Wellington College Belfast

Una Discamus – "*we learn together*"

Wellington College Belfast

Information Booklet for Year 10 Pupils and Parents

2026-2028

Aspiring for excellence, together

Subject Choices at GCSE

Choosing your GCSE subjects can be challenging. However, through careful research and consideration of your choices the process can be much less daunting. The aim of this booklet is to provide students and their parents/carers with important information about the subjects and courses available in Year 11 and 12. The information has been provided by Heads of Department to provide a brief overview of the course content for each subject.

The courses offered at Key Stage 4 ensure that students study a broad range of subjects offering the widest range of progression routes when students receive their GCSE results in August 2028. Certain subjects are compulsory, but students will have a choice of five other subjects. Your son or daughter should consider these choices carefully and think about their preferred learning styles.
Students should use this booklet alongside their research on the www.unifrog.org website to make the best possible choices.

There are also very good resources at
https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/subject-choices-year-10
to assist students and parents/carers. It is very important that students consider their preferred learning styles. Both GCSE and BTEC courses are assessed through controlled assessment in school and external examinations throughout Year 11 and 12. It is important to think about whether you will do better in exams or more project based work.
It is essential that you consider how your GCSE choices will prepare you for the world of work. For example, if you are passionate about becoming a doctor or vet you will most likely choose Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Students should consider the following when making their GCSE choices:

- Your favourite subjects
- Your passions and aspirations for the future
- Think of good subject combinations and strike a balance
- The subjects you are strongest in
- Speak to teachers about your suitability for the course
- Think about the career paths that your GCSE choices will offer you
- Don’t be influenced by others
- Understand that nothing is final- you can still gain further qualifications later in life.

https://oxbridgehomelearning.uk/blog/which-gcses-should-you-take-a-guide-to-choosing-subjects/

KEY DATES

Options booklet to parents/carers/students	**28 January**
Careers Fair	**29 January**
Year 10 Parent/Teacher Consultation	**29 January**
Year 10 Careers Week	**2 February – 6 February**
Options interviews	**17 February – 20 February**
Return of survey	**Date of interview or 20 February at the latest.**

REGULATED QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

EVERY SUBJECT YOU COMPLETE HAS A LEVEL.

The GCSE or BTEC courses you study in Years 11 and 12 are all Level 2 qualifications.

Your A Level and BTEC courses are Level 3 and can lead to university, college, Higher Level Apprenticeships or employment.

The higher level of qualification leads to higher earnings.

LEVEL	EXAMPLE	AVERAGE YEARLY SALARY
1	GCSEs grade D-G, NVQ Level 1 BTEC Introductory Diploma	£14 000
2	GCSEs grade A-C, NVQ Level 2, BTEC First Diploma	£18 000 ← GCSEs ARE HERE
3	A-Levels, NVQ Level 3, BTEC National Diploma	£22 000
4	Level 4 diploma, Certificate of Further Education	£27 000
5	BTEC Higher National Diploma, Foundation Degree, Diploma of Higher Education	£30 000
6	Level 6 Graduate Diploma, Bachelor Degree from university	£36 000
7	Masters Degree, Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma	£42 000 +
8	Doctorates	£60 000+

https://www.payscale.com/research/UK/Certification

CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT

Many GCSE subjects contain a controlled assessment element, this requires students to spend a good deal of time in undertaking research, preparation and completion of final tasks. Controlled Assessments are prepared in class and at home but are usually completed under examination conditions during supervised class time.

SUBJECT	AMOUNT OF CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT
English Language	40%
English Literature	20%
Moving Image Arts	60%
Mathematics/ Further Maths	0%
Biology	0%
Chemistry	0%
Physics	0%
Single Award Science	0%
Double Award Science	0%
Art and Design	100%
Business and Communication Systems	25%
Business Studies	20%
Digital Technology	30%
Food and Nutrition	50%
Geography	0%
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20%
History	0%
Music	30%
Religious Studies	0%
Spanish	0%
Sport	60%
Physical Education	40%
Technology and Design	50%

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR CAREERS INFORMATION

www.unifrog.org

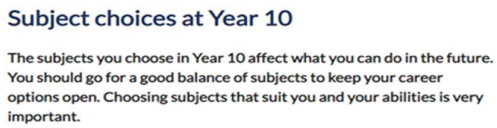
A one stop careers shop with quizzes, resources and information on careers

https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/forms/year-10-subject-choices-quiz

A quiz to help with GCSE choices

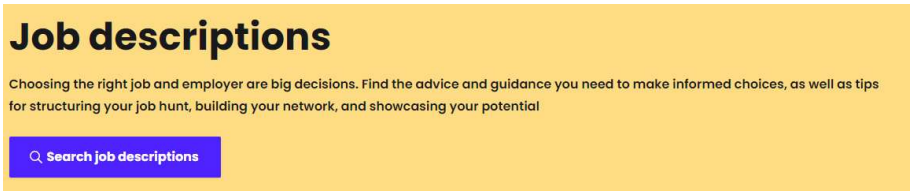
https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/subject-choices-year-10

A guide to making informed GCSE choices



https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/job-descriptions

An A to Z of job descriptions and careers



www.careerpilot.org.uk

Guidance on your choices at 14, 16 and 18. Routes to different qualifications and job sectors, and career tools to help you decide.

https://www.prospects.ac.uk/

Career information and advice, job profiles, career planning

GCSE COURSES

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The KS4 Curriculum is designed so that pupils may follow courses appropriate to their interests and ability.

All pupils will study the following GCSE subjects:

- English Language
- Mathematics
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics or Double Award Science or Single Award Science
- English Literature or Maths and English Support
-

Students will also study

- LLW
- Religious Studies

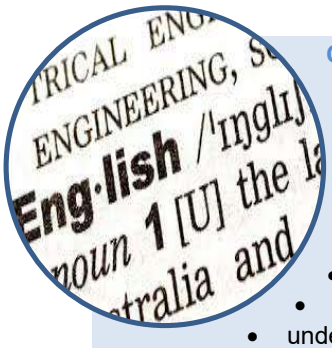
All pupils will also study subjects from the following list:

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Business and Communication Systems
- Chemistry
- Digital Technology
- Double Award Science
- Food & Nutrition (H.E.)
- French
- Geography
- History
- Further Mathematics
- Leisure, Travel and Tourism
- Moving Image Arts
- Music
- Physics
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Single Award Science
- Spanish
- Technology and Design

Courses in the above Choice Exam Subjects list will run subject to available resources. The College reserves the right not to run a GCSE course if there are too few pupils to make it viable.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Examination Board: CCEA



Course Description

This specification aims to encourage students to:

- demonstrate skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing necessary to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately;
- express themselves creatively and imaginatively;
- become critical readers of a range of texts, including multi-modal texts;
- use reading to develop their own skills as writers;
- understand patterns, structures and conventions of written and spoken English;
- understand the impact of variations in spoken and written language and how they relate to identity and cultural diversity; and
- select and adapt speech and writing to different situations and audiences.

The following are important features of this specification.

- It offers opportunities to build on the skills and capabilities developed through the delivery of the Key Stage 3 curriculum in Northern Ireland.
- It is a unitised specification, allowing students flexibility in preparing for assessment; students can enter for a unit when they are ready to be assessed and can re-sit each unit individually.
- It allows students to study English and related subjects at a more advanced level.

The course offers students opportunities to develop skills for real-life contexts

Assessment Format

Unit 1:	
Writing for Purpose and Audience and Reading to Access Non-Fiction and Media Texts Students respond to five tasks	External written examination 1 hour 45 mins 30%
Unit 2:	
Speaking and Listening	Controlled Assessment 20%
Unit 3:	
Studying Spoken and Written Language	Controlled Assessment 20%
Unit 4:	
Personal or Creative Writing and Reading Literary and Non-Fiction Texts Students respond to five tasks	External written examination 1 hour 45 mins. 30%

Additional Information
Please note that Controlled Assessment is worth 40% of the final mark.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

This specification aims to encourage students to:

- become critical readers of prose, drama and poetry;
- develop the ability to analyse the impact of language, structure and form in a range of texts;
- connect ideas, themes and issues in a range of texts;
- explore contexts and experience different times, cultures, viewpoints and situations in texts;
- read for enjoyment and nurture a lifelong love of literature.

Key features

- It offers opportunities to build on the skills and capabilities developed through the delivery of the Key Stage 3 curriculum in Northern Ireland.

It allows students to study English literature and related subjects at a more advanced level and to develop the skills they need to progress to employment

Assessment Format

Unit 1:
The Study of Prose — External written examination
Students answer two questions, one from Section A and the set question in Section B. — 1 Hour 45 mins
Section A is closed book. — 30%

Unit 2:
The Study of Drama and Poetry — External written examination
Students answer two questions, one from Section A and one from Section B. — 2 hours
Section A is open book. Section B is open book. — 50%

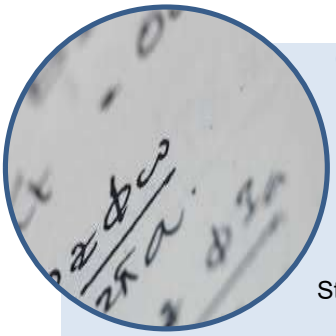
Unit 3:
The Study of Shakespeare — Controlled assessment
Students complete one task: an extended writing question based on a theme. For current themes, see Appendix 3. — 2 hours
Teachers mark the tasks, and we moderate the results — 20%

Additional Information

Students must take at least 40% of the assessment (based on unit weightings) at the end of the course as terminal assessment GCSE English Literature is essential for all hoping to study the subject at AS and A Level.

MATHEMATICS & FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Examination Board: CCEA



Course Description

Mathematics:

This is a compulsory course leading to the GCSE Examination. The emphasis is not only on developing the pupils' skills and techniques but also their understanding of mathematical processes. The content of the course follows on from the work at Key Stage 3. Arithmetic, Geometry, Trigonometry, Algebra, Statistics and Probability are all consolidated and extended.

Further Mathematics:

Further Mathematics is offered to pupils showing a strong aptitude for Mathematics.

Further Mathematics is a course leading to a qualification of a higher standard than GCSE Mathematics. The three main branches of advanced Mathematics are studied: Pure Mathematics (Algebra, Trigonometry and Calculus), Mechanics and Statistics. Further Mathematics is intended for those pupils whose future career requires a mathematical knowledge beyond ordinary GCSE standard.

Pupils hoping to study Advanced Level Mathematics at Wellington College MUST take Further Mathematics. It also provides a useful foundation for the study of Science subjects at GCSE and Advanced Level. It is strongly recommended that those who wish to study Physics or Chemistry at Advanced level study Further Mathematics.

Assessment Format

Mathematics:
All pupils will complete a GCSE Mathematics examination (with calculator) at the end of year 11 that is worth **45%** of their final GCSE Mathematics grade.
They will then sit a second examination (non-calculator and calculator papers) at the end of year 12 that is worth **55%** of their final GCSE Mathematics grade.

Further Mathematics:
Assessment is by three written examination papers taken in Year 12:

- Pure Mathematics (50% of the final grade)
- Applied Mathematics (Mechanics 25% of the final grade)
- Applied Mathematics – Statistics (25% of the final grade)

Additional Information

Entry to GCSE Further Mathematics will be based upon a rank ordering of the Year 10 Winter examination scores. It is expected that those in the top 50 places of the year group at this stage will study GCSE Further Mathematics. Pupils who are eligible and choose to study GCSE Further Mathematics will complete their GCSE Mathematics in its entirety by the end of year 11 and should achieve at least a grade B in order to continue onto the GCSE Further Mathematics course in year 12.

SINGLE AWARD SCIENCE — Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

This course counts as one GCSE subject and is a 'Balanced Science' course containing equal elements of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Assessment Format

Unit 1 Biology
Topics to be covered include: Cells, food and diet, chromosomes and genes, co-ordination and control, reproductive system, variation and adaptation, disease and body defences and ecological relationships.

external written examination
1 hour
25%

Unit 2 Chemistry
Topics to be covered include: Acids, bases and salts, elements, compounds and mixtures, atomic structure and periodic table, bonding, materials, symbols, formulae and equations, qualitative analysis, metals and the reactivity series, rates of reaction and organic chemistry.

external written examination
1 hour
25%

Unit 3 Physics
Topics to be covered include: Electrical circuits, household electricity, energy, electricity generation, heat transfer, waves, road transport and safety, radioactivity, and Earth in space.

external written examination
1 hour
25%

Unit 4 Practical Skills – 25%

- Booklet A – practical skills assessment and external written examination (2 hours)
  Students carry out two pre-release practical tasks
  (from two of Biology, Chemistry and Physics) in the final year of study.
- Booklet B – external written examination (1hour 15mins)
  Students answer compulsory structured questions that include short responses, extended writing and calculations all set in a practical context for Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Additional Information

It should be noted that all of these units, including the practical skills unit, can be assessed at either higher or foundation tier. This means that the full range of grades from A* to C is accessible through this course.

SCIENCE OPTIONS

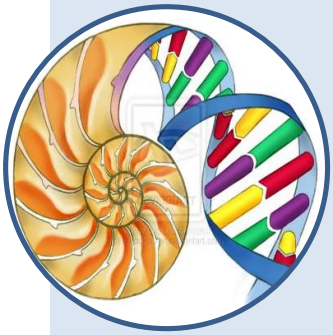
Science is a core examination subject and all students are required to study Science. There are three options for GCSE Science.

- Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSE subjects.
- Single Award Science counting as one GCSE subject
- Double Award Science counting as two GCSE subjects.

BIOLOGY

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description



Biology is a fascinating science relevant to a variety of areas including climate change, agriculture, genetics and health. The CCEA GCSE course provides a solid grounding in biological theory, concepts and practical work and is ideal for pupils looking to further their interest in the subject as well as those preparing for further study.

Unit 1 (Year 11)
Cells, Photosynthesis, Digestion, Respiration, Nervous System, Ecology.

Unit 2 (Year 12)
Osmosis, Circulation, DNA and Genetics, Reproduction, Variation, Health.

Unit 3 (Year 12)
Practical Skills

Assessment Format

Paper	Duration	Weighting
Unit 1 – Year 11	1 h 15 min (written)	35%
Unit 2 – Year 12	1 h 30 min (written)	40%
Unit 3 – Year 12	2 hours (practical)	7.5%
	1 hour (written)	17.5%

Additional Information

GCSE Biology is an excellent preparation for AS and A2 Biology courses, but please note that pupils wishing to take a science subject at A level will be expected to have obtained an A grade or better in each examination component. It is also strongly recommended that pupils intending to take Biology as an A level subject have achieved at least a B in GCSE Chemistry and Mathematics.

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Biology based on their performance in the Year 10 Winter internal examination.

Some universities may require a GCSE in Chemistry to study Biology to degree level.

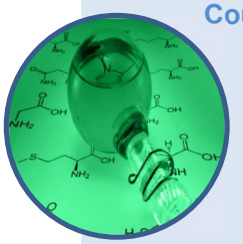
SCIENCE OPTIONS

Science is a core examination subject and all students are required to study Science. There are three options for GCSE Science.

- Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSE subjects.
- Double Award Science counting as two GCSE subjects.
- Single Award Science counting as one GCSE subject.

CHEMISTRY

Examination Board: CCEA



Course Description

The GCSE Chemistry course involves the study of some of the common chemical elements and their compounds. Many general chemical principles are introduced and pupils are taught to apply their knowledge and understanding of these in a variety of situations. Emphasis is placed on the everyday applications of Chemistry along with industrial processes and environmental issues.

Unit 1: Year 11
Structures, Trends, Chemical Reactions, Quantitative Chemistry and Analysis (35%)
Unit 2: Year 12
Further Chemical Reactions, Rates and Equilibrium, Calculations and Organic Chemistry (40%)
Unit 3: Year 12
Practical Skills (25%)

A very practical approach to the subject is employed, with experimental work playing an important part, both to illustrate principles and to develop essential scientific skills.

All components of GCSE Chemistry are marked externally.

Assessment Format

Year 11 Unit 1	**Examination time** 1 h 15 min	**Weighting** 35%
Year 12 Unit 2	1 h 30 min	40%
Year 12 Unit 3	Practical Exam	25%

Additional Information

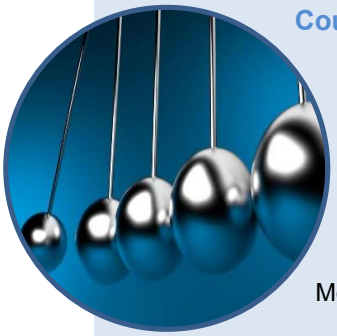
GCSE Chemistry is an excellent preparation for AS and A2 Chemistry courses, but please note that pupils wishing to take Chemistry at A level will be expected to have obtained an A grade or better in each examination component. Also, a B in GCSE Further Mathematics or an A in GCSE Mathematics is required.

SCIENCE OPTIONS

Science is a core examination subject and all students are required to study Science. There are three options for GCSE Science.

- Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSE subjects.
- Single Award Science counting as one GCSE subject
- Double Award Science

PHYSICS Examination Board: CCEA



Course Description

Pupils will follow the CCEA course for Physics, and will be provided with an in-depth study of this subject area. The course aims to interest all pupils in Physics, and equip them with the knowledge and skills required to understand life in a technologically-based world.
Topics covered include:

Unit 1 (Yr11)
Motion, Force, Density and Kinetic Theory, energy, atomic and nuclear physics.

Unit 2 (Yr12)
Waves, Light, electricity, electro-magnetism, magnetism is and space physics

Unit 3 (Yr12)
Practical Skills

Assessment Format

Year 11		
Unit 2	1 h 30 min	37.5%
Year 12		
Unit 1	1 h 30 min	37.5%
Unit 3	Practical	7.5%
	Analysis	17.5%

Additional Information

GCSE Physics is an excellent preparation for AS and A Level Science courses, but please note that pupils wishing to take a Science subject at AS Level will be expected to have obtained an A grade or better at GCSE.

It is also strongly recommended that those who wish to study Physics at Advanced level should study GCSE Further Mathematics.
If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Physics on the basis of their performance in the Year 10 Winter examination.

SCIENCE OPTIONS

Science is a core examination subject and all students are required to study Science. There are three options for GCSE Science.

- Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSE subjects.
- Single Award Science counting as one GCSE subject
- Double Award Science

DOUBLE AWARD SCIENCE

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

This course counts as two GCSE subjects and is a 'Balanced Science' course containing equal elements of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Assessment Format

Biology Unit 1
Cells, Living Processes and Biodiversity
External written examination (1 hr and 11% weighting)
Chemistry Unit 1
Trends, Chemical Reactions, Quantitative Chemistry and Analysis
External written examination (1 hr and 11% weighting)

Physics Unit 1
Motion, Force, Moments, Energy, Density, Kinetic Theory, Radioactivity, Nuclear Fission and Fusion
External written examination (1 hr and 11% weighting)
Biology Unit 2
Body Systems, Genetics, Microorganisms and Health
External written examination (1 hr 15 mins and 14% weighting)
Chemistry Unit 2
Further Chemical Reactions, Rates and Equilibrium, Calculations and Organic Chemistry
External written examination (1 hr 15 mins and 14% weighting)
Physics Unit 2
Waves, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Electromagnetism and Space Physics
External written examination (1 hr 15 mins and 14% weighting)

Additional Information
Practical Skills Unit – 25% weighting

- **Booklet A** – practical skills assessment. Externally marked (3 hours)
  Students carry out three pre-release practical tasks
  (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) in the final year of study.
  (7.5%)

- **Booklet B** – external written examination (1hour 30 mins)
  Students answer compulsory structured questions that include short responses, extended writing and calculations all set in a practical context for Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
  (17.5%)

SCIENCE OPTIONS

Science is a core examination subject and all students are required to study Science. There are three options for GCSE Science.

- Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSE subjects.
- Single Award Science counting as one GCSE subject
- Double Award Science counting as two GCSE subjects

TECHNOLOGY & DESIGN

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

The GCSE Technology and Design course highlights the importance of 'doing' as well as 'understanding'.

Students develop their capabilities on this course almost entirely through designing. As such, they work with a range of materials including plastics, metal and wood so they can apply their Technology and Design skills to the design and manufacture of their own technological products.

Studying Technology and Design provides opportunities to tackle and resolve design and technological problems to meet human needs within a range of contexts. Essentially, we are searching for better ways to do things, inventing solutions and taking risks.

Course content

- Designing: evaluate products, problem solve, engaging in creative questioning, generating design ideas and producing specifications.
- Communicating: use graphics to communicate ideas through a range of sketching techniques in 2D and 3D as well as using Computer Aided Design software SolidWorks.
- Manufacturing: use tools and equipment on a range of materials and components in a variety of processes.
- Systems and Control: understand various types of control systems including mechanical, electronic and pneumatic.

Coursework requirements

Students considering Technology and Design GCSE should:

- Enjoy designing and making their own projects
- Be confident and responsible in solving real life problems through creative solutions
- Enjoy graphical communication through hand sketches and CAD
- Use ICT to record, process and present information.

Assessment Format

Teaching and Learning Units	Assessment	Weighting	Completed
Unit 1: Technology and Design Core	Externally assessed written paper Examination 1hr 30mins	25%	Year 11
Unit 2: Product Design Product Design	Externally assessed written paper Examination 1hr 30mins	25%	Year 12
Unit 3: Design and Manufacture Project	Controlled assessment 10-page portfolio with manufactured project	50%	Year 12

Additional Information

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for this course on the basis of their performance in Technology & Design in Year 10.

BUSINESS STUDIES

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

Through this GCSE Business Studies specification students learn about how businesses start up, resources they need, marketing, finance, challenges they face and how they grow. Students also explore the role of stakeholders – groups that have an interest in a business – as well as human resources, the recruitment and selection process, and the value of training and motivation for employees.

Important new business topics include the role of social enterprise, e-business and m-business, discovering how businesses can use electronic and mobile technology in different ways. Students also learn to apply useful skills such as proposing business strategies or solutions, understanding other viewpoints and justifying decisions.

A qualification in Business Studies can lead to a career in accounting, advertising, banking, retail, management consulting, marketing, research, human resources, a small business, or self-employment as an entrepreneur.

Assessment Format

Content	Assessment	Weighting	Length
Unit 1: Starting a business			
• Creating a Business • Business Operations • Marketing	External written exam. Short structured questions and extended writing.	40%	1 hour 30 mins
Unit 2: Developing a Business			
• Human Resources • Business Growth • Finance	External written exam. Short structured questions and extended writing.	40%	1 hour 30 mins
Unit 3: Planning a Business (Synoptic)			
• Business Plan	Controlled assessment	20%	

All courses are available from Summer 2018.

Additional Information

Students must be prepared to take an interest in current affairs/business issues and work independently.
It is desirable that students possess good ICT skills.
Students would benefit from good standards of numeracy and literacy.

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Business Studies on the basis of their performance in Mathematics and English in the Year 10 Winter results.

FOOD & NUTRITION (HE)

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

The course is divided into two components. The content of each component and the respective learning outcomes are as follows:

Component 1: Food and Nutrition

In this unit, students learn about the nutritional content of foods and how to meet the specific nutritional and dietary needs of different groups of people. To do this, they modify recipes and plan, prepare and cook meals and dishes that reflect current government nutritional guidelines. They also study how to be an effective consumer in relation to food choice, food safety and managing resources.

Component 2: Practical Food and Nutrition

In this unit, students carry out a coursework task that develops unique transferable skills. They research the given task title and gather various viewpoints on it. They choose and justify a practical food preparation activity using a range of criteria. They complete the food practical activity in a single 3-hour session and evaluate all parts of the task.

Assessment Format

Component One is assessed by a 2 hour written examination at the end of the 2-year course. This component carries a weighting of 50%.
Component Two, which carries a weighting of 50%, is completed in the second year of the course. It is teacher assessed and the mark awarded is moderated by CCEA.

Additional Information

Food and Nutrition is an active, practical subject. Pupils exercise skills such as time and task management, personal responsibility and forward planning. These valuable and transferable skills equip pupils to deal with the challenges associated with lifelong learning.

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Food and Nutrition on the basis of their performance in Home Economics in the Year 10 Winter examination.

GEOGRAPHY

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

Geography is a traditional academic subject for those with an interest in the world around them. As a subject it bridges the gap between the Arts and the Sciences, giving flexibility for Higher Education courses. It is recognised as a qualifying subject for a wide variety of careers including Accountancy, Finance, Law, Journalism, Environmental Management, Leisure and Tourism, Planning and Business.

The GCSE Geography course involves the acquisition and application of knowledge and the development of both subject-specific and transferable skills.

Following the CCEA specification, GCSE Geography students will:

- take part in fieldwork to collect primary data;
- explore the interrelationships between people and the natural environment;
- investigate how physical and human resources are managed;
- consider interdependence between countries and global issues; and
- have opportunities to use geographical skills including technologies such as GIS

.

Assessment Format

Assessment will follow a modular structure with pupils completing their GCSE Geography Unit 1 examination paper at the end of Year 11. They will then sit their Unit 2 and Unit 3 examinations at the end of Year 12.

Unit 1: Understanding Our Natural World — External written exam, 1 hour 30 minutes, 40%

This unit covers the following themes:

- Theme A: River Environments
- Theme B: Coastal Environments
- Theme C: Our Changing Weather and Climate
- Theme D: The Restless Earth

Unit 2: Living in Our World — External written exam, 1 hour 30 minutes, 40%

This unit covers the following themes:

- Theme A: Population and Migration
- Theme B: Changing Urban Areas
- Theme C: Contrasts in World Development
- Theme D: Managing Our Environment

Unit 3: Fieldwork Exam — External written exam, 1 hour, 20%

Students bring fieldwork report and table of data into the exam
Answers are based on knowledge of investigation and experience of fieldwork

Additional Information

If oversubscribed pupils will be selected for Geography on the basis of their performance in the Year 10 winter and summer examinations.

HISTORY

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

Pupils will sit two written papers:

Unit One: Modern World Studies in Depth

In this unit, students gain awareness of the characteristics, beliefs, values and attitudes of the people of the time studied and appreciate that individuals living in the period would have differed in their personal beliefs and attitudes.

Unit One – Study in Depth (60%)
Germany 1918-1935

The Key issues include:

- The rise to power and key policies of the Nazis in Germany in the period 1933-39.
- The impact and consequences of WWII on Germany and its people.

Changing Relationships:
Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland 1965–1998

The key issues include:

- The emergence of unrest in NI and the beginning of the 'Troubles'.
- The search for peace up until the Good Friday Agreement.

Unit Two - An Outline Study (40%)
International Relations 1945 – 2003

An outline study of key international events after WWII until 2003. These include:

- The Cuban Missile Crisis
- The Korean and Vietnam War
- 9/11 and the US invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Assessment Format

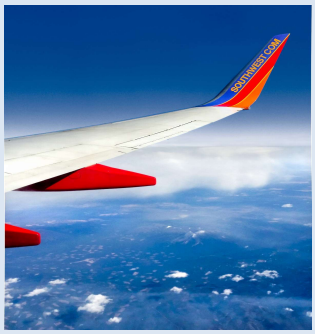
Consists of two written papers and an investigative study:

Paper One	1 & 3/4 Hours	60%
Paper Two	1 & 1/4 Hours	40%

Additional Information

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for History on the basis of their performance in History in Year 10 winter and summer examinations.

LEISURE, TRAVEL AND TOURISM Examination Board: CCEA



Leisure, Travel & Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world which offers many different insights into how this booming industry is becoming a huge component of the economy. Students get to study all current developments in the industry. From the different reasons we travel to the different modes of transport we take to travel to our holiday destination, this exciting subject offers students to opportunity to explore further as to how all the components intertwine to provide fantastic holidays for all to enjoy.

An outline of the key topic areas that are studied can be found below.

Course Description

This course is divided up by a mixture of external examinations and internal controlled assessment set by CCEA.

Unit One: Understanding the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry

This unit explores the important part that leisure, travel and tourism plays in today's society as it continues to be a growth area in the UK economy. Students investigate the range of activities for people to enjoy in their leisure time. They identify organisations that people use for leisure, travel and tourism purposes, as well as the facilities and attractions that appeal to visitors. For example, what makes the Giant's Causeway the number 1 tourist attraction for American visitors?

Unit Two: Promoting and Sustaining the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry

In this unit, students explore how organisations use techniques and materials to promote their products and services. Students investigate the economic, social and environmental impacts of tourism development and the methods the leisure, travel and tourism industry uses to ensure sustainability. They explore a range of issues that affect visitors and tourists, including safety, security, entry and exit requirements, health risks, and precautions and emergencies. For example, how did the entire tourism industry change as a result of COVID-19 and what impact did this pandemic have on all the key sectors within the industry?

Unit Three: Working in the Leisure, Travel & Tourism Industry

In this unit, students explore the importance of customer service in the leisure, travel and tourism industry. They research and explore the employment opportunities available in the industry. They also develop their knowledge of the entry qualifications required to work in the industry as well as gaining an insight into job roles and responsibilities and the skills and personal qualities needed to gain employment in the sector.

Assessment Format

The assessment for Leisure, Travel and Tourism is made up of 2 examinations and 1 piece of Controlled Assessment:

Unit 1	1 hour 30 minutes	External written examination worth 40%
Unit 2	1 hour 30 minutes	External written examination worth 40%
Unit 3	Controlled Assessment	Internal assessment worth 20%

Additional Information

Students should take a keen interest in news articles that may supplement their learning within the classroom. Good standards of literacy and numeracy would be beneficial to help aid their written work.
https://ccea.org.uk/key-stage-4/gcse/subjects/gcse-leisure-travel-and-tourism-2017

ART & DESIGN

Examination Board: EDUQAS

Course Description

As part of the Art, Craft and Design qualification, students can study any of the following disciplines listed below:

- Fine art – drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking
- Textiles & Fashion
- Ceramics
- 3D design (Jewellery, Architecture, Product etc.)
- Photography
- Digital Media
- Graphic Design

The Art & Design course at GCSE consists of two components:

Component 1: Portfolio (60%)

1. Students explore and understand the visual elements of art and design, including: colour; line; shape; form; texture; tone and pattern;
2. They explore different media, materials, techniques, processes and technologies. They experiment with and refine their ideas as their work progresses;
3. They research artists, designers and/or craftworkers to inform their own ideas and use of media;
4. They produce a final piece.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)

Students receive an externally set assignment in January of year 12 and choose how to develop their project towards a final piece. This final piece is completed within ten hours over 2-3 days, at the end of which they hand in their portfolio and ESA.

Assessment Format

Component 1 is produced throughout Year 11 & the Autumn term of Year 12.
In January of Year 12, candidates will receive their Externally Set Assignment and will have 6-8 weeks to complete preparatory work before producing a final outcome over 10 hours.

Additional Information

The nature of this subject requires a commitment to independent working at home as well as in class.

If oversubscribed, students will be selected on the basis of their Year 10 performance.

MOVING IMAGE ARTS Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

The CCEA GCSE Moving Image Arts specification is unique in the UK, giving students the opportunity to develop audiovisual literacy and creativity through hands-on learning in the craft of moving image arts.

Students develop a broad critical understanding of film language, narrative, representation and audience in both theory and practice. They investigate films from a variety of genres and contexts, demonstrating the ability to analyse and evaluate creative purpose. They also experiment with a range of film-making techniques, including animation, and create their own complete moving image portfolios. Students acquire a range of skills on this course such as leading and working with teams and managing resources and creative processes independently, with initiative and creative enterprise.

Assessment Format

Component 1: Critical Understanding of Creative and Technical Moving Image Production
Compulsory online examination 1 hour 30 mins (40%)
Examination features: a range of previously unseen audio and visual stimuli and short film sequences; questions that assess knowledge and understanding of film language, practices, techniques and contexts; scenario-based questions that assess creative and production management skills; and questions that assess analysis and evaluation of film language, audience and purpose

Component 2: Acquisition of Skills in Moving Image Production
Compulsory controlled assessment tasks (20%)
Students complete four tasks specified in the Component 2 Task Booklet: storyboarding; camera and editing; sound; and animation.

Component 3: Planning and Making a Moving Image Product
Compulsory controlled assessment portfolio (40%)
Students produce a live-action or animated film portfolio from a selection of genre-specific production briefs that we provide. The portfolio must feature: a research analysis; preproduction material; a completed moving image product; and an evaluation.

This specification is a linear qualification:
students take all the assessment at the end of the course.

Additional Information If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Moving Image Arts on the basis of their performance in English and Art in the Year 9 Summer and Year 10 Winter Examinations

MUSIC

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

This course is designed to build upon the knowledge, understanding and skills developed at KS3 and to incorporate the fundamental musical activities of Composing, Performing and Listening and Appraising in a holistic manner promoting the knowledge and understanding of a wide range of musical and cultural traditions.

Assessment Format

Performing and Appraising – 35%

Pupils are required to perform individually and as part of an ensemble. They are also required to discuss and evaluate their performances with the visiting assessor.

Listening and Appraising – 35%

This involves one test of aural perception. Pupils study a range of set works. Pupils will be required to answer questions on the set works, unfamiliar music from the areas of study and complete one extended writing question.

Composing and Appraising – 30%

Pupils create two compositions one in response to a release stimuli and one free choice.

Additional Information

Pupils wishing to choose music at GCSE must be of Grade two standard on an instrument or voice and to have passed a grade 2 level theory exam in school or the official ABRSM theory exam. Pupils must partake in at least one extra-curricular music activity within the school. Students will be expected to continue theory throughout years 11 and 12

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Music on the basis of their performance in the Year 10 Winter Report in Music and their Grade in an instrument or voice and theory Grade

PHYSICAL EDUCATION Examination Board: Eduqas

Course Description

The GCSE course is a mix of theory and practical performance. It is made up of one written exam paper. The paper looks at the following topics –

- Health, training and Exercise
- Exercise Physiology
- Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity
- Socio-Cultural Issues in Physical Activity and Sport

Assessment Format

GCSE PE is made up of two components

Component 1 – Written exam, 60% of course – Introduction to physical education

Component 2 – Practical 40% of course – The active participant in physical education

The practical component is internally assessed and externally moderated.

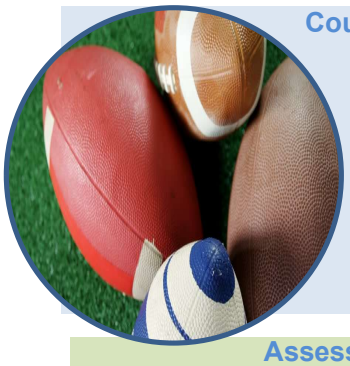
Learners will be assessed in three different activities in the role of performer in at least one individual and one team sport. Learners will be further assessed through a written analysis and evaluation of their personal exercise programme in one of their chosen activities.

Additional Information

Pupils should have a high academic profile with at least a B grade in Maths, English and Biology.
Pupils must be playing one sport competitively. They should be competing regularly and training several times a week. They should exhibit high levels of physical fitness.
A commitment to a winter and a summer sport is required.

BTEC Tech Award in Sport Level 2

Examination Board: Pearson



Course Description

- The BTEC First Award in Sport is equivalent to one GCSE
- It has four seperate units
- 25% of the qualification is externally assessed through an exam
- 75% of the qualification is assessed internally through various forms of coursework and tasks and then externally moderated.
- It is a vocational qualification with a focus on presenting knowledge in work-related contexts.

Assessment Format

Unit 1 – **Fitness for Sport and Exercise** – This unit is assessed with a 75mins online exam. This unit looks at the various components of fitness and why they are important for success in different sports. It also examines different methods of training and fitness testing which sits alongside.

Unit 2 – **Practical Sports Performance** – This is a coursework unit looking at rules, regulations and scoring systems for selected sports. Pupils will practically demonstrate skills, techniques and tactics in selected sports. They will then be able to review their sports performance.

Unit 3 – **Applying the Principles of Personal Training**.- Pupils will design a personal fitness training programme, looking at strategies for continued training success. After implementing their personal training programme they will review it.

Unit 4 – **The Mind and Sports Performance** – Pupils will investigate personality and its effect on sports performance. They will then explore motivation and self confidence, before looking at arousal and anxiety and there effects on sporting performance.

Pupils must have competed, on a regular basis in the past year, in at least one activity for a Wellington College team or a club outside of the College. Students should have attained an overall grade A or B average throughout Year 10 PE activities and have a keen sporting interest.

If oversubscribed, pupils will be selected for Physical Education on the basis of their grades in Year 10 activities.

MODERN LANGUAGES
FRENCH/SPANISH

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

A GCSE in French/Spanish helps students to:

- develop an understanding of French/Spanish in a variety of contexts
- develop the ability and confidence to communicate effectively in French/Spanish
- develop awareness and understanding of French/Spanish-speaking countries and communities
- develop their knowledge of and enthusiasm for language learning and recognise that their linguistic knowledge, understanding and skills help them to take their place in our increasingly multilingual world
- make informed decisions about further learning and career choices

Topics studied are divided into three contexts for learning and include:

Context 1:

- Myself, my family, relationships and choices
- Social media and new technology
- Free time, leisure and daily routine
- Culture, customs, festivals and celebrations

Context 2:

- My local area and the wider environment
- Community involvement
- Social and global issues
- Travel and tourism

Context 3:

- My studies and school life
- Extra-curricular activities
- Part-time jobs and money management
- Future plans and career

Assessment Format

100% exam-based with all exams taken at the end of Year 12. The four skills assessed are:

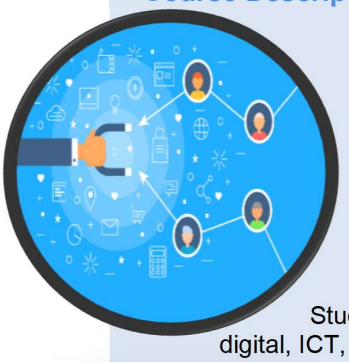
Listening	There are two tiers of assessment – Foundation and Higher. Respond to questions in both English and target language.	25%
Reading	There are two tiers of assessment – Foundation and Higher. Respond to questions in both English and target language.	25%
Speaking	This is un-tiered. Conversation and role play with teacher	25%
Writing	There are two tiers of assessment – Foundation and Higher. Short translations, guided writing and an essay.	25%

Additional Information

If oversubscribed, students will be selected for either language on the basis of their Year 10 performance

GCSE BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS (BCS)
Examination Board : CCEA

Course Description



This is an exciting new GCSE that gives students that great blended balance between what they have learned in ICT and applying it to business scenarios.

The CCEA GCSE BCS specification introduces students to the business world. They also explore the changing role of digital technology in business today.

Students learn about file management and applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, databases, web authoring, web browsing, email and presentation software. They also study types of business, recruitment, selection, training, marketing, the role of stakeholders and customers, and how best to communicate a message in real world scenarios.

Students then have an opportunity to connect all they have learned to plan and develop a digital, ICT, solution for a business need.

A qualification in Business and Communication Systems could lead to further study or a career in business, digital technology or ICT.

This qualification can accompany GCSE Business Studies and GCSE Digital Technology extremely well for students interested in a career in IT and business.

Assessment Format

The GCSE Business and Communication Systems qualification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills developed through the Learning for Life and Work Area of Learning and the Cross-Curricular Skill of Using ICT.
The specification has three units:

- **Unit 1**: *Software Applications for Business*
- **Unit 2**: *The Business Environment*
- **Unit 3**: *Developing Digital Solutions*

Unit 1, is a *computer-based examination* of 2 hour's duration and will test your ICT skills in a business context. This examination is worth **40% of the overall GCSE qualification.**

Unit 2, The written examination is 1 hour. This examination paper is worth **35% of the overall GCSE qualification.**

Unit 3, This unit is assessed through controlled assessment and is worth **25% of the overall GCSE qualification**

SUMMARY: Assessment is through one computer-based exam worth 40% of the final mark, one written exam worth 35% and a controlled assessment unit worth 25%.

This specification is unitised, so it's possible to take part of the assessment at the end of Year 11, meaning 40% of the qualification can be completed in Year 11.

Additional Information
CCEA Website:
https://ccea.org.uk/key-stage-4gcse/subjects/gcse-business-and-communication-systems-2017
WCB Website:
http://wellingtoncollegebelfast.org/academic-life/computing-ict/

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY (Programming Route)

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

GCSE Digital Technology (Programming) is a **blended ICT/Computer Science subject** – students will be able to use the knowledge and skills they learn in the classroom on real-world problems. It also follows an ICT, a computer science unit and a programming in Python Unit.

What will a student gain from this course?

Valuable thinking and programming skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace. ICT is a **STEM subject** and a real career choice for N.I.

An understanding of problem solving and experience in creating logical solutions.

Real world ICT knowledge; real computer science knowledge and programming experience.

A good grounding in mainstream computing theory and digital technology understanding.

Assessment Format

Unit 1 – Digital technology

In this unit, students explore a range of digital technologies available for data storage, manipulation, presentation and transfer. They also evaluate the importance of data security and data legislation for business use. **Worth 30% of total grade.**

Unit 4 – Digital Development Concepts

In this unit, students analyse trends in software development and the concepts involved in designing and building digital systems using coded solutions. **Worth 40% of total grade.**

Unit 5 – Digital Development Practice

In this unit, students design, develop and test coded solutions when creating digital systems. Students must use the Python languages in their completed solution. **Worth 30% of total grade.**

There are two exam papers, one focusing on ICT Digital Technology, Unit 1, which can be completed at the end of Year 11. One with a focus on Computer Science and programming, Unit 4.
There is also a 36 hour controlled assessment, Unit 5, worth 30%.
Both Units 4 & 5 are completed in Year 12.

Total assessment happens across three units.

Additional Information:

What could you do next? Our Digital technology (Programming) GCSE is effective preparation for a range of qualifications including: A 'Level Computer Science and BTEC IT.
It also provides a good grounding for subject areas that require problem solving and analytical skills. This is a highly academic course.

Entry requirements: A grade "A" in ICT and a "B" minimum in Maths & English at the end of Y10.
You will also be expected to commit to a high level of programming outside of classroom hours.

See additional information at:
https://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/digital_technology/revised_gcse/index.asp

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Examination Board: CCEA

Course Description

Christianity through a Study of the Gospel of Matthew

This unit introduces students to a number of themes in the life and ministry of Jesus, as portrayed in Matthew's Gospel. During their studies, students enhance their knowledge and understanding of, and ability to evaluate key passages. They should consider these passages both within the religious, political, social and cultural context of Jesus' day, and in terms of how they influence contemporary Christian lifestyle in all its diversity.

Topics Studied include:

1. The identity of Jesus
2. Jesus the miracle worker
3. The Kingdom of God
4. Death and resurrection of Jesus
5. Role and nature of Christian Discipleship

An Introduction to Christian Ethics

This unit introduces students to ethics within the study of religion. Students explore personal and family issues, matters of life and death, developments in bioethics, contemporary issues in Christianity and modern warfare.

Topics studied include:

1. Personal and family issues
2. Matters of life and death
3. Developments in bio ethics
4. Contemporary issues in Christianity
5. Modern Warfare

Assessment Format

1 hour 30-minute written paper in each module.

Each module is worth 50% of the Full Course Examination

Additional Information

If oversubscribed, students will be selected for Religious Studies on the basis of their Year 10 examinations

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD QUALIFICATIONS

The GCSE subjects you choose can impact the courses you can study at university. Below is a list of the subject requirements for a range of Degree courses. The information is mostly based on entry to courses in Northern Ireland and is compiled from the universities' 2025 Prospectuses.

Fees at Northern Ireland universities are lower (£4750 per year) than for England, Scotland and Wales (up to £9250 per year). This means that many students from Northern Ireland choose to study at University of Ulster or Queen's University. This has led to the entry requirements at University of Ulster and Queen's University often being higher than other universities in the UK. University of Ulster often offer the same course e.g. Accounting/ Law / ICT/ Business at several of their campuses and asking grades at Magee (Derry/Londonderry) or Coleraine campus may be lower.

Many degrees are now offered on a part-time basis. As there is less restriction on the number of places offered the asking grades/ points are usually lower. Also, as students are assessed on their income rather than family income when calculating eligibility for paying fees, part-time degrees can be a much more affordable option.

On completion of A' Levels/ BTEC qualifications students can progress to Level 4 and 5 courses at Belfast Met or SERC. This can be much more affordable with fees of £3110 per year and the option to live at home. These courses will be 2 years in length and can lead directly into 2nd Year of a university course.

Higher Level Apprenticeships are becoming very popular. These apprenticeships do not have any course fees (they are free!!) and can have a starting salary of £18,000. They involve 4 days of work and 1 day at Belfast Met, SERC, Ulster University or Queen's University. These courses last 2 years and can lead to full-time employment. Another option is to apply for jobs.

There are school leaver programmes allowing students to earn while they learn and training takes place on the job. These can be well paid, but require very good A-Level grades. There are also employment opportunities with companies like Lloyds Bank where there are no entrance requirements. When considering applying for university, college or employment it is beneficial to sign up to their student portal and social media feeds!!

UNIVERSITY DEGREE	REQUIRED SUBJECTS	REQUIRED GRADES	FURTHER INFORMATION
ACCOUNTANCY	No specified subjects but A Level Maths can reduce grade requirements.	QUB: AAB UU: BBB (including A Level Maths) ABB (without A Level Maths) Maths: GCSE B	More information on accountancy can be found at: https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/accountancy-banking-and-finance/how-to-become-an-accountant
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT	A Level Maths at Grade 'A'	QUB A*AA (including Maths) AAA at A Level plus a further A at AS Level (including Maths)	Actuarial Science is offered at QUB and entry is very competitive. More information can be found at https://www.actuaries.org.uk/becoming-actuary/route-becoming-actuary
ART AND ANIMATION	Students will need to have studied Art for the Fine Arts Degree or Moving Image Arts/ ICT for the Animation Degree	BBC DISTINCTION, MERIT, MERIT at BTEC	The courses are offered by University of Ulster through the Belfast School of Arts. There is also a Foundation Degree available. https://www.ulster.ac.uk/faculties/arts-humanities-and-social-sciences/art
BIOCHEMISTRY	A Level Chemistry and at least ONE of Maths OR Physics	BBB including Chemistry and Biology + GCSE Mathematics grade C/4 OR ABB including Chemistry and at least one from Mathematics or Physics	Biochemistry is a very competitive course. More information can be found at: https://www.biochemistry.org/education/careers/qualifications/

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	Biology and at least one from Chemistry (preferred), Geography, Maths or Physics. GCSE Double Award Science.	ABB – BBB + including Biology and EITHER Chemistry, Geography, Maths or Physics. GCSE Double Award Science CC and Maths C	https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofBiologicalSciences/ https://www.ulster.ac.uk/faculties/life-and-health-sciences Information on careers and opportunities can be found at: https://www.rsb.org.uk/
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE	2 science subjects at A Level: Biology/ Chemistry plus one other. GCSE Double Award Science.	AAB – ABB including Biology (QUB)+ GCSE Double Award Science CC and Maths C BBB (UU) + GCSE Maths, English and Double Award Science C Foundation Degree: CC at Belfast Met	https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/mdbs/Study/BiomedicalSciences/ https://www.ulster.ac.uk/faculties/life-and-health-sciences/biomedical-sciences Information on careers and opportunities can be found at: https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/biomedical-scientist
BUSINESS STUDIES	Not specified but Business Studies useful.	ABB + GCSE Maths B (QUB) AAB-BBB (UU) BBC OR DISTINCTION, MERIT, MERIT at BTEC	Visit www.bized.co.uk or the website of the Institute of Management: www.inst-mgt.org.uk
COMPUTING	Some courses may require Maths or Software Systems, Development or ICT at A Level	AAB-BBB (QUB) ABB-BBB + GCSE Maths C*(UU)	Cyber Security and Software Management courses and Higher Level Apprenticeships available at Belfast Met. https://www.belfastmet.ac.uk/apprenticeships/higher-level-apprenticeships/

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA	There are no specific courses. Moving Image Arts or ICT are useful at A Level.	BCC DISTINCTION, MERIT, MERIT at BTEC	A wide range of subjects are accepted. It is useful to have completed a media work placement.
DENTISTRY	Biology and Chemistry A-level required plus UKCAT admission test. GCSE Double Award Science.	QUB AAA including Biology	British Dental Association www.bda-dentistry.org.uk and the General Dental Council www.gdc-uk.org
DIGITAL MEDIA	GCSE Maths and English No particular A Levels	BCC	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/courses/202526/digital-media-production-35867
EDUCATION	GCSE Maths and English A Level in your chosen subject	Stranmillis AAB St Mary's AAB	Volunteering and extra-curricular activities are essential. There will be an interview for applicants. More info can be found at: https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/teacher-training-and-education/teaching-in-northern-ireland
ENGINEERING	Maths and another science subject, e.g. Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Technology & Design, Geography	QUB: Grades vary from AAA-BBB depending on specific Engineering degree taken. Some courses may require GCSE Maths A and Double Award Science	Royal Academy of Engineering www.raeng.org.uk There are also Foundation Degrees and Higher Level Apprenticeships available through Belfast Met and SERC.
ENGLISH	AS Level English Grade A at English GCSE	ABB (QUB) CCC (ULSTER)	Students can have studied AS Level (first year of A Level course) English and achieved a Grade A if they have not completed the full English A Level.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	One from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography, Home Economics, Health and Social Care or Applied Science	ABC (UU)	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health www.cieh.org
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	2 Science subjects from Geography, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physical Education, Single Award Science, ICT, Nutrition and Food Science	BBB (UU)	Find out more at www.environmentalscience.org
LANGUAGES	GCSE and A Level in the chosen language	ABB (QUB)	This is a 4 year course and can include a one year placement in the country of your chosen language.
LAW	No essential A Levels but subjects that develop critical thinking and analytical skills such as English and/or History are useful	AAA (QUB) ABB-BBB (UU)	More information is available through www.thelawyer portal.com
MATHS	A Level Maths GCSE Maths at Grade A	AAB or A*BB (QUB)	A degree in Maths can lead to a wide range of jobs. More information on Maths careers can be found at www.mathscareers.org.uk
MEDICINE	Chemistry + Biology, Maths or Physics. GCSE Double Award Science required. UKCAT admissions test	AAA at A-level + A in a 4th AS- level (QUB) A*AA + AS-level Biology grade B (QUB)	www.medschools.ac.uk www.bma.org.uk British Medical Association

MIDWIFERY	5 GCSEs at grade B / 6 to include Mathematics and a Science subject (i.e. Biology/Human Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Double Award Science or Single Award Science)	BCC including a relevant Science (Biology/Human Biology, Chemistry, Life & Health Sciences, Mathematics or Physics) OR BBC where a relevant Science subject is not offered. Similar grades for UU and QUB	Volunteering or care work is very beneficial. The NHS resource has a clear explanation of careers in midwifery. https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/midwifery
NURSING	A relevant science useful but not essential. There will be an interview and it is very competitive.	BBC / BCC (QUB) BBC (UU)	NHS Careers www.nhs.uk/careers The Royal College of Nursing www.rcn.org.uk Royal College of Midwives www.rcm.org.uk
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	2 science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Double Award (DA)Life and Health Science. (DA) Science	BBB (UU) DISTINCTION, DISTINCTION,MERIT at BTEC	The College of Occupational Therapy (www.cot.co.uk)
OPTOMETRY	2 science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Double Award (DA)Life and Health Science. (DA) Science	AAB (UU)	Find out more at www.college-optometrists.org
PARAMEDIC SCIENCE	Three A Levels. Experience of volunteering is very beneficial. Very competitive: 40 applications per place offered.	BBC (UU)	Find out more at: https://www.ulster.ac.uk/courses/202526/paramedic-science-36007

PHARMACY	Chemistry, Biology GCSE and for A' Level Chemistry and Biology will keep the vast majority of courses open.	AAB (QUB) AAB (UU)	Find out more at www.rpsgb.org.uk
PHYSICS	Maths and Physics A Level	ABB including Maths and Physics (QUB)	The Institute of Physics https://www.iop.org/careers-physics#gref
PHYSIOTHERAPY	One from Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Double Award Life & Health Sciences	BBB (UU) Also: MSAT	Charted Society of Physiotherapy www.csp.org.uk
PSYCHOLOGY	A Science subject OR Maths, Geography, Economics	ABB with a Science OR AAB without a Science (QUB) BBB (UU)	The British Psychological Society https://www.bps.org.uk/public/become-psychologist
QUANTITY SURVEYING	One from Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Engineering or Construction preferred.	ABB (AAA if none of the preferred A Levels offered.)	Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors www.rics.org.uk
RADIOGRAPHY	1 Science from Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Double Award Life & Health Sciences. 2nd Science may be desirable for some courses. GCSE Double Award Science.	BBB (UU) Also: MSAT	Diagnostic radiographers use X-rays, ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging to produce images of the body. Therapeutic radiographers are involved in the treatment of cancer. Contact the Society of Radiographers www.sor.org

SOCIAL WORK	Not specified (but Health and Social Care is useful)	ABB (QUB) BBB (UU)	www.niscc.info www.skillsforcare.org.uk
SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY	English, a Modern Foreign Language, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Psychology GCSE Science	BBB (UU) Also: MSAT	The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists www.rslt.org
SPORTS STUDIES	RQF Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma is beneficial	Grades AAB to include a grade A from one of the following: History, Geography, Psychology, PE, Politics, Sociology, Sport Studies or Sports Science & Leisure Industry.	More information on careers in sport can be found at https://careers-in-sport.co.uk/
TEACHING	Any A Level relevant to your subject GCSE English, Maths and Science	Stranmillis AAB St Mary's AAB	Stranmillis www.stran.ac.uk St Mary's College www.stmarys-belfast.ac.uk
TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT	No specific courses, but Travel and Tourism or Hospitality Level 3 BTEC are useful.	CCC or MERIT, MERIT, MERIT at BTEC	Information on careers in tourism https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/travel-and-tourism
VETERINARY SCIENCE	Chemistry, Biology and Maths/Physics GCSE Double Award Science	AAA-A*A*A*	The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons www.rcvs.org.uk

CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE AT KEY STAGE 4

All pupils in Years 11 and 12 have timetabled Careers Education classes. In addition to building upon the career planning skills developed in Year 10, pupils have further opportunity to research jobs in detail and review their personal qualities and career interests, particularly through the use of computer software programmes including Xello and Unifrog.

Other topics covered in the programme include the world of work (e.g. labour market information and local and global opportunities), job skills (e.g. application forms and interview techniques), post 16 options and preparation for 'A' level subject choices. All pupils produce a Personal Career Plan and consider careers linked to their interests. Emphasis is placed throughout Key Stage 4 on the importance of a good GCSE profile for career progression.

The Careers staff and Careers Officer are available for consultation by parents on Parents' Consultation Evenings, or at any other time if requested in advance.

All students in Year 12 will receive an interview with the College's Careers Officer. In Year 12 a member of Wellington's Careers team will help finalise their Personal Career Plans regarding post 16 transition.

LOCAL AND GLOBAL CITZENSHIP and PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT KEY STAGE 4

Local and Global Citizenship seeks to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives: as individuals, as contributors to society and as contributors to the economy and the environment.

Personal Development encourages pupils to become personally, emotionally, socially and physically effective, and to lead healthy, safe and fulfilled lives. It also encourages them to become confident, independent and responsible citizens, making informed and responsible choices and decisions throughout their lives.

Units studied include –

Exploring Own Personal Identity
Understanding Individual Rights and Responsibilities
Exploring Cultural Diversity
Prejudice and Discrimination
Understanding Healthy Lifestyles
Managing Risk
Understanding Teamwork Skills
Exploring Relationships