

Summary:

Vocational Options take place on four occasions a week. We aim to give students their preferred 4 Options, but on occasion due to time tabling or class sizes we may have to review decisions.

Please complete the options sheet and return to school as soon as possible. For each option block identify a 1st and 2nd choice option.

If you would like further clarification, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school and we will discuss this in further detail.

This is a very exciting time where you get to choose the subjects you are passionate about. Be excited, you are really lucky to have such a diverse selection of subjects on offer to you!

Engage, Develop, Communicate, Aspire



A Speech and
Language UK school

KS4/5 Options 2025-26

Speech and
Language UK



Engage, Develop, Communicate, Aspire

Vocational Options at Dawn House School:

This is a booklet of the Vocational Options Dawn House School has on offer next academic year.

In KS4 and KS5 we like to give the pupils an opportunity to pick from a variety of options based on their interests, strengths and plans for the future.

The majority of these courses can be for 1 year and then each year pupils are given the option to continue or try a new course. Options are delivered 4 afternoons a week.

These courses have been designed to ensure students not only receive access to a variety of subjects but also allow the students to achieve various qualifications tailored to their individual need.

The options are delivered through various exam boards and at a variety of levels.

This booklet will hopefully give pupils and parents/carers a greater understanding of the courses we have available for vocational subjects. We will aim to ensure pupils get their chosen options however please be aware this will be timetable dependent.



History (GCSE):

Exam Board: Edexcel

Level of Qualification: GCSE

Course Length: 2-years

Perfect for:

'Pupils who are curious about the past, enjoy exploring different historical events, and want to develop strong analytical and research skills.'

Summary of Course:

The GCSE History course explores key historical events, themes, and figures from different time periods, including the world wars, civil rights movements, and the development of modern societies. Pupils will develop skills in critical thinking, analysis, and interpretation of historical sources, preparing them for exams and future study.



2025/26 Options:

Monday - P5 and P6:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Health and Social | Music | Computer Graphics and Animation |
| PE | Construction | Horticulture |

Tuesday - P5 and P6:

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Textiles | History (GCSE) | Motor Vehicle Maintenance |
| Food and Nutrition | Makaton | PE |

Wednesday - P5 and P6:

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Photography | Dance and Theatre | Music Technology |
| DofE (Walking) | Child Care | Animal Care |

Thursday - P4, P5 and P6:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Hair and Beauty | Film Production | Forest Schools | Photography |
| DofE (Bikes) | Food Technology | Animal Care | |

Health and Social Care:

Exam Board: NCFE

Level of Qualification: Level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Opening the door to a rewarding future in health, social care, or children's services.'

Summary of Course:

This Level 1 Certificate introduces learners to the health, social care, and children's sectors, covering key topics like types of provision, values, roles, and safety. With optional units in areas such as mental health and learning disabilities, it offers a flexible, knowledge-based route into further study and future careers.



Duke of Edinburgh (Walking):

Exam Board: DofE

Level of Qualification: Bronze Award

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who enjoy outdoor activities, hiking, and want to develop their fitness, navigation, and teamwork skills.'

Summary of Course:

This course allows pupils to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) through walking. Pupils will develop their skills in navigation, teamwork, and endurance while exploring various routes and environments. The course involves planning and completing walking expeditions, contributing to their DofE award progress.



Textiles:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 3 and Level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who are creative, enjoy working with fabrics, and want to explore design and textile techniques.'

Summary of Course:

This course introduces pupils to the world of textiles, where they will develop skills in designing, creating, and modifying fabrics and materials. Pupils will learn various techniques, including sewing, printing, and pattern making, and work on projects to build a portfolio. The course offers both practical experience and creative development, leading to AIM Award qualifications.



Music:

Exam Board: Arts Award

Level of Qualification: Bronze Arts Award in Music

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who enjoy music and want to develop their creativity, confidence, and performance skills in a practical and engaging way.'

Summary of Course:

This course allows pupils to explore their passion for music while developing creative and performance skills. Pupils take part in practical music-making, learn about different genres and artists, and have opportunities to perform and share their work. The Arts Award framework encourages independent learning, personal expression, and reflection, and is ideal for those who enjoy creating, listening to, or performing music.

artsaward

Computer Graphics and Animation:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry level 3/level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

‘For pupils who enjoy being creative with technology and want to develop skills in digital design, graphics, and animation.’

Summary of Course:

This course introduces pupils to digital design through the use of imaging and animation software. Pupils will learn key skills in creating and editing graphics, developing animations, and using design tools to produce creative digital content. The qualification supports learners interested in digital media, art, or ICT, and provides a foundation for further study in creative or technical fields.



Makaton:

Exam Board: Makaton Charity

Level of Qualification: Taster Session, Makaton Level 1-4

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

‘Anyone wanting to develop an understanding of Makaton, or to develop their current knowledge’

Summary of Course:

Pupils will learn the theory of Makaton and practice signs and symbols, focusing on the Core Vocabulary and words linked to their interests and independence skills. They'll have the chance to promote Makaton within the school and on social media, and create online quizzes, games, and resources. Pupils will work towards earning a qualification through this course.



Music Technology:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 3 and Level 1

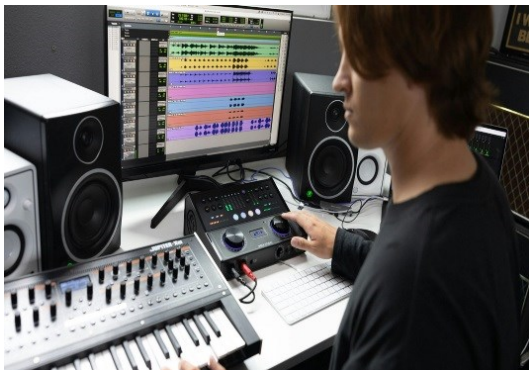
Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Anyone with an interest in music making, songwriting, DJ'ing and music production.'

Summary of Course:

This 1-year course helps pupils develop skills in music technology and production, including using digital mixing consoles, music software (Logic Pro X), and synthesizers. Lessons take place in the school's music studio, where students will learn about roles in a recording studio, such as Engineer, Programmer, and Producer. Pupils will also create a portfolio of work for AIM Award accreditation.



Horticulture:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 1, 2, 3 and Level 1

Course Length: 1 Year

Perfect for:

'Somebody willing to get their hands dirty and who enjoys the outdoors'

Summary of Course:

This option gives pupils hands-on experience in gardening through practical tasks like sowing seeds, mowing, watering, weeding, planting, and digging. They will also learn the basics of horticulture, including how to identify common plants, trees, and tools. Pupils help look after the school grounds, making full use of the outdoor space at Dawn House.



Construction:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 2, Entry Level 3 and Level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Anyone who enjoys practical activities and wants to learn exciting employability skills.'

Summary of Course:

Pupils will learn both the theory and practical skills used in the building trade, including painting and decorating, joinery, plumbing, electrics, and brickwork. They will work towards AIM qualifications through tailored units. A special area in school has been set up for pupils to safely practice these skills.



Duke of Edinburgh (Bikes):

Exam Board: DofE

Level of Qualification: Bronze Award

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who enjoy cycling, outdoor adventures, and want to develop their physical fitness, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.'

Summary of Course:

This course allows pupils to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) through cycling. Pupils will develop their biking skills, explore local routes, and work on building teamwork, navigation, and endurance. The course involves practical biking sessions, as well as challenges that contribute to their overall DofE award progress.



Forest Schools:

Exam Board: N/A

Level of Qualification: Award

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who enjoy being creative, finding out more about nature and enjoy the great outdoors!'

Summary of Course:

The John Muir Award encourages people to connect with, enjoy, and care for wild places. It's an inclusive, non-competitive environmental award that challenges participants to explore and appreciate nature. The scheme promotes environmental awareness and responsibility through fun, adventure, and exploration.



Animal Care:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 1, 2, 3 and Level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Anyone who has an interest in animals or who would like to work with animals in the future.'

Summary of Course:

Pupils learn how to care for, handle, and feed a range of animals. We have a growing number of animals based in Sixth Form. Pupils can wear a special Animal Care t-shirt and jacket during lessons, and go on three trips each year to learn about animals not kept in school.



Photography:

Exam Board: AIM Awards

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 3 and Level 1

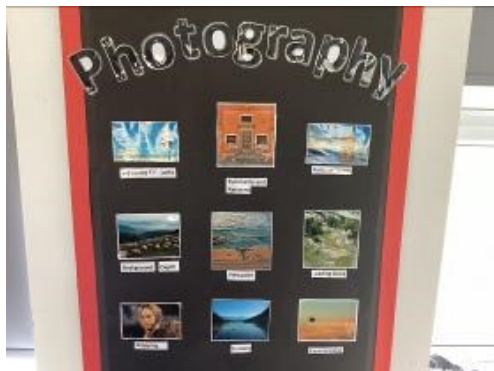
Course Length: 1 Year

Perfect for:

'Pupils with an interest in learning the skill of photography and using software to be able to edit images.'

Summary of Course:

This course teaches pupils how to take great photos by learning about composition, using SLR cameras, and editing images with specialist software. Pupils will take photos on location and take part in real projects, such as creating a calendar to sell as part of the Sixth Form enterprise work.



Film Production:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry level 3/level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who are passionate about film and media, and want to develop skills in storytelling, filming, and editing.'

Summary of Course:

This course introduces pupils to the basics of film production, including planning, filming, and editing. Pupils will learn about different roles in the film industry, such as directing, producing, and editing, while working on practical projects. The course includes both theory lessons and hands-on activities to help pupils develop their skills.



Hair and Beauty:

Exam Board: ASDAN

Level of Qualification: Vocational Taster /
Work Experience

Course Length: 2 years

Perfect for:

'Pupils wanting to understand how the beauty industry works, features of working in a salon, and also how to perform treatments.'

Summary of Course:

In this course, pupils learn about the hair and beauty industry and potential careers within it. The course covers six main areas: customer service, nail services, basic hair-dressing, basic facial treatments, health and safety, and careers in the field. Pupils will engage in theory lessons, practical activities, group work, and client-based tasks, with opportunities for external visits.



Dance and Theatre:

Exam Board: ASDAN

Level of Qualification: Expressive Arts Short Course

Course Length: 2 years

Perfect for:

'Those interesting in creative expression, a love of the arts and a passion for creativity'

Summary of Course:

This course gives pupils the chance to explore and enjoy different types of art, including visual arts, music, drama, crafts, and writing. They will learn new creative skills, develop their own ideas, and understand how the arts can support wellbeing. The course also helps build confidence and skills useful for life and work.



Motor Vehicle Maintenance:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry Level 1, 2, 3 and Level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Individuals with a passion for cars, interest in fixing things and aren't afraid to get their hands dirty!'

Summary of Course:

Pupils learn how to look after and repair motor vehicles. They get to know the names of parts, tools, and equipment, and practice using them through hands-on tasks. Pupils work towards AIM qualifications up to Level 1, and some go on to study this subject further at college.



Child Care:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry level 3/level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

'Pupils who are interested in working with young children and want to learn how to support their learning, play, and wellbeing.'

Summary of Course:

This course introduces pupils to the basics of caring for young children, including child development, play, safety, and routines. Through practical tasks and classroom learning, pupils gain knowledge and skills that are useful for working with children in early years settings. Pupils will complete AIM Award units suited to their level.



PE:

Exam Board: AIM Award

Level of Qualification: Entry level 3/level 1

Course Length: 1 year

Perfect for:

‘Pupils who enjoy being active, working with others, and want to improve their fitness and confidence through sport.’

Summary of Course:

This course helps pupils develop physical skills, teamwork, and an understanding of health and fitness through a variety of sports and activities. Pupils learn about the benefits of exercise, how to stay active, and take part in both individual and team-based challenges. They will work towards AIM qualifications through practical participation and theory tasks.



Food and Nutrition:

Exam Board: NCFE

Level of Qualification: Level 1

Course Length: 2 years

Perfect for:

‘Learners who enjoy cooking and want to build practical skills for further study, apprenticeships, or a future career in food.’

Summary of Course:

This qualification is designed for learners with an interest in food and cookery. It will provide learners with experience of using different cooking skills and methods to enable them to use these within further education or apprenticeships. It will give them a basic understanding of the skills required for a career in food.

