



EXCELLENCE • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP

ST JOHN'S
SCHOOL

GCSE Options

September 2016 - June 2018



We are a unique community where learning and leadership ensures excellence for all



Service Children's Education



EXCELLENCE • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP
ST JOHN'S & KING RICHARD
SCHOOLS FEDERATION



Dear Parents / Guardians

During Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) at St John's all pupils take the same wide range of subjects. This is intended both to lay the foundations of a broad general education and to give pupils at least some experience on which to base their choice of courses in Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11).

The end of Year 9 marks an exciting time for students as it provides them with some opportunity to take control over their learning and specialise in subjects where they feel that their strengths lie and in areas that they enjoy.

At this stage in their school career, pupils must now decide, from a range of subjects, which together with the compulsory subjects, English, Mathematics and Science will form their GCSE examination courses. The construction of a study programme is very much a matter for the individual and before final decisions are made a good deal of consultation needs to take place.

In weighing possibilities, pupils and parents are advised to keep in mind the following points:

1. **The needs of the pupil in the light of future career requirements.** The Careers Service, based at St John's, is on hand to advise on this when required.
2. **The importance of preserving a reasonable balance between the main subject areas.** The core, compulsory curriculum ensures this balance however it is still important to choose subjects that will keep as many career doors open for as long as possible.
3. **The interest and enjoyment of the subject for the pupil.** We encourage all students to opt for subjects that they enjoy.
4. **The ability and aptitude of the pupil in regard to a particular subject.** The Parent teacher meetings, Options Afternoon and Mid Year Review will help students to choose subjects that are well suited to their abilities.
5. **All courses listed are scheduled to run for two years.** If you know that you will be posted during the next two years you should contact the school to discuss this with Mrs Cambridge or Mr Armstrong.
6. **Sometimes a "perfect" fit in terms of choice cannot be obtained.** This is true irrespective of the size of a school but we are confident that the entry requirements for all of the normal range of careers can be gained through our scheme.



As a Year 9 student at St John's, the time has come for you to take part in planning your programme of study for the next two years.

What should I think about?

- What your strengths and weaknesses are.
- Which subjects you enjoy.
- Which subjects you will need in the future without closing any doors.
- What you want to do when you are 16.

Who can help me choose?

- Your parents
- Your Form Teacher
- Your Head of Year
- The Careers Officer—Miss Moloney
- Mr Armstrong—Vice principal.

How do I find out what is available?

- Study this booklet carefully
- Talk to all those who can help
- Think carefully for yourself

What do I do then?

Attend the Options and Parents' afternoon on Wednesday 9th March, then you complete your 'Options' form very carefully and hand it to your form tutor by **Monday 18th March**.

It should be pointed out that just because a course is described here, **it does not mean that it will be offered**. If only a few students opt for a course or there are last minute changes to staffing, we may not be able to offer it. However we will do our very best to ensure that all options will be available.



The Careers Adviser Miss S Moloney

Please feel free to consult the Careers Advisor, Miss Sue Moloney, based in the school on any matter related to the options process and career planning. Some students have a clear idea of what they would like to do in the future and how to achieve their goals but many do not and it is also likely that as students' knowledge and experience widens their plans and ideas may change. A discussion with the Careers Advisor about GCSE options and future pathways can be helpful in alleviating any fears students may have about how their current choices may affect their future careers. Miss Moloney will meet with students throughout their GCSE courses to discuss issues including further education and work with training and career planning. Parents are welcome to attend all careers interviews and will be advised in advance of scheduled appointments during years 10 and 11. The Careers Advisor can be contacted on Tele: 25968005 should you or your child wish to speak to her during the options process.

The EBacc (or English Baccalaureate)

Two years ago the Government introduced a new measure for schools – the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). A student will achieve the EBacc if they achieve a grade C or above in English, Mathematics, 2 Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and History or Geography (6 specific GCSE qualifications in total). There is **no certificate** available for students attaining this measure however the subjects represent a broad and balanced curriculum offer, which is a strength, and Ebacc subjects are often seen favourably by Colleges and Universities in future applications.

At St John's School, our curriculum provision includes all of the EBacc subjects (a Modern Foreign Language, Double Science or Triple Science, History and Geography); all of which are very popular subjects. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, we would expect students to do double science and choose at least one EBacc subject, although students may opt to study EBacc subjects in all of the option blocks. EBacc subjects in the option blocks are indicated by a *, but if you are unsure of anything simply ask a member of staff for further clarification.

Changes to GCSEs over the next 2 years

In 2018 GCSE English and Maths and a large proportion of other subjects will be graded 9 –1 with 9 being the highest grade. In some subjects A* - G grades remain. Each subject has given details of this on their page. The table on this page shows the equivalent in terms of the standard of work required to achieve the new numbered grades. Grade 5 will be the average age related expectation. This means that GCSE are becoming more challenging.

Current GCSE expectations Standards of work for each grade boundary	New GCSE Expectations / translations.
Standard required to achieve a D grade	Number 3
Standard required to achieve a C grade	Number 4
Standard required to achieve a B grade	Number 5.5
Standard required to achieve an A grade	Number 7
Standard required to achieve an A*	Number 8.5
	New super A* 9



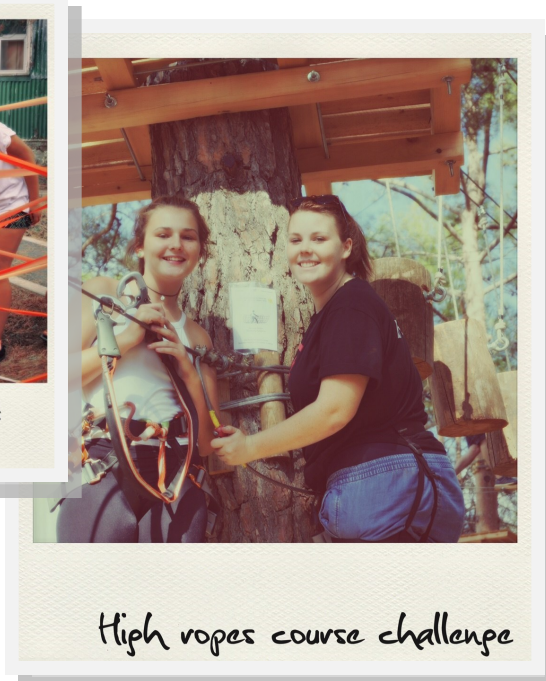
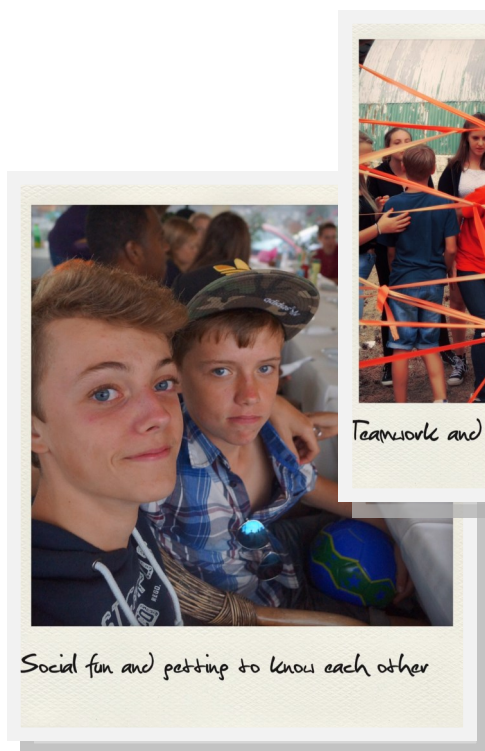
Options Afternoon

During the Options Afternoon, subjects will present student work, text books, resources and exam papers, as well as talking to students and parents about what it might be like to study their subject. There will also be a chance to discuss student suitability as we are very focused on matching students to the correct choices for them.

Please feel free to ask for further clarification and assistance from the school in any decision that you are unsure about.

Settling in to Y10

In the first week of the Y10 program students are taken to Troodos camp with their tutors and Head of Year to spend a couple of days looking at the expectations of the school for their GCSE studies, building ambition and teamwork through a variety of challenges and workshops. This is an incredibly useful experience and you will be informed about it towards the end of Y9 or during the induction process at the start of Y10.



Duke of Edinburgh

Our Y10 students are also offered the opportunity to partake in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in collaboration with the Youth Service and this is an enriching experience for all students involved. Information about this extra curricular club will be presented to students in the first term in Y10.

Options: Calendar of events



The following calendar of events is designed to help you stay on track during the options process. If, for some reason, you are likely to miss any of the dates below then please do contact the school so that alternative arrangements can be made.

OPTIONS PROCEDURE 2016

1.	Throughout February and March	Miss Moloney to coordinate events which will include a careers lesson for each Yr9 class.
2.	Wednesday 24th February	Options booklets and invite to Parent / Options afternoon are sent home with students.
3.	Thursday 3rd March	Y9 Mid year reviews are sent home.
4.	Wednesday 9th March	Year 9 Options and parents afternoon. This provides a chance to meet subject teachers to discuss in more detail the options on offer.
6.	9th—18th March	Further opportunity for any guidance / meetings with staff, parents and students to assist with Option choices.
7.	Friday 18th March	Completed option forms handed in to Form Tutor.
8.	Thursday 14th April	Option choices confirmed.





The Curriculum for Years 10 and 11 aims to give pupils access to specific skills and bodies of knowledge necessary to prepare them for life as adults, able to pursue responsible and active participation in our society. This curriculum must provide an education related as closely as possible to our counterparts in the United Kingdom. These two years should be seen as an integral unit of study, leading to assessment and the subsequent awarding of GCSE certificates.

The curriculum for each pupil will contain the following elements:

a) **Core Curriculum**

English Language and English Literature (8 lessons per fortnight)

Mathematics (8 lessons per fortnight)

Science (Dual certification - 2 GCSEs) (9 lessons per fortnight)

Physical Education (4 lessons per fortnight)

Social, Moral and Spiritual Education (1 lesson per fortnight)

and

b) **Optional GCSE Subjects**

4 Optional Subjects—one from each option block (5 lessons per fortnight)

All students must select at least 1 EBacc subject as indicated by the *.

NB - Students may of course select up to four Ebacc subjects if they wish to.

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
German*	Art	Music	PE
French*	History*	Geography*	Triple Science*
Resistant Ma- terials	Business Studies	Graphic Products	Food Preparation and Nutrition
Drama	Engineering	RE	IT

Options: Notes and Questions



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D&T: Resistant Materials	26
D&T: Graphic Products	27
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GCSE English Language and English Literature Grades 9-1

AQA (8700) & AQA (8702)

All students will be entered for AQA GCSE English Language and English Literature. This will lead to two separate GCSE qualifications. Both courses are assessed entirely by external examinations which take place at the end of Year 11. There will be no Controlled Assessments as in previous years.

A separate grade will be awarded for Spoken Language. This element of the course will be assessed internally. This does not contribute to the award of the final GCSE grade.

Subject Name : English Language

Students will sit two examination papers at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Explorations in Reading and Writing (50%)

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives (50%)

Subject Name : English Literature

Students will sit two examination papers at the end of Year 11

Paper 1 : Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel (40%)

Paper 2 : Modern Texts and Poetry (60%)

Spoken Language (for which a separate grade will be awarded)

- Presenting
- Responding to questions and feedback
- Use of Standard English

Contact: Dr. D. A. Kelly dkelly@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

English Language

The course requires students to study:

Literary fiction - extracts from novels and short stories from the 20th or 21st centuries focusing on how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers.

Narrative and Descriptive Writing - how to produce original narrative or descriptive writing.

Non-fiction and literary non-fiction - articles, reports, essays, travel writing, accounts, letters, diaries, reports, autobiography and biographical passages.

Writing to present a viewpoint - how to produce original writing which presents a point of view.

English Literature

The course requires students to study:

Shakespeare – Students study one play by Shakespeare from a prescribed list.

The 19th Century Novel – students study one complete novel from a prescribed list.

Modern Texts – students study **either** a modern prose **or** modern drama text

Poetry – students study a cluster of poems from an AQA Anthology

Unseen poetry – students will be required to develop the skills to answer questions on unseen poetry.



GCSE MATHEMATICS Grades 9-1

At St John's we will follow the New EDEXCEL Mathematics (9-1) Syllabus, and all students will be assessed either at Foundation Tier which will enable grades 5 to 1 to be gained or at Higher Tier where grades 9 to 3 are available. The majority of our students will take the Higher Tier Paper. Our results are normally excellent and most students achieve a higher level pass at GCSE, many at the highest grades.

Business, commerce, science, medicine, computer programming and engineering are obvious areas where mathematics plays an important role, but almost any job will involve the use of some mathematics. Knowledge of mathematics is also culturally important.

At St John's we aim to help students to achieve their best possible grade to enable them to move onto their next stage of learning whether it be a grade 9, 5, 4 or 2. At the same time we want our students to be confident in their use of mathematics and appreciate its cultural role.

The appropriate level of study will be determined by a student's performance at Key Stage 3, (where appropriate), and by their teacher's assessment.

The final examination will consist of 3 written papers, each lasting an hour and a half, the first of which will be a non-calculator paper.

Students are expected to bring a scientific calculator to each mathematics lesson and a school approved calculator is available from the school office for €10.00

Contact: Mr McKenzie imckenzie@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



Refurbished Maths Classroom





GCSE DOUBLE AWARD SCIENCE

Grades 2 x Grades 1-9 (all students sit Double Award Science)

AQA COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY (8464)

This course is worth two GCSEs in Science and is made up of two thirds of a GCSE in Biology, Chemistry and Physics giving a balance of all three Sciences for those studying any of these at 'A' level. The topics covered are :-

Assessment Overview

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
1. Cell Biology	8. Atomic Structure	18. Forces
2. Organisation	9. Bonding	19. Energy
3. Infections	10. Quantitative Chemistry	20. Waves
4. Bioenergetics	11. Chemical Changes	21. Electricity
5. Homeostasis	12. Energy Changes	22. Magnetism
6. Inheritance	13. Rates of Reaction	23. Particle Model
7. Ecology	14. Organic Chemistry	24. Atomic Structure
	15. Analysis	
	16. The Atmosphere	
	17. Using Resources	



Practical learning in Science

This course is linear so all examinations are taken at the end of Year 11. There are six exams, two for Biology, two for Chemistry and two for Physics. Each exam is 1 hour and 15 minutes long and is worth 70 marks. Each paper has an equal weighting and there will be a Higher and Foundation option for each paper.

Biology 1	Topics 1-4,	Biology 2	Topics 5-7
Chemistry 1	Topics 8-12,	Chemistry 2	Topics 13-17
Physics 1	Topics 19, 21, 23 and 24,	Physics 2	Topics 18, 20 and 22

FAQ Can I go on to study a Science based course at University by taking double Science ?

Absolutely! Double Science is a perfectly adequate foundation to go on and take A level Sciences and then to study a Science, an engineering based degree, medicine or a veterinary degree.

Contact: Mr A Glencross (aglencross@sjstjohnsschoolcyprus.com)

Core: Physical Education



Physical Education in Key Stage 4 develops students' competence and confidence to take part in a range of physical activities that will hopefully become a central part of their lives, both in and out of school.

Our PE curriculum enables all students to enjoy and succeed in many kinds of physical activity. Students will work as individuals, in groups and in teams, developing concepts of fairness and of personal and social responsibility. They take on different roles and responsibilities, including leadership, coaching and officiating. Through the range of experiences that PE offers, students will learn how to be effective in competitive, creative and challenging situations. Discovering what they like to do will help students make informed choices about lifelong physical activity.

Activities at KS4 range from; Football, Rugby, Netball, Hockey, Swimming, Fitness, Basketball, Volleyball, Trampolining, Athletics and Rounders.

Contact: Mr F Marsden

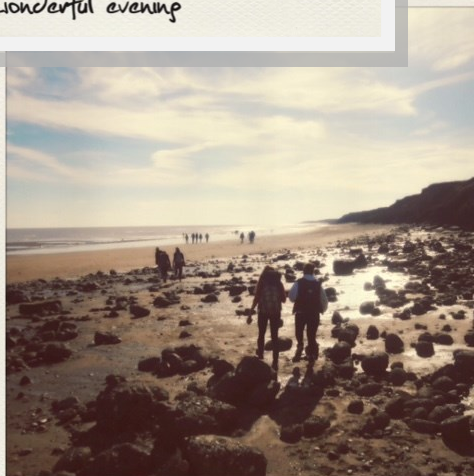
Note: Pupils will participate in two hours practical PE per week. They will be able to choose options / activities that interest them.



Y11 prom an amazing setting for a wonderful evening



Duke of Edinburgh expedition
What an amazing place to explore



Coastal studies in South Wales



German Exchange
Making the most of Cyprus with our German visitors



CORE RE, PSHE, CITIZENSHIP and SMSC

Our Key Stage 4 pupils are taught RE, PSHE and Citizenship. These subjects are held under the umbrella term of PSHE and constitute an integrated program of learning. Within PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) we aim to promote the physical, mental and economic well-being of all our pupils.

The PSHE curriculum is designed to encourage healthy, independent and responsible members of society with a strong sense of self-worth. The pupils will know and understand what constitutes a healthy lifestyle, be aware of personal safety issues and understand what makes for good relationships with others. We work in close partnership with local health professionals to deliver an SRE programme that is relevant, age appropriate and pro-active.

Religious Education is a very popular and well-received subject throughout the Federation. Pupils have the opportunity to develop an appreciation for spiritual aspects of their own lives, develop understanding of theistic, atheistic and agnostic viewpoints and develop their own sense of morality in a safe and expertly led setting.

The Citizenship curriculum aims to facilitate all our learners in their journey to becoming informed citizens of a multicultural, democratic and digital society. The pupils will develop the skills as well as the knowledge required to take an active role in their school, local and national communities. Citizenship education aims to develop active citizens who are aware of their rights as well as responsibilities and enable young people to develop the critical thinking skills required to make their own informed judgements.

SMSC (Spiritual Moral Social Cultural)

Alongside academic achievement, we strive to champion the moral purpose of education; to nurture the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of our pupils. It is through education that young lives are transformed and future opportunities opened up. The school is organised so that students are able to develop every aspect of themselves and also ensure that they are ready to make a full contribution to society. Our Core Values support this in demonstrating key aspirations that are displayed and modelled throughout the school by staff and pupils alike.

Spiritual: Students will gain opportunities to recognise and reflect on their place in the world.

Moral: Students will develop the ability to grow in confidence in considering and expressing their opinions and actions.

Social: Students will develop the promotion of collaborative learning with their peers and the development of sensitivity towards matters of equal opportunities.

Cultural: Students will be able to explore and understand different characteristics of cultures and historical and geographical factors.

As a school, we are committed to Promoting British Values. We communicate these through our assembly programme, our day to day behaviours and attitudes to others. For example, through mutual respect and the tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, and through the promotion of democratic values, the rule of law and the concept of individual liberty.



OCR Information and Communication Technology GCSE (J461)

Grade range: A* - G

We live in a world full of all kinds of technology. Everywhere you turn someone has a device which helps us to work, communicate and even play using technology.

This course will provide opportunities to become both independent learners and competent ICT users. It also aims to raise awareness and gain experience of the use of technology and ICT for individuals, organisations and society as a whole.

The course provides the use of practical skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT and coding in a range of contexts by producing solutions to real-life business problems.

FAQ:

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is suitable for students who enjoy problem solving using ICT applications.

What skills must I possess to be successful in this course?

You need to be able to evaluate solutions and identify possible improvements or refinements in your work.

How will the course help me in the future?

You will develop skills to work collaboratively with others and understand the current and emerging technologies and their impact on society.

You will also acquire a good grounding for further ICT or Computing courses at AS and A level.

During the course students will study:

- ICT in today's world
- Practical applications in ICT
- ICT in context
- Creative multimedia or Coding a solution



Each element of the course is worth 60 marks.

Two of the units are controlled assessment worth 30% of the course each.

The other two units are written papers both worth 20% of the course each.

This course gives students an excellent opportunity to prepare themselves for our developing world and useful skills for future employment.

Contact: Mrs Wolanski awolanski@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES Grades A*-G **AQA GCSE (4133)**

The course is designed to encourage students to consider the practical application of business concepts. It will allow students to understand the importance of Business in any community and their own role within it.

The course is delivered by trying to relate theoretical business concepts with real business practice to enable students to develop the skills needed to be successful in the final GCSE examination. Classroom teaching will be complimented by the study of current business news, topical business television programmes and practical business visits to local businesses.

What will be covered?

The GCSE course is a broad based course covering all the main areas of Business Studies including; Marketing, Accounting and Finance, Human Resources, the Legal Environment, Business Planning and Production.

Where can it lead?

GCSE Business Studies is a versatile subject which can lead to a range of opportunities for further study. These include a variety of A levels including Business Studies, Finance and Economics. It also lends itself to supporting progression into vocationally based courses. It will also help students looking to move into the world of work by developing skills in personal finance, enterprise and communication.

Structure of the course and assessment

Students will be following the AQA GCSE (4133) Business specification. It is a modular course made up of three units:

- Unit 1 - Setting up a Business (40%) (exam)
- Unit 2 - Growing as a Business (35%) (exam)
- Unit 3 - Investigating Small Businesses (25%)
(controlled assessment)

Controlled assessment will begin in June of Y10 and completed in the first half-term of Y11.



Case study; a restaurant business

Contact: Mrs Schapendonk
mschapendonk@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



GCSE HISTORY Grades 1 – 9 Edexcel GCSE 1—9

Why study History at GCSE?

History gives you the opportunity to understand the world around you and how it came into being. Studying history also provides you with a wide variety of skills, during the course you will become highly skilled at testing evidence, making judgements and interpreting why people hold the views they do.

The History GCSE also provides the opportunity to see people at their very best and their very worst, in their moments of triumph and despair.

The Course

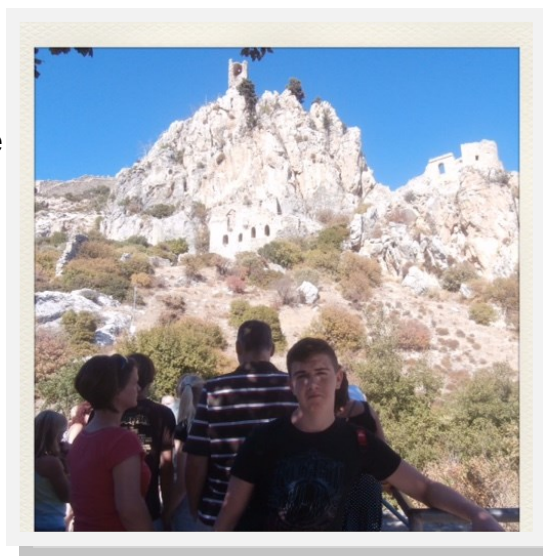
The History GCSE we offer at St John's is from Edexcel. The course is split into five sections:

- 1. The Development Study:** A study in the development of medicine through time. In this course we look at the way that medicine has developed from 1250AD with the struggles of Medieval doctors to modern day keyhole surgery.
- 2. The Historical Environment study:** The Medicine of the Western front. This study is linked to the development study. It concentrates on one very specific area of history and how change was produced in a short time.
- 3. The Depth Study:** Nazi Germany 1919 to 1939. This study focuses on the death of a democracy and the rise to power of the most vicious dictatorship in history.
- 4. The Period study:** A study of the American West. In this module we examine how America grew into a superpower through its expansion into the western half of the USA between 1835 and 1895.
- 5. The British Study:** A study of the history of the Norman Conquest. The event which has done more than any other to shape our country ?

Next steps:

History GCSE provides you with the skills of analysis, evaluation, synthesis and judgement that opens up a variety of professional avenues. It is also a very interesting course in its own right.

Contact: Mr J Strang or Mr Francis
jstrang@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com
rfrancis@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com





GCSE Religious Studies - Grades 1-9 AQA

Why choose RS?

RS is the subject for you if you are interested in the world and the relationships between people and nations and cultures. If you are going to work with people in the future it will encourage you to be open-minded and tolerant while working out your own views and opinions on things.

What will I learn and how will it be assessed?

- The new GSCE RS qualifications are still being accredited by Ofqual therefore the specification best suited to St John's has not yet been chosen.
- We will study Christianity and Islam: beliefs and practices and worship e.g places of worship and pilgrimage.
- We will study Philosophical and Ethical questions including the existence of God and conflict and social justice
- There will be two or three exams covering about 3 hours depending on the exam board chosen
- Remember that you have a lot of knowledge about these issues, and you can use that in your exams.

The course will help you develop your knowledge and understanding of religion by exploring the impact of religious beliefs and values on moral behaviour and religious practice. You will explore the views of believers in Christianity and Islam and develop your skills in evaluating them and in explaining your own reasoned opinions.

Any questions?

Contact: Ms O'Sullivan
mosullivan@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

Student Comments—
RS is really good. We learn lots about different faiths in a fun and interesting way.



Amazing cultural sites



GCSE Geography Grades 1-9 Edexcel B

The Course

Component 1: Global Geographical Issues worth 37.5%

3 sections: Hazardous Earth, Development Dynamics & Challenges of an urbanising world.

Component 2: UK Geographical Issues worth 37.5%

3 sections: UK's evolving physical landscape, UK's evolving human landscape and Geographical investigations.

Component 3 : People and Environmental Issues—Making Geographical Decisions worth 25%

4 sections: People and the biosphere, Forests under threat, Consuming energy recourse and making a geographical decision (3 options are provided)

All components are assessed in a written examination lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes with a range of questions including multiple-choice, calculations, short open and extended answers.

Why study Geography?

Geography is an exciting subject as it is about people, place and their interactions that are changing every day. It encourages students to consider their role and influence in our ever changing world and the consequences of these actions. Students will ask questions about contemporary issues, will be able to debate controversial issues, apply their skills to unfamiliar contexts, to apply their mathematical skills to real data and use ICT to enhance their learning. Geography is one of the most dynamic subjects in the curriculum and is the only subject that truly occupies the middle ground between the sciences and the arts. It encompasses scientific, political, economic and environmental issues which will help you to develop your own opinions.

- **Employers and universities want people who can work in a team** – fieldwork develops these skills.
- **Employers and universities want people who can analyse their own work** – the enquiry style of learning teaches you these skills.
- **Employers and universities want people who are computer literate** – you will be using ICT frequently, from Google Earth and 3D maps to a GIS package.
- **Employers and universities want people who are environmentally aware** – geographers understand the links between people and places better than anyone else.

Contact: Mrs Dixon
sdixon@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

Note Students will participate in a UK residential for their fieldwork in order to fulfil the requirements of the examination. This may incur a cost.



Coastal studies in South Wales



Field studies for GCSE coursework



GCSE FRENCH GERMAN Grades 1-9

Edexcel: 1FR0 & 1GN0

Why should I study French or German?

French and German are highly respected academic subjects in the eyes of Colleges and Universities. The world is becoming more and more international. Many people can now expect to travel abroad as part of their job or meet foreigners in their own country.

Everybody speaks English anyway

The UK and Cyprus are part of the European Union. Over 320 million inhabitants of Europe do not speak English as their mother tongue. How can we communicate with them unless we learn foreign languages?

There aren't any jobs which use languages

The type of job where languages are the main part of the job can include: translating, interpreting, teaching, tourism, marketing, secretarial duties, International banking, etc.

You should also consider that you are likely to holiday in a French speaking country at some point in the future or possibly live in Germany as part of a posting. German is the most widely spoken language in Europe (Germany, Austria, Switzerland)

Which skills does it include?

Listening, speaking, reading, writing, as well as guessing, imitating, team working, plus many more! It can also have a positive impact on your learning of English too!

How is it assessed?

GCSE is assessed in the language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of the course as follows:

- Listening Exam = 25%
- Reading Exam = 25%
- Speaking Exam = 25%
- Writing Exam = 25%

Students can be entered for either higher or foundation level in all units. All pupils at the end of the course should be able to cope with the vast majority of everyday situations likely to arise in the foreign country.



A December visit to Germany
A big contrast from Cyprus



Testing language skills on public transport

Contact: Mr Yates
dyates@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



GCSE Drama Grades 1-9

Educas: GCSE Drama

Drama is an exciting, creative and challenging course. Over the two years, students will study a range of different styles of drama and deepen their knowledge of performance and technical skills.

Unit and Assessment overview:

Component 1: 40% Devising Theatre

Students will have the opportunity to choose either acting or design for this unit. They will create a piece of performance work from a stimulus and a portfolio to show the creation process.

Component 2: 20% Performing from a text.

Students will perform two extracts from a script to a visiting examiner. There are both performance and technical options available for this unit.

Component 3: 40% Interpreting Theatre (exam)

The exam is in two sections. The first section will discuss a set text and the second section will ask them to discuss live theatre.

GCSE Drama is suitable for

- Students who are creative and have a general interest in theatre
- Students who are confident and would like to improve their performance skills
- Students who enjoy reading plays and literature independently
- Students who have a flare for art and design

If you choose this subject at GCSE, some areas you will study include:

You will be able to use a variety of skills to gain your marks including script work and physical theatre. Also, those interested in the more technical side of theatre, will have an opportunity to apply their skills by supporting the work of others in the group.

Contact: Mrs Lister
hlister@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



Staging and set design



Painting a set for a production

Note This course will require after school commitments including rehearsals, digital theatre viewings and performances. These will at times be outside the school day and therefore transport can not be provided.



MUSIC Grades A*-G WJEC

GCSE Music is open to any student who enjoys listening to Music, or playing Music, whatever the style. It is a very practical course with the Performing and Composing Coursework covered mainly in lessons with the help of the teacher.

PERFORMING (35% Coursework—marked by the teacher, Moderated by Examiner)

You will need to perform a minimum of 2 short pieces (one should be an ensemble) - one of which must link to one of the Areas of Study below, chosen by you. (30%)

You will then write brief programme notes for the piece that you perform that links with the Area of Study (5%)

COMPOSING (35% Coursework—marked by the teacher, Moderated by external Examiner)

You will have to Compose 2 pieces of music—one will link with a brief set by the exam board, the other can be totally free. (35%)

You will then write an Evaluation of the one set by WJEC, explaining how you composed it (5%)

APPRAISING (30% Exam Paper—externally marked)

You will have a 1-hour Exam Paper where you will answer questions on the Areas of Study below, which you will have studied in class over the 2 year GCSE course::

- Musical Forms & Devices
- Music for Ensemble
- Film Music
- Popular Music

The GCSE course is enjoyable and you will spend lots of time playing and doing practical work. It's a lovely course as you can spread the coursework out over the 2 years, with help from the teacher, and then prepare for the end exam together with some practice papers and practical tasks to assist with understanding and Listening skills.

Contact: Mrs Edwards
jedwards@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



Live music and an opportunity to shine



Performing with professional musicians



GCSE AQA ART Grades 9-1

Why should I do GCSE Art?

If you asking yourself, why should I do Art, perhaps you are approaching this in the wrong way and should be asking "Why not?" Ultimately you will choose Art because you enjoy it. But remember there will be points when the workload is heavy and enjoyment will simply not be enough to see you through. Being willing to approach the subject with commitment and to work hard, are also important aspects.

Unit overview:

Art GCSE consists of two main elements:

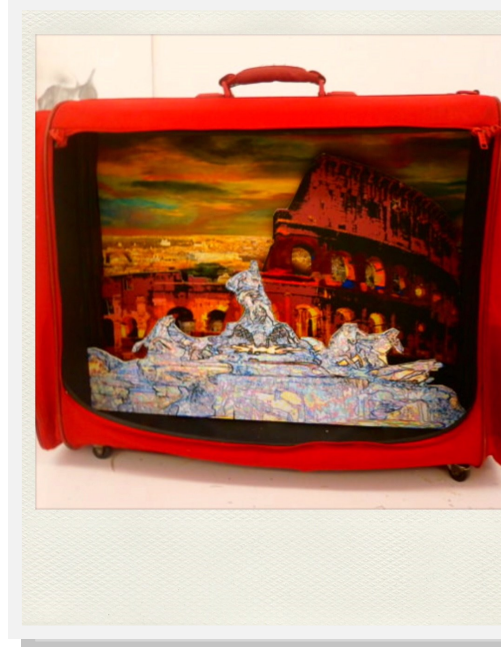
Coursework which accounts for 60% of your final mark. Here you are required to submit at least one sustained project and a selection of further work. These units will demonstrate an ability to sustain work from an initial starting point to a final conclusion. Students have to demonstrate that they can work successfully in a range of different materials and also undertake critical and contextual studies. A major supporting element of the coursework is the sketchbook, which students are expected to commit at least 1 hour of home study to sketch book work.

The **final exam** which accounts for the final 40% is usually taken in mid-April of the second year of the course. Over a 10 hour period, students are expected to complete a piece of work which they have researched and planned for during the previous months. The exam paper is usually circulated in mid-January and students select a starting point from a range of stimulus.

GCSE Art can open a vast array of career opportunities in the creative industries and other courses in further education. More importantly it will teach you a whole variety of different skills, ranging from time management, to planning and undertaking research projects.

Art GCSE will develop your own self-awareness and help develop a greater appreciation of the world around you.

Contact: Mr Bougeard
pbougeard@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



Note Art GCSE is very time demanding. Students are expected to commit a minimum of 1 hour of their own time to working in their sketchbook every week. After school classes are offered and every student is expected to attend a weekly session on a regular basis.



GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION Grades 1-9

(Edexcel)

GCSE in Physical Education will equip students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values they need to be able to develop and maintain their performance in physical activities. Students will also gain understanding of how physical activities benefit health, fitness and well-being.

Content and assessment overview

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems

Component 2: Health and Performance

Component 3: Practical Performance

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme

Component 1 and 2 are theory based and account for 60% of the total marks. Assessed by two written exams.

Component 3 involves performance in 3 chosen activities from the following (accounts for 30% of the total marks): one team activity e.g. football, netball, basketball, badminton etc. one individual activity e.g. trampolining, swimming, golf etc. one activity of their choice, either a team or individual activity.

Component 4 involves students' skills in analysing and evaluating performance through a personal exercise programme (PEP) in order to improve/optmise performance in a chosen physical activity (accounts for 10% of the total marks).

Student requirements

A sound knowledge of science and sporting activities. Regular participation at a club (e.g. trampolining, golf, sailing, football will help progress). Understanding that the subject involves a large quantity of written work (60%). Expect regular homework and written examinations.

All pupils are expected to act as role models for all other pupils by always having correct kit and equipment, helping at extra-curricular activities. Participation in all school swimming events & sports days is compulsory.

Contact: Mr F Marsden
fmarsden@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com





GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition Grades 9-1

Eduqas WJEC

During this course both theory and practical elements of food preparation and nutrition will be covered. It equips students with the ability to cook and understand nutrition and healthy eating. Students cook a variety of ingredients using different cooking techniques and equipment. They will explore a range of cooking traditions from all over the world and select their own recipes.

Unit overview:

UNIT 1: Principles of food preparation and nutrition: 50% of the total GCSE and is assessed by an examination paper (assessed externally)

UNIT 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action: 50% of the total GCSE and is assessed internally as a controlled assessment (moderated externally)

The Unit 1 examination is 1 hour 45 minutes.

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is suitable for

- Students who enjoy cooking and like to experiment with food and ingredients.
- Students who learn better through practical tasks
- Students who enjoy being in a kitchen environment.
- Students who take pride in good presentation.



Learning a wide range of skills

If you choose Food Preparation and Nutrition at GCSE, some areas you will study include:

- Practical knife skills
- Preparing fruits and vegetables
- A wide variety of different cooking methods
- Making dough, pastry and sauces
- Food manufacturing and presentation
- Balanced diets and nutritional information
- Theoretical elements of cooking
- Health and Safety behind Catering



GCSE Catering coursework

Contact: Mrs Lea for further information
mlea@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

Note Food and Nutrition is essentially a practical subject and if chosen students will need to provide ingredients most weeks, although students may not be cooking every week. This year students enjoyed trips to an International restaurant and Tea Rooms, they also experienced visiting chefs and tasting sessions!

Options: Resistant Materials



GCSE Design and Technology—Resistant Materials Grades A*-G (AQA)

In this two-year course you will be taught how to work in a range of resistant materials and how the materials are used in industry to produce modern day items. These skills will develop understanding and improve your design and making skills. Drawing and presentation are key areas of development. This course is taught practically as much as possible but thorough preparation for the written design exam will be a focus throughout both Years 10 and 11 to ensure students are also confident in this area.

GCSE Resistant Materials is suitable for:

- Students who would like to learn more about design, both drawn by hand, and using the computer and who take pride in good presentation.
- Students who are good at keeping up to date with coursework.
- Students who enjoy practical work in the workshop.

Examples of projects include storage solutions, an I pod dock, birdhouse and bird feeder, small furniture products, guitar stands.

If you choose Resistant Materials at GCSE, some areas you will study include:

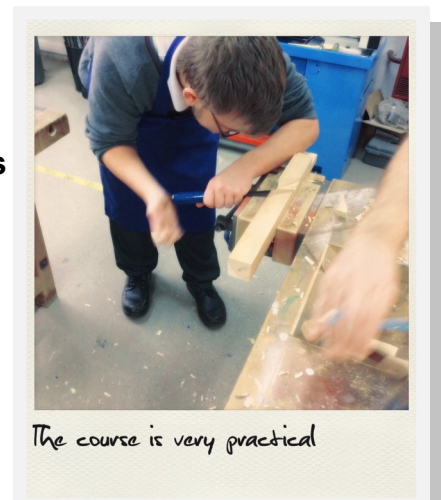
- Sketching 2D and 3D.
- Workshop skills with woods, plastics and some metals.
- CAD/CAM and using the laser cutter and 3D printer.
- Working drawings using computer aided design.
- Modelling 3D products
- The design industry and 20th century design.
- Use a range of computer programs.

Assessment

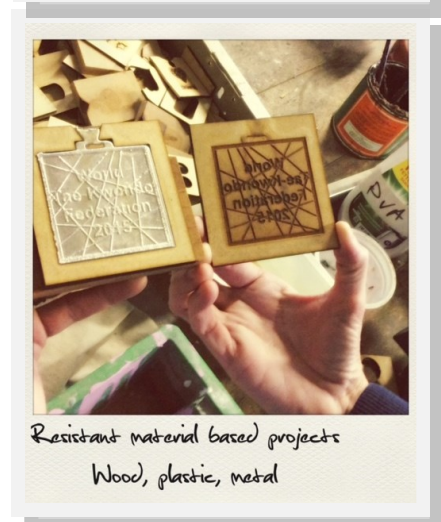
Coursework project (60%): You will have a wide choice of project briefs and can make a product that you might need or want. You will produce an accompanying design folder which will explain your research, design development, making and evaluation.

One final written examination (40%)

Contact: Mr Kerr for more information
akerr@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



The course is very practical



*Resistant material based projects
Wood, plastic, metal*



GCSE Design and technology—Graphic Products Grades A*-G (AQA)

GCSE Design and Technology: Graphic Products enables students to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of graphic and modelling materials.

Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities. They will be encouraged to learn to use, understand and apply colour and design through images and to understand graphic materials and their manipulation. They will design and make product(s) using graphic media and new technologies to prepare them for the world of work.

This course has 60 per cent controlled assessment in order to recognise the importance of practical work within this subject.

GCSE Graphic Products is suitable for

- Students who enjoy creating designs either by hand or using computer software
- Students who like to learn by doing and work in a practical hands on way.
- Students who enjoy solving problems and can develop solutions using their writing and sketching skills.
- Students who are good at managing their own deadlines for work and can work with interest on longer tasks.



A wide variety of choice in project work

You will be involved in practical projects using a wide range of skills, including using the laser cutter and CAD software, screen printing and modelling in a wide range of materials.

If you choose Graphic Products at GCSE, some areas you will study include:

- Projects about T shirt design , packaging chocolates, modelling electronic products, snowboard / skate board graphic designs.
- Learning about some famous graphic designers.
- Computer Aided Design Manufacture(CAD CAM)
- How graphic items such as packaging are made in industrial manufacturing.

Assessment

One final assessed coursework project, approximately 45 hours of work (60%)

One final written examination (40%)

Contact: Mrs Kerr
alkerr@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



Graphics based projects



GCSE ENGINEERING (Single Award) Grades A* - G (AQA)

In this two year course you will be taught how to work in a range of engineering materials and how engineering techniques and processes are used to manufacture products. This qualification allows students to develop skills and understanding which will be of use as part of a career path leading to further technical or academic qualifications.

GCSE Engineering is suitable for

- Students that can think creatively to solve problems
- Students that enjoy designing, developing and making products
- Students that are well organised and able to work to deadlines

You will be involved in a wide range of practical projects including designing and making MP3 players, tools and measuring equipment and interpreting engineering drawings.

If you choose Engineering at GCSE some areas you will study include:

- Engineering Design and Technical Drawing
- 2D and 3D computer modelling using Computer Aided Design (CAD)
- Using Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM)
- Using Computer Numerical Control (CNC) milling and routing.
- Hot process including brazing, casting, soldering, forging and welding
- Electronics and Robotics
- Industrial process and techniques
- Engineering Manufacturing in Metals and Plastics

Assessment

Coursework project (60%)

One final written examination (40%)

What will GCSE Engineering lead to in the future?

Currently in the UK there is a critical shortage of skilled Engineers and technicians. GCSE Engineering is a first step towards an engineering career. It could lead you to an apprenticeship or a university degree in one of many engineering fields such as aeronautical, automotive, manufacturing, electronic, civil or mechanical engineering.

Contact: Mr Cooper
jcooper@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com



Using metal machinery



GCSE TRIPLE AWARD SCIENCE

Grades 3 x Grades 1-9 (Extra lessons chosen from an Option Block)

AQA GCSE BIOLOGY (8461), CHEMISTRY (8462) AND PHYSICS (8463)

Overall this course is worth three GCSEs in Science, one in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
The topics covered are:

Assessment Overview

This course is linear so all examinations are taken at the end of Year 11. There are six exams, two for Biology, two for Chemistry and two for Physics. Each exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and is worth 100 marks. Each paper has an equal weighting and there will be a Higher and Foundation option for each paper.

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
1. Cell Biology	8. Atomic Structure	18. Forces
2. Organisation	9. Bonding	19. Energy
3. Infections	10. Quantitative Chemistry	20. Waves
4. Bioenergetics	11. Chemical Changes	21. Electricity
5. Homeostasis	12. Energy Changes	22. Magnetism
6. Inheritance	13. Rates of Reaction	23. Particle Model
7. Ecology	14. Organic Chemistry	24. Atomic Structure
	15. Analysis	25. Space
	16. The Atmosphere	
	17. Using Resources	

Biology 1 Topics 1-4, Biology 2—Topics 5-7
Chemistry 1 Topics 8-12, Chemistry 2—Topics 13-17
Physics 1 Topics 19, 21, 23 and 24,
Physics 2 Topics 18, 20, 22 and 25.

Contact: Mr A Glencross
(aglencross@sjstjohnsschoolcyprus.com)

Important Note

This course will only run if there is sufficient interest AND if we can employ another suitable Science teacher.



Experiments in Triple Science