



YEAR 9

OPTIONS BOOKLET 2024



INTRODUCTION

LETTER FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

In Year 9, there are important decisions to be made by you and your parents before you start Year 10 in September 2024. You have already experienced life at Consett Academy and you know a great deal about what to expect. However, you will now need to choose the subjects that you want to study for the next two years. This booklet will give you more information on the subjects and is designed to help you to choose the courses to best support your future career.

Please read the booklet very carefully. The next two school years are a very important part of your education. This booklet is designed to help you make the right choices for you and to help you achieve the best possible results in all of your subjects by the end of Year 11.

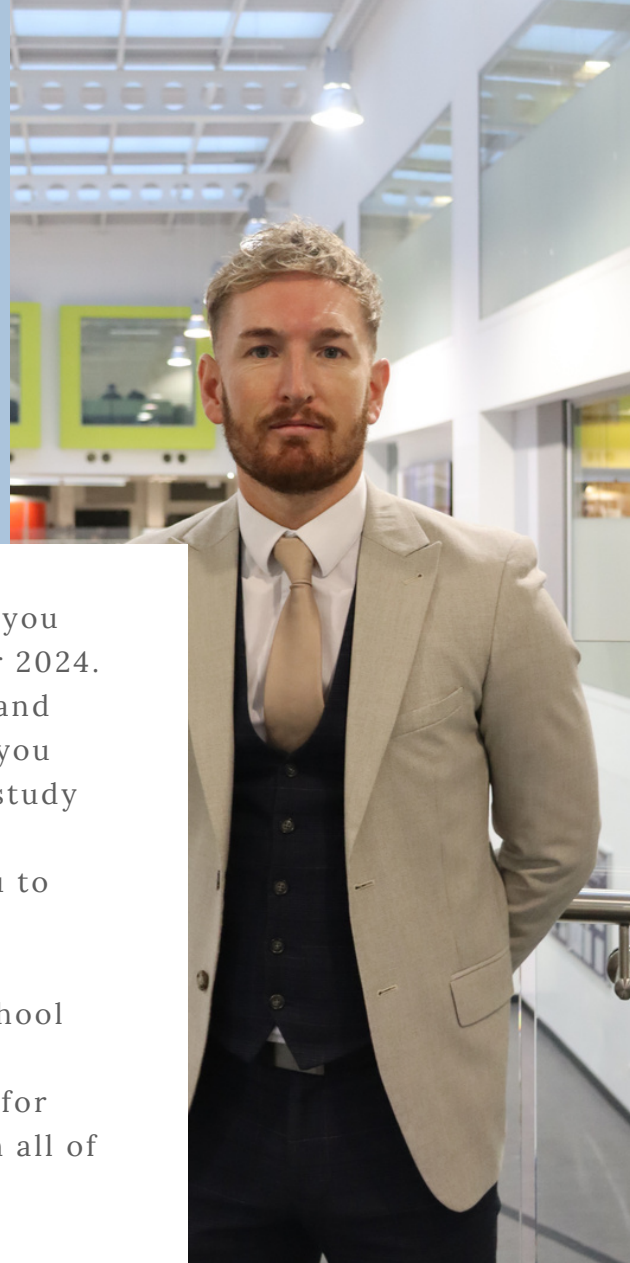
There are many people you can ask to help you with this, including your parents, teachers and staff at the Academy. By making the right decisions now, it will ensure that you enjoy your time with us and achieve the best results you can. Your success in Year 11 will pave the way for the next steps in your education at the age of 16.

Key Dates for you to note:

Options Evening – Monday 5th February 3.30pm – 6.30pm

Deadline for option forms – Friday 16th February

Mr T Urwin
Headteacher



THE CURRICULUM

We want our students to engage with a curriculum that best meets their needs and future aspirations. We want to provide a curriculum that they can engage with. We want our students to achieve the best possible results to then provide them with the best opportunities for the future.

All of our students will study a core curriculum and then will be guided to an option pathway. Each pathway is designed to guide students to the best combination of subjects for their future success. The majority of students will take 8 or 9 GCSE or equivalent subjects during Key Stage 4.

Choosing the right courses at Key Stage 4 is very important. The choices that you make now will start to define the pathway for your future. We will ensure that every single Year 9 student is matched to the right courses. We offer a range of GCSE and vocational courses that students can select their options from. Each pathway offers a different combination of subjects that will ensure a range of subjects that will lead to a pathway of success.

Consett Academy has experience in advising and supporting our students in making option choices and we encourage our students to talk to parents, teachers, tutors and other staff about successful choices so they can achieve good Key Stage 4 results. We believe we have a strong, broad curriculum with a combination of core and option subjects that will set students on the path to success in 2026.

Core Curriculum

English 5 lessons per week
(Students will study for 2 GCSEs in this time: English Literature and English Language)

Maths 5 lessons per week

Triple Science 6 lessons per week
Dual Science 5 lessons per week
(Science provision will depend on Option Pathway)

PE 1 lesson per week
(Core PE, non-exam)

PSHE and RE 2 hours per week
(Delivered through our Aspire Programme, non-exam)

OPTION PATHWAYS

To best serve your child and ensure the curriculum meets their needs, we have placed our students into pathways:

- Pathway A – TRIPLE SCIENCE Pathway
- Pathway B – EBACC Pathway
- Pathway C – GUIDED Pathway

Each child will receive guidance on which pathway we feel is best for them.

Pathway A – Triple Science Pathway

This Pathway is designed for students looking to take the separate sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This pathway will result in the students achieving 3 GCSEs in Science. This is usually for students looking to take Science further in the future or who want to excel in a range of academic GCSEs. They will receive 6 lessons of science per week (2 for each science) Students will select an additional 3 option choices:

Option 1	History or Geography	3 hours per week
Option 2	French	3 hours per week
Option 3	Choice of GCSE or vocational subjects	3 hours per week

Pathway B – EBACC Pathway

This Pathway is designed for more able students that will study the suite of EBACC subjects (Maths, English, Science, Humanities and Language). They will follow a combined Science course which covers Biology, Chemistry and Physics although not to the same depth as the Triple Science route. This will equate to 2 Science GCSE qualifications. They will receive 5 lessons of Science per week. Students will select an additional 3 option subjects:

Option 1	History or Geography	3 hours per week
Option 2	Choice of GCSE or vocational subjects	3 hours per week
Option 3	Choice of GCSE or vocational subjects	3 hours per week

Pathway C- GUIDED Pathway

This Pathway is designed for the majority of students who will progress from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4. Students will follow a combined Science course which covers Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This will equate to 2 Science GCSE qualifications. They will receive 5 lessons of Science per week.

Option 1	History or Geography or French	3 hours per week
Option 2	Choice of GCSE or vocational subjects	3 hours per week
Option 3	Choice of GCSE or vocational subjects	3 hours per week

MAKING YOUR CHOICES

Students have 2 school weeks after the Options Evening to make their final options choices. The deadline for students to select their options is Friday 16th February.

We understand that it can often be difficult for students to make their final choice. Therefore, to help students make informed decision we will offer the following support over these 2 weeks-

- 1-2-1 guidance meetings with a senior leader where requested.
- Options and careers guidance during tutor time.

Should you require any further information during the course of the options process then please contact one of the following-

Mr A White (Deputy Headteacher) – A.White@ncdat.org.uk

Mr P Howell (Head of Year 9) – PHowell@consettaacademy.org.uk

SUBJECTS



GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE & LANGUAGE

WHY DO THE COURSE?

English is the language of life. In every course and career and, during every day of their lives, students need to use English; whether it is reading, writing or speaking and listening, the skills students acquire enable them to access all formal examinations whilst preparing students for life-long learning.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

All students will study separate GCSEs in English Language and English Literature. Across the two courses, students will study:

- 19th century fiction
- Descriptive & narrative writing
- Non-fiction texts
- Writing to present a viewpoint
- Shakespeare
- Modern prose
- An anthology of poetry
- Transactional and imaginative writing

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- To read a wide range of texts fluently, critically and with good understanding; using knowledge gained to inform and improve their own writing.
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often.
- Appreciate the depth and power of English literary heritage.
- Write clearly and effectively, taking care over spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Use spoken and written Standard English effectively.
- Acquire and apply a wide range of vocabulary alongside knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

English is required in most careers and course, including entry into A-Level and university. It is widely recognised as an essential tool in all occupations and professions.

CONTACT

Mr P Creegan

PCreegan@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	50%	Exam	Explorations in Creative Reading & Writing
2	50%	Exam	Writers' Viewpoints & Perspectives

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	40%	Exam	Shakespeare & the 19th Century Novel
2	60%	Exam	Modern Texts & Poetry



GCSE MATHEMATICS

WHY DO THE COURSE?

Studying mathematics to GCSE level will develop your problem solving, logic and reasoning skills to give you the essential tools to be successful in your future education, work and life.

CONTACT

Ms J Smith
JSmith@consettacademy.org.uk

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Throughout the GCSE course, you will study the following areas of mathematics:

- Numbers
- Algebra
- Statistics
- Shape and Space
- Ratio and Proportion

You will also develop your ability to solve mathematical problems some of which are based on real life situations in a logical way. You will be expected to clearly communicate your solutions and justify your final answers.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The GCSE specifications in Mathematics should enable students to -

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.
- Students should be aware that mathematics can be used to develop models of real situations and that these models may be more or less effective depending on how the situation has been simplified and the assumptions that have been made.
- Students should also be able to recall, select and apply mathematical formulae.

ASSESSMENT

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	33.3%	Exam	Paper 1 Non Calculator
2	33.3%	Exam	Paper 2 Calculator
3	33.3%	Exam	Paper 3 Calculator

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

- A Level Mathematics
- A Level Further Mathematics

Mathematics is required in many careers and courses, including entry into A-Level and university. It is widely recognised as an essential tool in all occupations and professions.



GCSE SEPARATE SCIENCE

TRIPLE AWARD

WHY DO THE COURSE?

GCSE Separate Science encourages students to develop their knowledge about the living, material and physical worlds and provides insight into, and experience of, how science works. It enables learners to engage with science and to understand the effects of science on society.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Within the Separate Science GCSE course, students will study all three specialisms, and be awarded three GCSE grades (one for each specialism), which include the following topics:

Biology

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

Chemistry

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes
6. The rate and extent of chemical change
7. Organic chemistry
8. Chemical analysis
9. Chemistry of the atmosphere
10. Using resources

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Science is required by many careers and courses including entry into A-Level and university. In a global market, Science provides the opportunity to demonstrate the combination of both practical abilities and theoretical understanding.

CONTACT

Mrs S Levitt

SLevitt@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	50%	Exam	Biology Paper 1 (Topics 1-4)
2	50%	Exam	Biology Paper 1 (Topics 5-7)
1	50%	Exam	Chemistry Paper 1 (Topics 1-5)
2	50%	Exam	Chemistry Paper 1 (Topics 6-10)
1	50%	Exam	Physics Paper 1 (Topics 1-4)
2	50%	Exam	Physics Paper 2 (Topics 5-8)



GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE DUAL AWARD

WHY DO THE COURSE?

GCSE Combined Science encourages students to develop their knowledge about the living, material and physical worlds and provides insight into, and experience of, how science works. It enables learners to engage with science and to understand the effects of science on society.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Within the Combined Science GCSE course, students will study all three specialisms, and be awarded with two GCSE grades, which include the following topics:

Biology

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

Chemistry

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes
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7. Organic chemistry
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CONTACT

Mrs S Levitt

SLevitt@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	16.7%	Exam	Biology Paper 1 (Topics 1-4)
2	16.7%	Exam	Biology Paper 1 (Topics 5-7)
3	16.7%	Exam	Chemistry Paper 1 (Topics 1-5)
4	16.7%	Exam	Chemistry Paper 1 (Topics 6-10)
5	16.7%	Exam	Physics Paper 1 (Topics 1-4)
6	16.7%	Exam	Physics Paper 2 (Topics 5-7)

GCSE ART & DESIGN

WHY DO THE COURSE?

GCSE Art and Design is a broad, challenging course that develops the artistic skills and imagination of the individual. This provides a foundation in a range of art disciplines in two and three dimensions. It is appropriate for students who are planning a career in art, or for those who simply enjoy the challenge of the creative design process.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

By researching and developing ideas from starting points, you will create a portfolio of work by:

- Researching and being influenced by the work of artists, craftspeople and designers, past and present.
- Explaining individual ideas through annotations and drawings.
- Exploring a range of artists' materials and techniques, then applying them to your own work.
- Producing a range of outcomes showing the complete art and design process. Initially students will experience a range of specialisms before being matched to the most appropriate for them. Specialisms include a broad Art and Design course, Fine Art, 3D and Art Textiles.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Drawing skills are integral to this course. You will need to develop and practice a range of drawing skills to enable you to observe and record accurately. These include:

- Careful observational drawing
- Shading and rendering techniques
- Designing and annotating
- Image selection You will also build skills in variety of art media, including clay, textiles, sculpture, print, photography and digital media.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

GCSE Art and Design is a strong foundation for further progression to Art and Design related courses such as A-Level Art and Design and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

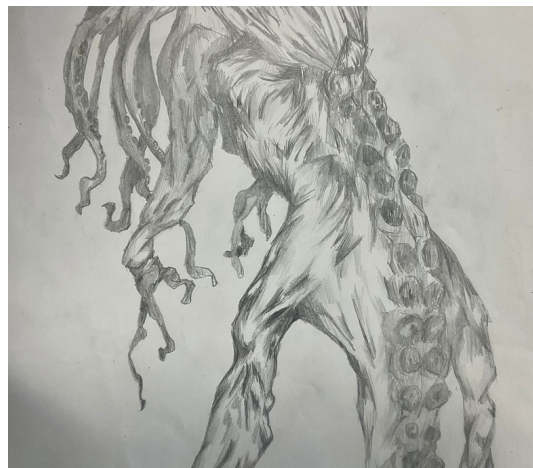
CONTACT

Mrs C Kester

CKester@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	60%	Coursework Portfolio	A portfolio of work produced over the course containing two projects demonstrating research, experimentation, design, observation, development and presentation skills.
2	40%	Exam	An Externally Set Assignment - Tasks set by the examiner. 10 weeks to research and develop ideas and prepare a final piece and 10 hours of practical time under exam conditions to produce an artwork in response to the set starting point



GCSE GEOGRAPHY

WHY DO THE COURSE?

Most students will find that there is a natural progression from Key Stage 3 to GCSE, ensuring that they recognise the course. If students have enjoyed geographical enquiry, how the world and the landscape around them is changing and asking questions around current geographical issues, then they will enjoy all aspects of this examination course.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Landscapes of the U.K.
- People of the U.K.
- UK Environmental Challenges
- Ecosystems of the Planet
- People of the Planet
- Environmental Threats to our Planet
- Geographical Skills
- Fieldwork assessment

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- Problem solving
- Investigating - including presenting data and arguments
- Map reading
- Numeracy and literacy

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

A GCSE in Geography gives you an academic qualification that universities and employers recognise and can lead into A-Level. It provides a passport to further study and jobs in town and transport planning, chartered surveying, land and water management, environmental consultancy, development, tourism, conservation, demography, housing and social welfare. Many geographers choose careers in information technology, administration and management, the financial sector and marketing.

CONTACT

Mrs J Yates

JYates@consettaacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30%	Written Paper	Living in the UK today
2	30%	Written Paper	The World Around Us
3	40%	Written Paper	Geographical Skills



GCSE HISTORY

WHY DO THE COURSE?

GCSE History is fascinating. You'll get to investigate some of the defining characters, events, features and developments in British, European and World History over the last 1,000 years. You'll develop a deeper understanding of the origins of the world around us, hone your analytical and debating skills and be allowed to think originally and creatively about the content we explore. If you like to figure things out for yourself, if you like to think originally and critically, and if you would like to develop your ability to work independently, then this is the course for you!

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Modern World Depth study focused on the African-American civil rights movement and Vietnam conflict.
- World Depth Study focused on the American West and how it was settled into the country we know today.
- Thematic Study of the development of Medicine and impact of trench warfare of WWI on medical developments.
- British Depth Study on Early Elizabethan England from 1558- 1588.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop a broad and deep understanding of elements of British, European and World History over the course of the last 1,000 years. In exploring this content, you will have the opportunity to develop complex analytical skills such as source evaluation, interpretation, forming judgements and creating original arguments. As well as developing your complex written skills, you will enhance your ability to work independently, collaboratively and to present your thoughts and arguments orally through rigorous debate, discussion and role play.

CONTACT

Mrs L McAllister

LMcAllister@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30%	Exam	Medicine in Britain (1250 - present)
2	20%	Exam	Early Elizabethan England (1558-88)
2	20%	Exam	American West (1835 - 95)
3	30%	Exam	The USA, 1954-75: conflict at home and abroad

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

History is an incredibly useful course giving you a wide range of skills which can be used within other subjects. It can lead to A-Levels or vocational qualifications and further degrees in such areas as: teaching, journalism, law, media, management, police and the caring professions.



GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

WHY DO THE COURSE?

GCSE RS is an academically rigorous study of religion, philosophy and ethics. In the study of religion you will explore questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth in two contrasting major world religions; Christianity and Buddhism. This will lead on to an exploration of philosophical and ethical themes in which the way beliefs affect behaviour and actions will be explored in a range of issues from abortion, euthanasia, war to animal rights, nuclear weapons and capital punishment.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study several units of work that investigate a range of topics discussing both religious and contemporary issues.

- Component 1; The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices from the following two religions:
 - Christianity
 - Buddhism
- Component 2: Thematic Studies from 4 of the following:
 - Relationships and families
 - Existence of God
 - Religion and life
 - Religion, peace and conflict
 - Religion, crime and punishment
 - Religion, human rights and social justice

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The course provides you with the opportunity to gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. You will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas and evaluate these, leadership and research skills. You will develop strong oracy skills and the ability to argue, debate and persuade as well as respectfully disagree - skills needed for all careers that involve working with people.

All these skills will help prepare you for further study. The ability to think philosophically and critically is crucial to any career as when companies hit a barrier in their processes, they turn to philosophers to problem solves and find solutions.

CONTACT

Mrs S McRobie

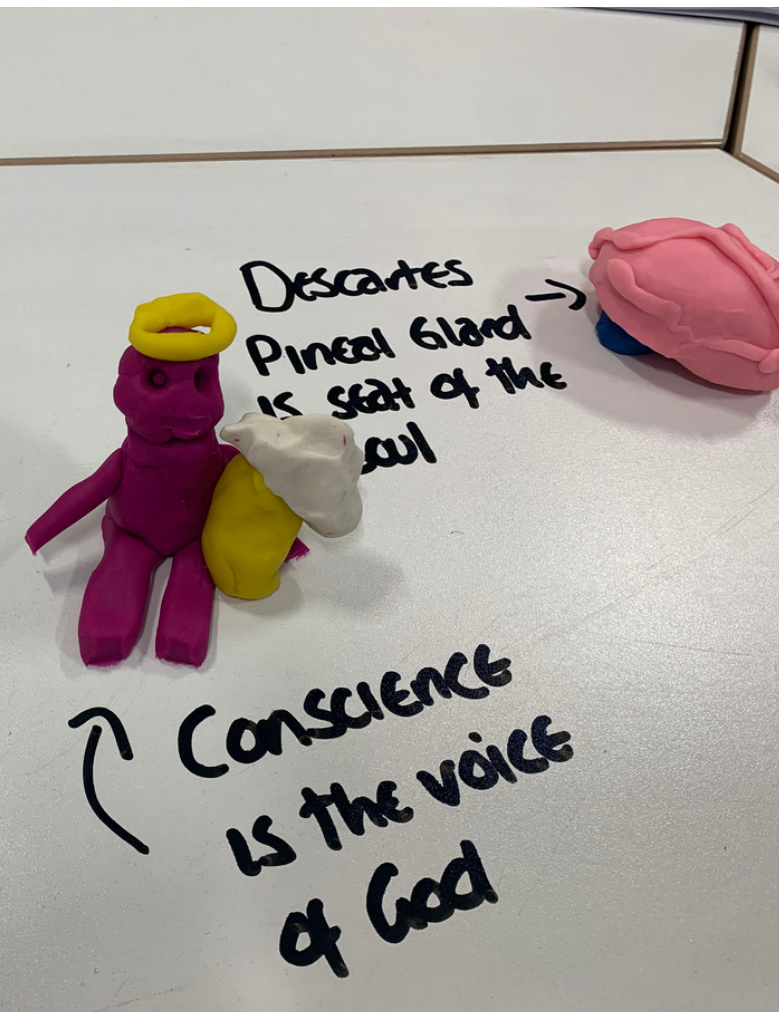
SMcrobie@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	50%	Exam	Component 1: The study of religions
2	50%	Exam	Component 2: Thematic Studies

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

The course will provide a firm foundation for an A-Level course in Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) but will also be useful for students intending to pursue careers in medical disciplines, social sciences, education, police, law, human resources, policy making and many other careers.



GCSE MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES - FRENCH

WHY DO THE COURSE?

Did you know, learning a language helps your memory, creativity, listening skills and self-confidence? By taking a language at GCSE you'll have amazing skills and a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do - so, it's quite a handy subject really. A language GCSE builds on what you have already learnt and you probably know more than you think.

Language classes are still fun and interactive and you cover things at a slightly quicker pace, but this is good as you'll easily notice the improvements that you make in your foreign language. Plus, by taking a language GCSE you don't just learn the language, you get to find out about other people, countries and cultures so it really is an interesting and varied subject.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The GCSE course contains the following themes -

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

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

We will develop the four key skills of Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing but MFL also helps improve your memory and builds your confidence.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Many employers, sixth forms and universities will require you to have a Modern Foreign Language, so you can see just how important learning a language can be! Languages can be used in so many jobs and you can offer more if you have a Modern Foreign Language.

CONTACT

Mrs S Eastwood

SEastwood@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

Units

All examinations will be taken at the end of Year 11

25% Reading exam

25% Listening exam

25% Speaking exam

25% Writing exam

GCSE DANCE

WHY DO THE COURSE?

Dance is a practically led course where students will have the chance explore existing repertoire in a range of different styles and use these skills during performances. This course is physically demanding and requires a lot of dedication. The dance components gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Component 1 - During Component 1 learners will develop their understanding of the performing arts by examining practitioners' work and the processes used to create performance.

Component 2 - During Component 2 learners will develop their performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of dance repertoire. In this component, you will develop performance skills and techniques. You will have the opportunity to specialise in a style of dance.

Component 3 - During Component 3 learners will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to create a workshop performance in response to a given brief and stimulus. You will choose one from a number of possible progression opportunities as the basis for your work. Responding to the opportunity will provide you with a clear focus for the unit.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

As choreographers, students employ the skills of problem solving and creativity and in directing others, they develop their interpersonal and communication skills. Students will also develop their theory knowledge of performance skills and techniques as well as the analysis and evaluation of professional dance work.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

- A-Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Performing Arts, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the performing arts or production arts areas.

CONTACT

Mrs K Abbott

KAbbott@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

PEARSON-SET ASSIGNMENT (PORTFOLIO) - 60%

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30%	PSA	Exploring the Performing Arts
2	30%	psa	Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts

EXTERNALLY ASSESSED - SYNOPTIC ASSESSMENT - 40%

Paper	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
3	40%	External Synoptic	Performing to a Brief - The external assessment takes the form of a set task taken under supervised conditions that is marked and a grade awarded by Pearson.



BTEC TECH AWARD IN ENTERPRISE

WHY DO THE COURSE?

The BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise is an excellent qualification to give students the skills and experiences required to go on and either start up their own business enterprise, be a valued employee in an existing enterprise or pursue a qualification in Business at a higher level.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Do you aspire to start your own business? Do you want to become a successful business person? If so, then this is the course for you. The course is structured so that students first study theoretical and practical Business topics in a 'classwork' format. They then apply what they have learnt to their coursework which involves investigating different existing Business Enterprises and evaluating what makes them effective. Topics studied includes:

- Enterprise strategy and objectives
- Marketing and promoting an enterprise
- Financial recording in an enterprise
- Operating an enterprise
- Considering the needs of employees in an enterprise
- The importance of customer service

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- An aptitude in planning and carrying out an enterprise activity
- The knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills that can affect the performance of an enterprise
- Attitudes and ways of working that are important for enterprise
- Economical elements of Business, looking at Micro and Macro elements of external factors that would impact businesses e.g., Inflation, Recession, Unemployment

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

The course provides a recognised route to study Business at a higher level (A-Level or BTEC Level 3). It is also a qualification respected by potential employers because it gives students a clear understanding of how businesses operate and how to be an effective employee within them.

CONTACT

Miss H Renshaw

HRenshaw@consettacademy.org.uk

ASSESSMENT

PEARSON BTEC LEVEL 1/LEVEL 2 TECH AWARD IN ENTERPIRSE

Component number	Component Title	GL H	Level	How assessed
1	Exploring Enterprises	36	1/2	Internal
2	Planning and presenting a micro enterprise idea	36	1/2	Internal
3	Marketing and Finance for Enterprise	48	1/2	External



BTEC TECH AWARD IN DIGITAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WHY DO THE COURSE?

Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over the recent years. Businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals and this qualification is intended to help you develop the skills you will need in the future across a wide range of job roles. Be ready for tomorrow's world. It will give you skills in user interface design and the use of spreadsheets to analyse data. This is along side the effective digital working practices.

CONTACT

Mrs H Pearson

HPearson@consettacademy.org.uk

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Component 1 - This involves pupils exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques. Pupils will develop their understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. They will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface.

Component 2 - This involves pupils collecting, presenting, and interpreting data. Pupils will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision making. They will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.

Component 3 - This involves pupils learning about effective working practices. Pupils will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use. Pupils will then be examined on this knowledge.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Equivalent to one GCSE, the BTEC DIT Tech award is a qualification that will help students develop the knowledge and skills needed to go on to further education in IT or computing. The course Includes 3 Components - 2 of which are coursework based and are internally assessed. The final component is externally assessed in the form of an examination. You will be awarded a Distinction*, Distinction, Merit or Pass at Level 2. Students could also be awarded a Level 1 Merit or Pass if not successful at Level 2.

ASSESSMENT

Component number	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30%	Internal	Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques
2	30%	Internal	Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data
3	40%	External	Effective Digital Working Practices

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Further IT qualifications at Level 3 or A-Level. Careers in web development, gaming, IT, engineering other focuses within the IT sectors.



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1	30%	Internal	Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques
2	30%	Internal	Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data
3	40%	External	Effective Digital Working Practices

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Further IT qualifications at Level 3 or A-Level. Careers in web development, gaming, IT, engineering other focuses within the IT sectors.



BTEC TECH AWARD IN TRAVEL & TOURISM

WHY DO THE COURSE?

The travel and tourism sector is the UK's third-largest employer, accounting for 9.5 per cent of total employment. Tourism is one of the fastest-growing sectors in the UK in employment terms, employing nearly 3 million people, and the value of tourism to the UK economy is approximately £121 billion (7.1 per cent) of UK GDP. The outlook for the travel and tourism sector remains robust and it will continue to be at the forefront of wealth and employment creation in the global economy.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Learners will acquire knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by exploring the aims of different travel and tourism organisations, the features of tourist destinations, how organisations meet customer requirements, and the influences on global travel and tourism. Topics studied includes:

- the travel and tourism sector and tourist destinations
- the type and purpose of different travel and tourism organisations
- the importance of travel and tourism to the UK
- different types of holidays and reasons for travel

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Explore - Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations

- internally assessed assignment
- 30% of the total course

Develop - Influences on Global Travel and Tourism

- externally assessed assignment
- 30% of the total course

Apply - Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism

- internal synoptic assignment
- 40% of the total course

CONTACT

Mrs D Hitcham

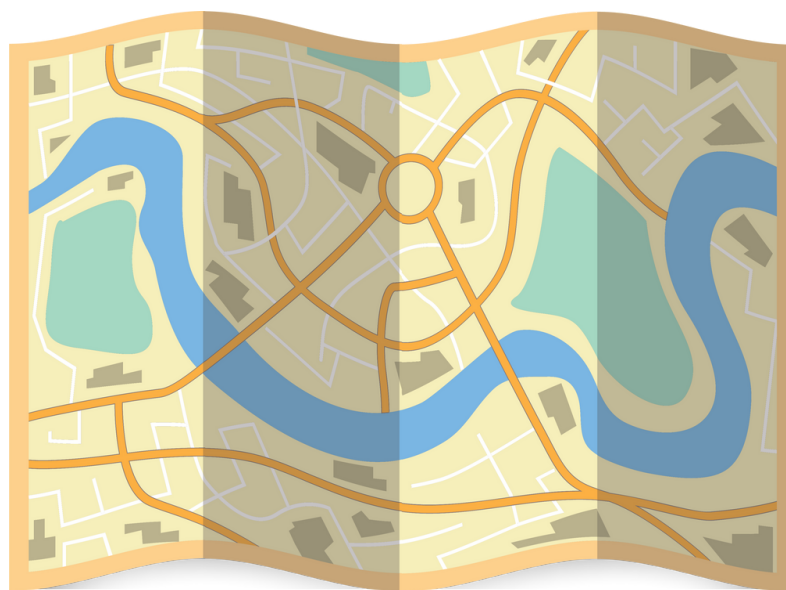
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ASSESSMENT

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30%	Internal	Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations
2	30%	External	Influences on Global Travel and Tourism
3	40%	Internal Synoptic	Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Once you have completed this course, you could progress on to the level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism, or on to the Level 2 Diploma in Cabin Crew, or Aviation Environment.



BTEC AWARD IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

WHY DO THE COURSE?

This course provides a vocationally related qualification in Health and Social Care. This is an area of work which gives many varied opportunities to make a difference to people's lives in a positive way and involves working with young children, the elderly and others who need to access care environments.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study three components of work that investigate a range of issues in the Health and Social industries. These can include issues such as development, health services and health and wellbeing. You will also look at health and social care practice such as nursing, early years provision and social work.

- **Component 1** - Human Lifespan Development- In this component you study how people grow and develop over the course of their life, from infancy to old age and the factors which affect their health and wellbeing.
- **Component 2** - Health and Social Care Services and Values- This component will give you an understanding of health and social care services and will help you develop skills in applying care values which are common across the sector
- **Component 3** - Health and Wellbeing- In this component, you look at the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on a person's health and wellbeing. You will

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- The course provides opportunities to develop a range of key skills as well as a responsible attitude to work and the practical skills required within the Health and Social Care sector. It will develop communication and personal presentation skills that can be transferred to other subjects and professions. You will develop skills such as empathy and will learn about the ethics involved when working with other people, particularly vulnerable groups.

CONTACT

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ASSESSMENT

Unit	% of Final Grade	Type of Assessment	Title of unit and additional information
1	30%	Internal	Human Lifespan Development
2	30%	External	Health and Social Care Services and Values
3	40%	Internal Synoptic	Health and Wellbeing

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Learners who generally achieve at Level 2 might consider progression to A-Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects or study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, available at Consett Academy which prepares students for entry to employment or onto university.

VOCATIONAL ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE

WHY DO THE COURSE?

This course is ideal for those students who would like to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in engineering manufacture. It will prepare students to progress on to other related study, such as qualifications in Engineering, or Design and Technology. The course will allow students to develop an understanding and skills to manufacture products in both low and high volumes.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Students will complete three units of work on the qualification.

The two non-exam assessed units are based around material released from the exam board:

- **Manufacturing a one-off product.**

This is assessed by a set assignment. In this unit you will learn how to safely plan and produce a one-off product by using appropriate processes, tools and equipment.

- **Manufacturing in quantity**

In this unit you will learn how to manufacture using simple jigs and templates to support manufacturing in volume using Computer Aided Design (CAD) software and Computer Numerical Control (CNC) equipment.

Each of these units is worth 30% of the final grade.

The third unit of work is externally assessed by an exam in year 11 and is worth 40% of the final grade.

In this unit you will learn about the different types of manufacturing processes, and the different materials that can be used within manufacturing.

Topics include:

- Manufacturing processes
- Engineering materials
- Manufacturing requirements
- Developments in engineering manufacture.

CONTACT

Mrs S Hammett

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WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Vocational Engineering Manufacture will encourage students to:

- understand the fundamental principles and concepts of Engineering Manufacture, including manufacturing processes, engineering materials, manufacturing requirements and developments in engineering manufacture.
- develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations.
- think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the engineering, manufacturing, process and control sector and more widely.
- plan manufacturing production through practical experience of manufacturing for one-off products and manufacturing in quantity.
- determine the sequence of operations required, recognising hazards and risks so that control measures can be implemented for safe working.
- interpret engineering drawings to facilitate manufacture, using a range of tools and equipment, including Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities are vast in the design, manufacturing and engineering professions for students as there are hundreds of sectors that need highly skilled and innovative professionals. This route is the ideal starting point for those students wishing to embark upon a possible career in Engineering, Product Design, Electrical or Electronic Engineering or any further study in a Design & Technology based course. As well as the hard edge technologies above, design is also in demand in fashion, entertainment, advertising, interior design, IT and architecture.



LEVEL 1 / 2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN FOOD AND COOKERY

WHY DO THE COURSE?

This qualification will enable learners to develop their personal interest and skills in cookery that will help them to learn about and prepare food that is healthy and nutritious. These vocational skills will help the learner to make appropriate food choices and provide a balanced diet for themselves and others. These skills can readily be transferred to further study or employment within the food sector.

The courses ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food safety, legislation, provenance and recipe amendment.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This qualification is made up of 2 units.

EA: Students will cover the seven content areas of the course and in the second year will sit a written exam that will assess the learners knowledge and understanding of these areas.

NEA: Students will learn about a range of food preparation and cooking methods along with their nutritional value. They will plan nutritious meals, the prepare, cook and present their dishes.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Students will develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including:

- Communication
- Confidence
- Learning Independently
- Organisation
- Problem Solving
- Research
- Self-discipline
- Time management

CONTACT

Mrs S Hammett

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HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will be assessed through a written examination and an assignment.

Unit 1: A written examination worth 40% of your qualification

Unit 2: You will plan and prepare a menu in response to a brief. This will be worth 60% of your qualification and will take 12 hours.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Upon completion of the course, students may embark on an apprenticeship, employment in the catering or food industries, or go on to further study. They will also be prepared for adult life by being able to competently cook a selection of healthy meals for themselves and their family.



VOCATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS: MUSIC

WHY DO THE COURSE?

This course is for anyone who enjoys a high level of involvement in Music. Over the two years you will encounter many opportunities to develop your performing skills, as well as being introduced to new music through performance, creation and exploring real-life scenarios in the Music Industry.

CONTACT

Mrs F Dodd

FDodd@consettacademy.org.uk

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Topics

- Unit 1: Performing
- Unit 2: Creating (Composition & Production)
- Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- Composition
- Production
- Listening & Evaluating
- Performance
- Music theory

WHAT ARE THE PRE-REQUISITES?

To be successful at Vocational Performing Arts Music, students will need a secure background in Music. They should already have at least Grade 3 or equivalent on their main instrument (including vocals) and be receiving some sort of instrument/vocal tuition through either a private tutor or lessons from Durham Music Service. Final decisions on whether a student meets these criteria will be made by the Academy and if in doubt please discuss this with our music teachers.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Internal Controlled Assessments:

Units 1 and 2 are assessed through internal controlled assessment and submitted for external moderation. Both units are available for submission in December and May each year. (10 hours supervised assessment each)

External Controlled Assessment:

Unit 2 will be externally assessed. The assessment brief will be released in January each year for submission in May/June of the same year. (20 hours supervised assessment)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Whether you are pursuing a future in composition or song writing, music production, teaching, journalism or performance, Performing Arts – Music is a brilliant starting point.

These courses also lead into BTEC Level 3: Music Performance.



VOCATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS: MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

WHY DO THE COURSE?

This course is for anyone who enjoys a high level of involvement in Music. Over the two years you will encounter many opportunities to develop your performing skills, as well as being introduced to new music through performance, creation and exploring real-life scenarios in the Music Industry.

CONTACT

Mrs F Dodds

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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Topics

- Unit 1: Performing – Digital Performance
- Unit 2: Creating – Original Composition & Production
- Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- Composition
- Production
- Listening & Evaluating
- Performance
- Music theory

WHAT ARE THE PRE-REQUISITES?

To be successful at Vocational Performing Arts Music Technology, students will need a secure background in Music. They should already have secure performance skills on their main instrument (including vocals). Final decisions on whether a student meets these criteria will be made by the Academy and if in doubt please discuss this with our music teachers.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Internal Controlled Assessments:

Units 1 and 2 are assessed through internal controlled assessment and submitted for external moderation. Both units are available for submission in December and May each year. (10 hours supervised assessment each)

External Controlled Assessment:

Unit 2 will be externally assessed. The assessment brief will be released in January each year for submission in May/June of the same year. (20 hours supervised assessment)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Whether you are pursuing a future in composition or song writing, music production, teaching, journalism or performance, Performing Arts - Music is a brilliant starting point.

These courses also lead into BTEC Level 3: Music Performance.



NCFE LEVEL 1/2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN HEALTH AND FITNESS

WHY DO THE COURSE?

Health and fitness are essential both to promote student success and lifelong wellbeing. Learning about sport, health and fitness will enable students to maintain a high level of health throughout their lives. It also provides a gateway for students beyond Key Stage 4 and compliments their science studies.

CONTACT

Miss J Pye

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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Generic Topics

- Skeletal and muscular system
- Respiratory system
- Cardiovascular system
- Energy systems
- Components of fitness
- Physical training
- Health and fitness
- Goal setting Additional GCSE Content
- Diet and nutrition
- Application to sporting activities

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

As health and fitness or sports professionals, students will employ the skills of problem solving, evaluation and analysis. They will develop leadership skills and in doing so will develop their interpersonal and communication skills Students will also develop their theory knowledge of health, fitness, sport and performance and will apply it to real life, practical situations.

WHAT ARE THE PRE-REQUISITES?

An interest in health and fitness and/or an interest in sport. A good base level of personal fitness will also be required as many topics will involve physical activity.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Students will be assessed via one internal assignment in January 2025 (60%) and one external written exam in May/June 2025 (40%).

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Further study at Level 3 such as A-Level or BTEC Level 3. Apprenticeship in coaching, or the health and fitness industry Higher Study at university in a range of disciplines such as Sport Science, Anatomy and Physiology, Physiotherapy, Sports Therapy or Nutrition Careers in medicine, sport, health and fitness, sports development, teaching and coaching.



LEVEL 2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN HAIR AND BEAUTY STUDIES

WHY DO THE COURSE?

If you are creative, organised and enjoy working with people, then the hair and beauty industry is a place where you could utilise your best attributes. It's an exciting and ever-growing industry and you will develop a lifelong skill that will give you many career opportunities.

CONTACT

Nicola Scheel

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This qualification allows you to explore the exciting world of hair and beauty and the environment in which the industry operates.

If you enjoy looking back in time to explore changing trends and developments within the hair and beauty sector, find out how science is used to create products, and understand why we create images for business use, then this qualification is for you.

- You will explore and understand career opportunities available in the hair, beauty and related industries, and find out what skills and attributes are required to pursue a career.
- You will develop knowledge of skin and hair anatomy, as well as the characteristics of, and factors affecting different hair and skin types.
- You will present a design idea using a range of materials, media and components and accessories; and carry out your design on a model.

This qualification has three units:

- Exploring the world of Hair and Beauty
- Science of Hair and Beauty
- Design in the Hair and Beauty sector

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The qualification develops the following knowledge, understanding and skills:

- specific services carried out within the hair and beauty sectors, roles and responsibilities and typical working patterns
- evolution of hair and beauty from use in ancient times to the mid 90s
- how technological advancements, changes to the economy, and social factors have influenced the sector
- chemistry of cosmetics and biology related to hair and beauty
- uses of design and images for business use
- technical hair styling, make-up and manicure skills.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

One moderated assignment.

One exam in Year 11, sat under exam conditions.

The qualification is graded pass, merit, distinction or distinction*

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Learners who successfully achieve this qualification could progress to other vocationally related qualifications, including hairdressing, beauty therapy, nail technology, fashion and media make-up, apprenticeships or employment.



LEVEL 2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN CONSTRUCTING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

WHY DO THE COURSE?

If you like to work with your hands, keep active and learn a range of skills that will be useful for the rest of your life, then this is the ideal introduction to the construction industry. The course covers essential skills in the construction trades.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This will be delivered at Derwentside College's state of the art industry workshops and learning environment.

You will study:

- Safety and security in the construction environment.
- Practical construction skills such as bricklaying, joinery, painting and decorating and tiling.
- Planning construction projects which will allow you to plan your work and complete the tasks as expected.

Assessment Methods:

You will be assessed using a range of methods in both a practical aspect and end examination. Your teacher will also assess your skills in the practical workshop. You will complete one online exam and 2 practical assessments of your work in the workshop. Your final grades will be either Pass, Merit or Distinction

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will learn how to plan, communicate, measure, and be a team player, as well as gaining practical skills in the following areas:

- Bricklaying – Setting out, concreting, building walls
- Carpentry and Joinery skills – hanging doors, skirting boards
- Painting and decorating – painting skills on walls and ceilings
- Tiling – covering wall and floor with ceramic finishes.

CONTACT

Stephen Olsen



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