



ACADEMICS

SUBJECT OPTIONS
& COURSE COMPONENTS
2019/20



BUCKSWOOD SCHOOL
HASTINGS, UK

Choice is important

All through our lives we are faced with choices and have to weigh up the costs and benefits of the options available to us. The good news is that you have already made the smartest decision by selecting us for your education, because at Buckswood you can combine your studies with a wide variety of extra-curricular activities that will equip you with the skills, character and qualifications you need to succeed in life.

Junior School

Everything in life needs a solid foundation on which to build, and at Buckswood the Junior School curriculum features a wide range of subjects which not only give a grounding in life's fundamentals, but also serve as a springboard to specialist areas of study later on. We aim to encourage our students to explore where academic strengths lie, identify possible career paths and work with us to tailor their learning journey.

GCSE

These years are where a young person's academic career begins to become more specialised. In addition to the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science, we offer a range of optional subjects that allow our pupils to develop their interests as their future starts to take shape. In Form Four and Form Five we provide supportive progression from the Junior School, whilst also expecting students to take the reins themselves and become increasingly independent learners.

The Sixth Form

After many years of preparing students to enter the U.K.'s top universities, Buckswood has the experience to guide students at every stage of their career to help them make the right choice of degree course and strengthen their UCAS application with suitable extracurricular activities and qualifications such as the London Academy of Trading, Equestrian Studies, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and LAMDA. At Buckswood our mission is to make young ladies and gentlemen stand out from the crowd.

Extra lessons

The Buckswood approach is about flexibility and provision, so if there is an area of study you are interested in that is not covered in this booklet let us know and we will look to offer provision as an added extra.

Enrichment program

The 'Buckswood Difference' is all about pushing you through the door towards independence and being a young adult with the study and life skills to thrive. Students are enrolled on an enrichment programme to ensure that every student is taking advantage of the opportunities that a Buckswood education affords them. Going the extra mile, trying something new, and building the confidence to shine in any situation, job or university interview. These are the principles that underpin the Buckswood educational philosophy. Every student's journey is unique at Buckswood, a true adventure where talents are discovered and nurtured in an inspiring learning environment.

Your journey to a meaningful future

So where will your Buckswood journey take you? Across the globe as a geographer in Icelandic waters, treading the floors of the London Stock Exchange on a LAT course, taking to the skies and flying a plane over the campus in the Flying Club? The choice is yours, but at Buckswood you can be sure that the guidance, support and experience you need to make it in life is here for you.

Junior School Curriculum

The Buckswood Junior School curriculum is designed to introduce students to a wide range of subjects to help them identify what they would like to take further at Senior School and Sixth Form level. Below is the range of subjects studied in Form 1, 2 and 3.

English
Maths
Science
History
Geography
French
Spanish

Mandarin
PHSEE
Music
Theatre Studies
Art
Sport

These options may be subject to change.

1 Year GCSE Course

Courses are designed* to offer a combination of the following subjects:

English Language and/or English as a Second Language
Mathematics
Science
Geography and/or Business Studies
Own Language** (please list)
Computing (ECDL)
Other foreign languages are available as extra-curricular electives (please list)

* Dependent on requirement and language proficiency.

** Where a GCSE examination is available.

2 Year GCSE Option Form

1. Core subjects taken by all

English

Combined Science (Double Award)

Mathematics

2. Option Choices – Please select one subject from each of the following blocks and one reserve choice

Block 1

Graphics

Business,

Geography

History

Mandarin

Spanish

French

Computing

Block 2

Triple Science

Art

Business

Drama

Geography

Media

PE

History

Music

Block 3

Spanish

ESOL

French

Mandarin

Study Skills

Note: If English is tested as below a certain level for international students ESOL must be selected as one option. Students not taking ESOL must select at least one modern foreign language (French, Mandarin or Spanish) unless following consultation with parents/guardians this is not felt to be appropriate whereby Study Skills must be taken instead. When choosing option subjects, students must take into account their own academic strengths and weaknesses and also possible future career paths. It is expected that they discuss possible choices with their teachers/house tutor/form tutor as well as their families.

3. Extra Subjects

Students may also select extra subjects such as Instrumental Lessons, Latin and Own Language which will take place outside of the regular timetable – either on Saturdays or during lesson 8 after prep in the evenings. These may incur additional cost.

In addition to studying subjects at GCSE/IGCSE all students will have two lessons per week of sports instruction.

Learning Support (Personal Education Needs [PEN]) is also available at an extra cost.

Please read details about different subjects in the GCSE information booklet before making your choices. Option choices should be submitted to the school at the start of the Summer Term.

These options may be subject to change.

1. Core subjects taken by all

English Language, English Literature, Combined Science and Mathematics.

2. GCSE Option Choices

(All students must complete this table)

Block 1	
Block 2	
Block 3	

3. Extra Subject Choice

(Optional - additional costs may apply, tick the box underneath the subject chosen)

Latin	Own Language

Additional Learning Support

(Personal Education Needs - tick the box if required)

Personal Education Needs	
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Summary

Below shows what students on the 2 year GCSE programme at Buckswood will be expected to study. Core subjects will be timetabled as blocks so that students can be allocated to the sets appropriate to their abilities.

English Language/English Literature or English as a Second Language
Mathematics
Combined Science
Three Option Subjects
2 Sport Lessons per week
Extra Subject(s) evenings/Saturdays

A Level Option Form

Block 1 (select one only)

Chemistry	
Mathematics and Further Mathematics	
Business	
Spanish	
History	
Mathematics	
Art	

Block 2 (select one only)

Physics	
Mathematics	
Business	
Photography	
Economics	
Geography	

Block 3 (select one only)

Biology	
Mathematics and Further Mathematics	
Mathematics	
Accounting	
Business	
French	
Politics	
English Literature	
Media	
Politics	

Block 4 (select one only)

Global Perspectives	
EPQ	
Music	
Maths (AS only)	
Mandarin	
Computer Science	
Environmental Science	
Psychology	
English Language	

Block 5

English for Academic Purposes [EAP] (non-native speakers only)	
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The school reserves the right not to offer a subject if there is insufficient demand.

Students cannot take Business and Economics

Students selecting Mathematics and Further Mathematics in Block 1 must also select it in Block 3 (it is a double A Level).

All non-native speakers must select English for Academic Purposes [EAP] in Block 5.

Non-native speakers should select at least four subjects (including [EAP]).

Native speakers should select at least three subjects.

These options may be subject to change.

IB Diploma Option Form

Students need to choose three subjects to do at a Higher level and three subjects at standard level.

All subjects offered at HL unless specified as *SL only*.

'ab initio' is beginners level.

Option 1

Studies in Language and Literature (ie your native language)	
English (Language and Literature) A	
German (Literature) A	
French (Language and Literature) A	
Italian (Language and Literature) A	
Spanish (Language and Literature) A	
Russian (Language and Literature) A	
Dutch (Language and Literature) A	

Option 2

Language Acquisition (ie a language other than your native language)	
French B	
Spanish B	
English B	

Option 3

Societies	
History	
Business Management	

Option 4

Sciences	
Physics	
Biology	
Environmental Systems and Societies (<i>SL only</i>)	

Option 5

Mathematics	
Mathematics (<i>SL only</i>)	
Mathematics Studies (<i>SL only</i>)	

Option 6

Arts/Societies	
Art	
Geography	
Chemistry	
French ab initio (<i>SL only</i>)	
Spanish ab initio (<i>SL only</i>)	
German ab initio (<i>SL only</i>)	

The 'Core'

Extended Essay, CAS and TOK (TOK is timetabled)	
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These option may be subject to change.

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graph TD; A((BUCKSWOOD Learning Resources)) --- B((Junior Library  
- fiction for Junior School.  
Traffic light system for  
beginner, intermediate and  
expert readers)); A --- C((VLE  
- lesson powerpoints, prep,  
resources, revision)); A --- D((Upper Library  
- fiction for GCSE and  
Sixth Form)); A --- E((EBSCO E-books  
- 4,600+ ebooks on the  
EBSCO System)); A --- F((Reference Books  
- in the ARC,  
Dewey-Deci System)); A --- G((GCSE Pod)); A --- H((EBSCO Learning  
Resource Centres  
- Science, Literary  
and History)); A --- I((Periodical Stand  
- Upper Library  
The Economist,  
The Week  
etc)); A --- J((Newsademic.com  
(On VLE front page)  
Online newspaper  
- World News  
and Quizzes));
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We reserve the right to change any aspect of the course without prior notice.