Welwyn & Hatfield Consortium Sixth Form Information Booklet 2022-2023

www.welwynhatfieldconsortium.org.uk

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
Matt Haseler	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, Tutor or 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

4th November 2021
Sixth Form Parents' Information Evenings held at the school.

January 2022 - APPLICATION
Online Application to the Sixth Form Consortium is submitted via the Consortium website by 20th January.

March & April 2022
Confirmation of subject choices.

June 2022 – YEAR 11 INDUCTION
Induction programme with taster lessons will run in June and is compulsory for all prospective Sixth Form students. This will include an Induction Assignment.

September 2022 – 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

Cross-Consortium/Enrichment activities:

Stress Management Programme
Consortium Debating Competition
Guest speakers
Joint sporting activities
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 2022-2023

A Level Courses	Vocational Courses
Art, Craft & Design	Animal Management (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Art - Fine Art	
Biology	Applied Science (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Business Studies	
Chemistry	Business (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Computer Science	
Core Maths	Business (Cambridge Technical) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Design & Technology: Product Design	
Design & Technology: Fashion and Textiles	Business (BTEC) Level 3 Diploma
Drama & Theatre Studies	Childcare (Cache) Level 3 Applied General Certificate
Economics	
English Language	Criminology (WJEC) Level 3 Applied Diploma
English Literature	
Environmental Science	Dance (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Film Studies	Dance (BTEC) Level 3 Diploma
French (Modern Foreign Languages)	Digital Media (Cambridge Technical) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Geography	
German AS Level (Modern Foreign Languages)	Financial Studies – (LIBF) Level 3 Diploma
Government & Politics	Football Academy
Graphic Communication	Health and Social Care (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
History	
Law	Health and Social Care (BTEC) Level 3 Diploma
Mathematics	
Mathematics (Further)	Information Technology (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Media Studies	
Music	Musical Performance (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Music Technology	
Physical Education	Performing Arts (Acting) BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate
Philosophy	
Photography	Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Physics	
Psychology	Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) Level 3 Diploma
Religious Studies	
Sociology	Sport (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate
Spanish (Modern Foreign Languages)	Sport (BTEC) Level 3 Diploma

Welwyn Hatfield Consortium

2022 COURSE ENTRY CRITERIA

Course	Criteria For Course
3 A Levels	APS 4.5 or above 9-4 English Language or English Literature 9-4 in Maths Subject based criteria
2 A Levels and 1 Vocational Course	APS 4 or above 9-4 in English Language or English Literature Subject based criteria
1 A Level and 2 Vocational Courses	APS 3.8 or above 9-4 English Language or English Literature Subject Based Criteria
Vocational Courses	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 6th Form before submitting an application.

2022 SUBJECT BASED CRITERIA

Subject	Criteria For Subjects
All Art courses	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
Animal Management (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
Applied Science (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria 9-4 in both Combined Sciences or 9-4 in at least two single sciences 9-4 maths A subject specific interview
Biology	9-6 in Biology 9-7 in both Combined Sciences 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 (Cam TEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria 9-4 in Maths
Chemistry	9-6 in Chemistry 9-7 in both Combined Sciences 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
Criminology (WJEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
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 and Textiles	9-5 in Design Technology: 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
Environmental Science	9-6 in two single sciences 9-6 in both Combined Sciences 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit 9-5 in Maths
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
(AS) 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
Musical Performance (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria Level 2 qualification in Music or successful audition
PE	9-6 in P.E. or Distinction in Level 2 BTEC Sport 9-5 in a Science
Performing Arts (BTEC) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria
Philosophy	9-5 in a Humanities subject 9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Photography	9-5 in English Lang or English Lit
Physics	9-6 in Physics 9-7 in both Combined Sciences 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 both Combined Sciences 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
Sport and Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical) Level 3	Vocational course entry criteria

Humanities subjects are History, Geography or Religious Studies

Subject Blocking 2022

BLOCK A Mon a.m./Thurs p.m.	Site	BLOCK B Tues a.m./Fri p.m.	Site	BLOCK C Wed a.m./Mon p.m.	Site	BLOCK D Thurs a.m./Tues p.m.	Site
Fine Art	MWS	Art, Craft & Design	OSA	Fine Art	MWS	Biology	MWS
Biology	RA/OSA	Art, Craft & Design	STA	Biology	MWS	Business Studies	OSA
Business Studies	BHG	Biology	BHG	Business Studies	MWS	Chemistry	OSA
Business Studies	STA	Biology	STA	Business Studies	RA	Chemistry	STA
Chemistry	BHG	Computer Science	STA	Computer Science	MWS/BHG	Drama & Theatre	MWS
Chemistry	MWS	English Language	STA	Design Technology: Fashion & Textiles*	MWS	Drama & Theatre*	STA
Computer Science	OSA	English Literature	MWS	English Literature	OSA	Economics	STA
Design Technology: Product Design	MWS	Environmental Science	RA	Geography	BHG	English Literature	BHG
Economics	MWS	Geography	MWS	Geography	RA	English Literature	MWS
English Literature	RA	Government & Politics	BHG	Government & Politics	STA	French	BHG/MWS
English Literature	STA	History	BHG	History	MWS	Geography	MWS
Film Studies	RA	History	OSA/RA	Mathematics	STA	Government & Politics	RA
Geography	BHG	Mathematics	MWS	Media Studies	STA	Graphic Communication	OSA
Geography	STA/OSA	Mathematics (F)	MWS	Music	MWS	History	BHG
History	MWS	Mathematics	OSA	PE	STA	History	STA
Law	BHG	Music Tech *	STA	Physics	MWS	Mathematics	MWS
Mathematics	BHG	PE	MWS	Physics	OSA	Media Studies	BHG
Media Studies	MWS	Photography	MWS	Psychology	BHG	Philosophy	STA
Music *	STA	Physics	BHG	Psychology	STA	Photography	MWS
Physics	STA	Psychology	BHG	Sociology	MWS	Photography *	OSA
Psychology	MWS	Psychology	MWS	Spanish	BHG/OSA	Psychology	STA
Psychology	OSA	Spanish	MWS			Sociology	BHG
Religious Studies	BHG/MWS						
Sociology	RA						
Sociology	STA						
Vocational Level 3							
Applied Science (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	RA	Animal Management (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	RA	Business (BTEC) L3 Diploma	OSA	Criminology (WJEC) L3 Applied Diploma	RA
Business (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	OSA	Business (Cam Tech) L3 Certificate	RA	Childcare (Cache) L3 Applied General Certificate	STA	Dance (BTEC) L3 Diploma *	STA
Business (BTEC) L3 Diploma	OSA	Criminology (WJEC) L3 Applied Diploma	STA	Digital Media (Cam Tech) L3 Extended Certificate	MWS	Digital Media (Cam Tech) L3 Extended Certificate	MWS
Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	BHG	Dance (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate *	STA	Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Diploma	BHG	Football Academy	OSA
Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Diploma	BHG	Dance (BTEC) L3 Diploma *	STA	Performing Arts (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	RA	Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Diploma	RA
Information Technology (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	STA	Financial Studies (LIBF) L3 Diploma	STA	Sport & Physical Activity (Cam Tech) L3 Extended Certificate	RA	Sport (BTEC) L3 Diploma	STA
Musical Performance (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate *	OSA/RA	Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Diploma	RA	Sport & Physical Activity (Cam Tech) L3 Diploma	OSA		
Sport (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	STA	Health & Social Care (BTEC) L3 Extended Certificate	RA				
Sport (BTEC) L3 Diploma	STA	Sport & Physical Activity (Cam Tech) L3 Extended Certificate	OSA				
		Sport & Physical Activity (Cam Tech) L3 Diploma	OSA				

Animal Management
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Examination Board: Pearson

Who should take the course?

This qualification offers an engaging programme to support learners who want to pursue a career in an animal-related industry. It is intended as a Tech Level qualification. This size of qualification allows learners to study related and complementary qualifications alongside it, without duplication of content.

It prepares learners for an Apprenticeship in animal management. When taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications, it supports access to a range of higher education courses in the animal management sector.

The mandatory content provides a balance of breadth and depth ensuring that all learners have a strong basis for developing technical skills required in the sector. The course therefore supports employability post 18. Learners are then offered the opportunity to develop a range of technical skills and attributes expected by employers with some opportunity to select between optional units where a degree of choice for individual learners to study content relevant to their own progression choices is appropriate.

It is expected that learners will apply their learning in relevant employment and sector contexts during delivery and have opportunities to engage meaningfully with employers. The proportion of mandatory content ensures that all learners are following a coherent programme of study and acquiring the knowledge, understanding and skills that will be recognised and valued.

This is a great accompaniment to A-levels or Btecs in geography, biology, physics and maths. This course serves as exceptional preparation for higher education and a number of careers due to the scientific skills it fosters in students including communication, numeracy, critical thinking and teamwork.

What is the course about?

The content of the Animal management has been designed to enhance skills involved in field research, management and health of animals. Students are taught in this course; the factors that can affect animal health, breeding and genetics as well as how the environment influences these aspects.

The course includes nationally popular content that students find interesting and key topics include animal welfare and ethics, practical animal husbandry, animal behaviour, health and disease and work experience in the Animal sector. There are opportunities to include real life case studies throughout the course and work in the field which makes this qualification incredibly relevant to the future employment or further education.

Students are taught how to analyse reliable evidence-based quantitative information to assess the cause and effect of animal diseases and how morals and ethics play a role to animal treatment and usage in various sectors.

How is it assessed?

The course is 360 Guided learning hours and is Equivalent in size to one A Level. There are Five units, all of which are mandatory and one is external. The content assessed in the terminal exams in January of the first year and May of the second year of study. The units examined are unit 2: Unit 2: Animal Biology and unit 3: Animal welfare and ethics. Students have the opportunity to re-sit the first year January exam to improve their grade.

The assessments are designed to allow students to; demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content developed in one section or topic, enhance practical skills and draw together different areas of knowledge and understanding within one answer. Additionally, the manner in which knowledge is applied to these exams will further support real-life experience for employment in these sectors.

Animal Management (continued)

Where will it take me?

This course equips you with the skills and knowledge for a range of jobs in areas such as conservation of species, Zoology, sustainability of animal use, impacts of Human activity on animals, genetics and communicable diseases research and treatment, environmental research and education. Other popular roles it could lead to are; animal carers in a veterinary practice or educational establishment, animal keeper or ranger in zoos or safari parks, animal technician and wildlife assistant.

The key skills for further education and employability that are fostered in this course are as follows:

1 Self-management: readiness to accept responsibility, flexibility, time management, readiness to improve own performance.

2 Team working: respecting others, co-operating, negotiating or persuading, contributing to discussions.

3 Customer awareness in the sector: basic understanding of the key drivers for success in the sector and the need to provide customer satisfaction.

4 Problem solving: analysing facts and circumstances and applying creative thinking to develop appropriate solutions.

5 Communication and literacy: application of literacy, ability to produce clear, structured written work, and oral literacy (including listening and questioning).

6 Application of numeracy: manipulation of numbers, general mathematical awareness and its application in practical contexts.

7 Application of information technology: basic IT skills including familiarity with word-processing, spreadsheets, file management and use of internet search engines.

Applied Science (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate

Examination Board: BTEC National

Who should take the course?

These qualifications have been developed for candidates who wish build on your previous studies of science by widening your knowledge of the scientific investigation and practical techniques, working as an individual and in small groups on research projects. Taking this course will help you to develop the numeracy skills required in a scientific setting, find out about working in the science industry and examine perceptions of science in the wider community.

Applied Science is also an excellent preparation for a number of careers since the successful study of Applied Science develops the key scientific skills of numeracy and communication, then discovering how these skills are applied in the science industry.

Applied Science is a good course to study alongside other BTEC courses or A levels to provide a wide range of skills and knowledge that will adequately prepare you for higher education.

What is the course about?

The content of the Applied Science specification has been carefully designed to continue to develop your scientific skills enabling you to progress into either higher education or employment in the science field.

The course allows you to experience how the skills you are taught in the classroom can be applied to the work place, through visits to industrial or scientific settings and coursework that encourages you to consider the impacts of your work in the laboratory on the wider world.

The optional content of the course can be adapted to suit the needs of the cohort, helping you to gain the qualifications that are required for future employment or education.

How is it assessed?

Applied science is assessed through both coursework (42%) and externally assessed exams (58%).

The work completed for the coursework element will help to prepare you for the externally examined sections.

Where will it take me?

Qualification in Applied Science can lead to a career in a range of fields including forensic, medical, laboratory or industrial science depending on the specialist units taught.

The course also provides progression into higher education courses such as forensic chemistry, biological sciences or audiology.

Art, Craft & Design A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel (OSA), WJEC (STA)

Who should take the course?

Before opting for A Level Art & Design, students should have met the entrance criteria in GCSE Art 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 (Fine Art) A Level

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Who should take the course?

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

What will I learn?

A level Art encourages you to develop ideas with much greater freedom and experimentation from GCSE. Through a rich variety of termly project tasks, you are given the opportunity to experience different approaches to Ar. The Department views art as both an intellectual and creative subject; it is one of the means by which we interpret, express and understand our place in the world and as such is viewed as an important aspect of education, as well as a having a significant place in the contribution to the UK's economy and job market. You will develop your creativity, imagination and knowledge through sustained projects, which challenge you to develop your ideas and intentions through personal, individual responses. Exploration of materials through pushing boundaries and finding innovative ways of creating art works are key to the development of a personal language and understanding of the nature of art or photography.

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 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 creatively
- 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?

The courses are aimed at preparing students for subsequent study in foundation and degree pathways, reflecting the values and concerns of art education at these higher levels and of the nature of contemporary art practice in a diverse and exciting world of work, commonly known as the creative industry.

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

- ***An 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

Art (Fine Art) A Level (continued)

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 student's 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.

Business BTEC Level 3

Examination Board: Edexcel

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 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?

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
Unit 1	**Exploring Business**	**coursework**
Unit 2	**Developing a Marketing Campaign**	**controlled assessment**
Unit 3	**Personal and Business Finance**	**test**
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**
Unit 22	Market Research	coursework

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.

Business Studies A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

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/AQA

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 years, 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 qualification 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) – 2 years

AQA (BHG and MWS) – Mathematical Studies – 1 Year

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.

Criminology (WJEC) Level 3 Applied Diploma

Examination Board: WJEC

What is the course about?

Criminology is the study of the reasons why individuals commit crime. By understanding why a person commits a crime, we can develop ways to control crime or rehabilitate the criminal. This course will enable you to use theories of criminality to analyse criminal situations and suggest ways of reducing crime. You will also develop the knowledge and skills to research policy in practice, assess campaigns for changes in awareness and examine information to review verdicts in criminal cases.

This Diploma is comprised of 4 mandatory units which cover the following key subject areas:

Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime
Unit 2: Criminological theories
Unit 3: From crime scene to court room
Unit 4: Crime and punishment

How is it assessed?

Over the two-year course, learners must complete 4 mandatory units, which is taught chronologically. Learners will be assessed through a mixture of internal coursework and external examination assessments. Unit 1 and 2 is taught in the first year and Unit 3 and 4 are taught in the second. Each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. The applied purpose demands learning related to authentic case studies.

Where will the Criminology Course take me?

A WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is mainly used to support access to higher education degree courses, such as:

- BSc Criminology
- BA Criminology
- BA Criminology and Criminal Justice
- BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology
- LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology
- BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology
- BA (Hons) Criminology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology
- BSc Criminology with Law

Alternatively, the qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

Dance (BTEC) Level 3

Examination Board: Edexcel

Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 A Level)

Diploma (equivalent to 2 A Levels)

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.
There are **two** BTEC Performing Arts courses on offer: a single award, equivalent to one A Level and a double award which is worth 2 A Levels. Both courses run over two years.

Single Award

The BTEC Extended Certificate is a 4 unit course which is 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

8 - Classical Ballet Technique
10 - Jazz Dance Technique
11 - Street Dance Technique
12 - Contemporary Dance Technique

Double Award

The BTEC Extended Certificate is an 8 unit course which is continually assessed throughout the two years. Three units, as identified below, are externally assessed (46%). Within the 8 units covered, 6 are compulsory and two are 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)
4 – Performing Arts in the Community
5 – Individual Performance Commission
6 – Final Live Performance to an Audience

Choice of Optional Units

8 - Classical Ballet Technique
10 - Jazz Dance Technique
11 - Street Dance Technique
12 - Contemporary Dance Technique
13 - Heathy Dancer
14 - Choreography for Live Performance

Design and Technology A Level – DT 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.

Where will it take me?

This qualification supports the progression into further education, training or employment, but specifically in areas of design: Product design, Architecture, Technical architecture, Industrial design, Graphic design and many other areas of designing and making.

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

• 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 for manufacturing • Protecting designs and intellectual property • Enterprise and marketing in the development of products • Design methods and processes • How technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers • How to evaluate products, taking into account the views of potential user	• Design Processes • Critical Analysis and Evaluation • Selecting appropriate specialist tools, techniques and processes • Accuracy in design and manufacture • Responsible design • Design for manufacture • National and international standards in product design • Performance characteristics of materials • The use of adhesives and fixings • The use of surface finishes and coatings • Forming, redistribution and addition processes • Industrial and commercial practice • Modern manufacturing systems

Design and Technology A Level – DT 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.

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.

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.

Drama & Theatre Studies A Level **Examination Board: Edexcel/OCR**

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 practitioner 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.

Economics A Level

Examination Board: AQA

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 macro economy,
- 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 A Level (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, environmental and political issues.

Is Economics for me?

- *How badly was the economy hit by the Coronavirus?*
- *How will Brexit affect the UK?*
- *When and how should governments intervene to improve the allocation of resources?*
- *Why did the Financial Crisis of 2009 happen?*
- *Should the rail system be re-nationalised?*
- *Why is the cost of petrol so variable?*
- *How and why does the government control inflation?*
- *What is a recession and what can we do stop them?*
- *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.

Environmental Science A Level **Examination Board: AQA**

Who should take the course?

This qualification has been developed for candidates who wish to build on your previous studies of science by widening their knowledge of the scientific investigation and practical techniques, working as an individual and in small groups on research projects. Taking this course will help develop the numeracy skills required in a scientific setting, find out about working in the science industry and examine perceptions of science in the wider community.

Students who enjoy a multi-disciplinary approach to learning and have a keen interest in the sustainability of our planet will find this course engaging and thought provoking.

The course includes nationally popular content that students find interesting and key topics include the bio-physical environment, energy resources, pollution, circular economy and sustainability. There are opportunities to include real life case studies throughout the course which make this contemporary qualification incredibly relevant to the modern world.

The new assessment structure is clear and straightforward and uses a mixture of question styles, so that students have the best opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.

The AS and A-level content are co-teachable which will aid student attainment. The AS exams include similar questions to those in the A-level, with less difficulty, allowing for future growth, achievement and a deepened understanding of the content.

This is a great accompaniment to A-levels in geography, biology, physics and maths. This A level serves as exceptional preparation for higher education and a number of careers due to the scientific skills it fosters in students including communication, numeracy, critical thinking and teamwork.

What is the course about?

The content of the Environmental Science A level has been designed to enhance skills such as critical thinking and those involved in field research. Environmental science is a holistic subject with many interconnected systems and processes. Students are taught in this course to verbalise how a change to one process can affect many other processes within the environment.

Students are taught how to analyse reliable evidence-based quantitative information to assess the cause and effect of environmental issues.

Students will develop an understanding of how human society relies upon natural systems for resources and life support systems and how understanding of these systems should be used to propose changes in society that would produce sustainable lifestyles.

Through visits to industrial or scientific, students will experience how skills and content taught un class can be applied to the workplace and impact the wider environment.

How is it assessed?

This A level is designed to be taken over two years. As a linear qualification students must sit two exams at the end of the course. Exams are assessed externally in May/June. The content assessed in the terminal exams is designed to allow students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content developed in one section or topic, including the associated mathematical and practical skills and draw together different areas of knowledge and understanding within one answer.

Where will it take me?

An A level in environmental science equips you with the skills and knowledge for a range of jobs in areas such as conservation, sustainability, and environmental research and education. The course also provides progression into higher education courses such as, biological sciences, horticulture and landscape architecture.

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 2.5 hour exam 35%

Component 2 2.5 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 L3 Diploma

What does this programme have to offer?

Ifs 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.

Financial studies content and exam structure

The Diploma in Personal Finance consists of four units. Units 1& 2 are studied in year 1 and units 3 & 4 are studied in year 2. Below is a more detailed breakdown:

Unit 1

Topic - Financial Capability for the Immediate and Short term

- Paper 1 Involves a multiple choice paper and a pre-release paper.
- 25% of the total grade.
- Exams will be taken upon completion of the unit in January.

Unit 2

Topic - Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term

- Paper 2 Involves a multiple choice paper and a pre-release paper.
- 25% of the total grade.
- Exams will be taken upon completion of the unit for the summer exams.

Unit 3

Topic - Sustainability of an Individual's Finances

- Paper 3 Involves a multiple choice paper and a pre-release paper.
- 25% of the total grade.
- Exams will be taken upon completion of the unit in January.

Unit 4

Topic -Sustainability of the Financial Services System

- Paper 4 Involves a multiple choice paper and a pre-release paper.
- 25% of the total grade.
- Exams will be taken upon completion of the unit for the summer exams.

Assessment

The 4 units are exam based via a multiple choice exam and a further exam based on a pre-release case study. In Yr1 & Yr2 exams will be taken in January and in May. You can achieve grades A* - E and receive full UCAS points for university.

Student study materials	**Learning Strategies**
There are a number of good revision websites that are available such as: **www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk** **www.bankofengland.co.uk/about/index.htm** **https://my.libf.ac.uk** **www.hmrc.gov.uk** **www.oft.gov.uk** **www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize**	Group work Use of IT Independent learning Quizzes Working with case study material Research skills Role play Exam skills Guest speakers

Career pathways

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

Football Academy (Sports Accredited)

Examination Board: N/A

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. Football Academy should be taken alongside 3 other subjects.

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 their playing abilities but also their 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 with V-Academy which will offer many students experience days and career opportunities not only in sport but a variety of other roles.

Onslow V-Academy have formed a partnership with many 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 V-Academy 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?

Players will be assessed over rather course if the season and given feedback on areas for improvement to increase performance and understanding within football.

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.*

A Level Geography Content	***Assessment***
Physical Geography Water and carbon cycles, Coastal systems and landscapes, Hazards.	***Paper 1: Physical Geography*** Written exam $2^1/_2$ hours, 120 marks, 40% of A level
Human Geography Global systems and global governance, Changing places, Contemporary urban environments.	***Paper2: Human Geography*** Written exam $2^1/_2$ hours, 120 marks, 40% of A level
Geography Investigation and skills Fieldwork and skills	***Non-Examined Assessment (NEA)*** *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 A Level.

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 & either Global Politics (at BHG) or US Politics (at STA and RA).

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 (BHG/STA) or feminism (RA). 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.

Graphic Communication
A Level Art & Design

Examination Board: Edexcel

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. 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
- 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. 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.

Law A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Why take this subject?

A-Level Law is not just for students who want to become lawyers. Law is an excellent A Level for career progression and for anyone wishing to go to university to study any subject. No previous knowledge of Law is required. At A Level, Law links well with English and Modern Foreign Languages as well as Business Studies, Economics, Psychology and other humanities subjects such as History and Sociology. Law is a great A Level choice if you are interested in:

- Why we need law and how it is made
- Criminal offences such as robbery and murder
- When you can claim compensation from people for mistakes they make
- Human Rights, including the right to life and freedom to protest
- Whether the law achieves justice and how it links to morality

What skills will you learn?

Studying A-Level Law will help you to develop transferable skills such as attention to detail and logical thinking. You will improve your research skills and be able to pursue a logical argument and apply the law to factual situations. You will develop strong skills of analysis and evaluation.

What is the course structure?

All Papers consider aspects of the English Legal System, including what barristers, solicitors and judges do and how ordinary members of the public participate in the legal process. You will also study different sources of law, examining the ways in which judges follow past cases and interpret Acts of Parliament, as well as how the law develops over time. The Papers are:

Paper 1	Criminal Law – offences such as actual bodily harm and grievous bodily harm, theft and robbery, murder and manslaughter and defences such as insanity
Paper 2	Negligence Law – liability in negligence for physical injury to people and damage to property, psychiatric injury and the law of nuisance
Paper 3	Human Rights Law - the right to life, liberty, respect for private life, freedom of expression and the right to freedom of assembly

What activities will you do?

- Independent research activities
- Role play
- Class discussions
- Making mini films about legal cases and presentations
- Trips to St Albans Crown Court
- Visits to top London law firms
- Guest speakers, including Magistrates

How will you be assessed?

This is a linear qualification with three 2-hour exams at the end of the course. There is no coursework element.

What can you do after the course?

A successful A Level in Law indicates that you have strong academic ability and is a useful stepping stone to an apprenticeship or to a Law degree at University. It can also lead to any number of other University courses including Criminology, Business, Economics, Forensics, Politics and International Relations.

Students will be able to make informed decisions as to whether a legal career, such as becoming a solicitor or barrister, is for them or consider non-legal careers including the police, teaching, business and finance, human resources and social work.

Mathematics A Level

Examination Board: OCR at BHG, MWS and RA Edexcel at OSA and STA

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 is the course 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.

Media Studies A Level

Examination Board: Eduqas

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: 2hours 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.

Modern Foreign Languages

Examination Board: AQA

A Levels: French & A Level Spanish

AS Level: German (2 year course)

***AS details are underlined**

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. French is currently on offer for A Level, Spanish for A level. A two-year AS Level course is offered for German.

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 with access to the OUP Kerboodle learning portal.

How is it assessed?

Both the A level and the AS level are assessed through two written papers and a speaking exam:

Paper 1 - Listening, reading, writing and translation to and from the target language. (*AS & A Levels*)

Paper 2 (*A Level*) – two essays in the target language based on two texts or a text and a film studied.

- *AS Level* – one essay in the target language based on one text or a film studied

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

- *AS Level* – one sub-theme from *Aspects of German-speaking society* and one sub-theme from *Artistic culture in the German-speaking world* based on stimulus cards.

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.

* The AS course can also contribute to your UCAS point score and also open opportunities within your chosen degree course for supplementary further study or a possible year abroad.

If you require further information, please talk to a language teacher at your home site or contact the member of staff listed below for AS courses.

Links:

- A Level French
  - **https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/french-7652/specification-at-a-glance**
- A Level Spanish
  - **https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/spanish-7692/specification-at-a-glance**
- AS German
  - **https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/german-7661/specification-at-a-glance**

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.

Musical Performance (BTEC) Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Examination Board: Pearson BTEC Nationals

Who should take the course? Anyone with:

- An interest in performing music in a variety of styles
- A love of performing music
- An ability to read any form of music (notation, TAB, Chord charts) or who can learn pieces by ear
- Ability to undertake self-directed work
- Ability to work collaboratively with other musicians

What is the course about?

Equivalent to one A level, this course focuses on developing ensemble music performance skills. It also offers a broader understanding of relevant complementary areas of the music sector, such as composition, live events and technology. It is designed to support progression to more specialist music courses in higher education, those who wish to jump straight into the industry, or those who wish to become better performers.

How is it assessed?

Unit 1: Practical Music Theory 25% Learners develop knowledge and understanding of music theory and harmony, and apply their understanding in practical scenarios. In this unit, you will develop an understanding of the signs and symbols associated with the notation of pitch, rhythm, tempo, dynamics and expression. You will learn how to interpret both traditional and alternate forms of notation with a high degree of accuracy. Internally assessed.

Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry 25% Learners explore what it is that makes someone a professional in the music industry and how to put forward a bid for work. For assessment learners will be asked to create a project plan, budget, rationale and presentation in response to music industry scenarios which musicians might reasonably find themselves bidding for. Externally assessed.

Unit 3: Ensemble Performance 35% Learners work as part of a musical ensemble and develop their skills and techniques in rehearsal and performance. For assessment, learners will be given list of songs from which they will choose three for a performance. In ensembles that consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of eight members, learners will respond to the choice of repertoire and develop the performance for an audience. Externally assessed.

Unit 4: Solo Performance 15% (Other units could include Composing Music, Music Performance Session Styles or Improvising Music based on individual interest). Learners explore the preparation and performance of music as a soloist before performing in front of an audience. In this unit, you will explore and practise the specific skills associated with performing as a soloist. These will include: how to engage your audience, stagecraft, as well as musical practice and rehearsal required. Internally assessed.

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
- Performance opportunities in school, and the ability to find performance work in life

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.

Photography A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

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.

Psychology A Level

Examination Board: AQA Specification

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.

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.

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 Studies A Level (continued)

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.

Sociology A Level

Examination Board: AQA

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 either 1 or 2 'A' Levels and must be studied over two years to achieve a grade.

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.

Sport (BTEC) Level 3 National Diploma

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport, which is 720 GLH, is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post-16 students wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, probably in the sports sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to 2 A levels and has been designed as a two-year programme, which would usually be studied alongside a further level 3 qualification such as an A Level or a single BTEC.

Everyone taking this qualification will study six mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

• Anatomy and physiology
• Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being
• Professional development in the sports industry
• Sports leadership
• Investigating business in sport and active leisure
• Acquiring skill in sport.

In addition, you will study three optional units. They could cover the following areas:

• Coaching
• Leisure management
• Performance and exercise
• Outdoor adventure.

Assessment

The course compromises of internal and externally assessed assessments.
Internal assessment include:

- Case Studies
- Written assignments
- Practical demonstrations

External assessments include

- End of unit exams on computer
- Witten assignments

Continuing to study Physical Education can create many opportunities and give you access to the following career opportunities:

- Any University sports degree
- Any HND sports course

Possible career options: *Physiotherapist, sport and exercise scientist, personal trainer and fitness instructor, sports coach, PE teacher, sport or exercise psychologist, nutritionist, sports performer, sports journalist, sports development manager, sports photographer, performance analyst, biomechanics coach, medical industry, psychology industry, armed forces or any career in the professional sports or exercise industry.*

Sport (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport is an Applied General qualification for post-16 students wanting to continue their education and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, probably in the sports sector. The course covers a broad content with the sports industry and the qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A level and has been designed as a two-year programme, which would usually be studied alongside further level 3 qualifications such as A Level or BTECs.

Everyone taking this qualification will study three mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

• Anatomy and physiology
• Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being
• Professional development in the sports industry

In addition, you will study one optional unit. It could cover the following areas:
• Coaching
• Leisure management
• Performance and exercise

Assessment

The course compromises of internal and externally assessed assessments.
Internal assessment include:

- Case Studies
- Written assignments
- Practical demonstrations

External assessments include:

- End of unit exams on computer
- Witten assignments

Continuing to study Physical Education can create many opportunities and give you access to the following career opportunities:

- Any University sports degree
- Any HND sports course

Possible career options: *Physiotherapist, sport and exercise scientist, personal trainer and fitness instructor, sports coach, PE teacher, sport or exercise psychologist, nutritionist, sports performer, sports journalist, sports development manager, sports photographer, performance analyst, biomechanics coach, medical industry, psychology industry, armed forces or any career in the professional sports or exercise industry.*

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