

# St Patrick's Academy

## GCSE Subject Choice

### Subject Information for students:

**Subject: Media Studies**

### What the subject is about:

**Media Studies looks at all modern forms of communication from magazines and newspapers to television and film and right up to new trends in computer gaming and the internet. It is about examining the effect the media has on our everyday lives and also gives students the chance to create their own media productions.**

### Course content and assessment schedule:

Paper	Duration	% of total	Content
1	3hrs	50	This is a case study on a pre-determined topic. The paper is distributed to students at the start of May and the teacher investigates the topic with the students. Students prepare their answers to the questions in advance. Previous topics have been pop music, comics and situation comedy. There are two theoretical questions about the chosen topic and two production questions which allow students to showcase their creativity and imagination.
2		50%	Coursework - This involves three research essays on topics like film genres, reality television magazines etc. There are also three creative assignments linked to these. Students also make their own video production on a topic of their choice.

### Attributes needed to succeed in the course

An interest in contemporary media texts is essential as is the ability to use your own initiative and creativity in relation to practical media productions. Students need to be able to write effectively and work in collaboration with their classmates. An interest in current affairs, politics and the impact of new technology is also helpful.