

**King James's School
Knaresborough**



KEY STAGE 4



PROSPECTUS

Courses Commencing
June 2011

**PART 1
INSTRUCTIONS
COMPULSORY COURSES AND OPTIONS FORM**

KING JAMES'S SCHOOL, KNARESBOROUGH

Dear Parent and Student,

At the beginning of Year 10 changes take place in the school curriculum which you need to be aware of. This booklet is designed to give you an overall picture of that curriculum, together with a more detailed account of what is involved in the particular subjects that make up the curriculum.

The principles underlying the curriculum remain basically the same. We aim to make sure that all pupils continue to experience a sound general education which keeps all doors open and covers the various areas of experience which make up a worthwhile education. We also have to meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and the conditions demanded of Technology College status.

Two very important factors start to operate at this stage: one is that most subjects now lead to an external qualification, the other is that there is the opportunity for increased choice.

This increased choice is important as at this age individual pupils' interests and abilities are developing in a very marked fashion and it is right to take this into account, particularly as motivation is so important in all learning. Pupils are also starting to think seriously about their career intentions and what subjects they need to study in relation to these.

We emphasise, however, that this choice has to be very carefully guided and is restricted by the considerations outlined above. Pupils at this age may think they know which subjects they like and are good at but this may simply be the product of friendship groups or the enthusiasm generated by a particular teacher.

They may also feel confident about the particular career they wish to embark on. Two years later, however, their intentions may well be very different.

We shall make sure in school that good advice is available to pupils and parents so that decisions are based on the best information available. It is with this in mind that we have put this booklet together. Over the next few weeks subject staff, form tutors and the careers service will be making opportunities to offer further information and advice and we hope you will feel at the end of this process that everything has been done to enable sensible and beneficial decisions to be made.

You are also invited to attend a "Time for Choice" Evening on Thursday 13 January with your son/daughter when there is opportunity to ask questions and finalise decisions. I look forward to meeting you then.

S GILES
ACTING DEPUTY HEAD

THE YEAR 10 & 11 CURRICULUM AT KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

There is a National Curriculum for Key Stage 4 and so there are several subjects which everyone continues to study. In addition to this 'core' curriculum, you can choose a number of options. We have tried to ensure as much choice as possible from a range of courses and qualifications. Overall you will end up with a timetable that is broad and balanced, and which allows you a certain amount of freedom to specialise.

Core Subjects

The core subjects which everyone takes are:

CITIZENSHIP	This GCSE Short Course is designed to cover all the requirements of the mandatory programme of study including the statutory requirements for Religious Education
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	You will continue the D&T subject you chose in Year 9 and complete your GCSE.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE	You will study English Language and most students also take English Literature. (Two GCSEs)
MATHEMATICS	This is examined for one GCSE. Some students go on to take a second GCSE qualification in Statistics.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	There is a core programme of PE for all pupils and this is not examined for GCSE. Within this core programme it is possible for students to undertake the Junior Sports Leader Award (JSLA). There are also several optional PE courses.
SCIENCE	This co-ordinated Science course includes Biology, Chemistry & Physics. It counts for two GCSEs. Some students take "Triple Award" which counts as three GCES.

Options

You can choose a range of options from the following: (some options are worth more than one choice)

ART GCSE	ART BTEC	ART ENRICHMENT
ASDAN	ASTRONOMY	BUSINESS STUDIES GCSE
BUSINESS STUDIES BTEC	DIGITAL APPLICATIONS AWARD (AIDA)	DIGITAL APPLICATIONS CERTIFICATE (CIDA)
DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY	DRAMA	ECONOMICS Short Course
ENGINEERING HIGHER DIPLOMA	ETHICS RELIGION & LIFE	ETHICS RELIGION & LIFE Short course
EXPRESSIVE ARTS (Twilight Course)	FOOD TECHNOLOGY	FRENCH
GEOGRAPHY	GERMAN	GRAPHIC PRODUCTS
HISTORY	HOSPITALITY & CATERING	IT HIGHER DIPLOMA
MUSIC	PASSPORT TO AS LANGUAGES	PERFORMING ARTS (ACTING)
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PHYSICAL EDUCATION Short course	PRACTICAL MANUFACTURE
PRIVATE STUDY	PRODUCT DESIGN	RESISTANT MATERIALS
SOCIOLOGY Short Course	SPORT (EXTENDED CERTIFICATE)	SPANISH
STUDY PLUS (English)	STUDY PLUS (Maths)	TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY
	TRAVEL & TOURISM	

GUIDELINES FOR CHOICE

You will be given information from subject teachers, form tutors, the careers advisors, and in assemblies. Further information on courses in the local area is also available at www.futures4me.co.uk

There are some important points you need to be aware of from the beginning:

Design and Technology

Design and Technology can be studied through a variety of materials. Students continue with the option chosen in Year 9 from the following courses:

1. Design & Technology: Food Technology
2. Design & Technology: Graphic Products
3. Design & Technology: Hospitality & Catering
4. Design & Technology: Product Design
5. Design & Technology: Resistant Materials Technology
6. Design & Technology: Textiles Technology

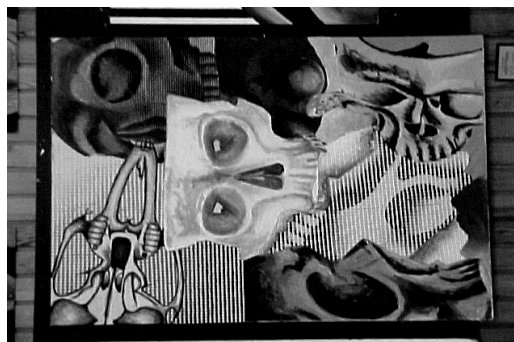
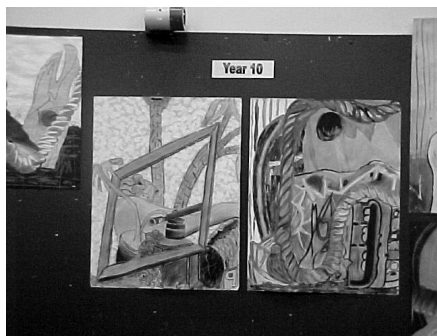
How courses are timetabled

The majority of the optional courses (including design technology) are timetabled to be completed in one year. This means that students will be able to focus on fewer subjects in Year 10 and reduce the pressure of assessment in Year 11. Students from Year 10 and Year 11 are timetabled in the same teaching group for most option courses. This approach also gives greater flexibility and the opportunity for support and enrichment activities

Limitations on choice

It is normally possible for the vast majority of students to follow their chosen courses. In order to achieve sensible groupings of pupils for teaching, we cannot guarantee that all possible combinations of subjects can be timetabled. However, this is rarely a problem.

We write the school timetable to accommodate as many students' first choices as possible, so it is important that you make your decisions carefully *as changes may not be possible once your form has been submitted*. We also have restrictions on maximum and minimum group sizes – this means that we may not be able to accommodate all students' preferences and late application forms will not be given priority consideration. For some courses there are limited places available. Places for these courses will be allocated via a random lottery of all applications received by the deadline.



SO WHAT DECISIONS DO YOU HAVE TO MAKE IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS?

You need to make the following decisions:



DECISION

1

One Design & Technology subject

This is the subject you are taking in Year 9 – you will complete this course in Year 10.

Some free options from the blue pages:

Art (GCSE)
Art (BTEC)
Asdan
Business Studies (GCSE)
Business Studies (BTEC)
Digital Applications Award (AIDA)
Digital Applications Certificate (CIDA)
Drama
Engineering Higher Diploma
Ethics, Religion & Life
Expressive Arts (Twilight Course)
French
Geography
History
IT (Higher Diploma)
Music
Passport to Languages
Performing Arts (Acting)
Physical Education
Spanish
Sport (Extended Certificate)
Travel & Tourism



DECISION

2

One or two free options from the pink pages:

Art Enrichment
Astronomy
Business Studies
Digital Photography (Short Course)
Economics (Short Course)
Ethics, Religion & Life (Short Course)
Geography
German
History
Physical Education (Short Course)
Practical Manufacture
Private Study
Sociology (Short Course)
Study Plus (English)
Study Plus (Mathematics)



DECISION

3

To give you as much choice as possible, some options appear in both the blue and pink pages!

*If you wish to apply for one of the other common options from the (green) pages then you **must** make an appointment to see one of the Careers Advisors. You will also need to make your choices from the pink and blue pages in case your application is unsuccessful.*

GCSE

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education.

Results for GCSEs are given as a grade on the following 8-point scale:

A* A B C D E F G

Your work for each subject will be assessed in two ways:

1. **Controlled Assessment.** This is work you do in class and at home. It used to be called "coursework"! This counts towards your final grade and it is important that you complete all the work on time. Controlled assessment varies from subject to subject. For example in Design and Technology the controlled assessment assignments are major projects involving designing and making. Your teachers will mark your controlled assessment assignments. These marks are then 'moderated' by the exam boards. If you are concerned about the mark you are given you should talk to your teacher first, then the Head of Department if you are still concerned.
2. **Examinations.** These are held for most subjects. In most subjects there are two levels of examinations. The foundation tier covers grades G to C. The higher tier includes questions on more advanced work and it covers grades D to A*. Decisions about the best level of paper for you in each subject are made around Christmas each year.

Certain students are entitled to support in examinations such as extra time or the use of a scribe. This is in cases where there is a proven need and normally a track record of previous examination support. If you have any questions relating to this please contact Ms A Jones, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

BTEC

3. BTEC qualifications are continually assessed and students do not take formal examinations. Students who complete the course satisfactorily are awarded qualifications at pass, merit or distinction. A pass is usually equivalent to a grade C at GCSE, a merit a grade A/B and a distinction an A*/A. BTEC First Certificates are worth two qualifications so a pass is worth 2 C grades. Further details are given on the course pages, please check these carefully. Your teachers will mark your assignments. These marks are then 'moderated' by the exam boards. If you are concerned about the mark you are given you should talk to your teacher first, then the Head of Department if you are still concerned.

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT GCSE AND AS LEVEL

In addition to the curriculum offered during the normal working day we run a number of courses after school.

These are run by staff with a particular interest and we provide them as enrichment activities and opportunities to supplement our curriculum. We have run GCSE Expressive Arts, GCSE Latin and AS level Archaeology during the last year. We would hope to offer some of these courses again next year although, unlike our core curriculum, our provision for these extra courses is often not fixed until the summer term.

You do not need to choose these subjects on your options form. They will be advertised again in the summer term. We have included a course description for the Expressive Arts course in the back of this booklet as an example of an enrichment course that we intend to offer next year, subject to demand.

CHARGING

We are very conscious that having children is an expensive business in itself! The hidden costs of education can certainly contribute to this. We make every effort to ensure that the school budget supports all of the costs associated with the delivery of the statutory curriculum. Subject departments often undertake activities that enrich the curriculum, such as trips and visits, or they offer extra revision guides in addition to normal class materials. It is important to state that we provide **free access to all of the learning materials that are required to achieve success in any course.** Details of charges for **extras** that departments may offer are included in the course description pages.

**KEY STAGE 4
PROSPECTUS
2011**

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

Compulsory/Optional
Course Duration**Compulsory**
Two years

KJS Course Code

En

Year Group(s) at start of course

Year 10

Optional Units (if Optional course)

n/aExam Board, Syllabus & Specification
Qualification**OCR GCSE in English Language J355; OCR GCSE in English Literature J360**
2 GCSEs A*-G**COURSE OUTLINE**

In GCSE English Language and Literature you will develop new skills as well as using those which you have acquired through Key Stage 3. You will work towards two GCSEs, assessed through controlled assessment and examinations.

Controlled assessment	
English Language:	English Literature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A651 30%, Extended Literary Text Study: <u>Section A:</u> Response to one text. <u>Section B:</u> Imaginative writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A661 25% Literary Heritage Linked Text <u>Section A:</u> Shakespeare and Film. <u>Section B:</u> Poetry, one poet.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A652 30%, Speaking and Listening <u>Section A:</u> 3 Speaking and listening activities (20%). <u>Section B:</u> Written response to spoken language. 	

Examinations	
English Language	English Literature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A653 40%, Information and Ideas <u>Section A:</u> Non Fiction and Media. <u>Section B:</u> Writing information and ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A664, 25%, Literary Prose and Poetry <u>Section A:</u> One text. <u>Section B:</u> One poem.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A663, 25%, Prose, Different Cultures: one text.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIT A662, 25%, Modern Drama: one play.

While studying the above topics, you will have the chance to read and respond to a wide variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, including: magazine and newspaper articles, novels, poetry, a Shakespeare play and modern drama.

We will help you to develop your expertise in writing so you can adapt your style and use of language to suit a range of forms, media, contexts, audiences and purposes.

Speaking and Listening makes up 20% of your final mark. Therefore we place great emphasis on helping you to become confident in communicating with others and expressing your ideas.

ASSESSMENT & DEADLINES

At GCSE, assessment is as follows:

English Language: 20% oral response controlled assessment
40% written response controlled assessment
40% external examination

English Literature: 25% written response controlled assessment
75% external examination

TEACHING GROUP

All students will be taught in mixed ability groups.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE



You will have:

- developed your skills in reading and analysing a variety of texts;
- learnt how to write for different audiences and purposes, in a range of forms;
- increased your confidence in speaking and listening;
- taken part in a range of activities that encourage you to enjoy language and literature.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT POINTERS TO SUCCESS



- Speaking and Listening skills count for 20% of your English Language grade so be confident and share your ideas.
- Write with attitude – be bold and adventurous in choosing language to suit a text's purpose. Show creativity and flair, but take care to be precise in your spelling and grammar.
- Proof-reading is an essential skill which will enable you to maximise your chances of success.
- Refer closely to your teacher's comments to help you to understand how to improve.
- Be able to self assess your progress, making sure you understand everything you've been asked to do and ask for help if you are ever unsure.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION



You cannot gain your English Language GCSE without studying GCSE English Literature, so make sure that you put full effort into both areas.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES



None



USEFUL WEB-SITES/ RESOURCES

- www.learn.co.uk
- www.englishbiz.co.uk
- www.englishplus.com/grammar
- www.thesaurusreference.com
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize
- www.s-cool.co.uk

The school library is also stocked with numerous design books.

CAREERS SUBJECT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR

Literacy and communication skills are essential for most careers.

Achieving well in English opens the doors to many opportunities.





Compulsory/Optional	Compulsory	
Course Duration	Two Years	
KJS Course Code	Year Group(s) at start of course	Optional Units (if Optional course)
Ma	Year 9	n/a
Exam Board, Syllabus & Specification	AQA Mathematics 4360	
Qualification	GCSE A* - G	

COURSE OUTLINE

The GCSE Course builds on and develops the skills learnt at Key Stage 3. It now consists of a two tier system of Higher and Foundation with the range of grades being A*- D and C-G respectively. There is no longer a coursework element and, therefore, students will be assessed through three unit examinations, two taken in the first year. A third unit is taken at the end of the second year which is the final paper.

The examination papers are based on the following topic areas:

- Number (Units 1 & 2)
- Handling Data (Unit 1)
- Algebra (Units 2 & 3)
- Shape Space & Measure (Unit 3)

In class, the emphasis is on extending and developing problem-solving skills through individual, paired and group activities, giving all students experience of a variety of learning styles.

Throughout the two years students will be taught about patterns and relationships in Mathematics. In addition, the use of calculators and ICT is incorporated in many aspects of the work. Students will further develop problem-solving methods, some of which involve the use of a calculator and some of which are non-calculator methods.

ASSESSMENT & DEADLINES

Assessment for GCSE Mathematics takes the form of three units to be taken throughout the course.

Unit 2 is taken in the March of the first year of the course and is based on the Number & Algebra Units of work.

Unit 1 is taken in the June of the first year of the course and is based on the Number and Handling Data Units of work.

Unit 3 is taken in the June of the second year of the course and is based on Shape Space and Measure and Algebra Units of work.

There is no coursework element to the subject.

TEACHING GROUP ARRANGEMENTS

Initially students are placed into sets based on their mathematical ability and aptitude.

At key points students can move between sets depending on their progress relative to that of other students.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE

You will have developed your working knowledge of mathematical ideas and techniques. You will have been presented with opportunities to develop your oral, written and practical skills and you will have experienced applications of Mathematics to other areas, particularly Science and Technology



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT POINTERS TO SUCCESS

- There is always help available to you both in and out of lesson – use it.
- In the lead up to each unit examination pupils will be working on past papers. Completion of these past papers is one of the keys to success.
- Purchase of the revision guides through school is strongly recommended in the Autumn term of Year 9 to facilitate preparation for each of the three Unit exams.



ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION



All pupils require their own scientific calculator which they are expected to bring to all Maths lessons. The recommended calculator (currently a Casio fx83GT) can be purchased directly from school for £5.50. Revision guides are also offered for purchase in the Autumn term of Year 9 which cover the content of all three units.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES



- Calculators and other mathematical equipment available for purchase.
- At the beginning of the course, a revision text and workbook are available for purchase.
- Past papers are provided in the lead up to the different Unit examinations.



USEFUL WEB-SITES/ RESOURCES

- www.waldomaths.com
- www.nrich.maths.org
- www.rn-maths.co.uk
- www.gcseguide.co.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/ks4bitesize
- www.mymaths.co.uk
- The school library is also stocked with numerous design books.

CAREERS SUBJECT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR

- Computer Programming
- Business and Management
- Economics
- Engineering
- Sports Science
- Computer games design
- Medicine
- Psychology
- Actuarial Work
- Social Science
- Biological Science
- Teaching





CURRICULUM GUIDE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION CORE

Compulsory/Optional
Course Duration**Compulsory**
2 Years

KJS Course Code

Pe

Year Group(s) at start of course

Year 10

Optional Units (if Optional course)

n/aExam Board, Syllabus & Specification
Qualification**Sports Leaders UK Award in Sports Leadership (Optional)**
Level 1 Award

COURSE OUTLINE

Students undertake two hours of Physical Education each week, covering a range of activities. Throughout the course students also develop and take on different roles within sport.

Activity Area's		Roles & Responsibilities	
Key Activities	New Activities		
Games	Golf	Tactician	- Plan strategies for your team to succeed
Athletics	Cheerleading	Skills Coach	- Improve your teams skills & techniques
Health Related Fitness	Frisbee	Fitness Coach	- Devise ways to improve fitness
Gym	World Games	Organiser	- Organise matches & practices
Dance	Aerobics	Official	- Uphold the rules as an umpire or referee

Additional Award in Sports Leadership

Students can take this option which involves training students to become effective leaders in sporting activities. This is covered through one of their PE lessons in Year 10.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Planning & preparing a simple sporting activity | 2) Basic communication in sporting activities |
| 3) Principles & practice in developing health & fitness | 4) Understanding fair play |
| 5) Understanding the role of sports officials | 6) Local sport & recreation |

Demonstrate 1 hour of Leadership in a sport of your choice

ASSESSMENT & DEADLINES

Physical Education

There is no formal assessment but student's progress is measured through their performance in sporting activities and different roles.

Level One in Sports Leadership

- 1) Active participation throughout the six teaching modules and successful completion of the Learning Cycle tasks at the end of each unit.
- 2) Successful use of the gained knowledge to prepare and lead a small group for one hour in an activity of student's own choice.

The one hour leadership must be completed by May in Year 10.

TEACHING GROUP ARRANGEMENTS

All lessons are single sex and mixed ability.

Students who take the Sports Leadership option are taught as a separate group.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE



You will have participated in a broad range of activities as well as had the opportunity to officiate, lead, plan & analyse your own and others work. You will be equipped with the confidence, skill and understanding needed to continue participating in sport and exercise after finishing school.

If you take the Sports Leadership Award you will be officially recognised as a "Young Leader" and will assist the PE department to run sporting activities in School and the Local Community. You will receive accreditation from 'Sports Leaders UK' in the form of a certificate and badge.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT POINTERS TO SUCCESS



For the Sports Leaders Award you will be expected to:

Help out in a lower school extra curricular club or a club outside of school. This will provide you with the confidence, ideas and experience necessary to perform your one hour leadership at the end of the course.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION



All students receive two hours of PE at Key Stage 4. If students take the option of the Leadership award, this will be completed during these lessons. Students will decide if they want to take this option in their PE lessons after Easter.

On top of these two hours, students may take additional qualifications in PE by doing the short course or full course GCSE.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES



Physical Education

- Golf; A small charge is required to cover the cost of your basket of balls.

Sports Leader Award

- £14.00 to enrol. This covers insurance, a whistle and log book.



USEFUL WEB-SITES/ RESOURCES

- www.sportsleaders.org
- www.youthsportstrust.org
- www.sportscoachuk.org
- The school library is also stocked with numerous PE books.

CAREERS SUBJECT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR

Sports Leadership Award

This certificate is a nationally recognised qualification and will demonstrate personal qualities required for a large number of careers.

- Physical Education Teaching
- Sports Coaching
- Sport and Recreation
- Primary school teaching



Compulsory/Optional
Course Duration**Compulsory
Two Year**

KJS Course Code

PS

Year Group(s) at start of course

Year 9

Optional Units (if Optional course)

n/a

Exam Board, Syllabus & Specification

OCR PSHCEE 1048

Qualification

GCSE short course in Citizenship and a Level 1 qualification (equivalent to a GCSE short course) in PSHE**COURSE OUTLINE**

PSHCEE brings together the teaching of Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic Education. Students follow a programme from Y9 through to Y11 in which they will complete two qualifications - a GCSE short course in Citizenship and a Level 1 qualification (equivalent to a GCSE short course) in PSHE. This course also covers the statutory requirements for Religious Education.

Citizenship GCSE Short Course

The course aims to develop knowledge and understanding about becoming informed citizens through the following themes:

Theme 1: Community Action and Active Citizenship	Theme 2: Being a Citizen in the UK: Democracy and Identity	Theme 3: Fairness and Justice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How individuals bring about change in communities • Key factors in successful campaigning • How power is exercised within communities • Media influence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The operation of parliamentary democracy in the UK • Voting and elections • In what ways is 'identity' an important issue? • Exploring community cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and importance of human rights legislation • The implications of consumer rights, human rights, race relations, employment, equal opportunities and age-related legislation for individual citizens

PSHE Level 1

The course is designed to give students the knowledge and skills to prepare them for life now and in the future as confident individuals. This includes the following units:

- Personal Awareness
- Healthy Lifestyles for work-life balance
- Relationships and the Differences Between People
- The Changing World of Work
- Applying for Jobs and Courses
- Economic and Financial Aspects of Life
- Employment Opportunities
- Enterprise Activities
- Hazard Identification at Home, on the Roads and at Work.

ASSESSMENT & DEADLINES**Citizenship GCSE Short Course**

There are two components: a written examination paper, duration 1hour, which accounts for 40% of the marks; and one piece of internally assessed controlled assessment work, which accounts for 60% of the overall mark.

PSHE Level 1

This involves a written paper worth 80% and the controlled assessment accounts for 20%. The controlled assessment requires students to write a letter of application for a job or course to accompany a Curriculum Vitae and prepare for an Interview

TEACHING GROUP ARRANGEMENTS

Students are taught in mixed gender and ability groups.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE

- You will have the confidence to participate in communities in a positive manner and become an active citizen.
- You will be able to communicate persuasive arguments and make informed opinions.
- You will be able to self reflect and recognise strengths and weaknesses your personal, social, health and economic development.



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT POINTERS TO SUCCESS

- Be prepared to contribute in class discussions with your own points of view and responding to others. Take an interest in current affairs both locally and nationally by watching the news or reading articles.
- Your citizenship controlled assessment element requires you to evaluate the role you have played as an active citizen. So start getting involved with things either at school or in your local community.



ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION



The courses are not completed until the end of Year 11. Students start the course content for both the Citizenship and PSHE qualification in Year 9 so make sure your books and notes are kept up to date and in order for the full three years.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES



- No additional charges.



USEFUL WEB-SITES/ RESOURCES

- <http://curriculum.qcda.gov.uk>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk>
- <http://www.psheassociation.org.uk>
- The school library is also stocked with numerous citizenship books.

CAREERS SUBJECT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR

- This subject creates a strong basis for all careers.
- It develops the skills and knowledge needed in the world of work and beyond.



BY THE END OF THE COURSE

- You will be able to make sense of the science you encounter in everyday life.
- You will know more about yourself, the environment and even the Universe we live in.
- You will be able to think critically about science that is reported in the media.



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT POINTERS TO SUCCESS

- Make sure you complete homework and controlled assessment assignments on time.
- Each of the units is followed by a test that is marked and graded. These marks are an indicator of current performance.
- The exams for this GCSE are external exams and so ALL pupils must take all exams. A letter will be set out to give the dates for these in the near future.
- BTEC assignments are the basis of the assessment so make sure they are all done on time.
- The GCSE text books are available electronically to all KJS students to upload onto a USB stick from the class teacher.



ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

- There is a module test at the end of every GCSE unit. Although this does not count towards the final grade, it is important that students revise thoroughly, as it is a good indication of the level they are working at throughout the year.
- GCSE Module exams are taken in January and June with 8 module tests taken in total for the award of two sciences, or 9 modules in total for triple science which requires three pieces of coursework. Tests may be re-taken if the department agrees the work could be improved.
- All BTEC qualifications are assessed by coursework assignments only.



ADDITIONAL CHARGES



- Revision guides and practice papers will be available to purchase at the start of the course.
- It is a great advantage to have these resources at the beginning of the course.



USEFUL WEB-SITES/ RESOURCES

- www.gcse-science.com
-course information and resources for 21st Century GCSE
- www.ocr.org.uk
- exam and specification details
- www.edexcel.com
- for information on BTEC firsts in Applied Science
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebiteize
- revision
- The school library is also stocked with numerous science books.

CAREERS SUBJECT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR

- Science is a core subject so many careers would expect Science at GCSE.
- Good grades at GCSE can lead to A level Sciences and a whole wealth of careers in Industry, Research and Health.
- Success at Level 2 BTEC can lead to Level 3 Science courses.





King James's School Knaresborough Key Stage 4 Options 2011 How to fill in the form!

It's easier to fill in than it looks! To help at each stage there is an example to follow.

1. Choose your courses from the pink and blue pages – remember you must include the technology subject you are studying in Year 9.

I want to study Resistant Materials, Geography, BTec Performing Arts, Study Plus-English and Supported Study

2. Make a note of the course code and number of units for each of your choices – these can be found at the top of the course pages.

The codes and units for my courses are Resistant Materials – Rm (2 units), Geography – Gg (2 units) BTec Performing Arts – PA (4 units), Study Plus:English - SyE (1 unit) and Private Study – Ps (1unit)

3. For each course write the codes in the boxes following the example below.

I have written Rm in 2 boxes, because it is a 2 unit course. I have done the same with Geography. Study Plus English and Private Study are both 1 unit courses so I have only written them in once. Performing Arts is a 4 unit course so I have written the code down four times.

BLUE COURSES				PINK COURSES	
Rm	Rm	PA	PA	SyE	
Gg	Gg	PA	PA	Ps	

4. If you wish to be considered for one of the “common options” (green pages) instead of the courses you have picked then write the name of the course in this box.

No - I don't want to do a course from the green pages.

5. Check that you have only written codes for blue courses in the blue course boxes, Pink courses in the pink course boxes.

Yes – it's fine.

6. Check any three and five unit courses you have chosen: Three unit courses take up two blue boxes and one pink box. Five unit courses must have four blue boxes and one pink.

My Performing Arts is a 4 unit course – I've put it in four boxes to that's okay.

7. Check you have included your Year 9 DT course in one of the blue boxes.

Yes – Resistant Materials in the blue boxes.

8. Ask your tutor to check your form with you, ask your parents to sign it and return by the deadline!



**King James's School
Knaresborough
Key Stage 4 Options 2011**

Surname Forename Form

1. Choose your courses from the pink and blue pages – remember you must include the technology subject you are studying in Year 9.
2. Make a note of the course code and number of units for each of your choices – these can be found at the top of the course pages.
3. For each course write the codes in the boxes.

BLUE COURSES				PINK COURSES	

4. If you wish to be considered for one of the “common options” (green pages) instead of the courses you have picked then write the name of the course in this box.

5. Check that you have only written codes for blue courses in the blue course boxes, Pink courses in the pink course boxes.
6. Check any three and five unit courses you have chosen: Three unit courses take up two blue boxes and one pink box. Five unit courses must have four blue boxes and one pink.
7. Check you have included your Year 9 DT course in one of the blue boxes.
8. Ask your tutor to check your form with you, ask your parents to sign it and return by the deadline!

Every effort will be made to ensure that you can study the subjects you have picked. However, in order to allow the majority of pupils to follow their chosen combinations we may have to ask some pupils to accept alternative choices – please see ‘Guidelines for choice in Part 1 Section.

Signed(Parent/Guardian) Date

Please note that late returns will not be given priority consideration

**THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE FORM TUTOR NOT LATER THAN
FRIDAY 28 JANUARY 2011**

NOTES / QUESTIONS / IDEAS / PLANS

BLUE COURSES				PINK COURSES	

If you wish to be considered for one of the "common options" (green pages) instead of the courses you have picked then write the name of the course in this box.