



# HAUTE VALLÉE SCHOOL OPTIONS BOOKLET



**Haute Vallée School**

Achieve. Believe. Care

# 2026

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# Welcome to the Year 8 Options Booklet

“Options time” is an important point in the educational journey undertaken by our sons and daughters; it is both exciting and daunting. In making decisions about future study, it is important that through dialogue and reflection, students consider their strengths and also the subjects that they enjoy most. These considerations will ensure that they are fully equipped for the programme of study that they will follow over the next three years. Moving GCSE Options into Year 8, gives students the advantage of studying their GCSEs over three years rather than the traditional two. This practice significantly increases their GCSE success rates and gives us opportunities to enter students to sit examinations when we believe it will be of most benefit to them; not only at the end of Year 11. Our Summer Results for 2025 were outstanding.

Benefits of a three-year GCSE course include:

- Students become engaged at an earlier stage about their strengths, interests and aspirations.
- Additional time to complete course content and explore the subject more fully – not just teaching to examination specification.
- Additional time is spent on preparing for examinations more thoroughly.
- Time for extra-curricular opportunities.
- Opportunity to explore higher level content over longer period.
- Meet the needs of all learners.
- Removes some of the pressure – students feel better prepared when they have studied subjects over a longer period. Stress levels are mitigated, and confidence improved.
- Gives us flexibility within the curriculum to run year group and enrichment activities - such as visiting speakers, workshops, master classes etc with less impact on other subjects.

At the heart of our curriculum design, all students are taught to Achieve, Believe and Care, leaving Haute Vallée School as well-rounded young adults with the transferable skills and knowledge that they need to succeed in the future.

As the school continues to improve we are seeing more and more students following the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) route in their Key Stage 4 option choices - in response to this and to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum, we would recommend that your child includes at least one of the following subjects in their choices: Computer Science, French, Geography, History, Combined Portuguese/Spanish, Religions Studies, Psychology or Spanish.

We are delighted to offer all students the opportunity to start Year 9 studying Triple Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and this will be reviewed by their teachers throughout Years 10 and 11. We also offer two courses offered in partnership with Highlands College. These are two-year courses and students choosing these courses will be based in school during Year 9 where they will follow an appropriate enrichment offer.

This booklet will help students and parents make decisions about the future and encourage students to choose subjects that suit their aspirations, skills and needs. Each subject page in this document gives a brief outline of each qualification available (including the course content) and explains how students will be assessed.

It is no secret that competition for employment and university places is stronger than ever. Universities and employers want to engage young people who stand out from the crowd. It is our goal to develop confident, ambitious learners who are hungry for success. We hope that the options on offer will support the development of the fully rounded learner.

If you have any questions regarding the Options process that are not answered in this booklet, please do not hesitate to speak to a Staff Member or contact the School Office.



Stuart J Hughes  
Headteacher

# Making Option Choices

As well as the core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Triple Science and core PE, students must select three Options to study in Years 9, 10 and 11. In addition, there will be "Enrichment" sessions throughout Year 9. This will include Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and more.

Choosing options is not always easy and there is a lot to consider. We have tried our best to ensure that students have as much information as possible about the courses on offer and how to make good choices. Subjects should not be chosen based on what their friends want to do, what their parents want them to do, or because of the teacher involved. Choices should be based on what they feel they will be successful in and of course what they are interested in and will enjoy studying.

Students are in the process of receiving presentations during Form Time and lessons by subject leaders from each course and with that information and this booklet, we hope that we have given students and parents the best possible opportunities to make the right decisions for the right reasons.

We are encouraging students to ask questions of teachers and other students to get a real feel of what each course offers and whether it suits them. The more information you have, and the more you consider your options, the better the decision will be.

## Selecting Options

Students should make their selections using an online platform using the guidance below. The platform can be accessed by following this link and entering the student's unique login information.

<https://www.studentoptions.co/hautevallee/>

If students wish to amend their selections, they may do so by logging back in to the platform and updating their choices. The list of available subjects is in this booklet. Final selections must be made by 8pm on Sunday 8th March.

## Making KS4 Option Choices

After carefully considering all KS4 course information available in this document, please follow the guidance below when selecting subjects.

1. Select three subjects by entering 1, 2 and 3 next to your chosen subjects.

**\*Please Note\***

When making these choices, students may choose only one of the following vocational subjects:

Construction, Hair & Beauty, Motor Vehicle.

If selecting Music, students must choose either Performing Arts – Music (Vocational) or Music (GCSE), but not both.

2. Reserve Choices: The final step is to indicate two reserve choices by entering R (first reserve) and S (second reserve)

Once choices are submitted, our system will create option blocks to allow as many students as possible to study their preferred subjects. However, due to certain complexities, we cannot guarantee that every student will receive all their chosen options.

# Options on offer 2026 - 2028

A total of 23 courses are on offer as optional subjects, providing a range of experiences and catering for a wide variety of interests. We encourage students to follow a range of subject courses so that they have a broad and balanced experience and develop a range of skills that will be useful in further education and in employment.

There are courses available in our partnership with Highlands College. These are indicated on the form. These courses are school based in Year 9 and students will be taken to Highlands for one session per week throughout Years 10 and 11.

## The GCSE Options Courses

Students will need to select THREE subjects to study from the list below. In addition students must choose two reserve subjects.

### Subject Options

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Art & Design (GCSE)

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Buisness Studies (GCSE)

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Child Development (Cambridge National)

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Combined Portuguese & Spanish (GCSE)

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Computer Science (IGCSE)

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Design Technology (IGCSE)

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Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)

---

French (GCSE)

---

Geography (iGCSE)

---

History (GCSE)

---

Music (GCSE)

---

Performing Arts (Music) Vocational

---

Performing Arts (Drama) Vocational

---

Photography (GCSE)

---

Psychology (GCSE)

---

Religious Studies (GCSE)

---

Spanish (GCSE)

---

Sport (BTEC)

---

Hair & Beauty (JPQ) - Highlands

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Construction (JPQ) - Highlands

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Motor Vehicle Studies

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# Core Subject: English Language (IGCSE)

Course Leader:	Mr T Hann
Email:	t.hann@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Cambridge International
Specification:	0990



## What will I study?

A range of non-fiction texts in order to read and respond to texts, inferring and deducing meaning. You will also learn how to write a non-fiction text based on the text you have read and how to write summaries.

Teaching will include how to:

- read and respond to texts with critical awareness
- infer and deduce meaning
- examine closely the use of language and its effect
- understand how the techniques and patterns used by writers create effects
- experiment with and use devices, techniques and structures to craft effective writing of your own
- identify bias and use bias to craft persuasive texts of your own
- create engaging and entertaining texts of your own in a variety of forms and genres
- summarise a text.

## How will I be assessed?

The IGCSE is assessed in October and again in May, students have the opportunity to improve the grade they achieve in the October sitting.

- 50% exam at the end of the course
- 50% coursework.

The course is designed so that every student in the school can access the course and enjoy the materials on offer.

The coursework takes the form of 3 pieces:

- Descriptive writing
- Narrative writing
- Responding to an article.

IGCSE English is needed for almost every post 16 route and it is therefore compulsory.

# Core Subject: English Literature (IGCSE)

Course Leader:	Mr T Hann
Email:	t.hann@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification:	4ET1



## What will I study?

A range of literature from 18th, 19th and 20th Centuries. It will include plays, poems, short stories, novels and non-fiction such as newspapers and advertisements. The texts being studied are:

'Of Mice and Men'  
'An Inspector Calls'  
'Macbeth'  
A selection of poetry.

The texts selected will reflect the interests of the group.

Teaching will include:

- Reading texts with critical awareness
- Responding to texts verbally through discussion and debate and in writing
- Understanding of the period in which literature is set
- Some historical research
- Responding to texts in writing - both literary criticism and some re-creative writing
- Examining how language devices are used to create effects
- Examining character and motivations
- Forming opinions based on evidence
- Expressing opinion clearly in speech and writing
- Comparison of texts, ideas and perspectives.

## How will I be assessed?

The IGCSE is assessed via two key components:

60% exam at the end of the course.  
40% coursework

If you like reading then it will be like doing your hobby for an IGCSE.

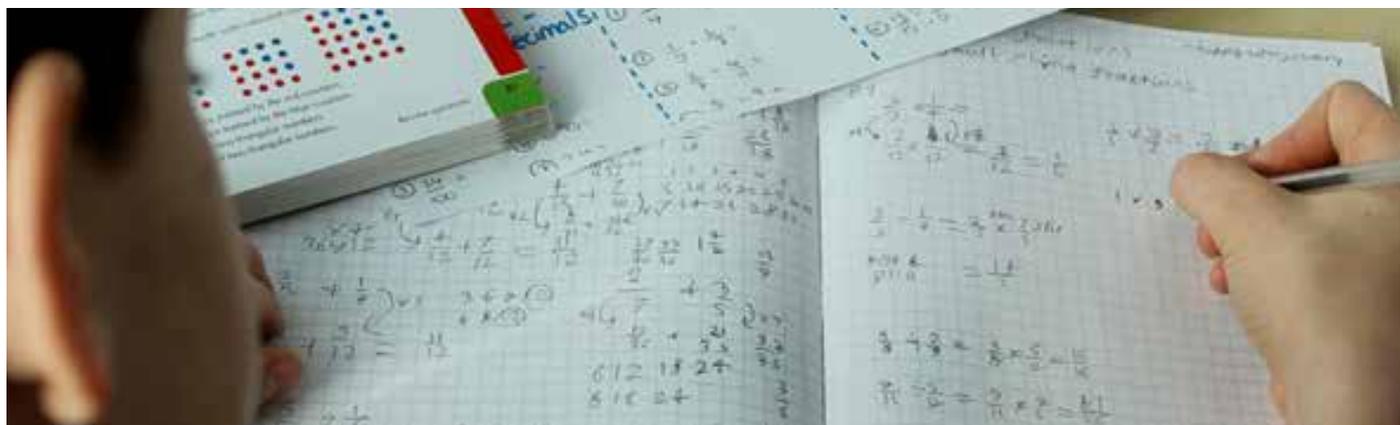
Many of the texts are classics, which feature in modern films and we will be using film clips and film versions of the texts to add to your understanding and enjoyment.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar is only 5% of the course, so you needn't worry if you don't feel that you are a good writer; you can get a good English Literature grade even if you find writing hard.

There will be lots of discussion and debate about the texts we read.

# Core Subject: Mathematics (IGCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss M Hanrahan
Email:	m.hanrahan@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Pearson Edexcel
Specification:	4MA1



## What will I study?

Mathematics is the language of the Universe. Students will learn a variety of concepts and how to apply them in different contexts to solve problems.

Mathematics is arranged into the following strands:

### Number

- Use numerical skills in a purely mathematical way and in real-life situations.

### Algebra

- Use letters as equivalent to numbers and as variables.
- Understand the distinction between expressions, equations and formulae.
- Use algebra to set up and solve problems.
- Demonstrate manipulative skills.
- Construct and use graphs.

### Geometry

- Use properties of angles.
- Understand a range of transformations.
- Work within the metric system.
- Understand ideas of space and shape.
- Use ruler, compass and protractor appropriately.

### Statistics

- Understand basic ideas of statistical averages.
- Use a range of statistical techniques.
- Use basic ideas of probability.

## How will I be assessed?

The IGCSE is assessed in November and again in May, giving students the opportunity to improve on the grade they achieve in the earlier sitting.

Students sit either Foundation tier (giving access to grades 5-1) or Higher tier (grades 9-4) students take the tier that is most appropriate for their ability.

There are two equally weighted papers for each tier Paper 1 and Paper 2, both calculator papers. Assessment objectives AO1 Number and Algebra. AO2 Shape, space and measures. AO3 Handling data.

IGCSE Mathematics is needed for almost every post 16 route, it is therefore compulsory.

# Core Subject: Triple Science (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Mrs R Gallagher
Email:	r.gallagher@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Pearson Edexcel
Specification:	Biology (1BI0), Chemistry (1CH0), Physics (1PH0)

## What will I study?

At Haute Vallee we will deliver the Triple Science Edexcel Program to ALL students in Year 9.

Academically this award will consist of three full GCSEs.

At the end of Year 9 students will be guided towards either remaining on this route of progression or moving to the Combined Edexcel GCSE route.

If students remain on the Triple Science route, this will count as three separate GCSE grades. The Combined Edexcel GCSE route is a Double Award, therefore awarding two GCSE grades.

### Biology

- Key Concepts
- Cells & Control
- Genetics
- Natural Selection & Genetic Modification
- Health, Disease & the Development of Medicines
- Plant Structures & their Functions
- Animal Control, Coordination & Homeostasis
- Ecosystems & Material Cycles
- Brain & the Eye (Biology)
- Osmo- and Thermoregulation (Biology)

### Chemistry

- States of Matter
- Methods of Separating & Purifying Substances
- Atomic Structure
- Periodic Table
- Ionic Bonding
- Covalent Bonding
- Types of Substance
- Acids & Alkalis
- Calculations Involving Masses
- Electrolytic Processes
- Obtaining and Using Metals
- Reversible Reactions & Equilibria
- Groups in the Periodic Table
- Rates of Reaction
- Heat Energy Changes
- Fuels

- Earth & Atmospheric Science
- Nanoparticles (Chemistry)
- Fuels (Chemistry)

### Physics

- Motion
- Motion & Forces
- Conservation of Energy
- Waves
- Light & the Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Radioactivity
- Energy – Forces Doing Work
- Forces & their Effects
- Electricity & Circuits
- Magnetism & the Motor Effect
- Electromagnetic Induction
- Particle Model
- Forces & Matter
- Static Electricity (Physics)
- Astronomy (Physics)

## How will I be assessed?

Both routes will include 6 examinations at the end of the three years, in Year 11.

Two examinations in Biology, two in Chemistry and two in Physics.

Triple Science examinations will be 1 hour and 45 minutes whilst the Combined Science examinations will be 1 hour and 10 minutes.



# Art & Design (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Mrs S Boccone
Email:	s.boccone@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	AQA
Specification:	8201



## What will I study?

The AQA GCSE Art and Design course is entirely practical in content, involving no written examination. Students will be assessed on a portfolio of course work containing at least two projects and one other project which is taken under exam conditions.

During the course, students will be introduced to a variety of Art media and processes. Both traditional and experimental techniques will be studied and applied to the coursework projects, for example: different types of drawing, printing, painting and photography. The focus of the course encourages research and development of ideas through a variety of creative processes, including drawing and experimentation with different media and processes.

Students also need to research the subject from a historical, cultural and contemporary perspective using this research to inform and develop their ideas and outcomes.

Work can develop and evolve in either two or three dimensions and there are opportunities to produce both small and larger scale pieces. There are also opportunities to work on areas and themes of personal interest as the course progresses. Throughout the three years students are encouraged to develop a personal style involving research and exploration of ideas and a processing of these ideas into resolved Art pieces.

## How will I be assessed?

Course structure:

Unit 1: Personal Portfolio in Art and Design (60% of final mark)

Internally set and marked; assessed.

Unit 2: Externally set exam assignment (40% of final mark)

10 hour controlled-conditions final piece.

Externally set theme and internally marked.

Both units are assessed using the four revised assessment objectives. These are summed up as: Develop, Review, Record and Present.

## Is this Course right for me?

Choosing Art & Design is a rewarding and challenging course for any student that wants to develop self- confidence, creative thinking and practical skills for life. You should also be a hard worker who is able to work independently and manage your time.

# Business Studies (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss S Dimaro
Email:	s.dimaro@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Pearson Edexcel
Specification:	1BS0



## What will I study?

Theme 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

Theme 1: Investigating small business

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business

Theme 2: Building a business

Theme 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with an emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. It also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

## How will I be assessed?

Theme 1: Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks

Theme 2: Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks

Each paper is divided into three sections: Section A: 35 marks Section B: 30 marks Section C: 25 marks Each paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts given in the paper. Calculators may be used in the examination.

## Is this Course right for me?

If you enjoy:

- communicating and explaining your ideas
- thinking creatively and making decisions
- working with numbers to solve business problems
- learning about the world of business through real and relevant local and international brands

then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you.

# Child Development (Cambridge National)

Course Leader:	Ms V Shanklyn
Email:	v.shanklyn@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	OCR
Specification:	J809



## What will I study?

Unit R057 - Health and wellbeing for child development (externally assessed). In this unit you will learn about the importance of both pre-conception health and creating conditions in which a child can thrive, including the prevention and management of childhood illnesses and creating a safe environment.

Unit R058 - Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years (NEA). In this unit, you will learn how to create a safe environment for children from birth to five years in childcare settings. You will investigate and choose equipment that is both suitable and safe for use and will learn about their nutrition and dietary needs.

Unit R059 - Understand the development of a child from one to five years (NEA). In this unit you will learn the expected developmental norms for children from one to five years. You will use observation and research techniques and skills to investigate these development norms and explore your findings. You will also learn the importance of creating plans and providing different play activities to support children in their development.

## How will I be assessed?

R057: Health and well-being for child development

- Contraception to antenatal care
- Pre-conception health and postnatal care
- Right conditions for a child to thrive
- Childhood illnesses and a safe environment

1hr 15 min Examination (40%)

R058: Create a safe environment and understand

the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years.

- Creating a safe childcare setting
- Childhood accidents
- Suitable and safe equipment
- Nutrition and preparing and a bottle or meal

Internally moderated coursework(30%)

R059: Understand the development of a child from one to five years.

- Development norms 1–5 years
- Observation and research techniques
- Stages and types of play
- Play activities to support development

Internally moderated coursework (30%)

## Is this Course right for me?

It will suit any student who is seriously considering a career within Child Development; this could be within the Early Years setting or for those who wish to pursue a career in Midwifery, Nursery Nurse, Childminder or Pre-school/Nursery School Assistant.

Anyone who wants to achieve a high grade will find that this is an interesting alternative to other subjects normally on offer. Students will develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities, and attitudes essential to anyone who is interested in working in the sector.

The well-developed personal skills (e.g., initiative, teamwork and problem-solving) combined with work-related knowledge gained within this course means that students are particularly suitable for recruitment in a range of employment categories, e.g., health, care or early years settings.

# Combined Portuguese/Spanish (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss R Durbano
Email:	r.durbano@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification:	1PGO / 1SP18698



## What will I study?

Our MFL Department here at Haute Vallee is passionate about languages. In Jersey we are very fortunate to encompass a panoply of cultures and languages amongst our inhabitants and embrace a strong Portuguese community. With this in mind, we are delighted to be able to include a combined Portuguese-Spanish GCSE option.

Our combined Portuguese/Spanish option gives a fantastic opportunity for those who are fortunate to already have some fluency in Portuguese to study and sit a Portuguese GCSE within 1 year and then move on to a two year Spanish GCSE. Within both the Portuguese & the Spanish GCSE specifications students will study topics within the following themes:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- Future aspirations, school and work
- International and global issues

## How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed in four skills (Listening, Reading, Speaking & Writing) and each skill equals 25% of the final GCSE grade.

For the combined Portuguese / Spanish option, students will sit their Portuguese GCSE exams in the Summer Term and then move to study Spanish during Years 10 and 11. All students will sit Spanish mock exams for Listening, Reading & Writing at the end of Year 10 and twice again in Year 11, along with mock Speaking tests.

## Is this Course right for me?

If you enjoy communicating with people, making new friends from other countries, travelling, and learning about other cultures, then this is the course for you.

A good language GCSE is highly regarded by many universities, even if it has not been studied at A Level. This course develops communication skills and helps understand the Portuguese culture strongly embedded in our Jersey community.

# Computer Science (IGCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss S Dimaro
Email:	s.dimaro@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Pearson Edexcel
Specification:	1CP2



## What will I study?

### Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science

- Computational thinking
- Data
- Computers
- Networks
- Issues and impact

### Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking

- understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work in relation to creating programs
- understanding how to decompose and analyse problems
- ability to read, write, refine and evaluate programs.

## How will I be assessed?

### Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science

This paper consists of five compulsory questions, each one focused on one of the topic areas. The questions consist of multiple-choice, short-, medium- and extended-open response, tabular and diagrammatic items.

### Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking

This paper is practical in nature and requires students to design, write, test and refine programs in order to solve problems.

Students will complete this assessment onscreen using their Integrated Development Environment (IDE) of choice.

They will be provided with:

- coding files
- a hard copy of the question paper
- Programming Language Subset (PLS) - as an insert in the question paper and an electronic version.

Students should then answer the six compulsory questions onscreen using Python 3

## Is this Course right for me?

Computer Science is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages students to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts in Computer Science. Students also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.

If you are a logical thinker and you like problem-solving and Mathematics is one of your strengths, this could be the course for you.

# Design Technology (IGCSE)

Course Leader:	Mr S Browne
Email:	s.browne@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Cambridge International
Specification:	0979



## What will I study?

Design & Technology enables learners to identify, consider and solve problems through creative thinking, planning and design, and by working with different media, materials and tools to produce a made product. Students gain technical and design awareness and develop skills such as initiative, resourcefulness, enquiry and ingenuity. They also develop the communication skills central to the design process. Design & Technology provides an ideal basis for further study and equips learners with technical knowledge and practical designing and making skills for the world of work.

## How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1 - 1 hour 15 minutes - Product Design - 25%**

- 50 marks
- Questions will be based on the Common content: Product Design

**Component 2 - Project - 50%**

- 100 marks

**Paper 3 - 1 hour - Resistant Materials - 25%**

- 50 marks
- Questions will be based on the Specialist option: Resistant Materials and the Common content: Product Design

## Is this Course right for me?

Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

# Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Mr S Browne
Email:	s.browne@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	AQA
Specification:	8585



## What will I study?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition allows you to extend a range of practical life skills as well as building your knowledge and understanding in the nutritional value of a wide range of food and drink. Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes. Studying nutrition will help with PE, Science and Child Development GCSEs as well as working in the catering industry.

Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.

You will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.

Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks

By the end of the course you will be able to understand the economic, environmental, ethical and social-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, and diet and health choices.

## How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Written examination at the end of 3 years. Food Preparation and Nutrition  
Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes - 50% of qualification

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action Assessment  
Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Assessment  
A food investigation which will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food - 15% of qualification

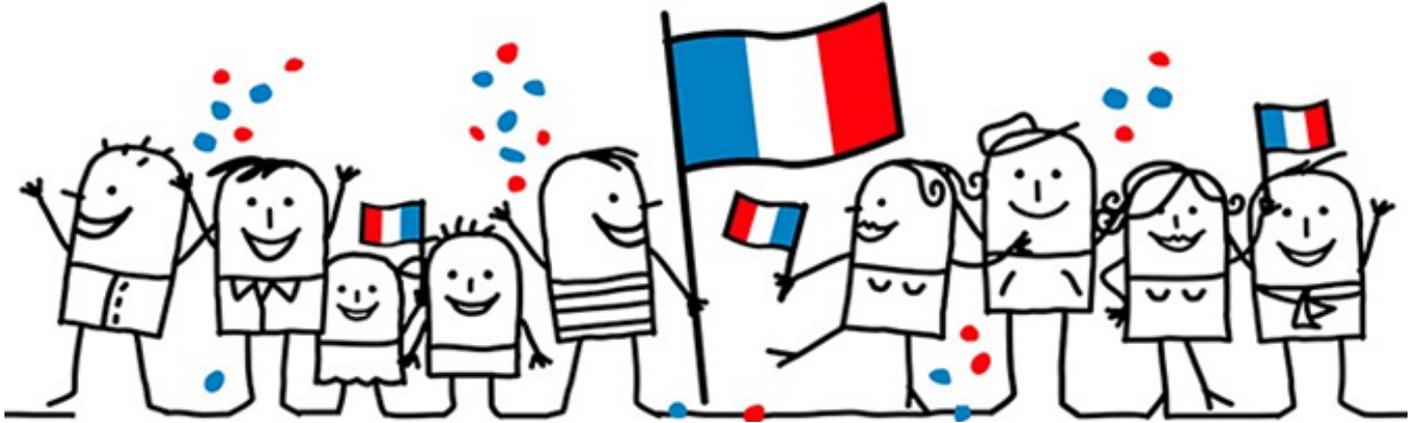
Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Assessment  
Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food. Be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment - 35% of qualification.

## Is this Course right for me?

Do you enjoy cooking? Have you been organised with your ingredients in Key Stage 3?  
This course offers you an insight into a huge industry in Jersey as well as the world. It will help you as a future consumer as well as give you a range of key skills in cooking.

# French (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss R Durbano
Email:	r.durbano@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	EDEXCEL
Specification:	1FR1



## What will I study?

The course involves building on previous knowledge gained during KS3. The students will learn useful, everyday topics, in French, as well as about the culture in French speaking countries. These tie in with the GCSE themes. A native French speaker will help you to prepare for your speaking exams.

- MY PERSONAL WORLD
- LIFESTYLE & WELLBEING
- MY NEIGHBOURHOOD
- MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY
- STUDYING THE FUTURE
- TRAVEL & TOURISM

## How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed in four skills (Listening, Reading, Speaking & Writing) and each skill equals 25% of the final GCSE grade. All students sit mock exams for Listening, Reading & Writing at the end of Year 10 and twice again in Year 11, along with mock Speaking tests.

## Is this Course right for me?

If you enjoy communicating with people, making new friends from other countries, travelling, and learning about other cultures, then this is the course for you.

A good language GCSE is highly regarded by many universities, even if it has not been studied at A Level.

Studying French through this course develops communication skills and helps the understanding of FRENCH - an official language of Jersey. It also aides the appreciation of the French culture deeply rooted in Jersey's history and geography.

# Geography (IGCSE)

Course Leader:	Mr A O'Hare
Email:	a.ohare@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification:	4GE1



## What will I study?

The Edexcel IGCSE specification studies Geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them. Students will study:

**Physical Geography** – physical geography and interactions between the people and the environment processes and interactions.

**Coastal Environments** – the processes that give rise to characteristic coastal landforms, threats facing coastal ecosystems and studies of coastal management in differing coastal regions.

**Hazardous Environments** - the characteristics and distribution of different types of natural hazard, the measurement and impacts of hazards and studies of the management of an earthquake in varying locations.

**Coastal Fieldwork** – students are required to undertake a geographical investigation involving fieldwork and research, in one natural environment.

**Human Geography** – humans and their relationships with communities, cultures, economies, and interactions with the environment

**Urban Environments** - trends, characteristics and problems associated with urban environments.

**Economic Activity & Energy** - variations in economic activity over time and spatially, the relationship between population and resources.

**Urban Fieldwork** - Geography fieldwork involves researching a local issue, gathering data, analysing the results and drawing conclusions.

**Global Issues** - students are required to apply their knowledge and understanding of human and physical geography to investigate broader global issues.

Students will answer a question based on one of the following topics:

- fragile environments and climate change
- development and human welfare.

## How will I be assessed?

There will be two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Physical Geography  
Written exam: 1hr 10mins

Paper 2: Human Geography  
Written exam: 1hr 45mins

## Is this Course right for me?

Students should have an interest in the wider world and want to understand their role in society as well as different viewpoints, values and attitudes. Through discussion, documentaries and real life examples we explore the geographical issues here in Jersey, the UK and worldwide.

# History (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Mr M Ingram
Email:	m.ingram@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification:	1HIO



## What will I study?

The Edexcel History GCSE course includes a wide range of themes, historical events and periods, so students can understand the past and its impact on the world.

### Medicine in Britain (1250-Present):

This is the study of how key features in the development of medicine were linked with key features of society in Britain in the following periods: Medieval; Renaissance; 18th-19th Centuries; and Modern.

### British Sector of the Western Front:

This is the study of surgery and treatment on the British sector of the Western Front during World War One, 1914-18.

### The American West (1835-95):

This is the study of the early settlement of the West; the development of the Great Plains; and the conflicts and conquest that resulted from this.

### Early Elizabethan England (1558-88):

This is the study of the Queen, government and religion; the challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad; and Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration.

### Weimar and Nazi Germany (1918-39):

This is the study of the Weimar Republic; Hitler's rise to power; Nazi control and dictatorship; and Life in Nazi Germany.

## How will I be assessed?

100% Exam = 3 Exam Papers:

Paper 1: Medicine in Britain and Western Front = 30%

Paper 2: The American West and Early Elizabethan England = 40%

Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany = 30%

## Is this Course right for me?

Through History, you gain an understanding of what is happening in the present, as it is a result of the past. You find out about what beliefs and events have shaped your world and therefore gain a clearer idea of the future. You have to analyse evidence (books, websites, sources etc.), weigh up different arguments and reach clear explanations. Be prepared to read challenging material, have an enquiring mind and even an enthusiasm for the past. It is a reading and writing subject so be prepared to do both!

# Motor Vehicle Studies

Course Leader:	Mrs R Knowles
Email:	r.knowles@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	NCFE
Specification:	N/A



## What will I study?

This is an ideal starter course for anyone considering a career as a service technician who is interested in working in the automotive industry and wants to learn about repair and vehicle refitting. This course is the start of a journey for jobs that can be as varied as the fast fitting of tyres and exhausts to working with Formula One racing vehicles.

Examples of what you can study on this course:

- Health & Safety in the Automotive Environment
- Routine Vehicle Servicing
- Use of Workshop Tools & Equipment
- Steering Systems & Tyre Technology for Light Vehicles

## Is this Course right for me?

If you are interested in learning more about the automotive industry. After this course you could progress to:

- Level 2 diploma
- An apprenticeship in the automotive industry

# Music (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss C Cooper
Email:	c.cooper@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Eduqas
Specification:	C660QS

## What will I study?

The Eduqas GCSE Music course has three components: Performing, Composing and Appraising (Listening.)

### Performing 30%:

Playing music on your own and in a group. This could be in any style, on any instrument or voice, including DJ skills, rapping, singing, band and orchestral instruments.

Two pieces: Teacher assessed

1 solo piece and 1 ensemble/ group piece. Any instrument / voice or technology option. 4-6 minutes. Standard G3 for top marks

### Composing Music 30%:

Exploring how great pieces of music were put together, then when you have learnt some of the techniques, composing your own music. This could involve using computer software, writing for a specific purpose, writing songs etc.

### Two Pieces: Teacher assessed

1 piece set by the exam board (choice of 4 styles)  
1 free composition

### Appraising 40%: External exam:

Listening to a variety of music and learning how to identify the facts about what you hear. You will already have heard about the elements of music in your Key Stage 3 lessons. At GCSE you focus on how these are used for different purposes.

Listening examination: 8 questions, 2 on each area of study: AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices (including a set work\*) AoS 2 Music for Ensemble AoS 3 Film Music AoS 4 Popular Music (including a set work\*)

## How will I be assessed?

**Component 1 Performance - Teacher assessed**

**Component 2 Composition – Teacher assessed**

**Component 3 Appraising – Externally assessed**

This is a GCSE course, and it is graded 1-9

## Is this Course right for me?

If you already play an instrument or sing, you can develop your skills and get a GCSE out of it!

If you want to try playing a different instrument you can develop new skills that stay with you for life.

If you are a creative person who wants to learn to make music, this course will give you that chance

If you love listening to music, and can spot all the details, sing every riff and “air-drum” every beat you have already developed some of the abilities you need. If you can already think that rhythm or sing that tune in your head, you have some skills!

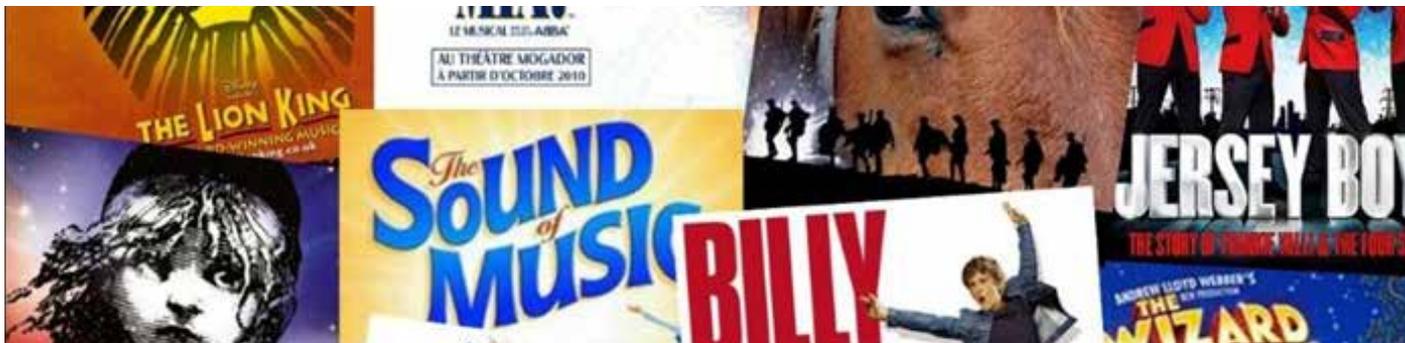
What skills will I gain?

Studying music will give you opportunities for higher order thinking, by considering ideas which go beyond language. This is great brain-training which will help you in other areas too. You will gain a deep understanding of a number of transferable skills and practice applying these to new situations, developing analytical and problem-solving skills

NB: You do not have to perform live on stage!

# Performing Arts - Drama (Vocational)

Course Leader:	Miss C Cooper
Email:	c.cooper@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Eduqas
Specification:	Level 1 / 2 Vocational Award in Performing ARTS (DRAMA)



## What will I study?

This qualification is made up of 3 units:

### Unit 1: Performing

You will learn the skills and techniques needed to produce a successful performance of an extract from an existing play or show.

This unit can be completed through any of the following disciplines:

Drama, Musical Theatre (which may incorporate dance).

### Unit 2: Creating

You will learn how to create and refine your own original work in performing arts, through any of the following: Devised drama, Choreography, Costume design, Lighting design, Make-up and hair design, Set design, Sound design.

### Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

You will learn about areas of the performing arts industry that need to be considered when responding to a commission and will consider these when coming up with and pitching your own idea.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through project work:

For Units 1 and 2 you will undertake projects (not exams) in response to briefs. The project for each Unit will take 10 hours and be worth 30% of your qualification. For each one you will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

In Unit 3 you will undertake another project (no exam) in response to a brief, which will take 20 hours and be worth 40% of your qualification. You will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

This is a Level 2 course and it is graded as shown below:

Level 1 pass, Level 1 Merit, Level 1 Distinction, Level 2 Pass (equivalent to 4) Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction.

## Is this Course right for me?

Do you have an interest in, or enjoy drama, dance, design.

Would you like to find out about how the Performing Arts industry works whilst developing your skills?

Do you like project work?

The skills acquired on this course can be beneficial to a wide range of jobs - students gain confidence, show commitment, independence, problem solving, responsibility, time management and are able to demonstrate good decision-making and evaluation skills.

# Performing Arts - Music (Vocational)

Course Leader:	Miss C Cooper
Email:	c.cooper@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Eduqas
Specification:	Level 1 / 2 Vocational Award in Performing ARTS (MUSIC Pathway)



## What will I study?

This qualification is made up of 3 units:

### Unit 1: Performing

You will learn the skills and techniques needed to produce a successful performance of an existing piece of music.

This unit can be completed through any of the following disciplines:

Music, Music Technology

### Unit 2: Creating

You will learn how to create and refine your own original piece of music and can be completed by Composing, Composing using Music Technology.

### Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

You will learn about areas of the performing arts industry that need to be considered when responding to a commission and will consider these when coming up with and pitching your own idea.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through project work:

For Units 1 and 2 you will undertake projects (not exams) in response to briefs. The project for each Unit will take 10 hours and be worth 30% of your qualification. For each one you will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

In Unit 3 you will undertake another project (no exam) in response to a brief, which will take 20 hours and be worth 40% of your qualification. You will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

This is a Level 2 course and it is graded as shown below:

Level 1 pass, Level 1 Merit, Level 1 Distinction, Level 2 Pass (equivalent to 4) Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction.

## Is this Course right for me?

Do you have an interest in, or enjoy listening to music?

Would you like to find out about how the Performing Arts industry works whilst developing your instrumental or vocal skills?

Do you like project work?

The skills acquired on this course can be beneficial to a wide range of jobs - students gain confidence, show commitment, independence, problem solving, responsibility, time management and are able to demonstrate good decision-making and evaluation skills.

# Photography (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Mrs S Boccone
Email:	s.boccone@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	AQA
Specification:	8206



## What will I study?

Photography: Lens-based and light based media (AQA) GCSE Specification: Students will be assessed on a portfolio of course work containing at least two projects and one other project which is taken under exam conditions.

During the course, students will be introduced to digital based processes. Both traditional and experimental techniques will be studied and applied to the coursework projects, for example: different types of image capture and manipulation. The focus of the course encourages research and development of ideas through a variety of creative processes, including drawing and experimentation with different media and processes.

Students also need to research the subject from a historical, cultural and contemporary perspective using this research to inform and develop their ideas and outcomes. Written work is a part of your course and the expectation is that you will continually analyse your own work and the work of others for one of the Assessment objectives.

Work can develop and evolve in either two or three dimensions and there are opportunities to produce both small and larger scale pieces. There are also opportunities to work to areas and themes of personal interest as the course progresses.

Throughout the three years students are encouraged to develop a personal style involving research and exploration of ideas and a processing of these ideas

## How will I be assessed?

60% Portfolio work 40% Exam.

Course structure

Unit 1: Personal Portfolio in Photography-Digital Portfolio  
(60% of final mark)

Internally set and marked; assessed.

Unit 2: Externally set exam assignment (40% of final mark)

10 hour controlled conditions final piece. Externally set theme and internally marked.

Both units are assessed using the four revised assessment objectives. These are summed up as: Develop, Review, Record and Present.

## Is this Course right for me?

Choosing Photography is a rewarding and challenging course for any student that wants to develop self-confidence, creative thinking and practical skills for life. You need to have an interest in taking photos and how to analyse images. You should also be able to manage your time efficiently and work harmoniously in a group. A competent level of written literacy is needed for one of the assessment objectives.

# Psychology (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss A Halsall
Email:	a.halsall@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	OCR
Specification:	J203



## What will I study?

This GCSE course in Psychology provides an introduction into the study of the mind and behaviour. The study of Neuroanatomy (brain structures) and Research Methods (how psychologists conduct investigations or psychological studies) are embedded throughout the course, but are focused on during the Year 9 skills units. There are six units of work studied in Years 10 and 11 that each include key content, two core theories, two core studies and an application of that area of psychology:

- Criminal Psychology – defines crime and looks at the theories of why people commit crimes.
- Development – studies how the brain changes through key developmental stages and looks at how we learn.
- Psychological Problems – defines mental health and focuses on the psychology of schizophrenia and depression.
- Social Influence – investigates how other people affect our own behaviour and how we can bring about social change.
- Memory – the cognitive approach to how we remember information and how this can be applied to advertising.
- Sleep and Dreaming – studies the different stages of sleep and types of insomnia, as well as introducing Freudian dream analysis.

The course is delivered using ICT resources, so students will also develop their ICT skills in Microsoft Teams, OneNote, PowerPoint and Canva, amongst other programmes. Each unit is themed to help improve student engagement and understanding of context.

## How will I be assessed?

Students will sit two GCSE exams in Year 11 and there is no coursework. Paper 1 assesses students' understanding of Criminal Psychology, Development, Psychological Problems and Research Methods. Paper 2 tests understanding of Social Influence, Memory, Sleep & Dreaming and Research Methods.

Both exams are 90 minutes long and consist of a combination of short and medium length questions and one 13-mark essay question. A minimum of 20% of the overall marks are related to research methods and at least 10% of those marks are for Maths-related questions.

## Is this Course right for me?

This is a Science-based course with new key terminology, essays and mathematical analysis. As you have not studied Psychology before it is recommended that you have a resilient approach to learning, as this is a challenging but highly interesting course.

Studying Psychology can help you understand the motivations behind people's behaviour and can support careers in marketing, sports psychology, business, counselling and many more. You will develop your skills in recall, communication, critical thinking and numeracy.

# Religious Studies (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Mrs C Riley
Email:	c.riley@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	AQA
Specification:	8063A



## What will I study?

### Component 1:

The study of religion: beliefs, teachings and practices

Christianity: The nature of God, Jesus Christ and salvation, worship and festivals, the role of the church and wider community.

Islam: Key beliefs, authority, worship, duties and festivals

### Component 2:

Religious, philosophical & ethical studies

4 Thematic Modules Taken:

- Relationships and families
- Religion and life
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Religion, crime and punishment

## How will I be assessed?

100% exam completing two papers. Both papers have the same equal weighting 50%

## Is this Course right for me?

Religious Studies covers a wide range of issues that affect millions of people around the world. It widens your awareness of the surrounding world and teaches people to communicate their own views on many different topical areas. It reflects the fast changing world you live in.

Students will gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. They will develop analytical and critical-thinking skills, and the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills.

# Spanish (GCSE)

Course Leader:	Miss R Durbano
Email:	r.durbano@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	EDEXCEL
Specification:	1SP1



## What will I study?

Spanish is offered as an option at Key Stage 4. This is a three-year course leading to GCSE.

The course involves learning useful, everyday topics, in Spanish, as well as the culture in Spanish speaking countries. These tie in with the GCSE themes, and 'Current & future study & employment'. A native Spanish speaker will help you to prepare for your speaking exam.

- MY PERSONAL WORLD
- LIFESTYLE & WELLBEING
- MY NEIGHBOURHOOD
- MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY
- STUDYING THE FUTURE
- TRAVEL & TOURISM

## How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed in four skills (Listening, Reading, Speaking & Writing) and each skill equals 25% of the final GCSE grade.

All students sit mock exams for Listening, Reading & Writing at the end of Year 10 and twice again in Year 11, along with mock Speaking tests.

## Is this Course right for me?

If you enjoy communicating with people, making new friends from other countries, and learning about other cultures, then this is the course for you.

Studying Spanish through this course develops communication skills and helps develop an understanding of the Spanish language and the Hispanic culture.

A good language GCSE is highly regarded by many universities even if it has not been studied at A Level.

# Sport (BTEC)

Course Leader:	Mrs P Paine
Email:	p.paine@hv.sch.je
Exam Board	Pearson
Specification:	603/7068/3



## What will I study?

This course allows you to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through realistic vocational contexts. You will investigate provisions for sport including equipment and facilities to enhance sport. Plan and deliver sports drills and sessions. Develop applied knowledge of fitness for sport including fitness testing and methodology.

Learners will explore the different types and provision of sport and physical activity available for different types of participants, barriers to participation and ways to overcome these barriers to increase participation in sport and physical activity. They will also research equipment and technological advances in a chosen sport or physical activity and how to prepare our bodies for participation in sport and physical activity.

You will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on performance, take part in practical sport, explore the role of officials in sport and learn to apply methods and sporting drills to improve other participants' sporting performance.

You will also be introduced to and develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and the different types of fitness for performance in sport and physical activity. You will also develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing.

## How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Non-exam internal assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson. The Pearson-set Assignment will be completed in approximately 5 hours of supervised assessment. 60 marks.

Component 2: Non-exam internal assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson. The Pearson-set Assignment will be completed in approximately 4 hours of supervised assessment. 60 marks

Component 3: External assessment set and marked by Pearson, completed under supervised conditions. The assessment will be completed in 1.5 hours within the period timetabled by Pearson. 60 marks.

## Is this Course right for me?

Students should have an interest in sports analysis and sports leadership, using realistic contexts. Students should also have an interest in coaching and teaching PE, along with a knowledge and understanding of the benefits of regular participation in sport and physical activity.

# Jersey Progression Award in Construction and the Built Environment



## Haute Vallee and Highlands Partnership



Course Leader:	Highlands College
Email:	deborah.holdridge@highlands.ac.uk



### How long is the course and when does it run?

- Two year course
- Year One 2.5 HRS x 38 weeks
- Year Two 2.5 HRS x 33 Weeks = 177 Hours (Approx.)

### Progression at Highlands could include:

- Level 2 diploma
- An apprenticeship in the construction industry

### What will I study?

There are many exciting construction projects happening in Jersey. Highlands College is proud to be a part of providing young people with the skills and training required to be successful in gaining employment.

These technical qualifications can also form part of the City & Guilds TechBac – an exciting new framework for learning designed to give 14-16 year olds the technical and professional skills needed to progress from FE onto an apprenticeship, into university or into the modern jobs market.

# Jersey Progression Award in Hair and Beauty Studies



## Haute Vallee and Highlands Partnership



Course Leader:	Highlands College
Email:	deborah.holdridge@highlands.ac.uk



### How long is the course and when does it run?

- Two year course
- Year One 2.5 HRS x 38 weeks
- Year Two 2.5 HRS x 33 Weeks = 177 Hours (Approx.)

### What will I study?

Jersey has a thriving hair and beauty industry. Highlands College is proud to offer a wide range of high quality accredited qualifications in all aspects of hair and beauty, providing young people with the skills and training required to be successful in gaining employment and career progression. These technical qualifications can also form part of the City & Guilds TechBac – an exciting new framework for learning designed to give 14 - 16 year olds the technical and professional skills needed to progress from FE onto an apprenticeship, into university or into the modern jobs market.

Examples include:

- The available industries within the sector
- Key features of hair and beauty careers
- Business and industry links
- Chemistry of cosmetics and their use
- Biology related to hair and beauty
- Use of design in business
- Planning and creating images in hair and beauty

### Progression at Highlands could include:

- Progression on to a Level 2 Course at Highlands
- An apprenticeship in the Hair and Beauty sector



**HAUTE VALLEE SCHOOL**  
**La Grande Route du Mont a L'Abbe St. Helier**  
**JE2 3HA**