

Year 9  
E Bacc GCSE  
Options  
Programme  
2023

# E Bacc GCSE Options Programme 2023

## Introduction for Students and Parents/Carers

Welcome to the 2023 E Bacc GCSE Options booklet!

It is now time to decide on your path into



You will have already been given some information in lessons but the main section of this booklet consists of a "Directory of Subjects" which will give details of the subjects available next year and is divided into the following sections:

## The EBacc GCSE Options Programme 22'



# OUR KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

At The Leigh Academy, all students in Key Stage 4 study these Core subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- Healthy Minds (Year 10 only)
- Computing (tutor time)
- Religious Education

Students now need to  
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Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship topics are integrated, and delivered, across the curriculum, and on discrete focus days, although not formally assessed. We plan this programme to give students a balanced view of society and the self-confidence and self-esteem to operate within society, in a mature and sensible way.

### Healthy Minds

The Leigh Academy continues to be at the national forefront in the delivery of the Healthy Minds programme.



Title of Course	Level	Exam Board	Block C	No. 1
Art and Design: Fine Art	GCSE	EDEXCEL	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

What is the subject about?	<p>Fine Art is all about exploring ideas, experimenting creatively and developing a range of skills using different materials to the best of your ability.</p> <p>Students will always be asked to create a personal response. They are asked to be innovative and to take risks. The most successful students are the ones who really practise to develop their practical skills and develop their ideas in the most interesting and creative way. Students will be making their own work in response to a theme.</p> <p>The GCSE Fine Art course is exciting and will help develop problem solving skills. Students will think and work like an artist.</p>
What the students will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will learn to develop a range of practical skills using paint, print and drawing</li> <li>• Students will record using photography and create work that is both 2 dimensional (painting and drawing) and 3 dimensional (sculpture).</li> <li>• Students will write about their own work, ideas and influences</li> <li>• To help students extend their ideas they will look at the work of other artists to explore and investigate the techniques and processes they have used and also develop an understanding of the motivation of the artist.</li> <li>• Students will have the opportunity to develop PHOTOSHOP and ILLUSTRATOR skills</li> </ul>



Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 2
Art & Design: Graphic Communication	GCSE	E dexcel	No. of GCSE s or equivalent	1

What is the subject about?

Graphic design is all about Communication.  
 As a Graphic Designer you will aim to communicate through IMAGES and TEXT.  
 You see Graphic Design all around you, on TV, online, on packaging, in books and magazines, on posters and almost every time a product or an idea or message needs to be clear.  
 Graphic Design can be used for selling (advertising) or to illustrate (stories).  
 You need to think creatively as you will have the opportunity to develop a range of ART and DESIGN skills  
 You will learn to use a range of software to create digital designs and to use traditional methods such as drawing and painting.

What the students will learn

and aim to develop the following skills  
 drawing, painting, digital design, photography, printing, and a range of other skills.

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 3
Art & Design: Photography	GCSE	Edexcel	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

This Photography course will introduce students to new processes and techniques but h + d


What is the  
subject  
about?

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 4
Business Studies	GCSE	AQA	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

What is the subject about? Business studies is about understanding what makes successful businesses work, how they are organised and how different types of businesses operate. The subject highlights local, national and international companies. The course provides an introduction to marketing, finance and operations management and external

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 5
Computer Science	GCSE	AQA	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

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What is the subject about?

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional, and intellectual <sup>2</sup>

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 7
Design and Technology	GCSE	OCR	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

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What is the subject about?

Students studying Design and Technology will be involved in activities that develop innovation, creativity and flair. The course has no material or technology bias; it anticipates that students will develop their skills through working with a wide range of appropriate materials, as well as the use of ICT, CAD/CAM and electronic systems. Students will be able to design, model, experiment, manufacture and become active risk takers within the boundaries of Design Technology challenging expectations and understanding the design process.

What the students will learn

Successful Design and Technology involves learning from existing commercial products, the impact technology has had on product development, social and moral implications and consider the impact of past and present designers. Students will be encouraged to develop their critical analytical skills to fully explore and evaluate the design process through the design and manufacture of commercially viable products. Students will understand the needs of different target groups. The course has no content that is discriminatory or offensive. It encourages students to develop their own ideas and designs. The course is designed to be inclusive and to provide a challenge for all students.

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 8
Vocational Award in Engineering	1/2			





Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Core	No. 10
English Language GCSE and English Literature GCSE	GCSE	EDEXCEL	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	2

What is the subject about?

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 11
Ethics	GCSE	AQA	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

What is the subject about?

Ethics is about our moral principles - in other words, what we believe is either right or wrong. Almost all societies have their moral principles based in religious teachings and therefore an understanding of religious beliefs and practices are an essential part of this course.

What the students will learn

Throughout the course students will learn about Christian, Jewish and other religious traditions as well as scientific and humanist views. Students will gain knowledge, understanding and be able to evaluate a range of topics including the following:

- The



Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block A	No. 13
Geography	GCSE	AQA	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

What the subject is about

Studying Geography at GCSE gives you the opportunity to travel the world via the classroom, learning about both natural and social sciences along the way. You will understand how Geography impacts everyday life and discover the key opportunities and challenges facing the world. You will also develop academic and life skills from writing, teamwork and communication to analytical skills. In this course students will study both Human and Physical Geography whilst developing and applying their Geographical Skills.

What the students will learn

Human Geography covers the following units:

- 'Urban Issues and Challenges'
- 'The Changing Economic World'
- 'The Challenge of Resource Management'

Physical Geography covers the following units:

- 'The Challenge of Natural Hazards'
- 'The Living World'
- 'Physical Landscapes in the UK'

With this knowledge, students will be prepared for challenges in the future and aware of possible solutions.



Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block A	No. 15
History	GCSE	Edexcel	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

An academically rigorous and yet enjoyable subject, history is studied to improve a student's skills and abilities, and bring a sense of understanding of the world around them. How did we get here in the present day and age?

What is the subject about?

Students will no doubt be fascinated by the changes, discoveries and great scientists of Medicine in Britain over the last 770 years. They will be drawn into the dramatic Tudor period that ushered in a Golden Age in Britain and all under one of the most significant female leaders this country has seen seen.

Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No.16
Tech Award in Digital Information Technology (DIT)	BTEC	Pearson	N o. of GCSE s or equivalent	1

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What is the subject about?

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Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 18
Media Studies	GCSE	AQA	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

**What is the subject about?** Media Studies encourages students to be inspired by the rapidly evolving world around them. The modern nature of the course is inspired by the electronic and digital world that has come to dominate our lives in recent decades. It explores how individuals and societies have been represented in film, TV, music and advertising.

**What the students will learn** Media studies encourages students to think critically and work creatively. Students will not only analyse the effect of media but also have the opportunity to be creative in the making of a coursework production based around either including music video, posters or website design.

**How the students will learn** Students will focus on four key concepts; Media language, Organisations, Audiences and Representation. These skills will help students prepare for two examination papers and the creation of a media production as part of their coursework.

- Enrichment Opportunities**
- Intervention sessions
  - Coursework catch-up sessions
  - BFI visit to Media and Film lectures

**Independent Learning** Independent learning is a core skill

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Title of Course	Level	Exam Board	Block C	No. 19
Performing Arts (Acting)	BTEC Level 2 Tech Award	Edexcel Pearson	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

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What is the  
subject about?



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Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block C	No. 22
Health and Fitness	Level 2V -certificate	NCFE	No. of GCSEs6	





Title of Course	Level	Examination Board	Block B	No. 25
Spanish	GCSE	AQA	No. of GCSEs or equivalent	1

What is the subject about?

Knowledge of a foreign language is not just another GCSE grade – it is a concrete and demonstrable life-skill. It can help you see things from a range of perspectives, develop your problem-solving skills, and make you more adaptable, resourceful and creative. Learning a language combines the intellectual with the practical, as no other subject does. You need to be able to think on your feet, but when you can find exactly the right foreign word or phrase, you get a real sense of achievement.

NB: STUDENTS WILL NEED TO HAVE STUDIED SPANISH IN YEAR 9

What the students will learn