



Haute Vallée School

Achieve . Believe . Care

YEAR 8 GCSE OPTIONS BOOKLET 2023



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 daunting and exciting. In making decisions, it is important that through dialogue and reflection, students consider their strengths and also the subjects that they enjoy studying. 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, not only at the end of Year 11. Our Summer Results for 2022 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.
- Prepare for examinations more thoroughly with additional time for guided revision.
- 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 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 Vallee 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 GCSE options. In response to this and to ensure your son/daughter has a broad, balanced and appealing curriculum we ask in the first instance they choose one of the following subjects as their first choice: History, Geography, RE, French, Spanish, Portuguese or Computer Science. We are delighted to offer all students the opportunity to start Year 9 studying Single Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) this will be reviewed by their teachers throughout KS4. We also offer three 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 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.



Mr Stuart J Hughes
Headteacher



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Making Options 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 through this information and 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 - Completing the forms

Students must complete an options form and return it to school by Monday 13 March 2023.

Students must choose three option subjects that they are interested in following, and two reserves. Students should identify these on the options form by ranking their choices from 1 to 4 (3 and 4 being the reserves). One of these options will be a Humanity (History, Geography or Religious Studies) or a language (French, Spanish or Portuguese) or Computer Science. Two further options should be selected as well as two reserves.

There is some additional guidance to follow when making choices. This can be found on the form. From these choices, four 'Option blocks' will be created. They will be a best fit based upon giving as many students as possible, their top 4 choices or their reserves. It should be noted that a course may not run if too few students select it, therefore other subjects may need to be identified in case this should happen. It is our priority to ensure that as many students follow their top four selections as possible, but it is unlikely that this will be the case for all.

Key Dates

Monday 20 February to Friday 3 March

Options presentations in lessons / Form time

Thursday 9 March

Year 8 Options Evening

Monday 13 March

Options forms returned to Form Tutors

Options on offer 2023 - 2026

A total of 27 courses are on offer as optional subjects, providing a range of experiences and catering for a wide variety of interests and learning styles. 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 afternoon per week throughout Years 10 and 11.

The GCSE Options Courses

Students must select ONE of the subjects from the list below

Subject Options
Computer Science (IGCSE)
French (GCSE)
Geography (GCSE)
History (GCSE)
Portuguese (GCSE)
Religious Studies (GCSE)
Spanish (GCSE)

Students will also need to select TWO other subjects to study from the list below (please note that students will be asked to choose FOUR subjects from the list below, giving a priority 1st to 4th - 3rd and 4th being reserves).

Subject Options	
Art & Design (GCSE)	Music (BTEC)
Child Development (Cambridge National)	Performing Arts (BTEC)
Computer Science (IGCSE)	Sport (BTEC)
Design Technology (IGCSE)	Photography (GCSE)
Enterprise (formerly Business Studies) (BTEC)	Portuguese (GCSE)
Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)	Religious Studies (GCSE)
French (GCSE)	Spanish (GCSE)
Geography (GCSE)	Hair & Beauty (JPQ) - Highlands
History (GCSE)	Construction (JPQ) - Highlands
Information Technology (IGCSE)	Automotive (JPQ) - Highlands

Core Subject: IGCSE English Language



Course Leader: Mr T Hann
Email: t.hann@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Cambridge Assessment
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: IGCSE English Literature

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 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 course.
50% coursework

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

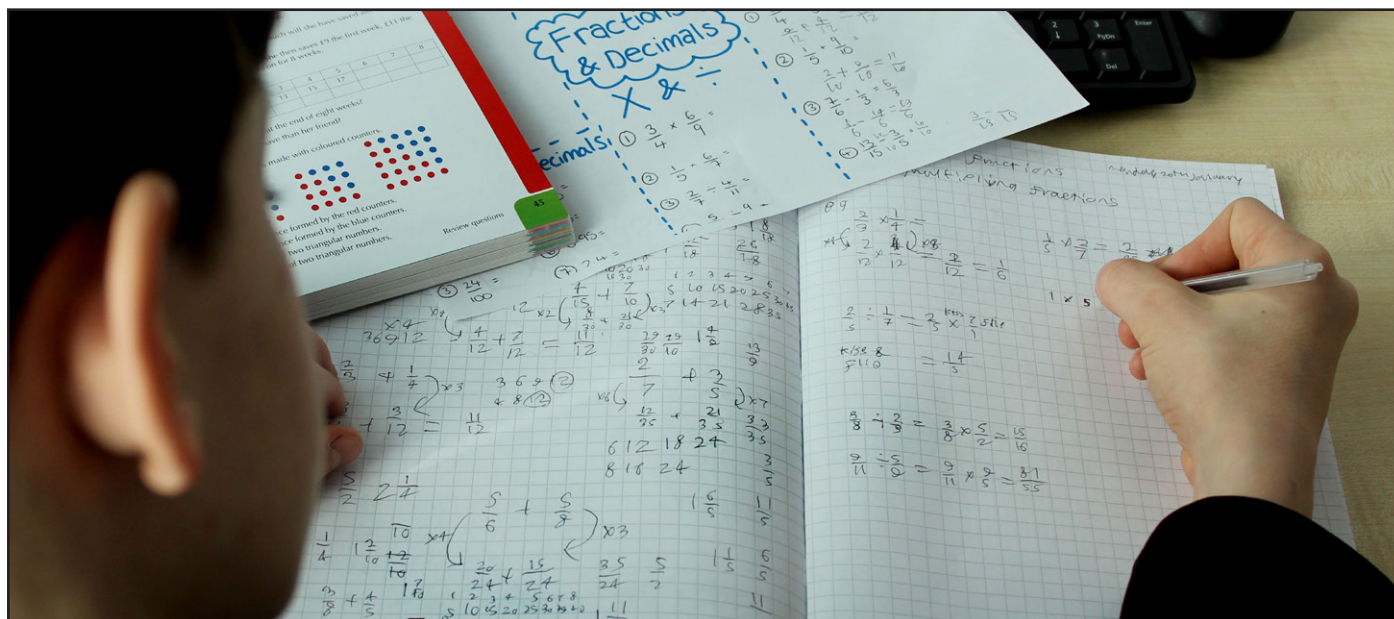
Many of the texts are classics, which feature in modern films and we will be using film clips and film versions of the texts to add to your understanding and enjoyment.

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: IGCSE Mathematics



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 a variety of 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, compasses 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 January and again in May, students have the opportunity to improve the grade they achieve in the January 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: GCSE Triple Science

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

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 GCSE's.

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.

What will I study?

Biology

1. Key Concepts
2. Cells & Control
3. Genetics
4. Natural Selection & Genetic Modification
5. Health, Disease & the Development of Medicines
6. Plant Structures & their Functions
7. Animal Control, Coordination & Homeostasis
8. Ecosystems & Material Cycles
9. Brain & the Eye (Biology)
10. Osmo- and Thermoregulation (Biology)

Chemistry

1. States of Matter
2. Methods of Separating & Purifying Substances
3. Atomic Structure
4. Periodic Table
5. Ionic Bonding
6. Covalent Bonding
7. Types of Substance
8. Acids & Alkalis
9. Calculations Involving Masses
10. Electrolytic Processes
11. Obtaining and Using Metals
12. Reversible Reactions & Equilibria
13. Groups in the Periodic Table
14. Rates of Reaction
15. Heat Energy Changes
16. Fuels
17. Earth & Atmospheric Science
18. Nanoparticles (Chemistry)
19. Fuels (Chemistry)

Physics

1. Motion
2. Motion & Forces
3. Conservation of Energy
4. Waves
5. Light & the Electromagnetic Spectrum
6. Radioactivity
7. Energy – Forces Doing Work
8. Forces & their Effects
9. Electricity & Circuits
10. Magnetism & the Motor Effect
11. Electromagnetic Induction
12. Particle Model
13. Forces & Matter
12. Static Electricity (Physics)
13. 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.



GCSE Art & Design



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.

OCR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development



Course Leader: Miss V Shanklyn
Email: v.shanklyn@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: OCR
Specification: J818

What will I study?

Unit 1 R18

This unit is examined via a 1 hour 15 min external exam that carries 40% of the final grade
The first unit underpins all of the other learning in this qualification. It covers the essential knowledge and understanding for a child's development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, and conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.

Unit 2 R19

This unit is examined by controlled coursework a task that carries 30% of final grade
Students gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices.

Unit 3 R20

This unit carries 30% of the final grade through a child study carried out over a period of time
Students gain knowledge of and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. The unit includes researching, planning and carrying out activities with children and observing and reviewing these activities as well as understanding the benefits of play in child development.

How will I be assessed?

External Assessment (40% of the total qualification)
Research Task- Internally Assessed (20% of the total qualification)
Child Study- Internally Assessed (40% of the total qualification)

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. 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.

Therefore, it is a requirement of this course that students have access to a child aged up to 5 years old in order to complete unit 3 assessments which is internally moderated. Also, there will be some practical work with food so students will be cooking some dishes in school and will need to be organised and bring in ingredients when required.

GCSE Computer Science

Course Leader: Miss S Dimaro
Email: s.dimaro@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: OCR
Specification: J277

What will I study?

Component 01: Computer systems

This component introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and data representation.

How will I be assessed?

Computer systems (01) examination
1hr 30 mins
(80marks) 50%

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02) examination
1hr 30 mins
(80marks) 50%

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.



IGCSE Design Technology



Course Leader: Mr J Buesnel
Email: j.buesnel@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Cambridge Assessment
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.

BTEC Level 2 Technical Award in Enterprise

Course Leader: Miss S Dimaro
Email: s.dimaro@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Pearson
Specification: 603/1916/1

What will I study?

This course allows you to study the world of business, giving you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will examine the roles and responsibilities of setting up a new business and its financial management. You will also develop key skills, such as analysis and review of key financial statements.

The qualification is 120 GLH, which is the same size and level as a GCSE and is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about business. This qualification provides an engaging, practical and relevant introduction to the world of business. It encourages you to explore the range of business types and understand the factors that influence success through analysing business models.

It enables you to develop, enhance and apply your research, practical, communication and technical skills through creating and presenting a business plan for a realistic business start-up in your local area. You will study finance and analyse key financial statements (for example, income statements and statements of financial position), reviewing their importance in the successful financial management of a business.

You will study three mandatory units, covering key aspects that underpin all business and the development of business models:

Mandatory units

Component 1: Exploring Enterprises

Component 2: Planning & pitching an Enterprise Activity

Component 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Exploring Enterprises (Internal): three coursework assignments

Component 2: Planning and pitching an Enterprise Activity: three coursework assignments and business pitch

Component 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise (External): Exam

Component 1 and component 2 assignment coursework is marked by your teacher and assessed internally. Your exam is externally assessed and is set and marked by Pearson.



GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition



Course Leader: Mrs H Grimes
Email: h.grimes@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.

GCSE French

Course Leader: Miss R Durbano
Email: r.durbano@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: AQA
Specification: J276

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 of 'Identity & Culture', 'Local, national, international and global areas of interest', and 'Current & future study and employment'.

A native French speaker will help you to prepare for your speaking exams.

IDENTITY AND CULTURE:

- Me, my family and friends.
- Technology in everyday life.
- Free-time activities.
- Customs and festivals in Italian speaking countries/ communities.

LOCAL, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL AREAS OF INTEREST:

- Home, town, neighbourhood, and region.
- Social issues.
- Global issues.
- Travel and tourism.

CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT:

- My studies
- Life at school / college
- Education post-16
- Jobs, career choices and ambitions

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?

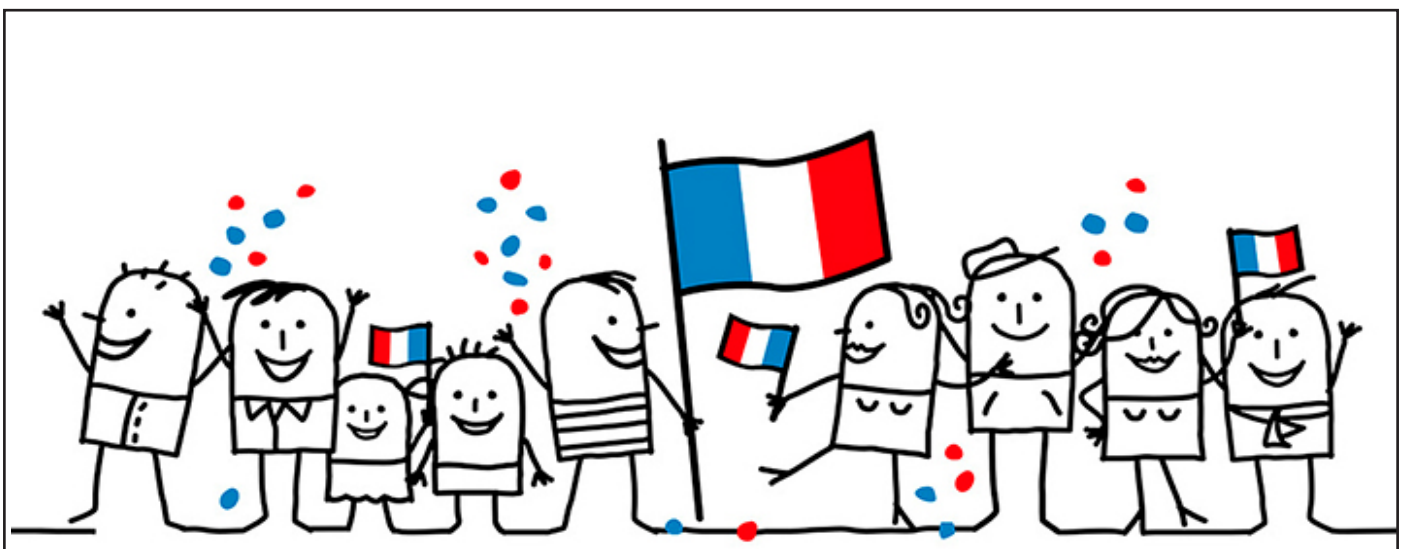
If you enjoy communicating with people, making new friends from other countries, and learning about other cultures, then this is the course for you.

It is recommended that only those students who have shown an aptitude for language at Key Stage 3 should consider this option, as it involves acquiring proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing the language to GCSE standard in eight terms. A lot of vocabulary and grammar will need to be memorised on a weekly basis, so dedication is needed!

The course requires good memory skills as dictionaries cannot be used for the exams.

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 French culture deeply rooted in Jersey's history and geography.



GCSE Geography



Course Leader: Mr R Young
Email: r.young@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Edexcel iGCSE
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. The course aims to help students to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts and appreciate the relevance of these concepts to our changing world
- appreciate that people have different views and attitudes to, the world, its environments and its issues
- develop and apply their learning to the real world through fieldwork
- acquire, develop and apply practical geographical enquiry skills
- develop their awareness of global issues and recognise the challenges of moving towards a sustainable future.

Physical Geography – These units bring together 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 detailed case 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 detailed case studies of the management of an earthquake in a varying locations.
- Coastal Fieldwork – students are required to undertake a geographical investigation involving fieldwork and research, in one natural environment.

- **Human Geography** – these units bring together humans and their relationships with communities, cultures, economies, and interactions with the environment by studying their relations with and across locations.
- Urban Environments - trends, characteristics and problems associated with urban environments, the challenges facing contrasting urban environments around the world.
- Economic Activity & Energy - variations in economic activity over time and spatially, the relationship between population and resources and detailed case studies of energy resource management.
- 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 or 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 both here in Jersey, the UK and worldwide.

GCSE History

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%

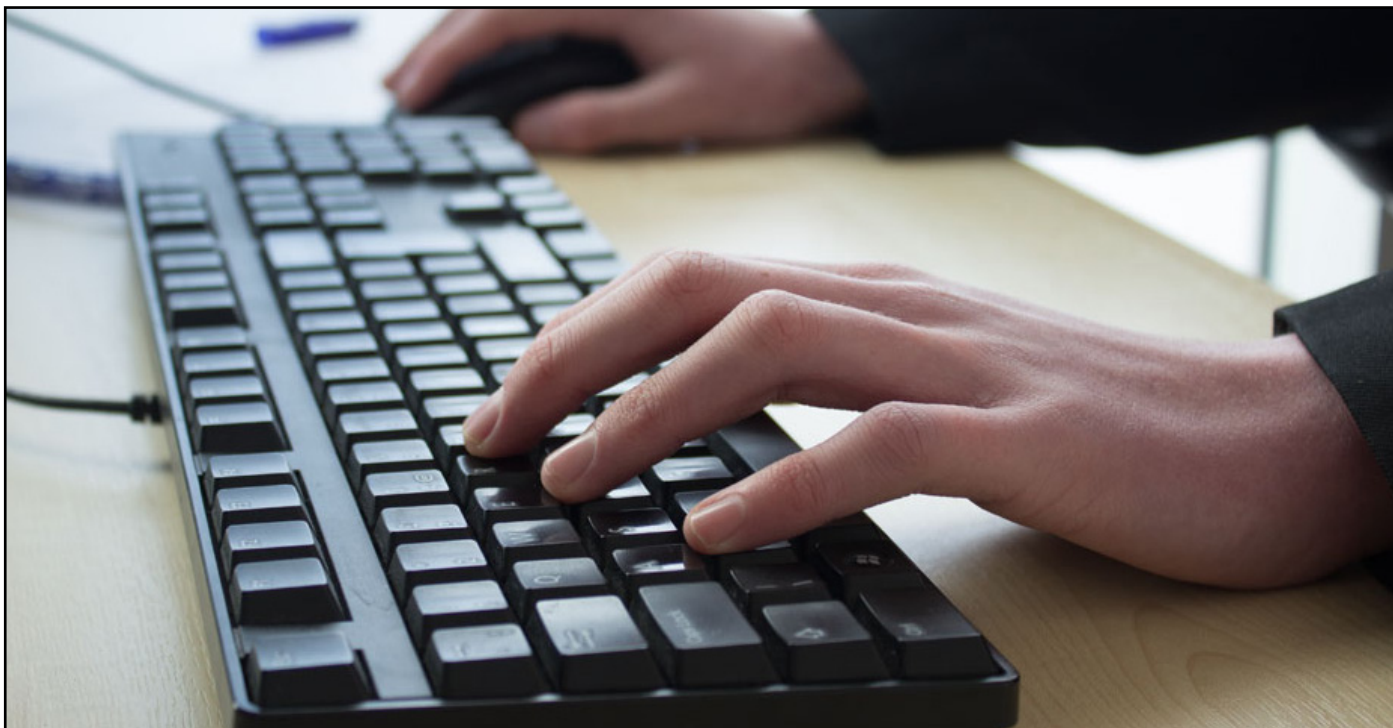
Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany = 30%

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!



IGCSE Information and Communication Technology



Course Leader: Miss S Dimaro
Email: s.dimaro@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Cambridge Assessment
Specification: 0983

What will I study?

The Information Communication Technology syllabus encourages learners to develop lifelong skills, which will be useful to them in their work across the curriculum and prepare them for future employment. They will develop understanding of the implications of technology in society, including social, economic and ethical uses and awareness of the ways ICT can help in home, learning and work environments.

The syllabus combines theoretical and practical studies focusing on the ability to use common software applications to solve problems, including word processors, spreadsheets, databases, interactive presentation software, web browsers and website design. Learners analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate ICT systems, ensuring that they are fit for purpose.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 Theory (100 marks)

2hrs - 40% of final grade

Paper 2 Practical (80 marks)

Document Production, Data Manipulation and Presentations

2hrs 30 mins - 30% of final grade

Paper 3 Practical (80 marks)

Data Analysis and Website Authoring

2hrs 30 mins - 30% of final grade

Is this Course right for me?

If you are interested in developing competencies in a range of software applications, problem solving and considering the impact of ICT on wider society this course is the one for you.

BTEC First Award in Music

Course Leader: Miss C Cooper
Email: c.cooper@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Edexcel
Specification: 600/6818/8

What will I study?

BTEC First Award in Music provides opportunities for students to follow their interests in music and is designed to introduce learners to working in the Music sector and provide a lifelong skill.

Unit 1: The Music Industry - an exciting opportunity to look at the music world. Research the music industry from performer to producer, or composer to roadie, studio manager to artistic management, lyricist to events security!

Unit 2: Managing a Musical Product – Plan, promote and review a musical product. Gain an insight into the different products available in the music industry.

Unit 4: Introducing Music Composition - This unit provides the opportunity to experiment with musical ideas and create your own music.

Unit 5: Introducing Music Performance - Develop your skills on your chosen instrument or instruments. Select, prepare and perform your own choices of music.

How will I be assessed?

25% Unit 1: The Music Industry - an externally assessed exam - a mixture of multiple choice and extended questions.

75% internally assessed by the teacher, much of this work is project based.

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

DISTINCTION * = 8.5 (GCSE equivalent)

DISTINCTION = 7 (GCSE equivalent)

MERIT = 5/6 (GCSE equivalent)

PASS = 4/5 (GCSE equivalent)

LEVEL 1 = 1-3 (GCSE equivalent)

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 music industry works whilst developing your instrumental or vocal skills?

Would you like to learn how to record your own Music?

Can you work independently and in a team?

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



BTEC Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts



Course Leader: Mr D Mortimer
Email: d.mortimer@hv.sch.je
Exam Board: Edexcel
Specification: 600/4785/9

What will I study?

The BTEC First Award in Performing Arts has been designed to provide an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of Performing Arts. Assessment is through performance-based tasks, as opposed to written exams.

Students undertake lessons which are delivered in a professional theatre company format, which are designed to give a taste of what it's like to be a professional performer and develop skills and techniques associated with performing.

Unit 1 – Individual Showcase/responding to a job or training opportunity.

This unit covers what to include when preparing a letter of application for a job or training opportunity. Learners present a self-promotional response to the chosen job opportunity. These skills are transferable across a range of occupations.

Unit 2 – Preparation, Performance and Production.

This unit sees learners explore the processes involved in staging a production, students are required to perform to an invited audience.

Unit 3 – Optional Specialist Unit. (Choose one of the following)

Acting - Exploring and developing acting skills, reviewing practice in rehearsal and performance.

Musical Theatre – Exploring the medium of acting, singing and dancing to portray character and plot – developing musical theatre skills and reviewing practice via an evaluation report.

How will I be assessed?

75% is internally assessed by the teacher. (Units 2 and 3)

25% is externally assessed. (Unit 1)

A video recording of 2 x audition pieces and a letter of application in response to a job or training advertisement are sent to the UK for assessment

Is this Course right for me?

Enthusiasm and passion for the subject are important. As group work is often a large part of the course, willingness to work with a range of people is expected.

If you enjoy any of the following: exploring and creating your own characters, working with script, singing, working in groups, dancing, being creative - then this could be the course for you!

Past students who have undertaken Performing Arts courses have commented on improved self-confidence and communication skills.

GCSE Photography

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 two 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.



GCSE Portuguese / Combined Portuguese & Spanish



Course Leader: Miss R Durbano
Email: r.durbano@hv.sch.je
Exam Boards: Edexcel & AQA
Specification: Portuguese: EDECEL 1PGO, Spanish: AQA 8698

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 Portuguese within our curriculum. We offer both a 3 year Portuguese GCSE course alongside 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:

1. Identity and culture
2. Local area, holiday, travel
3. Future aspirations, school and work
4. 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.

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. This course develops communication skills and helps understand the Portuguese culture strongly embedded in our Jersey community.

GCSE Religious Studies - Philosophy and Ethics

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 & 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.



BTEC Tech Award Level 1/ Level 2 in Sport



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. They 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.



Highlands
College

PARTNERSHIP **2023**





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 23 Weeks = 177 Hours (Approx.)

What does the course lead on to?

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.

Progression at Highlands will include:

- Level 2 diploma at Highlands
- An apprenticeship in the automotive industry

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

To Find out more

For further information, please email tony.tyrer@highlands.ac.uk

Haute Vallee and Highlands Partnership

Jersey Progression Award in Construction and the Built Environment

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 23 Weeks = 177 Hours (Approx.)

What does the course lead on to?

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.

Progression at Highlands will include:

- Level 2 diploma at Highlands
- An apprenticeship in the construction industry

Examples of what you can study on this course:

- Different materials and methods used in construction
- Producing building plans
- Skills and techniques used in construction
- Carrying out calculations related to the design of a building
- Sources of information used in construction projects
- Working safely in construction

Work Experience

Work Experience Courses at Highlands are about preparing you for the world of work. As part of your course you will learn about presenting yourself to an employer to stand the best chance of getting the job you are looking for. You will spend some time in a placement working towards your qualification.

To Find out more

For further information, please email tony.tyrer@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.)
- Every Friday

What does the course lead on to?

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.

Progression at Highlands will include:

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

Examples of what you can study on this course:

- 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

To Find out more

For further information, please email felicity.mason@highlands.ac.uk



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