



St Marylebone CE Bridge School

KS4 Subject Handbook

2023-4

SMBS Qualifications at a glance



1. English

Pathway 1	Pathway 2	Pathway 3
Pearson Functional Skills English <i>Entry Level</i>	AQA Functional Skills English <i>Level 1</i>	AQA Functional Skills English <i>Level 2 / GCSE</i>

2. Maths

Pathway 1	Pathway 2	Pathway 3
Pearson Functional Skills Maths <i>Entry Level</i>	AQA Functional Skills Maths <i>Level 1</i>	AQA Functional Skills Maths <i>Level 2 / GCSE</i>

3. Science

AQA Entry Level Science - *Single or Double Award at Entry Level 1, 2 or 3*

4. Religious Studies and Humanities

WJEC Entry Pathways Humanities - *Award/Certificate/Diploma at Entry Level 2 or 3*

5. Food Technology

Edexcel BTEC in Home Cooking Skills - *Award at Level 1 or Level 2*

6. Art & Design

Pearson BTEC in Art and Design - *Award or Certificate at Level 1*

7. ICT

Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in ICT - *Entry Level 1, 2, 3 and Level 1.*

8. PE

NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Sport or AQA Unit Award Scheme

9. Developing Resilience

Prince's Trust Level 1 Award in Developing Resilience

10. Preparing for Adulthood

AQA Unit Award Scheme

SMBS Qualifications and Descriptions

English

Qualification	Description
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills English - <i>Entry Levels 1 - 3</i>	This is a foundation English qualification. It teaches students basic reading, writing, speaking and listening skills and every day literacy skills such as reading and writing non-fiction like forms, letters, emails, etc. Tasks are assessed internally (by the teacher) and there are no formal exams. It is a pass/fail qualification so there are no grades.
AQA Functional Skills English <i>Level 1 / Level 2</i>	These are the next two levels of qualification after Entry Level. These are also pass/fail qualifications. This qualification is designed to teach students everyday life skills English and to prepare them for further education and employment. It is assessed by 2 external exams for for Reading and Writing and an internal assessment for Speaking and Listening. Exams are usually in November, January, February and May.
AQA GCSE English Language	This is a two year qualification. Students may begin the course here and continue to study it and sit the exam college. There are two exams, both externally set and marked, usually at the beginning of June. There are no set texts.

Maths

Qualification	Description
AQA Entry Level Maths <i>Entry Level 1, 2 or 3</i>	This qualification provides basic and relevant mathematical skills. It helps students to build their confidence in maths, and all coursework and exams are internally assessed. There are 8 components that can be worked through at a pace suitable for the students. Examples of some components are: 4 Operations, Calendar and Time and Geometry.
AQA Functional Skills Maths <i>Level 1/ Level 2</i>	This qualification aims to prepare learners for life and work, while creating a stepping stone to further studies such as GCSE Maths. It takes a real-life approach to learning, with problem-solving questions about personal finance, planning and organising activities and the world of work. It is assessed by an external exam.
AQA GCSE Mathematics	This two-year qualification is designed to enable students to engage with, explore, enjoy and succeed in maths. GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a Higher tier (grades 4 – 9).

Science

Qualification	Description
AQA Entry Level Science <i>(Entry Level 1, 2 or 3)</i> <i>Single award (3 components)</i> <i>Double award (6 components)</i>	This qualification provides basic and relevant scientific skills across Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students will learn theory and complete practical work in the lab. It helps students to build their confidence in Science, and all coursework and exams are internally assessed. There are 6 components that can be worked through at a pace suitable for the students or there is an alternative option of the single award which consists of 3 components. Students begin the qualification in Year 9. Across the 3 years, students will study components including: The Human Body; Elements, Compounds and Mixtures; Energy; Magnetism and; The Structure of Matter and well as practical skills including lab safety and making conclusions.

Humanities and RS

Qualification	Description
WJEC Entry Pathways Humanities (Award/Certificate/Diploma)	<p>This is a 2 year qualification and students have the chance to achieve either an award, certificate or diploma. The qualification is project based and does not involve exams. Moreover, it grants students the opportunity to improve their expressive skills, explore and challenge their opinions, increase their level of independence and research skills.</p> <p>In History, students will be working on modules such as A British Society of the Past, Historical change over time, Looking at your History and Responses in Contemporary Conflicts in the World Events. In RS, students explore the specifics of different religions not previously studied in as much detail, such as Hinduism and Buddhism. The RS modules are: People and Protest, Contentious issues in The Modern World, Prejudice and Discrimination, Places of Worship, Religious Festivals and Celebrations and Important Ceremonies in Life and Death.</p>

Food Technology

Qualification	Description
Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Award in Home Cooking Skills	<p>The Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Award in Home Cooking Skills aims to give learners the knowledge, skills and confidence to enjoy cooking meals at home. Learners will gain understanding of how to economise when planning meals to cook at home. The unit will encourage learners to transfer skills learnt to other recipes to continue cooking for themselves and their families and to inspire others by passing on their knowledge. The unit is based on the proposition that being able to cook is an essential life skill which empowers people to make changes that have benefits to health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Students will learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Select and prepare ingredients for a recipe● Use cooking skills when following a recipe● Demonstrate food safety and hygiene throughout prep and cooking● Reflect on own learning about value of gaining cooking skills● Identify ways to pass on information about home cooking

Art and Design

Qualification	Description
Pearson BTEC Level 1 Introductory Certificate in Art and Design	Learners will explore a broad range of art forms including drawing, painting, ceramics, textiles and graphic design, providing learners with a broad base of understanding and plenty of opportunities to find their own style.

ICT

Qualification	Description
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Information and Communication Technology at Entry Level 1, 2, 3 and Level 1.	The course equip learners with the basic skills they need to operate confidently, effectively and independently in education, work and everyday life. At each level, students will study modules on using ICT; finding and selecting information; and developing, presenting and communicating information.

PE

Qualification	Description
NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Sport	This qualification is designed to help support the learner's personal development through acquiring skills and knowledge in sport, exercise and fitness. The qualification also allows learners to gain personal transferable skills that can be applied to the workplace or further study. It also encourages learners to adopt a fitter and healthier lifestyle.
AQA Unit Award Scheme	The Unit Award Scheme (UAS) is a recording of achievement scheme, rather than full qualification. It offers learners the opportunity to have their achievements formally recognised with a certificate each time a short unit of learning is successfully completed. Units include: Fitness, Football Skills, Studying a Team Sport.

Developing Resilience (Prince's Trust)

Qualification	Description
Prince's Trust Level 1 Award in Developing Resilience	The Prince's Trust Level 1 Award in Developing Resilience aims to support learners to increase their personal resilience by exploring, experiencing, and developing different protective factors and learning how to apply helpful habits to their real lives to help them manage life's challenges.

Preparing for Adulthood

Qualification	Description
AQA Unit Award Scheme	The Unit Award Scheme (UAS) is a recording of achievement scheme, rather than full qualification. It offers learners the opportunity to have their achievements formally recognised with a certificate each time a short unit of learning is successfully completed. Units cover a range of functional life skills such as: safety in the community, using public transport, law and order, looking after the environment, accessing health services and skills for the workplace.

Qualification Levels further guidance

Entry Level 1 -2 is equivalent to a primary school-aged student.

Entry Level 3 is equivalent to Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)

a Level 1 qualification is *broadly* equivalent to a GCSE at grades 1-3

a Level 2 qualification is *broadly* equivalent to a GCSE at grades 4-9 (a passing grade)