

SHENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM



A Consise Guide to Subject Information
for Courses starting 2024
(Subjects will only run with sufficient
demand)

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<u>KEY DATES</u>	
Application Deadline:	12th January 2024
SHS student consultations completed by:	2nd February 2024
Formal offers made week beginning:	18th March 2024
Students must reply to offers by:	15th April 2024
Sixth Form Induction:	24th June and 25th June 2024
GCSE results issued on:	22nd August 2024

PATHWAYS

Shenfield High School offers three distinct pathways for Sixth Form study:

Pathway 1: 4 A-Levels	8 GCSEs/Level 2 BTEC at 5/Merit grade (to include an English and Maths) + individual course requirements
Pathway 2: 3 A-Levels	6 GCSEs/Level 2 at 5/Merit grade (to include an English and Maths) + individual course requirements
Pathway 3: BTEC Extended Diploma	6 GCSEs/Level 2 at 4/Pass grade (to include an English and Maths) + individual course requirements
BTEC Extended Certificates can be studied alongside A-Levels in Pathways 1 & 2	

All pathways can be pursued alongside the Football, Cricket or Performing Arts Academies.

The pathway available to students will depend on their KS4 results profile and in the case of the Football, Cricket and Performing Arts Academies their success in trials or auditions.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Combined Science counts as two separate grades
- A Level 2 BTEC qualification counts as 1 qualification
- Applications to the Sixth Form are considered on an individual basis
- Students must meet the entry requirements for each subject they choose
- If students meet the Sixth Form grade profile requirements but fail to achieve a 4 in English Language/Literature or Mathematics, entry into the Sixth Form will need to be considered carefully by the Sixth Form Team. If successful, resit classes will be compulsory
- The availability of all subjects and courses is dependent on viable class numbers
- The school reserves the right to cancel under-subscribed courses or withdraw the course if not funded
- Each course also has its individual entry requirements. Please see its specific page for these details
- Student's subject choice must fit our option blocks. A maximum of one subject can be chosen from each block
- The option blocks are set
- Our Sixth Form has a capacity of 175 students in Year 12 for September 2024

Y12 Option Blocks for 2024 - 2026

Option P	Option Q	Option R	Option S
Business Studies	Business Studies	Biology	Art
Computer Science	Chemistry	Economics	Economics
Film Studies	English Literature	English Language	History
Geography	Further Maths	Maths	Maths
Law	PE	Media	Media
Theatre Studies	Politics	Music	Physics
	Psychology	Music Technology	Psychology
	Sociology	Sociology	Sport Ext Cert
		Music (Performance) Ext Cert	
Extended Diplomas – these take up all 4 Option Blocks			
Business	5	Sport and Exercise Science	

CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

Shenfield High School has a comprehensive Careers Education and Guidance Programme to support Sixth Form students to make the best possible choices for their next steps after completing their studies here. Students have plenty of opportunities to find out about different industries at our annual Careers Fair in October and through our regular Industry Talks held throughout the year. All students in Year 12 also take part in a two-week work experience placement, which is an excellent chance to gain detailed insight into a particular industry and often leads students to future opportunities, contacts and even apprenticeship or job offers after Sixth Form.

Whether students wish to pursue Higher Education at university or an Apprenticeship, there is a wealth of support available. Those who wish to apply for university are carefully guided through every step of the application process, personal statements and interviews by experienced and knowledgeable staff. Students who wish to pursue apprenticeships are equally supported through regular information about local and regional apprenticeship opportunities, CV writing and application workshops and support for interviews and assessment days. Students will have access to online programmes to aid them when researching university courses or apprenticeship placements.

We have a highly experienced Careers Advisor providing independent information, advice and guidance interviews for Sixth Form students. All students are able to book an appointment to see our Careers Advisor to discuss university applications, apprenticeships, or general information about different industries. A dedicated Sixth Form Team, as well as Sixth Form Tutors and Sixth Form teachers are also on hand to assist and support students as they make key decisions about the next steps on their career journey.

All students will have access to a structured, Tutor led PSHE programme complementing the careers education and guidance already available.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Art requires a highly committed approach at A-Level in order to maintain high levels of creative thinking alongside other subjects. A willingness to research independently and experiment creatively with a variety of materials and techniques is essential. The keeping of a work journal is required in all components. Please be aware, Art coursework is demanding and requires considerable input from students. Extra non-contact sessions will be timetabled to aid independent study.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**A-Level****Component One**

This is a practical component where students present work based on a personal issue, interest or concern. This self-directed study takes the form of researching, designing and exploring several outcomes using a variety of different materials including painting and drawing, textiles, sculpture, installation, photography and moving image. A personal study of 3000 words will also support this project.

Component Two

External exam project.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Students will gain a full A-Level in Art and Design, as well as valuable research and development skills, alongside developing artist techniques with a variety of mediums. We will endeavour to support their developing art knowledge with external lectures, life drawing classes, and trips to galleries and museums.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

This course can lead on to a Foundation Diploma in Art and Design or university degree. It is a desirable qualification for any creative occupation such as beauty, visual merchandising, graphic design, photography, marketing/advertising, architecture, jewellery/costume design, interior design, film making/theatre design and the fashion industry. Previous students have gone on to achieve success in all of the above courses at university or work placements.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT**A-Level**

Component One (60%) Practical portfolio of work based on a personal issue, interest or concern. This is also supported by a written personal study of 1000-3000 words.

Component Two (40%) Externally set assignment culminating in a 15 hour practical examination.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Art at GCSE.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Photography requires a highly committed approach at A-Level to maintain high levels of creative thinking alongside other subjects. A willingness to research independently and experiment creatively with a variety of skills and techniques is essential. The keeping of a workbook/ journal/sketch book is required in all components. Please be aware, Photography coursework is demanding and requires considerable input from students. Extra non-contact sessions will be timetabled to aid independent study.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**A-Level****Component One**

This is a practical component where students present work based on a personal issue, interest, or concern. This self-directed study must explore a range of practical and critical photographic activities which are informed by different styles, genres, and traditions within Photography. Students will learn how to use a range of photographic media, techniques and processes and develop an understanding of traditional and new technologies. A personal study of 3000 words will also support this project. Students can explore a mixture of areas such as portraiture, landscape, still life, photojournalism, experimental photography as well as creating installations, multimedia work and moving image.

Component Two

External exam project.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Students will gain a full A-Level in Photography, as well as valuable research and development skills, alongside developing technical and visual skills. Students will gain a good working knowledge of digital photography techniques, understanding of visual language and communication and photography presentation. We will endeavour to support the development of photographic knowledge with external lectures, workshops, and trips to galleries and museums.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

This course can lead on to a Foundation Diploma in Art and Design or university degree. It is a desirable qualification for many creative occupations such as Marketing, design, digital media, film making, fashion photography, photojournalism.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT**A-Level**

Component One (60%) Practical portfolio of work based on a personal issue, interest, or concern. This is also supported by a written personal study of 1000-3000 words.

Component Two (40%) Externally set assignment culminating in a 15-hour practical examination.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Art at GCSE.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The A-Level Biology course is a modular course designed to give students a further understanding of a range of biological areas.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

- Cell structure
- Nucleotides and nucleic acids
- Biological membranes
- Cellular organisation
- Transport in animals and plants
- Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system
- Biodiversity, classification & evolution
- Excretion
- Respiration and photosynthesis
- Manipulating genomes
- Biological molecules
- Enzymes
- Cell division and cell diversity
- Exchange surfaces
- Communication and homeostasis
- Neuronal and hormonal control
- Cellular control and patterns of inheritance
- Cloning and biotechnology

The content of the full A-Level course is examined at the end of Year 13 where students will be given their A-Level grade based on the examinations they complete. All coursework and controlled assessments content has been removed from the course. The demonstration of practical skills will still be required throughout the year, but this will not contribute to the final grade. In addition to the course content, the practical scientific skills that are taught and assessed throughout the year are also examined within the modular examination of the units described above.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Students will be awarded an Advanced Level GCE in Biology with a grade between A* and E. A range of basic laboratory skills will be acquired that will be transferable to the work place.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

The A-Level Biology course will prepare students for progression to undergraduate study, enabling them to enter a range of academic and vocational careers in biological sciences, medicine and biomedical sciences, veterinary science, agriculture and related sectors. For students wishing to follow an apprenticeship route or those seeking direct entry into biological science careers, Biology A-Level provides a strong background and progression pathway.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The full A-level in Biology is assessed over 3 papers:

Paper 1 is a 2 hour and 15 minutes written exam out of 100 marks accounting for 37% of A-Level.

Paper 2 is a 2 hour and 15 minutes written exam out of 100 marks accounting for 37% of A-Level.

Paper 3 is a 1 hour and 30 minute paper; question styles include short answer and extended response questions. This component is worth 70 marks, accounting for 26% of A-Level.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to achieve a grade 7 in either of their combined science examinations, regardless of which route they have followed. Students studying separate sciences are required to achieve a grade 7 in GCSE Biology. We also require students to have gained a grade 6 in Mathematics.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Business is front-page news. The way companies operate is under greater scrutiny than ever before, while TV programmes like The Apprentice and Dragon's Den have raised the profile of Business. This course allows students to engage with, explore and understand business behaviour and develop a critical understanding of what business is and does.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

Mathematics and English are the only subjects you have to have studied. Studying Business Studies at GCSE or BTEC is not a prerequisite for this course. However, if you have studied these subjects please read the entry requirements of the course.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

In Year 12 students study:

Theme 1: Marketing and people

Theme 2: Managing business activities

In Year 13 students study:

Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy

Theme 4: Global business

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

A linear A-Level at the end of Year 13.

Students will also have plenty of opportunities to demonstrate valuable 'enterprise' skills such as leadership, team working, problem solving and risk-taking – all within the classroom. This will invariably help them to perform better at university and make them more employable as they enter the workplace.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

The majority of students who complete this course go on to either study business related degree courses at university or seek employment in a variety of different industries such as finance, insurance and retail.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The A-Level is assessed by three written exam papers, each of two hours duration. The first two exam papers have two sections. These are data response questions broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question.

For Paper 3, there will be a pre-released context document issued. Each section will contain unseen stimulus materials comprising quantitative and qualitative evidence. Students are required to apply their knowledge and understanding from Themes 1, 2, 3 and 4 and their understanding of the broad context to this evidence.

The A-Level assesses quantitative skills, making up a minimum of 10% of the overall marks. The skills tested include ratios, averages, fractions, percentages and calculation of profit and loss.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 at GCSE in English and Mathematics. If you have studied Business Studies previously you will need to have achieved a minimum of a Merit in Level 2 BTEC or a grade 5 if you have studied the GCSE.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The A-Level Chemistry course is a modular course designed to give students a further understanding of a range of areas in Chemistry. The content of the full A-Level course is examined at the end of Year 13 where students will be given their A-Level grade based on the examinations they complete. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they're assessed both through written papers and the Practical Endorsement.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitutes the full A-Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry

Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry

Module 3 – Periodic table and energy

Module 4 – Core organic chemistry

Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements

Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis

In addition to the course content, students will also be expected to complete a number of assessed practical tasks under controlled conditions. These will be set by the exam board and will contribute to the final grade the students receive at the end of their course.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A-Level.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

A-Level Chemistry provides skills that are of use in many areas of employment and is routinely required for progression onto numerous higher educational courses including: Chemical Engineering, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine etc.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The full A-Level in Chemistry is assessed over 3 papers:

Paper 1 is a 2 hour and 15 minutes written exam out of 100 marks accounting for 37% of A-Level.

Paper 2 is a 2 hour and 15 minutes written exam out of 100 marks accounting for 37% of A-Level.

Paper 3 is a 1 hour and 30 minutes written and practical exam out of 70 marks accounting for 26% of A-Level.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to achieve a grade 7 in either of their combined science examinations, regardless of which route they have followed. Students studying separate sciences are required to achieve a level 7 in GCSE Chemistry. We also require students to have gained a grade 6 in Mathematics.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is for those that wish to be creators and not consumers. You should be interested in programming as this is the major focus of the course. If you are interested in creative design and have an interest in exploring the technical and development aspects of computer science, then this course is for you. The focus of the course is programming. Programming is a creative technical art; you have the freedom to create anything that your imagination and skills will allow.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

You will develop your problem solving, design and programming skills. You will deal with abstract concepts and design and build implementations to meet changing goals. You will develop your confidence in tackling hard and complex problems. These skills apply to all types of jobs.

We will work with you to develop your knowledge and approaches to problem solving. You will be expected to independently develop your programming skills in a language of your choice. You will also be given time in lessons to continue to work on a series of your own programming experiments that will enable you to develop your problem solving, design and development skills. This will lead into ideas for your official project.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

As well as programming we will look at various aspects of computer systems theory, including a detailed look at:

- The CPU, function and programming
- Data representation, complex data structures and data storage and transmission
- Software development and programming architectures

Programming is a craft that you will never master you will always have the opportunity to develop your skills, learn new languages, new environments and new ways of achieving goals. We allow you the freedom to explore programming in a supportive and sharing environment where all members of the course can share their knowledge with each other. We use a variety of development environments (Visual Studio Code, P5) and languages (all available to use at home) including JavaScript, assembly languages, Lua. The aim is for you to develop your programming skills irrespective of the language of choice. You will learn about standard algorithms that form the bedrock of computer science and about the hardware and software systems that enable the breadth and complexity of software applications we are able to create today.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN AND WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

You will receive an A-Level in Computer Science with which you can choose to go through a university or degree apprenticeship programme to study Computer Science, software engineering, game development, AI and machine learning or other computer science-based courses. You may also try for developer jobs and apprenticeships programmes. During your course you will produce a series of personal projects which could be used to build a portfolio of work which you could discuss during interviews with potential employers, apprenticeship providers or university applications.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Unit 1 [H446-01]: **Computer Systems** - 2hr 30 mins examination paper—40% of the total A-Level

Unit 2: [H446-02]: **Algorithms and Programming** - 2hr 30 mins examination paper—40% of the total A-Level

Unit 3: [H446-03]: **Programming Project course work**—20% of the total A-Level. The project you develop is your own choice and you pick a suitable implementation language and environment.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Computer Science grade 6 or above.

GCSE Maths grade 6 or above preferable.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Drama and Theatre Studies is open to students with a keen interest, enjoyment and relevant experience and aptitude in Drama and the theatre.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Component 1: Drama and theatre (written examination) 40% of A-Level. External.

Component 2: Creating original drama (practical & written portfolio) 30% of A-Level. Internal.

Component 3: Making theatre (practical and written research report) 30% of A-Level. External.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

The A-Level course is designed to extend students' understanding and experience of theatre from a practical and theoretical point of view. The Theatre Studies course draws upon elements of Literature, Media Studies, History, Psychology and Design in the outstanding facilities of the Expressive Arts Block.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Students who wish to continue their studies on similar courses at university or Drama Schools such as LAMDA, Central, Guildhall etc. as well as specialist Performing Arts Colleges. It is also an excellent qualification if you want to pursue a career in the industry, or in a career where communication, commitment, collaboration and confidence are required.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

60% of the course is assessed practically during two examined performances and coursework. 40% is assessed through one written exam which students will prepare for throughout the two year period.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in Drama and a grade 6 in English.

Merit or above in BTEC Performing Arts (dependent on interview with Head of Department).

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The course is for anyone who would like to:

- appreciate the contribution of economics to the understanding of the wider economic and social environment;
- use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of economics and develop the ability to think as an economist;
- develop skills, qualities and attitudes that will equip them for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

The only subjects you need to have studied is Mathematics and English. No prior knowledge of the subject is required.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Theme 1 Students will develop an understanding of the nature of economics, how markets work, market failure and government intervention.

Theme 2 Students will develop an understanding of measures of economic performance through aggregate demand and aggregate supply analysis. Macroeconomic objectives will then be identified and measured, with students then evaluating the different policies available to achieve them.

Theme 3 Students will develop an understanding of business growth and business objectives. Students will develop their understanding of revenues, costs and profits through diagrams to discuss the implications of different market structures. This is then extended into the labour market and government intervention where it is perceived that the market is failing.

Theme 4 Students will develop an understanding of international economics, poverty and inequality. Emerging and developing economies will be contrasted to more developed economies, discussing the role of the state in the macro economy to solve issues that occur in less developed economies.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

A linear A-Level at the end of Year 13.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Economics enables students to understand more effectively the current economic issues that affect their lives. It will enable students, as citizens and workers, to recognise the problems faced by themselves and others and to offer informed comment on those problems. At the end of this course students may choose to progress to higher education or seek employment.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The A-Level is assessed by three written exam papers, each of two hours duration. This assessment content tests basic knowledge through multiple choice and small answer questions to begin. A case study is then used to test students' ability to interpret economic data and apply their knowledge to real world events. The papers then finish with the choice of an extended essay where they are expected to apply what they've learnt using their economic toolkit and understanding of relevant context.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A grade 6 at GCSE in English Language or Literature and a grade 5 in Mathematics.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The English Language course provides students with the opportunity to explore language and its many uses. The course focuses on:

- Exploring language in specific contexts
- Writing in different styles, according to the needs of different purposes and readerships
- Analysing the different varieties of English and how our language has changed over time
- Exploring how children acquire language

Students will need to have a genuine interest in English and how language is used in specific contexts. Wider reading and private research is strongly encouraged and is a crucial aspect to the course.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

This subject allows students to discover how language is used by individuals, within different groups, and within society as a whole.

We look at the different ways in which language is used by (and about) men and women; how language can be used to control and persuade; how different types of English are used within this country and in other parts of the world; how children learn to talk, to read and to write; how language changes over time – and many other aspects of something we normally take for granted. We study the ways people talk and the ways they write – and the areas where talk and writing cross over, such as texting and instant messaging. Students will also be producing an independent investigation into any aspect of language which interests them, and at least one piece of creative writing.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of the four units over two years will gain an A-Level in English Language. Students will benefit from a range of skills such as the ability to explore language varieties; to appropriately use a range of linguistic terminology; to analyse language in detail; to examine language and its relationship to social contexts, as well as produce and evaluate their own writing in a range of differing forms.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Students, having completed their A-Levels, may wish to progress to higher education to study for a degree. Alternatively, an A-Level in English Language is highly respected in the workplace.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT:

Paper 1: Language, the individual and society (2 1/2 hour exam worth 40% of A-Level)

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change (2 1/2 hour exam worth 40% of A-Level)

Non-exam Assessment: Language in Action (two pieces of coursework worth 20% of the A-Level).

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in English Language or English Literature.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The English Literature course provides students with the opportunity to build on their enjoyment of literature established at GCSE. It is vital that students love not only reading but discussing the ideas raised through the texts which could include aspects of philosophy, religion, class, psychology, gender, and race.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The course approaches literature through the lens of Historicism, so students will be expected to engage with the social and historical context of texts. They will also be expected to explore different interpretations of the texts such as feminist, Marxist or Freudian approaches. Individual wider reading forms a crucial part of the course in order to prepare for the Independent Study in Year 13. Reading widely also encourages and enables students to adopt a more independent learning style, a crucial skill required at university.

Paper 1: Love through the Ages Year 12 40% of the course

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, one drama

Shakespeare "Othello" Closed book

F Scott Fitzgerald "The Great Gatsby" Open book

Selected Love Poetry pre 1900 Open book

Also a wide range of other poems as practice for the unseen poetry comparison

The exam is 3 hours long.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts Year 13 40% of the whole course

The Struggle for Identity in Modern Literature: literature from 1945 to the present day

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama (one of which must be written post-2000.)

Tennessee Williams "A Streetcar Named Desire" Open book

Carol Ann Duffy "Feminine Gospels" Open book

Margaret Atwood "The Handmaid's Tale" Open Book

A wide range of prose extracts linked to contemporary issues to prepare for the unseen prose question.

The exam is 2 hours 30 min.

Non-exam assessment: Independent critical study Year 12/13 Texts across time - 20% of course

Comparative critical study of two texts at least one of which must have been written pre-1900. The two texts must be well separated in time and must be supported by critical references gained from background research. One text is taught in class but students have to select their own individual second text in consultation with their teacher. The study must be 2,500 words long. This is an independent piece of work. The amount of support provided by the teacher is limited by the exam board.

WHAT WILL I GET OUT OF THIS COURSE?

Apart from an A- Level pass this course should open up your mind to a host of new ideas and concepts and link with many other areas of human knowledge. Also it will give you the confidence to articulate your ideas openly and engage in intellectual discussion with your peers. You will also find that your ability to organise your ideas effectively in writing will also improve.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

This is a widely recognised and popular A-Level that remains greatly valued by universities and future employers alike. At the end of this course you may choose to progress to higher education to study for a degree. Literature is an extremely flexible subject and lends itself well to the study of a diverse range of subjects from Journalism to Law.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS GCSE grade 6 in English Language or English Literature.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Film Studies deepens students' understanding of film as a significant cultural art form. The A-Level offers both a historical and contemporary examination of film's place in the wider world.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

Film Studies is an academically challenging subject and though no previous study of film is required. Students must also be aware that they will be watching a mixture of new and old films, from silent cinema to modern contemporary film – this will also include foreign language films.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Silent Cinema

American Cinema (1930-59)

American Cinema (1961-90)

Contemporary American Cinema (post 2005)

Documentary Filmmaking

World/European Cinema

Contemporary British Cinema

Experimental Cinema

Short Film

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Students will be awarded with a fully accredited A-Level after completion of the two year course and will also learn many transferable work skills (independence and time management for example) which will be of vital use in the future.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

At the end of the course you may choose to progress to higher education to study for a degree or to an alternative institution in the form of an apprentice programme. Alternatively, you could pursue employment in a wide range of media areas such as marketing, editing, promotions or a career in television or cinema.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

All units are marked through a mixture of external examinations and internally moderated coursework. Assessment will be undertaken continuously and all pieces will be awarded a grade ranging from an A*-E.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students need to have a grade 5 in both GCSE English Language and Literature.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Applying to study Further Mathematics is a big commitment and should only be considered by students who have a real passion for Mathematics. **Students who are looking to study Further Mathematics must select both Mathematics and Further Mathematics in their application.**

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

A mixture of Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics will be studied. Topics included in Pure include complex numbers and matrices. In Statistics; linear regression and hypothesis testing. In mechanics; momentum and collisions.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Students often combine Further Mathematics with Physics for a Physics based degree, Economics for an Economics/Finance degree or Computer Science for a Computer Science/Machine Learning degree. Further Mathematics has become essential for students who wish to study Mathematics at many universities and many courses will only consider applicants who have studied Further Mathematics.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Internal exams in Year 12 and four exams in Year 13 to complete the A-Level. Grades A* to E are available.

Qualification:

A-Level Further Mathematics 9FM0

Paper 1 – Core Pure 1: 1.5 hours, 75 marks

Paper 2 – Core Pure 2: 1.5 hours, 75 marks

Paper 3 – Further Statistics: 1.5 hours, 75 marks

Paper 4 – Further Mechanics: 1.5 hours, 75 marks

Core Pure 1: proof, complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further vectors

Core Pure 2: complex numbers, further algebra and functions, further calculus, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations

Further Statistics 1: linear regression, statistical distributions (discrete), statistical distributions (continuous), correlation, hypothesis testing, chi squared tests

Further Mechanics 1: momentum and impulse, collisions, centres of mass, work and energy, elastic strings and springs

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Maths at a minimum. An 8 or 9 would be preferable.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The A-Level Geography course gives students a strong foundation for understanding the main themes of the subject: Human Geography and Physical Geography and Synoptic links between these. Between them, they are what make our planet tick. The A-Level in Geography is designed to give flexibility to both teachers and students, and provide a smooth transition from GCSE to higher education. It builds naturally on GCSE knowledge and allows pupils to develop fieldwork skills while having an increased range of topics for study. Students who opt for the course should be interested in the study of geographical issues and impacts and have a desire to develop a specialist interest within Geography. A-Level geographers need to be able to consider their own values and attitudes and those of decision makers.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

Geography students need a number of skills including the ability to undertake research and analysis, work as a team on practical projects, investigate global issues and an ability to interpret natural phenomena.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The following topics will be studied:

- Physical geography - coastal landscapes, tectonic processes and hazards, water and carbon cycles and futures.
- Human geography - regenerating places, globalisation, superpowers and migration, identity and sovereignty.

An independent investigation based on fieldwork will span both of these years.

Students need to be aware that fieldwork is a compulsory component of this A-Level.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Anywhere on Earth! Students can specialise in Geography at higher education and use their Geography A-Level as a stepping stone to study Geology at university as well as a myriad of other subjects. Students could find themselves doing things like charting oil wells or exploring rock formations throughout the world. Geography is about the interaction between people and our planet, this fascinating subject is valid for a number of different career paths, for example advertising, environmental management, law or social services.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

At the end of Year 13 the following will form the assessment for A-Level:

- Unit 1 - Physical Geography, 2hrs 15 minutes (30%)
- Unit 2 - Human Geography, 2hrs 15 minutes (30%)
- Unit 3 - Synoptic investigation based on a resource booklet, 2 hrs 15 minutes (20%)
- Unit 4 - Independent investigation (20%)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of a grade 6 in Geography. A grade 5 in English Language or Literature and a grade 5 in Maths.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

A-Level History is for students with a passion for learning from the key people, events and ideas from the past which have so dramatically impacted on today's world.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

Students will need to understand that so many historical topics are controversial and open to wider interpretation through the study of primary and secondary sources. Wider reading of professional historians and taking an active role in class debate will help students to develop greater insight and informed opinions.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The following 4 units will be studied through the Edexcel examination board:

Unit 1 - Britain transformed 1918-97

Unit 2 - The USA c1920-55: boom, bust and recovery.

Unit 3 - The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America c 1580-c 1750

Unit 4 - Coursework Unit.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of all 4 units will lead to an A-Level in History.

Students will gain a number of transferable skills including, research, analysis, oral and written communication, independent and group learning.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

At the end of this course students may choose to progress to higher education in History or other related disciplines. A degree in History is regarded as an excellent route into many professions, including Law.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Units 1, 2 and 3 are assessed via formal examination. Unit 4 is coursework and will be undertaken in Year 13.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in History and a grade 5 in GCSE English.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The AQA course is ideal for students who would like to:

- Understand the concepts of different areas of Law, how our systems work in practice and how they relate to people, through discussions around justice, morality and the purpose of the law.
- Develop the ability to communicate legal arguments and conclusions concisely
- Develop transferable skills such as how to write effectively, analysis and problem solving

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

A-Level Law is an academically challenging subject and although no prior knowledge of law is necessary, students should have an interest in the news and current affairs. You will also need to achieve GCSE grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in another predominately written-based subject (English Literature, History, Geography, Religious Education or Sociology).

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Nature of Law and the English Legal System: Law and Society, Morality and Justice, Parliamentary Law Making, Civil and Criminal Courts, Judges and Judicial Law Making, Legal Personnel – Barristers, Solicitors. Legal Executives, Access to Justice and Funding

Criminal Law: Rules on criminal liability, Non-fatal offences - Assault, Battery, Actual Bodily Harm, Grievous Bodily Harm, Fatal Offences – Murder, Manslaughter, Property Offences – Theft, Robbery, Defences – Insanity, Self-defence, Intoxication, Duress

Tort: Negligence, Occupiers' Liability, Nuisance, Vicarious Liability, Defences

Contract Law: Requirements of a Contract, Contract Terms, Discharge of a Contract, Remedies

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of this course over two years will result in an A-Level in Law. Students will also develop analytical and problem solving skills, as well as improving their oral and written communication.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

A-Level Law is an excellent foundation for further study of law and gives students a clear idea of how they can progress through different routes, such as university or apprenticeships. Due to the wide-ranging application of the law to our everyday lives, it is also a very complementary subject to study if you are interested in a career in the following sectors: business, finance, politics, journalism and social work.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

This is a linear qualification which will be assessed at the end of Year 13 in three exams. Each paper is 2 hours and contains a mixture of short and long answer questions as well as essay questions. Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of legal rules and principles, their application and presentation of legal arguments, and their ability to analyse and evaluate.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A-Level Law is an academically challenging subject and although no prior knowledge of law is necessary, students should have an interest in the news and current affairs. You will also need to achieve GCSE grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in another written subject (English Literature, History, Geography, Religious Education or Sociology).

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

An A-Level in Mathematics provides students with the opportunity to study the subject in greater depth and prepare them for a degree in mathematics or any of the sciences. The statistics element is particularly useful to biologists, psychologists and social scientists, while the mechanics element will provide a good basis for physicists and engineers. Students will need to have a genuine interest in the subject and its applications.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

A mixture of Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics will be studied. Topics included in pure maths include calculus, sequences and series, algebra, trigonometry, vectors and logarithms. In statistics; sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions and hypothesis testing. In mechanics: kinematics, forces, Newton’s laws and moments. In Year 13, students complete the A-Level in Mathematics.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

A-Level Mathematics is necessary for higher education study in Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science and Engineering. An A-Level in Mathematics is highly regarded and provides an excellent grounding in skills such as logic, reasoning, proof and analysis of data.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Internal exams in Year 12 and three exams in Year 13 to complete the A-Level. Grades A* to E are available.

Qualification	Component	Overview	Exam
A-Level Mathematics	Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1	AS content assessed at A-Level standard.	2 hours 100 marks
	Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2	Remaining pure content which builds on and incorporates AS content.	2 hours 100 marks
	Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics	Section A: Statistics (50 marks) Section B: Mechanics (50 marks)	2 hours 100 marks

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Minimum of grade 7 at GCSE Mathematics.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Media Studies is concerned with developing an understanding of all aspects of the media, including its representations, values, ideology and audience. The course will be of interest to students who will want the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills for successful career progression in a fast changing, media-centred work place.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

Media Studies is an academically challenging subject and though no previous study of the media is required, students must be aware that they will be studying a vast range of different media forms – both older and more contemporary. Studying Media Studies at GCSE is not a requirement for this course.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

- Media Representations (Newspapers and Advertising)
- Changing Media Platforms (Film, Radio and Magazines)
- Evolving Media in a Digital Age (Music Videos and Video Games)
- The impact of streaming - Long Form Television Drama
- Coursework

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Students will be awarded with a fully accredited A-Level and will also learn many transferable work skills which will be of vital use in the future. Throughout the course there will be various additional opportunities including visiting speakers and potential work experience placements.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

At the end of the course you may choose to progress to higher education to study for a degree or to an alternative institution in the form of an apprentice programme. Alternatively, you could pursue employment in a wide range of media areas such as marketing, editing, promotions or a career in television.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

All units are marked through a mixture of external examinations and internally moderated coursework. Assessment will be undertaken continuously and all pieces will be awarded a grade ranging from an A*-E.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students need to have a grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature as a pre-requisite to be considered for the course; it must also be noted that all the coursework for the course is now undertaken individually so students would ideally also have experience with Photoshop and editing equipment.

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

Students who are passionate about studying Music through Performance and Composition. You will also study a range of musical styles and genres, studying the use of musical elements and focusing on set works. Through engagement in Performance, students will have the opportunity to develop their all-round musicianship skills.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

The course is designed for students who excel in Performance, therefore, ABRSM/Rock School/Trinity Grade 5 or above is desirable.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Performance - Choice of Performance - longer or shorter recital consisting of a minimum of three pieces dependent on the student's specialism.

Composition - Compose two or three pieces of music. Free Composition - a musical blank canvas using either Sibelius or a DAW, which can include audio recording. One Composition or Song to a brief published by the exam board in Year 13.

Listening & Appraising - The study of set works (pieces), the use of musical elements and context in a range of musical styles.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of the course will gain students a full A-Level qualification. During the course there will be numerous opportunities to take part in workshops with professional musicians.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Many students who complete the full A-Level go on to further education to continue studying music. For those who want to choose music as a second or third option, the course is designed to enhance skills needed in the workplace such as organisation, teamwork and improving confidence. Many employers look for something different on a CV and an A-Level in Music is definitely an eye catcher.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

All units are either marked or moderated externally. Performance and Composition are coursework elements and allow students to improve their grade throughout the course.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Music GCSE Grade 6 preferably. BTEC Music minimum Merit plus Performance standard equivalent to Grade 5.

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

The A-Level Music course is suited to those students that have a keen interest in Music Production and Recording and have a desire to pursue this as part of a career in Music or Media, or Theatre.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY & METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The course is made up of Four Components

Component One – Recording NEA – Externally Assessed 20%

Students will produce a recording to a brief released by the exam board at the end of Year 1 of the course, to include a range of instruments that will be specified.

Component Two – Technology Based Composition – NEA Externally Assessed 20%

Students will be produce a Technology based Composition using Logic Pro X to a brief released by the exam board. The composition will consist of a mix of synthesised instruments and audio samples, and will be expected to edit, manipulate and mix effectively.

Component Three – Listening & Analysing – Written Examination 25%

Students will analyse a range of commercial music and recordings focussing on sound and recording techniques, the development of recording equipment and techniques and how the technology has influenced the music.

Component Four – Producing & Analysing – Written/Practical Exam 35%

Students will edit, mix and produce a recording with audio and MIDI files provided by the exam board. Students will also analyse and write about the files that have been provided. The exam will also include one essay question.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Students that are successful on this course will achieve a full A-Level Music Technology qualification. During the course there will be numerous opportunities to take part in workshops with visiting professionals and visits to external venues to gain experience in the field.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Many students who complete the full A-Level go on to Further Education to continue studying Music and Music Production. For those who want to choose music as a second or third option, the course is designed to enhance skills needed in the workplace such as organisation, independence and experience with audio editing and production, ideal for TV, Media and Radio.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Music Minimum Grade 5 and/or L2 BTEC Music Merit or NCFE L2 Tech Award in Music Technology Merit. It is also desirable that students play an instrument, but not essential.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The A-Level in Philosophy provides students with the opportunity to develop analytical thinking skills which are essential for many forms of study and future careers. The course will provide students with the chance to investigate important life questions, examine how people make moral and religious truth claims, explore the meaning of knowledge, debate views on our minds and concept of self and examine different values and beliefs. The course continues some themes developed in GCSE Religious Studies; but is a new subject which requires a new way of thinking. The subject is an interesting overlap of thinking skills, logical approaches and extended writing.

The course has been designed to:

- Enable students to develop the key study and critical assessment skills that are required at undergraduate level
- Provide a means with which students can problem solve in an engaging environment
- Enable pupils to show their ability to develop a line of argument
- Allow pupils to develop skills of empathy and self-development
- Create a brand new way of approaching the knowledge we have of the world around us

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

Students need to display a genuine enthusiasm for the subject matter. Although no personal belief is required at all, students need to have a respect and fascination for religious and philosophical ideas and concepts. Students need to have an open mind and be ready to question what they know about the world and our place in it.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Modules that will be studied include:

- Epistemology – the quest for and meaning of knowledge and our perception of the world. How do we justify our knowledge? Do we trust our sensory perceptions? How much proof do we need to believe something as truth?
- Philosophy of Religion – what are the characteristics of God? How do we know God? Arguments and Proofs for God's existence, does our language enable us to talk coherently about God?
- Ethical theories – the theories and philosophy behind our ethical decision making, what we mean when we say "do the right thing";
- Philosophy of Mind – the relationship between body and soul, functionalism and behaviourism;
- The course also requires candidates to complete extension reading, the board supply a list of pieces including primary source material from famous philosophers.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

At the end of this course, students may choose to study a degree at a higher education institution and Philosophy has traditionally been very well received by university admissions tutors. Employers would also value this course because of the sophisticated thinking skills that it develops within students.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The A-Level qualification is assessed through 2 final year exams. At the end of Year 13, pupils sit 2 three hour examinations which will each count for 50% of the final grade. The examination consists of testing both knowledge and understanding and evaluation skills on the topics studied. There is a combination of short answer content based questions with longer essay skills, where the examiner would be looking to see content as well as evaluation and analysis skills. The assessment criteria are very tightly set with a need for concise writing style.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in GCSE English and a grade 6 in another predominantly written based subject.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

A-Level Physical Education is for students that have a genuine interest in physical activity and take an interest in sporting issues that are shown in the media. Candidates should be active participants in sport.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The A-Level PE course is multi-disciplinary; this means candidates will study a variety of different modules. These modules are examined at the end of the 2 year course and involve aspects of:

Examined Assessment (3 exam papers worth 70% of total A-Level)

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanics
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport Psychology
- Socio-cultural issues in sport

Non-Examined Assessment (worth 30% of total A-Level):

- One practical activity
- Evaluation & Analysis for Performance Improvement (EAPI) Interview

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

At the end of this course candidates may choose to progress to higher education to study for a degree. Former students have pursued employment in a wide range of sectors from teaching, coaching, sports nutrition physiotherapy and physical training instructors. It is a well-respected academic qualification acknowledged by the best universities and employees.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Candidates will undergo a practical assessment in one activity which can be as a performer or coach. The evaluation interview (EAPI) assessment is an oral test of the candidate's ability to communicate verbally and link the theoretical aspects of the course to practical performance.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A grade 6 in GCSE Physical Education and a grade 6 in any GCSE Science. Students who did not do GCSE PE will be considered if they achieved a grade 6 in Science. Regular (at least weekly) sports participation is essential.

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

The A-Level Physics course is a modular course designed to give students a further understanding of a range of physics areas. The content of the full A-Level course is examined at the end of Year 13. All coursework and controlled assessments content has been removed from the course. The demonstration of practical skills will still be required throughout the year, but this will not contribute to the final grade.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Content taught includes:

- Physical Units & Measurements
- Particles and Radiation
- Electromagnetic and Quantum Phenomena
- Waves
- Mechanics & Materials
- Electricity
- Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics
- Fields and Forces
- Nuclear Physics
- A specialist unit chosen by the school

In addition to the course content, the practical scientific skills that are taught and assessed throughout the year are also examined within the modular examination of the units described above.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Completion of the examinations on the modules in Year 12 and Year 13 will result in the candidates gaining a full GCE A-Level qualification in Physics.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

An A-Level in Physics prepares students for progression to university courses in Physics, Engineering and other science or related subjects. It also prepares them for entry into a range of careers where knowledge of physics and/or advanced mathematics would be an advantage. A higher understanding of Physics is also very highly regarded by employers outside of scientific and engineering areas.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The full A-Level in physics is assessed over 3 papers:

Paper 1 is a 2 hour written exam out of 85 marks accounting for 34% of A-Level.

Paper 2 is a 2 hour written exam out of 85 marks accounting for 34% of A-Level.

Paper 3 is a 2 hour written exam out of 80 marks accounting for 32% of A-Level.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to achieve a grade 7 in either of their combined science examinations, regardless of which route they have followed. Students studying separate sciences are required to achieve a grade 7 in GCSE Physics. We also require students to have gained a grade 7 in Mathematics and ideally be looking to follow the A-Level Mathematics course.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

A-Level Politics is for students who have a passion for exploring contemporary politics both within the United Kingdom and globally.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

Students will need to have an awareness of the changing nature of politics. Students will also need to be able to critically analyse political information through the study of sources. Wider reading, taking a keen interest in politics in the news and watching programmes such as Question Time, as well as taking an active role in class debate will help students to develop the ability to evaluate information in order to form arguments and make judgements.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The following 3 components will be studied through the Edexcel examination board:

Component 1:

UK Politics – students will study the key concepts of democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

Component 2:

UK Government – students will study the key features of the constitution, parliament, the Prime Minister and executive and relationships between the branches.

Component 3:

Comparative Politics – students will study the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation and comparative theories.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of all 3 units will lead to an A-Level in Politics. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of political ideas, institutions and processes, as well as the opportunity to engage with contemporary politics. They will also develop the ability to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate information.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

A Politics A-Level could lead to studying the subject at degree level. It also teaches a number of transferable skills desired by many other degree courses and employers.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Each component is assessed through a formal examination, so students will sit 3 exams, each being 2 hours in length. Each component is worth 33.3% of the overall grade.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A grade 5 or above in English as well as a grade 5 in another written subject (English Literature, History, Geography, Religious Education or Sociology).

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is for students who are curious, hardworking, analytical and looking for something new. Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. The mind is something intangible that exists within the physical structure of the brain. Psychologists ask questions like: Why do some people suffer from stress and mental illness? How does early childhood experience affect you later in life? Why do some people commit crimes?

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

Good scientific, numeric and written communication skills are necessary to ensure success.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will gain a broad understanding of Psychological Approaches and Research Methods. You will also study:

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology – the study of Abnormal Behaviour
- Biopsychology
- Relationships
- Schizophrenia
- Forensic Psychology

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of this course over two years will result in an A-Level in Psychology. Students will also develop their application and evaluation skills, as well as their oral and written communication. You will also gain a better understanding of the mind and the behaviour of others, as well as your own.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Study of A-Level Psychology provides a useful background for the further study of Psychology as well as other social science or business related subjects such as Education, Government and Politics, Sociology, Philosophy, Business Studies, History, English or Law. A knowledge of Psychology is also invaluable in any job which includes research, mathematical, scientific or 'people' skills.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

This is a linear qualification which will be assessed at the end of Year 13 in three exams. Each paper is 2 hours long and contains a mixture of short and long answer questions as well as essay questions. Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of psychological theories and studies, their application of these theories to real life situations, and their ability to evaluate these theories.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in a Science subject (preferably Biology), grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in Mathematics is required to study this subject.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

A-Level Sociology is for students with an interest in the police, law, education, medicine and social work. The course is designed to:

- Give students the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification towards a career in the above fields
- Give students the opportunity to develop a range of skills that are required for success in working life

Students will therefore need to have a genuine interest in people, society and current affairs.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

Written English is a key skill in Sociology, and is very important for careers in the police, law, education, medicine and social work.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Units that will be studied include:

- Families and Households
- Education with Research methods
- Beliefs in Society
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

GCE A-Level qualification in Sociology. At the end of this course you may choose to progress to higher education to study for a degree. Alternatively, you could pursue employment in a wide range of areas.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

All units are assessed by written examinations. Assessment within school will take the form of group work, oral presentations, tests and written work.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A grade 6 at GCSE English Language or English Literature and a grade 6 in another predominately written-based subject (English Literature, History, Geography, Religious Education etc). If the student has taken Sociology at GCSE they will need a minimum of a grade 6 (this can also count as their other predominately written-based subject).

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

Essentially, think of this subject as several subjects in one – This subject involves Film Studies, Literature, Economics, Sociology, Politics and History. The difference is that you will be able to discuss these topics in English and Spanish – students who are interested in developing fluency in Spanish, have an interest in Spanish culture, literature or music, or are simply looking for a stimulating and highly respected A-Level Qualification, need look no further than A-Level Spanish.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

An interest in the language and culture of Spain is also a must as these courses are challenging and demanding.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

- One text and one film from the lists in the specification
- Four themes covering aspects of Hispanic society and history.
- Grammar and written skills that are easily transferred to other subjects

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 – Listening, reading and translation - Written exam: 2 hours – (80 marks) = 40% of overall grade

Paper 2 – Written response to works and translation - Written exam: 2 hours 40 minutes (120 marks) = 30% of overall grade

Paper 3 – Speaking - Oral exam: 21-23 minutes (72 marks) = 30% of overall grade

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

This is a two-year linear course, meaning that students will receive an A-Level at the end of Year 13. They should also be able to communicate very effectively in written and spoken Spanish. This is a qualification that is highly valued by universities and employers alike.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

Language competency is increasingly limited amongst school leavers and thus any Modern Foreign Language (MFL) capability that you have at A-Level will enable you to stand out from the crowd. The best universities both in Britain and abroad recognise the academic demands of MFL study and it is a requirement of Russell Group universities that applicants have some capability with a second (or third) language. The A-Level structure is designed to build on the competencies learned at GCSE and enable students to develop a deeper working knowledge of the subject. Careers following on from study of a language include: Lawyer, Doctor, Teacher, Engineer, Translator/Interpreter, Journalist, Civil Servant, and Pilot.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Spanish at grade 6. GCSE English grade 5.

BTEC Extended Diplomas (equivalent to 3 A-Levels)

An extended BTEC diploma course has the equivalent timetabled lessons as three A Levels.

Students can study one extended diploma on its own.

We offer:

Business

Sport

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The Extended Diploma is a two-year, full-time course for students who want to progress to higher education courses, apprenticeships or employment within business areas. The aim of the course is to equip students with both practical and written skills, and gain a thorough insight into the daily operations within the business environment.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

A genuine interest in the business environment, with a desire to investigate various different scenarios and the potential impact on different businesses, including Tesco, Apple and McDonalds.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

There are seven mandatory units, which are:

1. Exploring Business
2. Developing a Marketing Campaign
3. Personal and Business Finance
4. Managing an Event
5. International Business
6. Principles of Management
7. Business Decision Making

30% of the course is assessed externally through three controlled assessment units and one two hour examination on Personal and Business Finance. In addition to the mandatory units, an additional six units will be studied, which will be assessed internally. The units selected will be designed to give students a broad understanding of the business environment, from both a practical and academic point of view.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of 13 units will gain the full BTEC National Extended Diploma in Business qualification. Throughout the course you will gain both practical skills, including delivering presentations, organisation, team building and independent learning. You will also develop your extended writing abilities, enhancing both your analytical mind-set and capability to make justified recommendations.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

At the end of this course you may choose to progress to higher education, apprenticeships or employment within the business environment.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

- One 2 hour examination
- Three controlled assessments
- Nine portfolios of evidence

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Six GCSEs at grade 4. If you have previously studied Business Studies, you will need to have obtained a grade 4 in GCSE Business or a Merit at Level 2 BTEC Business. At least a grade 4 in English and Mathematics at GCSE is also necessary.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is for students wishing to pursue a career in the sports industry and/or students wishing to study sport related degrees at university. Students should have a keen interest in the various aspects of sport and exercise sciences. The main aspects of the course include anatomy and physiology, applied physiology, fitness training/coaching, sport psychology, sports nutrition and a range of other sport specific units. Students are expected to be committed to developing their knowledge and understanding of a variety of sports science disciplines. Please note this is mostly a theoretically based course with some practical elements.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Examples of mandatory units include:

- Sport and Exercise Physiology (Written Exam)
- Functional Anatomy (Written Exam)
- Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology (Case Study)
- Nutrition for Sport and Exercise Performance (Case Study)
- Field and Laboratory-based Fitness Testing
- Coaching for Performance and Fitness
- Applied Research Methods in Sport and Exercise Science

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

The full qualification gained is the BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science at Level 3. This is equivalent to 3 A-Levels. This course comprises 13 units providing a broad and balanced view of sport and exercise science. It is the leading BTEC qualification in this field and builds an excellent platform for progression to related university courses and employment.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

The majority of students who complete this course go on to either study sports related degree courses at university or seek employment in sports related industries. Example courses that students have progressed to include: BSc in Sport and Exercise Science, BSc in Sport and Coaching Studies, BA in Physical Education.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The Extended Diploma is continuously assessed via internally set assignments moderated by the Course Leader and externally moderated by Edexcel. Most units will have three or four assessed pieces of work that are graded at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. In addition there will be approximately 2 units that are assessed through a formal written examination and students should be prepared to undertake a stringent revision programme in order to pass these examinations. Finally, students will be required to undertake two exams which are written case study based scenarios.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Six GCSEs at grade 4 to include a grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education or Level 2 BTEC in sport if taken and a grade 5 in Science and a grade 5 English Language or Literature. A keen interest in sport is a necessity.

BTEC Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 A-Level)

**An extended BTEC certificate course has the equivalent
timetabled lessons as one A Level.**

**Students can select up to three other
A Levels/extended certificates to study.**

We offer:

Sport

Music (Performance)

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is for students wishing to pursue a career in the sports industry and/or students wishing to study sport related degrees at university. The main aspects of the course include anatomy & physiology, training and fitness, practical sports and professional development within the sports industry. Students are expected to be committed to improving their fitness and practical performance alongside the examination units.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

It is important to note that students will have to complete a practical assessment. A GCSE or BTEC Level 2 in Sport or Physical Education is preferable but not a prerequisite.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Examples of Units include:

- Principles of Physiology and Anatomy
- Training and Fitness for Sport
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Application of Fitness Testing
- Practical Sports

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

The full qualification gained is the BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport, equivalent to 1 A-Level. This course comprises 4 units providing a balanced view of sport.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

This can contribute to the UCAS points required to study at university to study a sports related degree course or seek employment in sports related industries. Students will undertake a range of different activities that will allow them to coach and deliver multi-activity sessions to the community.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

In the first year of study the Extended Certificate is assessed with two external exams in unit 1 + 2. In year 2 assessment is based on a coursework model where students are assessed in two units of work.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Physical Education at GCSE or Level 2 BTEC in Sport. A keen interest in sport is a necessity.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is designed to develop a variety of key skills required to be a successful performer. Students must be prepared for performing to an audience and be able to speak about their musical performances with confidence. This course is suitable for anyone with a keen interest in a performance-related career and both Solo and Ensemble work. The course will also cover Music Composition and Professional Practices in the music industry.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

In order to be successful in this course, students need to be dedicated to practicing and performing on their instrument (this includes voice). It is advised that they have 1:1 tuition on their chosen instrument or voice. Students need to be able to perform to at least Grade 5 level or show that they are working towards this level.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

- Ensemble Music Performance - Students will rehearse and work together as part of a group/band culminating in an assessed set performance.
- Practical Music Theory & Harmony - looking at the musical elements and how they are used in Composing Music
- Professional Practice in the Music Industry - looking at the current roles within the music industry and planning for specific events and promotion
- Solo Performance - students will develop their own standard of Solo Performance throughout the course, which will include assessed Performance Events

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

Successful completion of this course will gain students a BTEC National Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music Performance equivalent to one A-Level.

WHERE WILL THIS LEAD?

The BTEC Level 3 course is excellent preparation for higher education courses in Music, particularly those pursuing a performance-related career. Students could go on to study a Degree focusing on any area of Music.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Two units of this course are assessed through portfolio work which is moderated by teachers. Students' work will be subject to external moderation by the exam board Edexcel/Pearson. There are two units required for external moderation which are subject to change at the start of every new academic year. There are two externally marked units, one written, under exam conditions, and one practical.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Music at Grade 5 or above (desirable). We will consider any application regardless of formal qualifications, but an audition is likely before acceptance onto the course. Performance at Grade 5 (equivalent) or above is also desirable.

Subject Criteria Guide

ART (Fine Art - Single Award)	GCSE grade 5 in Art.
Biology	Any GCSE combined science grade 7. GCSE Biology, if studied, grade 7. GCSE Maths grade 6.
Business Studies	GCSE grade 5 in English and Mathematics. GCSE Business Studies, if studied, grade 5 or a Merit in Level 2 BTEC.
Chemistry	Any GCSE combined science grade 7. GCSE Chemistry, if studied, grade 7. GCSE Maths grade 6.
Computer Science	GCSE Computer Science grade 6 or above. GCSE Maths grade 6 or above preferable.
Drama and Theatre Studies	GCSE grade 6 in Drama and a grade 6 in English. Merit or above in BTEC Performing Arts (dependent on interview with Head of Department).
Economics	GCSE grade 6 in English Language or Literature and 5 in Mathematics.
English Language	GCSE grade 6 in English Language or English Literature.
English Literature	GCSE grade 6 in English Language or English Literature.
Film Studies	GCSE grade 5 in English Language and Literature.
Geography	GCSE grade 6 in Geography. Grade 5 in English and Maths.
History	GCSE grade 6 in History and a grade 5 in GCSE English.
Law	GCSE grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in another written-based subject.
Mathematics	GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics.
Media Studies	GCSE grade 5 in English Language and Literature.
Music	Music GCSE Grade 6 preferably. BTEC Music minimum Merit plus Performance standard equivalent to Grade 5.
Music Technology	GCSE Music Minimum Grade 5 and/or L2 BTEC Music Merit or NCFE L2 Tech Award in Music Technology Merit. It is also desirable that students play an instrument, but not essential.
Physical Education	A grade 6 in GCSE Physical Education and a grade 6 in any GCSE Science. Students who did not do GCSE PE will be considered if they achieved a grade 6 in science. Regular (at least weekly) sports participation is essential.
Physics	Any GCSE combined science grade 7. GCSE Physics, if studied, grade 7. GCSE Maths grade 7 and ideally be looking to follow the A-Level Mathematics course.
Politics	A grade 5 or above in English as well as a grade 5 in another written subject (English Literature, History, Geography, Religious Education or Sociology).
Psychology	GCSE grade 6 in a Science subject (preferably Biology), grade 6 in English and grade 6 in Mathematics.
Sociology	A grade 6 at GCSE English Language or English Literature and a grade 6 in another predominately written-based subject (English Literature, History, Geography, Religious Education etc). If the student has taken Sociology at GCSE they will need a minimum of a grade 6 (this can also count as their other predominately written-based subject).

BTEC Extended Diploma in Business – Six GCSEs at grade 4. If you have previously studied Business Studies, you will need to have obtained a grade 4 in GCSE Business or a Merit at Level 2 BTEC Business. At least a grade 4 in English and Mathematics at GCSE is also necessary.

BTEC Extended Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science – Six GCSEs at grade 4 to include a grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education or Level 2 BTEC in sport if taken and a grade 5 in Science and a grade 5 English Language or Literature. A keen interest in sport is a necessity.

BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport - Grade 5 in Physical Education at GCSE or Level 2 BTEC in Sport. A keen interest in sport is a necessity.

BTEC Extended Certificate in Music (Performance) - GCSE Music at Grade 5 or above (desirable). We will consider any application regardless of formal qualifications, but an audition is likely before acceptance onto the course. Performance at Grade 5 (equivalent) or above is also desirable.