SIXTH FORM COLLEGE
KINGSBRIDGE

Subject Choices Booklet 2024-2025

EDUCATION SOUTH WEST

Foreword from Emily Lilley, Director of Sixth Form

Welcome to the 2024 Subject Choices Booklet for Kingsbridge Sixth Form College.

The process of choosing your next steps can be both exciting and daunting and you may have no idea at this point *what* or *where* you wish to study. This booklet will give you the information you need to make those choices. Please take your time to read the details subject leaders have provided to decide what will be of most interest to you.

When you apply to Kingsbridge Sixth Form College, your initial choices are not set in stone – we understand that you may well change your mind. There will be a chance for you to discuss your choices in detail during your 'coursing conversation'. This will take place during the Autumn term with one of the Sixth Form team or the Senior Leadership Team. Changes can be made at this point as well as in August once you receive your results.

Any questions you may have regarding these subjects would be best directed at the teachers who teach them in the first instance, as they are the experts. You can also watch the videos which are available on our website under Sixth Form and 'Subjects' which may also help you to get a flavour of how these subjects are taught at Kingsbridge Sixth Form College. There are courses to suit all tastes, talents and abilities… and the teachers can't wait to teach you!

Try to think 'big-picture' and find out as much as you can about all the courses you are interested in as well as keeping an open mind. My best advice would always be to choose what excites and inspires you; these will be the subjects that will most likely to allow you to thrive. The team and I are really looking forward to talking to you all about what you love.

Happy choosing!

Emily Lilley
Assistant Principal
Director of Sixth Form

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CONTENTS

APPLIED SCIENCE (APPLIED GENERAL)

What is Applied Science – BTEC Level 3?

BTEC Nationals use a combination of assessment styles to give students confidence they can apply their knowledge to succeed in the workplace – and have the study skills to continue learning on higher education courses and throughout their career.

Assignments: set and marked by teachers; verified by Pearson. Still the main form of assessment for all BTEC Nationals.

Tasks: provide students with work-based challenges in timed, realistic work conditions.

Written exams: Students create written answers to practical questions in exam conditions.

Why choose BTEC Nationals Applied Science Level 3?

The aim of this BTEC Applied Science is to provide a broad scientific knowledge for students interested in progressing their science education or those who are looking for careers in science related industry.

This course is suitable for students who enjoy a wide variety of learning styles, especially those who are suited to coursework rather than exams. Students who enjoy vocational context, independent research and science will thrive on this course

Course outline

The BTEC Award in Applied Science consists of three core units and one specialist unit. The first two units are externally assessed, the first in sat in Year 12 is an exam and the second in Year 13 is a practical exam. The other two units are assessed using a portfolio of work produced by the individual student. The contents of the portfolio will vary with each module, but may include essays, presentations, work sheets, practical write-ups, poster work and research. Work must be the student's own and any resources used must be referenced correctly at the end of each piece.

Grade UCAS points A Level equivalent

- Pass (P): 16
- Merit (M): 32
- Distinction (D): 48
- Distinction* (D*): 56
- Careers and progression

Many students who study the BTEC route consider a career in the research science field or as a technician. However, with the relevant work experience candidates could progress onto careers in management or higher-level research. Other possible career paths could include forensics, food manufacturing, environment and conservation, animal health and breeding, engineering and aerospace.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	4
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	GCSE Science x 2 – 5 BTEC Science Level 2 - Merit

ART AND DESIGN (FINE ART)
A LEVEL

What is Art?

Art is form and content. Art is created using the formal elements such as line, shape, form, colour and texture, but it is the meaning and motivation behind its creation that makes it a fascinating area of study. To be an artist is to bring work into existence by exploring your own informed experiences, thoughts and views.

Why Choose Art?

The skills you will develop will be varied. Among them you will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within art. You will develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using art, craft and design. You will develop your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills. You will also develop a specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and in contemporary society. This is a broad-based course exploring practical, critical and contextual work through a range of 2D and 3D processes and media.

Communication

The key skill of communication is integral to the study of Art and will be assessed as specified in the mark scheme. This involves, amongst other skills, the ability to:

- Summarise the information found in many different types of sources - e.g. books, paintings, museums, galleries and the internet.
- Use accurate and relevant information in the best format for the piece of work you are doing.
- Make sure that written work is legible and that its meaning is clear.
- Choose suitable images to illustrate your ideas clearly.

Other key skills appropriate to the study of Art are:

- Information Technology
- Improving own learning and performance
- Working with others
- Problem solving

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

- The best foundation for success in Art is a Grade 6 and above at GCSE. You may be creative or 'good at drawing' but this course is not an easy option and you should be prepared to work hard at developing your abilities. You will also need to be prepared to study, discuss and write about other artists and their work. If you would like to discuss requirements further please talk to the Team Leader for Art and Design and your Art teachers.
- Students who wish to undertake further studies in Art, Craft or Design usually at Art College or Further Education.
- Students who are looking to take up careers for which an art background is relevant.
- Students who have an interest in and aptitude for the subject, but who do not intend to take the subject beyond this level.

ART AND DESIGN (FINE ART)

(continued)

A Level

Component 1: Personal Investigation **60% of A Level**

You will be required to work on the theme of 'Figures and Forms, recording, researching and developing ideas towards a well-considered conclusion, or conclusions. You should show, among other evidence, how you have explored your use of resources and materials, through drawing, photography and collections of visually exciting and stimulating imagery in your sketchbook. You will research artists and designs relevant to your work and use your understanding of their work to inform your own practice.

In the spring term, you will develop work for a personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written materials of 1,000 to 3,000 words. You are required to submit a final piece (or pieces) and supporting studies, including drawing, experimentation and artist research.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (A Level) **40% of A Level**

The question paper will consist of a choice of eight questions. You are required to select one question and use this as a starting point to develop your ideas.

You will be given a preparation period, during which time you can discuss your work with your teachers. You will need to produce preparatory work and should undertake investigative preparatory work in your work journals throughout the course. The timed examination is fifteen hours.

The Externally Set Assignment is the culmination of your course and gives you the opportunity to show the extent to which you can use the language of the subject, the formal elements, processes and skills that you have developed during your course.

What comes next?

There are many careers in Art and Design, most of these require further study at an Art College, Further Education College or University. At present most students wishing to take Art and Design further will go on to do a one year 'Foundation' Course at an Art College or College of Further Education before applying to Degree courses in more specialist areas of Art and Design.

You may wish to do an Art A Level for its own sake, perhaps to form the basis of a future interest or as part of a range of other subjects. An A Level qualification would support careers in such fields as fine art, interior design, advertising, illustration, marketing, design, architecture, publishing and the media.

Students are asked for a contribution of £75 towards the cost of materials for this course in Year 12 and Year 13. However, should this be an issue student are encouraged to apply for a Learner Support Bursary where financial assistance is available.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE Art & Design - 6

BIOLOGY
OCR – A LEVEL

What is Biology?

Biology is the study of living organisms and, as such, it is one of the broadest subject areas. It ranges from the sub-cellular to whole organisms and environments.

Biology is one of the most dynamic and vibrant sciences. Biologists are at the cutting edge of medical research, food technology, biotechnology, agriculture and conservation issues.

Biology knowledge is increasing at an alarming rate. New techniques such as genetic modification and genome sequencing give us new tools for understanding how life works and for using that understanding – but with our new abilities also come new responsibilities.

Why study Biology at Kingsbridge College Sixth Form?

Our results are well above National Average. We have really enjoyed teaching you at GCSE and we want to carry on working with you to ensure you get the very best out of your A Levels and guide you on to future career paths and Universities. If you work hard at Kingsbridge you are guaranteed to get a very good grade in A Level Biology.

Grades	National Average in 2023	Kingsbridge Community College
A/A*	26%	42%
B and above	47%	72%
C and above	67%	87%

Suitable students will …

- **Have a curiosity and interest in living things and want to know how organisms function.**
- **Want to study the behaviour of living things and how they relate to each other and the environment.**
- **Enjoy biochemical studies in a laboratory and working on the seashore looking at rock pool organisms.**
- **Want to know about human health and physiology.**
- **Be interested in current biological issues e.g. cloning and global warming.**

Other benefits….

A Level Biology offers an excellent vehicle to achieve skills ranging from:

Communication
Problem Solving
Leadership
ICT
Personal skills
Rigour
Application of number
Teamwork

What comes next?

- Human Biology
- Molecular Biology
- Biochemistry
- Medicine
- Natural Sciences
- Physiotherapy
- Sports Science
- Surf Science
- Marine Biology
- Zoology
- Dentistry
- Agricultural Management
- Teaching
- Veterinary Science
- Food Industry
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Conservation
- Pharmachemical industry
- Library and information
- Forensic Science
- Technician

….The list is endless!

BIOLOGY
(continued)

How is the A Level Course Assessed?

- Extended response in all papers
- Synoptic Assessment in all papers
- Practical based questions in all papers
- 10% mathematical weighting

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Development of practical skills in Biology</td><td rowspan="3">AS Level</td><td rowspan="4">A Level Paper 3</td></tr>
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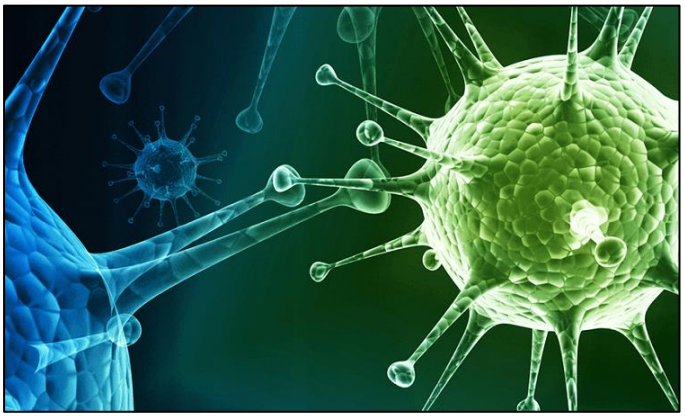
Paper 01 (Biological Processes)	**37% of A Level**	**2h 15min**
	(100marks)	
Paper 02 (Biological Diversity)	**37% of A Level**	**2h 15min**
	(100 marks)	
Paper 03 (Unified Biology)	**26% of A Level**	**1h 30min**
	(70 marks)	
Paper 04 (Practical Endorsement)	**Non-exam assessment**	**Reported Separately**

Biology is recognised as a facilitating subject by some leading universities.
Informed Choices: http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices



SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

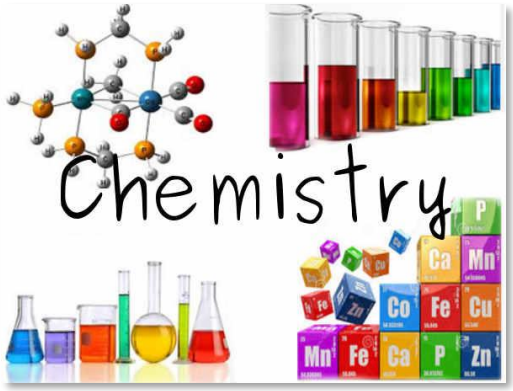
GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	6
Subject Specific	GCSE Science x 2 – 6

CHEMISTRY
OCR – A LEVEL

What is Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of matter, its composition and structure, properties and reactions. It is chiefly concerned with atoms and molecules and their interactions and transformations into new substances. Reactions involve the movement of electrons and the transfer of energy, and many different types of reactions will be studied practically throughout the course e.g. redox, neutralisation, photochemical, organic synthesis and combustion.

Why choose Chemistry?



Results are excellent. Last year 84% of students studying A Level Chemistry achieved A*-B grades, a figure well above the national average of 53% (source: JQC 2023), and many students go on to study Chemistry, Biochemistry or Chemical Engineering at University. A Level Chemistry (usually A*/A) is also a course requirement for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science. The subject combines well with Mathematics, Physics, Biology and Geography, but many students take Chemistry even if they are not combining it with these subjects. A chemistry qualification opens the door to a wide range of careers options, both in and out of the lab. There are endless interesting and rewarding jobs available – these can be in research, outdoors or in other industries you might not have thought of. As a chemist you could fight disease by discovering new medicines; design and synthesise new products and materials, including cosmetics, paints, food and drink and plastics; solve crime using forensic analysis; become an environmental scientist, work in oil refinery, a hospital or public health laboratory or even inspire others through teaching chemistry.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

The course will appeal to those students who:

- Have enjoyed studying Chemistry at GCSE.
- Enjoy practical work and problem-solving.
- Are able to spot trends and patterns within the Periodic Table and apply their knowledge and understanding to unfamiliar reaction pathways and conditions.
- Enjoy studying a subject relevant to their own lives and one that has the capacity to change lives.
- Want to study Chemistry, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Geology or Environmental Science at university.

What module will you study?

Year 12

Module 1 Development of practical skills

- Planning, implementation, analysis and evaluation

Module 2 Foundations in chemistry

- Atomic structure
- Acids and neutralization
- Electrons, bonding and structure
- Moles and equations
- Redox reactions

CHEMISTRY
(continued)

Module 3 Periodic Table and energy

- Periodicity
- Quantitative analysis
- Reaction rates and equilibria (qualitative)
- □ Group 2 and Group 7
- □ Enthalpy

Module 4 Core Organic Chemistry

- Basic concepts
- Alcohols and haloalkanes
- Analytical techniques (IR and MS)
- □ Hydrocarbons
- □ Organic synthesis

Year 13

Module 1 and 2 continue throughout this course

Module 5 Physical chemistry and transition elements

- Reaction rates and equilibrium (quantitative)
- Enthalpy, entropy and free energy
- Transition elements
- □ pH and buffers
- □ Redox and electrode potentials

Module 6 Organic chemistry and analysis

- Aromatic compounds
- Carboxylic acids and esters
- Polymers
- Chromatography and NMR spectroscopy
- □ Carbonyl compounds
- □ Organo-nitrogen compounds
- □ Organic synthesis

How is the course assessed?

A Level

Paper	Description	Marks	Duration	Weighting
1	**Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry** multiple choice and structured questions	100	2 hr 15 mins	37%
2	**Synthesis and analytical techniques** multiple choice and structured questions	100	2 hr 15 mins	37%
3	**Unifying chemistry** structured questions and extended response questions	70	1 hr 30 mins	26%
Non-exam assessment	**Practical endorsement for chemistry** a minimum of 12 practical activities to demonstrate practical competence	Pass/Fail	Non-exam assessment	Reported separately

What is the course code?

A Level: OCR Chemistry A / H432 (first assessment 2017)

What comes next?

For further information, please speak to the Chemistry Department staff and current students at the **Year 11 Information Evening**, or contact Miss Stephenson (Angela.Stephenson@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk)

Chemistry is recognised as a facilitating subject by some leading universities.
Informed Choices: http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	6
Subject Specific	GCSE Science x 2 – 6

COMPUTER SCIENCE
OCR – A LEVEL

What is A Level Computer Science?

This course has been designed for students who wish to go on to higher education courses or employment where knowledge of computing would beneficial. One can study computing and go on to a career in medicine, law, business, politics, mathematics or any type of science. Students following this course do not need to have any prior knowledge of computing, but it would be of **substantial** advantage. This course places a strong emphasis on problem solving and applied mathematics.

The course is not about learning to use tools or just training in a programming language. Instead, the emphasis is on computational thinking. Computational thinking is a kind of reasoning used by both humans and machines. Thinking computationally means using abstraction and decomposition and is an important life skill. Computer Science involves questions that have the potential to change how we view the world.

Why choose A Level Computer Science?

Do you have the patience to work at a problem until you solve it?
Are you curious about what's going on in your computer?
Do you use your computer at home for more than just surfing the net?

The course is designed to appeal to students who are curious about the inner workings and applications of computers, as well as to those students who wish to pursue a career in Computing.

What does the course involve?

Year 12 Study will include:

Computing principles

- Theory of computation
- Fundamentals of data representation
- Fundamentals of computer systems
- Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture
- Consequences of uses of computing
- Fundamentals of communication and networking

Algorithms and Problem solving

These topics will be delivered alongside practical programming lessons

- Fundamentals of programming
- Fundamentals of data structures
- Systematic approach to problem solving

Year 13 Study will include:

In Year 13 you will study advanced Computing theory and complete a software development project of your own choosing.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

(continued)

How will my work be assessed?

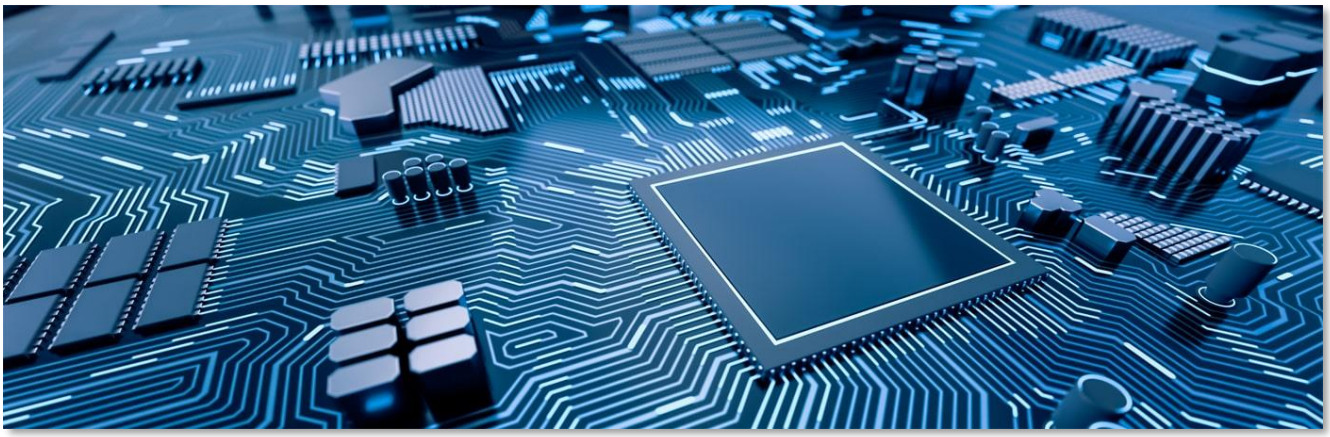
A2 assessment - 2 written exams and 1 project worth 20% of your A Level.

What qualifications do I need?

You should be studying at mostly grade 5 or above Including Maths and English. A grade 5 or above in a Level 2 computing course is **desirable** but not essential as is the ability to work in an organised manner and complete independent study.

What can I do afterwards?

All students will benefit from the technical skills and insight gained on this course, which are transferable to numerous careers both within the IT sector and outside. You may choose to extend knowledge at university with a Computing related degree. This could lead to a career in software development or programming. Students may also use this as a stepping-stone to vocational courses and apprenticeships.



SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

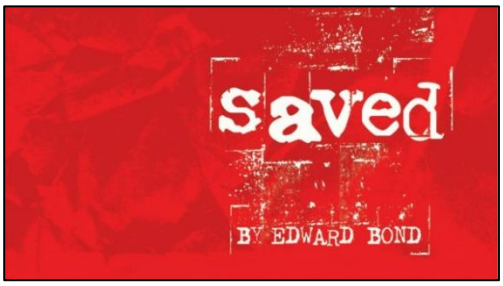
GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	6
Subject Specific	5 in Level 2 Computing is desirable but not essential

DRAMA & THEATRE
EDUQAS – A LEVEL

This two year A Level course focuses on a dynamic and exciting practical exploration of theatre while placing an emphasis upon the thorough academic study of key practitioners and writers who have shaped theatre in the past and continue to innovate theatre today. Studying modern, relevant texts students will be expected to challenge themselves in performance, take creative risks and choose to work as actors and directors, critics and theatre designers. Often there will be problems to be solved creatively and deadlines to be met that mirror working in a vocational and professional theatre environment. Students successfully completing the course will gain a thorough understanding of drama and theatre and gain an extremely high academic understanding of theatre and its wider cultural importance.

You do not have to have Drama GCSE to study this course. If you have studied Drama GCSE, we would expect that you have achieved at least a Grade 5. You also need to have achieved a Grade 5 in English.

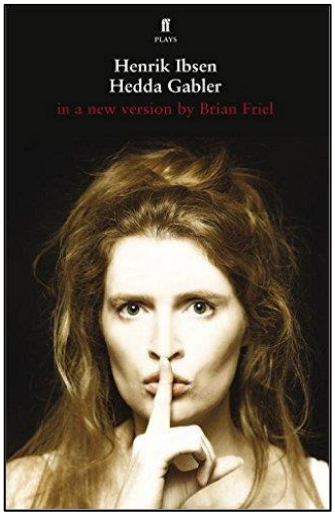
In brief, A Level students will have to:



- Perform in a text-based performance
- Perform in a devised performance
- Explore the work of at least two theatre practitioners in detail and apply that knowledge practically
- Produce a portfolio that details the creation and development of your plays and evaluates the process and the final performance
- Answer a series of questions on three set texts in a written exam

The course will appeal to students who….

- Have an interest in drama and theatre as a performer, director or designer
- Enjoy working practically while applying theory and academic analysis
- Enjoy a subject which involves co-operation and working as part of a supportive, creative group
- Wish to develop their performance skills, confidence and communication ability
- Are prepared to commit to extra-curricular rehearsals and regular theatre visits including trips to London and Stratford upon Avon
- Wish to deepen their subject understanding as well as broadening their wider cultural knowledge



DRAMA & THEATRE

(continued)

A Level Units

Component 1: Devising - 40% coursework assessed

This is a practical coursework based unit and is worth 40% of the qualification. Working in a small group, you will have to devise an original piece of theatre for an audience using **one key extract** from a published play and apply a specific theatre practitioner's techniques to make a unique piece of theatre. While we expect our students to focus on acting as the assessed skill, there are also options to take a design route such as sound, lighting or costume.

Component 2: Text in Performance 20% coursework assessed

This is another practical script based performance unit where you will perform in or design for a group performance from a performance script. Your group can also include up to one designer from each design role. The design roles are set, lighting, sound and costume. In addition you will also perform in or design for a monologue or duologue performance from another performance text.

Component 3: Text in Performance - 40% written exam

This is an externally set and assessed examination that lasts 2 hours 30 mins. The exam will be made up of three sections: Section A and B focuses upon two set texts – currently Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen and Saved by Edward Bond. Although this is a written exam, you will have studied these texts **practically** in your lessons from the point of view of an actor, director and designer and you will answer questions that focus upon rehearsal, performance and design. In addition, the two live theatre performances you will have seen as part of the course will also inform your answers. Section C looks at an extract from The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime.

In summary:

The course is assessed through a combination of coursework portfolios, practical workshops, group and individual performances and a written exam. There will be regular theatre visits throughout the course as well as the chance to work with visiting profession theatre companies at workshops in and out of college which will support the practical work you do.

What comes next?

This course can lead to further study in Drama and Performing Arts in Higher Education. Many students go on to study a wide range of other subjects at university and see it as an excellent course that compliments perfectly their other A Level choices. Drama and Theatre is invaluable in building confidence and improving presentation and communication skills essential in a variety of careers.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	Drama (if studied) 5

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AQA – A LEVEL

What is English Language at A Level?

English Language at A Level is a challenging academic course that has a much broader scope than the subject that you experience at GCSE. The course focuses on the study of non-fiction texts, including spoken genres. From the outset, you will develop precision and accuracy with linguistic analysis, focusing on the application of various language frameworks to texts. By developing a more technical grasp of the constituent parts of the English language, you will be able to able to explore the methods used by speakers and writers in order to convey meanings and representations. In addition, you will have opportunities to apply this knowledge within your own creative writing. English Language A Level also has a significant focus on the exploration of language in society, with modules exploring how language is influenced by a range of social factors.

What will you study?

Throughout the course, you will use the study of non-fiction texts in order to develop your linguistic analysis skills. You will also explore the following areas of language theory and research:

Language and Social Contexts: exploring how language use is affected by age, class, gender, occupation and social group.

Attitudes towards language: including attitudes towards accent, dialect and notions of 'correctness'.

Language Change: exploring the history and development of the English language over time and space.

Language Acquisition: investigating theory and research into how humans learn to speak, read and write.

Language in Action: Students choose an area of language that interests them and carry out their own linguistic research, developing skills in experimental design and research methods along the way. You will also choose a creative writing piece to craft. These two components make up the NEA folder, which is worth 20% of the final A Level grade.

Why study English Language?

English is relevant to us all as thinkers and communicators. It develops analytical skills and the effective use of spoken and written communication. Discussion based lessons will enable you to understand yourself and issues that are relevant to your life and experiences. As a subject, it combines well with essay-based subjects such as History, Psychology and Philosophy, as well as providing a broad base when combined with other Arts and Science options. English pass rates have a history of excellence and reflect committed and supportive teaching. This A Level subject is highly regarded by Universities and provides access to a wide range of courses and career pathways.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	6
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	Both GCSE English Language and English Literature at Grade 5. At least one of these needs to be at Grade 6

ENGLISH LITERATURE
AQA – A LEVEL

What is English Literature?

Literature is a map of the history of mankind: it is food for the heart, the mind and the soul! Writers over the ages have created novels, plays and poems to entertain, intrigue and to explore a variety of situations themes and ideas.

English Literature at A Level is an exciting and challenging course. It involves the study of a range of texts written by some of the most acclaimed writers in English history. You will study a range of texts – prose, poetry and drama – and explore characters, themes, context, genre and the writers' style.

Do these issues interest you?

Literature invites us to question ourselves, others and the world around us: What motivates cruelty? Can being in love both nurture and wound us? Do men and women respond differently to love? Are we in control of our own destinies? How has history defined the literature that has been handed down to us?

What will you study?

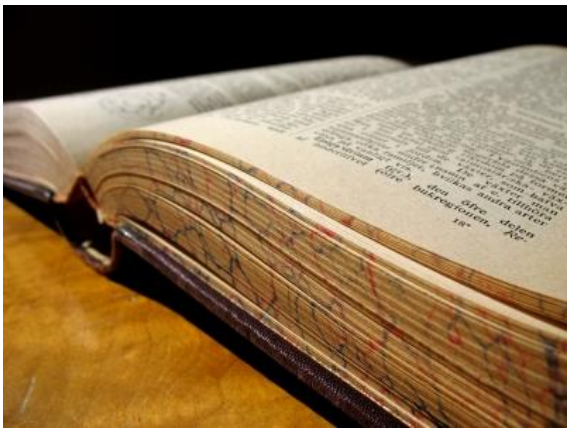
Over the course, you will study three units:

- Love through the ages The study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. Examination will include two unseen poems. This is assessed in a 3-hour exam worth 40% of the A Level.

- Texts in shared contexts - Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day The study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000. Examination will include an unseen prose extract. This is assessed in a 2.5-hour exam worth 40% of the A Level.

- Independent critical study: Texts across time The Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) will be a 2500-word essay comparing two literary texts (poetry, prose or drama) of your choice on a theme. One text must have been written pre-1900. This is worth 20% of the A Level.

Why study English Literature?



English is relevant to us all as thinkers and communicators. It develops analytical skills and the effective use of spoken and written communication. Discussion based lessons will enable you to understand yourself and issues that are relevant to your life and experiences.

As a subject, it combines well with essay-based subjects such as History and Philosophy as well as providing a broad base when combined with other Arts and Science options. English Literature pass rates have a history of excellence and reflect committed and supportive teaching. This A Level subject is highly regarded by Universities.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	6
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE English Language - 6 GCSE English Literature - 6

EPQ – EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION AQA

What is the Extended Project Qualification?

The AQA extended project is A Level 3 qualification that is worth half an A Level Graded from A* to E and is awarded with UCAS points. It is designed to prepare students for university style independent research and essay writing. It provides an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond the A Level syllabus, stand out and prepare for university or their future career. This involves students creating an independent research report that is based upon using a wide variety of academic sources. Each person is supported by a supervisor who assists with planning, managing sources and reflection, this is alongside taught sessions where the skills of research and writing are delivered. Students have the option of either writing a 5000-word mini-dissertation or creating a physical artifact/completing a performance and writing a 1500 word write up.

Why choose the Extended Project Qualification?

The EPQ was created in order to help students bridge the gap between the requirements of A Level study and study at a university level. It is designed for those that want to develop their ability to work independently and create arguments of their own. Students need to be able to take interest in something in order to be able to research into it to the required standard. Students get to choose what their project is about so will often be something that they are passionate about or even a topic that they might not have been able to study at A Level. This year these topics have ranged from dissertations on methods for controlling pesticide resistance, the impacts of removing capital punishment in the UK, what 'success' really is as well as the regression of equality in Russian culture. One student completing the practical project is making a Roman sword in the traditional manner and another recreating Ancient Egyptian artwork on papyrus.

Universities very much appreciate students completing an EPQ and some even lower their entrance requirements to reflect this (University of Bristol – "It is expected that some admissions tutors may make two alternative offers to those offering this qualification, one of which involves success in the Extended Project for example either AAA at A Level or AAB at A Level plus Extended Project)." Cambridge University states that "We welcome the introduction of the Extended Project and would encourage you to undertake one as it will help you develop independent study and research skills and ease the transition from school/college to higher education."

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

There are no specific entrance requirements for the EPQ but you should be able to communicate effectively in writing. You don't have to be intending to go to university to study this as it helps all students in developing skills that are useful in later life.

The course will appeal to those students who:

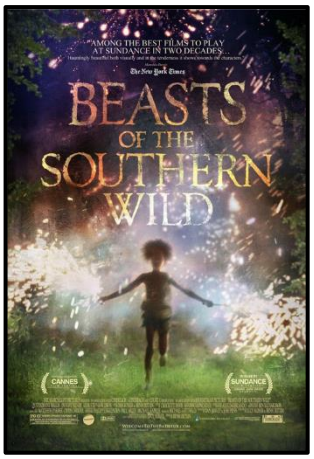
- want to develop their academic skills in researching, reading and writing
- are interested in studying a topic of their own choosing in detail engaging with high quality
- academic research on the matter
- have the ability to see a task through to completion
- enjoy communicating an argument in the written form
- those that are creative in practical pursuits (creating an artefact or undertaking a performance)

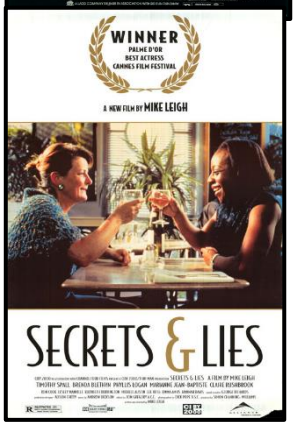
If you have any questions about the EPQ or would like to find out more then please talk to Ms Lilley.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	

FILM STUDIES EDUQAS – A LEVEL





In Year 12, we shall be exploring a broad range of British, American and world film which are both independent and mainstream, in preparation for a written assessment as well as constructing exciting film artefacts as coursework.

Film is now available to study in the mainstream option choice, having operated for some time as a successful evening adult education opportunity. This qualification gives students the opportunity to explore in great depth, world cinema as a creative phenomenon whilst improving their own film-making skills having studied how the great masters achieve their impact

There will be:

- One creative project which could be a short film, a screen-play or a digitally photographed storyboard

For A Level, the examination is concerned with world cinema including documentary and the short film with a focus on social, historical and political context as well as style; an analysis of a set film text is also required. There is the opportunity to learn how to write your own screen-play, a digitally photographed storyboard or use our new Mac equipment and other excellent facilities to create an exciting short film.

This is a wonderful qualification which allows for real freedom of individual choice and the chance to bring to your study, your own favourite material. It combines the development of practical ability with intellectual analysis and would be an excellent accompaniment to A Levels in Sociology, Art, History, Drama, Philosophy, Languages and English Literature.

> Film studies has opened my eyes to the world and industry of filmmaking. I have gained valuable skills here that I might not have done elsewhere.
>
> - Will Isaac, year 13

FRENCH

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	4
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	

MORDERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES
AQA – A LEVEL

What Are Modern Foreign Languages at A Level?

This A Level language course gives you a chance to build on the skills learnt at GCSE and study many aspects of the culture of the countries where these languages are spoken. The language is just the medium; through it you will study a wide range of topics, across a number of subject areas: History and Heritage, Cinema and Music, New Technology, Ethics & Diversity, Politics and Citizenship. You will gain an appreciation and understanding of Europe and the world.

Why Choose Modern Foreign Languages?

A language is ideally linked to all subject areas whether you want to specialise later on in languages or not. A language is a perfect 'add-on' for all students and is a highly valuable and marketable skill in the workplace. A Level language students have used their language skills, working in the Civil Service through to studies in Biology or careers with big international companies. A language can open up many doors.

- Few people in Britain have language skills at A Level and this will make you an asset in the work place.
- Many Universities offer language modules alongside the main subject like Engineering or Business Studies. You may even be able to spend a year at a foreign University as part of your course. With a language, you can study over thirty languages at University, including Arabic, Chinese or Spanish ab initio.
- The course allows students to develop key skills in communication, ICT, problem solving and working with others.

What Kind of Student Is Suitable For Modern Foreign Languages?

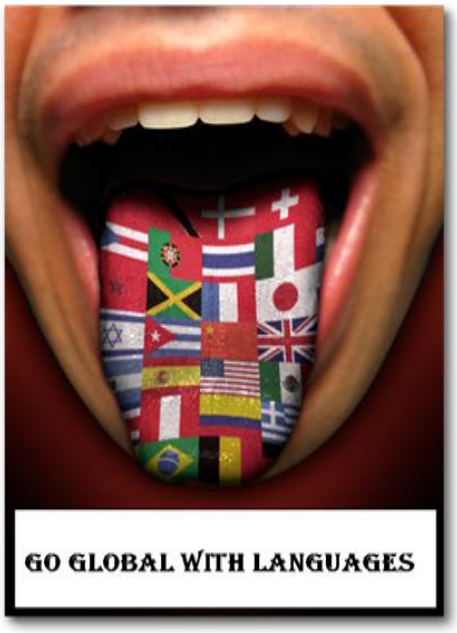
You will need to have gained a Grade 6 or more at GCSE. More importantly, speak to your language teacher before finalising your choice.

This course will appeal to you if:

- You want to take your language skills beyond GCSE without necessarily specialising in languages.
- You have an interest in other cultures, people and travel.
- You enjoy discussing a wide range of topics.

What Does A Typical Lesson Look Like?

Can vary a great deal, but typically will involve the study of some type of text (reading, video, listening, song etc), followed by language work, focusing on key grammar and / or vocabulary of the text, before going on to a discussion or written response of the theme, using the key language. One noticeable difference from many GCSE courses is that the classes take place mainly in French.



A Level Topics

Aspects Of French-Speaking Society: Current Trends

- The changing nature of family
- The 'cyber society'
- The place of voluntary work

FRENCH
(continued)

Artistic Culture in The French Speaking World

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form

Aspects of French-Speaking Society: Current Issues

- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated

Aspects of Political Life In The French-Speaking World

- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
- Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration

A Level Examination

The examination is currently devised as follows:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (worth 50% of the A Level)

Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources.

Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. All questions are in French, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in French.

Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Translation into French; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Paper 2: Writing (worth 20% of A Level)

Writing 2 essays, one about the film and the other about the book.

Paper 3: Speaking (worth 30% of the A Level)

Speaking about an aspect of one of the themes of the course. Followed by an **oral presentation** and discussion of an individual research project.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE French – 6

A LEVEL SPANISH
AQA

What are Modern Foreign Languages at A level?

This A Level language course gives you a chance to build on the skills learnt at GCSE and study many aspects of the culture of the countries where these languages are spoken. The language is just the medium; through it you will study a wide range of topics, across a number of subject areas: History, Geography, Art, Ethics, Politics and Citizenship. You will gain an appreciation and understanding of Europe and the world.

Why choose Modern Foreign Languages?

A language is ideally linked to all subject areas whether you want to specialise later on in languages or not. A language is a perfect 'add-on' for all students and is a highly valuable and marketable skill in the workplace. A Level language students have used their language skills, working in the Civil Service through to studies in Biology or careers with big international companies. A language can open up many doors.

- Few people in Britain have language skills at A Level and this will make you an asset in the work place.
- Many Universities offer language modules alongside the main subject like Engineering or Business Studies. You may even be able to spend a year at a foreign University as part of your course. With a language, you can study over thirty languages at University, including Arabic, Chinese or Portuguese ab initio.
- The course allows students to develop key skills in communication, ICT, problem solving and working with others.

What kind of student is suitable for Modern Foreign Languages?

You will need to have gained a grade 6 or more at GCSE. More importantly, speak to your language teacher before finalising your choice.

This course will appeal to you if:

- You want to take your language skills beyond GCSE without necessarily specialising in languages.
- You have an interest in other cultures, people and travel.
- You enjoy discussing a wide range of topics.

What does a typical lesson look like?

Can vary a great deal, but typically will involve the study of some type of text (reading, video, listening, song etc.), followed by language work, focusing on key grammar and / or vocabulary of the text, before going on to a discussion or written response of the theme, using the key language. One noticeable difference from many GCSE courses is that the classes take place mainly in Spanish.

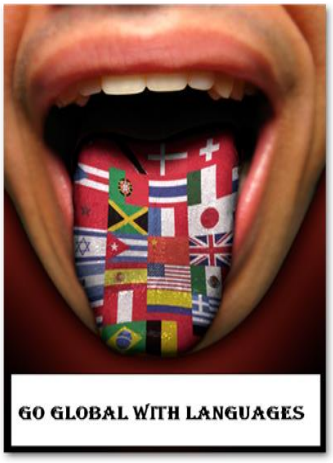
A Level Topics

Aspects of Hispanic Society Modern and Traditional Values

- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

Artistic Culture in The Hispanic World

- Modern day idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage or Cultural landscape



A LEVEL SPANISH
AQA
(continued)

Multiculturalism in Hispanic society

- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world

- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens
- Monarchies, republics and dictatorships
- Popular movement

A Level Examination

The examination is currently devised as follows:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (worth 50% of the A level):

Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources.

Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. All questions are in Spanish, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in Spanish.

Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Translation into Spanish; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Paper 2: Writing (worth 20% of A level):

Writing 2 essays, one about the film and the other about the book.

Paper 3: Speaking (worth 30% of the A level):

Speaking about an aspect of one of the themes of the course.
This is followed by an **oral presentation** and discussion of an individual research project.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE Spanish - 6

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY
EDEXCEL

Why Choose Geography?

Students studying Geography at Kingsbridge gain excellent results - we have an extremely high success rate and our progress results put us in the top 25% of all schools nationally. Geography combines well with Arts, Sciences, and Social Sciences such as Business Studies, ICT or Psychology; it is recognised by employers and Further and Higher Education as a **facilitating subject**, which develops a wide range of skills and understanding. Taken with Sciences, Geography supports applications for almost any Science-based University course like Engineering and Environmental Sciences. Taken with Humanities, it will support an equally wide range of University courses such as Business Studies, Law, Media and Accountancy. The use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) is also a rapidly growing industry with superb career possibilities. Many recent studies show that Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment.

Geography students gain an appreciation and understanding of the complex world around them; the physical environment including the Natural Hazards, Coastal Landscapes and Climate Change. This course also addresses key geographical issues affecting the planet today and in the future such as the tensions between the old core Superpowers and rise and challenge presented by Russia and China. Following the hugely successful Edexcel specification, this exciting and contemporary course has something for everyone, breaking down the artificial divisions between human and physical



topics.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

It is a requirement for you to have achieved at least a grade 5 at GCSE Geography. Only in exceptional circumstances and in negotiation with Mr. Fitzpatrick will students who have not previously studied Geography be accepted.

The course will appeal to those students who:

- Have an interest in the **challenges** facing the world in the 21st Century
- Enjoy studying a subject that is **relevant** to their own lives and experiences
- Want the opportunity to carry out **practical** fieldwork outdoors
- Want to **broaden** their Sixth Form studies to cover both the Sciences and Humanities
- Enjoy **travel** and enjoy finding out about new places and cultures
- Want to keep their **options** open for Higher Education and careers

What will you study?

The current specifications are still under reform and exact content details have yet to be confirmed. It is important to note that students will need to sit all exams at the end of the A Level unless they have specifically chosen to take AS Level only.

A Level

Paper 1: Conflicted Planet

- *Topic 1:* *Tectonic Processes and Hazards*
- *Topic 2:* *Coastal Landscapes Processes and Change*
- *Topic 5:* *The Water Cycle and Water Security*
- *Topic 6:* *The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security*

Assessment: 2 hours 15 minutes (105 marks)
30% of the qualification

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

(continued)

Paper 2: Global Powers

- *Topic 3 : Globalisation*
- *Topic 4 : Shaping Places*
- *Topic 8 : Superpowers*
- *Topic 9 : Global Development and Connections*

Assessment: 2 hours 15 minutes (105 marks)
30% of the qualification

Paper 3: Synoptic Paper

Synoptic Investigation on a geographical issue which will focus on Players, Attitudes and Futures. This will be based on a contemporary global or regional issue.

Assessment: 2 hour 15 minutes (70 marks)
20% of the qualification

Paper 4: Independent Investigation

Student's independent investigation on an aspect of Geography to be chosen by the students
20% of the qualification

Fieldwork

Year 12: A residential field course to a physical and urban environment to develop skills in preparation for the Independent Investigation.

Year 13: An additional 2 days fieldwork will also be carried out during A Level. The details of this are to be confirmed.

What comes next?

Some of the courses more directly related to Geography, which students have gone on to study include: -

Environmental Studies
Marine Geography
Hazards
Ecology
Development Studies
Agriculture/Farm Management
Rural Studies
Anthropology
Marine Biology
Town Planning
Geophysics
Estate Management
Geology
and Geography of course !

Employment opportunities exist in local and central government bodies, Social Services, Leisure Travel and Tourism, Management, Environmental Management, Scientific Services, Business and Finance, Estate Management, GIS, Agriculture and many more. The skill set gained by Geography students makes Geography students very versatile, adaptable and employable.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	6
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	GCSE Geography – 6

HISTORY
AQA – A LEVEL

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

Ideally, to provide a context to the History you study at A Level, you require a GCSE of Grade 6 or above in History. However, we will consider students who gain at least a Grade 6 in English Literature who have not studied History before.

Why study History?

History as a subject enables you to better understand the world around you and the topics studied during this A Level will certainly enhance your understanding of the world's most powerful countries today. By studying it at Sixth Form you will gain a fascinating insight into Superpower relations, through the exploration of Cold War tensions between the USA and the Soviet Union. This is from the end of World War Two up until the point at which the world nearly came to nuclear war in 1962 and on to the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. You will also study the history of one of England's most eventful dynasties: The Tudors. This is from Henry VII through the extraordinary reign of Henry VIII as well as looking at how his children, Mary I, Edward VI and Elizabeth I changed the country when in power. The A Level option also allows for students to carry out an independent study focusing on the development of China in the twentieth century as it moved from a weak power under an emperor to a 21st century economic superpower.

However, History is more than the knowledge you learn – this subject also develops important attributes in you as a person; to debate a point of view, to question the truth of what someone wishes you to take at face value, and to structure your thoughts into a persuasive argument.

History is a very transferrable subject and complements many professional occupations, including law, journalism and politics due to the critical thinking skills involved. It is also a well-respected A Level for higher education.

What areas will be studied?

A Level – Year 12
Paper 1 The Tudors: England 1485-1547
Paper 2 The Cold War c.1945-1963

A Level – Year 13
Paper 1 The Tudors: England 1547-1603
Paper 2 The Cold War 1963-1991
Historical Investigation. The development of Modern China, c.1900-c.2000

How is the course assessed?

The A Level exam papers are 2.5 hours each in duration. Both papers involve students answering 3 extended writing questions. There is also a 4500-word Historical Investigation (Personal Study). The two exams are worth 40% each of the A Level qualification. The Historical Investigation is worth 20%.

What is the course code?

A Level: AQA 7040
History is recognised as a facilitating subject by some leading universities.
Informed Choices: https://successatschool.org/advicedetails/204/facilitating-subjects

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	6
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE History - 6

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in IT

(Equivalent to One A Level)

BTEC Level 3 Certificate in IT

(Equivalent to 0.5 of an A Level)

Nationally, BTEC Level 3 qualifications have proved popular with students and employers. They carry the same amount of UCAS points as traditional A Levels. The course has a one-year option (equivalent to AS), or two years (equivalent to A2). BTECs embody a fundamentally learner-centered approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. They focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education.

Grade UCAS points A Level equivalent

- Pass (P): 16
- Merit (M): 32
- Distinction (D): 48
- Distinction* (D*): 56

Why Study IT?

- In 2019 there are currently 17% more jobs advertised than people to fill them. We are living in an expanding technological age. Where the technological skills of the work force do not fit the skills required to meet standards within business.
- Employment in the IT industry is forecast to grow 5 times faster than the UK average with over half a million new IT and Telecoms professionals needed over the next 5 years.
- IT and Telecoms professionals currently earn 41% more than the national average salary.
- Due to the skills shortage in the UK, many firms are having to recruit from abroad.

What will I learn?

This course is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other subjects, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT. You will develop a common core of IT knowledge and study areas such as the relationship between hardware and software that form an IT system, managing and processing data to support business and using IT to communicate and share information.

The qualification gives learners a broad base of knowledge of the IT sector. Successful candidates can expect to find employment opportunities as: Security Administrator (infrastructure, data, and applications), Network Security Architect, Network Security Engineer, Network Security Specialist.

How will I be assessed?

Certificate in IT: Equivalent in size to 0.5 of an A Level. 2 units, both mandatory, of which 1 is external. Mandatory content (100%). External assessment (50%).
Extended Certificate: Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

Who is this course for?

This course is suitable for learners who wish to learn through applied learning techniques, therefore applying learning which will be directly beneficial for the workplace or future studies in the digital IT Industry. You will need to have a strong interest in IT and the digital world today

Future Opportunities

Studying BTEC Nationals in IT builds a good foundation for a range of career options including:

- starting up your own business being self-employment
- Further education
- joining the IT industry
- IT apprenticeships

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	4
GCSE Maths	4
Subject Specific	

MATHEMATICS COURSES
AQA (Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Core Maths)

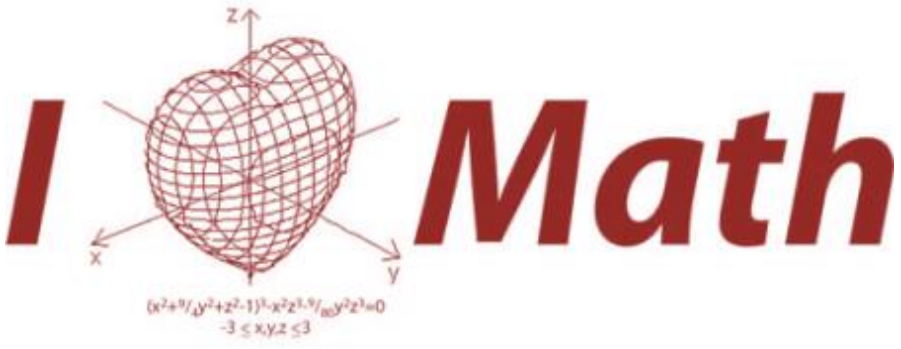
We offer three distinct courses to suit the needs of as many students as possible: At A level we offer Mathematics and Further Mathematics. While most students are encouraged to take three A levels, the way in which the Mathematics and Further Mathematics A levels support each other has meant that historically students studying Further Mathematics as a fourth A level have found they have been able to cope with the additional workload significantly more comfortably than students studying other combinations of four A levels.

In addition to A levels we also offer the Core Mathematics qualification that is equivalent to an AS level and is taken over one year. The table below summarises each course and the entry criteria. This will be the seventh year of the reformed Mathematics and Further Mathematics A level courses. Please note that if you are familiar with the old mathematics A level qualifications there have been significant changes in the structure and content of the courses to be aware of.

NOTE: It is important that you choose the correct A level Mathematics subject, depending on your prior attainment and intended academic or career path – the Maths department will be able to advise you on this.

While we accept students that have achieved a grade 6 in mathematics at GCSE onto the A level course, students with this grade may find the course very challenging. The Maths department will be able to advise you on where your particular strengths lie within mathematics and whether these align with the skills that are essential in order to be successful at A level mathematics.

	Core Maths	Mathematics	Further Mathematics
Minimum entry qualification	Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics	Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics. Students must also study AS or A level Mathematics at the same time
Structure of Course	This is a **one year** course aimed to develop real-life skills. It will involve solving meaningful mathematical problems and will include financial maths and a statistical element.	Around two thirds of the course is spent studying pure Mathematics: algebra, trigonometry, graphs, calculus and numerical methods. The remaining third is devoted to the study of applied mathematics (Mechanics and Statistics).	The structure is similar to the Mathematics course: the bulk of the course is spent on the study of pure Mathematics and the remaining third is a combination of different applied subjects: Mechanics and Statistics
Assessment	Examinations in May and June of year 12 only. There are no coursework requirements.	There are three examinations for each of these A Levels in May and June of Year 13. There are no coursework requirements for any A Level mathematics subjects.	



MATHEMATICS COURSES

(continued)

Why Choose a Mathematics Subject?

"Mathematics seems to endow one with something like a new sense." ***Charles Darwin***

You might be surprised just how attractive a mathematics qualification is to many employers, colleges and universities. Why do these people place such importance on Mathematics? The answer is that it really is true that mathematical skills are of genuine, practical use in almost every area of modern life. Employers and course providers know that a good Mathematics qualification is a strong indicator of the possession of highly desirable attributes. Mathematics and Further Mathematics are both listed as "facilitating subjects" in the "What Subjects Give you the Most Options" section of the Russell Group University produced "Informed Choices" booklet.

If you are considering studying any of the following subjects at degree level, you will find that **Mathematics A Level is either recommended or required**: Mathematics or Statistics; Engineering, any Science subject, especially those involving Physics and Chemistry, Computing, Accountancy, Economics, Psychology, Architecture, Medicine. **For some courses Further Mathematics is also specified as an essential or highly desirable qualification.** If you intend to go on to study University Mathematics, Physics or Engineering at the highest level then we would strongly recommend taking Further Mathematics.

If you are considering studying any of these subjects beyond A Level, it is vital that you find out what the likely entry requirements for your chosen course are, and seek advice from the appropriate department.

If you are planning to study Physics A level, you should normally take Maths, it is highly recommended that you also consider studying further mathematics. If you are considering doing Physics without doing Maths, please talk to your Science and Maths teachers.

If you don't know what you are going to do after school, you might still consider doing Mathematics as it is one of the most highly prized A levels which will provide you with a set of skills that are applicable to a huge variety of jobs and further study opportunities.

MATHEMATICS

Students that have gained at least a Grade 6 at GCSE grade in Mathematics can go onto study AS and A level GCE courses in Mathematics.

We also offer Further Mathematics as an A level which must be taken with Mathematics. Both of these courses involve the study of Pure Mathematics together with the applications Statistics and Mechanics.

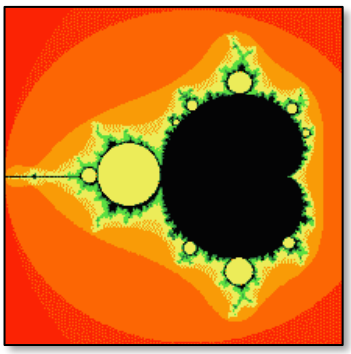
Pure Mathematics

When studying Pure Mathematics, you will be extending your knowledge of such topics as algebra and trigonometry as well as learning some new ideas such as calculus. If you enjoyed the challenge of problem solving at GCSE using such mathematical techniques, then you should find the prospect of studying Pure Mathematics very appealing.

Although many of the ideas you will meet in Pure Mathematics are interesting in their own right they also serve as an important foundation for other branches of Mathematics, especially Mechanics and Statistics.

Mechanics

While studying Mechanics you will learn how to model mathematically the motion of objects and how they respond to forces acting upon them, from cars in the street to satellites revolving around a planet. Many of the ideas you will meet in the course form an essential introduction to such important modern fields of study as cybernetics, robotics, biomechanics and sports science, as well as the more traditional areas of engineering and physics.



MATHEMATICS COURSES

(continued)

Statistics

While studying Statistics you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data in order to arrive at conclusions about it. You will extend and build on the ideas of probability that you encountered at GCSE. Many of the ideas that you will meet in this course have applications in a wide range of other fields – from assessing what your car insurance is going to cost to how likely the earth is going to be hit by a comet in the next few years.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Further Maths opens up so many more routes than you may realise. The course includes some of the most interesting concepts and applications that we cover at A level, and is a fantastic foundation for anyone wanting to go on to study any subjects that have a significant mathematical content. If you are in any way considering Further Maths as an option at all please speak to Dr Kilby, Miss Longhurst or Mrs Spencer so that we can discuss how we can make it part of your package.

The Further Mathematics course builds on topics met in the ordinary Mathematics A level and also introduces fundamental topics not included in A level Mathematics such as matrices and complex numbers. Studying Further Mathematics will boost your performance in ordinary Mathematics and it will also give you a significantly better base for study at University. Due to the way the Mathematics and Further Mathematics A levels support each other it is possible to take Further Mathematics alongside three other A level subjects. Historically we have had students that have done this with great success and they have managed the additional workload more comfortably than students studying other combinations of four A levels.

You cannot take this course without also studying Mathematics A level. Students intending to study Mathematics at University you should definitely take Further Mathematics in order to give themselves the best chance of securing places on Mathematics courses and succeeding in them when they do. If you are considering studying other subjects with significant mathematical content such as Physics, Chemistry or Engineering at University then Further Mathematics is also highly recommended.

Programme of Study	Content in Year 12 (AS)	Content in Year 13 (A Level)
Further Mathematics	Approximately half further pure topics, half applied (Mechanics and Statistics)	Approximately two thirds further pure topics, one third applied (Mechanics, and Statistics)

All examinations are at the end of the academic year.

CORE MATHS

Core Maths is a relatively new course for those who want to keep up their valuable maths skills but who are not planning on taking AS or A-level mathematics. At the end of the **one-year** course you will come out with a level 3 qualification-similar to an AS. The course is assessed by final examination.

Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real-life skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis in work, study, or life and the course will include financial maths and statistical elements. It will also help with other A-level subjects such as geography, business studies, psychology and economics.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	
GCSE Maths	6 – Maths 5 – Core Maths
Subject Specific	

MEDIA

OCR CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL DIPLOMA (TECHNICAL)

This is A Level 3 National Award which is the equivalent of two A Levels and is QCA accredited.

The focus of this course is to achieve technical excellence in as many fields related to the Media industry as possible. Only 3 of the 10 units are externally assessed in this qualification: every task counts, as the assessment is portfolio based. Candidates are judged to be either at a Distinction, Merit or Pass level across a range of specific objectives which focus upon making a range of Media products.

There are 5 units in the first year which will cover aspects of print, photography, emedia, video production and Media theory which is focused on industry practice. The first year of the course provides students with an A Level equivalent qualification (the Extended Certificate) which is then upGraded in the summer to the full diploma for the majority continuing into the second year. Therefore, there is a valuable opportunity available for candidates who want to take an A Level equivalent in a practical subject in one year.

The second year allows a wider choice; radio, animation, social media products, games design and a range of Media design units with the opportunity to do a work-based element in radio. There is also the Extended Diploma on offer in the second year for those wishing to take 3 A Level equivalents which is a popular specialised option.

It is a challenging and highly creative course, one that has proved popular with the students taking it because their technical expertise is stretched to the full - they are learning new things whilst using new software. It is vocational and students get out of it exactly what they put in and they are in control – the students decide what their projects are and what form the assessment takes in negotiation with their subject tutor. The portfolios prepare students for higher education, the Media industry and further technical degrees.

Students are asked for a £60 contribution towards this course. However, should this be an issue students are encouraged to apply for a Learner Support Bursary where financial assistance is available. This qualification is the equivalent of two 'A' levels and therefore can run alongside two other qualifications which may or may not directly feed into Media as a subject. Each application will be considered on its own merit; there may not be a series of examinations at the end of the course, but we shall be operating at full A Level standard throughout.

> You learn skills from different media industries and helps you figure out what pathway you chose in the future.
>
> - Kaitlyn Onslow, Year 13

Who is this course aimed at? Who is our target audience?

Someone:

- With strong practical skills who has an enthusiasm for learning and acquiring new skills;
- With a clear vision of working in the Media industry in a directorial or technical capacity such as TV, photojournalism, sound mixing, movie editing, computer games and animation, etc;
- Who is seeking practical work experience in a Media related capacity;
- Who is interested in building a top-quality portfolio for university or job interviews;
- Wanting to be at the cutting edge of software development;
- Who previously would have left the college in order to study this type of qualification at a sixth form college elsewhere;
- Who would enjoy the challenge of working with staff from many subject areas in a new way.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	4
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	

MUSIC

"I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning." – Plato

Course Content

Students who study Music will become expert performers, composers, and music analysts.

This course provides the perfect opportunity for you to deepen your understanding of the subject through the study of music across a myriad of contexts and genres; from Music for Film & TV, Pop & Jazz, Electronic Music, World Music, and Western Classical Music. You will explore the ways in which music has experienced both continuity and change over the course of the past 400 years.

Through performing and composing across the two years you will further develop your creative and interpretive skills, exploring artistic ideas and bringing these to life. The course is ideal for strong musicians who have a real passion for the subject and want to challenge themselves both academically and creatively.

Music has the ability to transform the way you think about culture, society, history – ultimately, your understanding of the world.

The course offered will mostly likely be a vocational course, specification pending Government confirmation.

Subject Specific Entrance Requirements

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Music (Eduqas/Edexcel/AQA/OCR) Grade 4/5 or equivalent on an instrument or as a singer

MUSIC
(continued)

Career Pathways

Music Journalism
Venue Manager
Music Publishing
Studio Manager
Film & TV Composer
Tour Manager Music Promoter
Sound Technician
Orchestral Manager Musical Director
Record Label Executive
Music Law
Sound Designer Recording
Session Musician
Music Teacher/Instrumental Teacher
Music Lecturer
Music Therapist
Music Psychologist Conductor
Arts Education
Arts Administrator
Music Programmer

Common Subject Combinations

MUSIC – MATHS – PHYSICS

MUSIC – ARTS – HUMANITIES - LANGUAGE

PHILOSOPHY
AQA – A LEVEL

This challenging course in Philosophy is composed of two complementary modules in each year of study. In Year 12, students study Epistemology and Ethics and in Year 13 the course will cover Philosophy of Religion and the Philosophy of Mind. These modules provide students with a wide range of challenging ideas, complex arguments and the opportunity to explore the most significant and fascinating traditions of thought known to mankind.

Students will develop and refine a range of transferable skills, such as the ability to ask penetrating questions, to analyse and evaluate the arguments of others and to present their own arguments clearly and logically.

This course in pure philosophy complements all other A Level courses and is highly valued as a rigorous academic subject by employers and universities. It is an ideal course for those wanting to further their study of humanities, law and social science subjects as well as an excellent alternative addition to the CV of those studying a concentration of mathematics and science A-levels.

The minimum entry requirement for this subject is Grade 6 in English Language and a Grade 5 in Maths

If there is one A-level curriculum that symbolises excellence and intellectual rigour in secondary education, it is AQA's course in philosophy. During the past couple of years, I've had the privilege of meeting and talking to groups of A-level students whose lives have been profoundly influenced by their study of philosophy. Some of them, who had little notion about what to expect from their course, told me the experience of studying philosophy had, for the first time, made them aware of the fact that ideas actually matter. This is a course that raises some of the fundamental existential questions of our times. It explores themes such as free will and determinism and provides students with a sound grounding in the main traditions of western philosophy.

Frank Furedi, emeritus professor of sociology, University of Kent

Formal assessment takes place in the summer term of the final year of study in the form of two three hour written papers each covering two units. Questions escalate in weighting throughout the paper (3 mark, 5 mark, 12 mark, 25 mark). Considerable time is spent throughout the year learning the success criteria and building the necessary knowledge and skills to engage with practice questions.

Paper 1	**Paper 2**
1 x Exam (3 hours) Covering 'Epistemology' & 'Ethics'	1 Exam (3 hours) Covering 'Philosophy of Religion' & 'Philosophy of Mind'

The department is renowned for using a wide variety of teaching methods and encouraging full involvement from all students – we provide a weekend long revision retreat in Year 13, as well as opportunities to visit Philosophy conferences and study trips.

We provide a high level of formative feedback on all work and work closely with students to develop their full potential through the use of Personal Learning checklists and online study support.

Why study it?

***'The unexamined life is not worth living'* - Socrates**

Studying philosophy is like a 'work out' for your brain. The study of philosophy develops an inquiring mind, the ability to analyse a point of view, the ability to develop and reason through an argument and the ability to reach a logical and justified conclusion. It not only looks great on UCAS applications, but it is also fun and the skills you learn will help you with the other subjects that you study.

PHILOSOPHY

(Continued)

What will I study?

- **Epistemology (Year 12) –** This unit is a philosophical investigation into the nature of knowledge. What can we know? How do we perceive the world? What are ideas? Can I trust my experience of 'reality'? Philosophers have attempted to address these questions over the centuries. You will study their theories of knowledge, engage in debate and discussion and decide for yourself which theories are the most effective at providing a model for what knowledge is and how we come to 'know'.
- **Ethics (Year 12) -** In this unit we attempt to answer questions such as "are all ethical decisions relative" and "do the ends justify the means?" We focus, for example, on the approach of Utilitarianism, the greatest good for the greatest number. In contrast, we consider whether some actions or attitudes are right or wrong in themselves and look at absolutist ethics such as Kant's 'Categorical Imperative' as a method of defining right and wrong.
- **Philosophy of Religion (Year 13) -** This unit begins by examining the idea of God and engages in a critical discussion of how believable such a concept is, if at all. We then move on to study the traditional arguments for the existence of God and the philosophical criticisms of these arguments. We look at the problem of evil and the responses to it before finishing the course with a debate on whether religious language is meaningful.
- **Philosophy of Mind (Year 13) –** This unit is a study of the nature of self. Through an investigation into the mind-body problem, students will ask, what is the relationship between the mental and the physical? The question as to whether mind and body are separate has been the source of some of the greatest philosophical enquiries of all time. Descartes famous proposition, *I think, therefore I am*, comes under scrutiny and we will study contemporary ideas in philosophy such as the potential personhood of zombies.
- **Is it for me?** If you enjoy debating, discussing and exploring ideas about God, the nature of ideas and the universe as well as searching for answers to difficult moral and ethical questions then A-level Philosophy is for you. The A-level course is **not** a **continuation of religious education**, and although one of the units is focused purely on the philosophy of religion, it is a new subject for you to consider as a new direction of study that is quite distinct from RE.

Although there are very few 'right' answers on this course, only ideas and arguments, there is a clear focus on logic and reason. You must be prepared to debate the issues, build arguments and justify your conclusions both verbally and in your written communication.

Is it difficult?

We'd prefer to call it challenging, but yes **it is very difficult.** The ideas you will study take time and effort to understand and to be able to write about but you will surprise yourself at how much progress you will make and how much you will enjoy it.

Comments about the subject from previous students:

"This course *really* makes you"
"You often walk out of lessons feeling like you know more about yourself and about life."
"It widens your perspectives on the meaning of life"
"The discussions are great and I look forward to the lessons because the type of learning is so different"
"Lessons nearly always make my head hurt ! "
"Challenging, but very rewarding**"**

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	6
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	

ART & DESIGN (PHOTOGRAPHY)
AQA – A LEVEL

What is Photography?

Photography is the science, art and practice of creating images by recording light, either by means of an image sensor, or chemically by means of a light-sensitive material such as photographic film .

The main purpose of any course in photography is to develop your ability to appreciate the visual world, respond in a personal and creative way and perhaps even contribute for the benefit of everyone.

Why choose Photography?

This is a successful well-established subject in the sixth form curriculum and the results have been excellent**.**

There are many reasons for choosing Photography.

- You may wish to undertake further studies in Photography, usually at Art College or Further Education.
- You are looking to take up careers for which a photography background is relevant. These might include advertising, publishing, architecture, museums, or art gallery work.
- You have an interest in and aptitude for the subject, but who do not intend to take the subject beyond this level.

The skills you will develop will be varied.

The Key Skill of communication is integral to the study of photography and will be assessed as specified in the mark scheme. This involves, amongst other skills, the ability to:

- Summarise the information found in many different types of sources - e.g. books, photographs, museums, galleries, the Internet and animations;
- Use accurate and relevant information in the best format for the piece of work you are doing;
- Make sure that written work is legible and that its meaning is clear;
- Choose suitable images to illustrate your ideas clearly.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

The best foundation for success at A Level Photography is at least GCSE Grade 5 in Art or Photography. You may be creative but this course is not an easy option and you should be prepared to work hard at developing your abilities. You will also need to be prepared to study, discuss and write about other photographers and their work. If you would like to discuss requirements further please talk to the Subject Leader for Art and Design and your Photography Teacher.

We follow the AQA examination Photography at A Level. The course will include chemical film and digital photography as well as animation. You will show a developing understanding of how to take photographs, develop film and print film prints.

This course would appeal to student who:

- Would like to develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within photography
- Would like to develop your skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using photography.
- Would like to develop your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills.
- You would also like to develop a specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of photography in history and in contemporary society.

ART & DESIGN (PHOTOGRAPHY)

(continued)

What are the main modules you would study and how is this course assessed?

A Level

Component 1: Personal Investigation — 60% of A Level

The emphasis of this component will be on the development and understanding of skills using a range of materials, processes and techniques. This will include film photography, digital photography and experimental photography. This work will ultimately lead to a final personal project. Inp this project you must show among other evidence, how you have explored your use of photographic technique, processes, records of your ideas and thoughts, collections of visually exciting and stimulating materials and the development of your own ideas.

You will develop work for a personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material of 1,000 – 3,000 words. You are required to submit a final piece (or pieces) which must be accompanied by preliminary studies, photo shoots and evaluations, experimental work and critical studies.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (A Level) — 40% of A Level

The question paper will consist of a choice of 8 themes. You will be required to select one theme to use as a starting point to develop your ideas. You will be given a preparation period, during which time you can discuss your work with your teachers. You will need to produce preparatory work including photo shots, visual research analysis and experimentation.

The externally set task culminates in a fifteen-hour timed examination over 3 days in the specialist photography studio.

What comes next?

There are many careers in photography, animation and film. Most of these require further study at an Art College, Further Education College or University. If you are unsure about whether to make a career of the subject the best thing to do is to speak to your Photography teacher who will know about the courses on offer in your area or elsewhere.

At present most students wishing to take Photography further will go on to do a one year 'Foundation' Course at an Art College or College of Further Education before applying to Degree courses in more specialist areas of Art and Design. You may wish to do Photography A Level for its own sake, perhaps to form the basis of a future interest or as part of a range of other subjects. Alternatively, you might wish to go into a job where it is useful to have had experience of photography, or where you will need to use some of the skills developed during this course. These might include careers in such fields as advertising, marketing, design and the media.

Students are asked for a £75 contribution towards the materials for this course in Year 12 and 13 and students will be required to have their own digital camera and encouraged to purchase a second-hand manual camera. However, should this be an issue students can apply for a Learner Support Bursary where financial assistance is available.

What are the course codes?

A Level: Component 1:7206/C Component 2:7206/X

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE Art or Photography - 6

PE
AQA – A LEVEL

Why study PE?

The breadth of subjects incorporated into A Level PE is what makes this choice unique.
Students learn and apply knowledge, theories and skills from biology, history, sociology and psychology to an array of practical sporting contexts. This course enables students to gain a greater understanding of themselves as individuals and helps them to enhance their own experiences as performers on and off the field of play. From amateurs to professionals, recreational to elite, local clubs to national teams, students learn to apply their knowledge of sport across the full spectrum of participation levels.

What do I need to know before taking this course?

A Level PE is an academic course that has practical components. Students will participate in their chosen sport and will be assessed in this; the Grade will contribute towards a final examination result. Students taking this course must therefore be regular and active participants and be playing at least club standard in their chosen activity. A passion for sport is paramount and students must also be playing regular club sport.

What areas will be studied?

There are 2 papers that will be sat at the end of the course; each worth 35%.
The NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) is worth 30%. This is made up of 15% practical performance and 15% written coursework.

Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

This is a written exam lasting 2 hours. It is worth 84 marks which is 35% of the A Level. The exam comprises of a selection of multiple choice, short answers and extended writing questions worth 8 and 15 marks.
Section A: Applied physiology
Section B: Skill acquisition
Section C: Sport in society

Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

This is a written exam lasting 2 hours. It is out of 84 marks which is worth 35% of the total A Level. The exam comprises of a selection of multiple choice, short answers and extended writing worth 8 and 15 marks.

Section A: Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics
Section B: Sport Psychology
Section C: Sport and Society and Technology in Sport

NEA/ Practical Assessment

Students can be assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity. This also includes a written/ analysis of a performance.

This is out of 90 marks and is worth 30% of the A Level. It is assessed internally and moderated externally.

PE
(continued)

The qualification aims to equip students with skills and knowledge required for higher education or the world of work. The content is highly scientific and has cross-over with A Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics as well as A Level Psychology. It addresses contemporary topics in sport, such as the impact in the use of ergogenic aids, technology and the increasing commercialisation of sport.

What can studying A Level PE lead to?

The knowledge, skills and understanding acquired during this course can lead students to a variety of university courses or careers. This includes studying Sports Science, Sport Education and Coaching, Physiotherapy, PE teaching, working with a National Governing Body, working in Healthcare, Sports Media, Sports Psychology, Nutrition and many, many more.

Students are able to bring the course to life through workshops at Exeter Chiefs and Marjons University.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	GCSE PE – 6 or GCSE Science – 6 x 2

PHYSICS
OCR – A LEVEL

What is Physics?

Physics is arguably the most basic of the Natural Sciences. It is the foundation science that underpins the other science, technological and engineering disciplines.

Physics helps us to understand how our world works, from the smallest particles to great clusters of galaxies beyond our imagination.

In Physics we examine how energy and matter interact and develop rules which can be applied to gain a deeper understanding of our universe.

Why Choose Physics?

Physics requires students to think logically in order to get to the main point in solving problems. It is a challenging subject and it lends itself to applications in many different situations where clear uncluttered thinking is required. By studying Physics you should be able to develop skills, techniques and a knowledge base that will serve you well in a wide range of careers including medicine, space exploration, satellite technology, any form of engineering, sports technology and music technology – the list is endless!

A Level Physics is a qualification that employers and Higher Education establishments value greatly and makes an excellent partner to Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and Technology.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

Are you: Fascinated with the big questions about the universe and the particles that make it?
Stimulated by both theoretical and practical problems?
Competent at maths?

Do you: Enjoy a challenge?
Want to understand and contribute to our increasingly technological society?
Value keeping your career options open?

All students taking Physics in Year 12 will have achieved at least GCSE Grade 6 in Science and Additional Science and at least Grade 6 in Mathematics.

A considerable amount of personal responsibility is placed on the students to organize their own studies. There is a great deal of practical work and students are expected to write these up at home in addition to expanding their notes and attempting questions.

What are the main modules you would study?

The course is taught in a total of six modules, four in Year 12 and two in Year 13.

Assessment is in two parts:

Modules 1-4: assessed at the end of Year 12
Modules 1-6: assessed at the end of Year 13

PHYSICS

(continued)

Year 12

Module 1: Development of practical skills in physics

Module 2: Foundations of Physics

Module 3: Forces and Motion

Module 4: Electrons, waves and photons

The practical skills are assessed throughout the course.

Year 13

Module 5: Newtonian World and Astrophysics

Module 6: Particles and Medical Physics

The practical skills are assessed throughout the course.

How is the course assessed?

There are 3 A Level exam papers, 2 of them 2hr15 in duration and 1 of 1hr30. Papers 1 and 2 have 100 marks, with section A containing 15 multiple choice questions and section B containing 85 marks of structured and extended response answers. Paper 3 is a synoptic paper containing 70 marks of questions covering ALL elements of the course.

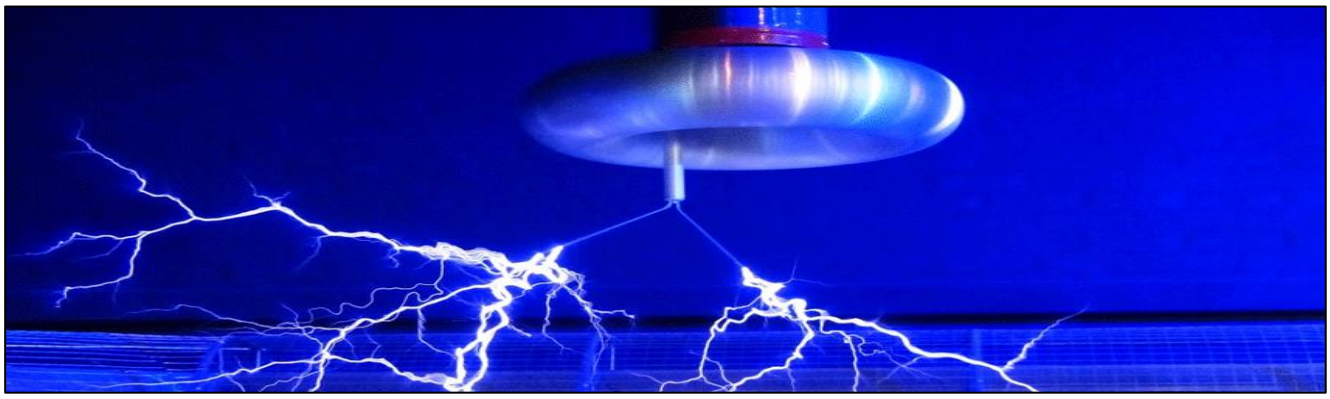
What comes next?

Employers actively seek out people who can prove their ability to think logically and creatively, understand complex ideas and apply them to the real world.

Whether you want to pursue a career in Science, the Media, Education, Business or a host of other fields, Physics can give you the edge.

The applications, like the career opportunities, are infinite.

Physics is recognised as a facilitating subject by some leading universities.
Informed Choices: http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices



SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	
GCSE Maths	6
Subject Specific	GCSE Science x 2 - 6

PRODUCT DESIGN
AQA – A LEVEL

This is a design course which follows on from the GCSE Design and Technology course. This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing products of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

This course aims to encourage students to…

- be open to taking design risks, showing innovation and enterprise whilst considering their role as responsible designers and citizens
- develop intellectual curiosity about the design and manufacture of products and systems, and their impact on daily life and the wider world
- work collaboratively to develop and refine their ideas, responding to feedback from users, peers and expert practitioners
- gain an insight into the creative, engineering and/or manufacturing industries
- develop the capacity to think creatively, innovatively and critically through focused research and the exploration of design opportunities arising from the needs, wants and values of users and clients
- develop knowledge and experience of real-world contexts for design and technological activity
- develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of materials, components and processes associated with the creation of products that can be tested and evaluated in use
- be able to make informed design decisions through an in-depth understanding of the management and development of taking a design through to a prototype/product
- be able to create and analyse a design concept and use a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas, including maths and science, to inform decisions in design and the application or development of technology
- be able to work safely and skillfully to produce high-quality prototypes/products
- have a critical understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including cultural, economic, environmental, historical and social factors
- develop the ability to draw on and apply a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas, with curriculum links to geography, maths, art, computing and physics.

What are the main modules you would study?

Year 12

Year 12 does not count towards the final assessment. It's a chance to try new things and make mistakes without the risk of failure. Each fortnight you will have 2-3 lessons based upon theoretical knowledge and 7-8 lessons on project-led practical tasks to experiment and upskill in a range of mediums and processes relative to wood, plastics, textiles and metals. In addition, students will be trained to use our computer-aided design suite with independent use of the laser cutter and 3D printers.
You will also take part in a range of masterclasses from local experts such as wood turning, welding and leatherwork. In addition to a trip to London to experience lectures and exhibitions such as the "Design and Technology in Action" event and the leading London design show "New Designers".

Theory Lessons:
Each Fortnight, you will receive rigorously planned practice exam questions to give you a wealth of experience to best prepare you for the two written exams in year 13, in addition to sitting PPE papers twice yearly with your other A level subjects. These lessons will also be largely supported by interactive learning opportunities to study wood joins, finishes, metal casting/enamelling, composite casting etc.

PRODUCT DESIGN

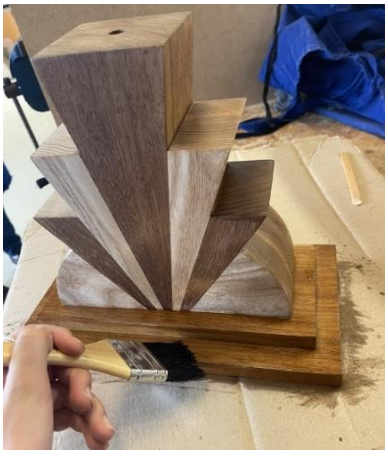
(Continued)

Project-Led Practical Lessons

During Project-focus lessons you solve open-ended design tasks, with open use of our workshop facilities. In recent years, this task has led to the design and manufacture of an LED lamp in the style of one of the 20th Century Design Movements such a Arts & Crafts, Art Deco, Modernism and Post-Modernism.

Finally, to prepare for the Non-examination Assessment worth 50% of students overall A level, students will conduct research in the final half-term of year 12 to inform their year 13 project. This project will result in an independently produced portfolio and product which solves a problem of their choice.



Year 13

Exam Breakdown

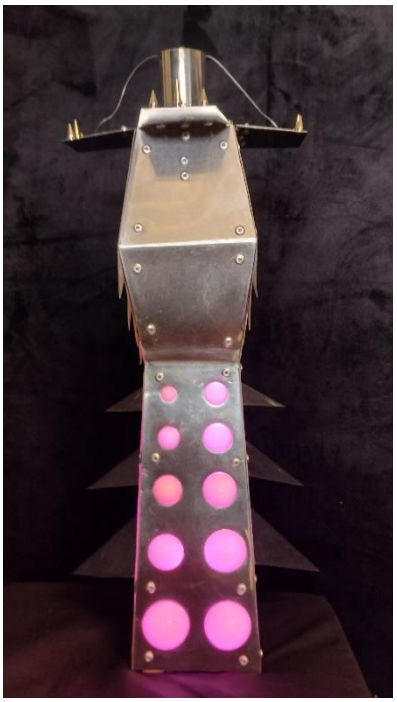
Paper 1: This assesses the Technical Principles in a 2 hour 30 minute written paper marked out of 120 marks. It is worth 30% of the A Level. The questions are a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response.

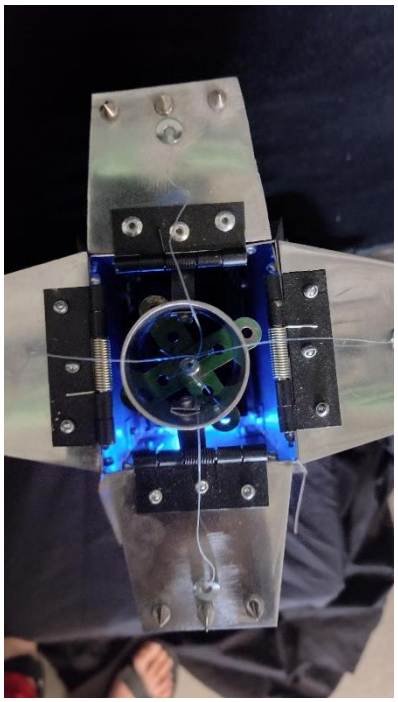
Paper 2: Assesses Designing and Making Principles, assessed by a 90 minute written exam. It makes up another 20% of the A Level. The questions are a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response questions.

PRODUCT DESIGN

(Continued)

The Non-exam assessment (coursework): This assesses the practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles and specialist knowledge. The context for the task is set by AQA and students set a brief appropriate to the context. It is assessed by a substantial design and make task to take no more than 45 hours. It is marked out of 100 and contributes the remaining 50% of the A Level. The evidence is in the form of a digital design portfolio with photographic evidence of final prototype. A maximum of 45 pages is recommended.





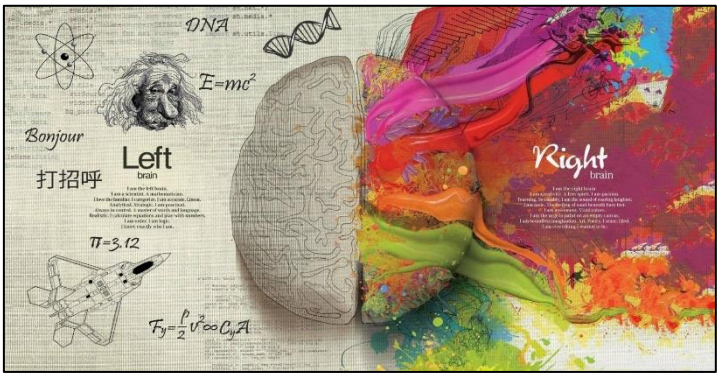
SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	4
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	GCSE Product Design, Resistant Materials, Graphic Products - 5

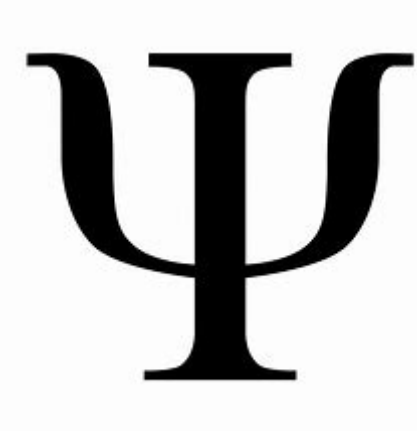
PSYCHOLOGY
AQA – A LEVEL

What is Psychology?

Psychology is a science and it may be defined as *the scientific study of the mind and behaviour.* Psychology aims to explain, predict and (where appropriate) change or control behaviour. Psychologists offer many different explanations for human behaviour focussing on different aspects of individual experience! *What we are made of and how we evolved, what we feel, what we do and what we think.* We will study theoretical explanations and real-life applications based on research evidence.



Why Choose Psychology?



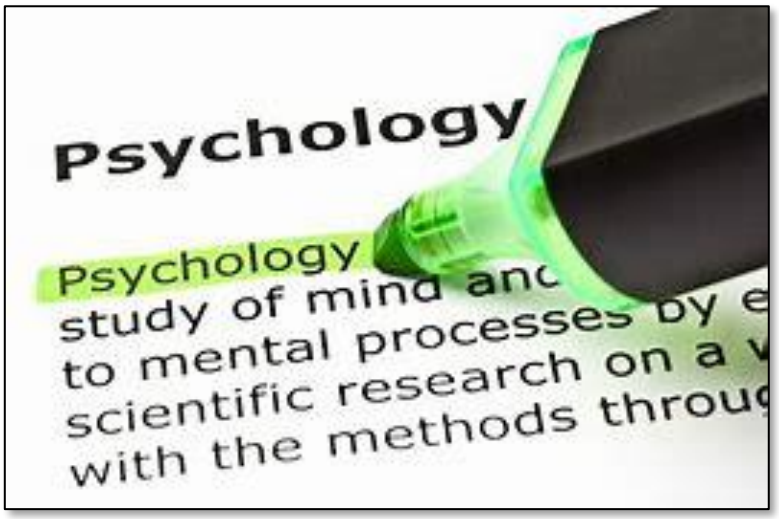
The study of the Psychology offers many opportunities to develop students' understanding of spiritual, moral and cultural issues. Through the study of Psychology students learn of the responsibilities we have towards each other as social animals. Social and scientific integrity must be demonstrated. The cultural perspective in the specification allows candidates to appreciate Psychology's global perspective. The relevance of the mind and body linking together is demonstrated throughout the specification.

Psychology combines well with the natural sciences, particularly with Biology. It also compliments subjects such as: Physical Education, English, History, Philosophy, Art, Media Studies, Sociology and Business.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

The course will appeal to those students who:

- have an interest in what makes people 'tick'
- want to go beyond 'common sense' explanations
- enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experiences
- enjoy a scientific approach
- are willing to consider evidence critically
- want to broaden their studies to include a social science
- want to keep their options open for higher education and careers



PSYCHOLOGY
(continued)

What are the main modules you would study?

Paper One:
- Social Influence (Conformity & obedience)
- Memory
- Developmental Psychology (Attachment)
- Psychopathology (Abnormality)

Paper Two:
- Approaches in Psychology
- Research Methods
- Biological Psychology (Stress)
- Issues and debates within Psychology

Paper Three:
- Gender
- Stress
- Aggression

How is the course assessed?

The A Level exam papers are 2 hours each in duration (multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions). Each exam is worth 33.3% of the A Level qualification.

Assessment in A Level Psychology includes questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to draw together their skills, knowledge and understanding from across the full course of study and provide extended responses to allow students to demonstrate their ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning which is coherent, relevant, substantiated and logically structured. The A Level is 100% exam.

What comes next?

Some A Level Psychology students choose to study Psychology at University. Universities will receive about 70,000 applications this year from students wanting to study for a degree in Psychology. It is an extremely popular subject and for good reason. We are all interested in people! We spend much of our time thinking and talking about why people behave as they do. This is an opportunity to gain a scientific insight into the human mind and behaviour. After graduating some students embark on careers in Psychology. Opportunities include: Forensic Psychology, Sports Psychology, Occupational Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Educational Psychology and Teaching.

Students are in no way limited to pursuing Psychology degrees, some A Level Psychology students go on to take further and higher education courses in subjects as diverse as: Law, Philosophy, Sports Studies, Veterinary Science, Medicine, Nursing, Youth and Community Studies and Politics.

Employment opportunities exist in Business, Government, Armed Forces, Law Enforcement, Prison Service, and Health.

What are the course codes?

A Level: AQA 7182 and QAN 601/4838/X

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	5
GCSE Maths	5
Subject Specific	GCSE Science x 2 - 5

SPORT - LEVEL 3 CAMBRIDGE
Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity

Why Study Sport ?

Cambridge Technicals are targeted at learners aged 16+ in either a school or FE environment and are available at Level 2 and Level 3. They allow for greater flexibility with the choice of units that make up the qualification. In addition, the Level 3 qualifications have UCAS points, supporting progression to higher education.

With our breadth of knowledge and experience gained through the success of our vocational qualifications, Cambridge Technicals offer learners a vocational alternative to A Levels that will help to prepare them for the world of work or to continue their studies.

How is the work assessed?

The work is all internally assessed, then moderated by an OCR Visiting Moderator. Following the moderation visit, and if the Visiting Moderator agrees with the grades awarded, certificates are then issued by OCR for any achieved units and full qualifications.

Two of the units are assessed through an exam that makes up 33% of the course.

How are the units and overall qualifications graded?

The units will be graded using Pass, Merit or Distinction. You can see the assessment criteria within the unit specifications on the OCR website.

The overall qualification is graded with Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction* by the aggregation of points gained through the successful achievement of individual units. For the qualification grading, please refer to the relevant section of the Centre Handbook to see how this is calculated.

SPORT - LEVEL 3 CAMBRIDGE

(continued)

What is the highest qualification grade available for Cambridge Technical Learners ?

The highest qualification grade that learners can get for Cambridge Technicals is a Distinction*, which in terms of UCAS points is equivalent to an A* at A Level.

Are Cambridge Technicals accepted by Universities and do they have UCAS points?

Yes, the Cambridge Technicals have been awarded UCAS tariff points that are equivalent to similar Level 3 qualifications. D*=56, D=48, M=32, P=16

UCAS points are available for Level 3 qualifications only.

How do Cambridge Technicals compare in size with A Levels?

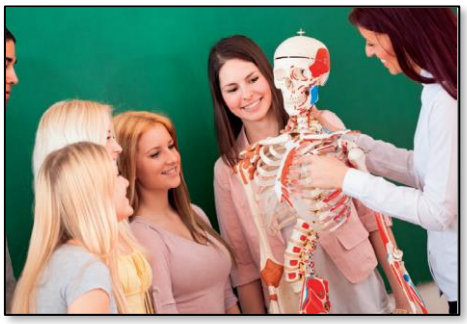
The Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma has the same number of guided learning hours (GLH) as an A Level – 360 GLH – and also has UCAS points. The Distinction* in the Introductory Diploma has the same number of UCAS points as an A* at A Level, and a Pass in the Introductory Diploma has the same number of UCAS points as an E grade.

Employment Prospects

Sport is one of the fastest-growing industries in the UK and is not just about being a professional performer. There's a huge range of professions within sport, from grass- roots through to international level, covering areas such as nutrition, marketing, therapy and coaching.

Units of Study:

- Unit 1 : Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Unit 2 : Sports coaching and leadership
- Unit 3 : Sports organization and development
- Unit 5 : Organisation of sports events
- Unit 8 : Performance analysis in sport and exercise
- Unit 18 : Practical skills in sport and physical activities



SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English	
GCSE Maths	
Subject Specific	GCSE PE Level 5 or a Merit Level 2 from a vocational course

WHICH WAY NOW …… ?

Research Form:

The aim of this session is for you to carry out in-depth research into the subjects you are interested in studying in the Sixth Form.

You need to complete this form and discuss your findings with your parents before you complete your Sixth Form Choices.

My future plans / possible future jobs include:-

☐

☐

☐

☐

I am interested in the following subjects:-

☐

☐

☐

☐

Use the Subject Choice Booklet to prepare for the Sixth Form Open Afternoon and Evening

SUBJECT	ENTRY REQUIREMENT	THINGS I LIKE ABOUT THE COURSE	QUESTIONS I NEED TO ASK