

# Social Science: OCR GCSE Child Development

## Overview of the course

This qualification focuses on the development of a child from conception to the age of five, developing knowledge and understanding in all aspects of child development.

The students will gain an understanding of the following topics: family and parenting, preparation for pregnancy and birth, physical development of a child, nutrition and health, intellectual, social and emotional development of a child and community support for families.

## What skills will students develop?

The GCSE specification enables learners to:

- Engage actively in the processes of home economics to develop as effective and independent learners.
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of human needs within a diverse society.
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of relevant technological and scientific developments.
- Develop a critical and analytical approach to decision making and problem-solving in relation to the specified context.
- Examine issues that affect the quality of human life, including an appreciation of diversity
- Evaluate choices and decisions to develop as informed and discerning consumers.

## Assessment

GCSE Child Development is made up of three **mandatory** units.

Unit B011 – *Child Development Short Tasks* (60 marks) 30% of the overall GCSE. This unit consists of 3 short tasks completed in controlled assessment conditions.

Unit B012 – *Child Study Task* (60 marks) 30% of the overall GCSE. This unit consists of 1 extended task completed in controlled assessment conditions.

Unit B013 – *Principles of Child Development* (80 marks) 40% of the overall GCSE. This consists of a 1 hour 30 minutes written paper.

SMSC – Group and pair work activities enable learners to develop their communication and interaction skills, whilst gaining a moral and cultural understanding of the importance of caring for a child, within a diverse society.

## Literacy

Throughout the course students will develop their extended writing skills through the completion of controlled assessments, and exam question preparation. Each piece will focus on comprehension, analysis and evaluation.

Students are also required to grasp a range of subject specific language which will be applied to both controlled assessment tasks and exam preparation. There will also be the opportunity to engage with key texts such as newspaper articles, textbooks and relevant internet resources.

## Numeracy

The learners will engage with nutritional guidelines and dietary data for children. They will also study the trends in children's health over time and developmental stages.

## ICT

All controlled assessment tasks have the option to be created using a range of ICT software. Learners will also have the opportunity to complete word processed evaluations. Like life 'babies' will also be available for the learners to care for over a short period of time. The results will be analysed using ICT software.

## Meeting the needs of individual students

Students are placed within lessons according to their social and academic needs in order to promote a thriving and positive learning experience.

All classwork is marked diagnostically in which students receive individualised targets. The same can be said for exam preparation. Controlled assessment drafts receive generic comments in line with the OCR guidelines. The students will receive in-depth preparation for controlled assessments prior to the completion of each task however.

Each learner is closely monitored throughout the course of the GCSE in order to identify early intervention strategies.

## Resources to support learning

Access the OCR GCSE Child Development Specification here - <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-home-economics-child-development-j441-from-2012/>

## Extra-curricular activities

Learners will receive the opportunity to take care of a life like 'baby' for a short period of time in order to gain a real experience of the needs of a new born baby,

Outside speakers will provide the students with a greater knowledge of the possible further education and career pathways within Child Development.

The child study assessment task will allow the learners to observe a child between the ages of 0-5 and gain a real insight into the development of the child, their needs and how to care for them appropriately.

## Additional support for learning

To support learning, resources are differentiated to meet the student's needs within lessons. Revision booklets and controlled assessment booklets are also provided.

All students are provided with a course textbook and the school library has an extensive range of texts in which the students can draw upon throughout the duration of the course.