



Art in Key Stage 3



We approach this subject by encouraging the students to develop skills and understanding within two main areas: **Investigating and Making Art** and **Knowledge and Understanding of Art**.

Investigating and Making Art

Students are taught to develop ideas from direct experience and imagination and to select, record and analyse from first-hand experience. They are also encouraged to keep a regular sketch-book in which they work out their ideas and to experiment in order to extend their knowledge and experience of a range of materials, tools and techniques. Students will also be taught how to review and modify their work as it progresses.

Schemes of work change from year to year and what follows is subject to alteration. In the first term of Year 7, we concentrate on introducing our students to observational drawing in a variety of media, including contour and tonal drawing in fine liner and ink pen and pencil work. The initial project will differ from year to year, but this year students have been working from natural forms. They have been exploring many approaches to the subject, including some straight observational work as well as more creative interpretations. After Christmas we introduce them to basic colour theory and they start to learn how to use paint. Despite the strongly structured nature of this part of the course, we always encourage our students to work in an unselfconscious way so that they do not lose those delightful qualities that are such an important feature of child art. In the summer term we continue our exploration of colour materials through the use of paint and collage. When the weather permits, we work outside and investigate the idea of perspective using direct observation.

Knowledge and Understanding

This theme covers the Historical and Critical aspects of Art, Craft and Design. Students are taught to develop understanding of the work of artists, craftspeople and designers, applying this knowledge to their own work. They are also encouraged to respond to and evaluate art, craft and design, including their own and others' work. Although we do teach some Art History in a formal way, we tend to integrate the practical and historical elements.



DRAMA AND THEATRE ARTS

The Drama Studio

The Drama department has exclusive use of the Drama Studio, situated on the first floor of the main building. The Studio is equipped with lighting, sound and staging suitable for all practical work. Adjoining the Studio is a reference room and resources area housing scripted texts, reference books and DVDs, all widely used by the Advanced Level Theatre Studies students. A new addition to the department is the design and technical studio, now situated below the school canteen. This offers facilities for GCSE and A level students to create model sets, masks, properties and costumes.

Year 7

All students participate in the “Introduction to Shakespeare” module which is taught jointly by the English and Drama departments.

Year 8

Students are taught practical Drama skills in one double lesson per fortnight.

Year 9

Drama is taught on a carousel with Music. The emphasis is on building creative performance skills - vocal and physical, as well as learning to work within a group and building self-confidence.

All students are encouraged to participate in extra curricular Drama and Year 7, 8 and 9 Drama Clubs run one lunchtime a week. In addition to this lower school students are encouraged to become involved in the school production either as part of the cast or back-stage crew. Past years’ productions have included ‘Oliver’ and ‘Les Misérables’.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



Before the pupils come to Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, their range of experiences in the use of materials, processes and teaching techniques is vast. Our aim is to build upon previous experience and to develop each pupil's potential within Design and Technology.

At Key Stage 3, the pupils work through the design process in a different range of material areas to produce a range of different outcomes using a variety of skills and experiences. Each module is developed to cover different aspects of the National Curriculum so that eventually, at the end of year 9, all pupils will have completed the curriculum. The curriculum includes designing, making, evaluating and technical knowledge using a wide range of materials including food.

We hope to give pupils a wide range of expertise, skill and experience, which will develop their individual ability within the subject of Design and Technology. The department is also involved in a range of outside visits to exhibitions and industrial manufacturers. We enter a range of competitions and scholarships as they become available and have been very successful in recent years. Many of our A level students enter higher education within the field of Design and Technology, Engineering, Architecture and Textiles Technology.

Achievements

- A number of students have achieved 1st in Design courses.
- Fiona Harrison, Marcus Hollyer and Dana Wilson gained 100% in AS Textiles coursework.
- Past students working at Burberry, Alexander McQueen, Topshop, Eskanda, Team Sky.
- 116 awards for Sainsbury's Active Kids one star Award (2015).
- 11 Arkwright Scholarship winners.
- 5 Sustainable Design Award winners.
- 4 National Awards for Packaging Design Competition 2011.
- Winners of the 2013 Advanced Rotary Challenge.
- 2 overall winners of Rotary Club/UCC Ready Steady Cook competition.

Visiting Speakers

Dr Diane Aston from Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining. Also Luke Douglas, Rosanna Martlew, Alistair Hudson, Emma Taylor, Fiona Harrison, Sam Clay, Katie Marshall, Kirsty Fife, Charlotte Moody, Laura Howe and Abi Watson all gave talks about their professional successes in Design.

Possible Visits

- BBC Clothes Show/ BBC Good Food Show
- Madeira Fashion Show
- Centre for Alternative Technology
- Imperial War Museum, Duxford
- New Designers Exhibition, London
- Carlisle Embroidery
- National Space Centre
- Esk Valley Knitwear
- Swaffham Ecotech Centre
- Twisted Threads Show
- Cranstons' Manufacturing Plant

Competition/Opportunities

- Travel and Tourism Competition
- Arkwright Design Scholarship Award
- Ready Steady Cook
- Egg Race Competition
- Rotary Technology Challenge

Activities

- Provision of Food for Grandparents' Party
- Clock Manufacture from Recycled Materials

Year 7				
<p><u>GRAPHICS</u></p> <p>Exercises to improve drawing and presentation skills. Manufacture of a thermometer.</p> 	<p><u>CONSTRUCTION</u></p> <p>Use of plastics to design a ball bearing game.</p>  		<p><u>FOOD</u></p> <p>Children's eating habits and the development of suitable foods. Sainsbury's Active Kids one star Award.</p>  	
<p><u>CONSTRUCTION</u></p> <p>Use of metal/ plastics to create an individual trophy.</p>  		<p><u>TEXTILES</u></p> <p>Textile wall hanging using visual or tactile textures based on the environment.</p>  		

EARTH SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



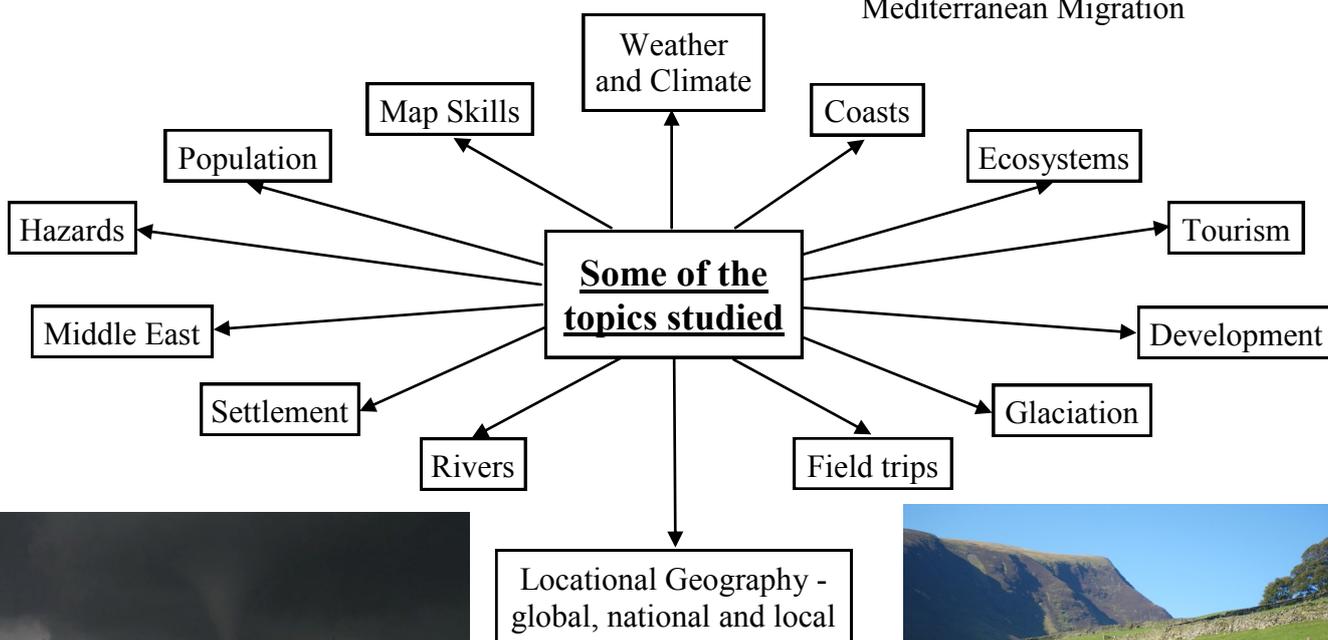
Geography

Geography is a subject which encompasses many of the major issues facing our planet and country today. A number of issues in the news today are studied in Geography.

At Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Geography is a popular option subject at GCSE and A level and many of these students go on to study it at university.



Mediterranean Migration



Key Stage 5 Earth Science

At A level the department offers 3 subjects for our students to study:

- Geography
- Geology
- Environmental Science

These are all popular option choices and the results for all these subjects have been outstanding. All three subjects run a number of local field trips. Alongside this, all Earth Scientists get the opportunity to visit Iceland, whilst the Geology students visit Tenerife.



One of the many amazing waterfalls in Iceland

Our aim is to teach students a range of important topics and relate them to current events. Whilst doing this they are introduced to a wide range of contrasting cultures and vital skills that will be relevant throughout life.



ENGLISH



Key Stage Three - Years 7, 8 and 9

We are aware of the work done by our Primary colleagues and we are keen to build on their teaching of Key Stage Two through a diverse and challenging English curriculum which will widen students' horizons and inspire them to think and work autonomously. Our main aim is to fulfil the potential of each student as a competent, creative and confident individual. More specifically, we aim to ensure that students can:

- speak and listen in a range of contexts with consideration for their audience
- read, analyse and explore different kinds of text so as to develop an informed individual response
- write appropriately and accurately with reference to task, audience and purpose
- enjoy engagement with language and literature in their many forms.

In each of the three years of Key Stage Three students study a common curriculum including:

Year 7	Autobiography, class novel, advertising, poetry study, Shakespeare, myths and legends.
Year 8	Pre-1914 literature, non-fiction reading and writing, media, film review, class novel, creative writing, poetry from other cultures, drama text.
Year 9	Class novel, argument and persuasion, Shakespeare through drama, war poetry, travel writing

It is important to us that students have a solid grounding in spelling, punctuation and grammar to enable them to be better communicators. We also promote and celebrate independent reading with library lessons, author visits, peer recommendations and private reading homework.

Assessing Pupil Progress/Assessment for Learning

Students' progress is tracked primarily using continual assessment for Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing. Attainment will be measured in GCSE grades (9-1) and targets are regularly set. Examinations are taken in the summer term of Years 7, 8 and 9.

Staffing

Mrs Susannah Cooke BA (Hons), PGCE (Head of Department)

Mrs Jill Stewart BA (Hons), PGCE (Second in Department)

Mrs Jane Bagot BA (Hons), PGCE

Mr Adrian Frost MA (Hons), PGCE

Mr Alistair Lambert BA (Hons), PGCE

Ms Philippa Reeves BA (Hons), PGCE



HISTORY DEPARTMENT



History is a popular subject within the school. Of all the GCSE options, History often attracts the largest numbers and we are able to offer our A Level students the choice of two periods of History: a course in Medieval History or Modern History. Some 70% of pupils take History at GCSE and about 30% of our Sixth Form students are currently engaged on A Level History courses. The specification we follow for Key Stage 4 is now the AQA GCSE syllabus, focusing on Inter War European History, the History of Medicine and on Tudor Britain and 20th Century American History. Our Medieval A Level course comprises of The Crusades and the Angevien Kings. The Modern AQA course follows Tsarist and Communist Russia and 20th Century British History.

The Department will comprise:

Staff	Head of History	Mr Allen Martin BA, PGCE
	Teachers of History	Mrs Kate Judge BA, PGCE
		Miss Vicki Smith BA, PGCE
		Mr Peter Baines BSc

Curriculum

Our current scheme of work includes courses on Imperial China and Medieval Realms for our Year 7 classes. In Year 8 students go on to 'The Making of the UK', focusing on the political and religious upheavals of the 16th and 17th Centuries. The major themes of Year 9 History are 'Britain, 1750 to 1900' and 20th Century European History. Visits to York and the Imperial War Museum North form integral parts of these courses, as does our Year 7 Medieval Day, where students take part in a range of medieval activities, including a reconstruction of the Battle of Hastings. Teaching methods used in the department are a mixture of traditional and modern with value placed on independent research, oral work, and the critical study of a wide variety of sources. We emphasise the intrinsic interest of the 'story' of the past and the role played by key individuals in history.

Results

For a decade our History results have been very good. At GCSE we regularly achieve 25% A*. Our students have also gained excellent A Level results, with 68% of our students achieving A*-B in 2015. Exceptional individual results have been gained by students from each of our History A Level courses. Students have regularly won places at Oxford and Cambridge Universities to read History or related courses, and a good proportion of our students go on to pursue their interest in History at other excellent universities.

Visits

Many opportunities are provided for our students to gain a fuller understanding of their History courses through fieldwork and trips. Our A Level historians have undertaken study tours to Italy, France, Germany and the Czech Republic. More recently, we have created an annual History & Politics trip to London. Local visits are made to museums, such as those at Eden Camp and The Imperial War Museum North, archaeological sites and to local historic buildings, including Brougham and Skipton Castles. Sixth Form students are offered plenty of opportunities to visit universities for lectures and seminars or to take part in study days, and professors and lecturers from various universities have spoken to our students in school.



Information and Communication Technology Department

ICT and Computing is studied as a discrete subject in Year 7 with a double period for all students.

The year is designed to excite and engage students in the fantastic subject of ICT and Computing.

The year consists of an initial series of introductory sessions that look at the basics on logging on to the School Network, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Moodle, the school's VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) and student email accounts.

The students then undertake a number of integrated projects starting with a History of Computers unit. This unit consists of students learning and developing skills in Microsoft Office 2010. The unit investigates the history and development of computers and how they work. The students will also be learning some basic binary and logic, to see how the internal systems of all computers work.

The second unit is based around the creation of games using the MIT program Scratch. Pupils will review games and then develop their own.

The third unit is based around the Code Avengers website, where the pupils will learn to use HTML tags to create their own websites.



MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT



Mathematics is taught at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School by an experienced team of subject specialists. We have a dedicated suite of modern rooms with internet provision, digital projectors and interactive whiteboards in all rooms. We have a large and diverse set of resources to complement these excellent facilities and enhance the quality of teaching and learning.

There is a Mathematics clinic held during one lunchtime each week, to provide extra support for any students experiencing difficulties or who have missed work through absence.

Many pupils take part in the annual UK Mathematics Challenges and teams are regularly entered for regional and national Mathematics Competitions. There is a weekly Mathematics puzzle which all pupils are encouraged to enter, and prizes are awarded to successful pupils.

Examination results in Mathematics are excellent at KS3, GCSE and A level. A further measure of our success is the large number of students who choose to continue their study of the subject in the Sixth Form and eventually at university.

All pupils are provided with their own textbook to keep at home, and often homework is set from this. They are also given access to two subscription websites where they can access extra support.

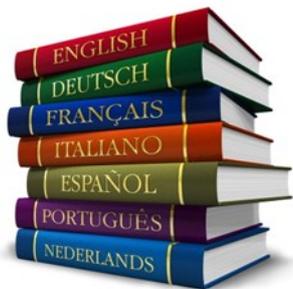
Years 7 and 8

Pupils are taught in form groups in Year 7 and are then divided into four ability groups in Year 8. The composition of these groups is regularly reviewed and changes are made whenever necessary. Progress is monitored through a series of regular assessments and end of year examinations. All pupils have targets set based upon prior performance and are monitored against these targets.

Students study the subject for the equivalent of five periods per week, which are usually two double lessons and one single.

Year 9

We start the GCSE course in Year 9 in order to allow plenty of time to cover the content and allow students to practise problem solving which forms an integral part of the new GCSE. From Year 9 we have five ability groups. Students in Years 9 study the subject for the equivalent of five periods per week, which are usually two double lessons and one single.



MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Welcome to Modern Languages at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. The department has seven members of staff:

Mr Jonathan Wilson	Head of Department (from September 2016), German
Mrs Stephanie Chadwick	Second in Department, French
Mrs Rebecca Chapman	Assistant Head (from September 2016), German. Current Head of Dept.
Mrs Catherine Dawson	German
Mrs Laura Reid	French
Mrs Margaret Sait	French
Mrs Deborah Wilson	French

We believe in the importance and relevance of languages to the lives and future careers of our students. We aim to make language learning fun, stimulating and inspiring, with pupils making swift progress in Year 7 learning two languages simultaneously. Lessons are taught in an interactive, communicative style, and pupils are encouraged to enjoy conversing in the language and to aim to use the language at all times throughout each lesson. We are very fortunate to have two brand-new, purpose-built classrooms, each equipped with touch screen interactive whiteboards and a computer for each child.

Pupils study languages for three periods per week for both French and German in Year 7 and Year 8. At the end of Year 8, pupils choose to either continue with both languages in Year 9, or to follow just one language for four periods a week. Pupils must then continue with one language to GCSE, with many opting to study both.

In Year 7 pupils will have the chance to put their new language skills into practice. The well-established trip to the Black Forest enables nearly 70 students to experience the language, scenery and tourist attractions of this beautiful part of Europe. We enjoy longstanding links with our two partner schools. The Year 10 French Exchange with Collège St Joseph in Morlaix, Brittany has been running for over 20 years and the German Exchange with Gymnasium Geretsried near Munich for over 15 years. Two weeks ago we took 36 Year 9 students on our first ever trip to Berlin.

We look forward to helping you develop a fascinating life-long skill.

Bonne Chance! Viel Spaß!

Rebecca Chapman
Head of Modern Languages



MUSIC

QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Years 7 - 9

All students study music for three years. Lessons focus on understanding music through a variety of musical activities centred on performing, composing and listening. Students use voices, keyboards, percussion and their own instruments to create and perform music. They also have access to music technology to help them rehearse, record and perform their own music.

Extra-curricular Music

A range of musical activities is available for children to participate in.

Monday	Theory Club	Cambiata (boys choir)
Tuesday	String Group	Rehearsal for school production
Wednesday	Swing Band	Pop Band rehearsals/band
Thursday	QEGS Choir	
Friday	Orchestra	Rehearsal for school production

Our choir and orchestra are travelling to Poland next July.

In the Autumn term we will be participating in the following events:

Joint Schools Carol Service	Christmas concert
Grandparents' Christmas Party	End of term Carol Service

Some pupils represent the school at local, regional and national level in various orchestras and choirs.

Instrumental Tuition

A range of instrumental teachers visit the school each week.

Monday	'Cello	Alex McQuiston
	Oboe	Ms Helen Bailey
	Piano	Ms Julia Cobby
	Violin/singing/piano	Mrs Barbara Gilbertson
Tuesday	Clarinet	Mr Brian Baillie
	Violin/singing/piano	Mrs Barbara Gilbertson
Wednesday	Brass	Mr Ian Butterworth
	Guitar	Mrs Barbara Gilbertson
	Singing	Miss Charlotte Jackson
Thursday	Saxophone and Clarinet	Mr Garry Linsley
Friday	Violin/singing/piano	Mrs Barbara Gilbertson
	Percussion	Mr Robert Rigby

We aim to encourage a wide variety of music-making opportunities and to develop the musical potential of each pupil by making music an enjoyable and rewarding experience inside and outside the classroom.

SPORT



PE Lessons

Everyone has a 35 minute and a 70 minute lesson every week.

Girls

Hockey, Netball, Rounders, Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton, Cross country, Tennis, Dance, Athletics and Gymnastics with extra-curricular opportunities in all curricular sports as well as football and cricket.



There are team practices, house teams and school teams for many sports. Everyone who comes to practices will get to play for the team.

Boys

Football, Rugby, Hockey, Cricket, Tennis, Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton, Climbing, Athletics, Gymnastics, Cross country and more.



Get involved and
have a go!





SCIENCE

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)

All Year 7 and 8 pupils follow a scheme based on the content of the current Key Stage 3 National Curriculum. The programme of study consists of units which look at Life Processes and Living Things, Materials and their Properties and Physical Processes as well as looking at building on students' investigative skills.

The course is based on six periods a week and students are provided with the three 11-14 Science texts published by Longman to help support their studies and to allow them to extend their scientific knowledge beyond that required by the School's programme of study.

Year 9

In Year 9 students have one double period of each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics taught by specialist teachers. The content covered acts as an introduction to our new GCSE courses. This decision to start our GCSE courses early has been made in order to reduce the time pressure on the students as they continue with their Science GCSE in Years 10 and 11.