



*Hinchingsbrooke School*

Inspiring excellence  
Fulfilling potential

Sixth Form Prospectus  
2019 – 2020



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

*Charlie Fordham*

*Director – Sixth Form*

## CONTENTS

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>CHOOSING YOUR SUBJECTS</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>ENRICHMENT</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>STUDENT VOICE AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>SUPPORT</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>TRANSITION &amp; INDUCTION</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>PROGRESSION</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>RESOURCES AND FACILITIES</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>CURRICULUM</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>KEY SIXTH FORM AND DEPARTMENTAL CONTACTS</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>COURSES FROM 2019</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>COURSES FROM 2019: ADVISED CURRICULUM PATHWAYS</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>COURSES FROM 2019: ENTRY CRITERIA</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>ART 'A' LEVEL (FINE ART: PAINTING &amp; DRAWING)</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>ART 'A' LEVEL (CONTEMPORARY FINE ART)</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>BIOLOGY 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>BUSINESS STUDIES 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>CHEMISTRY 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>COMPUTER SCIENCE 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>CRIMINOLOGY LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA</u>	<u>27</u>

DANCE BTEC	28
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN 'A' LEVEL	29
DRAMA BTEC	30
ECONOMICS 'A' LEVEL	31
ENGLISH LANGUAGE 'A' LEVEL	32
ENGLISH LITERATURE 'A' LEVEL	33
EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION	34
FILM STUDIES 'A' LEVEL	35
FINANCIAL SERVICES LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA	36
FRENCH 'A' LEVEL	37
GEOGRAPHY 'A' LEVEL	39
GERMAN 'A' LEVEL	41
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BTEC	43
HISTORY 'A' LEVEL	44
MATHEMATICS 'A' LEVEL	45
FURTHER MATHEMATICS 'A' LEVEL	46
MEDIA STUDIES 'A' LEVEL	47
MUSIC 'A' LEVEL	48
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY 'A' LEVEL	49
PE 'A' LEVEL	50
PHOTOGRAPHY 'A' LEVEL	51
PHYSICS 'A' LEVEL	53

<u>POLITICS 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>PSYCHOLOGY 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>55</u>
<u>RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>56</u>
<u>SCIENCE BTEC</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>SOCIOLOGY 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>SPANISH 'A' LEVEL</u>	<u>59</u>
<u>SPORT BTEC</u>	<u>61</u>

## 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 your 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 an inclusive and cohesive Sixth Form that is engaging and enjoyable, that offers a stunning range of opportunities, and that is academically aspirational, 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 university courses you may wish to study beyond school.

Some top universities regard a select group of 'A' Levels to be what they used to call 'facilitating' subjects, and for high ability students this should be taken into consideration as you make your choices. 'A' Levels have been reformed in recent years, but it remains the case that some courses have more credibility with top universities. On the other hand, many other universities accept all valid Level 3 courses, and are equally interested in what you will offer as a person. 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 6<sup>th</sup> will answer many of your questions, but if you feel you need any further help, please do contact the Sixth Form Team at Hinchingsbrooke.



*"Coming from another school, I have really liked the way the lessons are varied, and structured in a way to continually engage my interest." (Annie, Year 13).*

## 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 Huntingdonian 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 have a dynamic and competitive InterHouse competition, involving activities such as pumpkin carving, Battle of the Bands, university challenge quizzes, and dodgeball.

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 huge variety of enrichment opportunity available; and, anyway, you can create any club or society you want, as I did, and the Sixth Form helps and supports you.” (Joanna, 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 recent years. 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 School Council which oversees many of the student-led activities which take place in the school. As part of this 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 Hinchingsbrooke Student Council proudly boasts that it is "a student-led and student-powered organisation".

The school has a very strong House system and again, the r House Captains and House Ambassadors are sixth formers who promote and run 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.

*"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, 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
- Specialist programmes, such as physiotherapy and the use of purpose built disabled facilities
- Development of an Education, Health, and Care Plan.

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, Year 12)*

*“The teachers are so helpful and supportive. They will give you excellent support – all you have to do is ask.” (Evie, 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 Hinchingsbrooke School, around 25% 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 Hinchingsbrooke Sixth Form students, thus bringing a freshness and vitality to our community.

We have a structured three week 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, 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, Year 13)*

*"Teachers, particularly tutors, give you all the help you need with cvs and apprenticeship*

*applications, and I found the Employment Pathway resources practical and helpful."  
(Adrian, Year 13).*



## RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

---

Hinchingbrooke Sixth Form is exceptionally located in Hinchingbrooke 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'.

*"Hinchingbrooke is a great place to learn. So much history and a fab setting"*  
(Hannah, Year 12).

## CURRICULUM

---

Over the next pages are the courses which we will be offering in the Sixth Form from September 2019.

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 4 or above, including at least one of English or Maths. However there are fewer subject choices appropriate for a student who does not pass English or Maths GCSE with at least a 4, and so if they have not qualified for the courses for which they have applied, if we are unable to find them suitable alternative choices, we reserve the right in that instance to withdraw their offer of a place.

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.

At Hinchingsbrooke we enter 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 12). 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 5.5 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. Whilst we generally expect and encourage students to do dissertations or investigations, 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.



*Year 13 parent, August 2018: "Now that she has successfully completed her time at Hinchingsbrooke School we would like to thank all of you who have been involved in teaching her and/or providing outstanding pastoral care during difficult periods, particularly in Sixth Form. With your support, guidance and understanding she has managed to tackle and get through very challenging situations, reaching a stability which has encouraged her to make positive plans for the future. Without your continuous help and work with us, this would not have been possible. Please may you give our sincere gratitude to everyone who has been part of her journey during the last two years and to the wonderful pastoral care team who has been standing by us throughout her time at the school."*

*Year 13 parent, August 2018: "I want to tell you how very grateful I am to all of those people who have helped my son so much during his two years at the school. You all, teachers and support staff, have been magnificent! You have really demonstrated dedication, generosity and true kindness to him. He's clearly enjoyed his time with you, and learnt so much. Strong lessons in life, as well as in subject areas! All with a unique and full-hearted sense of humour and warm humanity."*

## KEY SIXTH FORM AND DEPARTMENTAL CONTACTS

School Switchboard 01480 37500

Role	Name	Email	Ext
Director of Sixth Form	Mr C Fordham	<a href="mailto:cwf@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">cwf@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5745
Deputy Director of Sixth Form	Mr T Wheeley	<a href="mailto:trw@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">trw@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5742
Deputy Director of Sixth Form	Ms K Moyes	<a href="mailto:kfm@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">kfm@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5742
Student Support Officer	Ms J Edwards	<a href="mailto:jce@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">jce@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5744
Sixth Form Administrator	Ms A Stephenson	<a href="mailto:acs@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">acs@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5744

SUBJECT	Head Of Department	Email	Ext
Art	Ms A Lombard	<a href="mailto:aml@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">aml@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5768
Business/Economics	Ms S Haines	<a href="mailto:syh@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">syh@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5710
Dance	Ms M Trewin	<a href="mailto:mlt@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">mlt@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5785
Design & Technology	Ms C Lee	<a href="mailto:czi@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">czi@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5767
Drama	Ms N Akielan	<a href="mailto:nla@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">nla@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5605
English	Ms S Spikesley	<a href="mailto:sls@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">sls@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5759
Extended Project	Ms C Black	<a href="mailto:cmb@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">cmb@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5795
Film Studies	Mr P Lloyd	<a href="mailto:pl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">pl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5743
Geography	Mr B Evans	<a href="mailto:bje@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">bje@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5795
History	Mr J Leigh	<a href="mailto:jdl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">jdl@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5761
Computing	Mr D Bowen	<a href="mailto:dib@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">dib@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5802
Maths	Ms C Gratton	<a href="mailto:ceg@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">ceg@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5788
Languages	Ms A Roberts/Ms L Nunez	<a href="mailto:amr@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk/lhn@etc">amr@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk/lhn@etc</a>	5796
Music/Music Technology	Mr W Cooke	<a href="mailto:wrc@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">wrc@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5783
PE	Mr J Turnbull	<a href="mailto:jat@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">jat@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5785
Philosophy	Ms C Newman	<a href="mailto:cn@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">cn@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5798
Science	Mr S Moore	<a href="mailto:snm@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">snm@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5773
Social Sciences	Ms S Dearnaley	<a href="mailto:sd@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk">sd@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk</a>	5747

## COURSES FROM 2019

---

Below is the list of courses offered in the Sixth Form for entrants in 2019. They are 'A' Levels unless stated otherwise. Details of courses are on pp 14-49:

**Art**  
**Art (Contemporary)**  
**Biology**  
**Business Studies**  
**Chemistry**  
**Computing**  
**Criminology Level 3 Diploma\***  
**Dance BTEC\***  
**DT**  
**Drama BTEC**  
**Economics**  
**English Language**  
**English Literature**  
**Extended Project**  
**Film Studies**  
**Financial Services Level 3 Diploma**  
**French**  
**Geography**  
**German**  
**Health and Social Care BTEC**  
**History**  
**Maths and Further Maths**  
**Media Studies**  
**Music**  
**Music Technology**  
**PE**  
**Politics**  
**Photography**  
**Physics**  
**Psychology**  
**Religion, Philosophy and Ethics**  
**Science BTEC**  
**Sociology**  
**Spanish**  
**Sport BTEC**



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

## COURSES FROM 2019: ADVISED CURRICULUM PATHWAYS

Please note these pathways are descriptive, rather than prescriptive; if a student wishes to do subjects from other pathways, providing they are qualified, and have received guidance from us, they can.

Achieved mostly grades 4 at GCSE.

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

Will have an average point score of below 5, but with a minimum of five 4s.

- Business Applied
- Health and Social Care
- Contemporary Fine Art
- Media Studies
- Criminology
- Music Technology
- Dance BTEC
- Photography
- Drama BTEC
- Science BTEC
- DT Product Design
- Sport BTEC
- Fine Art

Will have an average point score of between 5 and 6

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

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

Will have an average point score of between 6 and 7

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 consider doing facilitating subjects.<sup>1</sup> They should consider the Extended Project.

- Biology
- Physics
- Chemistry

plus the Extended Project.

Will have an average point score of above 7

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 should do at least two facilitating subjects.

They should do the Extended Project if they are not doing four 'A' Levels.

<sup>1</sup> \*'Facilitating subject' is the name given by top universities to a list of what are considered to be more challenging 'A' Levels. Several of these universities state they prefer to see at least two facilitating subjects when students apply to them. However, 'A' Levels have recently been reformed, and it may be that this distinction will disappear in the future.

## COURSES FROM 2019: ENTRY CRITERIA

---

Subject	Entry Criteria
Art	4 in Art*
Art (Contemporary)	4 in Art*
Biology	7 in Biology and 6 in Maths. For Combined Science students, grade 7-7 in Science and 6 in Maths
Business Studies	5 in English Language and Maths*
Chemistry	7 in Chemistry and 6 in Maths. For Combined Science students, grade 7-7 in Science and 6 in Maths
Computer Science	5 in Maths. 5 in Computer Science*
Criminology Level 3 Diploma*	4 in English Language
Dance BTEC*	Dance experience needed*
DT	5 in a design related subject*
Drama BTEC	4 in Drama (or performing equivalent)
Economics	5 in English and 5 in Maths*
English Language	5 in English Language or English Literature
English Literature	5 in English Language or English Literature
Extended Project	5 average*
Film Studies	4 in English Language
Financial Services Level 3 Diploma	Five 4s
French	6 in French
Geography	5 in Geography
German	6 in German
Health and Social Care BTEC	4 in English Language*
History	5 in History. 5 in English Language*
Maths	At least a 6 and preferably a 7 in Maths*
Maths (Further)	8 Maths.*
Media Studies	5 in English Language.
Music	5 in Music.*
Music Technology	4 in Music.*
PE	4 in Science and 4 in PE are preferable but not required.
Photography	4 in Art.*
Physics	7 in Physics and 6 in Maths. For Combined Science students, grade 7-7 in Science and 6 in Maths.
Politics	5 in English Language.
Psychology	5 in at least one science and 5 in Maths and English Language.
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics	5s in English Language, and, preferably, Religious Studies.
Science BTEC	4 in English Language and Maths, 4s in Double Science.*
Sociology	5 in English Language.
Spanish	6 in Spanish
Sport BTEC	Five 4s

\*= there is further information about entry criteria in this subject in the subject pages starting p14.

## Art 'A' Level (Fine Art: Painting & Drawing)

---

### Why Study Art?

- If your intention is to follow a creative career.
- The course is designed to encourage creativity, imagination and independence based on personal experience, taught skills and critical understanding, transferable to other areas.
- To study as a subject that may be either a positive contrast or complement to your other chosen subjects – Photography, Film Studies, Media Studies, The Social Sciences, Maths, Music, Performing Arts, Dance,

### What Does The Course Involve?

This is a specific area of study around Painting and Drawing.

Students will work in areas such as: portraiture, landscape, still life, the human form, abstract and narrative.

Materials and techniques will include: learning a range of techniques in oil painting, acrylic painting, watercolour painting, mark making in drawing materials and mixed media.

A wide range of artists and art movements will be studied, including Contemporary works.

### Trips & Additional Activities

There are trips out to relevant galleries and exhibitions in London throughout the course, such as the Tate Modern the Courthauld Institute, The BP Portrait Prize and National Portrait Gallery.

There is a foreign trip in May of Year 12 and residential UK trip at the beginning of Year 13. University and Degree Show trips are also organised; including to our partner the University of Creative Arts.

Lectures by department staff and guest visitors are organised throughout the course, and portfolio sessions and workshops are run in Year 13. Creative work experience placements are facilitated.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

*Exam board: AQA*

1. Component 1 – Personal Investigation (60% of the final grade):
  - a portfolio of practical work in response to a brief or stimulus, devised and provided by the centre;
  - a related study: an extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words.
2. Component 2 – Externally Set Task (40% of the final grade) 12 week prep period and 15 hour exam

### Leading to a Career/ Further Courses In?

Architecture, Interior Architecture, Fine Art, Art Historian, Graphic Design, Computer Aided Design, Games Design, work in aspects of Film and TV, Photography, Illustration, Museum and Curating work, etc.

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

4 in Art. This course cannot be taken with Contemporary Fine Art but can be taken with Photography.



## Art 'A' Level (Contemporary Fine Art)

---

### Why Study Art?

- The course is designed to encourage creativity, imagination and independence based on personal experience, taught skills and critical understanding, transferable to other areas.
- To study as a subject that may be either a positive contrast or to complement your other chosen subjects – Photography, Film Studies, Media Studies, The Social Sciences, Maths, Music, Performing Arts, Dance.

### What Does The Course Involve?

This is a broad course of study.

Students will work in areas such as: portraiture, landscape, still life, human form, abstraction, narrative, experimental imagery and working in a genre.

Materials and techniques could include: Mark making, mixed-media, painting, collage, lino printing, etching, collograph, intaglio, batik, felt making, applique, textiles, fashion, ceramics, sculpture, plaster casting, digital manipulation, installation, sound work. A wide range of artists, designers, crafts people and art movements will be studied, including Contemporary works.

### Trips & Additional Activities

There are trips out to relevant galleries and exhibitions in London throughout the course, such as the Tate Modern, the Design Museum, the V&A and the Whitechapel Gallery.

There is a foreign trip in May of Year 12 and residential UK trip at the beginning of Year 13. University and Degree Show trips are also organised; including to our partner the University of Creative Arts.

Lectures by department staff and guest visitors are organised throughout the course, and portfolio sessions and workshops are run in Year 13. Creative work experience placements are facilitated.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

*Exam board: AQA.*

1. Component 1 – Personal Investigation (60% of the final grade):
  - a portfolio of practical work in response to a brief or stimulus, devised and provided by the centre
  - a related study: an extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words.
2. Component 2 – Externally Set Task (40% of the final grade) 12 week prep period and 15 hour exam

### Leading To A Career/ Further Courses In?

Textile Design, Fashion Design, Fashion Communication, Surface Design, Sculptor, Product Design, 3D Design, Interior Design, Fine Art, Art Historian, Graphic Design, Computer Game Design, Photography, Illustration, Animation, Digital Design.

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

4 in Art. This course cannot be taken with Fine Art but can be taken with Photography.



### 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?

For Triple Science students, 7 in Biology and 6 in Maths. For Combined Science students, grade 7-7 in Science and 6 in Maths.

### Why Study Business?

What happened to Woolworths? Why is House of Fraser in trouble? Should the USA be imposing trade sanctions on China? What are the implications of this political move? A set of company accounts shows that despite a turn over £1.3m last year; they not making a profit; why? Are managers worth high salaries? Why don't women earn as much as men? Is globalisation good or bad for consumers? Is there room for ethics in business?

If you are interested in discovering the answers to these and many more questions, then 'A' Level Business is for you. Not just a theoretical subject, but about real life, by studying this 'A' Level you will gain an insight into the dynamic world of business. You will gain an holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts, developing a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants.

The skills you develop (decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis) are in demand by employers and universities alike. Studying 'A' Level Business will equip and prepare you not just for Higher Education, but beyond. Whether you want to start your own business, work in the private or public sector, or even have ambitions to become the next Richard Branson, 'A' Level Business will give you the knowledge and understanding necessary to take those next steps.

### What Does The Course Involve?

You will study a broad range of topics, from the role of an entrepreneur to controlling multi-national corporations. You will consider business ethics, exploring issues of wage discrimination, animal rights and treatment of workers in foreign countries. Your numerical skills will be honed as you develop the knowledge and understanding of how to interpret a set of company accounts and learn how to carry out investment appraisal.

The business world is fast moving; the 'A' Level in Business expects you to keep up to date with current news stories and ever-changing developments. The final exam paper is based on a pre-released case study, allowing you the opportunity to carry out in depth research into a real business industry or problem. An intensive study workshop visit will equip you to achieve your full potential in your final exams.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: Edexcel. 100% exam based.

Paper 1	Marketing, people and global business	35%
Paper 2	Business activities, decisions and strategy	35%
Paper 3	Investigating business in a competitive environment	30%

### 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, marketing, human resources, distribution, sales, accounting, law, education, central or local government, business consultancy, entrepreneurship, management.

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 in English Language and Maths. You do not have to have studied Business previously but if you have, you should have achieved GCSE Grade 5 or CNAT Level 2 Merit. If you have a 5 in Maths we will require you to do a numeracy test to ensure you can access the mathematical demands of the course.

## Chemistry 'A' Level

---

### 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 Hinchbrooke. 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?

For Triple Science students, 7 in Chemistry and 6 in Maths. For Combined Science students, grade 7-7 in Science and 6 in Maths.



## **Leading To A Career In?**

As computer science permeates everyday life, from how devices communicate with each other over the internet to robotics, thinking machines, cyber-security, data analytics and artificial intelligence, the choice of specialised careers is unrivalled. Typical roles in industry include software engineer, developer, analyst, project manager, software architect, tester and operational manager; career development opportunities are almost unlimited within the industry.

## **What Are The Entry Criteria?**

5 in Maths. 5 in Computing, or department approval needed. This will involve demonstrating confidence with programming skills.

### **Why Study Criminology?**

Not all types of crime are alike. Are you interested in the different types of crime that take place in our society? Are criminals born, or made? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What are the different roles of everyone involved when a crime is detected?

Criminology is a course that combines the subjects of Psychology, Law, Politics and Forensic Science to form a new discipline of its own. This is a growing subject nationally. The course can broaden your field of study in the social sciences. You will explore the causes of criminal behaviour, attitudes to crime, criminal investigations and the wider social and psychological aspects of crime.

By studying the underlying causes of crime, we potentially develop solutions. Part of this is exploring ways of how to rehabilitate the criminal. You will explore theories of criminality and use these to analyse criminal scenarios and put forward possible ways of improving society's response to crime, and hence of reducing it.

### **What Does The Course Involve?**

The course covers an exciting range of topics, covering the Changing Awareness of Crime, Criminological Theories, Crime Scene to Courtroom and Crime and Punishment.

#### *Unit 1 – Changing Awareness of Crime*

You will explore how crime reporting affects the public perception of crime and criminals. You will then go on to study how campaigns are used to bring about change and plan a campaign of your own.

#### *Unit 2 – Criminological Theories*

You will discover and assess all the theories that have been put forward to explain why crime occurs.

#### *Unit 3 – Crime Scene to Courtroom:*

You will gain an understanding of the process of criminal investigations. You will then go on to learn about the prosecution of suspects and be able to review criminal cases.

#### *Unit 4 – Crime and Punishment*

You will study every aspect of the criminal justice system and the types and purposes of punishment in England & Wales.

### **How Will I Be Assessed?**

Exam board: WJEC. 50% exam, 50% coursework.

### **Leading To A Career In?**

This course is ideal for anyone who wishes to pursue a career in Criminology. This course can provide a route into Higher Education to study at degree level in a variety of areas such as Criminology, Criminal Justice, Psychology and Forensic Science.

The course would also provide an excellent basis to anyone wishing to pursue a career within Social Work, Mental Health, the Police Force, Customs and Immigration, Prison Services, Court Services, Security Services, the NHS, Education and Youth and Community Services

### **What Are The Entry Requirements?**

4 in English Language.

### 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 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts: DANCE

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?

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. Innovative styling attracts us to a product whilst graphic design is used to promote it through the medium of marketing. There is a strong demand for students in the Design, Engineering and Construction industries who are capable of developing solutions to today's problems. This course provides you with a solid base from which to develop your Design and Making skills, using a range of materials and manufacturing methods to become Designers and Engineers of the future.



This course allows students to provide a solution to a 'real' problem linked to product design, interior design or architecture. Students will work with a client of their choosing 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, Graphics, Electronics or Product Design at GCSE.

## What Does The Course Involve?



There will be a series of small projects during year 12 to build up skills before starting the 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 continually be developing designing and making skills and be encouraged to explore sketching techniques. Students will not be expected to make everything they design so they are not limited to the materials and processes in the department. During the projects students will develop a bank of theoretical knowledge in preparation for their end of year 13 exam.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

50% Coursework, 50% Exam. The coursework is a project of your choosing where you will Research, Design, Develop, Test and Evaluate your end product. The Exam at the end of Year 13 will test the theory learnt over the two years.

## Leading To A Career In?

Product Design, Architecture, Interior Design, Robotics, Automotive Industry, Fashion, Publishing, Digital Media, Film and Media, Aerospace, Civil Engineering, Construction, Armed Forces, Graphic Design or an Art foundation course. This course will help you to demonstrate a wide range of skills in your portfolio. It is a subject that links well to other areas of the curriculum even if you do not continue with a design career.

## What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 in a design related subject at GCSE. Students achieving a 4 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?

4 in Drama (or performing equivalent).



### Why Study Economics?

The pound's getting stronger. Is that good or bad? The Bank of England target for inflation is 2%, so how is it that this figure is so hard to maintain? And why do we want inflation anyway? If prices go up, why can't we have wage increases to match?

Should we care about BREXIT? Why don't 'THEY' spend more money on education and health care? Who are 'THEY' and where do they get their money from? How do you put a cost on the environmental impact of economic activity? What has influenced Tesco's to open 'Jack's' and how do firms behave when under the threat of competition? How can we continue to meet ever increasing wants and needs from finite economic resources?

Will studying Economics mean I will earn more money?

If you are interested in discovering the answers to these and many more questions, then 'A' Level Economics is for you. Gone are the days when Economics was a dry, theoretical subject, Economics is a live, ever changing subject that explores the world around us. Without a knowledge of Economics, how can you understand what is being reported in the news or trust what politicians are telling you? Coming out of the 2009 financial crisis has been a long, slow haul for the UK economy. Now we are facing the challenges posed by BREXIT. If you want to understand what is happening in the economy, then 'A' Level Economics is a great place to start. And yes, studying Economics has been shown to lead to higher earnings (a number of reports show that Economics graduates earn more than other students, although we can't guarantee you'll be a millionaire!). Whilst Economics isn't a facilitating subject as it is not specifically required for entry to degree courses, it is recognised by universities as a subject which provides '*suitable preparation for entry to university*', Russell Group Informed Choices.

### What Does The Course Involve?

You will study a broad range of topics, from the basic economic problem of how we meet ever increasing wants and needs from finite resources, to how to control the economy through monetary and fiscal policy. Economics is broken down into two sub topics; macro and micro economics. Macro looks at the economy as a whole, for example, how the government and Bank of England use monetary and fiscal policy to create the right environment for firms to operate. Micro economics considers the way that firms behave. You will need strong mathematical skills and a good sense of logic. Intensive study workshop visits will equip you to achieve your full potential in your final exams.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: tbc. 100% exam based. 3 x 2 hour papers.

### Leading To A Career In?

Economics will open doors to a wide range of university degree courses and careers. Former Economics students have gone on to study: Accounting, Business Management, Economics, History, Construction Management, Politics, Social Policy, and even Dentistry!

Economics could lead you to a career in finance, the City, stockbroking, currency trading, fund management, central and local government planning, charity management, education and management.

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 in English and 5 in Maths. You do not need to have studied Business previously but, where you have, you should have achieved GCSE Grade 5 or CNAT Level 2 Merit. If you have a 5 in Maths we will require you to do a numeracy test to ensure you can access the mathematical demands of the course.

### 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 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*

100% 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 in English Language or English Literature.

## Extended Project Qualification

---

### 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
<b>AO1 Manage</b> Identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	9	17%
<b>AO2 Use resources</b> 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%
<b>AO3 Develop and realise</b> 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%
<b>AO4 Review</b> 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%
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100%</b>

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

The EPQ is an optional curriculum extra for students who gain a GCSE point score of 5.5 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?

4 in English Language.

### Why Study Financial Studies?

Moving into Sixth Form means taking your first steps into the 'real' world. You will likely get a part time job, open a bank account if you don't already have one and take out your first insurance policy in your own name. You may start to use a debit card and, if you go to university, you'll certainly get into debt!

How will you navigate your way through the financial minefield of bank accounts, credit cards, mortgages, loans, insurance policies etc? How will you ensure your financial sustainability over the short and long term?

On 6 September 2018, the BBC news reported that up to 8.3 million people in the UK are unable to pay off debts or household bills. The consequences of this can be devastating. The Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Financial Studies (AS and 'A' Level equivalent) will equip you with a financial understanding that many adults lack, ensuring you are prepared to tackle important financial decisions as you go through life.

### What Does The Course Involve?

Through the use of the LIBF on line study resources, you will develop independent study skills, enabling you to become an autonomous learner. You may study the Certificate in Financial Studies as a stand-alone, one year qualification. You must pass the Certificate in order to progress to the Diploma. Practical activities involving group work and presentations will develop your team working skills. You will undertake independent research and be expected to keep up to date with current affairs and news stories. You will learn how to analyse financial products and make recommendations for a specific client, eg the best credit card for a young adult, or the best pet or home insurance policy for an older client. You will learn the terminology and jargon associated with financial products.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: London Institute of Banking and Finance (LIBF). 100% exam based.

Assessment	Modules	Entry Criteria
<b>Certificate:</b> 2 x 45 min, 35 mark m/c questions 2 x 1 ¾ hr exam pre-release case study	1. Financial Capability for the immediate and short term. 2. Financial Capability for the medium and long term.	5 x GCSE at Grade 4 or above, including Eng and Maths. Students do not need to have studied Business previously but, where they have, they should have achieved Grade 4 or L2P.
<b>Diploma:</b> As above <b>plus:</b> 2 x 1 hour 35 mark m/c questions 2 x 2 hour exam pre-release case study	3. Sustainability of an individual's finances. 4. Sustainability of the financial services system.	

### Leading To A Career In?

Financial Studies is widely recognised by universities and carries the same UCAS points as any 'A' Level. The LIBF itself offers full time undergraduate banking and finance courses. Students who have studied the Diploma in Financial Studies are ideally equipped to progress to careers in the financial world, particularly in the field of financial adviser, mortgage broker, banking, etc.

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

Five 4s

### 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
<b>Paper 1</b>	Listening, reading, writing and translation into and out of French	2 hours 30 mins	100	50%
<b>Paper 2</b>	Writing	2 hours	80	20%
<b>Paper 3</b>	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?

6 in French.

## Geography 'A' Level

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



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 optional trips to support different aspects of the course, including; Iceland, New York and Malaysia.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: OCR

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



### 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 in Geography.

### 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
<b>Paper 1</b>	Listening, reading, writing and translation into and out of German	2 hours 30 mins	100	50%
<b>Paper 2</b>	Writing	2 hours	80	20%
<b>Paper 3</b>	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?**

6 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 are: Human Lifespan Development, Working in Health and Social Care, Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs, and Psychological Perspectives.



### **How Will I be Assessed?**

The course will include both coursework and examined units. The examination board used is Edexcel/Pearson

### **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, childcare, 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?**

4 in English Language. 4 in a science is preferable.

## History 'A' Level

---

### 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"><li><b>England</b> The Tudors: England, 1485- 1603</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>USA:</b> The making of a super power: USA, 1865-1975</li></ul>	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"><li><b>Germany</b> Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918- 1945</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>England</b> The English Revolution: 1625-1660</li></ul>	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"><li><b>Russia:</b> The making of modern Russia, 1856-1964</li></ul>		In this unit you will carry out an historical enquiry on Russian History.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: AQA. 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?

5 in History GCSE. 5 in English Language.

Only one History course out of History A and History B can be taken.

### 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 Does The Course Involve?

Employers value skills such as problem solving, logical thinking and an ability to articulate clear written arguments. 'A' Level Mathematics is focused very much on developing these skills and written work based around algebraic communication will feature in almost every lesson.

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 real mathematical meanings of some things you thought you already 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. A particular focus of the new 'A' Level is understanding large data sets and on using technology to solve problems. All students will need a Casio Classwiz or an approved graphical calculator for use during the course

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).

Students who excel at Maths can opt to study Further Maths alongside their 'A' Level in Maths to get a second 'A' Level in Further Maths. Most students opting for Further Maths do so as a fourth subject.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: OCR – Assessment is all via exam papers

### 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, Computer Science and Economics. With further training, you could go into a job related to Mathematics such as an Accountant, Engineer, Financial Adviser, Business Manager, Software Engineer 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 at least a 6 and preferably a 7 in GCSE Maths. Students with a 6 in Maths GCSE can be successful depending on their algebra skills but are required to take an entrance test before being accepted onto the course to assess their suitability.

Only one Maths course out of Maths (one 'A' Level) and Further Maths (two 'A' Levels) can be taken.

### Why Study Further Maths?

Further Maths is a unique 'A' Level that offers students who have traditionally excelled in Mathematics the chance to look even deeper at key mathematical principles and to earn two distinct 'A' Level qualifications: one in 'A' Level Maths and one in 'A' Level Further Maths. There are several reasons why students should consider studying Further Maths:

- If you enjoy Maths then what is not to like about doing more of it! The Further Maths course offers the greatest insight into what real mathematics is about and develops the subject to provide a fuller understanding of both its applied and abstract nature. The extra maths practice/lessons also really help to consolidate success in the single 'A' Level Maths qualification.
- Students wanting to study Maths or Engineering at a top university will generally have been expected to have studied Further Maths at 'A' Level. Students applying for these courses who have not studied Further Maths are at a disadvantage.
- The content in Further Maths often overlaps with first year degree courses in several related disciplines such as Chemistry, Physics and Economics. Students who have already covered this content in the sixth form have an advantage over those that have not.
- Despite its unique place in post 16 education, Further Maths is still in the top 15 of the most popular 'A' Level subjects taken by students.

### What Does The Course Involve?

Students studying 'A' Level Further Maths are taught a bespoke course in a separate class that covers all of the content for 'A' Level Maths alongside the extra content for Further Maths. Students studying Further Maths need to have excellent algebraic skills and a love for the abstract nature of the subject. As in 'A' Level Mathematics, 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 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.

All students studying Further Maths will cover the 'A' Level Maths Course, plus a second 'A' Level of which 50% is pure maths (complex numbers, further calculus, hyperbolic functions, matrices and differential equations) and the other 50% is split equally between mechanics and statistics, building on the topics covered in the single 'A' Level. Students are recommended to have an approved graphical calculator.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam Board: OCR – Assessment is all via exam papers at the end of Year 13.

### 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, Computer Science and Economics. With further training, you could go into a job related to Mathematics such as an Accountant, Engineer, Financial Adviser, Business Manager, Software Engineer 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?

You cannot study Further Maths without studying for 'A' Level Maths. The entry requirement is 8 in GCSE mathematics, but what is most important is a love for the subject and strong independent study skills..

## Media Studies 'A' Level

---

### Why Study Media?

The media plays a central role in contemporary culture, society and politics, shaping our perceptions of the world through the representations, ideas and points of view they offer. This course aims to explore how Media texts create meaning, and how their representations of the world affect audiences. You will also look at the economic and cultural context in which individual media texts operate, through the close analysis of a range of media texts – both 'traditional' media (newspapers, television, films,) and digital online media (blogs, websites). You will also develop practical production skills and will be required to produce your own media products.

Any student with an interest in the Media and/or thoughts of following a Higher Education course in Media / Film / Communications / Journalism / Cultural Studies would benefit from taking this course.

The course works well with many subjects but especially English Language, English Literature, DT (Graphics), Photography, Film Studies and Sociology.



### What Does The Course Involve?

This contemporary, accessible and creative course has been designed to allow learners to study the media in an academic context and apply the knowledge and understanding gained to the process of creating their own media production.

Macs, video and still cameras, and other necessary equipment are all also freely available to students for all creative projects that you undertake during the

Media Studies is designed to widen the intellectual horizons of the learner through the analysis of a wide range of media forms and contexts. It will enable students to develop a wider understanding and appreciation of the media in both an historical and contemporary context. Over the two year 'A' Level, students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding across a range of different media forms and will develop a critical understanding of the media and of media products. Students will respond to a short, unseen moving image extract in exam conditions and will apply their knowledge and understanding of the media to the creation of their own media product

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: tba. 70% exam, 30% coursework.

### Leading To A Career In?

The course is relevant to students considering a career in Media. It can lead directly to training, or to a place on a Media degree course. You will develop a range of skills on the course, which could lead to a number of different options in employment or Higher Education. Media Studies can lead to industry-related roles in areas such as production, journalism and photography.

### What Are The Entry Requirements?

5 in English Language.

## Music 'A' Level

---

### 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 works, homework on compositional techniques and composition, developing performing skills – practice lessons, concerts, research.



set

### 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 in Music. Grade 5 Theory and Grade 5 at an instrument recommended.

## Music Technology 'A' Level

---

### 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?

Grade 4 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?

4 in Science and 4 in PE are preferable but not required.



## Photography 'A' Level

---

### Why Study Photography?

The course is designed to encourage creativity, imagination and independence based on personal experience, taught skills and critical understanding, transferable to other areas.

To study as a subject that may be either a positive contrast or complement to your other chosen subjects – Fine Art, Contemporary Fine Art, Film Studies, Media Studies, The Social Sciences, Music, Performing Arts, Dance, Criminology.

### What Does The Course Involve?

This is a broad course of study.

The study of traditional photographic techniques including, researching light exposure, film speed, aperture variation, focus. Dark Room techniques. Photograms, Cyanotypes, Photo-montage. Moving image/time based Photography. Digital Photography including image manipulation, through various software packages including Photoshop.

Drawing to develop ideas and outcomes, Use of a range of techniques to combine traditional photography, digital photography, drawings and collage/ montage to realise outcomes. A wide range of photographers, artists, film makers and art movements will be studied, including Contemporary works.

### Trips & Additional Activities

There are trips out to relevant galleries and exhibitions in London throughout the course, such as the Photographers Gallery, the Courthauld Institute, The Tate Modern

There is a foreign trip in May of Year 12 and residential UK trip at the beginning of Year 13.

University and Degree Show trips are also organised; including to our partner the University of Creative Arts.

Lectures by department staff and guest visitors are organised throughout the course, and portfolio sessions and workshops are run in Year 13.

Creative work experience placements are facilitated.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board: AQA.

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 between 1000 and 3000 words.

Component 2 – Externally Set Task (40% of the final grade) 12 week prep period and 15 hour exam

### Leading To A Career/ Further Courses In?

Photography – Commercial, Fashion, Documentary, Advertising, TV work, Reporting, Film Studies, Media Studies, Digital Art, Communication, Photography Historian, Animation, Museum and Curating work.



## **What Are The Entry Requirements?**

4 in Art. Photography can be taken alongside both Fine Art or Contemporary Fine Art.

## Physics 'A' Level

---

### 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?

For Triple Science students, 7 in Physics and 6 in Maths. For Combined Science students, grade 7-7 in Science and 6 in Maths.



### Why Study Politics?

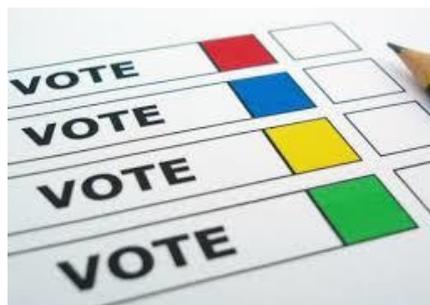
This course will give you valuable insights into the world of political ideas, processes and key institutions. There can be no better time to study Politics due to the rapidity of change in the world. The loss of confidence in governments in the West and the rise of populist political movements, the 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 in English Language.

### 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.

The course involves the study of 3 areas that contain various topics related to psychology:

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

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

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



### How Will I Be Assessed?

100% examination after two years. Each of the three papers above will be two hours long.

The examination board followed is AQA.

### 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 in at least one science and 5 in Maths and English Language.

## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics 'A' Level

---

### Why Study RPE?

'A' Level RPE provides students with a broad introduction to the study of religious, philosophical and ethical concepts.

This course is designed to:

- develop a range of transferable skills which can be applied far beyond the study of RPE
- enable students to develop the ability to reason, form their own judgements, express themselves coherently and contribute to the process of debate
- develop an understanding and appreciation of religious thought and its contribution to individuals, communities and societies.

"There are some advanced level subjects which provide suitable preparation for entry to university generally...Examples of such subjects include...Religious Studies." The Russell Group *Informed Choices* 2015/2016

### What Does The Course Involve?

You will study three main areas of the course:

- **Philosophy** – Can we prove God exists? Is religion a product of the mind? Does the modern world need religion? Is there a problem with the language we use when talking about philosophical issues?
- **Ethics** – What do we mean when we say 'good' and 'bad'? Are we completely free to act as we choose? Should we agree with: abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment and nuclear weapons?
- **Christianity** – How reliable are religious texts? Is God male or female? Can we still believe in religion with the challenges from science? Does celebrating Easter and Christmas make us religious?



### How Will I Be Assessed?

Exam board Eduqas. RPE is assessed by three two-hour examination papers (one on each of the above areas) at the end of the 'A' Level.

### Leading To A Career In?

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

RPE 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?

5s in English Language, and, preferably, Religious Studies.

### Why Study The Applied 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?

4 in English Language and Maths, 5s in Double Science, or 'A' Level 2 Diploma in Science at Merit.

### 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. There is also a growing focus on the impact of globalisation at international, national and local levels so an interest in current affairs is beneficial when studying Sociology.

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

They should also learn to present explanations, ideas and arguments in a coherent and logical form as 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.

The course involves the study of three areas that contain various topics related to Sociology:

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods.

Paper 2: *Topics in Sociology*: Work, poverty and welfare, then Beliefs in Society.

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 in English Language.



## Spanish 'A' Level

---

### 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 Spanish 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
<b>Paper 1</b>	Listening, reading, writing and translation into and out of Spanish	2 hours 30 mins	100	50%
<b>Paper 2</b>	Writing	2 hours	80	20%
<b>Paper 3</b>	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?**

6 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 recognised by schools, colleges, universities and employers; 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?

Five 4s.