



ALEC REED ACADEMY

Year 9 Mastery Pathways

2026-2029



PROUD TO LEARN

January 2026

Dear Pupils and Parents/Carers,

Mastery Pathways

This booklet provides an overview of the KS4 options process for 2026-2029 we hope that you find the information, relevant, useful and accessible. The Mastery Pathways have been designed to be interesting, stimulating and exciting providing a broad and balanced curriculum that provides each individual a route to academic success and employment. The curriculum continues to place considerable emphasis on the core of English, Mathematics and Science and has two distinct pathways that enable pupils to have a tailored selection of courses that best meets their personal requirements.

When considering their choices, pupils should gather as much information as possible and carefully consider the views of their teachers and parents/carers. They should choose a combination of subjects that provides a balanced pathway taking into consideration their personal interests and abilities. Where possible they should pick subjects which they will enjoy and where they will achieve success. It is important that where pupils have formed clear aspirations for their future studies and career, that their choices support these goals.

Over the next couple of months, the academy will work closely with parents and pupils to arrive at the best possible personalised programmes of study to ensure the best outcomes at the end of KS4 for each individual child.

Yours sincerely,

The ARA Teaching Team

Some Tips for Making Good Choices

When considering your option choices you should try to balance the following factors:

- Interest and enjoyment
- Ability and progress
- Sensible combinations (those which are likely to ensure a broad education)

Do.....

- Choose courses you are interested in and which you are likely to enjoy
- Think about the variety within your curriculum as you select your subjects and try to arrive at a balance which matches your talents
- Choose courses in which you are likely to achieve success
- Choose courses that fit with your future needs
- Remember that the courses last for three years – you will not be able to change your mind at the end of Year 9 or Year 10!
- Find out more about careers you may be interested in
- Talk to your parents, your teachers and our Connexions Advisor. Although they will not want to make the decision for you, they will each have an important perspective
- Try to be realistic in your choices; commitments out of school such as drama, music and sport are also important and should complement your subject choices and studies.

Don't.....

- x Choose subjects just because your friends are choosing them.
- x Choose a subject just because you get on well with your teacher. You might well have a different teacher at KS4. On the other hand, if your current teacher has inspired you with the subject, then choose it. Motivation is vital to success at any subject.



The Curriculum Offer and Pathways

At ARA we direct pupils to follow one of two pathways through KS4. They are named after precious stones as they all have value and are tailored to suit the needs of individuals. Each of the pathways has a common core that all pupils follow:

- English Language GCSE
- English Literature GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE
- Double Science (equivalent to two GCSEs)
- PE (non-examined)
- PSHE (non-examined)

Ruby Pathway

Pupils placed on the Ruby pathway follow a curriculum which includes a combination of courses that means they are following a broad academic route that provides a good grounding for the study of a wide range of subjects at university.

Pupils will follow the common core alongside picking a humanity subject (Geography, History or RS). They will also be asked to pick a language (Spanish or French) or a creative subject to study, (Art, Drama, Music, Photography, Product Design).

They will then have two 'open' choices from all other subjects.

Emerald Pathway

The second pathway is designed to provide a more tailored route for pupils that may find nine academic subjects challenging. This route still provides sufficient depth and breadth to enable pupils to excel in school and achieve great results but also delivers additional support in literacy, numeracy, life skills and employability.

Pupils will follow the common core whilst being asked to pick either a humanity, language or creative subject to study. In one of their subject blocks they will receive specialist teaching to support the development of core skills and prepare them for employment. For some pupils, that are new to the country, this time may also be spent on the acquisition of English.

They will then have two further 'choices' from the open list of subjects.

Curriculum Offer and Pathways

Number of lesson per week

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Ruby	Maths				English			Science				Humanity		MFL or Creative		Open Choice 1		Open Choice 2		PE		PSHE			
Emerald	Maths				English			Science				Humanity, MFL or Creative		Open Choice 1		Open Choice 2		Literacy, Numeracy & life skills		PE		PSHE			

Non-Examined Subjects

PSHE:

In Year 9 PSHE continues to be an important part of school life supporting the development and wellbeing of pupils. Pupils are given a range of opportunities to engage with education centred around citizenship; careers and futures; and their personal and social health including Relationships and Sex Education.

To augment this, we are also fortunate to receive a number of visiting speakers who present pupils with stimulating talks, aimed at educating pupils on a broad range of issues, from the risks of alcohol and drugs, to positive mental wellbeing and self-esteem.

Year group teams also play a vital role in upholding our values and ensuring that pupils receive a fully rounded education, exploring pertinent issues in a tutor group context.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

We try to encourage pupils to lead healthy and active lives and taking part in sport is a key element of this. All pupils will take part in an hour per week of core PE as part of their school studies.

Examined Subjects:

The following pages provide some information regarding the subjects that are available to help pupils make appropriate choices. An electronic form will be distributed to collect preferred subject choices by email, it is very important that you follow the **instructions** on the application form and **meet the deadline**.

Once all the forms have been collated, we will work out the subject classes; we do it in this order so that we can maximise the number of pupils who get the subjects they want. It is not possible for every child to get their top choices, some of the courses offered may not run if we do not have sufficient pupil numbers to make them viable, other subjects may be oversubscribed. Where this is the case decisions about who should study the course will be taken by the relevant teachers and senior staff. These decisions will be based on teacher assessment, along with consideration of any other factors we believe relevant in determining a pupil's suitability for a particular course. Behaviour record and past effort may be relevant.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I have to make choices?

We want you to concentrate on subjects that are (i) vital to your future – this is why you all continue to study Maths, Science, PE and English, and (ii) interesting and relevant to your future; you have the chance to 'specialise' a little bit.

What is the core curriculum that all pupils take in Years 10 and 11?

All pupils continue to study English, mathematics, science, PSHE and PE.

How much time does each subject get?

That depends on the subject. Open subject choices receive 5 hours over a fortnight. Maths, English and Science receive more curriculum time than this. In Year 11 there will also be lessons during period 6 to maximise your chances of achieving top grades.

Is PE in the core, or an open subject to choose?

All pupils have core PE. It is also possible to opt for a qualification in PE (where you will study BTEC Sport).

How do I know what subjects to take?

There is lots of guidance. Read the 'Mastery Pathway' brochure, watch the subject videos, come to the Parents' Evening and talk to your teachers and parents! As a rule, choose the subjects which you like most and work hardest in, whilst aiming to keep a broad range.

What happens after I have submitted my online form?

All the forms are collected, and everybody's subject choices are entered into a computer. We then use this to work out the 'best fit' model for the classes. Every year, however, we must speak to a few pupils because of the following issues:

- Perhaps not enough people want to study a subject so we cannot make a class
- Perhaps too many people want to study a subject and we haven't got enough teachers to put on an extra class
- Perhaps somebody has made option choices that are inappropriate for them



Key Dates

January

Subject Assemblies

Mastery Pathways Information Evening:

- A presentation for parents and students
- The chance to speak to subject teachers about the courses you are interested in studying in Years 9 and to ask them questions
- Forms emailed to students within 48 hours of information evening

Monday 23rd February 2026

This is the **final deadline** for your Mastery Pathway form to be completed on.

Pathways forms will then be processed for timetabling purposes. Unfortunately, any subjects which are under-subscribed may have to be withdrawn from the timetable.

June 2026

A confirmation letter will be sent home as a record of the choices made. This letter will also contain information on what to do if you change your mind about any of your choices.

Humanities

Religious Studies

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code: 8062

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

RS allows all students, believers and nonbelievers, to think about the ways in which religion can affect issues in our everyday lives. This course will provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of religion by exploring the significance of the beliefs and practices of religious believers.

In the exam, candidates will be expected to illustrate their answers by reference to actual arguments put forward by philosophers in relation to the issues. We live in a multicultural society that includes people from many religious & cultural backgrounds. RS is relevant to everyone, no matter what students want to do in the future.

How it will be assessed

The course is assessed by two exam papers of 1 hour 45 minutes each. There is no coursework.

Paper 1

Christianity

- Beliefs and teachings
- Practices
- Worship and Festivals

Judaism

- Beliefs and teachings
- Practices
- Worship and Festivals

Paper 2

- Theme B: Religion and life
- Theme C: The existence of God and revelation
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment

GCSE Religious Studies Specification B offers students the opportunity for the thematic study of Religion and religious responses to fundamental questions of life. This specification is suitable for candidates of any religious persuasion or none.

Geography

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code: 8035

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

Living with the physical environment:

- 3.1.1 Section A: The challenge of natural hazards
- 3.1.2 Section B: Physical landscapes in the UK
- 3.1.3 Section C: The living world

Challenges in the human environment:

- 3.2.1 Section A: Urban issues and challenges
- 3.2.2 Section B: The changing economic world
- 3.2.3 Section C: The challenge of resource management

Geographical applications:

- 3.3.1 Section A: Issue evaluation
- 3.3.2 Section B: Fieldwork

Geographical skills:

- 3.4 Geographical skills

How it will be assessed

Living with the physical environment

Written paper - 35%

Challenges in the human environment

Controlled assessment - 35%

Geographical applications

Written paper - 30%

Who should choose this course?

Students should consider geography if they:

- enjoy studying about people, their societies, culture, economies and the environment.
- are interested in topical subjects that are in the news.
- are keen to learn in the field, not just in the classroom.
- are keen to learn a wide range of skills

History

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus Code: 1H10

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

GCSE History looks in detail at a diverse range of topics, including:

- a thematic study spanning medieval, early modern and modern history
- a period study covering at least 50 years
- a British depth study **and** a non-British depth study from different eras (modern, early modern and medieval)
- a study of the historic environment

How it will be assessed

Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present with Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city

Written Paper – 30%

Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88 and British America, 1713–83: empire and revolution

Written Paper – 40%

Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

Written Paper – 30%

Who should choose this course?

The most important qualification for GCSE History is enthusiasm and curiosity. Good verbal and written communication skills are also important. It is essential that candidates possess an inquiring mind, an interest in the past, and the ability to communicate this effectively.

Successful History students will become practiced in the analytical research, and study skills that are useful in Higher education and in the workplace. History is a well respected discipline and is invaluable to any student intending to follow an academic subject. Those who wish to enter into the professions of accountancy, law, journalism, medicine and teaching will find that admission tutors look favourably upon History.



MFL & Creative Subjects

French

Exam Board:

Pearson

Syllabus Code: 1FR1

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

This course is structured around five key themes.

- Identity and culture.
- Local area, holiday and travel.
- School.
- Future aspirations, study and work.
- International and global dimension.

How it will be assessed

Four external examined papers, focusing on different language skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each skill is worth 25%

Each skill has its own separate exam that will make up the final GCSE grade.

Who should choose this course?

- those interested in adding an international dimension to their choice of GCSE subjects, thereby making themselves more employable.
- those willing to create greater opportunities for themselves to work for companies with international links or abroad.
- those who see the potential of speaking French in as many as 29 countries, where French is an official language.
- those who will appreciate that French is not only useful as a qualification but also understands that many advanced words in English stem from French.
- those who interested in going to university as an additional language is increasingly seen as an important entry qualification for university.

Spanish

Exam Board: Pearson

Syllabus Code: 1SP1

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

This course is structured around five key themes.

- Identity and culture.
- Local area, holiday and travel.
- School.
- Future aspirations, study and work.
- International and global dimension.

How it will be assessed

Four external examined papers, focusing on different language skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each skill is worth 25%.

Each skill has its own separate exam that will make up your final GCSE grade.

Who should choose this course?

All interested in understanding and communicating in the second most spoken language in the world.

- All interested in liaising with Latin America, now emerging as one of the global markets of the 21st century.
- All interested in developing their communication skills, vital for success in the world of work and interested in giving themselves a broader outlook on life.
- All interested in going to university as an additional language is increasingly seen as an important entry qualification for university.

Art & Design - Art, Craft & Design

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Code: 8201

Qualification: GCSE

QAN code: 601/8088/2

About the course

Students are introduced to a wide variety of experiences that explore a range of both two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, processes, and techniques. This GCSE course strongly encompasses the specialisms of Fine Art and Three-Dimensional Design, promoting a breadth of activities, knowledge and the creative learning practices of

painting, drawing, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, installation & printmaking. Critical and contextual studies of original artworks and practices provide direct engagement and deeper understanding of the visual language, connecting with the different domains of Art, Craft & Design.

How it will be assessed

Coursework - 60% of final mark

Controlled Test - 40% of final mark

Who should choose this course?

This course will appeal to you if you:

- have high aspirations and a strong desire to start your creative journey
- want to explore different ways of working using two-dimensional and three-dimensional experiences
- are interested in developing visual language skills as a way of communicating and connecting with others
- enjoy focused work within a collaborative community of artists and creative learners.

Art and Design – Graphic Communication

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code: 8203

Qualification: GCSE

QAN code: 601/8088/2

About the course

The GCSE Art and Design: endorsed Graphic Communication course allows students to work within many areas of the Graphics spectrum, for example illustration, advertising, packaging design, design for print, communication graphics, computer graphics, multimedia, web design, lens-based design, film,

animation, video and photography. **How it will be assessed**

Coursework - 60% of final mark

Controlled Test - 40% of final mark

Who should choose this course?

This course will appeal to you if you:

- Have a keen interest in acquiring a job in the Graphic design industry, such as architecture, App and website design, marketing, print and film and TV
- Want to develop skills using computer software such as Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign.
- Are interested in developing an understanding about visual communication
- Enjoy problem solving and designing on the computer

Photography

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code: 8206

Qualification: GCSE

QAN code: 601/8088/2

About the course

Photography is defined as the practice of producing images using light-sensitive materials such as photographic film, or digital methods of development and production to create static or moving images. Photography students will demonstrate the ability to use photographic techniques and processes, for example: lighting, viewpoint, aperture, depth of field, shutter speed and movement, use of enlarger, chemical and/or digital processes, use media and materials, graphic media, storyboarding, planning and constructing shoots.

How it will be assessed

Coursework - 60% of final mark

Controlled Test - 40% of final mark

Who should choose this course?

This course will appeal to you if you:

- Have a keen interest in acquiring a job in the Film industry, graphic design, architecture, App and website design, marketing, print and TV
- Want to develop skills using photographic processes & computer software such as Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign.
- Are interested in developing an understanding about visual communication
- Enjoy problem solving and manipulating images on the computer



Art and Design – Textile Design

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code: 8204

Qualification: GCSE

QAN code: 601/8088/2

About the course

The GCSE Art and Design: endorsed Textiles course allows students to work within many areas of the textile spectrum, for example printmaking, dying, batik, free-hand machine embroidery, fashion, domestic Textiles and craft.

It is about having an adventurous and enquiring approach to Textiles and developing the skills to express it. Students will develop an understanding of past and contemporary Textiles and be able to produce a personal response embracing a range of ideas.

How it will be assessed

Coursework - 60% of final mark

Controlled Test - 40% of final mark

Who should choose this course?

This course will appeal to you if you:

- Have a keen interest in art, design and textiles
- Enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to your life and experiences
- Want to find out more about art, design and textiles through personal investigation
- Are interested in developing an understanding of how textiles is all around us
- Want to move on to a related career or further education in either art, design or textiles
- Enjoy practical work and independent experimentation
- Are imaginative and creative

Music

Exam Board: OCR

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

The GCSE Music course is designed for anyone who enjoys creating, performing or listening to music. The course helps students to understand how music works so they can create their own music with confidence and a sense of their own identity. The course is split into three units:

Unit 1 Integrated Portfolio (30%): Performing (15%): You will work together and independently to perform pieces of music on your chosen instrument or voice. By the end of the course, you will have recorded one performance as either a soloist or as part of a group which is marked by us and then sent to the exam board.

Composing (15%): You will experiment with different musical ideas to create a piece of music in a style of your own choice.

Unit 2 Practical Portfolio (30%) Performing (15%) By the end of the course, you will have recorded a performance as part of a group, playing your chosen instrument or singing.

Composing (15%) You will experiment with different musical ideas to create a piece of music in response to a brief.

Unit 3 Appraising (40%) You will perform, create and listen to pieces of music and work out how they have been put together. You will develop a bank of musical language that will help you to explain how music works and how to communicate with other people working in the industry. This unit is assessed through a final exam comprising eight questions where you will listen to pieces of music and answer questions about what you hear.

Who should choose this course?

If you enjoy playing music; singing music; writing your own music; recording your own music; or listening to music, then this course is for you. Content creators need to learn how to perform and write things which will engage an audience. This could be for:

- Film, TV, Games and online content
- Live Performance and Studio Recording

Each unit also develops the skills which are sought by universities and employers due to the balance of critical listening, teamworking and independent creative thought involved.

Choose this course if you want to learn how music works so that you can both play it and write it better!

Drama

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code:

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

GCSE Drama is a mix between using and understanding practical performance skills and understanding how Drama, Theatre and Performance are used. Across three components you will explore one full play, exploring acting, costume, set and sound design. You will also create your own play for performance and write a log explaining how you used your skills to create this. Then you will perform two extracts from one play for performance to a visiting examiner. This is a course which allows you to hone your communication, teamwork and creative skills as well as performance or production skills. Drama isn't just about acting, and you can complete this course either as an actor, a set designer, costume designer, puppet designer or lighting designer

Component 1: Understanding Drama

Component 2: Devising Drama

Component 3: Texts in Practice

How it will be assessed

The course is assessed through coursework and exam.

Component 1 is assessed through a written exam at the end of Year 11

Component 2 is assessed through an in-class performance and a written piece of coursework. These are devised and performed in groups.

Component 3 is assessed through a performance to a visiting examiner in school

Who should choose this course?

You should choose this course if you are passionate about performing arts and are interested in creating theatre. The skills you learn throughout GCSE Drama are beneficial for any public facing role, including medical, customer service, management as well as careers in the performing arts sector.

Design & Technology

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus Code: 4555

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

Design and technology (Product Design) is a practical subject area which requires the application of knowledge and understanding when developing ideas, planning, producing products and evaluating them. The distinction between designing and making is a convenient one to make, but in practice the two often merge. For example, research can involve not only investigating written documentation and people's opinions, but also investigating proportions, colour, structures, circuits and materials through practical modelling work.

This specification will allow candidates to specialise in the focus area of product design where you will learn about a range of materials, manufacturing techniques

and technologies – and be able to use them as appropriate to the “design and make” process.

Project Examples:

- Project 1: Design and make an item of furniture – lighting, chairs, tables etc
- Project 2: Redesign, conceptualise, modify and improve existing products
- Project 3: Design and make an artefact using mechanisms - cranks, gears, pulleys and levers

processes, techniques and technologies – and be able to use them as appropriate to the “design and make” process.

How it will be assessed

Unit 1: Written Paper (2 hours) 50% of the overall mark.

Approximately (45 hours) 50% of the overall mark

Unit 2: Design and Making (Practical Task).

Approximately (45 hours) 50% of the overall mark.

The Open Choice Curriculum

Depending on the pathway you have been placed on you will pick a certain number of subjects from the open choice curriculum. As part of the open curriculum, you may pick a second subject from the Humanities, MFL and Creative sections above or any of the subjects below. The number of subjects that you are expected to select will be very clear on the form sent to parents via email. Please be aware that 'Art, Craft & Design', 'Graphic Communication' and 'Textile Design' cannot be picked alongside each other. It is possible to choose any of the above subjects alongside 'Photography' though.

Triple Science is also an option for those on the Ruby or Sapphire pathway. Please be aware that this is the **only subject in the school where we select who is appropriate for this course** from those who have applied using a range of data.

Computer Science

Exam Board: OCR Syllabus

Code: J277 **Qualification:**

GCSE

About the course

Computers are synonymous with modern day living and are often so well integrated into the world around us that they go unnoticed. This course lifts the lid on the silicon chip and traces its history from its very beginnings to the present day. Students will learn to:

- develop their understanding of current and emerging technologies and apply this knowledge in a wide range of contexts
- acquire and apply knowledge, technical skills and an understanding of algorithms in digital solutions to solve problems using programming
- use their knowledge and understanding of computer technology to become independent and discerning users of ICT, able to make informed decisions about its use, and have an awareness of the implications of different technologies.

- acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT in a range of contexts
- develop computer programs to solve problems
- develop the skills to work collaboratively
- evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs/solutions and the impact of and issues related to the use of computer technology in society.

How it will be assessed

Computer Systems: Written paper - 50%

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming:

Written paper - 50%

Who should choose this course?

Students should consider Computer Science if they:

- enjoy modern technology and how it is used in society.
- are competitive in problem solving and enjoy challenges.
- are keen to work independently to explore technologies to design practical solutions.
- are persistent in achieving goal even when facing difficulties.

Business Studies

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus Codes: 4080

Qualification: GCSE

About the course

This GCSE specification introduces learners to the business world, empowering them to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals. The focus of the specification is to introduce and nurture an enthusiasm for studying business in a range of contexts.

Learners will appreciate how businesses operate in a dynamic and competitive environment and develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business functions from a local to a global perspective. Learners will also have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills, enabling them to use business information critically, to develop arguments, to make justified decisions and to prepare them for further study and career pathways.

Prior Learning and Progression

There is no specific requirement for prior learning with this specification. It builds upon the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired at Key Stages 1-3 in a wide range of subjects.

Specification Content

The content is presented in 6 clear and distinct topics:

- Business activity
- Influences on business
- Business operations
- Finance
- Marketing
- Human Resources

How it will be assessed

Written paper - 75% (2 hours) 100 marks

Controlled Assessment Coursework - 25% 60 marks

Who should choose this course?

Business Studies is a contemporary and “real world” subject that is academically rigorous and challenging, which introduces pupils to the dynamics of how a business is set up and organised. It puts individuals in a much better position to enter the world of work within some form of business organisation. Business Studies also helps develop a range of important and transferable skills: data skills; presenting arguments and making recommendations on the basis of the available evidence; problem solving; ICT, team working and communication skills.

Health and Social Care

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus Code: 600/4782/3

Qualification: BTEC Level 2 TECH Award in Health and Social Care

About the course

The course is made up of three components: two internally assessed and one that's externally assessed.

Core Units:

- **Human Lifespan Development** - Internally assessed assignments, 30% of the total course.
- **Health and Social Care Services and Values** - Internally assessed assignments, 30% of the total course
- **Health and Wellbeing** - Externally assessed task, 40% of the total course

How it will be assessed

The BTEC Level 2 TECH Award Qualification in Health and Social Care is graded at Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*.

Who should choose this course?

This course is suitable for all individuals thinking of a career supporting people in the Health or Social Care sector e.g. Early Years care,

nursing, pediatrics', midwifery, social work, teaching and similar careers, police service, probation service, paramedic, health visiting

mental health, counselling, occupational Health, physiotherapy, youth work etc. The course will give pupils the knowledge, understanding and skills to help prepare them for employment or to lead on to further areas of study.

Sport Science

Exam Board: Edexcel

Qualification No: 603/7068/3

Qualification: BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award

About the course

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Sport is for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through vocational contexts by exploring the different types and providers of sport and physical activity and the equipment and technology available for participation. The knowledge, understanding and skills learned in studying a BTEC Tech will aid progression in further study (Level 3 or A Level Physical Education) and, in due course, prepare learners to enter the workplace.

Key features include:

- Is a Level 1/Level 2 qualification; the grades range from Level 2 P to Level 2 D*. Learners who do not achieve at Level 2 may be graded at Level 1.
- Is a 120-guided-learning-hour qualification.
- has 25 per cent of the qualification that is externally assessed. Pearson sets and marks these assessments
- presents knowledge in a work-related context

Who should choose this course?

BTEC Firsts are for Students who:

- Wish to gain a detailed understanding of Sports and the sports industry
- Recognise the implementation of science and how developments in technology can impact on sports
- Have a desire to perform, improve and analyse performance through the study of Biomechanics and Anatomy and Physiology
- Have a deep interest in the sporting and physically education context
- Have a serious ambition to move into employment in the sports world be that intellectually or as a performer, coach, leader or teacher
- Have previously shown dedication and desire when taking active roles within physical education lessons or when representing the school

Travel and Tourism

Exam Board: Edexcel/Pearson

Syllabus Code: 603/3038/7

Qualification: Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Travel and Tourism

About the course

Travel and Tourism is for learners who want to acquire knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by exploring the aims of different travel and tourism organisations, the features of tourist destinations, how organisations meet customer requirements, and the influences on global travel and tourism.

Core Units and How it will be assessed

Learners are required to complete and achieve all the components included in the qualification:

1. Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations
2. Influences on Global Travel and Tourism
3. Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism

The BTEC Tech award is a level 2 qualification, graded at Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*.

Why choose this course?

The travel and tourism sector is the UK's third- largest employer, accounting for 9.5 per cent of total employment. This Award complements the learning in GCSE programmes such as GCSE Geography and GCSE Business by broadening learners' experience and skills participation in different contexts. The course will give pupils the knowledge, understanding and skills to help prepare them for employment or to lead on to further areas of study. The outlook for the travel and tourism sector remains robust and it will continue to be at the forefront of wealth and employment creation in the global economy.



ALEC REED ACADEMY
PROUD TO LEARN

Year 9 Mastery Pathways

Year 9 courses covering 2026-2029

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