and socially, and tackles many of the moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up.

You will opportunities for them to learn about rights and responsibilities and appreciate what it means to be a member of a diverse society. You will be able to encouraged to develop your sense of self-worth by playing a positive role in contributing to school life and the wider community.

On the is course you will have the opportunity to complete as ASDAN short course qualification alongside your learning. This is a great Option for pupils who are interested in developing yourselves and your self confidence.

Assessment: Coursework (Portfolio of evidence)



GCSE Design & Technology

Mr Saunders

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This Design & Technology GCSE course will follow the Art and Design Three Dimensional Art specification. The coursework is based on a very broad theme that you can choose, requiring pupils to research, design, develop and make a product to a high standard. At the end of year 11 an exam is taken.

The course develops pupils practical DT skills ranging from woodworking, electronics, basic mechanical processes, computer aided design (CAD).

Assessment: The GCSE comprises of 60% coursework and 40% exam. The coursework is produced over two years, which is chosen based on the pupils interests.



GCSE Classics

Miss Hercules

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Our GCSE in Classical Civilisation provides you with an exciting study of the culture of the classical world. You will study elements of the literature and visual/material culture of Greece and Rome and develop an understanding of their social, historical and cultural contexts.

Studying the classical world gives you an extra perspective on how societies work and why the modern world has developed in the way that it has.

Classical literature is interesting and exciting to read in its own right. Stories from the Iliad and Odyssey have been used in several epic films like "Troy"

The course is examined in two components of equal value.

1 Thematic Study

We study myth and religion in the ancient world.

2 Literature and Culture

We study war and warfare in the ancient world



Assessment: OCR External examination. Pupils are assessed through 2 external exams on the above components, each 1 hour 30 minutes

GCSE English Literature

Miss Spence

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Do you want to study English Literature... Do you want to study books full of mystery and horror! plays full of murder, betrayal and cowardly acts, musicals full of black humour some on our own doorstep and poetry full of bravery, corruption and conflict?... That's why you want to choose the English Literature option!

The texts we study include Macbeth, Blood Brothers and Animal farm.

Assessment: Two written exams

Paper One - Shakespeare and the 19th century novel - 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper Two - Modern texts and poetry - 2 hours 15 minutes



Entry Level & GCSE Geography

Mr Cox

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This exciting Entry Level Geography course is based on a balanced framework of physical and human geography. It allows you to investigate the link between the two themes, and approach and examine the battles between the man-made and natural worlds

As part of the course, you have the opportunity to partake in field trips which will enable you to discover the exciting world of geography outside the classroom.

The GCSE course takes this up a level and an opportunity to learn more. It is also assessed through exams at the end of the course.

Entry level assessment:

- Dynamic World - 30 marks Internally-assessed/ externally-moderated. 30% of total marks
- Fieldwork Notebook - 30 marks Internally-assessed/ externally-moderated. 30% of total marks
- Personal Project - 40 marks Internally-assessed/ externally-moderated. 40% of total marks

GCSE Assessment: Written exam. 2x 1 hour 30 minutes



Duke of Edinburgh Award: Bronze

Mrs Draycott

ddraycott@wkrs.co.uk

The Duke of Edinburgh Award can be a life-changing adventure for you.

You will do an exciting and challenging programme. You will earn new skills, help others, have fun, make new friends and gain a great sense of achievement. In addition to this you will also show more resilient, improve their self esteem & become more organised and independent.

Amongst the many challenges you will face they will get the chance to walk, camp out and cook for yourselves.

Employers, colleges and universities really value Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

Assessment: Coursework portfolio

Bear Grylls
retweeted your Tweet.

[View](#)



For more information about the award scheme please visit the DofE website dofe.org.uk



GCSE Computer Science

Mr Macdonald

gmacdonald@wkrs.co.uk

Previously in the school the students will have learnt how to use word processing and functional skills to support their education and future job prospects.

The Computing course takes programming and computing to a new level by exposing students to high level programming languages, showing students how to create their own algorithms to manipulate the digital world around them and understand the impact of a relentless thirst for more innovative technology has upon society and the planet.

Assessment: There are two written exam papers

Computer Systems - 1 hour and 30 minutes

Computational thinking, algorithms & programming - 1 hour 30 minutes

Non-assessed coursework involves students coding a program using Python programming language.



Arts Award/GCSE Music

Miss Comber

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Arts Award

Arts Award inspires you to grow your arts and leadership talents: it's creative, valuable and accessible. Arts Award is a personal learning programme which develops and assesses both arts-related and transferable skills, such as creativity, communication, planning and teamwork..

At West Kirby we offer awards in Bronze, Silver & Gold all of which have a main aim of improving participation in Music and building confidence and pride within performance.

Assessment: School assessed coursework (Evidence in an individual arts log/portfolio)

GCSE

If you sing or play a musical instrument, and compose your own songs (or would like to be able to do so), it makes sense to choose GCSE Music as an option. Not only do you get to spend several hours of lesson time a week doing something you enjoy, but you also end up with a qualification at the end!

Assessment:

Understanding Music - Exam paper - 1 hour 30 minutes (40%)

The following are assessed within and by school

Performing Music - Solo and ensemble performances (30%)

Composing Music - (30%)



GCSE / FCSE Mandarin Chinese

Mrs Cui:

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In Mandarin Chinese pupils have the opportunity to work towards GCSE or an FCSE qualification. Both qualifications help students develop communication skills. The FCSE qualification bridges the gap between ELC and GCSE. FCSE covers listening, speaking, reading and writing. The benefit of the FCSE is that it can be done as a short course, selecting 2 modules out of 3—Speaking and Listening or Reading and Writing.

GCSE Assessment:

100% external examination

Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9)

Each tier consists of 4 papers:

Speaking (25%), listening (25%), reading (25%) and writing (25%)

FCSE Assessment:

100% internally assessed and externally moderated by AQA

Full Course: Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing

Short Course: Speaking and Listening or Reading and Writing

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