

KEY STAGE 5 CURRICULUM OFFER

| 2025/26



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INTRODUCTION

Making Key Stage 5 curriculum choices is an opportunity for you to take further control of your education and shape the way you want your future to be. You may not yet know what you would like to do in the future, but you may know what subjects you like. These are the subjects you will probably be most successful in as half of achieving success is enjoying the journey.

There are a wide range of courses and qualifications for you here at Baston House School; more than has ever been offered before.

We are also offering new options called carousels. These focus on a key theme and provide an opportunity to experience a range of activities within a common area. These are particularly suitable for if you are still uncertain about which subjects and aspects of learning you enjoy.

It is important to choose subjects that will interest you and motivate you. Spend some time thinking about what you enjoy doing and what keeps you interested in something. Remember that you are not alone in making these decisions. Staff, parents, carers and family members will be able to guide, advise and support you in this important decision-making process.

This booklet provides details of the Key Stage 5 curriculum at Baston House School. Each option page has a link to the awarding body which is underlined where you can find more information online. You will also find at the back of the booklet some frequently asked questions to help you make sense of the information provided.

We look forward to working with you to continue this tradition.

Mrs Helen Stack and Mr Willem Stapelberg
SMT
March 2025

TIMETABLE STRUCTURE

All Key stage 5 students will study and work towards accreditation in the following core subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science

All students will also study the following subjects:

- Independent Living
- PE
- PSHE
- Personal Development & Employability

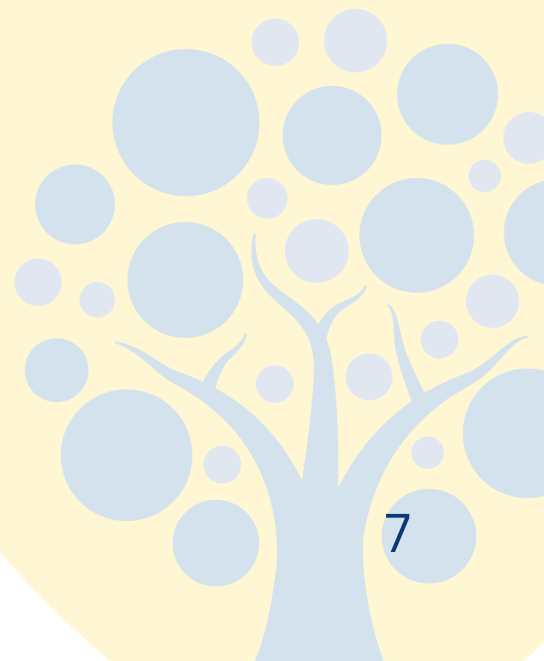
You will have a choice of option subjects to choose from to compliment your core studies. These range from GCSEs, BTEC Level 1 & 2 certificates and a range of Unit Award Scheme options.

The next few pages will provide information on all the core and option subjects, with links to the relevant exam board websites. Please take time to digest all the information so that you can make an informed choice.

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CORE SUBJECT SNAPSHOTS

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ENGLISH

Of all the subjects on offer at Baston House, English is the one you will use for the rest of your life. Guaranteed! Whatever level you are at, there is a pathway that you will find challenging but doable. It will take time, practise and some effort, but you will improve your ability to communicate effectively with the world around you. That's why it's a core subject.

ENGLISH QUALIFICATIONS

GCSE English Language offers a grade of 1-9, and covers reading and writing stories, reading and writing non-fiction texts, speaking and listening effectively. There are two exams – one is 1 ¾ hours and the other is 2 hours.

If you're not ready for that yet, we have **Functional Skills Level 1**, which covers reading and writing but without stories. There are two exams for this and each one is 1 hour long. There are also some Speaking and Listening assessments.

If you're still building up to this level, there's **Entry Level**, which covers reading and writing, made up of a 1-hour exam, classroom assessments and Speaking and Listening.

Your English progress allows you to move up from one level to the next as your abilities grow, meaning that, whilst we celebrate your success, there will always be something to work towards.

MATHEMATICS

Through previous assessments you have completed during this year, you will follow either Entry Level, Functional Skills or GCSE Mathematics pathways. All pathways are delivered in class and you will have the opportunity to progress throughout the year, when you are ready.

MATHEMATICS QUALIFICATIONS

The **Entry Level Certificate in Mathematics** qualification is available at Entry Level 1, Entry Level 2 and Entry Level 3.

This pathway consists of one externally set test and one externally set task for Entry 1 and 2 and two externally set tests and one externally set task for Entry 3. Tests and tasks have no time limits for completion and can be sat at any time during the school year. The tests account for 60% of the qualification and the tasks 40%.

The course content for Entry Level qualifications is as follows:

Entry Level 1 and Entry Level 2

- Number
- Geometry
- Measures
- Statistics

Entry Level 3

- Number
- Geometry
- Measures
- Statistics
- Algebra
- Ratio and Proportion

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MATHEMATICS QUALIFICATIONS CONTINUED

Functional Skills Level 1 and 2 can be delivered over one or two years. You will take mock exams twice a year to prepare you for your final exam. The course content for Functional skills is:

- Use of number and the number system
- Use of measures, shape and space
- Handling information and data

The **GCSE Mathematics** pathway is delivered over 2 years with two mock exams to help prepare you for your final examination at the end of the course.

The course content for GCSE Mathematics is:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

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SCIENCE

Scientists of Baston House School, will be building on what they have learned in science during KS3, will study either **GCSE Level Science** or follow the **Entry Level Certificate Programme**.

These higher-level courses develop on what pupils have already learned in key stage three, while introducing them to new more in-depth aspects of each discipline. We believe that science has something to offer every student, and it allows pupils not only advanced application of their core subject knowledge, but the ability to make informed decisions about the ever-evolving world around them. That is why we offer a suite of science qualifications for Key Stage 4 to suit students of all interests and all aspirations.

These are linear courses, where all content is delivered throughout the two-year programme, and pupils will partake in examinations once all content is delivered. Throughout the course the pupils will partake in several core practical activities which will further develop their lab experience. You'll see that our GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics courses give students the choice of their favourite area of science and hone those fundamental skills.

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INDEPENDENT LIVING

At Baston House we offer you the opportunity to work towards Level 2 Unit Awards in Independent Living throughout Key Stage 5. Topics explore the following:

- Healthy living
- Managing own money
- Managing social relationships
- Personal safety in home and community
- Using technology in home and community

CORE PE

Core PE is all about keeping you moving while having fun with a huge variety of sports and activities! Whether you love team games like football, basketball, and volleyball or prefer individual challenges like table tennis, fitness training, or even pool, there's something for everyone. With indoor and outdoor options, plus sports like boccia, pickleball, and badminton, you'll have options to get involved in. Try new things, stay fit, healthy, and enjoy PE in a way that suits you

PSHE

At Key Stage 5, you will deepen your knowledge and understanding, extend and rehearse skills, and further explore attitudes, values and attributes acquired during Key Stage 4. PSHE education reflects the fact that you are moving towards an independent role in adult life, taking on greater responsibility for yourself and others. Key topics covered include:

- Health & wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the wider world

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PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYABILITY

In Key Stage 5 you will engage with **The Prince's Trust qualifications in Personal Development and Employability Skills** which recognises the breadth of personal skills, qualities and attitudes required by employers across a range of sectors. They have been developed with the aim of progressing you into further education and/or employment.

Throughout the course, you will:

- be involved in activities that enhances your experiences with the world of work
- further develop digital and other employability skills
- be involved in an enterprise project

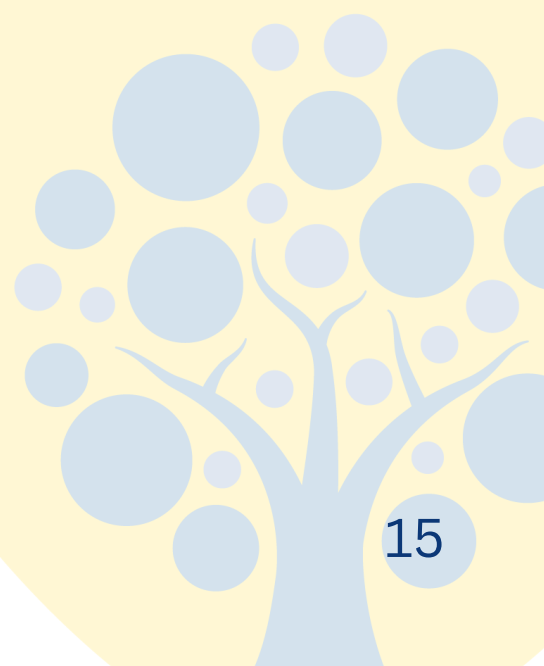
Assessment and qualification:

Throughout the course, you will complete a minimum of two units which is assessed as written portfolios of work. You will gain an Entry Level 3 Award at the end of the course.

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OPTION SUBJECT SNAPSHOTS

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CAROUSEL OPTIONS

What are carousel options?

The carousel options provide the opportunity for you to experience a range of subjects and skills which have a common theme or link in an area of which an interest. Each carousel takes place for two lessons a week, for one year.

The teaching team will select the level of **Unit Award Schemes** appropriate for you; it can be custom made to help you to engage and enjoy the course and achieve not only qualifications but a greater understanding of the subjects. If you have enjoyed a particular aspect of the course, you can then progress to GCSE/ BTEC or apprenticeship options in the future. Or you could try other carousels next year until you find your passion and future aspirations.

CAROUSEL OVERVIEW

- **Trade**

For this option you will have the opportunity to develop practical knowledge, understanding and skills in the workshop, working with a range of materials and resources, painting and decorating and maintenance and repair.

This carousel is suitable for you if you enjoy 'doing' and will be an ideal foundation for if you are considering work in the trade industry.

- **Outdoor Living**

If you prefer being outdoors and enjoy nature, you would benefit from this carousel. You will learn about gardening, horticulture, animal care, forestry and the 'eco-planet'.

You can further develop your interest and skills the following year by taking a national qualification in horticulture. It is also a suitable foundation for a range of national apprenticeships available.

CAROUSEL OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)

- **Modelling**

Are you always fiddling, twiddling, making and building? Then you may well enjoy this carousel which involves learning through Lego, 3D modelling using a variety of resources of your choice including clay, card, foam board, Styrofoam, smart materials and many more.

This is an ideal opportunity for those with a creative mind with restless fingers. It can lead to further qualifications in art, design and technology.

- **Textiles**

Textiles are everywhere and for everyone. From the clothes you wear, to the team you support, to the soft furnishings in your home, to the costumes your favourite actors and singers wear. In this carousel you will learn a range of practical skills and techniques in textiles, create products and consider the creative, practical and inspiring world of textiles.

If you enjoy this course, it links well with art, design and technology and further qualifications are available. It will also provide you with skills to be creative for life!

- **The film industry**

When you watch a film do you have an opinion about it? Can you explain why it was great or why it didn't appeal to you? If you are interested in a range of genres/ categories of films and would be interested in reviewing and analysing films as well as learn a few practical tips in filming, this carousel could be for you. This carousel links particularly well to future courses in Digital Media and English.

- **Humanities**

Humanities covers a range of subjects including history, geography, religion and travel and tourism. If you are thinking possibly a future in travelling, this carousel will be of great interest to you. It can be the foundation to develop your knowledge and understanding of the key areas within the humanities curriculum, which can be developed further through qualifications and the travel industry.

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CAROUSEL OVERVIEW

(CONTINUED)

- **Introduction to Business**

Do you have dreams of setting up your own business one day? Then this carousel will be ideal for you. The course will include an introduction to business studies, marketing, finance and accounting and can relate to whatever your interest is and whatever your dream business will be.

It is also a particularly good foundation for pursuing a course in business studies and accountancy.

- **Teaching and Childcare**

This carousel would be ideal if you are considering working with children either within the education sector or general childcare. The course covers child development, how children learn through play, health and social care and an introduction to being a teaching assistant.

- **Criminal psychology, investigations and law**

Have you always been fascinated by murder mysteries and true crime dramas? If so taking this carousel will show you both how criminals are caught and why they do what they do. The course covers forensic investigation procedures, criminology and the psychology behind why crimes are committed, as well as the laws in place in the UK.

- **Digital technology and media**

Are you interested in 'visual technology'? For example, photography, graphic design and digital media. Digital Technology will provide you with the tools and techniques to explore a wide range of themes and ideas that can be applied across a wide range of areas including designing magazines, posters, presentations, social media, websites and digital posts. If you have a creative mind and enjoy technology, you will find this carousel engaging and invaluable.



BTEC ART & DESIGN

Level 1 and 2
Each Level is a 2-year course

Why Study Art and Design?

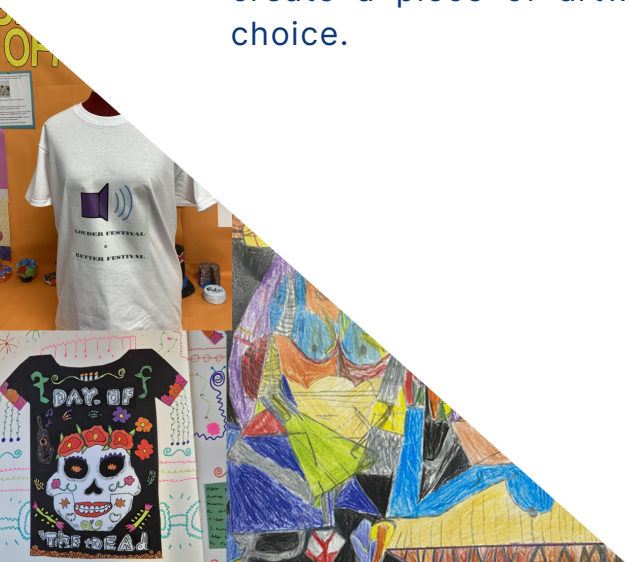
Art and design actively encourage creative thinking, allowing you to generate new ideas and approaches to problems across different disciplines. You will learn skills like visual communication, colour theory, composition, and critical analysis gained through art studies are valuable in various professional fields.

Art provides a platform to express your emotions, perspectives, and individual identity through various mediums. You will practice with different art techniques, materials, and digital tools, that will equip you with the ability to execute your creative vision effectively.

An art and design background will open doors to diverse career paths like graphic design, illustration, fashion design, product design, animation, art direction, and more.

Studying art history and diverse artistic movements helps you gain a deeper understanding of different cultures and perspectives. Engaging in artistic practices like drawing and sculpting can improve hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.

The two-year courses will be coursework based during art lessons, with a final exam in the Spring term that will take place during your art lesson with your art teacher, you will be given a theme to research and will create a piece of artwork around that theme, using materials of your choice.



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BTEC FIRST AWARD IN ICT

2 year course

If you choose to study the **BTEC First Award in Information and Creative Technology** you will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the Information Technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries. The focus will be on understanding Information and Creative Technology through the selection of optional specialist units.

The course will cover online systems which is relevant in many roles in the industry. The course also covers web authoring, creating an online digital portfolio, digital animation where you will design and produce your own digital animated product and digital graphics where you will design, create and test graphic products and think about the creative aspects of the product as well as the technical aspect.

You will be assessed by completing three internal assignments within given deadlines. There is also one external assessment which is computer-based and accounts for 25% of the final grade.

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BTEC FIRST IN SPORT

2 year course

In **BTEC First in Sport** is a 'hands on' course. You will need to be competent in a sport of your choice, be able to perform as an individual and as a team and participate in approximately five other sports, for example football, basketball, badminton, swimming, tennis, table tennis, boccia, athletics and cricket. You will study a wide range of units, all related to sport and will learn about your body and how it responds to exercise.

You will be assessed by mainly completing practical assignments within given deadlines. There is also one external assessment which is computer-based and accounts for 25% of the final grade.

The BTEC First in Sport qualification is a vocational qualification that will help prepare you for a wide range of different opportunities. You may be considering joining the health and fitness industry as an exercise professional. Alternatively, you may feel that working in the outdoor adventure is for you.

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BTEC HOME COOKING SKILLS

Level 1 and 2

Each level is a 1-year course

If you have enjoyed your Food Technology lessons and would like to continue to learn new practical skills in the food room, this course may well be suitable for you. On this course you will learn the essential life skills of home cooking which can benefit your health and general well-being. You will understand food safety and hygiene, how to store, buy food on a budget and have the skills to cook healthy, cost-effective meals for you, your friends and your family. All dishes are cooked from scratch. You will have the opportunity to adapt your recipes to suit your taste or dietary requirements.

There will be a final assessment in the food room in the spring. The assessment booklet will be completed in your lesson times in the food room. Examples of these can be found in the food room. Do come in and have a look. The practical assessment comprises of one or two courses of your choice which you will make in the food room and will have plenty of time to cook it.

This may be your start to a career in catering or it may help you to continue to enjoy cooking when at home.



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DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Each award is a one year course

Choosing to study for **Duke of Edinburgh Award** is a great decision to make for lots of reasons. The course offers a life-changing experience and an opportunity to discover new interests and talents. This qualification is a tool to develop essential skills for life and work. It is also a recognised mark of achievement and respected by employers. You will need to complete the Bronze Award to progress to Silver and Gold. Each award takes one year.

There are four sections to the award consisting of:

- Volunteering- Supporting individuals or giving back to the community.
- Physical- Improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness.
- Skills- Developing practical and social skills and personal interests.
- Expedition- Planning, training for and completing an adventurous journey.

The courses involve helping the community and the environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition and, for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity. Any young person can do their DofE – regardless of your ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award is not a competition or about being first, it is all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.

Through a DofE programme can help to improve your self-esteem and build confidence and gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs and university and job applications.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Levels 2

This is a 2 year course

This is a new course being offered to you for the first time at Baston House School. If you love music, have some musical experience and think that you have hidden talents, this could be the course for you.

The Level 2 course comprises of 4 units of mainly practical coursework that will be recorded in the music room and supplemented with your pictures and annotations presenting how you have managed to create your compositions.

We will explore production techniques, the recording process and apply your talents in instrumentation to create your own original compositions that will start your journey as a band/artist or producer. This course will provide you with the opportunities to explore and develop new talents or continue building upon your pre-existing abilities.

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PERFORMING ARTS

Levels 2

This is a 2 year course

A brand-new subject area for Baston House School, where we will explore anything and everything around the performing arts. Working in both groups and independently, you will learn all sorts of skills in expression, speech, language, body language and non-verbal communication. As we master the art of performance through drama, we will also learn how to evoke various emotions from an audience, as well as how to develop a character and wear the mask of another.

This course is provided by Pearson. The level 2 course consists of 3 practical components, where you will explore the performing arts, develop skills, techniques and perform in response to a set brief. You will be practically assessed in school on your ability to perform using an informed approach as a result of exploring and investigating different performance techniques, influences, stylistic qualities and creative intentions.

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RHS LEVEL 1 AWARD IN PRACTICAL HORTICULTURE

1 year course

If you have a love for the great outdoors, are passionate about plants and nature, or are just inquisitive with the natural world and science, then **RHS Level 1 course in Practical Horticulture** could be for you.

The world of horticulture is not just about gardening, it has many diverse and exciting careers, many of which you might not have even heard of such as entomologist, plant and garden photographer or botanical media content creator.

This course is a practical-based qualification providing you with a wide range of skills and understanding whilst working towards a prestigious Royal Horticultural Society qualification - and you don't need any prior experience. It provides a foundation to RHS Level 2 course or a wide range of other training programmes and future career options.

Whether you're passionate about plants, interested in tackling climate change, boosting biodiversity, or improving mental health through working with nature, horticulture offers diverse opportunities for lots of people.



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TRINITY ROCK AND POP MUSIC

1 or 2 year course

Music is a universal language that can help us express ourselves as well as communicate with others in ways that words often can't. Many musicians also experience an increase in self-confidence, creativity and a sense of achievement.

You can continue, or even start, your musical journey through **Trinity Rock and Pop Music** in keyboards, guitar, bass, drums and vocals.

It can be a one or a two year course, depending on how far you wish to progress.

The grades range from Initial to grade 8 and for each grade you will learn 3 pieces of your choosing from the syllabus, (including a technical focus piece) on your chosen instrument(s). When you are ready it will be filmed in the music room and sent for exam admission. Based on performances and the marks given, a total out of 100 will be calculated and awarded distinction, merit or pass.

Music can take you where you want to be taken: for personal goals, further education (Grades 6 to 8 are eligible for UCAS points) or employment opportunities within the creative arts industry.



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UAS IN DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

1 year course

Do you enjoy designing, making or constructing? Using your creative skills, you will learn how to use a variety of tools, equipment and materials including wood, metal, plastics and electronics. You can learn and develop a wealth of practical and transferable skills with a range of Unit Awards Schemes which can be modified to suit your needs and abilities, from entry level to level two.

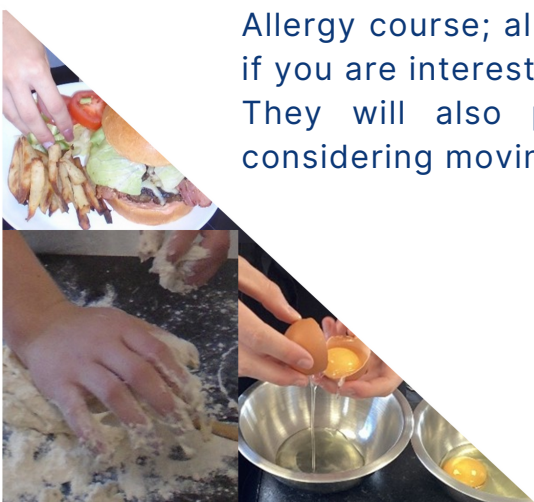
You will learn 'the tricks of the trade' in joining methods, isometric drawing, planning, designing, modelling, making and how to safely use hand tools and power tools, cast metal and computer aided design and manufacture (CAD CAM). You will also learn how to apply a variety of finishes to your products. These courses can lead on to progressing to higher level courses in art, design and technology.

UAS IN FOOD TECHNOLOGY

1 year course

On this course you will have the opportunity to complete a range of unit award schemes that will be selected to suit your taste, interest and ability. All dishes are cooked from scratch. You will have the opportunity to adapt your recipes to suit your taste or dietary requirements. All units are coursework based. There are no final assessments at the end of the year.

You will also have the opportunity to complete nationally recognised courses such as Level 2 Food Hygiene, Level 2 Food Safety and Food Allergy course; all of which will be very impressive on your CV, especially if you are interested in a part-time or full-time job in the catering industry. They will also prove your commitment to the subject if you are considering moving on to catering college in the future.



UAS IN SPORT

1 year course

Level Up Your Game with PE Unit Awards!

Are you ready to take your sporting skills to the next level? With PE Unit Awards, you can get recognised for your effort and achievements in a wide range of sports and activities. Whether you love football, basketball, badminton, cricket, rugby, or even pickleball, there's something for everyone!

You will gain these awards by participating in practical P.E sessions and meeting criteria in different units that has been set out. Along with your teacher, you will need to collect evidence of meeting the criteria for each unit. This can be done by taking photos, videos and feedback to help show the skills you have achieved.

You and your teacher will set out which sports and targets you will be aiming to achieve during your sessions and you will track the progress towards your awards throughout the year. Once you have achieved all of the criteria, you will gain a recognised award at the end of each unit.

So why take part?

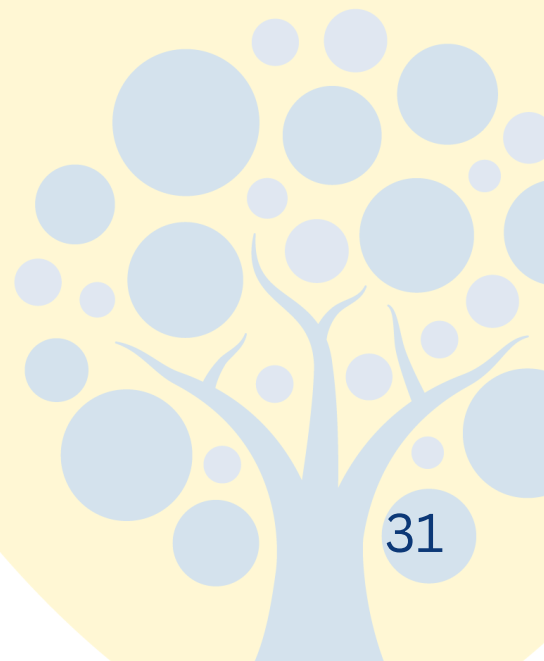
- Try out different sports & activities
- Improve your fitness, teamwork & skills
- Gain a recognised award at the end of each unit
- Achievable, flexible & fun!

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NEXT STEPS

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SELECTING YOUR OPTIONS

Your options will take up 16 lessons in your timetable.

The number of options you take will depend on how many lessons your options require.

Example A:

Selected Option	Number of lessons
BTEC First in Sport	4
NCFE Music Technology	4
RHS Horticulture	4
UAS Food Technology	2
Humanities carouel	2
Total number of lessons	16

Example B:

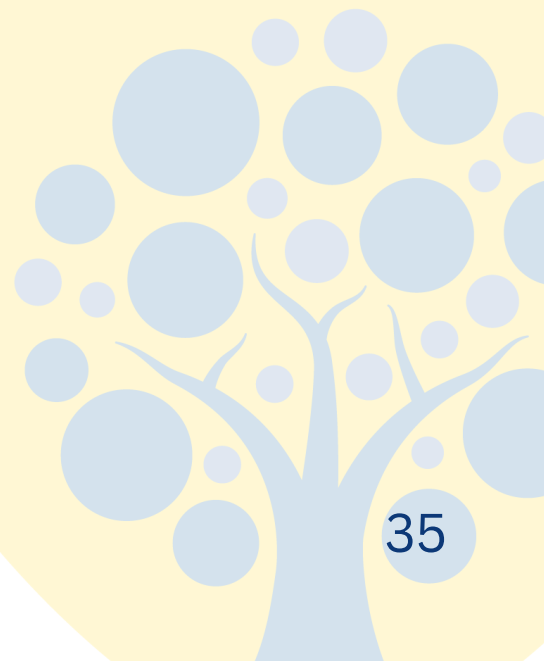
Selected Option	Number of lessons
Teaching & Childcare Carousel	2
Criminal Psychology carousel	2
Film Industry carousel	2
Modeling carousel	2
Trade carousel	2
UAS Food Technology	2
Duke of Edinburgh	4
Total number of lessons	16

LESSON ALLOCATION

Selected Option	Number of lessons
BTEC Art & Design Level 2	4
BTEC First in ICT	4
BTEC First in Sport	4
BTEC Home Cooking Skills	2
BTEC Music Technology	4
Trinity Rock & Pop	4
RHS Horticulture	4
BTEC Performing Arts	4
UAS: Design Technology	2
UAS: Food Technology	2
UAS: Sport	2
UAS Carousels: • Trade • Outdoor living • Modeling • Textiles • The film industry • Humanities • Introduction to Business • Criminal psychology and investigations • Teaching and Childcare • Digital technology and media	2

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. What is the difference between entry level and Functional Skills?

Entry level qualifications are internally assessed by staff in the school and there are not exams.

Functional Skills assessments are graded as pass or fail and the result is based on exam papers.

2. What is the difference between Functional Skills and GCSE in Maths and English?

Functional Skills English focuses primarily on spelling, grammar and verbal communication. The purpose of the course is to get you confident in interacting with others in both written and verbal communication.

A GCSE English course, which takes place over a two year period, will focus more on the theoretical aspect of study whilst enhancing your reading and writing skills. You will delve deeper into the structure of language, analyse types of texts and compare them.

Functional Skills Maths will provide you with mathematical skills that you can use in daily life such as how to split a bill or measure ingredients for cooking.

A GCSE Maths course, which takes place over a two year period, will explore more complex equations and enhance your academic understanding.

3. What is the difference between GCSEs and BTECs?

GCSEs are an academic qualification in a particular subject. They are normally 100% exam based, although some exams are practical exams done under strict supervision, known as a controlled assessment.

BTECs are more practical, specialist courses that are focused on a specific industry or job area. BTECs tend to revolve around coursework and are assessed via a mix of project-based assessments, written tests, online assessments and exams, depending on the course selected.

Both GCSEs and BTECs have equivalent academic value and are widely recognised by employers, colleges and universities.

4. What are the different types of BTECs?

BTEC Level 3 is equivalent to A Levels

BTEC Level 1 and 2 are roughly equivalent to the following GCSE grades:

Level 2 Distinction*: Grade 8/9 (Grade A*/ High A)

Level 2 Distinction: Grade 7 (Grade A/High B)

Level 2 Merit: Grade 5/6 (Grade B/ High C)

Level 2 Pass: Grade 4 (Grade C)

Level 1 Distinction: Grade 3 (Grade D)

Level 1 Merit: Grade 2 (Grade E/F)

Level 1 Pass: Grade 1 (Grade F/G)

5. How many options will I take?

Your options will take up 12 lessons in your timetable.

The number of options you take will depend on how many lessons your options require.

6. I really can't decide. What do I do?

- Talk to someone who listens to you. It could be a family member, a friend or a staff member.
- Ask teachers if they have examples of what they will be doing if you select their subject as an option.
- When or where do you feel most relaxed? For example, if you like to keep your fingers busy, perhaps look further into subjects such as modelling, textiles, Food Technology and/ or Design Technology. If you would rather be outdoors, look further into subjects such as Outdoor living, horticulture and / or Duke of Edinburgh.
- Think also about your hobbies or what you enjoy doing. Do you like cooking, enjoy music, making things or technology? See what options are available for you that you would enjoy. If you enjoy your lessons, you'll find it far easier to achieve success.

7. What are the key dates for selecting my options?

- Assembly: Friday 7th March
- Issue course information to parents: Thursday 6th March
- Options Evening: Thursday 13th March, 3.15pm
- Options taster week: w/c Monday 17th March
- Deadline for options choices: Friday 21st March
- Transition week at Baston House School: w/c 14th July (TBC)

