



# **Welwyn & Hatfield Consortium Sixth Form Information Booklet 2020-2021**

## Foreword



We are pleased that you are seriously considering continuing your full-time education by studying with the Welwyn and Hatfield Consortium.

The five secondary schools in Welwyn & Hatfield, Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School, Monk's Walk, Onslow St Audrey's, Ridgeway Academy and Stanborough work collectively as a Consortium to provide an enviable programme of Sixth Form education throughout the area.

Being part of the Sixth Form is more than studying for qualifications. There are other benefits to be had from working with people you know in a familiar environment. There is also a very significant contribution you can make as a sixth form student to your school and to the Consortium in a whole variety of ways which, in turn, will be of further benefit to you when you move on to higher education or employment.

The consortium has existed for many years but we constantly review what we offer and seek ways of improving still further the opportunities for Post-16 students.

Each of the schools have excellent arrangements in place to guide you whilst making your subject choices. We will provide advice that will ensure you are offered the most appropriate programme.

Please speak to your teachers, Heads of Year, Heads of Sixth Form, Careers Advisers and students already following the courses in which you are interested. You will then be in a position to make an informed decision.

Students from outside the area wishing to be taught in Welwyn & Hatfield need first to apply to the Sixth Form in one of the schools. Their timetable will then be based within the Consortium with access to facilities at all sites.

We wish you every success in your examinations and look forward to welcoming you to our Consortium in September.

Elaine James	Head of Sixth Form	Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School
Phil Furness	Head of Sixth Form	Monk's Walk School
Hilary Clark	Head of Sixth Form	Onslow St Audrey's School
Sarah Merrigan	Head of Sixth Form	Ridgeway Academy
Wayne Maidment	Head of Sixth Form	Stanborough School

# Introduction

## How the Consortium operates

For many of you, the pattern of your day-to-day life will not change dramatically. All establishments operate an integrated timetable, which means that you have a very wide choice of subjects and subject combinations available to you. The variety of courses we are able to offer provides an exciting range of opportunities. Subjects and courses will be taught across all five sites. You apply to your own school's Sixth Form and depending on your subject choices may be taught at other sites within the Consortium. Your movement between establishments will be kept to a minimum although students continually comment on the benefits of the new and different teaching experiences on other sites.

## Advice & Guidance

Impartial advice and guidance are available to you from a variety of sources regarding your post-16 education.

These will include subject teachers, Year Heads, Careers Coordinators, Heads of Sixth Form and Senior Leaders.

Throughout your time in the Sixth Form you will be assigned a mentor or a tutor. Supported by the Head of Sixth they will be responsible for monitoring your academic guidance alongside your pastoral care. This will include monitoring progress, offering support and discussing progression after completion of A Level studies. We ensure that all students maintain a strong link with their base school and where necessary, will have the opportunity to retake GCSE Maths and/or English. Careers education and guidance is an integral part of the Sixth Form programme, ensuring you make informed appropriate decisions about your future. Help and guidance in making applications to universities or apprenticeships will be comprehensive throughout your time in the Sixth Form. There is an integrated reference process for UCAS applications throughout the schools.

## Support throughout the year:

- Regular Progress Checks and reports
- Parents' Consultation Evenings for Year 12 and Year 13 students
- Regular contact with a Personal Tutor and a Head of Sixth Form
- Guidance and support for Higher Education and Careers through a comprehensive programme including the Year 12 Conference.

## Role of Parents and Carers

The Consortium recognises the valuable role that parents and carers play in supporting students and their school. We encourage them to take advantage of the opportunities to talk with subject staff and the Head of Sixth Form. Parents are also invaluable in supporting learning and in monitoring students' time management between competing pressures of deadlines, part-time employment and social activities.

## Making the Right Choice

Making the right choice can be difficult and it is important that you gather as much information as possible to help you in making your decision. If you have a particular career or university degree in mind you may be required to study specific subjects to achieve your aim. This might mean a particular vocational course or relevant A Levels. Subjects also vary in the way they are taught and assessed, for example some have a higher proportion of coursework than others. The correct combination of subjects to allow you to achieve your career aspirations is very important. You will receive comprehensive advice from your teachers and careers staff.

If you feel unsure of what you want to do as a career, or whether you want to go to university, then look at the subjects you are good at and those you enjoy. There are many new subjects you may wish to consider.

### Year 11: Preparation for Post-16 Education

#### **7th November 2019**

Sixth Form Parents' Information Evenings held at the school.

#### **14<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Consortium Information Evening - students and parents meet subject staff.

#### **January 2020 - APPLICATION**

Application to Sixth Form Consortium completed and handed in to your school by 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.

#### **March & April 2020**

Confirmation of subject choices.

#### **June 2020 – YEAR 11 INDUCTION**

Induction programme with taster lesson; compulsory for all prospective Sixth Form students. This will include an Induction Assignment.

#### **September 2020 – START OF YEAR 12**

Induction process continues for Year 12 students in each school. Subject choices confirmed: Lessons start.

## **Information for External Applicants**

Students from outside the area wishing to be taught in Welwyn & Hatfield need to apply to the Sixth Form in one of the schools. We strongly recommend that they visit the schools to make sure that they feel comfortable with their new surroundings, where potentially they will be spending the next two years of their life.

### **When to apply?**

It is best to apply to our secondary schools between September and June when you are in Year 11. Our secondary schools will then process your application form depending on your choice of subjects. Your timetable will then be based within the Consortium with access to facilities at all sites. Every effort is made by the Consortium to ensure your lessons are taught at the home site, but this is not always possible.

### **Transport facilities**

All schools have excellent transport links. The Consortium also provides a free Consortium Bus at lunch time to allow students to travel easily between the different sites.

### **If in doubt....**

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries. Please see our 'Contact Us' page to access the schools' contact details.

## Extracurricular Activities

Sixth Form students will continue to benefit from a range of activities outside the classroom, enhancing their personal development and supporting any future application for university or employment.

These range from the 'Learn-2-Live' event where the students learn about the risks and dangers associated with driving to the Year 12 Careers Conference where students attend workshops run by local and national businesses and organisations.

### Further opportunities include:

- Recreational sports activities
- Membership of sports teams
- Community based projects
- Additional qualifications
- Mentoring younger students
- Fund raising events
- Volunteering
- Lunchtime support clubs
- In-lesson support
- Literacy Ambassadors
- Stress Management Programme

### Cross-Consortium/Enrichment activities:

- Consortium Debating Competition
- Guest speakers
- Joint sporting activities
- Year 12 Barbecue and Sporting events
- Community Sports Leaders
- University Challenge
- UCAS Higher Education Conference
- National Apprenticeship Exhibition
- Oxbridge Evening

## Part-time employment

Some students will be eager to find part-time employment. It is strongly recommended that this should be limited to no more than twelve hours a week. Careful management of time will be necessary to ensure an appropriate balance between the demands of courses and other activities. A failure to achieve this balance will seriously affect a student's chances of success.

## Transport

The Consortium timetable is arranged so that any student studying at more than one establishment only moves between sites once during any day. A free bus service is provided during the lunch break which can take students to any of the five school sites.

## Our Expectations of You

As a consortium student we would expect every student to have a committed and positive attitude to study. We want to see students taking responsibility for their own learning through full attendance, punctuality to lessons and the meeting of deadlines. We expect students to use private study time effectively and carry out their own supplementary learning. We want our students to challenge themselves to become independent learners. Consortium schools offer a wide variety of enrichment and super-curricular opportunities which we expect students to take an active part in. Our Sixth Form students are role models for our younger students and as such need to set a good example. We expect sixth form students to be respectful to all members of the schools' community and treat the school environment with care.

## Sixth Form Courses 2020-2021

A Level Courses	Vocational Courses
<p>Art &amp; Design</p> <p>Art, Craft &amp; Design</p> <p>Art - Fine Art</p> <p>Biology</p> <p>Business Studies</p> <p>Chemistry</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Core Maths</p> <p>Design &amp; Technology: Fashion &amp; Textiles</p> <p>Design &amp; Technology: Product Design</p> <p>Drama &amp; Theatre Studies</p> <p>Economics</p> <p>English Language</p> <p>English Literature</p> <p>Film Studies</p> <p>French (Modern Foreign Languages)</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>German (Modern Foreign Languages)</p> <p>Government &amp; Politics</p> <p>Graphic Communication</p> <p>History</p> <p>Law</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Mathematics (Further)</p> <p>Media Studies</p> <p>Music</p> <p>Music Technology</p> <p>Physical Education</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Photography</p> <p>Physics</p> <p>Psychology</p> <p>Religious Studies</p> <p>Sociology</p> <p>Spanish (Modern Foreign Languages)</p>	<p>Business BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate</p> <p>Business BTEC Level 3 Diploma</p> <p>Business CTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate</p> <p>Childcare NCFE CACHE Level 3 Applied General Certificate</p> <p>Dance BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate</p> <p>Digital Media (Cambridge Technical) L3 Extended Certificate</p> <p>Financial Studies - LIBF Certificate/Diploma</p> <p>Football Academy (Sports Accredited)</p> <p>Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3 Diploma</p> <p>Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate</p> <p>Information Technology BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate</p> <p>Performing Arts (Acting) BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate</p> <p>Sport &amp; Physical Activity Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma</p> <p>Sport &amp; Physical Activity Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate</p>

## 2020 COURSE ENTRY CRITERIA

Course	Criteria For Course
<b>3 A Levels</b>	APS 4.5 or above 9-4 English Language or English Literature 9-4 in Maths Subject based criteria
<b>2 A Levels and 1 Vocational Course</b>	APS 4 or above 9-4 in English Language or English Literature Subject based criteria
<b>1 A Level and 2 Vocational Courses</b>	APS 3.8 or above 9-4 English Language or English Literature Subject Based Criteria
<b>Vocational Courses</b>	APS 3.7 or above 9-4 in English Language or English Literature Subject Based Criteria

Students who do not achieve 9-4 in English and/or Maths will be required to attend retake lessons and resit the exam(s)

Students who wish to take more than 3 A levels must have approval from their Head of 6<sup>th</sup> Form before submitting an application.

## 2020 SUBJECT BASED CRITERIA

Subject	Criteria For Subjects
Acting - Performing Arts (BTEC) Level 3	9-4 in Drama or a successful interview
Art	9-5 in Art, Art Textiles or Photography or 9-5 in Product Design or Graphics or a high quality portfolio 9-4 English Lang or English Lit
Biology	9-6 in Biology 9-7 in Combined Science 9-6 in Maths 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Business Studies	9-5 in English Lang or English Lit 9-5 in Maths
Business (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria 9-4 in Maths
Business (CTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria 9-4 in Maths
Chemistry	9-6 in Chemistry 9-7 in Combined Science 9-6 in Maths 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Childcare (Cache) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
Computer Science	9-6 in Computer Science or a successful interview 9-4 in English Lang or English Lit 9-6 in Maths
Dance - Performing Arts (BTEC) Level 3	Merit or above in BTEC Dance Level 2, or 9-4 Dance, or a successful interview
Digital Media (Cambridge Technical) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
Design & Technology: Fashion & Textiles	9-5 in GCSE Textiles 9-4 in English Lang or English Lit
Design & Technology: Product Design	9-5 in Product Design 9-4 in English Lang or English Lit
Drama and Theatre Studies	9-5 in Drama 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Economics	9-5 in English Lang or English Lit 9-5 in Maths
English Language	9-5 in English Lang and English Lit
English Literature	9-6 in English Lit and grade 5 in English Lang
Film Studies	9-4 in English Lang or English Lit

Financial Studies LIBF Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
Football Academy	Successful football trial and interview for the academy and Vocational course entry criteria
French	9-6 in French 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Geography	9-5 in Geography 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit and Maths
German	9-6 in German 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Government & Politics	9-5 in a Humanities subject 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Graphic Communication	9-5 in Art, Graphics, Art Textiles, Photography or Product Design 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Health & Social Care (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
History	9-5 in History 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Information Technology (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
Law	9-5 in a Humanities subject 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Maths	9-7 in Maths
Maths (Further)	9-8 in Maths Must be taken in conjunction with Maths
Core Maths	9-5 in Maths
Media Studies	9-5 in English Lang and English Lit
Music	9-5 in Music plus theory at Grade 5 standard
Music Technology	9-5 in Music
PE	9-5 in P.E. or Merit in Level 2 BTEC Sport 9-6 in a Science
Philosophy	9-5 in a Humanities subject 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Photography	9-5 in Art or Photography or 9-5 in Graphics or Product Design or presentation of a high quality portfolio. 9-4 in English Lang or English Lit
Physics	9-6 in Physics 9-7 in Combined Science 9-6 in Maths 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Psychology	9-5 in Biology (triple) or 9-5 in Psychology or 9-5 in Combined Science 9-5 in Maths and English Lang or English Lit
Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)	9-5 in a Humanities subject 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Sociology	9-5 in a Humanities subject 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Spanish	9-6 in Spanish 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Sport (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria

**Humanities subjects are History, Geography or Religious Studies**

## SUBJECT INFORMATION

<b>BLOCK B</b> Tues a.m./Fri p.m.	<b>Site</b>	<b>BLOCK B</b> Tues a.m./Fri p.m.	<b>Site</b>	<b>BLOCK C</b> Wed a.m./Mon p.m.	<b>Site</b>	<b>BLOCK D</b> Thurs a.m./Tues p.m.	<b>Site</b>
Fine Art	MWS	Art & Design	STA	Fine Art	MWS	Biology	MWS
Biology	OSA	Art, Craft & Design	OSA	Biology	MWS	Biology	STA
Biology	RA	Biology	BHG	Business Studies	RA	Business Studies	OSA
Business Studies	MWS	Chemistry	STA	Chemistry	RA	Chemistry	BHG
Business Studies	STA	Design Technology: Fashion and textiles	MWS	Economics	MWS	Chemistry	OSA
Chemistry	MWS	English Literature	MWS	English Literature	OSA	Computer Science	STA
Computer Science	OSA	English Literature	STA	Geography	BHG	Drama & Theatre	MWS
Drama & Theatre	STA	Film studies	RA	Government & Politics	STA	Economics	STA
English Language	STA	French	BHG/RA	History	MWS	English Literature	MWS
English Literature	BHG	Geography	MWS	Mathematics	STA	French	MWS
English Literature	RA	Government & Politics	BHG	Media Studies	STA	Geography	MWS
Geography	BHG	Graphic Communication	OSA	Music	MWS	German	BHG
Geography	STA/OSA	History	BHG	Music Technology	STA	History	BHG
History	MWS	History	OSA/RA	P.E.	STA	History	STA
Law	BHG	Mathematics (F)*	MWS	Physics	BHG/OSA	Mathematics	MWS
Mathematics	BHG	Mathematics	MWS	Physics	MWS	Mathematics	RA
Media Studies	MWS	Mathematics	OSA	Psychology	BHG	Media Studies	BHG
Physics	STA	Media Studies	RA	Psychology	OSA	Music	STA
Design Technology: Product Design	MWS	P.E.	MWS	Psychology	STA	Philosophy	STA
Psychology	MWS	Photography	MWS	Sociology	MWS	Photography	MWS
Religious Studies	BHG/MWS	Physics	RA	Spanish	BHG/STA	Photography	OSA
		Psychology	BHG			Design Technology: Product Design	RA
		Psychology	MWS			Psychology	STA
		Sociology	RA			Sociology	BHG
		Spanish	MWS				
<b>Vocational Level 3</b>							
Business (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	OSA	Business (Cambridge Technical) L3 Certificate	RA	Business (BTEC) L3 Diploma	OSA	Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	RA
Business (BTEC) L3 Diploma	OSA	Childcare (Cache) L3 Applied General Certificate	OSA	Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Diploma	BHG	Football Academy	OSA
Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Diploma	BHG	Dance (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	STA	Performing Arts (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	RA	Digital Media (Cambridge Technical) L3 Extended Certificate	MWS
Information Technology (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	STA	Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) L3 Extended Certificate	OSA	Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) L3 Extended Certificate	RA		
		Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) L3 Diploma	OSA	Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) L3 Diploma	OSA		

Equivalent to 1 A Level – courses in white boxes

Equivalent to 2 A Levels – courses in grey boxes. You must pick both option blocks of the same qualification.

Further Maths, Core Maths and Financial Studies are available in block E – see Application Form

(F)\*Students opting to take Further Maths at Monk's Walk must also choose this Maths group

## Who should take the course?

Before opting for A Level Art & Design, students should have met the entrance criteria in GCSE Art (recommended Grade 6), or be able to provide a high quality portfolio to evidence skills. A refined and skilful drawing ability is required as well as a dedicated, independent work ethic.

## What will I learn?

In Year 12, students will explore a directed theme for the first term, experimenting with a wide range of media and materials before branching out independently in a self directed pathway.

Students will lead their learning, showcasing an in depth investigation into a concept. This unit will contribute to 60% of the final grade.

In Year 13, students will be given an exam theme in which they have 8 weeks to produce a body of work showcasing an in depth exploration into this idea. The final outcome will be produced under exam conditions and will contribute to the remaining 40% of the grade.

## How is it assessed?

All students are required to:

- Record observations, experiences, ideas, information and insights appropriate to intentions
- Analyse and critically evaluate art and design practices demonstrating an understanding of purpose, meaning and context
- Use art and design practise to develop ideas through sustained investigations and exploration, selecting and using materials, processes and resources, identifying and interpreting relationships and analysing methods and outcomes
- Use a variety of materials and techniques appropriately in a refined and skilful way.
- Explore ideas clearly in an analytical and critical manner using appropriate art terminology

## Where will it take me?

On completion of your Art course, you might progress to further or higher education. These may include:

- An extended diploma in an art foundation course
- A creative degree course of your choice at University
- An art based apprenticeship

This qualification may also accompany other career paths by demonstrating your approach to creative problem solving and critical thinking.

## Art, Craft & Design (OSA)

### Who should take the course?

Before Undertaking the A Level Art you should have met the entrance criteria in GCSE Art, one of its related subjects, or be able to provide a high quality portfolio of evidence of your skill.

### What will I learn?

The course covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments that enable students to explore a range of approaches in producing art. You will have the opportunity to experiment with different media in order to explore your strengths and preferences in communicating ideas, concepts and opinions. It will be essential that you will show evidence of trying to extend your own and others' way of seeing the world. Work produced for this qualification will demonstrate the use of formal elements and creative skills in producing art and in creative problem solving.

You can work in variety of materials, processes and or approaches in a variety of disciplines in Component 1 and Component 2 which is the externally set Assignment.

### How is it assessed?

All students are required to:

- Record observations, experiences, ideas, information and insights appropriate to intentions
- Analyse and critically evaluate art and design practices demonstrating an understanding of purposes, meanings and contexts
- Use art and design practise to develop ideas through sustained investigations and exploration, selecting and using materials, processes and resources, identifying and interpreting relationships and analysing methods and outcomes
- Identify issues relevant to art and design
- Use a variety of materials and techniques appropriately
- Illustrate the value of a cross-disciplinary approach
- Write clearly in an analytical and critical manner

The portfolio equates for 60% of the A level, with a personal study comprises 12% of this portfolio. The additional 40% of the A level comes from an externally set assignment culminating in a period of controlled assessment. The externally set assignment is teacher led for approximately 10 plus weeks culminating in a 15 hour period of controlled assessment.

### Where will it take me?

On completion of your Art course, you might progress to further or higher education. These may include:

- **A extended diploma in art foundation course**
- A creative degree course of your choice at University
- An arts apprentice
- Or the qualification may accompany other career paths but demonstrating your approach to creative problem solving

There are many careers in with in the creative industry. Most of these do require further study at an art school, further education college or university. If you are unsure about whether to make a career of the subject, the best thing to do is to speak to your teacher who will know about the courses on offer in your area or elsewhere.

At present most students wishing to take Art go on to do a one year 'Foundation' course at college of further education or university before applying to degree courses in more specialist areas of art and design e.g. Art foundation to specialise in Graphic design at university level.

# Biology A Level

**Examination Board: Edexcel B (MWS & OSA) or OCR A (BHG, RA & STA)**

## Who should take the course?

This course builds on the Programme of Study for GCSE Separate Science or Combined Science.

Many students are required to study A Level Biology in order to qualify for higher level study in the environmental sciences, biochemistry, biomedical sciences, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and veterinary sciences.

Biology is also an excellent preparation for a wide range of other careers since the successful study of Biology develops the key employment skills of presentation, development of mathematical concepts and applications, analysing data, problem solving, and communication. A Level Biology is a good course to study alongside chemistry, geography, mathematics, physics, psychology or PE. It is usually best to take Biology in combination with at least one of these subjects.

## What is the course about?

During the two year linear course the following areas of Biology will be studied:

- Biological molecules: carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, DNA, enzymes and water
- Cells, viruses and reproduction of living things: eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, viruses, cell division, sexual reproduction
- Classification and biodiversity
- Exchange and transport: gas exchange, mammalian circulation, transport in plants
- Energy for biological processes: respiration, photosynthesis
- Microbiology and pathogens
- Gene technology
- Genetics
- Control systems: chemical control in animals and plants, osmoregulation, structure and function of mammalian nervous system
- Ecosystems

## How is it assessed?

This A Level is a two year linear course which will culminate in three exams at the end of year 13. For Edexcel, two of these exams focus on the content and mathematical skills of the course and the third paper focuses on synoptic skills and the experimental skills that have been taught throughout the two years. For OCR the experimental skills are tested in all 3 papers. The questions in these exams include multiple choice answers, short answer questions, longer answer questions, mathematical calculations and extended writing tasks. There is no practical assessment in the course, however there will be a standard set of practical skills that will be assessed in the final exams at the end of the course.

Students will be awarded a separate Science Practical Endorsement alongside their A Level Biology grade. This will be a teacher assessed Endorsement based on the students competency against Practical Assessment criteria. Students will be assessed as either pass or not reported. The Endorsement will not contribute to the overall grade for their A Level Biology qualification, but the result will be recorded on the student's certificate.

## BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate Business (single option)

## BTEC Level 3 Diploma Business (double option)

### Why take this subject?

Previous experience of Business is not needed to take this subject. The most important thing you need in order to take a vocational qualification in Business is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in Business, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively, whilst sticking to deadlines.

### Who should take the course?

This course is suitable for students who wish to continue in full time education and gain a qualification in the field of Business. It provides vocational study within the business sector and is recognised by employers in these fields. It also provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in both academic and working life.

### What is the course about?

There are 4 OR 8 units to cover depending on which size of qualification you opt for. Those in bold are taken in the single option, all 8 for the double.

Unit	Unit Title	Assessment
<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Exploring Business</b>	<b>coursework</b>
<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Developing a Marketing Campaign</b>	<b>controlled assessment</b>
<b>Unit 3</b>	<b>Personal and Business Finance</b>	<b>test</b>
Unit 4	Managing and Event	coursework
Unit 5	International Business	coursework
Unit 6	Principles of Management	controlled assessment
Unit 8	Recruitment and Selection Process	coursework
<b>Unit 22</b>	<b>Market Research</b>	<b>coursework</b>

### How is it assessed?

The assessment is a mixture of school set coursework assignments, controlled assessment in the form of tasks set and marked by the board and a single test. The work is graded, pass, merit or distinction and it is the combination of the marks for all the units taken that will determine the overall grade.

All BTEC equivalences carry the same amount of UCAS points as A levels.

# **Business CTEC Level 3 (Cambridge Technical)**

**Examination Board: OCR**

## **Why take this subject?**

Previous experience of Business is not needed to take this subject. The most important thing you need in order to take a vocational qualification in Business is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in Business, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively, whilst sticking to deadlines.

## **Who should take the course?**

This course is suitable for students who wish to continue in full time education and gain a qualification in the field of Business. It provides vocational study within the business sector and is recognised by employees in these fields. It also provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in both academic and working life.

## **What is the course about?**

**Unit 1 – The Business Environment**

**Unit 2- Working in Business**

**Unit 4 – Customers and Communication**

**Unit 5- Marketing and Market Research**

**Unit 16- Principals of Project Management.**

## **How is it assessed?**

The assessment is a mixture of school set coursework assignments, controlled assessment in the form of tasks set and marked by the board and a single test. The work is graded, pass, merit or distinction and it is the combination of the marks for all the units taken that will determine the overall grade.

All CTEC equivalences carry the same amount of UCAS points as A levels.

## Who should take the course?

Business Studies is for those students who have a real interest in how businesses are managed and the internal and external factors that influence their ability to be successful. Students will be able to gain crucial management skills.

## What is the course about?

You will investigate how businesses are managed and the factors that influence their ability to be successful. You will investigate how businesses expand on a global scale. In essence the course allows the student to gain crucial management skills. As with all A Levels the essential skills of analysis and evaluation are developed through putting concepts into practice through real life and up to date case study examples.

### Theme 1: Marketing and people

Students will develop an understanding of:

- meeting customer needs
- the market
- marketing mix and strategy
- managing people
- entrepreneurs and leaders

### Theme 2: Managing business activities

Students will develop an understanding of:

- raising finance
- financial planning
- managing finance
- resource management
- external influences

### Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2. Students will develop an understanding of:

- business objectives and strategy
- business growth
- decision-making techniques
- influences on business decisions
- assessing competitiveness
- managing change

### Theme 4: Global business

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1. Students will develop an understanding of:

- globalisation
- global markets and business expansion
- global marketing
- global industries and companies (multinational corporations)

## How is it assessed?

This is a linear two year course with all examinations taken at the end of the two years.

There is no coursework.

## Where will it take me?

Students will be able to go directly into employment on leaving school or go to university. There are a great variety of Business degree courses, many of which are joint honours with subjects such as ICT, Languages and Finance. In the long run students will have a good grounding if they wanted to develop their own business or join fast track company management schemes.

# Chemistry A Level

Examination Board: OCR/EDEXCEL

## Who should take the course?

These qualifications have been developed for candidates who wish to study Chemistry after GCSE Chemistry or Combined Science. The course builds on the knowledge gained in the GCSE, adding depth and breadth.

Many students are required to study A Level Chemistry in order to qualify for higher level study in the environmental sciences, biochemistry, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and veterinary sciences.

Chemistry is also an excellent preparation for a business career since the successful study of Chemistry develops the key employment skills of presentation, problem solving and communication. A Level Chemistry is a good course to study alongside biology, geography, mathematics or physics. It is usually best to take Chemistry in combination with one of these subjects.

## What is the course about?

The content of the A Level Chemistry specification obviously includes the fundamental key concepts of chemistry necessary for progression into higher education and employment but it has been carefully planned to allow students enough time to study the units in depth and to provide a very practical experience for all students. This ensures that both the teaching and learning experience is enjoyable.

## How is it assessed?

Assessment of A Level Chemistry consists of three units that are assessed through written examinations at the end of the two year cycle in the May/June of that year's summer examination series. There are a minimum of 12 core practicals that go towards a certificate of general practical competency awarded separately to the A Level. These core practicals will also be assessed as part of one of the written papers.

## Where will it take me?

There are a wide variety of chemical science degree courses available to successful A Level chemists. Courses vary in content, duration and the qualification achieved. Some of the most popular types of courses include:

- BSc degrees which provide an excellent training in the chemical sciences and can open doors to careers in a huge range of employment sectors.
- MChem/MSci degrees which usually involve a significant research project and offer opportunities to further develop the key employment skills of presentation, problem solving and communication.
- Chemistry with Industrial Experience degrees provide a period of study in industry either in the UK or abroad.
- Chemistry with a year abroad degrees involve a taught year at a university in Europe, the USA, Asia or Australia.

The study of Advanced GCE Chemistry should also be seen as making a contribution towards life-long learning.

# Childcare NCFE CACHE Level 3 Applied General Certificate for Early Years, Childcare and Education

## What is the course about?

This qualification is ideal for learners wanting to develop their knowledge and understanding in areas such as the role of the childcare practitioner, human development, relevant legislation and frameworks, and play and learning.

This Certificate is comprised of 5 mandatory units which cover the following key subject areas:

Unit 01: The role of the early years, childcare and education practitioner

Unit 02: Human development from conception to 19 years

Unit 03: Key legislation, policy and procedures

Unit 04: Statutory educational frameworks

Unit 05: Play and learning

In addition to these, learners will need to complete two external assessments, a scenario based short answer examination and an extended written assignment taken under controlled supervision.

## How is it assessed?

Over the two year, learners must complete a portfolio of evidence for all 5 units, achieving a minimum Pass grade for each one. Learners will also need to complete two external assessments, a scenario based short answer examination and an extended written assignment taken under controlled supervision.

This course is assessed Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction\*

## Where will the Childcare Course take me?

After successful completion of the Childcare and Education course students will feel confident to progress into various job roles in the statutory, voluntary or private sectors such as:

- practitioner in day nurseries
- Practitioner in nursery schools
- Practitioner in reception classes in primary schools
- Pre-school worker
- Home based child carer
- Nanny

# Computer Science A Level

Examination Board: OCR

## Who should take the course?

This course will appeal to you if you are interested in understanding the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, and in being able to apply them to create software and solve problems. The course includes abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation.

You will enjoy this course if you would like to develop:

- an understanding of the organisation of computer systems, including software, hardware, data, communications and people.
- the ability to apply skills, knowledge and understanding of computer science, including programming, in a range of contexts to solve problems.
- skills in project and time management
- an understanding of the consequences of using computers, including social, legal, ethical and other issues.
- an awareness of emerging technologies and an appreciation of their potential impact on society.

## What is the course about?

This is a new qualification, introduced in September 2015. It focusses on programming, and emphasises the importance of computational thinking as a discipline.

- You will develop the skills to solve problems, design systems, and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence.
- Computer science is a practical subject, where you can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real world systems.

## How is it assessed?

- The qualification consists of two main components, Computer Systems, and Algorithms and Programming. Each component will be assessed by an externally marked exam paper. Each exam is a written paper which lasts for two and a half hours, and counts for 40% of the total marks available.
- The other 20% will be coursework, which consists of a programming project. You will choose a computing problem to work through, following a specified process, including:-
  - Analysis of the problem
  - Design of the solution
  - Developing the solution
  - Evaluation

## Where will it take me?

Those with knowledge and skills in computer science have the opportunity to pursue new and exciting careers in the conception of computer systems, that increasingly shape work and leisure activities. You may choose to develop your interest further through entry to Higher Education; this is an excellent course for anyone wishing to study for a degree in Computer Science, Computer Programming or Computer Games Design. You will also have the necessary skills and knowledge to seek employment in areas that utilise computing, and continue to develop through practical experience and training.

# Core Mathematics L3 Certificate

## Examination Board:

**OCR (STA) – Core Maths A (MEI)**

**AQA (BHG and MWS) – Mathematical Studies**

Core Maths is a course for those who want to keep up their valuable maths skills but are not planning to take A Level mathematics. At the end of the course, you will have a Level 3 qualification – similar to an AS. The qualification is assessed by two final examinations.

## What is the course about?

Core Maths builds on GCSE maths with a sharper focus on problem solving skills by considering and tackling mathematics in meaningful contexts. This includes financial applications of mathematics as well as further statistical ideas that can support work in other subjects you may be studying such as Psychology, Health Sciences, Geography, Sociology and even History. A Core Maths qualification will consolidate and build on your mathematical understanding and develop further skills in the application of maths to authentic problems, offering progression from GCSE mathematics. It will prepare you for the varied contexts you are likely to encounter in vocational and academic study and in future employment and life, and will foster your ability to think mathematically and to apply mathematical techniques to a variety of unfamiliar situations, questions and issues with confidence

## Who should take the course?

Anyone who meets the entrance criteria who is not taking A Level Mathematics is eligible to study Core Maths.

A qualification in Core Maths is very valuable to support studies in a wide range of other subjects such as Economics, Business Studies, Geography, Psychology and Sociology.

## How is it assessed?

There are two written examinations for each module of up to 2 hours duration. Both will include pre-release material, available well in advance of the exams. Both exams must be sat in the same exam series at the end of the course and are equally weighted.

# Dance BTEC

Examination Board: Edexcel

The aim of this course is to capitalise on groups of dance enthusiasts and practically motivated students within the school. It follows on from the Key Stage 4 dance courses and students following it may either have a keen interest in dance or be thinking of moving to employment in the performing arts industry.

It is intended that this course will use each student's skills and enthusiasm in dance to develop and increase awareness in performing within the school and the wider local community.

The BTEC Extended Certificate is a two year, 4 unit qualification equivalent to one 'A' level. The course is taught in units which are continually assessed throughout the two years. Two units, as identified below, are externally assessed (58%). Within the 4 units covered, 3 are compulsory and one is optional, chosen from a suggested list

## Compulsory Units

- 1 – Investigating Practitioners' Work (Externally assessed)
- 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
- 3 – Group Performance Workshop (Externally assessed)

## Choice of Optional Units

Classical Ballet Technique

Jazz Dance Technique

Street Dance Technique

Contemporary Dance Technique

# Design & Technology A Level: Fashion & Textiles

**Examination Board: AQA**

## What is the course about?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries.

They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing products of their choice.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

Students will cover a wide range of textiles related topics:

- Materials and their applications
- The requirements for product design, development and manufacture
- Design communication
- Digital design and manufacture
- Efficient use of materials
- Health and Safety
- Design methods and processes
- Design theory
- How technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers

## Course structure and units:

Title	Assessment mode
Technical principles	External – 2 ½ hour exam (30% of A level)
Designing and making principles	External – 1 ½ hour exam (20% of A level)
NEA – practical application of core technical principles, core designing and making principles and additional specialist knowledge	Substantial design and make project (50% of A level)

## How is it assessed?

The course is assessed through a mixture of written exams and design and make projects with the context being set by AQA.

## Where will it take me?

This qualification supports the progression into further education, training or employment, but specifically in textiles: textile or fashion designer, fashion merchandising and buying, advertising and marketing, manufacture, costumier or researcher for technical fabric development.

# Design and Technology A Level - Product Design

Examination Board: AQA

## What is the course about?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries.

They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing products of their choice.

Through a combination of traditional lessons, research tasks, practical investigations and practical tasks students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Course structure and units:

## Assessment

Unit	Assessment	Time	Weighting
Paper 1	Technical principals	2.5 hours	120 marks 30% of total A Level
Paper 2	Designing and making principals	1.5 hours	80 marks 20% of total A Level
Non Examined Assessment	Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles.	45 Hours	100 marks 50% of total A level

## Subject Content

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Materials and their applications</li> <li>• The requirements for product design, development and manufacture</li> <li>• Design Communication</li> <li>• Digital design and manufacture</li> <li>• Efficient use of materials</li> <li>• Health and Safety</li> <li>• Feasibility Studies</li> <li>• Design for manufacturing, maintenance and repair</li> <li>• Protecting designs and intellectual property</li> <li>• Enterprise and marketing in the development of products</li> <li>• Design methods and processes</li> <li>• How technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers</li> <li>• How to evaluate products, taking into account the views of potential user</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design Processes</li> <li>• Critical Analysis and Evaluation</li> <li>• Selecting appropriate specialist tools, techniques and processes</li> <li>• Accuracy in design and manufacture</li> <li>• Responsible design</li> <li>• Design for manufacture</li> <li>• National and international standards in product design</li> <li>• Performance characteristics of materials</li> <li>• The use of adhesives and fixings</li> <li>• The use of surface finishes and coatings</li> <li>• Forming, redistribution and addition processes</li> <li>• Industrial and commercial practice</li> <li>• Modern manufacturing systems</li> </ul>
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# Design and Technology A Level - Product Design (cont.)

## Non Examined Assessment

- Students must undertake a design and make task and produce a final prototype based on a context and design brief developed by the student.
- The Brief must be of an appropriate level of complexity and contain a degree of uncertainty of the outcome so that students can engage in an iterative process of designing, making, testing and evaluating.
- Students must produce a written or digital design folder clearly evidencing how the assessment criteria have been met together with photographic evidence of the final manufactured prototype outcome.
- Students should produce a concise folder. The exam board recommend that the folder should not exceed 45 A3 pages or equivalent.

# Digital Media (Cambridge Technical) L3 Extended Certificate

## What is the course about?

The study of Digital Media is an engaging and highly relevant area that is constantly shifting to keep up with developments in the industry. The course combines practical, project-based assessment with examined units and is assessed throughout Year 12 and 13.

## Who should take this course?

You will be a creative person who can bring ideas to life before pitching them to a client. You will be interested in emerging technologies and a confident user of ICT to enable you to develop your own digital products. You will want to grasp the theoretical and technical aspects of the media industry that underpin your design skills including analysing your target audience.

## How is it assessed?

### Year 12:

#### **Units 3 & 21 (Coursework - 25%)**

In completing these units you will develop new ideas for a client and prepare a proposal to meet a client brief. You will deliver a pitch to the client before producing planning materials and creating an original digital product. You will review your product to ensure it meets the needs of your client.

#### **Unit 2 (Exam - 25%)**

In this unit you'll learn about the preproduction process that the creative media industry follows when creating a product. This will be assessed in a 2 hour written paper consisting of short answer questions and questions requiring more extended responses based on a scenario.

### Year 13:

#### **Units 20 & 24 (Coursework - 25%)**

In completing these units, you'll learn about different media sectors and how they operate, how technologies impact the industry and about the potential careers and routes into media. You'll develop an understanding of advertising before planning your own advertising campaign including original media components

#### **Unit 1 (Exam - 25%)**

In this unit you will learn about different ownership models in the media industries and how to analyse media products. You will learn about how audiences are categorised, researched and targeted by media producers and how media institutions distribute and advertise their products to audiences. The paper is 2 hours long and includes research data to be analysed.

## Where will it take me?

The Cambridge Technical in Digital Media is a challenging vocational qualification supporting students on their journey to university, an apprenticeship or a career in the media industry. They are recognised for UCAS tariff points.

## Who should take the course?

You need to be curious about issues and ideas and have a creative instinct for communicating your views through drama. You may be keen on acting, writing or on the visual and technical side of theatre and wish to develop your skills in some or all of these areas. Equally you will be interested in going to the theatre to see plays performed by different theatre companies.

It is important that you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and plays work and that you are keen to be involved with performances. You will also need to give out of school time for rehearsals and visits.

## What is the course about?

The course demands practical, creative and communication skills in almost equal measure. You will extend your ability to create drama and theatre, either in performing or production role. You will also be required to write about drama and to develop your powers of analysis to become an informed critic. The course will involve taking part in drama productions, as well as studying plays and playwrights.

## Details of Subject content and assessment

Drama and Theatre consists of a combination of written and performance work that is assessed internally by teaching staff (moderated external) and externally marked examination tasks.

### Component 1: Devising (40% of the qualification)

There are two parts to the assessment:

- A portfolio of evidence documenting the approach a practitioners has on theatre
- A performance/design realisation: students present a performance that demonstrates the practitioner's approach

This component is internally assessed by the Centre and externally moderated.

### Component 2: Text in Performance (20% of the qualification)

There are two parts to the assessment:

- A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a performance text.
- A monologue or duologue performance/design realisation from one key extract from a different performance text.

This component is externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

### Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice (40% of the qualification)

There are three parts to the assessment:

- **Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation.** Student must write about their choice of a live theatre production they have seen.
- **Section B: Page to Stage.** Students must write about a play they have studied and how they will realise the design and performance elements of an unseen extract.
- **Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text.** Students must write about their own interpretation/re-imagining of a play they have studied and how their ideas have been influenced by a theatre practitioner.

## Where will it take me?

This Advanced GCE can lead to further study in Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts in Higher Education at degree or HND level. It can be used as part of your course to broaden your studies and may lead on to a career in the media, performing arts and leisure industries. Drama and Theatre Studies Advanced GCE complements a range of subjects; it is useful in developing management skills and improving the presentation of information in a range of careers.

## Who should take the course?

It is often said that we live in a global village where the world's resources are limited; there are only limited amounts of land, water, oil, food and other resources on this planet. Economists say that these resources are scarce. This scarcity means that individuals, firms, councils and governments have to make tough choices about how best we can use these scarce resources to meet our ever expanding needs.

It is the task of the economist to explain and analyse the nature of these choices facing economic agents such as consumers, firms or the government.

Economics is a discipline that combines well with other subjects. Geography, History, Politics, Law, Sociology, Psychology and Maths all have a link with this subject. It is recognised as a good academic 'A' Level for higher education entrance.

## What is the course about?

### Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

This section of the course is primarily about microeconomics and includes the following themes:

- How economists study problems and make judgements.
- What they key economic decisions are.
- The fundamental problem of scarcity in economies.
- How consumers behave.
- How price is determined in a market.
- The concepts of production, specialisation and exchange.
- The behaviour of firms and market structure.
- Wages, trade unions, the minimum wage and the labour market.
- The distribution of income and wealth and the problem of poverty.
- Market failure and the role of governments.

### The National and International economy

This section of the course is primarily about macroeconomics and includes the following themes:

- The objectives of government economic policy.
- Key economic indicators (GDP, inflation, unemployment etc.)
- Modelling the macroeconomy,
- Economic growth, employment, inflation.
- Conflicts between policy objectives.
- The role of the financial sector and central banks.
- Fiscal, supply side and monetary policy.
- Globalisation, trade and development.

## How is it assessed?

At the end of 2 years there are 3 examinations (no coursework). Each is 2 hours long.

Paper 1: Markets and market failure

Paper 2: National and International economy

Paper 3: Economic principles and issues

Question types include multiple choice questions, short answer questions to longer data response and essay questions.

## Economics (continued)

Regular homework is given. This could include reading textbooks or other articles, short structured questions or longer essays. Students are also expected to keep up with topical and relevant economic issues by reading a quality newspaper or watching factual TV programmes on relevant issues.

There will also be the need to use mathematical tools of analysis to interpret economic data. A good GCSE grade in Maths and English is needed. Students will also be expected to write extended essays.

### Where will it take me?

Careers in the City, Business, Civil Service, Banking or Financial Sector are all enhanced by Economics. Also, careers in journalism, education and the charity sector will all be helped by a study of economics.

Economics is relevant to most everyday issues. Not only will it make students understand economic events, but it will also give them a new and interesting perspective on social and political issues.

### Is Economics for me?

- *How will Brexit affect the UK?*
- *Why did the Financial Crisis of 2009 happen?*
- *Should the rail system be re-nationalised?*
- *Why is the cost of petrol so high?*
- *How and why does the government control inflation?*
- *What is a recession?*
- *What is the impact of China and India on our economy?*
- *Why are teachers and nurses paid so little compared to Premiership footballers?*
- *What is the impact of climate change on the economy?*
- *What makes the iPhone so successful?*
- *What is the future of the European Union?*

If these types of issues and questions interest you then ECONOMICS is your kind of subject.

We advise that students think carefully about taking both Economics and Business Studies due to the overlap between courses.

# English Language A Level

Examination Board: AQA

## Who should take the course?

This subject will appeal to students with an interest in how language works and the central role it plays in our everyday lives.

## What is the course about?

The course is based around language in use. This means that any piece of language, whether a snippet from Eastenders or a voice-over from an advert, is suitable for study. Another important aspect of the course is the production of writing for particular audiences and purposes. Some of the topics are listed below:

- Textual Variations and Representations – comparing language and ideas in different texts
- Children's Language Development – how children learn language
- Language Diversity and Change – how different social groups use English differently
- Language Discourses – exploring debates about language
- An Investigation into Language – free choice coursework unit
- Original Writing – free choice coursework unit

## How is it assessed?

Language consists of two examined units and two pieces of coursework (or non-examined assessments). The written exams are each 2 hours 30 minutes: the first requires students to analyse a range of texts and write an extended discussion of how children's language develops; the second asks them to analyse a range of texts representing English from around the world and across the last 400 years and to complete a directed writing task. In the non-examined assessment students have the opportunity to investigate an aspect of language study of their own choice and produce a piece of creative writing with a commentary.

## Where will it take me?

It combines well with Media Studies, Modern Foreign Languages as well as other Humanities subjects such as History, Sociology and Psychology. You can use this qualification to study English, Languages or a Humanities subject at University. The course is excellent preparation for careers in teaching, journalism and law or any career that involves the effective use of language.

# English Literature A Level

Examination Board: AQA/Edexcel

## Who should take the course?

Students will need a genuine interest in literature, secure writing skills, an open mind and a willingness to enter into debate and discussion.

## What is the course about?

This course provides a thorough grounding in English Literature over the last four centuries, which is an excellent basis for further study or entry into a range of professions.

Students will have opportunities to discuss literature within historical, social and cultural contexts. The course develops an understanding of the approaches and methods needed to analyse literary texts.

## How is it assessed?

Across the two-year course, students will study a range of literature across all three genres (poetry, prose and drama) including three pre-1900 texts. There will be a strong emphasis on independent reading in order to give students a good grounding in tackling the unseen texts with which they will be presented in the exam.

Students will also produce either one or two pieces of coursework (or non-examined assessments) on texts that they themselves have chosen in their further and independent reading.

## Where will it take me?

English Literature combines well with Media Studies and Modern Foreign Languages as well as other Humanities subjects such as History, RE, Philosophy, Sociology, and Psychology. Therefore you can use this qualification to study English, Languages or a Humanities subject at University, as well as subjects that require an analytical approach such as Law.

# Film Studies A Level

Examination Board: WJEC Eduqas

## Who should take the course?

Students with a keen interest in a wide range of films. Students do not have to be 'film buffs' to succeed on the course as it builds on what students already know - their experience as spectators, consumers and fans.

## What is the course about?

The **A Level** consists of modules that cover the following areas – American and British Film, Varieties of Film and Film production

Component 1 assesses knowledge and understanding of 6 feature films from Hollywood and the UK.

Component 2 assesses knowledge and understanding of 5 feature length films and one compilation of short films from around the world.

Component 3 assesses one production and its evaluative analysis

The essential framework for the study of all these films involves an understanding of:

- film form and its structure
- how film creates meaning through representation;
- the relationship between film and spectator;
- the social cultural and aesthetic elements of film
- critical approaches and key debates

## How is it assessed?

Component 1 3 hour exam 35%

Component 2 3 hour exam 35%

Component 3 coursework 30% either a short film or screenplay and storyboard

## Where will it take me?

This qualification will not lead specifically into a career in Film. However, the syllabus offers students a range of highly motivated opportunities for developing transferable skills.

Higher Education courses in Film Studies and Media courses as well as a range of Humanities courses are available.

# Financial Studies - LIBF Certificate/Diploma

## What does this programme have to offer?

Ips has been designed for students who are, or will shortly be, starting on a period of life when they can no longer depend on others for their financial provision. Therefore this essential course will teach students:

- To make informed and confident decisions regarding your finances.
- To explore recent developments in financial services products; help to become responsible borrowers & sensible savers. To have an appreciation of the need for financial planning throughout your life.

## Course Content includes the following and more:

1. Purposes of Money
2. The Personal Life Cycle
3. Payment Methods
4. Everyday Banking
5. Saving Products
6. Borrowing Products
7. Providers
8. Consumer Protection
9. Budgets and Forecasts
10. Dealing with unexpected Events
11. Dealing with Debt
12. Earnings

## Structure

The Certificate in Personal Finance consists of two units:

- Unit 1 – Financial Capability for the Medium and Short Term
- Unit 2 – Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term

Once completed you have the option to progress onto the Diploma course in year 13

## Assessment

- The 2 units are exam based via a multiple choice exam and a further exam based on a pre-release case study. You can achieve the following grades which are also equivalent to UCAS points for university:
  - A\* = 70 POINTS
  - A = 60 POINTS
  - B = 50 POINTS
  - C = 40 POINTS
  - D = 30 POINTS
  - E = 20 POINTS

## Student study materials

There are a number of good revision websites that are available such as:

- [www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk](http://www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk)
- [www.bankofengland.co.uk/about/index.htm](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/about/index.htm)
- <https://my.libf.ac.uk>
- [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)
- [www.oft.gov.uk](http://www.oft.gov.uk)
- [www.samlearning.co.uk](http://www.samlearning.co.uk)
- [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

# Financial Studies (continued)

## Learning Strategies

- Group work
- Use of ICT
- Independent learning
- Quizzes
- Working with case study material
- Research skills
- Role play
- Exam skills
- Visual stimulus
- Guest speakers

## Career pathways

- Jobs in personal finance include, Banking, Investments, Financial advisory, Insurance, Human Resources, Business related jobs and much more.

# Football Academy (Sports Accredited)

**Examination Board: English FA, 1st 4 Sport Level 1 coaching qualification**

## **Who should take the course?**

Students who have a passion for football and sport, who are committed to developing their skills and knowledge both on and off the pitch and who are looking to enter a sport related career. Any students interested in enrolling in the Football Academy must pass a successful trial and interview. This is a unique opportunity to combine academic studies and a passion for football.

Students will be required to attend on Wednesday afternoons for League Matches in addition to the scheduled block, which may affect access to additional courses on home sites.

## **What is the course about?**

Students will be enrolled at Onslow St Audrey's School as student athletes. They will participate in a minimum of 6 hours intensive football coaching and fitness training per week delivered by UEFA qualified coaches. They will not only develop your playing abilities but also your leadership skills. Further to this they will compete in the British National College Football League and gain experience by playing against professional development teams along with the opportunity to play in the prestigious FA Youth Cup.

Students will further enhance their experience and knowledge by completing the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 Sport Level 1 coaching qualification, further to this the Partnership with Pro:Direct Academy will offer many students experience days and career opportunities not only in sport but a variety of other roles. Learners are invited to exclusive Pro:Direct Sport in-store events and tournaments including trying the latest football products via the Pro:Direct Trial Van.

Onslow Pro:Direct have formed a partnership with Hertford Town FC (Bostik League) and many more pro clubs, this will allow male students to create a player pathway for the future, and offer them the opportunity to explore a vast array of different careers and opportunities within the football and sporting environment.

Onslow Pro:Direct have also formed several links with Women's Super League Teams (WSL) and Women's National League (WNL) to create further pathways for female players to progress into the professional women's leagues.

## **How is it assessed?**

1<sup>st</sup> 4 Sport level 1 badge assessed by Hertfordshire FA or Bedfordshire FA.

## **Where will it take me?**

This course and additional qualifications can lead on to studying sport and non-sport related subjects at university at either Degree or HND Level. You can also use this qualification in employment in a range of fields including Sports Coaching, Leisure Industry, and the Armed forces etc. There is the possibility if students show exceptional talent that through the links with a professional club they could become football scholars and the possibility of further education and a partial or fully funded scholarship in the United States of America due to links with several USA Scholarship Companies.

# Geography A Level

Examination Board: AQA

## A Level Geography..... is it the right choice for you?

### The A Level Course:

You will follow the AQA A-Level Geography exam board.  
There will be a balance of both human and physical geography across the course including a wide range of geographical skills.

### Do you...

- Enjoy learning about the world around you?
- Have an opinion?
- Possess an inquisitive and critical mind?
- Have good literacy skills?
- Like to go away and research information independently?

Below is a table of the A level course content and how it is assessed. *Please note: Option units and fieldwork may vary from site to site to make best use of individual staff specialist geographical knowledge and expertise.*

<b><u>A Level Geography Content</u></b>	<b><u>Assessment</u></b>
<b><u>Physical Geography</u></b> Water and carbon cycles, Coastal systems and landscapes, Hazards.	<b><u>Paper 1: Physical Geography</u></b> Written exam 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> hours, 120 marks, 40% of A level
<b><u>Human Geography</u></b> Global systems and global governance, Changing places, Contemporary urban environments.	<b><u>Paper2: Human Geography</u></b> Written exam 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> hours, 120 marks, 40% of A level
<b><u>Geography Investigation and skills</u></b> Fieldwork and skills	<b><u>Non-Examined Assessment (NEA)</u></b> 3-4,000 words, 60 marks, 20% of A-level Marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

### 6 Good Reasons for Studying A Level Geography:

- Geography stimulates an interest in, and wonder of, the world around us.
- Geography develops the ability to combine scientific principles with economic awareness, environmental concern and an appreciation and tolerance of people's attitudes and values as well as historical and political aspects of our planet.
- Our USP is that no other subject incorporates these factors
- Geography combines well with other subjects and develops key skills and makes you more employable.
- Geography relates to real life problems and helps develop; an understanding of current events and issues such as Environmental change, Global Interdependence, Sustainability, Cultural Understanding.
- Geography gives you practical experience working outside of the classroom by doing fieldwork and develops teamwork skills.

## Geography A Level (continued)

- We will provide a variety of learning experiences; there will be opportunities for developing ICT skills, group work and geographical enquiry.
- We expect students to complete essential reading and note taking in their own time; and we will encourage you to keep an eye on newspapers and relevant T.V. programmes, as well as searching the web for relevant and up-to-date information.
- Fieldwork and investigation are important parts of the course. You will undertake residential fieldwork in the UK. Geographical skills are continually developed assessed at AS and A2.

### What can a Geography 'A' Level do for me?

Geography is a subject that **opens up many career paths** for you:

Archaeology, Architecture, Biology research, Development studies and charity work, Disaster and Emergency planning, Ecology – looking after water, woodlands and ecosystem, Education – you could even be a Geography Teacher!, Environmental Law, Environmental science – flood management and control etc., Economics, European Studies, Geology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Meteorology, Transport planning and management, Health and environmental agencies.

# Government & Politics A Level

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

## **Why should you take the course?**

- If you are interested in current affairs
- If you want to know more about how we are governed
- If you want to have a deeper understanding of many news stories and extra insight into issues that shape the political agenda
- If you are interested in debates and discussions and are prepared to research details in order to construct convincing and persuasive arguments
- If you are willing to read widely and keep up to date with current events
- Politics combines well with many different combinations of subjects – with arts subjects (English, modern languages, history) and other humanities/social sciences, to add width and depth, or with mathematics and sciences, to add variety.

## **What is the course about?**

The course covers three components; UK Politics (including political theory), UK Government & Global Politics.

The course explores various features of political participation, electoral systems, voting behaviour and political parties. It also covers key political ideas such as conservatism, liberalism, socialism and nationalism. You will develop an understanding of how British politics operates, the functions of government, parliament and the Prime Minister. You will also explore key issues relating to Global Politics; international organisations, globalisation, human rights and the distribution of power. You will have the opportunity to examine Britain's changing relationship with the European Union as well as international conflicts and global terrorism.

## **How is it assessed?**

- Three 2 hour exams at the end of Year 13.
- There is no coursework.

## **Where will it take me?**

An A Level in Government and Politics is of value to anyone considering the possibility of studying Politics and related subjects, such as International Relations, Economics, History, Sociology or a combination, at university. The skills and knowledge developed have obvious application to any form of work in which accurate use of language combined with an ability to construct arguments and counter-arguments is needed, such as the law.

It has obvious value for anyone considering a career in journalism and the media as well as anyone interested in working in occupations directly connected to the world of government and politics.

## A level Art & Design

### What will I learn?

Graphic communication conveys information and ideas by visual means. Often work is realised in two-dimensional form but carries the illusion of three dimensions through the manipulation of images and the formal elements. The critical elements for a graphic designer are the successful communication of a message through the organisation of images and words. The use of information technology within Graphic communication has taken on an ever increasing importance in recent years, changing working practices and leading to new forms of communication and presentation. Students must be alert to the possibilities offered by a huge range of materials and processes within Graphic communication and of the important role of signs and symbols. In producing graphic solutions to defined problems, students must be able to keep in balance aesthetic and commercial considerations. In the context of this specification, disciplines will include:

- Advertising
- Illustration
- Branding

### What is the course structure?

The A-level consists of 2 Components as part of a two year course

#### Component 1 (60% of total qualification)

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcomes.

#### Overview of assessment

- Incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.
- Supporting studies and practical work will comprise a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points.
- The personal study will be evidenced through critical written communication showing contextual research and understanding in a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose, which may contain integrated images.

#### Component 2 (40% of total qualification)

This is an externally set assignment. You work in the same way as component 1 however the theme is presented as an exam paper. Your research and practical development culminates in a 15 hour timed exam.

### How will you be assessed?

You are marked against 4 criteria for all your work which then translates into a grade A to E. The coursework element is worth 60% of your mark, this includes the personal study which comprises 12% of the coursework, the externally set exam is worth 40% of the overall mark. You will produce a minimum of one journal for each component. In addition, you will also produce a portfolio of prints for each project. You will submit all your work for assessment and moderation in May. Your work is then group marked by teaching staff and externally moderated.

### What can I do after the course?

You can use A-level Graphics to go on to study at Degree level or Foundation Degree level. You could also move on to a vocational course. A Graphics A-level will also help you open up a range of career opportunities in the Visual Arts sector. The underpinning analytical and technical skills will help you whatever career path you choose to follow.

# Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3 Diploma

## Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

### **Who should take this course?**

Students who are interested in a career in the health and social care sector, or who want to develop a range of workplace skills. The course is recognised by employers and universities and so is suitable for students who want to continue to university or begin their career following completion of the Diploma. Work experience placements are a key part of the course. You do not need to have studied Health & Social Care at level 2 to take up this course.

### **What is the course about?**

The course explores the knowledge and skills needed by professionals in the health and social care sector. There are a number of compulsory units and then a small choice from a list of optional units. Typical units include:

- Human Lifespan development
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Promoting Public Health
- Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care
- Work Experience in Health and Social Care
- Sociological perspectives

### **How is it assessed?**

Via external assessment in the form of exams and controlled assessments; also by internally marked assignments which are evidenced by a range of methods, including presentations, reports, reflective diaries, leaflets. Your work experience placements make up a crucial part of your assignments. Assignments are graded at Pass, Merit or Distinction level.

### **Where will it take me?**

You could start your career after successful completion of the course or continue to higher education to gain further qualifications. There are many career paths within the sector, some examples are:

- Social Work
- Paramedical Science
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Occupational Therapy
- Residential Care Home Management
- You, Care or Support Work

# History A Level

**Examination Board: OCR/Edexcel/AQA (different schools offer different boards)**

## **Why should you take history?**

- History is an academic subject that is highly regarded by University admissions tutors. It is particularly appropriate for students considering studying Law, journalism and other careers which require the ability to critically evaluate evidence make decisions and present information. History allows you to keep your options open whilst also helping you gain skills that are relevant to a range of careers. **For example;** Creative and entertainment work such as acting and directing movies, Lawyers, Politicians, Financial Work, Market research analysts, Museum Work, Armed Forces, Education, and many more!

## **Who should take the course?**

- Students who enjoy challenge, thinking for themselves, discussion and arguments
- You will look at historical interpretations and be given the opportunity to develop your own analysis and interpretation.
- There are rarely correct answers so you will get the chance to say what you think!

## **What skills do you need?**

- You will need to be able to write well, being able to construct a well-balanced essay, select relevant evidence and evaluate this.
- You will be encouraged to read widely to further your understanding.
- You will need to have self-discipline and application.
- A Level students have enjoyed visits to Waterloo (Belgium), Germany, the National Archives, The West End and conferences to help in their studies.

# Information Technology BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Examination Board: Pearson

## Who should take the course?

The course is designed for students who are interested in the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other fields of study, with a view of progressing onto a higher education course.

You will enjoy this course if you would like to:

- to develop a common core of IT knowledge
- increase your awareness and study areas such as the relationship between hardware and software that form an IT system
- to be able to manage and process data to support a business
- learn how to use IT to communicate and share information.

## What is the course about?

(Mandatory Units)	Unit 1 Information Technology Systems	You will study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations.
	Unit 2 Creating Systems to Manage Information	You will study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.
	Unit 3 Using Social Media in Business	You will explore how businesses use social media to promote their products and services. You will also implement social media activities in a business to meet requirements.
(Optional Units)	Unit 5 Data Modelling	You will study how to data modelling can be used to solve problems, and they will design and implement a data model to meet client requirements.
	Unit 6 Web Development	You will investigate website development principles and they design and develop a website using scripting languages.

## How is it assessed?

You will be externally assessed in Units 1 and 2 by examinations set by Pearson. Unit 1 is an external assessed examination and Unit 2 is a set activity you carry out practically, 'hands-on' tasks. You will collect evidence of your work for the other units. It will be assessed by your teacher and moderated by Pearson.

## Where will it take me?

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology qualifies for UCAS points so on successful completion you could move on to study for a degree or BTEC Higher National Diploma in related subjects such as IT, Computer Science, Information Systems, Multimedia, Software Engineering, Computer Networking, e-Business and Information Management. You could also go on to work based training such as IT User/Practitioner NVQs or vendor-specific qualifications.

## Am I right for this course?

The good news is that you do not have to want to be a lawyer to study law. Law is an excellent subject for career progression and anyone wishing to go on to University reading any discipline. The advantage of studying law is that you will have already begun to develop your reading, discursive and analytical skills, as well as your research and evaluative skills. Many other subjects would go well with law, for example, English, psychology, history and sociology.

Law students should keep abreast of the current topical debates regarding the law, using newspapers and the media to keep an eye on the ever-changing world of law. It is never too hard to find a news story about the law...

## What is the course structure?

During the course, you will cover:

**The Legal System** - Here you will learn just what barristers, solicitors and judges actually do; as well as how and why people do such jobs. You will also look at how ordinary members of the public just like you, get to participate in the legal process. You will also be provided with an in-depth view of what happens to an individual from the time of arrest to being sentenced by the courts. In addition to this, civil courts as well as the alternatives to the courts, such as tribunals, will be looked at.

**Law making** - Here you will examine exactly how Parliament and the Courts create and modify our laws, just like the ones you hear about on the news, and the difficulties we (and judges) have in applying them. You will also study the different sources of law, including the ways in which judges follow past cases, Acts of Parliament, and European laws, as well as how the law develops and changes over time.

**Criminal law** - In this section, you will focus on the general principles of criminal liability and non-fatal and fatal offences against the person. By applying the law to factual situations, you will be able to develop a critical awareness and appreciation of the role of criminal law in modern society, just like real lawyers do.

**Law of tort** - The focus here will be on the rules of tort, liability in negligence and remedies. This will provide you with knowledge of civil liability. You will also complete a critical analysis of civil law and use these skills to apply all your legal knowledge to scenario-based situations.

## How will you be assessed?

This is a linear qualification. You will take three exams at the end of the course: Paper 1- Crime; Paper 2 - Tort; Paper 3 - option paper on either contract or human rights law. Each exam will be assessing knowledge, application of legal rules and analysis of legal principles.

## What can I do after the course?

A successful A Level in law indicates that you have strong academic ability. Law is a dynamic subject and will help you develop your verbal and written communication, which are essential for any career or higher education course. A Level Law is a useful stepping stone to a law degree at University but it can also lead to any number of non-law University courses, including Forensics, Criminology and Business. The key is that you will be prepared for life and whatever it throws at you.

# Mathematics A Level

Mathematics A Level is a challenging and interesting subject which progresses from the work that has been met at GCSE and develops a further understanding of mathematical processes and the ability to reason logically. It complements many other subjects and is highly respected by universities and employers.

## What are the courses about?

The Mathematics course consists of compulsory Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics elements. You will extend your knowledge of topics such as algebra and trigonometry, as well as learning new ideas such as calculus. At the same time, you will study applications of Pure Mathematics in the fields of Statistics and Mechanics.

Further Mathematics is a course which can only be taken alongside A Level Mathematics. It extends the study of the subject for students who want a deeper understanding and a broader knowledge than is provided by the single syllabus.

## Mathematics

In Year 12 you will cover the first half of both the Pure and Applied content of the full A Level course. In Year 13, you will study the remaining content of the full A Level qualification and you will be examined on a sample of all content covered over the two years at full A level standard.

## Further Mathematics

AS and A Level Further Mathematics are available, both of which include a further compulsory core of Pure Mathematics content. In addition, you will be able to deepen your knowledge and understanding of Applied Mathematics topics.

## Who should take the course?

You need to have reached a good standard at GCSE mathematics (see subject criteria), enjoy the subject and be willing to work hard.

A qualification in A level Mathematics is very valuable to support studies in a wide range of other subjects such as Science, Economics, Business Studies, Geography and Psychology. It will also be very useful in careers such as Architecture, Accountancy, Education, Environmental Studies and Information Technology. Further Mathematics is strongly recommended for entry to courses in Mathematics, Computing, Engineering and Physics, but will also suit any high attaining mathematician who enjoys a challenge.

## How is it assessed?

There is no coursework component to either A Level Mathematics or Further Mathematics. A level Mathematics is assessed by three 2 hour written papers at the end of the course. The number and duration of examinations for Further Mathematics varies according to the options chosen.

## Why study media?

As the media and communication industries become ever more diverse and dynamic, studies in the field of media are growing in popularity. In today's media-dominated cultural landscape, media has become one of the most relevant, exciting and important subjects you could choose to study.

If you are a Humanities student with an interest in current affairs and the media, or if you are a student wishing to pursue a career in marketing, TV, film, PR & journalism, then this could be the course for you!

## What skills do I need to be successful?

### Strong analytical/inference skills

You need to be able to read a variety of texts, include unseen texts, and interpret them.

### A high level of accuracy and clarity in written expression

This is an academic, essay-based subject in which you are required to produce fluent, extended response answers.

### A keen interest in reading/listening to/watching and consuming a range of media products

You will be required to read widely about a range of issues and developments in the media world, as well as watching, listening to and consuming a range of media products, not just your set texts.

## What is the course structure?

The course is divided into 3 Components, two of which are examined and are worth 70% of the overall qualification, and one of which is coursework which is worth 30%.

### Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences (**Exam: 2 hours and 15 minutes; 35%**)

- This component involves the study of several texts from across various media forms (Newspapers, Advertising, Music Video, Radio, Videogame and Film)

### Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth (**Exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes; 35%**)

- This component involves the in-depth study of three different areas of media: Television, Magazine and Online.

### Component 3: Cross-Media Production (**30%**)

- This component will require the creation of your own media product. For example, you might create a three minute clip from a music video or television show that you have created, alongside a print product such as a magazine front cover. This unit requires practical production skills and you will be using cameras and computer software to create your products.

## What can I do after the course?

- Higher Education: BA in many subjects, including English Literature, Film Studies, Film and Television Production (3 years) or Media Theory or Combined Studies.
- HND in Media Production (2 years).
- Or possibly entry level into careers in Film, TV, Marketing, PR & Journalism.

## A Level French A Level Spanish A Level German

### Why should I take the course?

In today's international world a modern language is a major asset which combines well with all other subjects to provide an invaluable life skill. The languages currently on offer are French, German and Spanish.

### What is the course about?

Each language is taught through a series of topics, based on current issues, such as social issues, political and artistic trends, culture, literary text and/or a film. The topics include the changing nature of the family, the cyber-society, voluntary work, immigration and law and order. Students will also study cinema, literature and music. A stimulating range of material from the Internet, up to date textbooks and authentic articles will be used to teach. The lessons will include debates, presentations and the use of ICT.

### How is it assessed?

The A level is assessed through two written papers and a speaking exam:

Paper 1 - Listening, reading, writing and translation to and from the target language.

Paper 2 – two essays in the target language based on two texts or a text and a film studied.

Paper 3 – A Speaking exam including a stimulus card and a discussion on an individual research project.

### Where will it take me?

Modern Language graduates have one of the **highest employment rates**, with an average **6% increase in salary**. They are **highly sought after** in many fields of business and industry, not just because they can communicate with many more potential customers, but because their **analytical skills, trained memory** and attention to detail are needed in many different professions. Most degree courses, especially those in **Business, Law, Engineering, History** and **Sciences**, combine well with a language, either as part of the course or as a way of widening the possible areas of research and study.

If you require further information, please talk to a language teacher at your home site.

# Music A Level

Examination Board: OCR at MWS and Eduqas at STA

## Who should take the course? Anyone with:

- An interest in studying music in a variety of styles through analysis, listening, performing and composing
- A love of music and an open-minded approach to different styles and cultures
- An ability to read music
- Ability to undertake self-directed work

## What is the course about?

The course is studied in units, which encompass performing, composing, listening and analysis (musical understanding). In musical understanding students study three areas of musical history, ranging from Classical music of 1750 to the popular genres of the present day. Students can choose to weight their course in favour of Performance or Composition depending on where their strength lies.

## How is it assessed?

**Unit 1: Performance** 25% / 35% 10 minute approx. performance of at least two contrasting pieces. Externally assessed.

**Unit 2: Composition** 25% / 35% 2-3 Compositions completed under controlled conditions and externally assessed against a brief set by the exam board.

**Unit 3: Musical understanding** Two and a half-hour exam, including listening, understanding musical lines and essay writing.

## Where will it take me?

- University courses in Music/ related Music courses
- University admissions officers often look for Music when selecting for other subjects e.g. medicine and law
- Vocational Music/ Music related Higher Education courses
- Music industry work/ apprenticeships
- Opportunity to play huge role in performing and extra-curricular life of the school
- A lifelong love of music

# Music Technology A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

**Who should take the course? Anyone with:**

- Acceptance based on a teacher's interview
- An interest in music production and using technology to create music
- An aptitude for sequencing software
- An interest in music and an open-minded approach to different styles
- A desire to extend their practical experience and understanding of music technology
- Ability to undertake self-directed work

**What does the course involve?**

There are **three** areas of study which underpin the whole course encouraging breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding. They also provide context for the students' practical and theoretical work.

AoS 1: Recording and Production Techniques for both Corrective and Creative Purposes

AoS 2: Principles of Sound and Audio Technology

AoS 3: The Development of Recording and Production Technology

**How is it assessed?**

**Two** pieces of externally assessed coursework comprising i) a multi-track recording of 7 instruments from a choice of 10 different artists; ii) a composition using Music Technology (40% of marks) and **two** exams comprising i) a listening and analysing exam; ii) a practical and written exam involving analysing and producing (60% of marks).

**Where will it take me?**

- Career in sound engineering
- University courses in music including composing or Music Technology
- Access to a range of technology and computer-orientated careers
- Increased knowledge of both technology and music
- Increased enjoyment of both technology and music
- Opportunity to play a role in the performing and extra-curricular life of school, e.g. in providing the sound for concerts, etc.

# Physical Education A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Who should take the course?

Students who wish to take the A Level course should have a keen interest in human biology, psychology and an understanding of how the mind and body works in relation to performance in physical sport.

## What is the course about?

Physical Education is for students who have a love of sport and performance. Students will have an interest in a number of the following topics: Anatomy & physiology, the effects on exercise on the bodily systems, nutrition, biomechanics, fatigue, injury rehabilitation, the role of sports psychology in facilitating performance and how sport and society has developed.

## The structure of the course

The students will study four components

- **Scientific Principles of Physical Education** (40% of qualification)
- **Psychological and Social Principles of Physical Education** (30% of qualification)
- **Practical Performance** (15% of qualification)
- **Performance Analysis and Performance Development** (15% of qualification)

## How the course will be assessed

The students will sit **two written** exams. They will also be assessed **practically**. The practical assessment consists of students completing **one** physical activity from a set list. Students can be assessed in **either** the role of **player/performer or coach**. They will also have to complete **two** pieces of coursework.

## Where will it take me?

This course can lead onto studying a sports related subject at University at either degree or HND Level. Students can also use this qualification in employment in a range of fields including Sports and Exercise Sciences, Physiotherapy, Teaching, Leisure Industry, the Police and the Armed Forces.

# Performing Arts (Acting) BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

Examination Board: Pearson

## What is a BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate?

A BTEC Level 3 is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. As well as learning about the employment area you have chosen, you develop the skills you need to start a career.

It is equivalent to one A levels which means when you have finished the course you can choose whether to get a job straight away or go into higher education first.

## What is the course structure?

The course is made up of 4 units – three core units which are compulsory and one further specialist unit. The specialist unit enable you to study particular areas in depth.

## What subjects will I study?

All students take the three mandatory units:

- Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners Work (Controlled Assessment)
- Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
- Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop

The specialist unit is:

- Unit 19 – Acting Styles

## How is the course assessed?

Two units are assessed and graded internally, then externally moderated. Unit 1 and 3 are assessed externally and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.

## What can I do at the end of the course?

BTEC Diplomas are valued by employers and higher education (universities and colleges). We have 100% success rate of students being offered excellent university places based on their BTEC results and experience.

If you want to get a job straight away you could work in:

- Administration or marketing within the Performing Arts industry
- Theatre
- Entertainment
- Performance support
- Workshop leadership and support
- Theatre and education

If you decide to go to university or college you could take a degree or a BTEC Higher National in subjects such as:

- *Acting Studies*
- *Performing Arts (Acting)*
- *Drama (Performance)*
- *Drama and education*
- *Technical theatre and production*

# Philosophy A Level

Examination Board: AQA

## Who should take this course?

- Anyone planning a career that involves the ability to evaluate ideas and understand complex issues.
- Anyone who enjoys questioning and debating issues of which there are no definitive answers.
- Anyone who wishes to have a better understanding of communities and society.
- Anyone who has ever thought about why people make the decisions and judgements that they do, particularly on matters of 'right' and 'wrong'.
- Anyone who has ever asked themselves difficult questions, such as: *What makes me 'Me'? Why am I here? Is there a God? Is there life after death? What makes this right and that wrong? Why did they do that?*

## What is the course about?

- This course is designed to introduce students to the key methods and concepts in philosophy through the study of four broad themes: Epistemology; Philosophy of Religion; Ethics; and Philosophy of Mind. Students will develop and refine a range of transferable skills, such as the ability to ask penetrating questions, to analyse and evaluate the arguments of others and to present their own arguments clearly and logically.
- This philosophy specification asks these main questions:
  - What can we know?
  - Can the existence of God be proved?
  - How do we make moral decisions?
  - Are my mind and body separate?
- You will have the opportunity to engage in detailed analysis of philosophical texts which should act as a springboard for your future reading and reflection.

## How is it assessed?

### This is a LINEAR specification.

- There will be TWO exams at the end of the course. Each exam will be 3 hours and will be worth 50% of the final grade.
- You can opt to do the AS qualification which will be one 3 hour exam worth 100% of the final grade. The content is the same as the Year 1 linear specification.

## Where will it take me?

- Philosophy **A-Level** is extremely well respected by colleges and universities.
- Students could go on to study Philosophy, Religious Studies, Politics, History, Geography, Medicine, English, Theology, Psychology, Sociology, and many other subjects.

## What is Photography A-level?

The two year Photography Linear A-level. It is the taking, making, creating and reading of images. You will be expected to produce innovative, creative and experimental images in response to given themes. A part of the course is the analysis of photographic images taken by established photographers as well as yourself. You will learn to read images as works of art and be expected to research the work of photographers and artists to support your own practical work, implementing what you have discovered and developed as a photographer. The course covers digital photography and manipulation. You will learn the basic techniques of using cameras and studio equipment, as well as the software used in the creative industry.

## What is the course structure?

The A level consists of 2 Components as part of a two year course

### Component 1

This component allows you the opportunity to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s). (60% of total qualification)

#### Overview of assessment

- Incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.
- Supporting studies and practical work will comprise a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points.
- The personal study will be evidenced through critical written communication showing contextual research and understanding in a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose, which may contain integrated images.

### Component 2

This is an externally set assignment. You work in the same way as component 1 however the theme is presented as an exam paper. Your research and practical development culminates in a 15 hour timed controlled assessment This is worth 40% of your final A level mark.

## How will you be assessed?

You are marked against 4 criteria for all your work which then translates into a grade A to E. The portfolio equates for 60% of the A level, with a personal study contributing to 12% of this portfolio. The additional 40% of the A level comes from an externally set assignment culminating in a period of controlled assessment. You will produce a minimum of one journal for each component. In addition you will also produce a portfolio of prints for each project. You will submit all your work for assessment and moderation in May. Your work is then group marked by teaching staff and externally moderated.

## What can I do after the course?

You can use A-level Photography to go on to study at Degree level or Foundation Degree level. You could also move on to a vocational course. Photography A-level will also help you open up a range of career opportunities in the Visual Arts sector. The underpinning analytical and technical skills will help you whatever career path you choose to follow.

# Physics A Level

## Who should take the course?

A level Physics is available to students who have taken GCSEs in either Combined Science (Higher Tier), or the separate science subjects (Triple Science). See subject criteria.

Physicists are able to think clearly and systematically, and solve complex problems – skills that are highly valued by employers in a wide range of fields. Many students are required to study A level Physics in order to qualify for higher level study in subjects such as Science, Engineering, Computing and Medicine and it can be a valuable asset for Business, Finance and Economics.

Physics is often studied alongside Biology, Chemistry or Geography and it is strongly recommended that Physics is taken in combination with Mathematics.

## What is the course about?

Physicists seek to gain a deeper understanding of the natural world, ranging from identifying the smallest fundamental particles right up to explaining how the Universe has evolved. Through your work you will use practical investigations to establish and then apply new theories and explanations. You will encounter lots of calculations along the way. A natural curiosity and a drive to explain how the world works is essential.

Topics studied in the first year include Mechanics, Electricity, Wave Motion, and Quantum Physics. In the second year modern Physics ideas including Particle Physics, Nuclear Physics and Cosmology are studied as well as classical concepts such as Field Theory and Thermodynamics.

## How is it assessed?

This A Level is a two year linear course which will culminate in three exams at the end of year 13. There is no practical coursework that will contribute to the final grade, however there will be a standard set of practical skills that will be assessed in the final written exams at the end of the course.

Students will be awarded a separate practical endorsement alongside their A Level Physics grade. This will be a teacher assessed endorsement based on the student's competency against a set of practical assessment criteria. Students will be assessed as either pass or not reported. The endorsement will not contribute to the overall grade for their A Level Physics qualification, but the result will be recorded on the student's certificate.

## Who should take the course?

The course will appeal to students who:

- Are interested in all aspects of people's behaviour and thoughts, including the underlying motivations behind our behaviour, such as biological influences.
- Enjoy science, as part of the course you will learn about the scientific methods psychologists use to observe, measure and analyse behaviour and mental processes.
- May be looking for a career in the psychology fields including: *Clinical Psychologists, Occupational Psychologists, Forensic Psychologists, Research Psychologists, Educational Psychologists, Health Psychologists, Sports Psychologists, Counselling Psychologists, Consumer Psychologists,*
- *Would like to develop research skills and scientific enquiry.*

## What is the course about?

Throughout the two year course, candidates will develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the core areas of psychology. The main aim is to understand the causes of behaviour, to look at the means by which psychologists study the subject and how psychology can help change or adapt behaviour. A range of topic based options is also studied, which bring together explanations from different approaches and engage students in issues and debates in psychology.

### Paper 1 (Introductory topics in psychology) will cover:

- Memory, including models of memory, explanations of forgetting and eye witness testimony.
- Attachment, including research into attachment, issues with attachment following deprivation and institutionalisation and the effect on later relationships.
- Social psychology, conformity, obedience and independent behaviour.
- Psychopathology, including definitions of abnormality; characteristics and explanations of phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder; related therapies.

### Paper 2 (Psychology in context) will cover:

- Approaches in Psychology, including the learning, cognitive, biological, psychodynamic and humanistic approaches.
- Biological psychology, including the nervous and endocrine system, localisation of function in the brain, ways of studying the brain and biological rhythms.
- Research methods, including types of experiment, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, and inferential statistics.

### Paper 3 (Issues and options in psychology) will cover:

- **A compulsory content** – Issues and debates in psychology
- **Optional content, where one topic is chosen from each option block**
  - Option 1 – Relationships, gender and cognition and development
  - Option 2 – Schizophrenia, eating behaviour and stress
  - Option 3 – Aggression, forensic psychology and addiction

## Psychology A Level (continued)

### How is it assessed?

Assessment will take place at the end of the two year course and will cover the knowledge and understanding, application of knowledge and the scientific investigation of Psychology. This will be through formal examinations consisting of multiple choice questions, short structured questions and longer extended writing questions.

### Where will it take me?

Candidates taking psychology will be able to continue their psychology studies at all universities with courses ranging from general psychology to more specific areas as in the list above. In addition, the broad range of skills developed spanning those traditionally associated with arts and science, offer a wide range of career prospects.

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## Religious Studies A Level (Philosophy and Ethics)

### Examination Board: OCR

### Who should take this course?

- Anyone planning a career that involves the ability to evaluate ideas and understand complex issues.
- Anyone who enjoys questioning and debating issues of which there are no definitive answers.
- Anyone who wishes to have a better understanding of communities and society.
- Anyone who has ever thought about why people make the decisions and judgements that they do, particularly on matters of 'right' and 'wrong'.
- Anyone who has ever asked themselves difficult questions, such as: *What makes me 'Me'? Why am I here? Is there a God? Is there life after death? What makes this right and that wrong? Why did they do that?*

### What is the course about?

- The Philosophy of Religion part of the course begins with Greek and Judaeo-Christian influences on the philosophy of religion, moves on through the classic arguments for the existence of God and challenges to religious belief, and culminates in issues such as the mind/body distinction, revelation and religious language.
- The Religious Ethics part of the course begins with an introduction to ethical theory, moves on to consider specific ethical theories and their practical applications and culminates with consideration of free will and determinism, conscience, religious ethics and practical ethics.

### How is it assessed?

- There will be three 40 mark single-part essay questions from a free choice of four.

### Where will it take me?

- Religious Studies **A-Level** is well respected by colleges and universities.
- Students could go on to study Psychology, Sociology, Politics, History, Geography, Medicine, English, Theology, and many other subjects.

# Religious Studies A Level (continued)

## Course Details

### Philosophy of Religion (H573/01)

Topics include:

- Ancient philosophical influences (Plato – Reality, Forms, Cave / Aristotle – Reality, Causation, Prime Mover).
- The nature of the soul, mind and body (Plato, Aristotle, Descartes)
- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God (Teleological, Cosmological, Ontological).
- The nature and impact of religious experience.
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil.
- Ideas about the nature of God (omnipotence, omniscience, (omni) benevolence, eternity, free will).
- Issues in religious language

### Religious Ethics (H573/02)

Topics include:

- Normative ethical theories
- The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance.
- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience.
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.
- Virtue Ethics.

### Developments in religious thought (Christianity Option) (H573/03)

- Religious beliefs, value and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world.
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority.
- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary.
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought.
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

## Am I right for this course?

If you are a critical thinker, have drive and want to discover new ways of deconstructing the world around you, then Sociology is for you.

We work in partnership with you to develop your knowledge, understanding and critical evaluation skills to ensure you to reach your learning goals.

You will be required to read widely and in depth and to keep your understanding of sociological issues up-to-date by reading broadsheet newspapers, social media and academic journals from the internet.

## What is the course structure?

Sociology is the study of individuals and groups in society. In the first year, you will study *Education with Theory & Methods* and *Family & Households*. For *Education*, you will assess different types of education, apply educational theory and investigate educational achievement according to class, gender and ethnicity. You will also look at how and why sociologists carry out research and evaluate the different methods that are used. In the study of *Family & Households*, you will learn about different theories of the family and analyse family diversity, marriage, divorce, cohabitation, childhood, power and control. You will also investigate the effects of globalisation on the family unit.

In the second year, you will study *Crime & Deviance* **and** one of three topics: *Beliefs in Society*, *Media* or *Global Development*. In studying *Beliefs in Society*, you will examine the relationship between social change and social stability, religious beliefs, practices and organisations. For *Global Development*, you will learn about the influence of globalisation on society and analyse sociological explanations, such as trade, aid and conflict. Alongside one of these topics you will study *Crime & Deviance*, which looks at the causes of crime and social distribution according to class, gender and ethnicity. You will also examine contemporary issues, such as international crime and cybercrime. Using current events, you will learn to make connections between sociological theory and society today.

## How will you be assessed?

The course is assessed by exams (there is no coursework).

This is a linear qualification and will be studied over two years, with all assessments for all modules at the end of the course.

## What can I do with Sociology?

Students who have studied Sociology at A level have gone on to enter a diverse range of careers including; education, social work, legal justice, counselling, teaching, market research and recruitment consultancy. Sociology complements other subjects and has a close affinity with Economics, Geography, History, Politics and Psychology.

Sociology is the first step towards an enlightened and empowered future.

# Sport & Physical Activity Level 3 Cambridge Technical

**Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 A Level)**

**Diploma (equivalent to 2 A Levels)**

## Who should take the course?

Students should have a real interest in sport and also in science relating to sport. Students should be willing to explore new theories and form their own ideas and opinions from these. Ideally when studying this course, students should be looking at a pathway into a Sport or a related degree at University.

## What is the course about?

Level 3 Sport Aims to:

- Give all students the opportunity to gain a new, nationally recognised qualification that can be used when applying either for future education or employment.
- Provide a wide-ranging, intellectually demanding vocational learning experience
- Use the motivating interest in sport to promote academic learning
- Give the students opportunities to acquire a scientific understanding of how the body responds to Sport and Exercise in different scenarios.
- It will extend the students' knowledge in the organisation of sport in the UK and abroad, as well as the main psychological, social and physiological factors that affect the performance of a practical skill.

## How is it assessed?

The Cambridge Technical Level 3 Sport has both exam and coursework elements. There are 4 externally assessed Units that comprise of 4 exams over the 2-year course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

Mandatory units range from exams, controlled assessments to written coursework. These cover topics such as the Body systems and the effects of physical activity, Sport Coaching and activity leadership, Performance analysis in Sport and Exercise, Sports Leadership, Sports event organisation, Nutrition and diet for sport and exercise and Health and fitness testing for sport and exercise.

Level 3 Sport is equivalent to three 'A' Level grades A – E and must be studied over the two years.

As well as the above, students will also be expected to take part in regular lesson support or assist with lower school and primary school activities.

## Grading

The level of attainment will be marked individually for each unit of the course, in line with Cambridge Technical guidelines. The grades will be:

- Distinction
- Merit
- Pass

An overall grade is awarded for the qualification based on the performance in each unit.

## Where will it take me?

With further training or study, students can go into careers in Sports Centres, Sports Clubs, Leisure Centres, Outdoor Activities Centres and University Courses.

## Contact Us



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