



Hinchingbrooke School

Inspiring excellence
Fulfilling potential

Sixth Form Prospectus 2017 – 2018



“It is hard to imagine a more inspiring setting in which to study as a sixth former.”

Charlie Fordham

Director – Sixth Form

INTRODUCTION

We are delighted that you are considering Hinchingsbrooke for your sixth form education.

Our Sixth Form provides a unique, dynamic and highly personalised experience. We pride ourselves on offering an inclusive and all-round education, combining academic rigour with extensive opportunities outside the classroom, all delivered by a dedicated team of high-quality professionals, in a setting that is the envy of many and which is conducive to academic study. Our aim is for our students to grow as uniquely talented individuals and as socially aware global citizens, making the best possible progress both academically and personally.

We offer you a flexible and wide range of options within our broad curriculum and our staff demonstrate a relentless commitment to support you in every way we can, to become self-managing, independent learners with the knowledge, skills and aptitudes to progress to the next stage of your life.

We have formed very good links, both with local employers and universities, in order to offer you high quality, relevant advice and guidance. We engage external speakers to inspire our students, promote debate and broaden horizons.



You will be valued, challenged, nurtured and developed within the Sixth Form, and leave our school better prepared to take your next steps within higher education or training, or to enter the world of work.

If you would like to be part of a cohesive Sixth Form that is engaging and enjoyable, and that offers a stunning range of opportunities, then we very much look forward to your application.

CHOOSING YOUR SUBJECTS

We offer an extensive choice of subjects in our curriculum, which are offered through a number of different 'pathways' in order to accommodate the varying needs of our students (see the Pathways diagram on page 8).

When you are choosing your subjects, it is important that you choose subjects that interest you and which you enjoy, as these are likely to be the ones in which you will do best. However, you should also consider which subjects relate to your future aspirations, and be mindful of the entry criteria for the courses you may wish to study beyond school. Some top universities regard a select group of A Levels to be what they call 'facilitating' subjects, and for high ability students this should be taken into consideration as you make your choices. Also, several of our courses will be in subject areas which you have never studied before, and you should research these carefully before you make your final choices.



To help you decide which courses and subjects to take, it may be helpful to talk over your options with your family and friends, your teachers or tutor. Hopefully, our Open Evening on November 2nd will answer many of your questions, but if you feel you need any further help, please do contact the Sixth Form Team at Hinchingsbrooke any time.

ENRICHMENT

At Hinchingsbrooke we offer many exciting and wide-ranging enrichment opportunities. There are a plethora of activities from many diverse areas such as music, dance, drama, sport, and engagement in the school council, which can involve leadership in several areas of school life, and community service.



We ask all Year 12 students to be involved in some aspect of serving the community through our CAS24 programme. There are also several student-led enrichment activities, such as the Film Club and the student newspaper. We invite external speakers to address relevant groups of sixth formers on a regular basis, to add breadth and depth to what they are experiencing in the classroom.

We believe that you will make the most progress in your learning when you see clearly its importance in the world outside and beyond the school and, to that end, many subject areas organise trips to support your learning.

“There is a wide variety of enrichment opportunity available, you can create any club or society you want.”
(Joanna Chen, Year 13)

STUDENT VOICE AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP



We are very committed to hearing, representing and responding to students' needs, and so have developed our Student Voice processes considerably over the last year. There are a wide variety of opportunities for Sixth Form students in Year 12 and 13 to take up leadership positions and contribute to the busy working life of the school.

Sixth Form students run the 'Whole School Council' which oversees many of the student-led activities which take place in the school. In addition there are Lower, Middle and Upper

School committees to address issues and agendas for those specific age groups. These are also run by Sixth Form Student Council Leaders.

The school has a very strong House system and again, there are a large number of leadership positions in Year 12 and Year 13 to promote the many House activities which go on with all the year groups throughout the year.

Furthermore, the student input into the school's recruitment processes for staff is both well established and highly valued. Student panels are chaired by Year 13 students and have been praised for their professionalism and insightful questioning by many of the interview candidates.

The Hinchingsbrooke Student Council proudly boasts that it is "a student-led and student-powered organisation".

"There have been so many great opportunities to get involved in leadership roles. I've really enjoyed being a part of the Student Council, which has also provided invaluable experience of student leadership."
(Tooba Khokar, Year 13)

SUPPORT

Your teachers will all be experts in their respective fields, sharing their knowledge with you through innovative and inspiring lessons. You will be encouraged to discover things for yourself and ask questions to deepen your learning. Subject teachers will stretch and challenge you, and you are expected to work hard in return. Our teaching staff will go that extra mile to support you outside of your lessons, meeting with you in study periods, at lunchtimes and after school to reinforce your learning.

We timetable all Year 12 students for periods of Private Study, which are semi-supervised sessions in which you can build on the work done in class.

Every student also has a personal tutor who has the primary role in and responsibility for overseeing your academic and personal progress during your time in the Sixth Form. They are also the first port of call for parents and they seek to work in partnership with, and to promote the well-being of, the students.

Your tutor will meet with you regularly to support and guide you from your enrolment and induction at the beginning of Year 12, to your application for employment or to university, as you consider what to do after Year 13. We are proud of our commitment to high levels of care within our pastoral team, and our aim is to continue to develop the mutually supportive atmosphere that has undoubtedly been built up in recent years in the Sixth Form.



Whilst academic and pastoral guidance is primarily provided by tutors, there is more specialist and personalised support available through Student Services. The Director of Student Services heads up two distinct but complimentary services: Learning Support, and Safeguarding and Inclusion.

The Safeguarding and Inclusion Manager, alongside the school's counsellor and nurse, co-ordinate the social and emotional interventions and the SENCO and her team support students with learning difficulties. Both work closely with tutors and the Sixth Form team and the school may engage additional external support if necessary.

The Learning Support Team led by the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), offers support to students in school who have "needs that are additional to or different from those of other students at school" including needs in areas such as communication and interaction, cognition and learning, behavioural, social and emotional development, and sensory and physical needs.

The support for these students includes:

- Placement on the school's SEND Register
- Assessment and advice from specialist staff, for example Speech and Language Therapist and Educational Psychologist
- Specialist programmes, such as physiotherapy and the use of purpose built disabled facilities
- Development of an Education, Health, and Care Plan.
- Teaching Assistant (TA) support in the classroom or in small withdrawal groups

Regarding SEN and Disability arrangements, fuller details of the school's policies on Safeguarding and Child Protection, Behaviour and Attendance, SEN, Equality, Anti Bullying, plus Supporting Children at School with Medical Conditions are available via the School Policies link on the school website.

There is a sixth form bursary, information about which is available on the Sixth Form pages of our school website.



*"Although it's a big step up the teaching support is excellent. They are always happy to help."
(Michael Diram, Year 12)*

*"The teachers are there to help. They will give you excellent support – all you have to do is ask."
(Evie Belgrove, Year 12)*

TRANSITION & INDUCTION



It's exciting for us to see the students who have been a part of the school since Year 7 progress through Year 11 and join us here in the sixth form. This brings a tremendous sense of family and continuity to the school, which is furthered when those students then feed back into the life of the Lower and Middle School by leading, volunteering and supporting in various ways.

However, whilst the majority of the approximately 420 students in our sixth form is made up of students who have progressed from Hinchbrook School, over 30% are from other schools. We make a special effort to give our external students a warm welcome and take pride in the fact that they are often prepared to travel to reach us. In no time they are fully integrated as Hinchbrook Sixth Form students, thus bringing a freshness and vitality to our community.

We have a structured induction period in which we create opportunities for you to assess your learning needs in your chosen subjects. It also provides a chance to settle into the new environment of the Sixth Form and adjust to the expectations and freedoms. As part of induction we organise two transition days at the end of Year 11, after your GCSEs. One day has

more of a social focus and the other is more subject based. Both are important and helpful in making the transition to our Sixth Form as smooth as possible.

*“You have more independence and greater responsibility, so embrace it”
Justin Groves, Year 13).*

PROGRESSION

Our experienced tutors will give you all the help and support you need to make decisions about the next steps after your time in the Sixth Form here. We offer structured tutorial careers sessions and bring in a considerable range of outside speakers to help you to explore multiple possibilities regarding university, gap years, employment, apprenticeships or training.

*“I had really superb support in finishing my UCAS application.”
(Danny Darbyshire, Year 13)*

*“Teachers, particularly tutors, give you all the help you need with UCAS and personal statements.”
(Adrian Vuylsteke, Year 13).*



RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

Hinchingsbrooke Sixth Form is exceptionally located in Hinchingsbrooke House, a grade 1 listed building. The setting is unique and beautiful, but is also a modern learning environment. Learners' study and social facilities are based in the House and have been consistently upgraded over the years to provide the very best resources and facilities in terms of designated private study areas and social spaces. Access to ICT is



easy through the spacious IT suites. The whole of the House has Wi Fi access which enables students' laptops and mobile devices to access the school broadband network.

The Year 12 and Year 13 Common Rooms are equipped with leather sofas, and there are other comfortable and charming spaces in which students can relax and enjoy the less busy parts of the day. We have an excellent canteen, popular with students (and staff), not least the fresh coffee and much-praised 'curly fries Tuesdays'.

*“Hinchingsbrooke is a great place to learn. So much history and a fab setting”
(Hannah Crofts, Year 12).*

COURSES FROM 2017

Over the next pages are the courses which we will be offering in the Sixth Form from September 2017.

As in any other year, the information in this prospectus describes the courses we fully intend to offer in as much detail as we have at present. We do, however, reserve the right to make changes according to circumstances.

In order to qualify for the Sixth Form you need 5 GCSEs at A* to C, including at least one of English or Maths. For 2017 entry we are counting a 4 in English and Maths as a C. We will accept a 4 in either English Language GCSE or English Literature GCSE. However many subjects offering A Levels make a 5 a condition of entry onto that course. Please check the subject pages for courses' specific entry criteria.

You may well be aware that there has been a national reform of A Level courses which is currently being rolled out over a period of three years. At Hinchingsbrooke we are entering all of our students for two year courses, in most cases in three subjects, but in some cases four subjects if this is appropriate (see our Pathways diagram on page 8). This means that whichever courses you choose, our expectation is that you will be carrying them all on into Year 13.

For the full list of courses please go to page 9. For students who have an average GCSE points score of 46 or above (ie B average or above), we recommend you take the Extended Project to provide greater breadth in your learning. This has the value in terms of UCAS points of half an A Level and is a research project which provides excellent preparation for you for higher education or for employment. It is designed to foster independence, resilience and maturity as a learner, and is taught in a university style through seminars and supervisions. You can pursue any topic of your choosing, varying from designing a computer game or a ball gown, to researching the advantages of wind farms, exploring why criminals commit the crimes they do, or writing the opening of (or all of) your first novel.

For those students who have not obtained a GCSE grade 4 or above in English or Maths there will be the requirement to redo these qualifications, and we will offer timetabled lessons to support this.



Student Profiles

Achieved mostly C grades at GCSE

Will have an average point score of 43 or less, but with a minimum of 5 A* - C

Achieved on average B grades at GCSE

Will have an average point score of between 43 and 46

Achieved on average A/B grades at GCSE

Will have an average point score of between 47 and 52

Achieved mostly A/A* grades at GCSE

Average point score of 52 or above

Advised Curriculum Pathways

Typically, students with this profile will do three subjects, choosing from the courses below:

Business Applied	Health and Social Care
Contemporary Fine Art	IT
Dance BTEC	Medical Science BTEC
Drama BTEC	Music Technology
DT Product Design	PE
Fine Art	Sports BTEC
Film Studies	

Students with this profile will do three subjects from the list above, and/or those below:

Business Studies	History
Computing	Maths
Economics	Music
English Language	Philosophy
English Literature	Politics
French	Psychology
German	Sociology
Geography	Spanish

Students with this profile, if they wish to go to university, might be expected to be progressing to a top university. They will typically do three A Level subjects, from the lists above, and/or those below, but they would be encouraged to do at least two facilitating subjects*. They should consider the Extended Project.

Biology	
Physics	
Chemistry	plus the Extended Project

Students with this profile, if they wish to go to university, would be expected to be progressing to a top university, and should consider Oxbridge. They can if they wish do four subjects (though in some cases the fourth may be Further Maths) from the lists above, but they would be encouraged to do at least two, and preferably three, facilitating subjects.

*'facilitating subjects' are those currently preferred by some top universities. With the higher level of challenge in the now reformed A Levels this distinction may disappear.

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F
Points	58	52	46	40	34	28	22

Grade	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
Points	60	56	52	48	34	40	34	28

COURSES FROM 2017

Below is the list of courses offered in the Sixth Form for entrants in 2017. They are A Levels unless stated otherwise. Details of courses are on pp 11-42:

Art
Biology
Business Studies
Business Applied*
Chemistry
Computing
Dance BTEC*
DT Product Design
Drama BTEC
Economics
English Language
English Literature
Extended Project
Film Studies
French
Geography
German
Health and Social Care BTEC
History
IT Applied
Maths and Further Maths
Medical Science BTEC
Music
Music Technology
PE
Philosophy
Politics
Physics
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish
Sport BTEC



*'Applied' and 'BTEC' courses are A Level equivalent vocational courses offered by different exam boards.

Departmental Contacts

School Switchboard 01480 37500

Role	Name	Email	Ext
Director of Sixth Form	Mr C Fordham	cwf@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5745
Deputy Director of Sixth Form	Mr T Wheeley	trw@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5742
Upper School Administrator	Mrs C Pinkney	czp@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5448

SUBJECT	Head Of Department	Email	Ext
Art	Ms A Lombard	aml@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5768
Business Studies/Economics	Ms L Beadles	lb@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5710
Dance	Ms M Trewin	mlt@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5785
Design & Technology	Ms C Lee	czl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5767
Drama	Ms N Akielan	nla@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5605
English	Ms H Fullard	hmf@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5759
Extended Project	Ms C Black	cmb@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5795
Film Studies	Mr P Lloyd	pl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5743
Geography	Mr B Evans	bje@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5795
History	Mr J Leigh	jdl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5761
ICT/Computing	Mr C Kilby	crk@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5802
Maths	Mr A K Bennett	akb@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5788
Languages	Ms A Long	ab@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5716
Music/Music Technology	Mr W Cooke	wrc@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5783
PE	Mr J Turnbull	jat@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5785
Philosophy	Mr P Chester	pjc@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5798
Science	Ms D Pendlebury	djp@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5773
Social Sciences	Ms S Dearnaley	sd@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk	5747

Why Study Art?

- If your intention is to follow a career involving art and design or in one of the creative industries, such as: architecture, graphic design, computer aided design, product design, textile design, surface design, work in aspects of film and TV, photography, illustration, etc.
- As a worthwhile experience for students wishing to use it as part of their entry requirements into other subject areas.
- To study as a subject that may be either a positive contrast or complement to your other chosen subjects.
- Because you will build up your technical, analytical, investigative and exploration skills, using a variety of materials and media. The course is designed to encourage learners to develop skills, creativity, imagination and independence based on personal experience, taught skills and critical understanding. Learners will show this through their responses to a range of stimuli.
- It provides an opportunity for learners to take a personal interest in why Art and Design matters and to be inspired and changed by studying a coherent, worthwhile course of study and gain experience of the working practices of individuals, organisations and creative and cultural industries, and provides freedom for learners to experiment and take risks with their work whilst developing their own style.

What Does The Course Involve?

We are offering two different 2 year A Level courses.

1. **Fine Art: Painting & Drawing**
2. **Contemporary Fine Art: Including Printmaking and New Media**

1. Fine Art: Painting & Drawing

Students will work in areas such as: portraiture, landscape, still life, human form, abstraction, narrative. Materials and techniques could include: oil painting, acrylic painting, watercolour painting, mark making in drawing materials, mixed media.

2. Contemporary Fine Art: Including Printmaking

Students will work in areas such as: portraiture, landscape, still life, human form, abstraction, narrative, experimental imagery, installation, working in a genre. Materials and techniques could include: Mark making, mixed-media, ceramics, painting, collage, lino printing, etching, collograph, intaglio, digital manipulation, installation, sculpture, batik, felt making, textiles work.



How Will I be Assessed?

Exam board: OCR. Both Art A Level courses follow the same structure over the two year program:

Component 1 – Personal investigation (60% of the final grade):

- (i) a portfolio of practical work in response to a brief or stimulus, devised and provided by the centre
- (ii) a related study: an extended response of a guided minimum of 1000 words.

Component 2 – 15 hour final practical exam (externally set task, 40% of the final grade)

Leading To A Career In?

Further courses such as Art Foundation Course, and degrees and careers in, for Fine Art: architecture, fine art, art historian, graphic design, computer game design, photography, illustration, museum and curating work. And for Contemporary Fine Art, all the above, plus: textile design, fashion design, surface design,

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. Minimum of a C at GCSE Art.

Why Study Biology?

In Biology you will develop practical skills by planning experiments, collecting data, analysing experimental results and making conclusions. You will also learn how scientific models are developed, the applications and implications of science, the benefits and risks that science brings and the ways in which society uses science to make decisions.

Biology is a science at the forefront of some of the most exciting and controversial issues in the news today. Current publicity surrounding genetic engineering, environmental and medical developments have highlighted the need for an understanding of such issues. Biology seeks to explore these areas of study to provide an appreciation of the living world.

What Does The Course Involve?

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in biology: skills of planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation

Module 2 – Foundations in biology: cell structure and membranes; biological molecules; DNA; cell division, diversity and organisation

Module 3 – Exchange and transport: exchange surfaces; transport in animals; transport in plants

Module 4 – Biodiversity: evolution and disease; communicable diseases and prevention; immune system; biodiversity; classification and evolution

Module 5 – Communication, homeostasis and energy: communication and homeostasis; excretion; neuronal communication; hormonal communication; plant and animal responses; photosynthesis; respiration

Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems: cellular control; patterns of inheritance; manipulating genomes; cloning and biotechnology; ecosystems; populations and sustainability

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board OCR. There are 3 papers plus a practical endorsement.

Leading To A Career In?

Undergraduate degree courses: Medicine, Biomedical Sciences, Life Sciences, Forensic Science, Physiotherapy, Veterinary medicine, Biochemistry, Paramedical work, Nutrition, Ecology, Biology, Marine Biology, Sport Science, Food Science, Environmental Monitoring and the expanding field of Microbiology and Biotechnology.

There are also numerous career paths that will utilise the knowledge and skills gained at A Level Biology.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

Average GCSE score of 46, 6 in Maths, 5 in English, and:

- For Triple Science Students, grade A in Biology, grade B's in Physics, Chemistry.
- For Double Science Students, grade A in Additional Science, grade B in Core Science.

Why Study Business?

A Level Business will give you an insight into the dynamic world of business. It is not just a theoretical subject; it is about real life. This combination of academic challenge and practical focus makes the prospect of studying A Level Business a very useful subject for the world of work and university. You will learn about businesses and the way they operate in today's society. You will investigate problems which real businesses are currently facing and use your initiative to develop possible solutions.

You will get opportunities to put your ideas, opinions, independence of thought and initiative to practical use and development of transferable skills which are relevant to the world we live in – problem-solving, creative thinking, research, evaluation, communication, personal development and decision-making.

What Does The Course Involve?

The main topic areas will include the following:

- Business objectives and strategic decisions
- External influences facing businesses
- Marketing and marketing strategies
- Operational strategy
- Human resources
- Accounting and financial considerations

In your study of Business you will look at a variety of firms in different industries and need to have an interest in the world around you. To start with you will focus on what businesses are, why they exist, what their aims are, and how one measures their success.

You will then move on to look at the role of markets, the economy and how competition will affect a business. You will also look at how other external factors affect the business such as the environment, government and technology.

You'll look in detail at the various functional strategies that business use to be successful. How can they change their marketing, finance, operations and human resources in order to improve their performance?

Finally, you will learn how to analyse the strategic position of the business using tools like financial ratios. Then you will see how firms choose their strategic direction and choose which markets to compete in and what products to offer. Change is a constant in business and you will investigate how firms manage changes that take place.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: Edexcel. 100% exam based.

Leading To A Career In?

Degrees in Business, Management, Human Resources, Accountancy, Law, Finance, Philosophy, Politics and Economics, Sociology and Psychology. Careers with a Business degree have high earning potential. Career possibilities include: banking, insurance, advertising, distribution, sales, accounting, law, education, central or local government, business consultancy, entrepreneurship.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C, 5 in English.

Why Study the Cambridge Technical in Business?

Just as in the A Level this course will give you an insight into the dynamic world of business. It is not just a theoretical subject; it is about real life. You will investigate problems which real businesses are currently facing and use your initiative to develop possible solutions.

Cambridge Technicals are vocational qualifications that are designed to give you a work-focused alternative to A Levels. They've been designed to give you opportunities to demonstrate and develop the practical application of knowledge and understanding in the areas of work that appeal to you. This will enable you to develop your research skills as you work, both independently and with colleagues, to progress through your qualifications.

What Does The Course Involve?

In your study of Business you will look at a variety of firms in different industries and need to have an interest in the world around you. To start with you will focus on what businesses are, why they exist, what their aims are, and how one measures their success.

You will study five units during your course covering a range of relevant business topics, learning and applying your knowledge of real businesses. The units you complete will be based on real businesses, giving you a practical understanding of this subject. You will learn about the business environment and how this influences the different business organisations that can exist. You will be provided with an applied understanding of the role of the marketing function, with particular emphasis on the role of marketing research and how it contributes to marketing planning and the development of the marketing mix for a target group of customers. You will also undertake the organisation and management of a real business event, learning about the important elements of running an event.

If you prefer to learn in a way that's practical and work-related, then Cambridge Technicals are ideal. The great thing about them is that they keep your options open – so if you're not fully convinced that a vocational way of learning is right for you, Cambridge Technicals also prepare you well to study Business at university, providing you with UCAS points equivalent to an A Level.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board OCR.

Year 1: You will sit an exam in summer which accounts for 1/3 of the qualification. You will also complete one piece of internally assessed coursework which accounts for 1/6 of the qualification.

Year 2: You will complete 2 more pieces of coursework which together account for 1/3 of the qualification and are internally assessed. You will have your final exam in the January of year 2 and is worth 1/6 of the qualification.

Throughout the course you will receive un-moderated results from each coursework unit, which will be moderated by OCR regularly and have one chance to re-sit each exam.

Leading To A Career In?

Employment, where you can put your new practical skills towards generating an income;
Further education, such as a higher-level qualification at school or college;
Higher education, such as a degree course at university; these Level 3 qualifications have UCAS points that make them the equivalent of A Levels in terms of access to university.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C.

Why Study Chemistry?

Are you open-minded, imaginative, argumentative, methodical, logical and determined? Do you wonder about the world, how it works and how mankind is changing it? If so, you will probably be interested in A Level Chemistry at Hinchingsbrooke. It is a rewarding but demanding course, which sets the subject within a relevant and modern-day framework, without sacrificing intellectual rigour. It builds on the higher concepts learnt at GCSE and appeals to students who like to ask the questions 'why', 'how' and 'what' and are keen to find out the answers.

What Does The Course Involve?

Module 1 - Development of practical skills in Chemistry: skills of planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation

Module 2 – Foundations in Chemistry: atoms, compounds, molecules and equations; amount of substance; acid–base and redox reactions; electrons, bonding and structure

Module 3 – Periodic Table and energy: the Periodic Table and periodicity; Group 2 and the halogens; qualitative analysis; enthalpy changes; reaction rates and equilibrium (qualitative)

Module 4 – Core organic Chemistry: basic concepts; hydrocarbons; alcohols and haloalkanes; organic synthesis; analytical techniques (IR, MS)

Module 5 – Physical Chemistry and transition elements: reaction rates and equilibrium (quantitative); pH and buffers; enthalpy, entropy and free energy; redox and electrode potentials; transition elements

Module 6 – Organic Chemistry and analysis: Aromatic compounds; carbonyl compounds; carboxylic acids and esters; nitrogen compounds; polymers; organic synthesis; chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).



How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: OCR. There are 3 papers plus a practical endorsement.

Leading To A Career In?

As far as employment prospects are concerned, Chemistry is a 'heavyweight' subject, essential for many scientific careers and highly regarded for non-vocational jobs. It has obvious relevance for medicine and veterinary science, as well as jobs in businesses involved in drugs and medicine manufacture, agriculture, brewing, food, biotechnology and forensic science – to name just a few. Any student qualified in Chemistry will automatically be regarded as someone who is numerate, well organised, self-motivated and intellectually adept – useful qualities to bring to any job.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

The minimum entry requirement is an average GCSE point score of 46, 6 in Maths, 5 in English and:

- For Triple Science Students, grade A in Chemistry, grade B's in Physics, & Biology.
- For Double Science Students, grade A in Additional Science, grade B in Core Science.

Why Study Computer Science?

This qualification is relevant to the modern and changing world of computing, and is also relevant to the higher education community. Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement. The course values computational thinking, helping students to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence. It is designed to inspire and challenge students to apply the knowledge they gain with the creative and technical skills they acquire. Other aspects are:

- A Level Computer Science is focused on programming; it builds on GCSE Computing and emphasises the importance of computational thinking as a discipline.
- There is an expanded Maths focus, much of which is embedded within the course.
- There is an increased emphasis on coding and programming with a simple assessment model and marking criteria.

What Does The Course Involve?

Units 1 and 2 will be a traditionally marked and structured question paper with a mix of question types: short-answer, longer-answer, and levels of response mark scheme-type questions.

1) Computer Systems: This. It will cover the characteristics of contemporary systems architecture and other areas including the following:

- Software and its development
- Types of programming languages
- Data types, representation and structures
- Exchanging data and web technologies
- Following algorithms
- Using Boolean algebra
- Legal, moral and ethical issues.

2) Algorithms and Programming:

- Traditional questions concerning computational thinking.
- Elements of computational thinking
- Programming and problem solving
- Pattern recognition, abstraction and decomposition
- Algorithm design and efficiency
- Standard algorithms.
- There'll be a scenario/task contained in the paper, which could be an algorithm or a text page-based task, which will involve problem solving.

3) Programming Project: You are set a user-driven problem of an appropriate size and complexity to solve. You will need to analyse the problem, design a solution, implement the solution and give a thorough evaluation.

How Will I Be Assessed? Exam board: OCR. 80% exam, 20% coursework.

Leading To A Career In? The growing computer games industry, product development, technical support, technical sales, telecommunications and hardware engineering. Appropriate further education might be a Higher National in Computing, a Foundation Degree in Computing, a degree in computing, IT or related fields or entry into employment.

What Are The Entry Criteria? 5 A*-C, and a 5 in Maths. GCSE Computing at a C, or department approval needed.

Why Study Dance?

Studying Dance prepares students for a lifetime career in the performing arts. Our Dance course sets out to create self-aware dancers who are highly educated and knowledgeable as well as versatile, creative, and technically accomplished. There are numerous aspects that will be learnt and developed on this course – leadership, ability to choreograph, teamwork, improved fitness, improved confidence, opportunities to perform and compete as well as providing a varied skill-set for students to expand upon in their C.V's / University applications.

What Does The Course Involve?

In a normal week you will attend some practical and some theoretical lessons. You will do this course alongside other A Levels.

There is a new specification that is broken down as follows:

YEAR 12:

- Study exam board-set work
- Create piece on set work
- Create piece in contrast to set work
- Essay to compare and contrast works
- 3 repertoires based on professional works

YEAR 13:

- Lengthy own choreography assignment
- 4 repertoires based on professional works



How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: Edexcel. The course is vocational and assessed through coursework – rehearsals, performances, research, written assignments, reflective writing, discussion, presentations and evaluations. Over two years, you will compile a portfolio of coursework. There will be certain key dates and deadlines for some pieces of work.

Half A Level equivalent – Year 1: BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Performing Arts: Dance

Full A level equivalent – Year 2: BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts: Dance BTEC

The nature of a BTEC allows for a more varied and vocational approach to student learning, with coursework, portfolio and video evidence at its heart.

- Some of the above pieces will be externally assessed – via video evidence
- Some of the above pieces will be internally assessed – by Dance teaching staff
- Coursework Evidence is needed alongside the above – to include evidence of rehearsals, performances, research, written assignments, reflective writing, discussion, presentations and evaluations.

Leading To A Career In?

University – study Dance at degree level.

Work – teacher / dance therapist / community worker / professional dancer / artist in residence / travel & tourism

Support other courses – acting / singing / stage work / make-up / theatre / music / film

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. Dance experience and an interest and understanding of dance as an expressive art form is needed. Dance at GCSE or BTEC Level 2 is preferred, but not essential.

Design & Technology: Product Design A Level

Why Study Design & Technology?

Good design is vital to our world and our economy. Attractive styling attracts us to a product whilst graphic design is used to promote it through the medium of marketing. Although many people will say that the UK is no longer a manufacturing nation, nothing could be further from the truth. Many of the traditional 'heavy' industries may have gone but there is still a strong demand for students in the design, engineering and construction industries who are capable of developing manufacturing solutions to today's problems. This course provides you with a solid base from which to develop your design and making skills, using the full range of materials to become designers and engineers of the future.



This course allows students to apply the extensive design and making skills they have developed during previous years to a design and make project of their own choice. Their design will provide a solution to a 'real' problem linked to product design, interior design or architecture. Students are expected to work with a genuine client who will review their work at various stages during the project. This course combines diverse areas of DT and is suitable for anybody who has studied Resistant Materials or Graphics at GCSE.

What Does The Course Involve?

There will be a series of small projects to learn the theoretical content in preparation for the exam and to build up your skills before starting your final major project for the coursework. Students will be taught how to complete all aspects of a comprehensive design and make process. Students will learn how to analyse a product's design: Why does it look like that? What materials have been used? Why are they suitable?... Nothing has 'just been made', everything around us has been designed carefully thinking about the user and the environment it will be used in.

Students will be asked to design a product for a given situation. During this you will develop your designing skills and be encouraged to explore sketching techniques. You will not be expected to make every design you produce so you are not limited to the materials and processes in the department so let your imagination run wild and show us what you know! During the projects you will develop a bank of theoretical knowledge, and your practical skills and attention to detail, and to work when given a set of drawings to follow.



How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam at the end of Year 13 to test the theory learnt over the two years. Coursework 50%, exam 50%. Whilst some of the modules are the same regardless of your project choice, we will divide the sets into DT Graphics and DT Resistant Materials, so you will need to select an option when you apply.

Leading To A Career In?

Students often go on to study product design, architecture, interior or graphic design at university. Students studying an Art foundation course find it helps to demonstrate a wider range of skills in a portfolio. It is a subject that links well other areas of the curriculum for those who may not want to pursue design as career.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. B in a design related subject at GCSE. Students achieving a C will require departmental approval.

Why Study Drama BTEC?

Drama expands your self-confidence, creativity, and through these your potential in so many other areas of life. The Extended Certificate (called 'Performing Arts' but focused on acting) is for students who are interested in learning about the performing arts sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in performing arts.

What Does The Course Involve?

Unit 1 – Investigating practitioners work

You will investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work.

Unit 2 – Developing skills and techniques for live performance

You will explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles. You will participate in regular workshops, classes and exercises where you will acquire, practise and develop the necessary technical, practical and interpretative performance skills to help you succeed when performing live to an audience.

Unit 3 – Group performance workshop

You will explore and integrate creative, physical and vocal skills and techniques, working collaboratively to create a performance in response to a given stimulus. Many professional practitioners work as devising companies to develop new, and often innovative, performance material. This may be in response to a specific commission, to meet the needs of a target audience, or to explore an artistic theme or idea.

Flexible Unit - A range to choose from acting styles and interpreting classic texts to improvisation.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: Edexcel.

The course is split into 4 Units - 3 compulsory modules and 1 flexible choice from a range of exciting options.

Assessment is threefold – students are assessed through a combination of portfolio production, graded practical activities and through performance to a live audience.

Leading To A Career In?

Acting or performance; stage management; technical design, sound, lighting, costume, set and props; social care or social setting; television and media; teaching; uniformed services

...Any job that involves working in a team, with people or presenting to a group!

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C, plus a C or above at GCSE level Drama (or performing equivalent).



Why Study Economics?

In today's world Economics is all around us which makes it a constantly evolving, exciting subject to learn about. Study of Economics requires a variety of skills such as analysing, interpreting and responding to data, calculating percentages, indexes and analysing and applying this analysis to your arguments. You will investigate a variety of contemporary issues such as globalisation and how people think in an Economic manner.

What Does The Course Involve?

In your study of Economics you will study Micro (the individual and the individual firm) and Macro Economics (the economy as a whole, globalisation, governments and multinationals). To start with you will focus on how markets work and why they may fail, then you will be looking at the UK economy and finishing by looking at the important issue of the labour market, which will include both micro-economic and macro-economic factors.

The course involves investigating four themes:

Theme 1 – markets and market failure: this theme focuses on micro-economic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of the nature of economics, how markets work, market failure, government intervention.

Theme 2 – The UK economy, focusing on performance and policies: this theme focuses on macro-economic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of measures of economic performance, aggregate demand, aggregate supply, national income, economic growth, macro-economic objectives and policy.

Theme 3 – Business behaviour and the labour market: this theme develops the micro-economic concepts introduced in Theme 1 and focuses on business economics. Students will develop an understanding of business growth, business objectives, revenues, costs and profits, market structures, labour market, government intervention.

Theme 4 – Global perspective: this theme develops the macro-economic concepts introduced in Theme 2 and applies these concepts in a global context. Students will develop an understanding of international economics, poverty and inequality, emerging and developing economies, the financial sector; role of the state in the macro-economy.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board Edexcel. Entirely by exams at the end of two years.

Leading To A Career In?

Economist, government economist, civil service fast streamer, broker, financial analyst, business analyst, management accountant, financial services, human resources, marketing, operations – any career in business!

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. You also need 5 in English and Maths

Why Study English Language?

If you want to understand how language is used to control and manipulate us by both the media and people in power, how to take apart a piece of language and be able to work out exactly what makes it tick and produce your own piece of polished prose, radio script or journalism, this is the course for you.

What Does The Course Involve?

Component One 40 %

Language under the microscope

You are expected to be able to identify significant features or patterns in a text and to explore their effects.

Writing about a topical language issue

You will present and explore your ideas and attitudes towards topical language issues through short pieces of original writing.

Comparing and contrasting texts

You will compare a variety of texts, exploring the effects of mode and of language variations, such as comparing spoken and written texts.

Component Two: Dimensions of Linguistic variation 40%

Child Language acquisition

The focus of this section is on children's acquisition of spoken language. The age range to be explored is from 0-7. You will use theoretical studies to analyse a short sample of authentic children's spoken text.

Language in the Media

You will consider relevant theories of language and power, language and gender or language and technology in exploring media texts. You will study how power, gender and technology are represented in a variety of discourses and texts.

Language Change

You will study the ways that the English language has developed and changed over time. You will study a range of historical texts and genres and be able to compare significant features or patterns in texts from different times and explore their effects.

Component Three: Independent language research 20%

Language Investigation

You will undertake an independent investigation on a topic of your own choice. You will choose your own methodologies; select and analyse your own data and draw suitable conclusions from them.

Academic Poster

You will produce a well-researched and effectively organised overview of the learner's own independent investigation in a form that would be suitable for display at an undergraduate conference for English language research.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board OCR. 80% exam, 20% coursework.

Leading To A Career In?

A Level English Language can help many career paths including journalism, writing, teaching, politics and the law.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C including a 5 in English Language or English Literature.

Why Study English Literature?

In studying English Literature you will develop interest in and enjoyment of the subject through reading widely, critically and independently across centuries, genre and gender. You will consider how writers – including you – succeed in shaping the responses and opinions of others. In essence, "The study of English Literature trains the brain and frees the imagination; it is about life and living and just where you fit into the world around you."

What Does The Course Involve?

Component One 40 %

You must study one play by Shakespeare. In addition, you are required to study one pre-1900 drama text and one pre-1900 poetry text.

Set Texts Shakespeare:

- *Coriolanus*
- *Hamlet*
- *Measure for Measure*
- *Richard III*
- *The Tempest*
- *Twelfth Night*

Set Texts Pre-1900 drama

- Christopher Marlowe: *Edward II*
- John Webster: *The Duchess of Malfi*
- Oliver Goldsmith: *She Stoops to Conquer*
- Henrik Ibsen: *A Doll's House*
- Oscar Wilde: *An Ideal Husband*.

Set Texts Pre- 1900 Poetry

- Geoffrey Chaucer: *The Merchant's Prologue and Tale*
- John Milton: *Paradise Lost* Books 9 & 10
- Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *Selected Poems*
- Alfred, Lord Tennyson: *Maud*
- Christina Rossetti: *Selected Poems*.

Component Two: Comparative and Contextual study 40%

You choose one topic from the set list below and study at least two whole texts in your chosen topic area.

Set Topics and Core texts

American Literature 1880–1940

- F Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby*
- John Steinbeck: *The Grapes of Wrath*

The Gothic

- Angela Carter: *The Bloody Chamber*
- Bram Stoker: *Dracula*

Dystopia

- Margaret Atwood: *The Handmaid's Tale*
- George Orwell: *Nineteen Eighty-Four*

Set Topics and Core texts

Women in Literature

- Jane Austen: *Sense and Sensibility*
- Virginia Woolf: *Mrs Dalloway*

The Immigrant Experience

- Mohsin Hamid: *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*
- Henry Roth: *Call It Sleep*

Component Three: Literature post-1900 20%

You choose and study one poetry text, one drama text and one prose text all written before 1900.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board OCR. 80% exam, 20% coursework.

Leading To A Career In?

A Level English Literature can lead to many career paths including journalism, writing, teaching, politics and the law.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C including a 5 in English Language or English Literature.

Why Study The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)?

The Extended Project Qualification is an optional curriculum extra for students. The subject enables you to gain a qualification whilst spending time on something you are passionate about. You can tailor what you study to extend your A-levels and personalise your further education/career goals (it is worth half the UCAS points of a full A Level). There is variety of formats in which you can present the work you complete: a dissertation, an investigation/field study, a performance or an artefact. You could study medical ethics if you want to go into the medical profession, human rights as you want to study law or perhaps clothes design because you want to work in the world of fashion. The choice is limitless. It also enables you to develop and improve your ability to be a critical, reflective and independent learner; learning how to analyse, synthesis, evaluate and present your work to a high level. This can only support your progress in other subjects and looks fantastic in personal statements and job applications.

What Does The Course Involve?

As an EPQ student you will have both a teacher and a tutor. Your teacher will see you for one period a week where you will have seminar style lessons to ensure you gain all the skills you require to complete a successful EPQ. As you start writing your EPQ you will continue to have lessons so that this teacher ensures that you are demonstrating all the skills you have learnt. You will also be allocated a tutor (where possible one who is knowledgeable in your chosen study area). You will be expected to meet this tutor fortnightly to discuss the content of your EPQ and for them to assess your progress.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: Edexcel

You will be assessed on your ability to plan, manage, complete and review your project. You will start the EPQ in Year 12 and hand in your final submission at the start of Year 13. Your work will be marked internally by your tutor and moderated externally by Edexcel.

Assessment objective	Marks available	Weighting
AO1 Manage Identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	9	17%
AO2 Use resources Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.	12	22%
AO3 Develop and realise Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.	24	44%
AO4 Review Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.	9	17%
Total	54	100%

What Are The Entry Requirements?

The EPQ is an optional curriculum extra for students who gain a GCSE point score of 46 or above. Most students will take 3 A Levels plus the EPQ. For some high achieving students it is an option to do 4 A Levels plus the EPQ.

Why Study Film Studies?

Studying Film will deepen your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the major art form of the last 120 years. We have all been 'cineliterate' since early childhood but few realise what a complex act of decoding we take on when we watch a film. Studying Cinema as a medium, as art and as a social and economic institution, you will engage with a wide range of different kinds of films, developing skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection.

What Does The Course Involve?

You will be introduced to the diverse range of film forms and film styles that have developed in different places through the history of cinema. This will include analysing how film 'works'; how the interaction between spectator and the use of editing, sound and visual storytelling creates meaning. There will be opportunities to put this learning into practice through practical filmmaking.

We will also analyse how the context of filmmaking affects style and ideology through study of a diverse range of film, including documentary, Hollywood genre films, experimental film and British cinema. There will also be a focus on international film movements.

With its emphases on visual storytelling and response Film Studies extends areas of experience covered by Literature, Theatre and Art History specifications. With its emphases on depth and diversity it goes much further than Media Studies in providing a foundation in the study of film texts, producers, audiences, messages and critical approaches. With its emphases on the interaction between audiences and film and psychoanalytical approaches to reading Cinema, there are links with the Social Sciences and Business Studies. With its emphases on the context of film production, there are parallels with the study of History.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: WJEC. The A Level course will involve two exams, one focusing on American and British film, the other on Varieties of Film. Exams will total 70% of the mark. 30% will come from a creative production of **either** a short film (4-5 minutes) **or** a screenplay (1600-1800 words), plus an evaluative analysis of the creative work.

Leading To A Career In?

Film making, film theory, film criticism and film history
The social sciences
The media
Journalism
The performing arts
Business
Marketing
Creative writing

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C.

Why Study French?

Languages are all around us; they are used in so many situations whether at work, on holiday or just casually in day-to-day life - we live in a multilingual global society. The aim of the A Level modern language course is to help you to develop an interest in speaking a foreign language, to gain awareness of the need to speak foreign languages, to appreciate the nature and diversity of different cultures and people and to acquire knowledge, skills and understanding for practical use, further study and employment. Choosing an A Level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and is a lot of fun along the way. You already know how essential languages are for integrating in a culture and getting the most out of your experience; you'll get more of a taste of life in a different country. Languages can take you to some wonderful places and give you many brilliant opportunities. French could take you to Africa, Canada, Switzerland . . .

What Does The Course Involve?

A Level languages build upon your existing knowledge gained at GCSE, giving you a sound understanding of using your language in a variety of contexts and situations - at home, abroad, with friends or in the workplace. At A Level French, you will study current trends and issues (for example new technologies) in French-speaking society, as well as political and artistic culture (including a film) in the French-speaking world. In Year 13 you will complete an individual research project. With around nine hours of class time a fortnight dedicated to learning your language, you will rapidly make noticeable improvements not only in your speaking and writing ability but also in your understanding and use of grammar and more advanced vocabulary. You will also have an individual weekly speaking session with a French native speaker.

How Will I Be Assessed?

This is a two year linear course, assessed by examination at the end of Year 13. Examinations are as follows:

	Skills assessed	Duration	Marks	% of A Level
Paper 1	Listening, reading, writing and translation into and out of French	2 hours 30 mins	100	50%
Paper 2	Writing	2 hours	80	20%
Paper 3	Speaking	23 mins max (including 5 mins' preparation time)	60	30%

Leading To A Career In?

Studying languages teaches you all the skills that employers look for: an analytical mind; good thought process; amazing memory capacity; fantastic cultural and intercultural awareness; good communication; great team player to name just a few. Languages are an invaluable skill to have and having a language can increase your salary by as much as 20% and gives you a head start on other potential employees. Speaking another language means you are vital to any company who does international business. You may need languages for all sorts of career destinations, not just the obvious ones of teaching, interpreting and translating: doctors, psychologists and physiotherapists need language skills to communicate effectively with patients whether they work in the UK or overseas; businessmen, bankers and entrepreneurs all need language skills to make deals and sell products on the global market; politicians, historians, geographers and holiday reps all need language skills to get to know the people and area that they are passionate about.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C at GCSE, including a B in French.

Why Study Geography?

Geography matters. It matters because it's relevant. Geography's relevance stems from the fact that it can lie at the heart of government policy making, as well as affecting the way we live our everyday lives. It considers some of the most critical issues affecting the planet today, such as population growth and migration, hazard impact, globalisation and environmental degradation. To understand Geography is to understand your world.

Geography's strength lies in its breadth. It draws together just about all other subjects and explains the link between them all. It is the link between science and the arts and looks at key issues such as sustainability, interdependence and global citizenship. Universities and employers like Geography, as it provides you with so many useful and transferable skills; including analytical, statistical, presentational and research skills, useful in so many disciplines.

What Does The Course Involve?

A level
Component one: Physical systems <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Glaciated landscapes• Earth's life support systems: water and carbon cycles
Component two: Human interactions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changing spaces, making places• Global connections: Migration and Human rights
Component three: Geographical debates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hazardous earth• Disease dilemmas
Component four: Investigative geography <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent investigation

An essential part of Geography is studying the environment first hand. The department organises a range of fieldwork opportunities to enable you to develop the necessary skills. These trips include a residential trip to North Wales at the start of the course to study glaciated landscapes and a two-day trip to Norfolk to collect data for a range of geographical investigations. There are also optional trips organised to support different aspects of the course, including trips to; Iceland, New York, Morocco and Costa Rica.

How Will I Be Assessed? Exam board: OCR

A level
Component one: Physical systems <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 hour 45 minutes written exam; 24% of A level
Component two: Human interactions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 hour 45 minutes written exam; 24% of A level
Component three: Geographical debates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hour 30 minutes written exam; 32% of A level
Component four: Investigative geography <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internally assessed, externally moderated; 20% of A level

Leading To A Career In? Geography is a subject that teaches transferable skills which help with many career paths and are highly valued in the job market. Geography is particularly useful for careers in: environmental management, international aid/development, logistics and distribution, market researcher, nature conservation officer, tourism officer, transport/town planner, cartographer, surveyor and geographical information systems officer.

What Are The Entry Requirements? 5 A*-C. It is not essential that you have studied Geography at GCSE in order to take the A Level, although it does obviously help. 5 in English.

Why Study German?

Languages are all around us; they are used in so many situations whether at work, on holiday or just casually in day-to-day life - we live in a multilingual global society. The aim of the A Level modern language course is to help you to develop an interest in speaking a foreign language, to gain awareness of the need to speak foreign languages, to appreciate the nature and diversity of different cultures and people and to acquire knowledge, skills and understanding for practical use, further study and employment. Choosing an A-level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and is a lot of fun along the way. You already know how essential languages are for integrating in a culture and getting the most out of your experience; you'll get more of a taste of life in a different country. Languages can take you to some wonderful places and give you many brilliant opportunities. German could take you to Switzerland, Austria, Namibia . . . and is the employers' favoured MFL A Level, giving you an edge for career opportunities in business.

What Does The Course Involve?

A Level languages build upon your existing knowledge gained at GCSE, giving you a sound understanding of using your language in a variety of contexts and situations - at home, abroad, with friends or in the workplace. At A Level German, you will study current trends and issues (for example new technologies) in German-speaking society, as well as political and artistic culture (including a film) in the German-speaking world. In Year 13 you will complete an individual research project. With around nine hours of class time a fortnight dedicated to learning your language, you will rapidly make noticeable improvements not only in your speaking and writing ability but also in your understanding and use of grammar and more advanced vocabulary. You will also have an individual weekly speaking session with a German native speaker.

How Will I Be Assessed?

This is a two year linear course, assessed by examination at the end of Year 13. Examinations are as follows:

	Skills assessed	Duration	Marks	% of A Level
Paper 1	Listening, reading, writing and translation into and out of German	2 hours 30 mins	100	50%
Paper 2	Writing	2 hours	80	20%
Paper 3	Speaking	23 mins max (including 5 mins' preparation time)	60	30%

Leading To A Career In?

Studying languages teaches you all the skills that employers look for: an analytical mind; good thought process; amazing memory capacity; fantastic cultural and intercultural awareness; good communication; great team player to name just a few. Languages are an invaluable skill to have and having a language can increase your salary by as much as 20% and gives you a head start on other potential employees. Speaking another language means you are vital to any company who does international business. You may need languages for all sorts of career destinations, not just the obvious ones of teaching, interpreting and translating: doctors, psychologists and physiotherapists need language skills to communicate effectively with patients whether they work in the UK or overseas; businessmen, bankers and entrepreneurs all need language skills to make deals and sell products on the global market; politicians, historians, geographers and holiday reps all need language skills to get to know the people and area that they are passionate about.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C at GCSE, including a B in German.

Why Study Health And Social Care?

If you prefer a subject with less exams and if you enjoy portfolio work and taking charge of your own learning, this may suit you.

This is a vocational course and you will get the opportunity to visit care settings to gather information for your portfolio work. You will be expected to keep up to date with current health and social care related news issues from reading and listening to the news. This is both a practical and academic course and requires your enthusiasm and commitment.

In a work-related context, you will develop skills that will enable you to make an effective contribution to the care sector, including research, evaluation and problem-solving skills. You may apply your learning to your choice of contexts: health, children's services, care of older people or individuals with specific needs.

Ideal for those who enjoy creating project-style work and investigating real situations, this course will help develop your understanding of the diverse and complex nature of the health and social care sector.

What Does The Course Involve?

If you do this qualification it will give you a broad basis of study for the health and social care sector. The topics you will be studying will be: Human Lifespan Development, Working in Health and Social Care, Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs, and Sociological Perspectives



How Will I be Assessed?

Exam Board Edexcel.

Leading To A Career In?

If you want a career in the caring professions then this is the subject for you; whether it is being a paramedic, nurse, midwife, child care, mental nurse, any profession in these areas or even if you are thinking of teaching, this course will prepare you.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. C in science is preferable.

Why Study History?

History is for you if you have an interest in the world around you, the society you live in, and how it has developed, if you like learning about people, how they interact and what motivates them, and about different countries, societies and cultures. It is for you if you have an enquiring mind and the ability to weigh up evidence or arguments, enjoy discussion, debate and argument, like to think for yourself and develop your own views, and enjoy research and analysing material to check for bias and propaganda.

What Does The Course Involve?

You can study one of two courses at A level, Pathway A and Pathway B. Both pathways are of equal level of challenge; they are designed to give you a choice about what you study and reflect the broad range of expertise that our large and popular department has. They are examined in exactly the same way so you will need to make the decision based on what interests you.

Unit	Pathway A "Dynasty, Democracy and Dictatorship"	Pathway B "Making and breaking of great powers"	Key Information
Paper 1 Breadth Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> England The Tudors: England, 1485- 1603 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USA: The making of a super power: USA, 1865-1975 	The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations. Examined Unit
Paper 2: Depth Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Germany Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918- 1945 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> England The English Revolution: 1625-1660 	The study in depth of a period of major historical change or development and associated primary evidence. Examined unit
Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russia: The making of modern Russia, 1856-1964 		In this unit you will carry out an historical enquiry on Russian History.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: AQA. This is a two year course with no AS at the end of Year 12. The course consists of three units – two are examined at the end of Year 13 and a coursework unit.

Leading To A Career In?

The skills you will obtain through studying History will be useful in a number of careers, either directly related to History (e.g. working in galleries, museums, heritage sites, record offices and archives and teaching), or in areas such as journalism, law, libraries, national and local government and the civil service.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

B in History GCSE, if taken. If not, needs departmental approval. 5 in English.

Why Study IT?

The IT sector, with its array of existing and constantly evolving technologies, presents a stimulating and challenging working environment. The Cambridge Technicals in IT is the equivalent of one A level and has been designed to provide a broad educational basis for further education or for moving into employment within the IT sector. This is achieved by ensuring that learners develop the general skills, knowledge and understanding needed within the sector. The study of IT in sixth form allows students to pick up more specialist skills than that of GCSE, ideal for moving into the IT industry and providing skills necessary and relevant for any industry. You will gain an insight into the IT sector as you investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, and the flow of information on a global scale and the importance of legal and security considerations. You will also develop professional, personal and social skills through interaction with peers, stakeholders and clients, as well as theoretical knowledge and understanding to underpin these skills. These support the transferable skills required by universities and employers such as communication, problem solving, time management, research and analytical skills.

What Does The Course Involve?

The course follows the IT Infrastructure Technician pathway, which focuses on the design, implementation and management of an organisation's IT Infrastructure, plus, the activities and roles that are carried out in the workplace such as selecting hardware and software for clients, and learning how to build, upgrade or develop computer systems and networks that are safe and secure. The five units over the 2 years are:

- **Fundamentals of IT:** A sound understanding of IT technologies and practices is essential for IT professionals. Information learnt in this unit will create a solid foundation in the fundamentals of hardware, networks, software, the ethical use of computers and how businesses use IT.
- **Global Information:** The purpose of this unit is to demonstrate the uses of information in the public domain, globally, in the cloud and across the Internet, by individuals and organisations. You will discover that good management of both data and information is essential and that it can give any organisation a competitive edge.
- **Computer Networks:** The emphasis of this unit is to give you the practical ability to plan, implement and maintain computer networks. The approach adopted by this unit is 'bottom up' where you begin with a solid set of components, cables and connectors of a network and then progressively build a networking capability. The range of protocols has been deliberately limited to those which are used in the vast majority of computer networks; TCP/IP and Ethernet.
- **Computer Systems – Hardware:** The aim of this unit is to enable you to understand how the components of computer systems work together. You will develop the skills needed to recommend appropriate hardware systems for various purposes. With the skills developed you will build/upgrade a full computer system with a view to testing and considering preventive maintenance procedures.
- **IT Technical Support:** The aim of this unit is to explore the problems that are likely to be encountered by IT professionals working in a technical support role. You will learn about many of the tasks carried out by IT support professionals. You will develop an understanding of technical support tools and techniques. This will include looking at organisational policies and procedures to source technical information and communicating advice and guidance to clients.

How Will I Be Assessed? Exam board: OCR. 2 units rely on external assessment. The majority of the qualification content will be internally assessed through centre-set coursework assignments.

Leading To A Career In? The growing computer games industry; product development; technical support; technical sales; telecommunications and hardware engineering. Jobs that are commonly taken after completion of the qualification are: systems analyst, computer service technician and computer operator. Appropriate further education might be a Higher National in Computing, a Foundation Degree in Computing, a degree in computing, IT or related fields or entry into employment.

What Are The Entry Requirements? 5 A*-C

Why Study Maths?

There are three good reasons why you should consider studying A Level Mathematics:

- It gives you a chance to understand what Mathematics is really about. It is most definitely not about getting 'the answer'! and in many ways has less to do with numbers than you might think. Instead it is about applying your knowledge to solve problems. Put more simply it is about learning to think.
- Mathematics is the most cited facilitating course for entry to degree level courses and has consequently become the most popular A Level subject over the past two years.
- Mathematics is the only A Level subject where there is a proven link to improved income chances in later life. Students who pass A Level Maths earn on average 10% more in later life than those that do not.

What Do The Courses Involve?

There are two Maths courses: Mathematics, which counts as one A Level and Mathematics with Further Mathematics, which counts as two A Levels. For both courses you will be expected to do a lot of written work, presented so that others can understand clearly what you are trying to do. You will need to be able to think clearly, remember methods you have met and understood and be able to apply them to new situations. You will learn the meaning of Mathematical terms and the Mathematical meanings of some things you thought you knew! You will be expected to be able to talk about your work, with your friends and with your teacher and to be able to apply Mathematics to practical situations, sometimes called modelling. You will need to understand about numbers, arithmetic, estimation, and patterns, be able to use a calculator sensibly and work things out in your head when necessary.

All students studying Mathematics will spend 66% of the course studying Pure Maths (trigonometry, algebra, calculus and proof), 17% studying Mechanics (modelling forces, motion and the physical world) and 17% studying Statistics (statistical sampling, data presentation and probability).

Those students who wish to study Further Mathematics as an additional A Level alongside the main A level in Mathematics will be taught a bespoke course in a separate class which will cover the majority of the A Level topics in the first year before moving into deeper concepts in the second year. Once again the course will mainly be a mixture of Pure, Mechanics and Statistics.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board tbc.

100% via exams. All exams at the end of two years, for both Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

Leading To A Career In?

Mathematics is key to most scientific disciplines so it could lead onto higher education courses in science related subjects as well as Mathematics, Engineering and Economics. With further training, you could go into a job related to Mathematics such as an Accountant, Engineer, Financial Adviser, Business Manager or Teacher. You could also go straight into a job as the A Level is a recognised qualification that will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

The minimum requirement to study Mathematics is a 7 in GCSE Maths, and a GCSE point score of 43. Students with a 6 will have to take an entrance test at enrolment.

The minimum requirement for Further Mathematics is an 8 in GCSE Maths.

Why Study The Medical Science BTEC Level 3?

This course is ideal for those looking for a medical career. As well as getting a qualification in medical science, you will also be experience how science operates in the workplace. It will provide you with the knowledge, understanding, technical and employability skills to help you find employment in the applied science sector or to give you entry to a wide range of university courses. Practical work will cover a variety of scientific and medical science techniques

What Does The Course Involve?

You will learn about: the fundamentals of science and working in the industry; scientific investigations; practical techniques; perceptions of science; and using mathematical tools in science. You may also study: biochemistry and biochemical techniques; microbiological techniques; human physiology; human regulation and reproduction; clinical psychology; diseases and infections; genetics and genetic engineering; and medical physics techniques.



How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: Edexcel. You will do a mix of practical coursework and assignments, and put together a portfolio of your work.

Leading To A Career In?

This can lead to a science-related job or a degree course in biomedical sciences, microbiology, pharmacy work, medical sales, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, dietetics, dental studies, optometry, paramedics, radiology, research, clinical biochemistry and audiology.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*- C including 4 in English and Maths, Double Science at CC, or a Level 2 Diploma in Science at Merit.

Why Study Music?

This course is designed to help you develop your skills as a performer, composer and listener. You study the theory and history of music, will have instrumental or vocal lessons, and perform as both a soloist and as part of ensembles. You will also enjoy seeing a range of live music.

What Does The Course Involve?

- Two original Compositions
- * Listening and Understanding – which involves knowledge and analysis of set works
- * Performing Minimum Grade 6 level
- * Develop compositional techniques
- * Develop listening and analysing



You will receive 9 hours lesson time during the fortnight, additional listening, homework on knowledge and analysis of set works, homework on compositional techniques and composition, developing performing skills – practice lessons, concerts, research.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: Edexcel

Performing: You will need to prepare a recital of at least 8 minutes in length, assessed in school and moderated externally.

Composing: You will be assessed externally.

There is a two-hour listening and written paper at the end of Year 13.

Leading To A Career In?

A level Music is widely accepted as a general qualification for entry into any type of business or organisation or for entry into a wide range of degree courses in other subjects. You could take this course with other advanced level courses to prepare for higher education in Music related courses or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could go into a job related to Music such as a Music Composer, Musician, Sound Technician or you may wish to use your music ability for recreational purposes. The course is designed to provide you with access to a range of music related employment and will also develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers seek.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. B in Music. Grade 5 Theory and Grade 5 at an instrument recommended.

Why Study Music Technology?

You will develop vital skills for any career in the field, such as those to do with ICT, practical, aural, creative, research, knowledge and understanding.

You could take this course with other advanced level courses to prepare for higher education in Music related courses or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could go into a job related to Music such as a Music Composer, Musician, Sound Technician or you may wish to use your music ability for recreational purposes. The course is designed to provide you with access to a range of music related employment and will also develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of other industries are looking for.



What Does The Course Involve?

- Sequencing and recording
- Composing
- Listening, based on popular music and jazz
- Producing and analysing/ demonstrating ability to control and interpret midi data including a study of film music

You will have 9 hours lesson time per fortnight, two hours a week in addition on coursework, additional listening, research into development of Music Technology, Classical Music and Popular Music and Jazz.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: Edexcel

By a portfolio of work submitted during the second year of study. This will comprise of a Multitrack recording and a Composition.

There are also two written exams; the 'Listening and Analysing' exam followed by the 'Producing and Analysing'. Both of these will test different aspects of recording and production techniques and principles, in the context of a series of unfamiliar commercial recordings supplied by Pearson

Leading To A Career In?

Sound recording, leisure industry, composer, music industry, DJ. Careers include: arts, administration, instrument making/repair/restoration, military band, journalism, librarian, music therapy, teacher, lecturer, performer, public relations, tour manager.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C, including English and Maths, grade C in GCSE Music or equivalent. Understanding of music theory to at least grade 3 and ability on an instrument are strongly desirable. Ability to play the piano/keyboard and experience of using music technology programmes such as Garageband or Cubase would be advantageous.

Why Study PE?

Sport and fitness is a huge industry... and you can be part of it. If you're keen on sport you can make a healthy living from your passion. Whether that's working for a football club, as a personal trainer at the local gym, or training to be a physiotherapist, there are lots of opportunities. From professional sport through to amateur teams and individuals who just want to get in shape, sport and fitness is a fast-growing business.

Best of all, you could be in a career doing something that you love.

What Does The Course Involve?

In the first year there are two main study topics.

The first of these covers the beneficial effects of a healthy lifestyle and includes subjects like the physiological effects of exercise and how people acquire sports skills. In the second study topic you'll learn how to analyse and evaluate an athlete's performance, how to improve performance, and the factors affecting gaining new skills.

In the second year you'll have two main study topics again. The first continues with the theme of optimising the performance of an athlete. This includes how physiology can improve performance for elite athletes, as well as studying the important topics within sport today. The second study topic looks at performance in competitive situations. This includes the observation and analysis of weaknesses, along with ways of correcting any errors the athlete is making

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board AQA. This qualification is linear, meaning that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course. It is 70% theory and 30% practically assessed.

Leading To A Career In?

The subjects you learn about will be invaluable at a personal level and will help you to be better at sport, no matter what your standard.

This A Level also opens up a whole number of career options.

- Sport Scientist
- Physiotherapist
- Working for a national governing body
- Psychologist
- Technology in Sport
- Sport and the Law
- PE Teacher
- Nutritionist
- Sports Journalism

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5A*-C. C in Science and C in PE are preferable but not required.



Why Study Philosophy?

A Level Philosophy provides students with a broad introduction to the study of Philosophy.

This course is designed to:

- develop a range of transferable skills which can be applied far beyond the study of Philosophy
- integrate themes and texts to allow teachers to plan the most suitable modules for the textual problems or the most suitable texts given their interest in other modules
- help students gain a thorough grounding in key philosophical concepts, themes, texts and techniques
- enable students to develop the ability to reason, form their own judgements, express themselves coherently and contribute to the process of debate
- show students how to consider philosophical problems through the study of a key text.

What Does The Course Involve?

Four major Philosophy topics covered over two years:

1. Epistemology
2. Moral Philosophy
3. The metaphysics of God
4. The metaphysics of mind

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board AQA.
Philosophy is assessed by two three-hour examination papers at the end of the A Level. Paper 1 covers topics 1 and 2 and Paper 2 covers topics 3 and 4.



Leading To A Career In?

Many of our students go onto university to study Philosophy, often in combination with other disciplines. Popular combinations include: Philosophy/History; Philosophy/English; Philosophy/Law; Philosophy/Maths and even Philosophy/Biology.

Philosophy is a valued qualification in such careers as: politics, research, journalism, law, charities, social services, education, civil service, publishing, marketing, and advertising.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C. 5 in English Language.

Why Study Physics?

Are you interested in the physics topics in your science studies at GCSE? Are you good at Maths? Do you enjoy problem solving? Would you like to know more about fundamental ideas such as quantum mechanics, cosmology and nuclear physics? If the answer to these questions is yes, then A Level Physics might be for you.

What Does The Course Involve?

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in Physics: skills of planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation

Module 2 – Foundations of Physics: physical quantities and units; scalars and vectors; measurements

Module 3 – Forces and motion: motion; forces in action; work, energy and power; materials; Newton's laws of motion and momentum

Module 4 – Electrons, waves and photons: charge and current; energy, power and resistance; electrical circuits; waves; quantum physics

Module 5 – Newtonian world and astrophysics: thermal Physics; circular motion; oscillations; gravitational fields; astrophysics

Module 6 – Particles and medical Physics: capacitors; electric fields; electromagnetism; nuclear and particle physics; medical imaging.



How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board OCR. There are three papers plus a practical endorsement.

Leading To A Career In?

A Physics qualification is essential for many future careers in science and engineering. It is also classed as a “facilitating” A level by Russell Group Universities as there are many university courses that require A Level Physics. Physics can also help you make progress in other fields that value the demanding skills developed through Physics. Many architects, accountants, bankers and lawyers have benefited from studying Physics at A level. Physics is even relevant if you are planning to study music, as it helps you to understand how sound is produced and transmitted.

What are The Entry Requirements?

The minimum requirement is an average point score of 46, 7 in Maths, 5 in English and:

- For Triple Science Students, A in Physics, Bs in Biology, Chemistry.
- For Double Science Students, A in Additional Science, B in Core Science.

Why Study Politics?

This course will give you valuable insights into the world of political ideas, processes and key institutions. There can be no better time to study Politics due to the rapidity of change in the world. The loss of confidence in governments in the West and the rise of populist political movements, the breakdown of governments in the Middle East, and Brexit, are all events which point to a crisis in domestic and international politics, and have and will continue to touch our lives. A successful student of Politics will leave the course with a developing knowledge of both domestic and international Issues, and will have the skills necessary to make effective contributions to future political debates.

What Does The Course Involve?

There are three broad areas of study:

- the government and politics of the UK
- the government and politics of the USA
- political ideas.

The course asks you to identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of politics. This will ensure that you develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, political institutions and political processes. The political ideas to be studied have relevance to both of the systems of government and politics in both the UK and the USA. There are set authors whose texts will provide a variety of theoretical perspectives which will further enhance your knowledge and understanding of politics as a whole. The study of political ideas is an integral part of the course, teaching you to analyse, interpret and evaluate political information to form rounded arguments and make mature judgements about all aspects of political life.

You will be expected to keep up to date by watching current events on TV and reading quality newspapers. You are encouraged to incorporate internet research into working habits. Course content is delivered via a range of teaching and learning activities which include, lectures, small group presentations, discussions and debates. Past questions are set for homework every two to three weeks for each teacher.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board AQA. There are three exams at the end of two years. 100% examination.

Leading To A Career In?

This is an excellent A level for many career pathways and university degrees, in fields such as politics, international relations, law, history, sociology, economics, business...all these will benefit from this course.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C, with a 5 in English.

Why Study Psychology?

If you are interested in what makes you and other people 'tick' then this is the course for you! It will help you understand so much about individuals and will contribute towards your lifelong learning.

What Does The Course Involve?

You will learn about the different branches within Psychology; cognitive, developmental, social, behavioural and psychodynamic, and their different approaches to what makes us think and behave differently to one another. You will study how Psychology, as a science, investigates human memory, attachment, conformity and stress as well as looking at individual differences and abnormality.

Paper 1: *Introductory Topics in Psychology: Social Influence, Memory and Attachment, Psychopathology.*

This is a 2 hour exam consisting of 4 multiple choice questions worth 24 marks each. 96 marks in total and 33.3% of the A level

Paper 2: *Psychology in Context: Approaches in Psychology, Bio-Psychology, Research Methods.*

This is a 2 hour exam consisting of 2 multiple choice questions worth 24 marks each and one worth 48 marks respectively, 96 marks in total and 33.3% of the A level.

Paper 3: *Issues and Options in Psychology: Issues and Debates, Gender, Stress and Forensic Psychology.*

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board AQA. 100% examination after two years.

Leading To A Career In?

Any degree and/or career that involves people, such as Sociology, Business Studies, Drama, as well as degrees in Psychology leading to Forensic, Sport, Educational or Clinical Psychology amongst many other fields.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C, of which you must have a B in at least one science and preferably a 5 in Maths and English.

Why Study Sociology?

Sociology is the study of people in social groups. It attempts to describe and explain human behaviour in a variety of situations. It is a common mistake to think of Sociology as a soft option. While most people find it interesting, stimulating and enjoyable, it also involves reasoned and disciplined thinking and the use of abstract and difficult concepts. Sociology is a living subject dealing with problems that face modern society and challenges many of the common sense notions that people may have concerning issues such as gender, ethnicity, sexuality and class.

What Does The Course Involve?

Students should develop the ability to understand and use sociological concepts concerning theories and methods as well as those concerned with understanding social life in general.

They should be able to interpret and evaluate sociological material in a variety of forms – written, graphical etc.

They should learn to present explanations, ideas and arguments in a coherent and logical form and students will be offered the chance to gain a key skills certificate for communications as part of the Sociology programme. Sociology is not the theoretical preparation for social work. It is a subject that will develop the individual's ability to argue, think and present a balanced critical argument. As an academic subject is an ideal preparation for university entrance as well as careers such as teaching, human resource management, business, nursing or any occupation that is people orientated.

Paper 1: *Education with Theory and Methods.*

Paper 2: *Topics in Sociology:* families and households OR Health, then Beliefs in Society OR the Media.

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board AQA. 100% examination after two years.

Leading To A Career In?

Sociology can lead to a range of further studies and possible careers including law, police work, journalism, teaching, medical professions, human resources, social work, management, the civil service and probation work.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C with a 5 in English.

Why Study Spanish?

Languages are all around us; they are used in so many situations whether at work, on holiday or just casually in day-to-day life - we live in a multilingual global society. The aim of the A Level modern language course is to help you to develop an interest in speaking a foreign language, to gain awareness of the need to speak foreign languages, to appreciate the nature and diversity of different cultures and people and to acquire knowledge, skills and understanding for practical use, further study and employment. Choosing an A Level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and is a lot of fun along the way. You already know how essential languages are for integrating in a culture and getting the most out of your experience; you'll get more of a taste of life in a different country. Languages can take you to some wonderful places and give you many brilliant opportunities. Spanish is the third most widely-spoken language in the world and will open up not just Spain but also the whole of South America . . .

What Does The Course Involve?

A Level languages build upon your existing knowledge gained at GCSE, giving you a sound understanding of using your language in a variety of contexts and situations - at home, abroad, with friends or in the workplace. At A Level Spanish, you will study current trends and issues (for example new technologies) in Spanish-speaking society, as well as political and artistic culture (including a film) in the Spanish-speaking world. In Year 13 you will complete an individual research project. With around nine hours of class time a fortnight dedicated to learning your language, you will rapidly make noticeable improvements not only in your speaking and writing ability but also in your understanding and use of grammar and more advanced vocabulary. You will also have an individual weekly speaking session with a Spanish native speaker.

How Will I Be Assessed?

This is a two year linear course, assessed by examination at the end of Year 13. Examinations are as follows:

	Skills assessed	Duration	Marks	% of A Level
Paper 1	Listening, reading, writing and translation into and out of Spanish	2 hours 30 mins	100	50%
Paper 2	Writing	2 hours	80	20%
Paper 3	Speaking	23 mins max (including 5 mins' preparation time)	60	30%

Leading To A Career In?

Studying languages teaches you all the skills that employers look for: an analytical mind; good thought process; amazing memory capacity; fantastic cultural and intercultural awareness; good communication; great team player to name just a few. Languages are an invaluable skill to have and having a language can increase your salary by as much as 20% and gives you a head start on other potential employees. Speaking another language means you are vital to any company who does international business. You may need languages for all sorts of career destinations, not just the obvious ones of teaching, interpreting and translating: doctors, psychologists and physiotherapists need language skills to communicate effectively with patients whether they work in the UK or overseas; businessmen, bankers and entrepreneurs all need language skills to make deals and sell products on the global market; politicians, historians, geographers and holiday reps all need language skills to get to know the people and area that they are passionate about.

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C at GCSE, including a B in Spanish.

Why Study Sport?

Sport currently sits in the top 15 industrial sectors in England, contributing £20.3 billion to the economy in 2014, 1.9% of the total. The number of sport related jobs in the UK is estimated at over 400,000. The sector also has a large number of volunteers, with the estimated economic value of sport-related volunteering at c£2.7 billion. Additionally participation in sport brings health benefits to the nation, which is currently estimated at c£11.2 billion. The BTEC is:

- Is recognised by schools, colleges, universities and employers.
- Is a practical, real-world approach to learning.
- Offers progress to further education, training and employment.

What Does The Course Involve?

The BTEC in Sport teaches the knowledge and skills you need to work in the industry.

- Learn about about the components of fitness and the principles of training and explore different training methods.
- Develop team working skills by organizing and leading sports activities and events and carrying out a variety of roles in a team.
- Present your work in a variety of ways, online research & using applications for presenting projects.
- Develop business and customer awareness.
- Investigate opportunities for employment in the industry, as well as exploring trends which effect participation in sport.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: Edexcel. Assessment happens throughout the course, in the form of assignments. There are three core assignments and then there is flexibility to select what other three assignments you follow.

Mandatory Core Units:

Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport
The Physiology of Fitness
Assessing Risk in Sport

Optional Units:

Fitness Training and Programming
Sports Coaching
Sports Development
Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise
Practical Team Sports
Practical Individual Sports
Outdoor and Adventurous Activities
Sports Nutrition
Leadership in Sport
Exercise, Health and Lifestyle
Work Experience in the Sport, leisure and recreation sector.

Leading To A Career In?

Gym instructor, personal trainer, coach, sports massage therapist, sports management, teaching, physiotherapy, sports psychology, sports journalism

What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 A*-C.