

# Da Vinci Academy



Da Vinci Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy



## Year 9 Options 2025



# A Message From Mr Gregory

Dear Year 9 Student,

This is an important time of year as you will need to make decisions about some of the courses you wish to successfully study during the next two years at Da Vinci Academy.

You will all study the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and PE. Personal Development (which includes Citizenship/Religious Studies/Careers, Drugs and Sex Education) will also be covered in Key Stage 4.

You will need to make some decisions about which other subjects you would like to study. This is your opportunity to select courses that interest you and in which you will be able to demonstrate your skills and talents. You need to think carefully about how you will rise to the challenge of the work required for each course and how each subject is assessed.

The information you need to help you to make these decisions are included in this booklet. You will also have further support from the school and careers team to guide you with your option choices.

I do need to make you are aware that if very few students choose a particular subject (usually fewer than 12) then we will not be able to run that subject. Students are therefore asked to give reserve choices and to ensure that forms are submitted to the Achievement Team by no later than Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Please read the information carefully, think about your skills and talents and ask questions of the staff who will teach the option subjects.

With best wishes,

**Mr Gregory**  
Assistant Headteacher



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# Process Explained



During your lessons, speak to your teachers and ensure you fully engage in the workshops offered during Personal Development.



Read the options booklet carefully for all courses to help you make your decision.



Attend the Options and Parent Evening, where you will be able to discuss your potential choices with the DVA staff.



Hand in your completed options form to your Achievement Team to indicate the subjects you would like to choose. Deadline Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Event	Details	Date
<b>Subject Information Workshops</b>	Students will work through a series of information workshops during Personal Development lessons. There will also be a visit from Derby College for students.	13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> January
<b>Options and Parents Evening</b>	An opportunity to book a face-to-face appointment with Maths, English and Science teachers, and to speak with options subjects to discuss courses.	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January
<b>Options Window Opens</b>	From this date you will be able to submit your choices	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January
<b>Deadline for final decisions</b>	Submit choices via the form in this pack. It should be handed in to your Achievement Team.	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February



Department  
for Education

## HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and help keep options for young people open:

- **English language and English literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**  
Combined science or 3 single sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Computer science
- **History or Geography**
- **A language**  
Ancient or modern

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### WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

#### EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.



The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,  
August 2017

## LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and, while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

"Having language skills under your belt will help make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton

**The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.**

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

"Young people skilled in the languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce

## WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

**Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.**

Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



## Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly — they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.

# Art



In the GCSE Art course you will have the opportunity to study in a variety of artistic disciplines and processes to produce and create a range of outcomes. The course begins with an extended project based on Natural Forms. You will be taught how to draw from observation and learn through experimentation how to refine your work in a more personal way. You will learn to develop your own sense of creativity through the work you do, responding to given starting points in the way that suits you. By the end of the course you will have gained significant knowledge and creative skills to prepare you for any future creative pathway.

Course Type	Assessment Type:
GCSE	60% Coursework 40% Exam Project (no written exam)
Course Content:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills Project 1- Structured experimental skills project - Natural forms</li> <li>• Skills Project 2 - Students' own choice project - Confectionary, Mechanical Forms, Identity</li> <li>• Extended Personal Project</li> <li>• Exam Project- Extended project working to an Exam Board starting point</li> </ul>	
By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to a wide range of experimental art materials and processes.</li> <li>• Investigate, explore and refine your own independent ideas.</li> <li>• Research, analyse and be inspired by the work of others.</li> <li>• Create artwork in your own personal style.</li> </ul>	
Careers:	Further Study:
Freelance designer, Craftsperson, Costume Designer, Stylist, 3D Designer, Interior Design, Architect, Fashion Designer, Graphic designer, Fine Artist, Textiles Designer, Sculptor, Photographer, Arts administrator, Art Teacher, Teaching Assistant, Nursery Teacher, Art Historian, Toy Designer, Animator, Advertising Designer, Art Therapist, Glass Designer, Furniture Designer, Gallery Curator, Medical Artist, Art Technician, Jewellery Designer and many more...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 3 BTECs such as Art and Design/Photography/Fashion and Textiles/3D design.</li> <li>• A Levels including Art, 3D Design or Product Design</li> </ul>



# Triple Science



Most students will do combined science at GCSE, this leads to the equivalent of two GCSEs and covers a combination of all three subject areas. Some students will be invited to choose Triple Science as an option. This leads to three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This option will be invite only for suitable students due to the challenging nature of this course.

Choosing triple science for GCSE offers an in-depth exploration of biology, chemistry, and physics, providing more knowledge than combined science. It's ideal for students passionate about science and considering careers in science.

This is ideal for students wanting to do science A levels as there is some overlap between Triple Science GCSE and A level content .

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

6 exams in total  
2 x Biology  
2 x Chemistry  
2 x Physics

## Course Content:

**Biology:** Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation, and Evolution, Ecology

**Chemistry:** Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table, Bonding, Structure, and Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere, Using Resources

**Physics:** Energy, Electricity, Particle Model of Matter, Atomic Structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Electromagnetism, Space Physics (Triple Science only)

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Understand key concepts in biology, chemistry, and physics, including advanced topics like genetics, chemical analysis, and space physics.
- Develop critical thinking, analytical, and practical skills through experiments, preparing you for further study and careers in science or related fields.

## Careers:

- Medicine
- Veterinary Science
- Engineering
- Forensic Science

## Further Study:

- A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- T levels in Science
- Science/engineering apprenticeships



# Construction



You will:

- Gain a broad understanding of the construction industry and be able to study selected areas in depth.
- Develop a knowledge of the range of occupations or professions in 'Construction'
- Develop skills, knowledge and understanding in construction and have an opportunity to apply learning in a practical and realistic way.
- Understand the importance of Health & Safety in the workplace and beyond

## Course Type

Vocational

## Assessment Type:

Online Examination, Practical Coursework  
And online Planning Assessment

## Course Content:

- Health and Safety, risks assessment and control measures, knowledge of H&S legislation and policies, best practice, H&S signage and accident reporting.
- Developing Construction Projects- practical based portfolio units related to skill aspects of: Carpentry, Tiling and Painting and Decorating.
- Sustainable construction methods
- Technologies and materials
- Planning Construction Projects- job roles, materials/resource planning, work sequencing and sources of useful information

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Work safely and contribute to the overall safe running of a construction site environment
- Demonstrate a range of skills in construction based specialisms
- Identify, select and maintain suitable tools and keep a safe, tidy and organised work area
- Comprehensively plan a complete construction project taking into account all factors

## Careers:

- Plasterer
- Bricklayer
- Joiner
- Painter/Decorator
- Construction Manager
- Builder
- Carpenter
- Tiling
- Civil Engineering
- Architecture
- Construction Management

## Further Study:

- Level 3 Diploma in Professional Construction Practice
- Apprenticeships





# Computer Science



The world depends on computers. In this GCSE you will learn about how computers work, the networks they use and how programming can create solutions to everyday problems and future challenges. Computer Science is a practical subject where learners can apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to real-world problems. It is an intensely creative subject that involves invention and excitement.

This subject is considered the fourth Science and if you feel up to the challenge then this could be the subject for you!

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

100% examination sat at the end of year 11  
2 exam papers.

## Course Content:

- Computational thinking
- Data
- Networks
- Issues and impact
- Problem solving with programming

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation.
- Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs.
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Understand the components that make up digital systems and how they communicate with one another and with other systems.
- Understand the impact of digital technology on issues of privacy and cybersecurity.
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science.

## Careers:

- Systems analyst
- Data Analyst
- Software engineer
- Games developer
- Forensic computer analyst
- IT consultant
- Web designer/developer
- Cyber-crime specialist

## Further Study:

- Level 3 Computer Science course at College, such as a BTEC or Cambridge Nationals.
- A Levels in Computer Science or Information Technology.
- An apprenticeship in Information Technology.



# Travel and Tourism



The travel and tourism sector is the UK's third largest employer, accounting for 9.5 per cent of total employment. Tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK in employment terms, employing nearly 3 million people, and the sector now supports 292 million people in employment - that's one in ten jobs worldwide.

You will look at the organisations involved with travel and tourism and the destinations they serve, how the needs of customers are met and the impact of changing trends.

## Course Type

BTEC

## Assessment Type:

2 internally assessed coursework units  
1 externally assessed exam

## Course Content:

- The T&T organisations in the UK, their ownership, aims, key products and services, and how they work together. The role of different consumer technologies within the T&T industry and the different types of tourism and different types of visitor, the features of, and routes to, popular tourist destinations.
- How T&T organisations use market research to identify T&T trends and identify customer needs and preferences. Exploring how specific needs are met by organisations and how travel planning meets customer needs and preferences.
- The different factors that may influence global T&T, and how T&T organisations and destinations respond to these factors. The potential impacts of tourism at global destinations and how destinations can manage the impacts of tourism and control tourism development to achieve sustainable tourism.

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Complete extended answers confidently to demonstrate your knowledge.
- Understand how different organisations work together.
- Use data to identify trends and suggest appropriate responses.
- Review how organisations can achieve sustainability.

## Careers:

- Flight attendant
- Travel agent
- Holiday reps
- Tour manager
- Tourism promotion

## Further Study:

- BTEC level 3 Travel and Tourism
- Travel agent apprenticeships
- Diploma in customer services for cabin crew.



# Food Preparation and Nutrition



Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE will help learners to discover the essentials of the food science behind cooking and bring learning to life. It's designed to motivate students to develop the high level of knowledge, understanding and skills to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

This course links brilliantly with PE, Health and Social Care, and Biology. If you have interests in these fields, Food Preparation will help.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

50% Examination  
15% NEA (Food Science)  
35% NEA (Food Preparation)

## Course Content:

- Diet and nutrition
- Food provenance and food choices
- Food Science
- Food Safety
- Food preparation and cookery skills

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Understand the importance of a good diet in relation to our health
- Be able to plan, prepare, cook and serve balanced meals
- Cook confidently a range of technical dishes, including breads, pastries, sauces, meat and vegetable preparation.
- Understand why we should buy and eat ethically-sourced ingredients

## Careers:

- Chef/food preparation
- Dietician
- Food product development
- Environmental health officer
- Food science

## Further Study:

- Level 3 Catering course at College, such as a BTEC or Cambridge Nationals.
- Many degree level courses linking to food science and manufacture
- Dietetics degree



# Geography



Geography helps students to make sense of the complex and ever-changing world around us. We explore topical issues and examine how the physical and human world is being shaped.

A GCSE in Geography is excellent preparation for a career in most industries. Geography is an education for life. Employers and universities value the broad range of transferable skills that geography delivers. It is a subject that offers you a huge range of skills and opportunities and is always very attractive to prospective employers.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

100% Examination  
3 papers all sat at the end of the course

## Course Content:

- Natural Hazards
- The Living World (Tropical Rainforests and Deserts)
- Physical Landscape of the UK (Rivers and Coasts)
- Urban issues
- Changing Economic World
- Resource management (Food)
- Global issues
- Fieldwork

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Confidently express your point of view, both verbally and written
- Analyse key sources of information (maps, graphs, images, infographics, news articles, documentaries)
- Discuss important global issues such as climate change and migration
- Demonstrate an understanding of human and physical geography

## Careers:

- Global business
- Tourism and recreation
- Environmental management
- Teaching
- Agriculture
- Environmental sustainability
- Economics
- Sustainable business management
- Town and city planning
- Armed forces

## Further Study:

- A Level Geography, Geology or Environmental Science
- Vocational qualifications in environmental science, agriculture, food production and construction
- BTECs in travel and tourism
- Apprenticeships for organisations such as the Environment Agency, Severn Trent



# Health and Social Care



This qualification is to engage and excite young learners who want an introduction to life and work within the health and social care sector.

This is a high quality qualification that will equip students with applied knowledge and real life practical skills set in the health and social care industry. It is a mixture of coursework and examination to determine the final grade. This course recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement and give the learner a boarder experience

## Course Type

Vocational

## Assessment Type:

Coursework tasks, externally moderated  
External 2 hour exam

## Course Content:

- 1 Human Lifespan Development
- 2 Health and Social Care Services and Values
- 3 Health and Wellbeing

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Develop key skills that improve your aptitude in health and social care, such as interpreting data to assess an individual's health process. A health process that underpins the effective ways of working in health and social care, such as recommended actions using a person centred approach.
- Understand skills and attributes that are considered most important in health and social care, including the 'The 6 Cs' that are vitally important in the sector, and the opportunity to practise applying them.
- Acquire knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as human growth and development, health and social care services, and factors affecting people's health and wellbeing.

## Careers:

- Nurse
- Midwife
- Social worker
- Health care assistant
- Dentist
- Nursery nurse
- Teacher

## Further Study:

- Level 3 Health and Social Care at College, such as a BTEC or Cambridge Nationals.
- A Level Health and Social Care.
- An apprenticeship in Health and Social Care.



# History



History GCSE is a fantastic choice for any student that has an interest in History and who has enjoyed studying it in KS3. The study of History allows us to understand the world we live in and the GCSE allows us to study a wide range of exciting and interesting topics. History does require a large amount of written work and as such students must be prepared to complete this kind of work. Good literacy skills are important. Having a good memory helps prepare for the exams in which you should be able to process your knowledge in answering questions. History is a well-respected subject and provides you with a solid foundation for a multitude of careers.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

Each unit is assessed by three written exams in Year 11 between 1 hour 15 and 1 hour 45.

## Course Content:

- Unit 1 - Germany 1890-1945; Democracy and Dictatorship
- Unit 2 - Conflict and Tension; The Inter-War Years
- Unit 3 - Britain: Health and the People
- Unit 4 - Elizabethan England

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Write extended answers confidently to get across your argument.
- Make substantiated judgements.
- Understand the world around you.
- Solve problems.
- Work independently and as part of a group.

## Careers:

- Historian
- Law
- Archivist
- Librarian
- Archaeology
- Journalism
- Teaching
- Civil Service
- Political analyst
- Marketing
- Police and Armed forces

## Further Study:

- A level History
- A level Government and Politics
- Qualifications and apprenticeships related to law and uniform/public services
- Vocational qualifications in journalism and media



# Music



If you have a love of music then GCSE Music is for you. During the course you will have the opportunity to extend your knowledge of music, develop your own instrumental skills and be creative.

You will learn to compose your own music, one piece in response to a set brief and one that is in a style of your own choosing. You will develop your performance skills on one instrument of your choice and receive instrumental lessons on this in order to progress. You will also be introduced to different eras and genres of Music, learning to identify musical features across a wide variety of styles.

## Course Type

AQA (GCSE)

## Assessment Type:

- Coursework - 60%
- Exam - 40%

## Course Content:

- Performing (30%) - 1 Solo Performance (15%) and 1 Ensemble Performance (15%)
- Composing (30%) - 1 Composition to a brief (15%) and 1 Free Composition (15%)
- Understanding Music (40%) - Listening exam covering Unfamiliar Music (1hr/68 marks) and set Study Pieces (28 marks/30 mins)

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Use the Elements of Music to identify and describe a variety of musical styles and genres e.g. Rock, Blues, Jazz and Reggae
- Confidently discuss music from a variety of Eras - Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Perform a solo on your chosen instrument, confidently and accurately. With guidance from your instrument tutor, you will perform a piece that suits your ability and taste.
- Perform as part of an ensemble (group) - this can be with other students or with members of staff.
- Create your own music using software in response to an exam board brief, and also develop your own ideas and creativity in a 'free' composition.

## Careers:

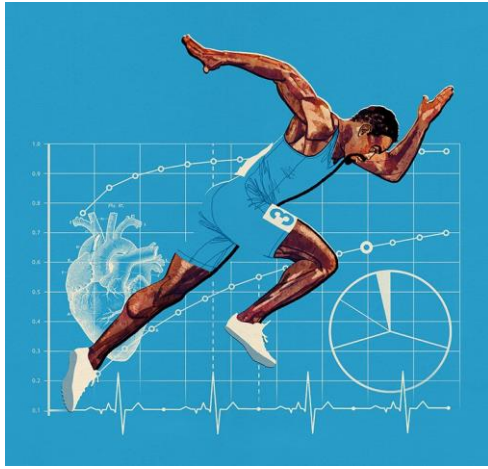
- Sound designer
- Music therapist
- Performer
- Composer
- Programme researcher
- Arts administrator

## Further Study:

- A Level in Music/Music Technology/Performing Arts
- BTEC/NVQ
- Apprenticeship (Music publishing/Theatre/Radio/Community Arts)



# Physical Education



If you would like to find out how the body moves, adapts and reacts to exercise and how we can develop and improve our bodies linked to social and cultural influences, this course is for you.

GCSE PE goes into the theory and practical aspects of movement and performance. We focus on not only acquiring knowledge of the body, but also learning how to apply this knowledge in both a written and demonstration manner. By the end of the course you will have gained significant knowledge and skills to prepare you for the future.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

x2 Written examinations  
x1 Externally moderated practical  
Practical performance assessment

## Course Content:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology.
- Movement analysis.
- Physical training and the use of data.
- Health, fitness and well being.
- Sport psychology.
- Socio-cultural influences.
- Practical performance in isolation and in a competitive and formal situation.
- Performance and demonstration of a personal exercise plan

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Complete extended answers confidently to demonstrate you knowledge.
- Understand how to prepare physical training and create and analyse data.
- Make judgements about a scenario and back them up with knowledge.
- Have an interest in, and enjoy learning about, the world of Sport and PE.
- Understand, and regularly follow, issues related to Sport and PE.

## Careers:

- Teacher
- Fitness instructor
- Physiotherapy
- Sports data analysis
- Diet and nutrition

## Further Study:

- Level 3 Sport course at College, such as a BTEC or Cambridge Nationals.
- A Levels in Physical Education.
- An apprenticeship in Sport.





# Religious Studies



Religious studies is an exciting subject that enables us to understand better the society in which we live and the wider world of which we are a part. In Religious Studies lessons you will learn strong reasoning, writing and critical thinking skills which are valued by all employers.

You will learn about the views of others whilst also expressing your own opinions on the issues studied. Religious Studies develops key skills for any career that you choose to pursue. People who study this subject show future employers and education providers that they are open-minded and keen to engage with wider society.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

100% Examination  
2 exams sat at the end of Year 11

## Course Content:

- Beliefs, teachings and practices in Christianity and Islam
- Relationships and families
- Peace and conflict
- Crime and punishment
- Human rights and social justice

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Write extended answers confidently and express your own points of view.
- Learn about the views of others and understand why people have different opinions.
- Confidently take part in class discussions.
- Understand and learn about local and world issues.
- Develop your listening, reading, writing and speaking skills which are vital in the world of work.

## Careers:

- Law
- Medicine, nursing and healthcare
- Counselling and social services
- Marketing
- Sales and advertising
- Catering and hospitality
- Leisure, sport and tourism
- Education and training
- Service sector roles
- Fundraiser/charity work

## Further Study:

- A-Level Religious Studies.
- Vocational qualifications linked to religious studies, including, travel and tourism, health and social care, childcare, uniformed public services and legal studies.
- Apprenticeships associated with religious studies such as, leisure, travel and tourism and the arts, media and publishing.



# Child Development



If you would like to find out how children grow and develop and the factors that can influence this, as well as how we assess a child's development and plan activities to help them succeed and gain confidence then this course is for you.

BTEC Childcare looks at how we can give children the tools they need to thrive by understanding the 5 areas of development, Physical, Cognitive, Communication and Language, Emotional and Social. We focus on understanding that children have different needs and research how we can make sure all children feel safe, secure, represented and able to make progress in early years settings. This course is suitable for anyone who would like to work with children in the future as it gives an understanding of children's needs and how adults can support them.

## Course Type

BTEC Tech Award

## Assessment Type:

Coursework tasks, externally moderated  
External 2 hour exam

## Course Content:

- Component 1 - Children's Growth & Development. You will learn about children's development between birth and five years of age. You will learn about development milestones and the professionals who help monitor the growth and development of the child. You will also examine how different factors can impact a child's growth and development.
- Component 2 - Learning Through Play. In this component we focus on how play is both motivating and educational. We look at how different activities and resources will help children develop in all areas and at what children are able to do at each age.
- Component 3 - Supporting Children To Play, Learn & Develop - This focuses on how adults can support children and introduces skills and knowledge needed to be an Early Years Educator. It covers keeping children safe and adapting activities so everyone can join in.

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop applied knowledge and understanding of child development and growth up to the age of five, how children learn through play and how meeting the needs of individual children will support their development, play and learning.

## Careers:

- Early Years Educator
- Child Minder
- Teacher
- Social Worker
- Youth Worker

## Further Study:

- BTEC Level 3 National in Children's Care, Learning and Development
- BTEC Level 3 National in Health and Social Care



# French



Add an international dimension to your GCSE subjects by studying GCSE French. Develop your knowledge and understanding of the language including learning vocabulary and grammar rules. Gain more cultural knowledge of French-speaking countries. Develop better memory and literacy skills and improve your ability to understand spoken and written French as well as being able to communicate effectively in speaking and writing. During the GCSE course, you will be able to develop and practise valuable, transferable skills for the future and, as a result, make yourself more employable as well as widening your choice of future opportunities. French can only be chosen if studied in Year 9.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

4 exams sat at the end of Y11 (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing)

## Course Content:

The course in French covers three main themes:

- 1: Identity and culture
- 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- 3: Current and future study and employment

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Communicate with a person from a French-speaking country and have a conversation with them on a wide range of topics.
- Understand extended pieces of written French, including poems and novels.
- Write a letter/email/blog in French.
- Discuss cultural events that take place in French-speaking countries.

## Careers:

- Translator/interpreter.
- Journalism.
- International law.
- Travel and tourism
- Medicine
- Teaching
- International companies regularly require their employees to speak two languages to allow them to work in different countries.

## Further Study:

- A level French
- A degree in Modern European Studies or Languages
- A good GCSE in French is a very well-respected qualification and will benefit most careers - even jobs that don't use languages!



# Statistics



The GCSE in Statistics helps students understand and work with data. They learn how to collect and organize information, create graphs and charts, and calculate averages and probabilities. The course teaches students how to spot patterns, solve problems, and make sense of real-world data. It also helps them think critically about how reliable data is and how it can be used. These skills are useful in everyday life, further studies, and many careers.

Choosing GCSE statistics can help strengthen grades across other subjects like maths, geography and science as there are many cross over topics in the content.

## Course Type

GCSE

## Assessment Type:

2 exams sat at the end of year 11

## Course Content:

1. The collection of data.
2. Processing, representing and analysing data.
3. Probability.

## By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To:

- Design surveys and organise raw data effectively using tables and diagrams.
- Calculate averages and measures of spread (range, interquartile range and standard deviation).
- Create and interpret charts, graphs, and plots, such as histograms, scatter diagrams, cumulative frequency graphs, and box plots.
- Analyse trends and patterns and draw meaningful conclusions.
- Calculate probabilities of events, use probability distributions.
- Use statistical techniques to solve real-world problems and understand their applications in various fields.
- Assess the validity, reliability, and potential bias of data and methods used in investigations.

## Careers:

- Estate agent
- Accountant
- Financial analyst
- Cost estimator
- Business analyst
- Market researcher
- Statistician

## Further Study:

- A level maths.
- A wide range of subjects use statistical analysis at A level and degree level. These include; psychology, geography, sciences and sociology.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## ***What is the difference between GCSEs and Vocational courses?***

A GCSE course is a traditional qualification, usually assessed through 100% examination. Vocational qualifications are assessed through a mixture of exams and coursework. Both qualifications are of equal difficulty but the nature of coursework in vocational qualifications may be more suitable for some students.

## ***Can I swap to a different choice after submitting?***

The deadline for option choices is Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. After this date we cannot guarantee any requested swaps of choices. Once courses have commenced in September we strongly discourage students from swapping option choices due to the amount of content covered in the initial weeks of courses. We do not allow students to swap choices beyond the third week of Year 10.

## ***Are all subjects marketed guaranteed to run?***

We rely on student numbers for courses to run. We would not normally run a course that attracts student numbers below 12. Students should ensure they make two reserve choices because of this.

## ***Are any options easier than others?***

All subjects are of equal academic difficulty so subject choices should not be made because of the perceived difficulty of a subject compared to another.

## ***What is the EBACC?***

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc.) was introduced by the government in 2011. To achieve the EBacc students must achieve a 'good grade' (5-9) in English, Maths, 2 Science GCSEs, a Modern Foreign Language and History, Ancient History or Geography.

## ***Are subjects first come, first served?***

No, providing the options are submitted by the deadline.



# Subjects

At Da Vinci Academy we are proud to offer a broad and ambitious curriculum to our students.

All students in year 10 and year 11 will study:

- English Language GCSE and English Literature GCSE
- Mathematics - GCSE
- Science - GCSE X 2
- Core Physical Education (non-assessed)
- Personal Development (non-assessed)

Each student will then choose a further four subjects, one of which must be History or Geography.

Subject	Course Type	Choice Rank
Art	GCSE	
Triple Science*	GCSE	
Computer Science	GCSE	
History	GCSE	
Geography	GCSE	
French	GCSE	
Physical Education	GCSE	
Food	GCSE	
Religious Studies	GCSE	
Child Development	BTEC	
Health and Social	BTEC	
Travel and Tourism	BTEC	
Construction	BTEC	
Statistics*	GCSE	
Music	GCSE	

*\* Subjects marked with an asterisk (\*) should only be chosen if you have received an invitation letter. Please speak to the curriculum leader for advice on if the course is suitable based on your Key Stage 3 assessments.*

# Notes

# Da Vinci Academy



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A L.E.A.D. Academy

