



Lucton School

Founded 1708



GCSE Booklet

Head's Welcome

Assistant Head (Academic)

Subject Summaries

Subjects on Offer

Beyond the Subjects

Pastoral and Boarding Admissions

International Applicants, Scholarships, and Bursaries

Welcome to Lucton School, where tradition meets a forward thinking approach to education.

At Lucton, we believe that education is about more than just academics; it is about developing the whole person. Our mission is to foster a learning environment that emphasises not only intellectual growth but also emotional and social development.

In a world that often feels fast-paced and competitive, we prioritise empathy, compassion, and understanding. We encourage our students to care for one another and to contribute positively to their communities. By instilling these values, we prepare them not just for academic success, but for meaningful lives filled with purpose and joy.

Holistic education at Lucton means that we focus on the development of every aspect of our students' characters. Alongside a rigorous academic curriculum, we offer a wide range of co-curricular activities designed to inspire creativity, resilience, and a love of learning. From sports to the arts, from outdoor education to leadership opportunities, our students are encouraged to explore their interests and talents, guided by dedicated staff who are experts in their fields.

As the new Headmaster, I am excited to build upon Lucton's rich heritage while also to embrace new opportunities for growth and innovation. My door is always open, and I look forward to working closely with parents, staff, and students to create a school environment where everyone can thrive.

It would be a pleasure to welcome you to Lucton School. Please feel free to email admissions@luctonschool.org should you wish to book a meeting and tour of our wonderful school.

Mr Andrew Allman
Headmaster

GCSE's at Lucton – inspiring all students to succeed

At Lucton Senior School, we are committed to providing a supportive and inspiring environment where every student can thrive. We take great pride in understanding each pupil's strengths, interests, and ambitions, integrating these into their daily learning experiences. With our small class sizes, we ensure personalised attention that nurtures academic growth, from the transition into GCSEs through to Sixth Form and beyond. In Year 9, students receive comprehensive guidance in selecting the most suitable GCSE options, helping them align their subject choices with their future aspirations. In addition, they have access to careers resources to support informed decision-making. Communication and support remain central throughout Years 10 and 11, with regular engagement between students, form tutors, Deputy Heads, SENCo, and parents. Beyond academics, our students enjoy a vibrant co-curricular programme, with extensive opportunities in Sport and Performing Arts. Many students proudly represent the school at national competitions, and our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) programme offers unique experiences, often leading to participation in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

When selecting GCSE subjects, students should consider the following:

All our students in Year 10 and 11 have as standard **English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics**. In addition to this, students have weekly form time, **PE, Games, Activities (as selected by the pupil), PHSE, Religious Studies and Combined Cadet Force (CCF)**.

We suggest students select subjects they genuinely enjoy, as they will study them for two years.

Consider subjects that may be relevant to future career pathways.

Avoid choosing a subject based on liking a particular teacher, as teaching allocations may change.

As students' progress into Year 11, they are encouraged to take on additional responsibilities within the school community, preparing them for the independence and leadership opportunities of Sixth Form.

With thanks,

G Thomas

Deputy Head (Academic)

Subjects on offer:

English Language CAIE IGCSE 0990

The English Language assessment is 100% based on exams. There are two papers which cover a range of skills. Paper one is entitled 'Reading' and pupils answer short comprehension-style questions, summarise a text, explore language techniques and complete an extended fictional response to a text. The second paper is entitled 'Directed Writing and Composition'. There are two essay-style questions which allow pupils to explore their persuasive and creative composition. Firstly, pupils are asked to write an evaluative essay comparing two texts, whilst the composition allows pupils to write creatively, offering a choice of either descriptive or narrative questions.

Edexcel iGCSE English Language A

The qualification comprises two main components. The first is an exam that tests reading and writing skills, which makes up 60% of the course. The other 40% is a Non-Examined Assessment (NEA). The NEA requires pupils to produce a piece of analytical writing and a piece of creative writing under teacher supervision. Pupils will develop essential reading, writing and critical thinking skills, preparing them for further study and real-world communication by focusing on analysing a wide range of texts, including modern non-fiction and classic literature. In addition to reading, the course emphasizes writing for different purposes and audiences, including both creative and transactional styles. We have introduced this course to cater for those pupils who may benefit from a coursework element as well as more time to devote to focusing on key language skills.

English Literature AQA GCSE

As with English Language, the exams in English Literature will account for 100% of the final result. The first paper covers a Shakespeare play and a 19th century novel. The second paper examines the modern novel, a poetry anthology from the 18th to the 21st century and unseen poetry. The wide range of material covered allows the pupils to develop their literary skills including literal and inferential comprehension, critical reading, evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features and comparing texts.

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

CIE IGCSE English as a second language

This qualification is for our international students. It is aimed at improving their understanding of the English language. The course is broken down into 12 topics across the two years and this allows students to develop their reading and writing, listening and verbal skills, whilst combining new vocabulary. Their examinations consist of three sections: -Reading -Listening -Speaking This course also supports pupils' language development in their other subject choices.

GCSE Mathematics Edexcel IGCSE Mathematics A

The study of mathematics provides skills which are used across many academic subjects. This course is designed to develop their skills related to Number, Algebra, Geometry, Ratio, Proportion and Statistics. There is the option for pupils to either do the Foundation or Higher Exam. The Foundation paper is adapted for targeted grades of 5-1, the Higher paper targets grades from 9-3. 100% of the assessment is from the exams, and each paper is 50% of the total International GCSE. Mathematics is a qualification that is required by most employers and is usually a requirement for entry to higher education. It is an important subject to study and requires logical thinking and analytical skills. Students will be guided through problem-solving techniques and how to work independently. There are also opportunities for students to take part in external Mathematical challenges and pit their talents against students from other schools.

Edexcel Awards in Maths Edexcel Number and Measure (Level 1 or 2)

For those pupils who find mathematics highly challenging and who would struggle to achieve a pass grade at this stage in the IGCSE course, the Edexcel Awards in Mathematics programme will still be available to help them develop their skills. They will then be able to access the IGCSE examination at a later date. Students of our Level 1 and Level 2 Awards will develop a deeper understanding of concepts in number and measure, giving them the confidence to apply this knowledge to the higher-level concepts of the GCSE syllabus whilst still gaining a qualification. The key skills covered in this course are Number, Measure, Charts and Graphs.

Further Maths AQA Level 2

For those pupils who have achieved their IGCSE in Maths in Year 10 this is an excellent bridging syllabus for those who go on to sit A level Maths. This is an excellent opportunity to gain an AS Level in Maths as many of that syllabus is covered by this course. The course covers Number, Algebra, Coordinate Geometry (in 2 dimension), Calculus, Matrix Transformations and Geometry. It is assessed through 2 exam papers, one calculator and one non-calculator. The mathematical demand increases as the student progresses through the exam paper.



Science OCR Gateway Suite

The three Science subjects, Biology, Chemistry and Physics are compulsory subjects in Year 10 and 11. In Year 10 all students will have four periods a week of each Science. In Year 11 all students follow the same programme of study up to the mock exams, after which pupils have the option of entering for a Foundation Level or Higher Level GCSE.

Foundation level papers are easier and more accessible, but the highest grade available is a grade 5. The higher-level examination provides an opportunity for students to achieve grades from 4 to 9. For students who are unlikely to study any of the sciences to A level, we also offer the choice of following the Combined Science route. Following this route, pupils study each science in less depth and consequently have less content to learn and revise for the examinations. The Separate Science courses result in 3 GCSE grades, a separate grade for each of the Sciences. Students sit 2 exam papers of 1hr45 minutes for each of the Sciences. For the Combined Science option, pupils will again sit 6 exam papers, 2 for each Science. Each exam will be 1 hour 10 minutes. The grades are then averaged across all 6 papers. It is recommended that students who wish to complete an A-Level in Science should be encouraged to complete the Separate Science route as this covers more course content. All of the Science courses contain required practical elements, and each exam paper can contain up to 15% mathematical content.

Combined Sciences OCR Gateway Suite J250

About half of our pupils follow the Combined Science route. Students are taught by a specialist teacher in each of the sciences. Learners are helped to understand how, through the ideas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas which are of universal application. Teaching of practical skills is integrated within the theoretical topics.

Biology OCR Gateway Suite J247

GCSE Biology gives learners a great foundation to gain an understanding of the workings of the human body, organisms, evolution and the environment. Studying GCSE Biology can give you the knowledge and skills to help you progress onto studying science at university or for a career in healthcare. This course can also help you to develop your curiosity for the natural world and strengthen your analysis and research skills. Content is split into six teaching topics B1-B6 and a practical activity skills topic B7: • Topic B1: Cell level systems • Topic B2: Scaling up • Topic B3: Organism level systems • Topic B4: Community level systems • Topic B5: Genes, inheritance and selection • Topic B6: Global challenges • Topic B7: Practical skills Modules 1 to 4 are taught in Year 10 and modules 5 and 6 in Year 11. Practical skills (B7) are taught throughout the course.

Chemistry OCR Gateway Suite J248

In Year 10, pupils develop their understanding of key concepts in Chemistry. Their ideas on atoms and particles are refined and applications of Chemistry are introduced in the guise of elements, compounds and mixtures. Students then examine different types of chemical reactions, and energy changes during reactions. All of the theory is supported with relevant practical work and demonstrations. During Year 11 students learn more about rates of reaction and their importance in industrial settings. There is also an emphasis on current environmental issues, and potential solutions. Students learn how to problem solve, to use their initiative, and to work and co-operate in groups. They also develop complex laboratory skills.

Physics OCR Gateway Suite J249

Physics contains the most individual topics of the three Sciences. It involves lots of hands-on practical work to get pupils to be able to visual more abstract concepts. The topics covered across the two years include: Matter, Forces, Electricity, Magnetism, Waves and Matter, Radioactivity, Energy and Global Challenges. The course allows the pupils to develop their understanding of a key concept and apply it to a real-life situation. The variety of topics gives the students a lot to think about. They learn how to use vital mathematical equations to explain the results of their experiments and start to link key scientific ideas together.



Art: Specialism: Fine Art OCR GCSE Fine Art J171

Learners are required to work in one or more areas of Fine Art, such as those listed below:

- Drawing
- Mixed-media
- Printing
- Painting
- Sculpture This specialism would suit students who enjoy working in any of the above areas. They will learn and develop their skills in drawing and painting and printing, and develop their own personal ideas into creative finished outcomes

Art: Specialism: Textiles OCR GCSE Textiles J173

Learners are required to work in one or more areas of Textile Design, such as those listed below:

- Constructed textiles
- Dyed fabrics
- Printed fabrics
- Fashion design
- Installed textiles
- Soft furnishings
- Stitched and/or embellished textiles. This specialism would suit students who enjoy being creative but want to explore their creativity using new materials. They will have the opportunity to explore techniques such as weaving, surface printing, embroidery (machine or hand), knitting, batik, appliqué and collage.



Business Studies

GCSE Business Studies equips students with a versatile set of skills that can be applied across multiple industries and careers. Through this course, students will develop problem-solving abilities, financial awareness, creative thinking, data analysis, and teamwork skills.

Beyond learning key business concepts, students will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge in real-world scenarios through practical projects and interactive activities. This hands-on approach allows them to understand how businesses operate, make informed decisions, and develop an entrepreneurial mindset—essential skills for future success.

Classics

Why study Classical Civilisation? Classical Civilisation GCSE offers you the chance to pursue an interesting range of topics from the ancient world, looking at their relevance to the modern world and their influence on later culture. It will appeal to anyone who enjoys myths and legends and learning about other societies. It is a broad GCSE in that it incorporates elements of history, religion, literature and archaeology and it therefore helps to develop a good range of skills. By the end of the course you will have improved your powers of source analysis, literary appreciation, and essay writing.

DT

Edexcel GCSE

This qualification is split into two units which have creative design and making at its heart. One unit is exam assessed and the other unit is a controlled assessment. The exam allows pupils to demonstrate their breadth of understanding of design and technology and a focused section based on their chosen specialist material from metals, papers and boards, polymers, fibres, textiles and timbers. Across the two-year course pupils must amass a large design portfolio and the practical work takes many hours of dedication and determination. Most pupils will find the challenging work stimulating and they will develop a strong level of creative skills. (This is a great option for those students that struggle with exams as the course has 50% coursework, which reduced the pressure and reliance on exam performance).

Drama AQA GCSE

Studying Drama requires emotional maturity and gives pupils a deeper understanding of themselves. It also helps develop self-esteem and draws on both emotions and creativity. The course is divided into three components. In the first component, 'Understanding Drama', pupils study the set text 'Blood Brothers' by Willy Russell and learn about theatre roles and staging. They also evaluate live theatre. This unit is taken as an exam. In the second component, 'Devising Drama', pupils must devise and perform an original piece of theatre. Alongside this, they complete a devising log in which they analyse and evaluate their own work. The final practical component is entitled 'Texts in Practice' and pupils must perform two extracts from one play to an external moderator. Drama is an integral part of the school and we encourage Drama students to get fully involved in school productions. There are also many opportunities for theatre trips. It must be stressed that the very nature of the subject demands collaborative skills, dedication and reliability. Drama is hard work, but fun and rewarding.



French

Edexcel GCSE

Employers look favourably on candidates with a language qualification. In a multilingual world, companies are increasingly aware of the need for people with strong language skills. During this course, you will develop an understanding of spoken and written forms of French, in a range of contexts. You will develop the ability to communicate effectively in French through speaking and writing. The IGCSE French is assessed through 3 exams: Paper 1- Listening Paper 2- Speaking Paper 3- Reading Paper 4- Writing.

Geography

AQA GCSE

Geography is a dynamic and flexible subject which covers the physical environment and human's interaction with it. The course covers many current topics of global interest, giving pupils a good understanding of how the physical and human geographical environment interact and the need to manage our planet using sustainable strategies. Studying geography enables you to learn a wide range of skills, opening doors to many areas of employment.

The GCSE course covers the following topics:

PAPER 1 Living with the physical environment

- The challenge of natural hazards
- The living world
- Physical landscapes in the UK

PAPER 2

Challenges in the human environment

- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management

PAPER 3 Geographical applications • Section A: Issue Evaluation

- Section B: Fieldwork (Two geographical enquiries must be undertaken – a physical and human enquiry, to supplement and develop geographical skills and understanding).

History: History is about people, their lives, and the events that shaped them. This course gives you a good understanding of the world we live in today by studying the events of the twentieth century. The areas that are covered in this course are: 1) International Relations from 1919 to 1990 2) Russia 1905-1941 You will sit three exam papers on these topics, one of which is based on sources. History is a subject that requires good analytical skill and the ability to write detailed answers based on primary sources.

ICT

CIE IGCSE ICT ,

Students develop an understanding of the implications of technology in society and the ways Information and Communication Technology (ICT) can help at home, work and the wider world. They will also be aware of safety and security when using the internet. There is an emphasis on developing lifelong skills, useful in a plethora of education and employment scenarios. Specifically, these are using PowerPoint to produce outstanding presentations, designing webpages using Microsoft Expression, making use of Word to produce a range of effects in documents, making effective use of spreadsheets using Excel, and using Access to create databases and manipulate and present data.

Music

Edexcel GCSE , Academic Music:

Music is all around us. It influences our moods and emotions and stimulates us in many ways. Following the GCSE music course will develop your understanding of how music is created through four areas of study. These provide focus and detail of specific areas of music. In the course you will learn how to compose and develop skills in performing and appraising music. The course covers the following topics:

- Instrumental music 1700-1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for stage and screen
- Fusions
- How to compose melodies
- How to compose for, and perform on, your chosen instrument. Music is a subject that relates to so many other subjects. You do not have to be able to read music to be able to do GCSE, but it certainly helps.

PE

OCR GCSE PE J587

P.E. allows someone with an enthusiasm for sport to explore more details about the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. The course involves being able to apply knowledge of key movements in different sports to how they are carried out by the body. You will learn to name all the major muscle groups, apply knowledge from biological concepts such as respiration and look at ways to plan ways to develop skills in sports. This helps learners to develop an appreciation of the necessity for sound understanding of the principles, practices and training that underpin improved performance, better health and well-being. All candidates must complete three sections:

- 2 x 1 hour written exam papers which consist of both short and extended written answers where candidates are required to demonstrate their skills of knowledge, application and evaluation (60%)
- The second aspect of assessment is the coursework component. The coursework component assesses candidates' performance in three physical activities; 1 individual activity, 1 team activity plus an additional activity from either section. The performance of physical activities is a central and integral part of the course.

Wherever possible, in the delivery of the course, theory is related to practice and practice is related to theory. This approach enables candidates to understand, as well as to apply, theoretical concepts. The theory aspect of this course is crucial in pupils' succeeding in this subject and they should be aware that their physical prowess alone is not enough to get them through. There are many opportunities for pupils to participate in sporting activities at Lucton outside of the lessons and all our pupils' get the opportunity to represent the school in matches on a Wednesday afternoon with lots of practices at lunchtimes and during activity sessions. (30%) The third aspect is the NEA. A written piece asking candidates to analyse and evaluate their own or another's performance in a chosen activity. This work will be completed internally under controlled conditions. This piece draws on both the practical and theoretical elements of the course. (10%)



Spanish

Edexcel GCSE

Spanish By 2050, the number of Spanish speakers worldwide is expected to increase to 530 million. It is therefore a very exciting time to be learning Spanish. Throughout the course, you will be covering topics such as Identity and culture, Your local area, Holidays and travel, School, Work and future aspirations, The environment and much more. You will learn to communicate in both spoken and written forms of Spanish and increase your knowledge and understanding of Spanish grammar and its application. The assessment in Spanish consists of 3 exams:

- Paper 1- Listening
- Paper 2- Speaking and Writing
- Paper 3- Reading
- Paper 4- Writing

Religious Studies

AQA Religious Studies A (8062 – Full course)

Why opt for Religious Studies?

GCSE Religious Studies (RS) encourages you to engage with some of life's most profound ethical and philosophical questions. It allows you to explore different perspectives on morality, faith, and contemporary issues, helping you develop critical thinking, analytical skills, and a deeper understanding of the world around you.

What Does the Course Involve?

Component 1: The Study of Religions

All students will study Christianity, focusing on its core beliefs and practices. In addition, students will have the opportunity to explore Judaism as a second faith component. .

Component 2: Religious, Philosophical, and Ethical Studies

This section of the course encourages students to engage in discussions and debates on key themes that shape our society. Students will explore four topics from the following:

- Relationships and Families – Ethical considerations around marriage, gender roles, and family structures.

- Religion and Life – Perspectives on the origins of the universe, the value of human and animal life, and debates around medical ethics.
- Religion, Peace, and Conflict – Religious perspectives on war, pacifism, and justice.
- Religion, Crime, and Punishment – The role of faith in justice, morality, and punishment.

Students may also opt for the Short Course – please contact G.Thomas@luctonschool.org if this would be of interest.

PSHE

PSHE is a compulsory subject for all students. As a school we follow the curriculum set out by the PSHE Association, the topics are laid out in a document that is circulated to parents annually. There are three themes, each covered twice in each academic year; Health and Well-being Relationships Living in the wider world. (including Careers Education) The curriculum contains the sex and relationships content set out by the Department of Education. If you have any concerns or wish to discuss this further, please contact Mrs. Sharron Goode the PSHE coordinator. Students do have a right to withdrawn from some aspects of Sex and Relationships, please contact the PSHE coordinator if you have concerns.

Core Curriculum (Non-GCSE)

These are core activities compulsory for all students.

Form Time:

Form time give you and your tutor the time to monitor and discuss your academic progress and your general well-being. Form periods also allow space in the week for important administrative tasks, for example checking GCSE entries and examination timetables. Finally, they simply allow you and your fellow form members time to come together as a group; unlike lower down the School, you will not generally be taught in form groups in Years 10 and 11.

House Activities:

House activities continue in Years 10 and 11. Indeed, as older members of the School you will be expected to set a good example to younger students and play a greater role in House Activities in order to develop the leadership and team-working skills that are so greatly in demand in later life.

Games: Your time in Years 10 and 11 is likely to be demanding, even quite stressful on occasions. The scientific and medical community are very clear that regular exercise is crucial in helping to reduce stress and promote the sort of general well-being that will allow you to perform to the best of your ability academically. Games will, therefore, continue to feature in your regular weekly routine. Matches and tournaments play an important part in the life of the School, and we continue to expect students selected for competitive fixtures in Years 10 and 11 to participate to the best of their ability

CCF

All students follow our CCF course and DofE. CCF is introduced to the students during Year 8 and a basic syllabus is followed. During the next three years – 9, 10 & 11, the CCF follows a more advanced syllabus, with opportunities for promotion and progression as cadets meet each criterion. There are also chances to take part in weekends away with Lucton School CCF and other activities run by the Cadet Training Team or the Cadet Centre for Adventurous Training in Capel Curig. During the year cadets will have the chance to take part in:

- Fieldcraft
- Skill at Arms / Weapon Handling including:
- Blank firing exercises
- Air rifle ranges
- Paintball Close Quarter Combat range
- Live firing, when on annual camp

- Leadership Training
- Method of Instruction
- STEM Training
- First Aid Training & qualifying courses
- Cadet Physical Activity / Testing DofE is now started in Year 9, which allows steady progression from the Bronze Award through to the Gold Award of those that stay on in the Sixth Form. We try to have at least two expeditions a year, which get progressively longer from that of Bronze through to Gold, during which navigation and camp craft are practised and tested. On the whole during DofE, the onus is with the students to self-motivate and take ownership of their path to success; however, taking part with CCF during the term time and completing the subjects listed above will count towards skills, physical and some volunteering.

From Year 9, cadets may choose whether to follow the Army or Royal Air Force path. Many of the activities mentioned apply to both the Army and RAF training syllabus. However, the RAF shift their emphasis from Fieldcraft to Space, Cyber and Flying, offering some more technically challenging options for those either with a keen interest in aviation or who would like to follow a more academic path. Activities include drone flying in support of Army operations, courses in rocketry and ultimately Air Experience Flights in either a powered Grob Tutor single-engine aircraft or the Viking glider alongside a qualified pilot.



Admissions

UK Admissions

The majority of students at Lucton will join in September; however, we will accept applications at any point throughout the academic year subject to the suitability of the applicant and a place being available.

The admissions process begins by visiting the school where potential students will be able to tour the facilities, meet fellow students and staff and have an informal conversation with the headmaster. Applicants will typically follow the visit by taking part in a Taster Day where they will have the opportunity to experience a normal day at the school whilst being informally assessed. We offer places based on a review of the applicant's current school reports, an interview with the headmaster and staff feedback provided during the Taster Day.

Once an offer letter has been issued, a registration form must be completed along with a non-fundable fee of £75. Once an offer has been accepted, an acceptance form must be returned in addition to a £500 deposit which will be kept until the student leaves Lucton.

For more information, please contact a member of the admissions team by calling **01568 782 000** or by emailing **admissions@luctonschool.org**

International Admissions

We pride ourselves on having a truly diverse student body and every year welcome students from a huge variety of countries throughout the world. In many ways the admissions process is similar to that of our UK students; however, there are also some significant differences, particularly regarding visas. For information regarding the admissions process for international students please refer to the Current Information booklet enclosed or contact office@luctonschool.org

Scholarships & Exhibitions

At Lucton we offer a wide cross-section of awards that recognise outstanding ability in a range of areas. Available for Year 7 and Year 12 entry, scholarships can represent up to a 25% reduction in school fees, whilst exhibition prizes reward notable students with up to a 10% reduction. For those hoping to join our Sixth Form, there are also a select number of 100% and 50% scholarships available for truly exceptional students who would benefit from the quality of education available at Lucton. Awards are offered in the following areas: Academic, Music, Drama, Equestrian, Art, Sport, and all all-round ability.

Students who live in one of the "nine favoured parishes" of Lucton, Croft, Yarpole, Bircher, Luston, Eyton, Kingsland, Aymestrey or Shobdon are also eligible to apply for the Pierrepont Scholarship. Named after Lucton's founder, John Pierrepont, the award recognises gifted students from the local area.