



# **Contents**

Headmaster's Welcome	2
The Kingswood House Way	3
Art & Design	4
Classical Civilisation	5
Combined Science	6
Design & Technology	7
Drama	8
English Language & English Literature	9
French	10
Geography	11
History	12
Computer Science	13
Mathematics	14
Music	14
Physical Education	15
Higher Project Qualification	16
Making of Modern Britain Trip, MoMB	16
STRIDE – Business & Enterprise	16
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	17
First Aid	17
Emotional Intelligence	17









# Headmaster's Welcome

Kingswood House offers an excellent pathway through to GCSE and beyond. Strong links exist with independent and maintained sixth forms, as well as local employers, to ensure that each Kingswood House student is guided carefully in their educational career.

# Our Approach

At Kingswood House, we have always aimed to provide an outstanding, all-round education and our Senior Years are the perfect platform for pupils to flourish and grow in self-esteem.

The team of teaching and support staff are hugely ambitious for our children and hungry for them to succeed. The energy and passion are contagious. We are one of the very best schools at imbuing academic value to each girl or boy, based on our tracking from the time they join us, adding, in many instances, more than a whole grade to their predicted GCSE results.

We offer a balanced range of subjects including a core of English Literature and Language, Mathematics, Combined Science and options for Computer Science, French, Classical Civilisation, Physical Education, Music, Drama, Art, Design & Technology, History, Geography and a Higher Project Qualification (HPQ).

Educating the whole child has always been our philosophy and nowhere is this more evident than in our extensive Senior Years' programme of study which helps to develop practical and personal skills. Talents and interests will be encouraged and there are opportunities to obtain qualifications that are widely recognised by educational institutions and employers alike.

Pupils participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, undertaking Bronze in Year 9 and Silver in Year 10. Our Senior Years offer all the benefits of traditional prep school support, and small class sizes, in tandem with the very best contemporary initiatives, including an exciting Business & Enterprise module and an Emotional Intelligence course.

At KHS, it is our objective to produce well-rounded young men and women who will be a force for good and make a positive difference to society.

### Mr Liam Clarke

Interim Headmaster





# **Art & Design**

# Details of the course

Art & Design GCSE AQA exam board.

This is a two year course of study and research.

In addition to improving their practical expertise, students learn how to develop, refine and record ideas as well as how to present a personal response.

Pupils will produce a portfolio of work which will be assessed. They will learn how to improve their creative skills through the effective and safe use of media, materials, techniques, processes, technologies and successfully use visual language and the formal elements.

# This subject would suit you if

You enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities. The skills you will acquire complement other subjects.

# Skills required for this course

This course is suitable for those who have a passion for Art and wish to pursue Art & Design and other related courses at a higher level as it teaches a wide range of practical work and skills. It also allows students to develop a sense of enquiry as well as an enthusiasm and understanding of all aspects of Art & Design, which are essential requirements for entry into Art courses in higher education.

# Links to future careers and courses

You may wish to continue your Art & Design studies at A Level. These courses open the door to a variety of exciting careers: Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Theatre Design, Animation, Video Game Design, Illustration, Museum Curation, Photography, Architecture, Product Design, Textiles Design, Architectural Design, Ceramics, Advertising, Publishing, Interior Design, Fashion & Media Journalism, Retail Design, Exhibition Design, Jewellery Design, Visual Media and Teaching.

New technologies are creating a whole range of modern courses where art is being used in innovative ways. You will also be able to choose areas of study in which to specialise. The transferable skills you will gain from this subject will be invaluable and ones that employers and universities regard highly.



# Classical Civilisation Details of the course • OCR Myths & Religion, including Greek and Roman Gods and Heracles. • War & Warfare comparing Sparta, Athens and Imperial Rome. • The study of important battles and historical campaigns. This subject would suit you if You are interested in history, mythology, stories, warfare and weapons. Skills required for this course The skills of enquiry, analysis and interpretation are integral because there will be open-ended questions, requiring a considered response. Students will undertake reading, writing, research and presentations as important elements on this course. Links to future careers and courses There is an opportunity for students to study for a higher education qualification such as an A Level course or Classics degree which employers value. It can be a platform for a career in Teaching, the Armed Forces or Law. How families can help Assessment structure There are two examination papers containing a mix of short and extended answers. There are two units studied. Myth & Religion, and War & Warfare in the Ancient World. CREATIVE

# Combined Science

## Details of the course

Combined Science Trilogy GCSE is a core subject and covers Physics, Chemistry and Biology. We are following the AQA syllabus. Practical work is embedded into lessons alongside theory and candidates will be awarded two grades at GCSE. These grades will be identical.

# This subject would suit you if

You are curious about the world around you and have interests in Physics, Chemistry or Biology. You want to know how things work. You are ethical. You wonder at, and recognise, the powerful influence of Science in shaping the future. You do not believe that everything has been discovered. You know you can make a difference.

# Skills required for this course

Mathematical, reading and comprehension, writing and communication, questioning, logic, thinking and reasoning, curiosity and imagination, ability to form and test hypotheses, enthusiasm, respect, sense of humour, patience, ability to work independently and collaboratively, perseverance, a thirst for knowledge, study and revision skills and an excellent work ethic.

## Links to future careers and courses

This course is a great foundation for higher study of any of the three Sciences at A Level or degree.

Potential career choices include: Diver, Climate Change Analyst, Aviation Inspector, Chemist, Teacher, Film Editor, Electrician, Health and Safety Specialist, Physiotherapist, Optician, Biochemist, Microbiologist, Plumber, Engineer, Inventor, Doctor, Pilot, Architect, Materials Scientist, Forensic Scientist, Power Plant Operator, Audiologist, Radiographer, Sports Scientist, Veterinarian, Marine Biologist, Robotics Engineer, Welder, Ecologist, Science Writer, Physicist, Chiropractor and Dentist.

# How families can help

Try to be a questioning household; watch science documentaries together and discuss the science sections in newsfeeds. The more background knowledge your child has, the better they will understand the course material. Listen to their views; through discussion, they will learn to verbalise answers. This will improve the speed at which they can formulate answers in exams.

# Assessment structure

Knowledge, skills and the 24 core practicals will be assessed in the six examination papers at the end of Year 11.

Foundation tier covers grades 1-5. Higher tier covers grades 4-9.

Questions that test mathematical skills make up 15% of each paper.



# **Drama**

### Details of the course:

GCSE Drama follows the AQA exam board and covers both practical and written components. Pupils will be required to devise an original piece of drama in response to stimulus and perform and record the development of this work in progress. Key extracts from the script or text will be explored, resulting in the creation of a performance which is presented to a visiting examiner. Students will also study a chosen play in depth and explore ways of bringing it to the stage. The final component involves analysis and evaluation of a live theatre performance.

# This subject would suit you if:

- You are interested in acting, public-speaking, set, costume or lighting design.
- You are curious about theatre, film or television.
- You can interpret a creative process from an initial idea to a finished performance.
- You enjoy working as part of a collaborative team.
- You wish to develop your powers of communication.

# Skills:

This course will enable you to develop your creative and analytical skills. You will learn to look beyond the obvious, develop empathy and show increasing initiative in response to others. You will become more confident, communicating with clarity and learning to collaborate as part of a group where compromise is a key element. You will need to be disciplined, with an ability to keep to deadlines, and have a willingness to share collective responsibility for the finished product.

# Links:

Dramatic skills are transferable to all areas of the workplace with specific links to careers in acting, theatre design, theatre technician, law, teaching or journalism.

Senior Drama production, pictured, 'Treasure Island'.

# Assessment structure How families can help

# PRACTICAL How families can help Overseeing homework will be of great part of the learning process, and it may **English Language** assessment structure This course is assessed through two final exams which test reading and writing skills. A discrete award for Spoken Language is also given.

# **English Language** & English Literature

AQA English Language & English Literature are two distinct GCSEs which nonetheless complement each other very well.

# Details of the course (Language):

English Language GCSE will enable students to develop essential skills of communication in both written and spoken forms. They will learn to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts and to write clearly, coherently and accurately.

English Language is taken by all pupils as a core subject. It is the medium through which we learn across a range of subjects and disciplines.

# Details of the course (Literature):

English Literature is a course which is designed to inspire, challenge and motivate via a range of literature including a Shakespeare play, a nineteenth century novel, a modern prose text and a poetry anthology.

English Language, like English Literature, is a core subject and will be one of your GCSEs.

# Skills required for these courses:

Students who approach these courses with the requisite work ethic will be successful in their endeavours. They will need to continue to work hard on reading, writing and speaking skills, and to read widely.

## Links to future careers and courses:

A strong command of our language underpins everything we undertake educationally, or in our working lives. The study of language and literature enriches our lives and leads us to new ideas and avenues of thought. Obvious careers for English graduates include journalism or teaching but mastery of English provides a platform for many career possibilities.

# **French**

## Details of the course:

The exam board we use is AQA.

The topics covered are grouped under three broad themes:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international

and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and

employment

Students undertake tasks in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

# This subject would suit you if:

You enjoy learning about other cultures and different ways of life. You wish to develop your personal communication skills in a written as well as a spoken foreign language.

# Skills required for this course:

- Good listening skills and an "ear" for language.
- Confidence when speaking with a French accent.
- A good knowledge of the English language and an ability to make connections between similar words in other languages.
- Good spelling and the potential to grasp new grammar concepts quickly.

# Links to future careers and courses:

- Further study of French at A Level.
- A solid foundation for beginning another European language at Sixth Form or beyond.
- Improved chances of gaining a place with the best universities.
- Enhanced job prospects a foreign language is considered highly by many employers.

# How families can help

Support the regular learning of weekly vocabulary and revision of grammar rules. Ensure homework and assignments are submitted by the due date. Spend family holidays and breaks in France, if possible, and encourage the use of spoken French

# Assessment structure

End of Module tests in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Exams in all four skills at the end of the two year course (each worth 25% of the final grade).



# How families can help

Pupils should be reading newspapers or relevant websites which report on new human, physical and environmental geography stories every day. Case studies are essential at GCSE level so the more information that pupils can gather through their own independent research will significantly improve their knowledge and understanding. Visits to studied places or similar locations are invaluable; they give pupils greater insight and feeling for issues.

LISTER OLLISA

# Geography

# Details of the course:

The Pearson EdExcel 'B' specification takes a thematic approach, with content organised by physical and human environments. It also enables students to explore the people-environment challenges we face in the UK. Pupils will study coasts, glaciated areas, climatic hazards and climate change, ecosystems, biodiversity, changing cities, global development and resource management. They will also undertake a physical and human field study as well as contemporary investigation of UK issues.

# This subject would suit you if:

You have an interest in the world around you, an enquiring mind and a willingness to learn a wide range of skills which are going to enhance your ability to become a good geographer and a well-rounded pupil.

# Skills required for this course:

Pupils will develop investigative skills which will allow them to analyse, evaluate and make conclusions. Critical and reflective thinking will enable pupils to make decisions and solve problems. Mapping skills and ICT are important in collecting, collating and presenting information. Research skills, are essential when undertaking fieldwork or using secondary sources. Numerical and graphical skills, together with statistical analysis, will deepen understanding.

## Links to future careers and courses:

Geography has excellent links with both the Humanities and Sciences. Geography is a robust academic subject and is well respected by universities and employers alike. Geographers are one of the most employable people because courses develop a wide range of skills, teamwork through fieldwork and an awareness of global issues. Specialist computer applications like geographical information systems (GIS) are now found in most organisations.

# Assessment structure

Inree written examinations

- 1. The Physical Environment 37.5%
- 2. The Human Environment 37.5%
- R Fieldwork & LIK Challenges 25%

# TECHNOLOGICAL

# How families can help

Support will be needed for homework and independent learning which forms an important part of the GCSE syllabus. Discussion on the events of today's modern world and the subsequent links to the past.

# **History**

# Details of the course:

Pearson EdExcel to include study of:

- Migrants in Britain c.800-present; Super Power Relations 1941-1991; Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588; Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939.
- Period Study and British Depth Study: Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-1991 and Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588.
- Modern Depth Study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939.

# This subject would suit you if:

You have a keen interest in understanding the modern world and its historical origins.

## Skills required for this course:

The skills of enquiry, analysis and interpretation are used widely. This course is assessed through a written examination. An ability to question and analyse sources, both pictorial and written, will be necessary.

## Links to future careers and courses:

Any career which requires the ability to select information, discover and evaluate evidence, summarise, relevant facts, present a logical argument or understand the feelings of others would be enhanced by the study of history.

# Assessment structure

Examination at the end of Year 11 consisting of three papers:

Paper 1. Migrants in Britain, c800-present and Notting Hill, c1948-1970

Paper 2. Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-1991 and Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588

Paper 3. Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939



# Computer Science

## Details of the course:

Computer Science GCSE OCR ref.J277

This is a two year course focusing on computer systems, computational thinking, algorithms and programming.

# There are two units:

# J277/01: Computer Systems

This component will assess:

- · Systems architecture
- · Memory and storage
- Computer networks, connections and protocols
- · Network security
- Systems software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology.

# J277/02: Computational Thinking, Algorithms & Programming

This component will assess:

- Systems architecture
- Programming Fundamentals
- Producing Robust programs
- · Boolean logic
- Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

# This subject would suit you if:

You enjoy analysing problems, solving problems and computer programming. Computer Science is a very practical subject. It will appeal to those who wish to use the knowledge and skills they learn in the classroom on real-world problems.

# Skills required for this course:

As well as being able to apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science, pupils need to have the ability to think creatively and innovatively. They also need to be able to work independently on programming projects.

## Links to future careers and courses:

This qualification will be the best preparation for students who want to go on to study Computer Science at A level and beyond. It will also provide a good grounding for other subject areas that require computational thinking and analytical skills.

# **Mathematics**

# Details of the course:

Mathematics GCSE Edexcel Pearson course expands previous knowledge of maths and introduces new and exciting topics. Students are encouraged to think logically and to apply their acquired knowledge to real life situations. This is a core subject and will be one of your most valuable GCSEs.

# Skills required for this course:

All pupils will have gained useful skills from the rigorous Upper Prep programmes of study. This prior knowledge is a useful foundation which the GCSE course builds upon effectively. Students must be prepared to face new challenges and concepts on a regular basis and they should have a strong work ethic and self-motivation. An ability to think and work independently will be advantageous. Some pupils, by invitation, will also be able to take their AQA Further Maths Level 2 Certificate.

### Links to future careers and courses:

Opportunities for further study in mathematics are wide and varied. Mathematics is a shrewd choice for A Level study and a degree in maths, or a related discipline, is highly valued by employers. Popular careers are Accountancy, Banking, Business, Engineering, Construction and Teaching.

# How families can help

Providing a quiet work space is essential for effective revision. Applying the use of a structured revision timetable. Helping your child to work within a set time frame. Assisting your son, or daughter with revision by either quizzing them or getting them to teach you something they have learned.

# Assessment structure (Mathematics)

Edexcel exam board; three written papers, one calculato and two non-calculator.

# Assessment structure (Music)

Performance 30% - on a chosen instrument, or voice. This will be recorded and assessed internally.

Composition 30% - students will compose two pieces, one to a given brief or visual stimuli, another which is 'free' and has no brief.

Listening Examination 40% - this will assess the pupils' understanding of the key elements of music and musical forms.

# Music

# Details of the course:

The OCR GCSE in Music provides an accessible and creative musical education, integrating the three main components: performing, composing and appraising. Pupils will broaden their musical horizons within five areas of study as they explore musical context, language, performance and composition.

OCR's 'Your Music' gives students the opportunity to study in just about any musical discipline and genre that they choose, allowing them to explore music that they love.

# This subject would suit you if:

You have a keen and genuine interest in music and wish to explore a varied and exciting syllabus that is mostly 'pupil-led'. The course will feature historical appreciation; however, modern and popular music will be at its root.

# Skills required for this course:

Study in an instrument or voice will certainly benefit you and allow you to access higher grades, however the OCR syllabus allows performance in many unconventional yet modern disciplines. Pupils have the choice to beatbox, Rap, DJ or Sequence as well as the usual Singing or instrumental performance. This allows those who have a good ear and understanding of Music but perhaps have not studied in an instrument to attain good results. Students do not need Grades in an instrument but merely must be able to perform at that given standard. A fluent performance at Grade IV or above would result in full marks for performance. The performance can be recorded at any point throughout the course, giving time for the individual to prepare.

# Links to future careers and courses:

The Music GCSE allows pupils to gain access to further courses, such as A-level Music, A-level Music Technology and Performing Musician BTEC. It also allows them to enter the music industry, with companies like PRS, MPRS and Universal offering apprenticeship schemes. Students can work towards a career in publishing, recording, teaching and performing, with many more options available.





# **Physical** Education

## Details of the course:

Physical Education GCSE AQA Exam Board.

Topics:

Paper 1: Applied anatomy and physiology;

movement analysis; physical training;

use of data.

Paper 2: Sports Psychology; socio-cultural

influences; health, fitness and well-

being; use of data.

Non-exam Assessment – practical performance in three different physical activities as a player; analysis and evaluation of own performance to bring about improvement.

# This subject would suit you if:

- · You enjoy sport and are interested in how the body and mind work within sport.
- · You are interested in science, particularly as the course links closely to Biology.
- · You are interested in fitness and health and can relate these to sports you play.

# Skills required for this course:

- Self-evaluation and analysis of strengths and weaknesses.
- · Connecting scientific theory to sporting performance.
- Good use of revision technique lots of content within the course.
- · Comprehension skills this will be practised throughout the two years.

## Links to future careers and courses:

Courses: A Level PE, Sport Science, Sport

and Coaching Degrees, Coaching

Qualifications.

Careers: Sports Coaching, Sports Science,

> Sports Analysis, Sports Business Management, PE Teaching, Physiotherapy, Personal Trainer, Fitness Coach, Sports Marketing,

Sports Psychologist and more...

# IND PEND NT

# Higher Project Qualification (HPQ)

# Details of course:

Students are required to write a 2,000 word assignment following in-depth research on their chosen subject.

In addition, they present the outcome of their project to a panel of Senior Leadership staff which enhances their presentation skills.

# This subject will suit you if:

- You enjoy working independently.
- You are resourceful, like research and are confident with presentations.

It is important to be self-motivated because there is a considerable amount of independent research and study work. An ability to meet deadlines will also be advantageous.

# Skills required for this course:

The quality of self-motivation is fundamental since the HPQ involves independent research and study work.

## Links to future careers and courses:

The successful completion of this course will show further educational establishments that you can work independently and use your initiative.

# Making of Modern Britain Trip (MoMB)

A whistle-stop tour from Surrey to Manchester and Liverpool, via Ironbridge, Brunei's Bristol and lots of places in-between, where pupils learn the history and values that have shaped Britain into the country it is today. We are proud that this trip was awarded the 'Best School Trip award' in 2019.

# **Careers**

An immersive Careers Programme commences in earnest from Year 7 onwards, culminating in the empowerment of each pupil to take control of their destiny from an early age.

# HPQ

How families can help

Assist with resources

Support with courseworl

# **HPQ**

# Assessment structure

Following the initial research and planning, a working title for the HPQ is presented in February to the exam body. The final piece of work is then presented in May.

# STRIDE – Business & Enterprise

In Year 9 all students participate in a business and enterprise module delivered by STRIDE – an education enrichment company who specialise in opening young people's minds to the corporate world.

The aim of the course is to foster an entrepreneurial mind-set and to successfully instil the skills, knowledge and aspirations that young people will need in order to be successful in their future careers. They work in small groups to create a brand and develop a product with a strict budget, under the tutelage of a STRIDE mentor, and the culmination of their work sees them undertake a formal representation in front of a panel of judges as well as an audience of staff and parents.

# First Aid

A summer module in the Year 9 enrichment programme explores this most important human life skill in order that pupils may help themselves, or others, in a time of need.

# **GCSE Options**

In the summer term of Year 8, our students select the subjects they are interested in studying at GCSE from our Options programme

The course content for each subject is thereby delivered from the start of Year 9, building upon the learning foundations of Upper Prep and ensuring an excellent academic preparation for GCSE examinations.

# The Duke of Edinburgh Award

# Details of course:

This is a very student-led course which requires self-discipline and an ability to work as part of a team.

It is split into the following sections:

- Voluntary
- Physical
- Skills
- Expedition

# This subject would suit you if:

You like to challenge yourself. You want to try new things. You like being outdoors. You would like an internationally-recognised qualification.

## Skills required for this course:

Self-organisation, independence and a willingness to step out of your comfort zone.

## Links to future careers and courses:

The students will have the opportunity to complete the Bronze award in Year 9 and the Silver award in Year 10.

Completion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a statement of integrity, trust and reliability which will provide a passport for success in the years to come.

# Emotional Intelligence

In Year 9, pupils undertake a unique course that builds upon the 'soft skills' gained in their STRIDE Business & Enterprise module in the autumn term. Presented by Roz McLeod, founder of "The Ultimate Voice" and an eminent speaker in her field, they will take a carefully-designed Emotional Intelligence Course across five weeks in the spring term, the benefits of which will last a life-time. Key topics include:

Who am I? Self-awareness; self-management; empathy and interpersonal skills.

**Emotional Intelligence & Resilience:** Definition and how it relates to us and the wider world.

Social Intelligence & Resilience: Definition and how it relates to us and the wider world.

What happens next? GCSEs, outcomes, A Levels, outcomes, University/Apprenticeships, outcomes ... taking control of your outcomes and starting with the end in mind.

Awareness of our Strengths & Interests: What career might work for me? This session will include the use of career advice software for pupils to have the chance to establish options for the future.

Real Confidence and where it comes from: Getting our "butterflies in formation".

The Working World & Becoming Employable: Interview preparation for Further Education or work: selling ourselves, body language, Sixth Form college and University applications etc.

**Presentation Skills:** Body Language, presentation and punctuality.

# DoE

## Assessment structure

After completion of each module, the students must be signed off by a supervisor. It is compulsory to successfully negotiate both the practice and assessed expedition.

# DoE

# How families can help

Although this is very much a personal course, where the onus is on each individual to use their initiative, the role of the family is to provide encouragement, motivation and support.





from school to station

# Location

collected at designated pick-up points.













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