Year 12 Subject Overviews

Beauty Therapy

In Year 12, students will complete a VTCT Extended Technical level 2 Qualification BTED1 in Beauty Therapy. The students will be studying an advanced technical beauty therapy qualification. This qualification has been developed collaboratively with employers and professional associations. To be awarded this qualification, students must achieve a linear programme of study with a summative, terminal examination which is externally set and marked. This qualification includes 18 units ranging from a variety of nail services, waxing treatments, facials, make up application and a variety of eye treatments.

Biology

In Year 12, students will be following the AQA Biology course (7401) and will be completing units 1-4 of the A level content which includes the following topics; biological molecules, cells, organism exchange substances with their environment and genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms. They will also complete the first 6 required practicals throughout this content, gaining an understanding of the different apparatus and techniques used by Biologists. They will sit a mock exam to consolidate their learning at the end of the year.

English Literature

Component 1, during the first year of this two-year AQA English Literature B Specification, is called Tragedy. The aim of this historicist approach is to encourage students to explore aspects of a central literary theme as seen over time, using both unseen material and set texts. In Year 12 students will read Othello, Death of a Salesman and The Handmaid's Tale. Students will also analyse unseen literature in the exam in Year 13. Students should be prepared for the Tragedy unit by reading widely in the topic area, reading texts from a range of authors and times. Students also begin the Independent Critical Study towards the end of Year 12.

Geography

In Geography we teach the AQA syllabus (7037); the three sections within this being the Non-Examined Assessment (coursework), Physical Geography and Human Geography. Geography is a diverse and engaging subject that covers issues relevant to our world today. A range of technologies are used within the fieldwork component which is undertaken in year 12 and contributes towards their Non-Examined Assessment. Students study Hazards, Coasts and the Water and Carbon Cycle from the physical geography part of the course and Changing Places and Global Systems and Governance from the human unit.

Health and Social Care

In Year 12, students will be following the Edexcel/Pearson course (601/7197/2). During the course students will be completing unit 5 coursework covering care values and meeting individual needs and be studying content for their unit 1 exam in human lifespan and development which will be taken in May. The exam coupled with the year 13 exam is worth 58% of the students' overall qualification.

History

In Year 12, students study the AQA History course (7042) which is split into two sections. In one they examine 20 Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945 by looking at how the Weimar Republic recovered from the defeat after World War one and moved Germany towards the Golden Age. The study continues by then analysing the problems and difficulties the Republic experienced and how these cracks in their political structure led Hitler to rise to power. Students have the opportunity to go to Auschwitz with the Holocaust Lessons from Auschwitz Education programme.In the second section (1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603) they explore the life and policies of Henry VII to Mary I. They focus on the religious and political changes each monarch embedded in this country and how this created a lasting impact that is still felt today.

Maths

The Year 12 Mathematics course will help students develop problem-solving skills and use Mathematics in real life. The Mathematics skills learned will build skills required for movement into various types of Engineering, Sciences, Programming, Computing, Economics, and Accountancy. Mathematics fits partly into all other subjects and can supplement any course. The students will follow Edexcel / Pearson board comprising of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. Pure Mathematics is made up of Algebraic Expressions, Quadratics, Graphs and Transformations, Polynomials, Trigonometric identities, Vectors, Differentiation, Integration, Exponentials and Logarithms. Mechanics and Statistics is made up of Data Collection, Measures of Location, Representations, Correlation, Probability, Statistical Distributions, Hypothesis Testing, Mechanics is made up of Modelling, Constant Acceleration, Forces and Motion, Variable Acceleration.

Philosophy and Ethics

In Year 12 students OCR Religious Studies (H573). This comprises of 3 overall units of Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and Developments in Christian Thought. This is not an AS level qualification but is linear so assessment of a student's knowledge and understanding of the whole course takes place at the end of two years of study. Within Philosophy of Religion they will learn Ancient Philosophy, Aristotle and Causation and Religious Experience. Religion and Ethics includes topics such as Situation Ethics, Utilitarianism, Euthanasia etc. Developments in Christian Thought includes topics such as Knowledge of God's existence, Death and the Afterlife and Jesus Christ among others. Students have the opportunity to develop their analytical and evaluative skills and undertake a personal study of the topics. A Level Religious Studies provides a coherent and thought-provoking programme of study. Students develop their understanding and appreciation of religious beliefs and teachings, as well as the disciplines of ethics and the philosophy of religion. The course aims to inspire learners to engage in relevant topical issues and acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of major issues that are relevant to learners in the twenty first century.

Physics

In Year 12, students will follow the OCR Advanced Subsidiary GCE Physics A syllabus (H156). Students will study module 2: Foundations of physics, module 3: forces and motion and module 4: electrons, waves and photons. Six compulsory practicals will also be completed, allowing students to gain an understanding of the different apparatus and techniques used in Physics.

Psychology

In Year 12, students study the AQA A- level 7181/7182 specification. In the first year of the A-level we cover Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Approaches, Biopsychology and Research Methods. As well as covering subject content, students focus on essay technique, assessment objectives and the ability to outline and evaluate key psychological theories and studies.

BTEC's

BTEC Business

In Year 12, students study the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business covering Unit 1 and 3. Unit 1 is called Exploring Business, this unit gives the learner a good understanding of how businesses operate within markets. This unit is internally assessed in which coursework is used to meet the grading criteria. Unit 2, Developing a Marketing Campaign allows students to gain an understanding of how a marketing campaign is developed. Students will explore different stages of the process that a business goes through when developing its campaign for a given product or service. Students are assessed externally in May through a controlled assessment in which they must develop their own marketing campaign.

BTEC ICT

In Year 12, students study a two-year BTEC qualification at Level 3. In year one, they have been learning advanced database IT skills to plan and develop a database system for a given purpose. This is in preparation for a two-day external assessment. They also have been learning about how computer systems can be used in the workplace and the possible impacts in preparation for a two examination at the end of the year. In year two, students focus on developing their understanding of how information can be used and distributed using online methods. They further explore the impact of sharing information for business purposes followed by creating a fully functional website to show their digital literacy skills.

BTEC Music

In Year 12, students study the BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music Practise. In this first year they cover 2 units. Unit 1 will give them a working knowledge of musical theory and harmony, and the fundamental skills essential for progression to higher education courses, including degrees in music and music for media. It will also prepare them for a variety of careers in the music and media industries. In Unit 2 they will gain an understanding of what is meant by the term 'professional practice' as well as what it means to be a freelancer working in the music industry. They will understand the professional skills that are important in the industry and learn the importance of financial management, effective interpersonal skills and working with others. Students will be asked to create a project plan, budget, rationale and presentation in response to music industry scenarios which musicians might reasonably find themselves bidding for.

BTEC Public Services

In Year 12 pupils start their BTEC National level 3 in Public services qualification. They study 3 units throughout this year; government, policies and the public services, leadership and teamwork in the public services, and Citizenship, Diversity and the public services. Within the government and policies unit students will develop their knowledge and understanding of the UK government policies and the democratic election process. It also enables them to demonstrate the process of developing government policies and how these policies impact on the public services. Within the leadership unit students will develop a knowledge of leadership style and an understanding of teams and teamwork activities within the public services. Students will also gain the skills needed to communicate with, and lead, teams. Learners will explore the concept of citizenship and diversity and its importance in a modern society with particular relevance for employees within the public services.

BTEC Sport

Year 12 BTEC (Pearson, Extended Certificate) sport students cover two units over the year. Unit 1 is Anatomy and Physiology and Unit 2 is called Health, Fitness and Wellbeing for Sport and Exercise. Both units are externally assessed. Unit 1 is a written exam and Unit 2 is a controlled assessment in examination conditions. Unit 1 covers all the major systems of the human body and how they are affected by exercise. Unit two assesses the learners' knowledge and understanding of fitness testing and training. This unit allows students to assess the fitness levels, health and lifestyle and nutrition of a wide variety of individuals. At the end of Year 12, students begin Unit 3 and Unit 6, professional development in the sports industry and sports psychology.