

ROEDEAN

Fifth Form Curriculum
2011 – 2012

Details are correct at the time of printing but may be subject to change.
January 2011

At Roedean our Lower Five (Year 10) and Upper Five (Year 11) curriculum extends beyond the core requirements of Key Stage 4 and offers many possible subject permutations.

To ensure that your GCSE programme provides you with a broad, balanced education, consistent with the aims of the school, the National Curriculum and the requirements for university entrance, you **must** take:

- an integrated English Language and Literature course (examined as two separate GCSE subjects)
- Mathematics
- *either* the Double Certificate Combined Sciences (which counts as two GCSEs) or the Triple Certificate Separate Sciences (which counts as three GCSEs)
- at least one of Geography and History
- at least one modern foreign language from French, German and Spanish

To this core curriculum, you should add further subjects from the list below, which reflect your interests and ambitions. Most girls choose to take nine GCSEs, although some may take ten. There may be some restrictions on your choice if you take ten. A GCSE course will not run if there are fewer than four girls choosing it.

ART & DESIGN

Art & Design
Design & Technology

BUSINESS EDUCATION

Business Studies

CLASSICS

Latin

HUMANITIES

Geography
History

MODERN LANGUAGES

French
German or Spanish (not both)

PERFORMING ARTS

Drama
Music

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies

Your timetable will also include:

- ICT – All students in the fifth form follow the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) qualification, which is a certified British Computer Society course. This course is taught and examined in one lesson per week over the two years. The ECDL is an international qualification, classified at GCSE level in the UK and is widely recognised. More information can be found at the BCS website.
- Physical Education (which may also be taken as a short course GCSE subject starting in Upper Five).
- a Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) course.
- a Tutor Period.

THE GCSE EXAMINATIONS

There are currently three Examining Boards, called OCR (Oxford, Cambridge & RSA Examinations), Edexcel and AQA (Assessment and Qualifications Alliance). Each Department at Roedean chooses the Board best suited to its subject approach.

In some subjects, all candidates sit the same set of papers, with the full range of grades available to all of them. In other subjects, the grades you can achieve depend on the papers you sit. These subjects are tiered.

In Mathematics all candidates are usually entered for the higher tier which covers grades A* - D.

In English, Geography and Latin, two tiers are provided: higher (covering grades A* - D) and foundation (grades C - G). At Roedean, we normally enter girls for the higher tiers.

In Art, Business Studies, Design & Technology, History, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies, Biology, Chemistry and Combined Sciences there is only one tier and all candidates take common papers.

In Physics, candidates take the higher tier papers.

In Modern Languages there are tiered and un-tiered papers with certain skills differentiated by outcome.

Short course GCSEs are two-year courses intended to occupy half the teaching time of a full GCSE. They are also graded A* - G. We offer a short course GCSE in PE. Our standard fifth form programme for PE covers the GCSE syllabus. At the end of the Lower Five year you may decide whether or not to be entered for the short course examination in Upper Five.

With GCSE, you have the chance to show what you know, understand and can do. Each subject has its own particular character. In most subjects there will be controlled assessments, internally assessed, and moderated by external examiners, which contribute to your final grade. Overall, your range of GCSE subjects will develop your creative, problem-solving, practical and communication skills.

CHOICE OF GCSE SUBJECTS

Use this page to identify the GCSE subjects you are planning to study.

- Make sure that you have read the subject descriptions.
- You should be aiming at nine or ten subjects.
- English (an integrated Language and Literature course) has six periods each week.
- Mathematics has five periods each week.
- Most other subjects have four periods of teaching per week.
- The guideline for prep is that you **will have one hour** per subject per week.

English Language	✓
English Literature	✓
Mathematics	✓

Choose either

Double Certificate Combined Sciences (2 GCSEs) OR	
Triple Certificate Separate Sciences (3 GCSEs)	

Choose at least one of

Geography	
History	

Choose at least one of

French	
--------	--

and either

German	
Spanish	

Further Choices

Art & Design	
Design & Technology	

Business Studies	
------------------	--

Latin	
-------	--

Drama	
Music	

Religious Studies	
-------------------	--

GCSE SUBJECT DETAILS

ART & DESIGN*: AQA The New Specification

* New name for previous unendorsed unit

If you enjoy creative activities such as painting, drawing, designing, modelling and making things, then this course is for you. It allows you to work in a wide and exciting range of art-related media, building on the varied skills introduced at Upper Four (Year 9), but allowing you greater freedom to choose a personal path through a given theme.

Over two years you will:

- improve your ability to draw
- build a personal portfolio of two units of coursework
- learn to be inspired by the work of artists and designers from around the world
- learn new skills and techniques in all kinds of materials and areas, including
 - painting and drawing
 - design
 - computer graphics
 - clay, plaster and wire
 - paper sculpture
 - mixed media
 - Art History
- make a final examination unit.

During the course you will be encouraged to express a personal response to your own experiences, environment and culture. You will learn to observe the world around you closely and you will be helped to develop the ability to interpret what you see and feel. At Roedean, the first year of this course is grouped and staffed on a rotational basis, allowing for greater freedom and variety of technique and response.

GCSE Art will set you on a road to success in a wide variety of creative careers and will help to prepare you for entry to Art and Architecture courses at University. Most courses of Architecture now require a portfolio of creative artwork at interview. If you are not wanting Art as a career, then GCSE Art will enrich and balance your general curriculum and give you experience to develop new creative interests.

NB: GCSE Art is NOT an essay-based subject.

Assessment

Unit 1: Portfolio of work for which more than one project will be expected, working from an initial starting point through development of ideas and links to artists and designers. This will be carried out under Controlled Assessment. All work will be monitored by Art staff under the new requirements of the Examination Board.

Marked out of 80 (60% of the total marks).

Unit 2: Externally Set Task (external examination) where candidates make a pre-prepared personal response to a specifically-set multi-choice brief with a timed examination piece of sustained focused study.

Marked out of 80 (40% of the total marks (10 hours over 3 days)).

BUSINESS STUDIES: AQA

This GCSE course gives you an insight into the world of business. It also provides a good foundation for both A level Business Studies and A level Economics.

It is essentially a management training course. Whatever career you eventually choose, it is likely that you will find yourself in a management role. You may be running your own business, or managing a department in a large commercial organisation, or leading a team of professionals in the legal, medical or educational fields.

The course will introduce you to key management areas:

- Marketing
- Finance and Accounting
- Economics
- Law
- Organisation Structure
- Production
- People in Business

It is a very practical course; when studying marketing, for example, you and your group will design a new product and carry out appropriate market research. When learning about production, you will set up production lines within the classroom and decide which method is the most efficient and why. In addition you will visit different businesses and investigate varied business situations to see how they are managed and how they can be improved.

Assessment

The new GCSE follows a modular structure. The two written papers represent 75% of the overall GCSE grade and are designed to assess the core subject content. Unit one will be assessed at the end of the first year, with an opportunity for retakes, and unit two at the end of the second year.

The **Controlled Assessment** represents 25% of the overall GCSE grade. Girls will be required to submit a piece of work based on starting their own business. The controlled assessment is supported by the theory from the course and the talks and visits arranged during the course.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: Edexcel

The course encourages students to become autonomous and creative problem solvers, as individuals and as members of a team. They must look for needs, wants and opportunities and respond to them by developing ideas and making products. Skills such as research, drawing, modelling, computer-aided design and a wide range of manufacturing skills will be developed. Projects will be based on areas of interest to the student as well as leading them to think about improving the quality of life in society in general.

The student will be expected to take an active and analytical interest in the social, aesthetic and economic manufacturing implications of product design in the world about them.

Assessment

The GCSE is made up of two mandatory units:

Unit 1: Coursework – Creative Design and Make Activities (60%)

A combined design and make activity. Tasks will be set by the Examination Board and the student will be able to choose from a wide range of topics. This unit is internally assessed under controlled conditions with external moderation.

Unit 2: Examination – Knowledge and Understanding of RMT (40%)

This is an externally assessed written 1 hour 30 minutes examination. Students apply their knowledge and understanding of RMT through multiple choice, short-answer and extended-writing and design type questions. This paper will be taken in the summer term of Lower Five; there will be an opportunity to re-take the examination in Upper Five.

The aims are to:

- actively engage in design and technology
- encourage students to make decisions, consider sustainability and combine their designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding, in order to design and make quality products
- explore ways in which aesthetic, technical, economic, environmental, ethical and social dimensions interact to shape designing and making
- analyse existing products and produce practical solutions to needs, wants and opportunities, recognising their impact on quality of life
- develop decision-making skills through individual and collaborative working
- understand that designing and making reflect and influence cultures and societies, and that products have an impact on lifestyle
- develop skills of creativity and critical analysis through making links between the principles of good design, existing solutions and technological knowledge.

The DT Department charges for any text books which are lost. There are also charges for the materials used in the GCSE Major Project.

DRAMA: AQA

This is a challenging, exciting and creative GCSE course. It will allow you to gain a greater understanding of drama as well as develop practical skills in performance and technical theatre.

The balance between practical tasks assessed internally throughout the two year course and final written examination gives you the best opportunity to succeed.

Assessment

The AQA course offers you opportunities to be involved in a variety of performance work. The final assessment consists of two practical marks and one written examination. The practical work is undertaken and marked throughout the two year course, with your two best marks being used for the final assessment. The written examination is taken in the summer of the final year of the course.

Practical Coursework (60%)

Practical coursework is chosen from the following options:

- Devised thematic work for performance to an audience
- Acting
- Theatre in Education presentation
- Improvisation
- Dance/drama
- Set design
- Costume design
- Make-up
- Properties
- Masks
- Puppets
- Lighting
- Sound
- Stage management

Each option is assessed through preparation (25%) and performance (75%). All options are internally assessed and externally moderated.

Written Paper (1½ hours) (40%)

The written paper comprises three sections:

- A Practical work completed during the course
- B Study and performance of a scripted play
- C Study of a live theatre production seen

One question is answered from Section A and one question from either Section B or C.

This paper is externally set and marked.

As part of the course, students will attend at least two live theatre productions in each year. This is an essential requirement of the course as students write about what they have seen at the theatre for the written examination. The cost of ticket and transport is likely to be in the region of £30 for each production.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE: AQA

These two IGCSE subjects – English and English Literature - offer you a varied and lively combined course with opportunities to develop skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening through a wide range of individual and group activities. You will study non-literary and media articles, as well as a range of literary texts. The prose, drama and poetry that you will explore will include Shakespeare and other pre-1914 writers.

Assessment

English	Examination	70%
	Written coursework	20%
	Speaking and Listening Coursework	10%
English Literature	Examination	70%
	Written coursework	30%

GEOGRAPHY: AQA

We study the AQA A syllabus because it has lots of choice of topics, some you will have met before that we can expand upon and others that are new to you and will extend your horizons.

Geography fits well in combination with any other subjects, so you can combine it with Mathematics, Sciences, Languages, Business, other Humanities, and so on. Geography and History together make a good combination. Employers love Geographers because they have lots of different skills – literacy, numeracy and ICT skills are all involved. Everywhere you have been and much of your own experience links to Geography in some way.

Course

We have the choice of several Physical Geography topics:

- tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes
- rocks and scenery
- challenge of weather and climate
- glaciation
- coasts and rivers
- natural world (ecosystems)

and Human Geography topics:

- population change
- rural and urban environments
- tourism
- the development gap
- globalization

Field course

We go away for three days to a national field centre in southern England to do our controlled assessment. This means you are not working on this whilst in other subject lessons, which is very efficient in terms of time. The cost of this field trip is in the region of £140.

All public examination geographers have the opportunity to join the optional Geography Department trips abroad, e.g. to Iceland. These trips are open to students who study Geography.

HISTORY: Edexcel

We study the Edexcel Syllabus A – The Making of the Modern World.

The course is wide-ranging, covering British, European and World History topics and as such it will give you a useful insight into the modern world in which you are growing up. Topics studied include the origins of World War Two, The Cold War, The Russian Revolutions of 1917, Lenin and Stalin. It allows specific development of source evaluation skills and has a focussed coursework unit on the USA.

Full use is made of an expanding library of historical resource material including films, video and computer programmes.

Assessment

Paper 1: International Relations (25%)

From this paper we study:

- a) the Peace Settlement 1918 – 1928
- b) Why did war break out? International Relations 1929 – 1939
- c) How did the Cold War develop? 1943 – 1956

Paper 2: Depth Study (25%)

From this paper we study:

Russia/USSR 1917 – 1939

This examines the two Revolutions of 1917, the death of Lenin and his replacement by Stalin and his policies, including the purges, during the 1930s.

Paper 3: Modern World Source Enquiry (25%)

Either:

- a) War and the transformation of British society c 1931 – 1951

Or

- b) A divided union? The USA 1945 – 1970

Coursework 25%

The USA 1919 - 1941

LATIN: OCR

Want to impress people with your brains and intelligence? Want your job application to stand out from the crowd? Want to do well in quizzes? Want to show Universities and employers that you can cope with challenges? One way is to have a qualification in Latin. Even GCSE impresses people - and quite rightly, because they will see that along with your wide range of 'normal' subjects, there's a very unusual one.

Like Modern Language courses, the Latin GCSE gives you a deeper understanding of other civilisations and cultures. The only real difference is that we do this mainly through literature and history. We cannot actually talk to any ancient Romans - but we can read what they wrote and find out about their society, and that is what happens if you choose GCSE Latin. That is why people sometimes think Latin is hard. If you have a logical mind, enjoy learning languages, can learn lists and are good at English it is actually quite easy.

You do not translate from English into Latin. All testing of your understanding of Latin is by translation from Latin into English or reading a passage of Latin and then answering questions on it in English. The questions are in English too.

Assessment

You have to sit four papers. There are two compulsory language papers. You also study Verse Literature and either Prose Literature or Sources for Latin. The examinations are now modular and you will probably sit at least one module in Lower Five.

In Lower Five you develop your understanding of the language, working with the Cambridge Latin Course and a range of other books: we also create new materials each year because every class is different and needs to have things explained in a way which suits its members. You also begin your study of the prose and verse literature, first in English, exploring the issues raised, and then in Latin.

In Upper Five you practise with lots of past exam papers to increase your skills and experience of what the examiners want. You are tested on language and both texts during the trial examinations and then discuss with us which combination of papers you wish to offer for GCSE.

Most Universities which say that you can study Classics without Latin or Greek require you to learn them during your degree: some insist that you have a qualification before you go. For some History courses you have to translate official documents from the Medieval and Tudor period: these are in Latin. And lastly - singers who understand Latin are in great demand.

MATHEMATICS: Edexcel

This subject encourages logical thinking, imaginative problem-solving, independent study and discussion. Whether you regard yourself as a natural mathematician or not, you will find great satisfaction in being able to resolve difficulties and in building up an appreciation of the elegance and power of numbers, algebra and mathematical concepts. The ability to manipulate numbers and to use diagrams to analyse or explore a concept will help you to work effectively in many other subjects - the sciences, for example - and in your life beyond school.

Usually, about 70% of Roedean's sixth formers choose to study Mathematics at AS and A Level; most years about a third of these study Further Mathematics.

Assessment

The IGCSE Mathematics course assesses knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- 1 Number and algebra
- 2 Shape, space and measure
- 3 Handling data

The final examination consists of two papers, each two hours in length. Both papers allow for the use of a calculator. There is no coursework and no controlled assessment.

All girls take the examination at the Higher Tier. If you are in Set 1, you will extend your work significantly beyond the IGCSE syllabus by studying the Additional Mathematics unit. However, to give you time to develop the mathematical maturity needed to achieve A*, you will not be entered early for the IGCSE examination.

Calculators

The recommended calculator models are Casio fx-85GT PLUS (solar-powered model) or the Casio fx-83GT PLUS. Graphical calculators, recommended for sixth form Mathematics, are also permitted, and the recommended model can be bought at an advantageous price from the Mathematics Department.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: Edexcel/AQA

FRENCH, GERMAN & SPANISH

Girls are required to take one modern foreign language to GCSE level. We also welcome and strongly encourage dual linguists.

With the new GCSE syllabus in Modern Languages the emphasis is on relevance and accessibility. The key aims are:

- developing understanding of the Target Language in a variety of contexts
- transferable language learning skills
- the ability to communicate effectively
- awareness and understanding of the countries and communities where the Target Language is spoken.

Successful completion of the course will facilitate the transition to higher level study.

Students study the four skills of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The examination is weighted toward Speaking and Writing, which each count for 30% of the total marks, with Listening and Reading accounting for 20% each of the total marks. Both Listening and Reading are externally assessed by fixed examination date. Both Speaking and Writing are internally run under controlled assessment during the first two terms of the Upper Five year. This allows for greater student choice and promotes independent learning.

Themes include sport, leisure and cultural pursuits, work, education and employment, travel, home and environment and new technologies.

A wide variety of contemporary and authentic audio-visual and printed material is used for all three languages, including newspapers, magazines, audio, CD and DVD. Technology plays an increasingly pivotal role. The Modern Foreign Language department uses an integrated approach to course delivery in this regard. Digital projectors are available in every language teaching classroom allowing full intranet and internet facilities. Students make regular use of the multi-media Languages Centre, both during lessons and by remote access, with its constantly updated self-access digitally recorded material, CDrom, satellite and internet facilities as well as subscription services.

There are also foreign language theatre and cinema events as well as whole school language immersion programmes.

In addition to classroom lessons, students attend conversation classes in small groups. To build up oral skills further, a residential or study programme in the country whose language is being studied is recommended. The Modern Foreign Language department offers a range of exciting immersion experiences. There is a residential French trip for Lower Five and Upper Five, a biennial residential Spanish trip and an annual German exchange programme, now in its 20th year. We are always encouraging students to take advantage of opportunities for language enrichment and support the School initiative to invite visiting teachers, including native speakers.

There is a dedicated, experienced and supportive Modern Languages team who strive to enable and promote enjoyment of learning and teaching.

Additional Costs

There are frequently visiting theatre companies, perhaps one per language per year and although the cost of these is subsidised by the Department, there is a charge of between £4 and £6 per student.

There may be cinema or restaurant outings at about £12-£14 per head.

For GCSE – there is a residential trip to France, which for 2011 comes in at £440 but this is not compulsory.

As part of the German GCSE, a trip to Germany is offered. However, attendance on this exchange visit is not compulsory. The cost is around £430.

There is a GCSE Spanish residential trip to Spain for one week every other year, which is not compulsory.

For Upper Three to Upper Four French students, there is a charge made of £8 per annum for 6 copies of a made for school language magazine.

For Upper Four to Upper Five Spanish students, there is a charge made of £8 per annum per language, for 6 copies of a made for school language magazine.

There are many enrichment activities that are paid for by the Department, like:

- Piñata celebrations
- European Day of Languages
- Red Letter Day celebrations

MUSIC: AQA

Music GCSE embraces all types of music, including Jazz, Classical, Rock, Pop, Ethnic and any other style you can think of. The choice is very wide indeed.

The main aims of the course are to stimulate and develop your appreciation and enjoyment of music through an active involvement in Listening, Performing and Composing.

Unit 1: Listening To and Appraising Music

There will be a listening paper with musical extracts from the following:

a) The Western Classical Tradition

Baroque orchestral music
The concerto
Music for voices
Chamber music
The sonata

b) Popular Music of the 20th and 21st centuries

Blues
Popular music of the 1960s
Rock music, R'n'B (Rhythm and Bass), Hip-Hop
Music theatre
Film music

c) World music

Music of the Caribbean
Music of Africa
Music of India

Unit 2: Composing and Appraising Music

Compose one piece of music which links into a), b) or c) of Unit 1

Unit 3: Performing Music

Perform one solo piece and one piece as part of a small group. The standard to gain full marks is about Grade 4.

Unit 4: Composing Music

Compose one piece in any style of your choosing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION SHORT COURSE (½GCSE): Edexcel

This course is designed to emphasise physical activity, with 60% of the marks allocated to practical components. You will select two practical activities from the full range of National Curriculum areas. There is also a written paper which will test your knowledge of factors affecting performance and your understanding of the reasons for participating in physical activity.

This is an extra ½ GCSE. The non-practical elements of the course are taught in Upper Five, in lessons timetabled against Upper Five Games.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: OCR Specification B

(Philosophy and Applied Ethics)

If you're weighing up your GCSE options at the moment, take a minute to consider what you might gain if you choose the Religious Studies course.

What's in it for me?

RS is the fastest growing GCSE in the UK today and this course offers a modern and inspiring option that you will help you learn about the approaches of religion and philosophy to some of the fundamental questions about human existence, and of religion and ethics to some of the most important questions about how people behave and why.

It will enable you to gain a qualification in a subject you'll have studied for most of your school life, and to build on the foundation that has provided. It's a GCSE for students of all faiths – as well as for those who don't have one.

How could it help with my future?

The course is an excellent basis for moving on to an A Level in the Philosophy and Ethics areas of Religious Studies. Philosophy and Ethics is highly regarded by a range of employers who value the skills you develop through the subject. These employers include Law, Politics, Accountancy, Medicine, Business Management, Education, Engineering and the Civil Service.

What are some of things I'll learn?

This GCSE provides a more modern approach to studying topics related to two religions. You'll look at today's issues – including things you see or read about in the news. You'll look at different philosophies and learn about ethics in areas such as medicine and in relation to peace and justice, poverty and wealth, and more. You'll learn skills in interpreting and evaluating pieces of information, communicating and applying your knowledge, and in solving problems. You'll also have an opportunity to develop your debating skills and think creatively.

How will my work be assessed?

You'll have four 1-hour exams. Two of these will be based on your Philosophy units and two will be based on your Ethics units. Each exam is worth 25% of your total mark. You'll get a grade for each unit from A* to G and then a grade for the whole course, which will also be from A* to G.

If you think this GCSE is right for you, have a chat with Ms Langley.

SCIENCES: AQA/Edexcel

At Roedean, we believe that you should study all three sciences, an approach which is supported by the National Curriculum in Science. You can choose between two options, each of which provides a balanced science course. Both courses offer you separate Physics, Chemistry and Biology components taught by subject specialists.

Girls either take Double Certificate Combined Science (Edexcel IGCSE) or Triple Certificate Separate Science. Those choosing the latter option will take Edexcel IGCSE for Biology and Chemistry and AQA GCSE for Physics. You will not be allowed to drop or opt out of individual sciences.

OPTION 1: DOUBLE CERTIFICATE COMBINED SCIENCES

This is counted as two IGCSE subjects. Dual award scientists have one double (70 minutes) and one single lesson (35 minutes) for each science per week. The subject content is presented as three equally-weighted sections: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Assessment:

You take one paper in each of the three Sciences (2 hours long)

Biology: The nature and variety of living organisms
Structures and functions in living organisms
Reproduction and inheritance
Ecology and the environment
Use of biological resources

This Biology part of the specification will develop your interest in and enjoyment of the study of living organisms, and encourage you to show curiosity and enjoy scientific enquiry. You will investigate the variety of life and the structure and functioning of living organisms. This will help you appreciate the relationships between living things and understand the interaction between them and their environment.

Chemistry: Particles, kinetic theory, solubility
Acids, bases and salts
Diffusion, separation of mixtures
Elements, compounds, mixtures
Atomic structure and bonding, periodicity
Alkali metals
Halogens, noble gases, hydrogen, nitrogen
Iron, aluminium, copper
Qualitative analysis
Simple calculations involving the mole
Organic chemistry including polymers
Rates of reaction
Energetics
Equilibrium
Electrolysis and the chlor-alkali industry

The Chemistry part of the specification concentrates on general principles and the industrial and social contexts. The use of chemical equations and calculations are important aspects of the course.

Physics: Forces and motion
Electricity and electromagnetism
Waves
Energy resources and energy transfer
Solids, liquids and gases
Radioactivity and particles

The concept of energy in its many forms provides the basis of the Physics part of the specification. You will study not only the physics of work, nuclear energy, wave energy and electricity but also some of the problems posed by man's ever-increasing demand for energy.

OPTION 2: TRIPLE CERTIFICATE SEPARATE SCIENCES

This is counted as three IGCSE/GCSE subjects. Triple award scientists have two double lessons for each science per week. This course is recommended for those girls who may wish to study any of the sciences in the Sixth Form.

Assessment for IGCSE (Biology and Chemistry):

You take 2 papers:

Paper 1 This is the same paper as taken by the Combined Scientists (2 hours long)
Paper 2 This is a paper on extension material (1 hour long)

Assessment for GCSE (Physics):

You take 3 papers:

P1 consists of one hour of multiple choice questions covering the topics of energy (including the generation of electrical energy), electromagnetic radiation, radioactivity and the origin of the universe.

P2 is a short (45 minute) written paper covering the topics of forces and momentum, electricity and additional nuclear physics.

P3 is a short (45 minute) written paper covering the topics of light, sound, forces including circular and planetary motion, additional work on the generation of electrical energy and a study of the life of stars.

P1 can be taken at the end of Lower Five. P2 can be taken in the January of Upper Five. P3 is taken in the June of Upper Five.

In addition, practical exercises, taken as a natural part of the course, count towards the final GCSE.

Biology: The nature and variety of living organisms
Structures and functions in living organisms
Reproduction and inheritance
Ecology and the environment
Use of biological resources

This Biology course will develop your interest in and enjoyment of the study of living organisms, and encourage you to show curiosity and enjoy scientific enquiry. You will investigate the variety of life and the structure and functioning of living organisms. This will help you appreciate the relationships between living things and understand the interaction between them and their environment.

The specification content is the same as for Combined Science course, with the addition of some extra material in most topic areas.

Chemistry: Particles, kinetic theory, solubility
Acids, bases and salts
Diffusion, separation of mixtures
Elements, compounds, mixture
Atomic structure and bonding, periodicity
Alkali and alkaline earth metals
Halogens, noble gases, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, carbon
Iron, aluminium, zinc, chromium, copper
Qualitative analysis including gas calculations, titrations and other solution calculations, electrolysis calculations
Organic chemistry including polymers
Rates of reaction
Energetics
Equilibrium
Electrolysis and the chlor-alkali industry

The course offers you a lively and enjoyable progression from the Upper Four Chemistry course and is the best foundation for a further study of the subject at Advanced Level. It will make you more aware of the industrial, social, economic, environmental and technological aspects of Chemistry. Theory is backed up with practical work wherever possible.

Physics: Energy including electrical energy generation
Electromagnetic radiation
Waves - sound and light
Radioactivity and nuclear physics
Electricity and magnetism
Forces, momentum and circular motion
The life of stars and the origin of the universe
The medical applications of Physics

The course will develop your understanding of the basic ideas of Physics so that, in future life, you can take an informed interest in matters relating to Physics. It will provide a good preparation for the study of Physics to Advanced Level and beyond.

GENERAL

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Lower Five programme includes swimming, netball, hockey, lacrosse, basketball, badminton, squash, trampolining, athletics, rounders and tennis.

Students also follow the Edexcel PE GCSE Short Course and may be entered for the examination in Upper Five. There is a choice of activities during the double games lesson and a compulsory programme during PE lessons.

A wide range of sports activities are offered to Upper Five, including aerobics, archery, badminton, basketball, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, netball, rounders, softball, squash, swimming, tennis, trampolining, volleyball and use of the fitness room.

In addition to the general curriculum, the department offer a variety of club activities: badminton, basketball, cricket, swimming, volleyball, trampolining, karate and kick boxing. Private tuition in golf, squash, tennis and horse-riding are available.

Sport fixtures against other schools are played throughout the year; Roedean offers netball, hockey, tennis, volleyball, swimming, badminton, athletics, basketball and cricket teams and are represented at County and Regional levels in a number of these sports.

Students will also have an opportunity to take part in Inter-House competitions throughout the year; athletics (Sports Day), badminton, netball, rounders and swimming.

LEARNING SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

This department is staffed with specialist teachers who work largely on an individual basis. Liaison with Heads of Department ensures that there is support across the curriculum. We take care to assess the capabilities and analyse the performance of each girl so that we can help her to develop appropriate learning strategies and make the most of her abilities. In this way, we can support the specific needs of any girl including assessment for special arrangements in examinations.

If English is not your first language, we can give you extra help for as long as you need it to help develop confidence and fluency. We may enter you for recognised EAL examinations in order to test your progress and as a qualification for university entrance where necessary.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & HEALTH EDUCATION (PSHE) AND TUTOR PROGRAMME

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & HEALTH EDUCATION (PSHE)

This programme will help you to develop self-awareness and self-esteem. It will broaden your understanding of others, both in and out of school, and highlight the relationship between you as an individual and the society in which you live. You will explore the principles involved in decision-making, particularly with reference to your own experience.

The programme focuses on four main elements:

- Self-Awareness
- Health Education
- Citizenship
- Careers

It supports aspects of personal and social development that you will encounter in areas such as Humanities and Science. You will be actively involved in individual, pair and group work and each year's programme is designed to meet your needs at your different stages of development. From time to time, specialists are invited in from the local community and from further afield to help with some aspects of the course.

TUTOR PROGRAMME

In Lower Five and Upper Five you will belong to a tutor group which meets regularly throughout the week with the tutor. You will have the same tutor across both years, to give you continuity of pastoral support during this critical phase in your school career. Tutors are responsible for monitoring their tutees' overall progress, their well-being and their longer term career plans, together with the Careers Department.

One period per week is allocated as a tutor period. Your tutor will use this time to get to know your group, to help you with study skills and preparation for examinations and to discuss academic progress with the group as a whole as well as with you individually. Issues concerned with personal and social development may also be discussed during these sessions.

Tutor groups are House based which means that the Housemistress, tutor and tutees can get to know each other well and work together effectively as a team.

You will have a Middle School Briefing approximately once every two weeks. This is a meeting with Mrs Heron for U4-U5 girls on a Tuesday morning at 8.35.