



GCSE OPTIONS

EBACC Subjects

**Students who want to complete the English Baccalau-
reate should choose TWO from this section.**

**We advice all other students to choose at least one
from this section.**

*You may only select a language you have studied in Years
8 and 9, unless it is your home language which you can
read, write and speak.*

Name.....

My choice(s) from this section:

.....

.....

EBACC SUBJECTS — SUMMARY

You will be advised in your options information and through relevant subject lessons to take

ONE Language from:

- GCSE Arabic
- GCSE French
- GCSE German
- GCSE Spanish
- GCSE Urdu

(To study Urdu or Arabic you need to be able to communicate using the Standard Arabic and Urdu scripts. Your ability to write in the language will be tested during Year 9.)

OR

ONE Humanity from:

- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History

Students wishing to complete the English Baccalaureate will be advised to choose One Language AND One humanity

Some students also take a qualification in their home language as an additional qualification, this is not part of the options process but information on this route (known as HOLA) is included at the end of this booklet.

GCSE ARABIC

The Arabic language is spoken today by around 300 million people in the Middle East and North Africa. It is recognised as an official language in 27 countries (3rd in the world) and is used as a religious language by the world's Muslims, who total around one billion people, making it a truly global language.

The Arabic course will require your enthusiasm and commitment, particularly as you will be aiming to reach GCSE standard in only two years.

Your studies will concentrate on the four key skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. These four skills will be tested in the final GCSE examinations. All students will sit an exam paper in each of these four skill areas and there are no tiers of entry for Foundation and Higher. Instead, each exam papers cover grades 1-9.

You will learn the kind of language you will need if you find yourself in a variety of everyday situations in the Arabic speaking world. Topics and themes studied include: Media, travel and culture, leisure, education and working life.



As the GCSE is studied in two years the course is open to students that have a background in Arabic, and you need to be able to write using the Standard Arabic script. Your ability to write will be tested before starting the course in Y10.

Please note that the course will only run if enough students choose it.

Arabic is a culturally diverse language steeped in history and tradition. There are currently 26 recognised dialects of Arabic in the Arabic speaking world. The GCSE Arabic course will focus on learning Modern Standard Arabic (MSI) اللغة العربية المعيارية الحديثة



| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| الحب Love | الحكمة Wisdom |
| السّلام Peace | الحياة Life |

Assessment

There are two tiers of entry (Foundation or Higher)

Examinations

Listening (25% of final mark)

Reading (25% of final mark)

Speaking (25% of final mark)

Writing (25% of final mark)

After reading this page, I think I will **Definitely** **Possibly** **Definitely Not** choose this subject

GCSE FRENCH

Modern French is an Indo-European language descending from Latin and is spoken by more than 130 million people worldwide. It is recognised as an official language in over 30 countries across five continents, making it a truly global language. Imagine visiting Europe, Africa, Oceania, and being able to communicate with the locals! It is also a very important language in the world of business and commerce.



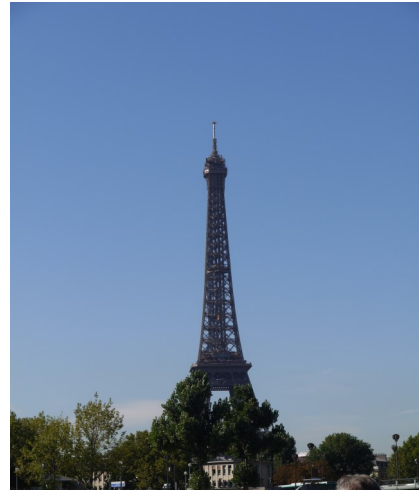
Would you like to be able to understand French TV, Radio programmes and films? Or read French magazines, newspapers and books? Studying GCSE French will allow you to focus your listening, reading, written and spoken skills in the language.

Your GCSE French lessons will expose you to a range of learning resources, and some of your classes will take place in the multi-media room where you can work at your own pace. This helps you learn the language and grammar in a lively and interactive way whilst the use of video and the

taught topics bring French culture into the classroom.

The topics on the GCSE course allow you to apply the language to a range of transactional situations such as shopping, booking ticket and hotel rooms, or going out around town. You will also learn how to interact spontaneously in French, aiming for fluency and improved listening skills. There is no coursework element to this course as it is 100% examination based.

Many firms need people with a second (or third) language. If you are considering going to university, If you do carry on that far, language students are amongst the most employable graduates.



Assessment

There are two tiers of entry (Foundation or Higher)

Examinations

Listening (25% of final mark)

Reading (25% of final mark)

Speaking (25% of final mark)

Writing (25% of final mark)

After reading this page, I think I will **Definitely** **Possibly** **Definitely Not** choose this subject

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Geography explores the issues affecting the world *right now*. Geography helps students understand their own lives in our **dynamic** or **ever-changing world** and face vital issues relevant to young global citizens growing up in the 21st Century. You will also develop skills which will help you in employment, such as completing investigations and being able to analyse.

The AQA GCSE Geography Course consists of three units:

1 Living with the Physical Environment –
This is the natural geography part of the course and includes the topics The Challenge of Natural Hazards, The Living World and Physical Landscapes of the UK. The exam is 90 minutes and is worth 35% of the final grade.

2 Challenges in the Human Environment
This is the social geography part of the course and includes Urban Issues and Challenges, The Changing Economic World, and The Challenge of Resource Management. The exam is 90 minutes and is worth 35% of the final grade.

3 Geographical Investigations –
This unit will assess the student's ability to evaluate a geographical issue, their application of geographical skills and their understanding of fieldwork. Part of the exam will be based on a booklet of resources that relate to a contemporary geographical issue. Another part of the exam will look at the fieldwork investigations students completed and ask them to apply their understanding of their fieldwork. The exam will also assess the student's geographical skills, such as map skills, statistical skills and the use of data. This exam will be 60 minutes and will be worth 30% of the final grade.



Fieldwork

There will be two occasions of fieldwork in contrasting locations. In the past we have attended visits within Sheffield and to the UK's coastline. Both field visits are compulsory so students must be committed to completing the fieldwork aspect of the course.

In addition to this, we have had the opportunity to complete a further day of fieldwork at Flamborough Head to examine coastal processes and landforms. There will potentially be an exciting opportunity for students to attend a non-compulsory residential to Italy.

What next?

Geography is a broad and complementary subject, working well alongside other subject areas. It provides a wealth of different skills relevant to the 21st century and provides students with a wealth of knowledge that future employers value. It provides research, ICT and fieldwork skills, shows students how to present data in a variety of formats, shows students how to make important and justified decisions taking into account many groups of people. Students who complete the course have an up-to-date knowledge of the world around them, the issues that the planet is facing and how they can be overcome.

A Level Geography is taught at King Edward VII School for students who wish to continue with the subject upon completion of GCSE Geography.

Coursework

There is no coursework but students will be expected to complete fieldwork investigations that will prepare them for their Unit 3 exam. This unit has replaced the traditional approach to coursework and controlled assessments.

Examinations

There is one tier for GCSE Geography. There are three written examinations in Geography, all taken at the end of Year 11.

After reading this page, I think I will **Definitely** **Possibly** **Definitely Not** choose this subject

GCSE GERMAN

German is the first language of over 100 million people across the world. In Europe it is the mother tongue of more people than any other language (including English) and is spoken in Germany, Austria and the greater part of Switzerland. In Eastern European countries it is the second foreign language, and more surprisingly, is the second language in some South American countries too. It is a very useful language to learn and has the potential to open a world of opportunities.

Sprichst du deutsch?

Na klar!

Germany has a strong economy and good job prospects for people offering a range of differing skills sets. However, Germans do like you to speak their language. Graduates with German can look forward to securing a good job aboard or in the U.K. as there are over 2000 German companies currently operating in Britain.

As a nation committed to research and development, Germans are on the frontline of new technologies. Germany exports more high-tech products than any other country except the U.S. and more than 600 firms are active in the cutting-edge field of biotechnology. 115 of these are located in Munich alone. The east German city of Dresden has become Europe's microchip centre with more than 765 semiconductor firms.

What do KES students think about learning German?

'German is a powerful language.'

'I like the sound of the language.'

'I love Austria — I want to go back!'

'I can get a good job with German.'

Ich 
Deutsch

Germany has the third largest economy in the world and is the economic powerhouse of the European Union. Austria has been identified as one of the countries whose inhabitants have the best quality of life. Switzerland, another German-speaking country, has one of the highest standards of living in the world.

The GCSE course will focus on the four key language learning areas; listening, reading, writing and speaking, in a fun and interactive way. The topics studied will allow students to feel confident communicating with native speakers on a range of contemporary issues. The course itself is 100% exam based.



Assessment

There are two tiers of entry (Foundation or Higher)

Examinations

Listening (25% of final mark)

Reading (25% of final mark)

Speaking (25% of final mark)

Writing (25% of final mark)

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GCSE HISTORY

Students of history are encouraged to become curious, independent learners.

At King Edward VII School we teach a broad, global history which represents our diverse student body.

You should be interested in the past and ask questions about how it has shaped the world we live in today.

Why did so many ordinary Germans vote for Hitler in 1933?

Are Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin products of the Cold War?

How have attitudes to empire and migration change over time?

Why did the 'Virgin Queen' Elizabeth never marry?

If you're interested in some of these questions and want to explore these topics further then you should consider choosing history.



The GCSE course

The GCSE course follows an engaging curriculum spanning both breadth and depth studies. You will explore the Viking invasion to Hitler's Germany; Elizabethan England to the Cuban Missile Crisis

PAPER 1 Understanding the Modern World

Section A: Germany: Democracy and Dictatorship 1890-1945

Section B: Conflict and tension between East and West in the Cold War 1945-1972

PAPER 2 Shaping the nation

Section A: Britain: Migration, Empire and the People, c.790—Present Day

Section B: Elizabethan England 1558-1603

Assessment

There is a single tier of entry

Coursework

There is no coursework

Examinations

Papers 1 and 2 have exams worth 100% of the final mark which are taken at the end of Y11.

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GCSE SPANISH

Some 400 million people in twenty-one different countries speak Spanish. Its spread throughout the world makes it an enormously important and global language. There are almost three times as many native speakers of Spanish as there are of French. Spanish is third in the list of the world's most spoken languages.

About fifteen million British people go abroad on holiday every year, and a good proportion of them go to Spain. More people visit Spain than any other country, attracted by its sunshine, beaches and festivals, but behind the tourists, Spain lies a world as different from Britain as one could imagine. You will find lonely castles, stately old palaces, winding medieval streets and majestic Moorish architecture. By contrast, Madrid and Barcelona are amongst Europe's most modern cosmopolitan cities.

Spain's Moorish architecture in Seville



'There is no substitute for the ability to deal with foreign customers in their own language'

British Overseas Tourist Board – Report on Foreign Languages

Spain is an important trading nation within the

European Union. Having a knowledge of Spanish has the potential to open many job opportunities to students. School leavers and graduates with a knowledge of Spanish enjoy some of the highest recruitment rates compared to other professions, and job prospects in the Spanish speaking world continue to grow year-on-year.



'...If Spanish were understood and spoken by more executives in Britain today, senior managers would feel more confident in facing up to the opportunities available to our industry in Latin America.'

Latin American Trade Advisory Group

Spanish is currently the most popular language choice for students at GCSE level. During the course students will study a range of contemporary topics which focus on improving students' knowledge of grammar as well as listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. By the end of the course students should feel able to successfully communicate with native speakers. The course is 100% exam based, there is no coursework element.

Parc Guell, Barcelona



Assessment

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Examinations

Listening (25% of final mark)

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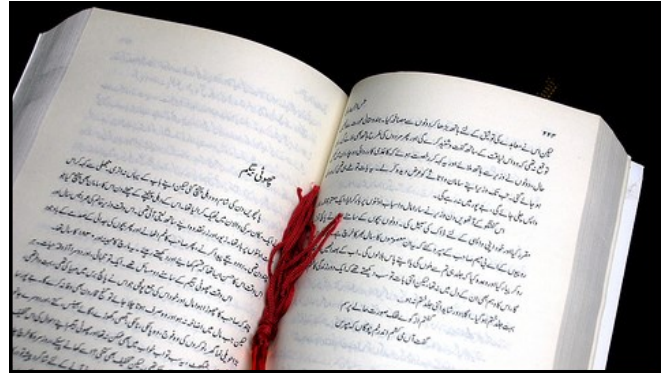
GCSE URDU

Urdu is one of the official languages of Pakistan. It is an Indo-European language, which originated near Delhi. Urdu is now the fifth most widely spoken language in the world. Urdu is heavily influenced by Persian and Arabic and it is written in a modified form of the Persian Arabic alphabet.

The Urdu course will require your enthusiasm and commitment, particularly as you will be aiming to reach GCSE standard in only two years.

Your studies will concentrate on the four key skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing and these four skills will be tested in the final GCSE examination.

You will learn the kind of language you will need if you find yourself in a variety of everyday situations in Pakistan or if you are dealing with Urdu-speaking people in this country. To that extent, your studies will be similar in content to the ones you have already experienced in French and in German or Spanish.

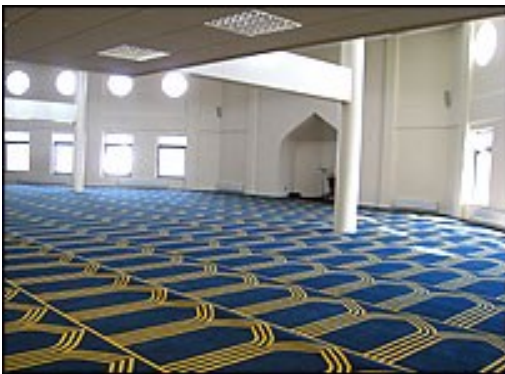


open to those students with a background in Urdu, or a related language, such as Punjabi, will find the study of Urdu more accessible and, therefore, somewhat easier, at least at first.

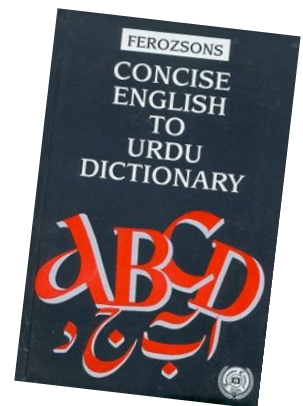
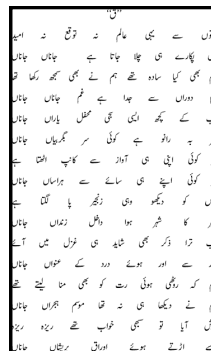


Please note that the course will only run if enough students choose it.

If you are considering choosing Urdu and wish to get more information, or if you wish to discuss your choice, please talk to Mrs Hameed.



The course is



Assessment

There are two tiers of entry (Foundation or Higher)

Examinations

Listening (25% of final mark)

Reading (25% of final mark)

Speaking (25% of final mark)

Writing (25% of final mark)

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HoLA: GCSE

in your Home Language

Many students at King Edward VII School are bilingual, and speak a language other than English at home.

We are very keen to help our bilingual students gain a qualification for their language skills and therefore offer support.

HoLA (Home Language Accreditation) is a city-wide project, led by King Edward VII School, which helps young people prepare for GCSE in the languages they speak.

We offer the following support:

- Trial Exams - to help you find out about the exam and what grade you can expect
- Support with access to extra tuition if you want to improve your grade
- Examination Entry
- Access to a native-speaker examiner for the speaking exam

Languages available:

- Arabic
- Bengali
- Chinese (Mandarin/ Cantonese)
- Dutch
- Modern Greek
- Gujarati
- Modern Hebrew
- Hindi
- Irish
- Italian
- Japanese
- Persian
- Panjabi
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Welsh

Please note that this opportunity is extra-curricular, ie HoLA is not part of your options.



The logo features the word 'HoLA!' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The 'H' is blue, the 'o' is purple, the 'L' is green, and the 'A' is blue. The exclamation point is a dark grey pencil tip. Below the word, the text 'Home Language Accreditation' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font, followed by a small blue circle.