CHATHAM & CLARENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CHATHAM & CLARENDON SIXTH

Guide To A-Level and Vocational Subjects in the Sixth Form 2026-2027

Welcome to Chatham & Clarendon Grammar School, located in central Ramsgate on the east Kent coast.

As a selective grammar school, we pride ourselves on nurturing and achieving high academic standards, alongside the wider character and personal development that we provide.

Occupying historic sites across Ramsgate, we celebrate the rich history of the school. Students leave Chatham & Clarendon Grammar School as well rounded, motivated and thoughtful individuals, ready for the rigours of life in the twenty-first century. Students in our Sixth Form benefit from a wide curriculum offer that will open up future pathways, whichever direction they choose. Every year, students leave us to take up academic degrees at Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities; many leave us to pursue degrees and higher-level qualifications in the arts or vocational disciplines; some take up sports scholarships at US Colleges and others enjoy success in degree apprenticeships.

Our curriculum is underpinned by exceptional teaching from subject experts, who deliver lessons that allow all students to achieve and thrive, regardless of background or starting point.

To complement our broad and aspirational curriculum, we are proud of the extra-curricular offer that all students enjoy. Each year we offer over 50 clubs and societies, spanning sports, creative & performing arts, academic support and subject specific opportunities. We have a thriving Combined Cadet Force contingent and significant numbers every year completing their bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh's award. Our school shows and musical concerts are well regarded and represent a significant strength of the schools' breadth and depth of talent. Sport too is a significant strength, with Key Stage 5 students featuring prominently in our sporting success stories.

We look forward to welcoming you to our amazing school.

Mr B Chidwick

Headteacher

Welcome to the Chatham and Clarendon Sixth Form

Joining our Sixth at Chatham and Clarendon is an exciting opportunity to learn and embrace the opportunities available. We are very proud to be able to offer our students flexibility and an extensive range of A-level and Level 3 BTECs subjects. You will be able to select from an exciting combination of subjects that best suits your future plans, interests and abilities. And ensure you make progress towards making well-informed choices for life and learning beyond Chatham and Clarendon.

We are a large Sixth Form, with half of our students joining us from other schools, providing a great opportunity for students to meet new people and experience new ways of thinking and working.

Alongside our experienced and knowledgeable teaching staff, we believe it is important you feel supported throughout your time at our Sixth Form. This is achieved through a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, leadership opportunities, visiting outside speakers, Year 12 work experience, careers advice, EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) plus a Sixth Form Team with extensive pastoral support experience.

Our Sixth Form is structured to help, support and guide you through the years ahead and help you reach your full potential in every way.

Please come along to our **Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 19th November 2026 from 5pm-7pm, at the Sixth Form Centre and Clarendon Site.** At this event you will have the opportunity to speak to subject teachers about A Level and vocational courses that you are interested in and seek their advice and guidance. There will be two presentations given by the Headteacher (Mr. Chidwick) and Head of Sixth Form (Mr. Lowis) in the Clarendon Hall (5.15pm and 6pm) which you will be warmly invited to attend. Guests can arrive before the second talk and visit subjects before the talk, as well as afterwards

If you are thinking of joining our Sixth Form at Chatham and Clarendon and have not studied with us before, please come along to our Open Evening so we can answer any questions you may have and introduce ourselves.

How to apply

If you are a current Chatham and Clarendon student or external student, please apply via Kent Choices. Applications can be made via Kent Choices from 20th November 2026. Places in the Sixth Form are offered according to the Sixth Form Admissions Criteria.

The deadline for applications is 12th February 2027. We will consider late applications, but this depends on the number of applications we receive.

Students in Year 11 at Chatham and Clarendon will also be seen by Mrs. Clements (Careers Manager) to discuss next steps.

Entry requirements

The Sixth Form entry requirements below show what is needed to join our Sixth Form post-16 courses.

To study 3 or 4 A Level subjects: At least 5 grade 6 passes at GCSE (qualifications other than GCSE or BTEC are not counted unless related directly to subjects selected at A Level).

To study a double Level 3 Vocational course plus 1 A Level: at least 2 grade 6 and 3 grade 5 passes GCSE. (Vocational courses: BTEC Business Studies, Applied Diploma Criminology, CTEC Health and Social Care, CTEC Mental Health, CTEC Sport Science, BTEC Travel and Tourism).

There are also specific entry requirements for some subjects students wish to study.

Please see table on the next page for further details.

Subject	Entry Criteria
Art & Design	GCSE grade 6 in Art
Biology	GCSE grade 6 in Biology or grade 6,6 in Combined Science (Trilogy). A grade 6 in mathematics is desirable
Business Studies	Desirable GCSE grade 6 in Business studies if studied.
Business Studies (BTEC)	As per entry requirements
Chemistry	GCSE grade 6 in Chemistry or grade 6,6 in Combined Science (Trilogy). A grade 6 in mathematics is desirable.
Computer Science	As per entry requirements
Criminology	As per entry requirements
Design Technology	GCSE grade 6 in Design Technology or Merit in BTEC Design Technology
Drama & Theatre	GCSE grade 6 in Drama is desirable
Economics	GCSE grade 6 in mathematics. A grade 6 in English is also desirable
English Literature	GCSE grade 6 in English
Film Studies	GCSE grade 6 in English
French	GCSE grade 6 in French
Geography	GCSE grade 6 in Geography
Health & Social Care (CTEC)	As per entry requirements
Mental Health (CTEC)	As per entry requirements
History	GCSE grade 6 in History
Mathematics	GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics
Core Mathematics	GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics
Further Mathematics	GCSE grade 8 or 9 in Mathematics
Media Studies	GCSE grade 6 in English
Music	Grade 5 or above on an instrument or voice. Grade 5 Music Theory or GCSE grade 5 in Music
Music Technology	As per entry requirements
Physics	GCSE grade 6 in Physics. or grade 6,6 in Combined Science (Trilogy). A grade 6 in Mathematics is also desirable
Politics	As per entry requirements
Psychology	As per entry requirements
Religion & Philosophy	GCSE grade 6 in Religion and Philosophy
Sociology	As per entry requirements
Spanish	GCSE grade 6 in Spanish
Sport Science	As per entry requirements
Travel and Tourism (BTEC)	Desirable Level 2 Travel and Tourism if studied or as per entry requirements.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
The EPQ is equivalent to an AS level. It is designed to encourage independent research, analysis, communication and presentation skills. The is no formal examination. The EPQ is designed to allow an area of enquiry selected by individual students to be followed. Much of the work is carried out independently supported by a dedicated tutor.

Clubs and Societies
Please see our website (link below) for the extensive list of clubs currently run at Chatham and Clarendon.

Clubs and Societies

Careers and destinations
Our Careers Manager (Mrs. Clements) and highly experienced Sixth Form Team support students in achieving their individual aspiration through specialist support, such as:

- ✓ All aspects of the UCAS process
- ✓ Degree apprenticeships
- ✓ Post 18 employment
- ✓ Applying to universities abroad

In the last academic year , our students achieved wonderful successes after they left Chatham and Clarendon Sixth Form:

- ✓ 79% of our Year 13 secured a university place in 2025

The most popular areas to apply for this year were humanities, STEM, engineering and social sciences

- ✓ 10% secured employment
- ✓ 7% secured places to undertake further training
- ✓ 4% secured apprenticeships

Below are details of the subjects studied by some of our students, demonstrating the range of subjects that be taken to gain access to lots of different types of course:

- ✓ History, Chemistry, Spanish, Religion & Philosophy - History degree at Oxford University
- ✓ Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Religion & Philosophy – Medicine at UCL
- ✓ Chemistry, Maths, Physics - Aeronautical Engineering at Loughborough University

- ✓ Sociology, Religion & Philosophy, Criminology - Social Science at Cardiff University
- ✓ Maths, French, Chemistry - Mathematics with Actuarial Science at University of Southampton
- ✓ Government & Politics, French, Spanish - Philosophy & Politics at Cardiff University
- ✓ Economics, Geography, Business (BTEC) - Law with Foundation year at University of Surrey
- ✓ Business Studies, Economics, Sport Science (BTEC) - International Business and Finance at University of Leeds
- ✓ Maths, Physics, Spanish - Aerospace Engineering at University of Brighton
- ✓ Criminology, Government & Politics, Sociology – Law at Cardiff University

16-19 bursary fund

The school provides funding to support Sixth Form students with the cost of continuing in full-time education called the 16-19 bursary.

The bursary award is targeted at Sixth Form students who need financial support with costs such as public transport, books, equipment etc.

Details of how to apply can be found **HERE** or you can speak to our Sixth Form Manager, in our Sixth Form Centre who will be able to help.

Art & Design

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?

This is a course that facilitates the student's development and understanding of the visual arts in the broadest sense. Students are encouraged to make personal and informed responses using a wide variety of media and, to this end, are taught the skills needed to express themselves.

The course is very wide ranging in its interpretation of Art and Design and can incorporate many disciplines. The first six weeks comprises a series of workshops on the expressive qualities of the formal elements and include an introduction to painting, printmaking, textiles and digital image manipulation. Students then go on to experience media such as ceramic, sculpture, collage, assemblage and graphic design as well as painting and drawing. As students gain confidence and increase their repertoire of skills they are encouraged to increase their levels of independence and design their own programme of study.

Who is this course suitable for:

This course gives students an excellent preparation for Art College Application and a path through to an Honours degree. However, it is also very suitable for those who do not want to take the subject beyond A level but do want to broaden their learning experiences, personal development and creative qualities sought after by universities.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Students will experience work shop sessions led by their teacher, tutorial sessions in which they explain the development of ideas to their tutor, and self directed sessions in which students pursue their own direction of study.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Many students move on to a Foundation Course in Art and Design at Art College and then to a BA Hons in a Fine or Applied Art subject. They then progress to employment in a wide variety of creative professions including graphic design, interior design, fashion design, fashion buying, photography, animation, web design, product design etc.. Students can also enter other employment fields such as architecture or choose to study at a higher level such as for a Masters degree.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Students will submit Components 1 and 2 for the A Level Course at the end of Year 2

Component 1 – Course work – Personal Investigation

Internally assessed, moderated by AQA.

60% of A level

Component 2– Externally set assignment

Internally assessed, moderated by AQA.

40% of A level

Biology

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?

AQA A-level Biology has been designed to progress naturally from GCSE and take recognisable topics a stage further. Some, such as Reflex Actions and Geotropisms, are studied in greater detail, while others use Mathematics so that the qualitative understanding becomes more quantitative.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course is aimed at interested students who have achieved at least a level 6 in Biology or 6,6 in GCSE Combined: Trilogy (Biology Component). A grade 6 in Maths is also desirable.

Choose Biology if:

You intend to follow a career for which Biological Sciences are highly relevant (e.g. nursing, medicine, etc.)

You intend to study some aspect of Biological Science at university in conjunction with other areas (e.g. Chemistry, Physical Education, Environmental Science).

You have enjoyed studying Biology, or wish to provide balance with Arts and Humanities subjects

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

A wide range of teaching methods are used, including formal delivery with note-taking, presentations, group discussions, group teaching, and many opportunities to conduct your own experiments. Students are expected to complete exercises and assignments in conjunction with their own note-taking from textbooks and write up practical assignments. Students will be expected to complete additional assignments, e.g. presentations on current events from information obtained from reading and research. Students will be required to record practical work in a folder stored at school. There will be a fieldwork component which students will need to contribute towards.

There is a small fee involved for travel expenses which students are expected to pay.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

For most careers in Biology as a specialist activity, you will probably need one of the following combinations: Bio/Chem/Phys; Bio/Chem/Maths; Bio/Chem.

Many other careers are open with these combinations:

Bio/Geog; Bio/PE; Bio/Maths/Phys

Example careers: Agriculture, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Genetic Engineering, Dentistry, Environmental Health, Forensic Science, Laboratory Technician, Medicine, Nursing, Radiography, Teaching, Zoology.

Method of Study and Assessment:

Subject Content:

Year 1 Topics 1-4 — 1.Biological molecules 2. Cells 3. Organisms 4. Genetics

Year 2 Topics 5-8— 5. Energy Transfer 6. Organisms responding to change 7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems 8. Control of gene expression

A Level Course

Paper 1 – Any content from 1-4 (including relevant practical skills)
Written exam –2 hours 35% of A Level

Paper 2– Any content from 5-8 (including relevant practical skills)
Written exam – 2 hours 35% of A Level

Paper 3– Any content from 1-8 (including relevant practical skills)
Written exam –2 hours 30% of A Level

Practical Assessment (15% of the marks in written papers will relate to practical work)

A rich diet of practical work is essential to develop students' manipulative skills and understanding of the process of scientific investigation. It also contributes to teaching and learning of the concepts within this specification. Questions in the papers have been written in the expectation that students have carried out at least six required practical activities.

Mathematical requirements

In order to be able to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Biology, students need to have competence in the appropriate areas of mathematics. Overall, 10% of the marks in assessments for Biology will require the use of mathematical skills. These skills will be applied in the context of Biology and will be at least the standard of higher tier GCSE mathematics.

Business Studies

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL)

What is the course about?

The course aims to give students a sound understanding of the fast paced and vibrant world of business and the dynamic environments in which organisations exist. Throughout the course real life businesses are visited and researched, giving students a chance to consider different career paths and companies for which in the future they may wish to work. The course focuses on starting a business and the issues facing entrepreneurs when starting a new business venture, including financial planning and management and how to manage staff, operations, and marketing. The first year of the course develops key skills needed for Year 2 and is assessed by two written examination papers. In Year 13 the emphasis is on providing greater depth of understanding in each topic studied in Year 12 and developing a wider understanding of the global business environment. Topics studied include; finance, leadership, economics, politics, technology, sociology and ethics.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course will appeal to students interested in the world of business activity who would like to gain a greater understanding of how a business operates and how business problems occur along with possible solutions. Most subjects fit in well with Business Studies. The subjects where there is some curricular overlap with Business Studies include Government and Politics, Sociology, Geography, ICT, Mathematics/Statistics, Economics and Psychology. The course requires a good level of numerical ability.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

A variety of approaches are used, including, industry visits, note-taking, practice of different types of questions, video, games, role-play exercises and carrying out research on different topic areas. Students are required to work independently, completing assignments, including presentations on research that they have collected independently from a variety of sources. Homework is centred on research, essay writing and revision for mock tests, which are held termly.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Business Studies will prove particularly useful in many careers. Commerce, law, politics, banking, fashion, retail, insurance, journalism and management are just a few that appreciate some form of understanding of the working of the complicated business world. A knowledge and understanding of Business Studies will also help students embarking on degree courses in Economics, Marketing, Accountancy, Management, Fashion, Geography, Sociology, Law and Politics.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Paper 1 – Marketing, people and global business
Written Paper 2 hours - 35% of A level

Paper 2 – Business activities, decisions and strategy
Written Paper 2 hours - 35% of A level

Paper 3 – Investigating business in a competitive environment
Written Paper 2 hours - 30% of A level

(Paper 3 is based on a pre-released research task that requires students to investigate independently a business context.)

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Business Studies BTEC

Level 3 (Vocational Studies)

EDEXCEL - National Extended Certificate

What is the course about?
The Extended Certificate (one A Level Equivalent) course aims to give a broad overview of the business sector, forming part of a programme of study including other courses such as A Levels or BTECs. Throughout the four modules a variety of businesses from the real world are studied in the context of the assessed theory material forming a foundation of business knowledge. Materials covered in a more practical, hands on manner explore the internal workings of businesses as well as the external environments in which they exist.

Who is this course suitable for:
BTEC Business is suitable for anybody who has a keen interest in the subject. Students wanting to further their understanding of the sector must also have the desire to develop a range of associated skills from analytical and evaluative to presentation and creativity. The external exam in Year 13 is mathematical based and requires a high level of numerical ability.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
A variety of approaches are used, including industry visits, note-taking, practicing different types of question, video, games, role-play exercises and carrying out research on different topic areas. Students are required to work independently, completing assignments, including presentations on research that they have collected independently from a variety of sources.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Business is a highly useful and practical subject that will prove helpful to students choosing a whole manner of qualifications and career paths from the directly applicable degree courses to virtually any path that requires some understanding of the often complex world of business.

Method of Study and Assessment:

Course Content in Years 1 and 2

Unit 1 – Exploring Business
Series of internally assessed written assignments.

Unit 2 – Developing a Marketing Campaign
Students are provided with a case study two weeks before being assessed during a three hour supervised period.

Unit 3 – Personal & Business Finance
Written two hour externally assessed exam.

Unit 4 – Optional Unit
A choice of one of five units
1/. Recruitment & Selection Process
2/. Investigating Customer Service
3/. Market Research
4/. The English Legal System
5/. Work Experience in Business

Chemistry

(Awarding Body – OCR)

What is the course about?

Chemistry is a dynamic and engaging subject taught though the OCR (A) Specification. This is a unique course with comprehensive coverage of all major chemical concepts that provides a strong foundation for future studies in a diverse range of scientific fields. The aim of the course is to introduce theory through relevant, context-based units and to promote the development of critical analysis, mathematical and practical laboratory skills.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course is aimed at interested students who have achieved at least a level 6 in Chemistry or 6,6 GCSE Combined: Trilogy.

To be able to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Chemistry, students need to have competence in the appropriate areas of Mathematics. It is therefore desirable that students have at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

Choose Chemistry if:

You intend to pursue a career in a science or a career requiring analytical skills

You have enjoyed studying Chemistry, even if you are not sure of taking it at tertiary level

You wish to take a science subject to balance the Arts/Humanities choices you have made.

You have the mathematical skills to cope with the quantitative elements

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Practical techniques to investigate the behaviour of materials

Problem solving using mathematical techniques as well as non-mathematical concepts

Studying the applications of Chemistry, together with their social, environmental and economic consequences.

Students are expected to work for a minimum of 5 hours per week, outside lesson time. This will involve a wide variety of activities including problem solving, background reading and researching topics.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

A-level Chemistry is essential to anyone wishing to study Chemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy, Forensic Science, Environmental Science and Chemical Engineering. In addition, Chemistry is an ideal subject for students looking to widen their options prior to university.

Method of Study and Assessment:

Module 1—Development of practical skills

Module 2—Foundation of chemistry elements

Module 3—Periodic table & energy

Module 4—Core organic chemistry

Module 5—Physical chemistry & transition

Module 6—Organic chemistry & analysis

At A level—Paper 1 can assess content from Modules 1—5, Paper 2 Modules 1, 2, 4 -6 , Paper 3 Modules 1-6

A Level Course

Paper 1– Periodic Table, Elements & Physical Chemistry

Multiple choice & Structured questions

2 hours 15 mins– 37% of A Level

Paper 2—Synthesis & Analytical Techniques

Multiple choice & Structured questions

2 hours 15 mins– 37% of A Level

Paper 3 Unified Chemistry

Written Paper – 1 hour 30 minutes—26% of A Level

Computer Science

(Awarding Body – OCR)

Entry requirements: Grade 6 or higher in GCSE Mathematics. You do not need GCSE Computer Science to take this course.

What is the course about?

Computer Science explores how modern systems works and how we use computational thinking and logic to solve complex problems. In an era increasingly shaped by automation, these human-led skills are more valuable the ever. Economist Richard Baldwin noted *"It's not AI that is taking your job, but someone who knows how to use AI might."* As AI takes over repetitive syntax typing, every industry, from tech to finance and law, are shifting towards high-level strategic thinkers who understand how systems function.

While AI tools generate raw output, they lack human logic, security oversight, and real world context. This course develop computational thinking AI cannot replicate, transforming you from a passive tech consumer into an active creator and leader.

For whom is the course suitable?

For students thinking of careers inside the computing industry:

- The Power to Build: Take control of your own practical project and build fully functioning real world applications
- Industry-ready Architecture: Master software design. Data structures, and system security

For students thinking of careers outside of the computing industry:

- Gain a competitive edge: Stand out by bringing high-level data literacy and technical fluency that other applicants may lack.
- Understand how software and systems are engineered so you can leverage, evaluate, and lead digital tools in any professions

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

You will receive your own laptop for the duration of the course. All practical work relating to the project is dealt with 1:1, and theory lessons are taught via the VLE. The course will in the first six weeks be streamlined depending on your entry route (If you have GCSE Computer Science or not). Homework will be dependent upon your chosen project, and the ability to meet deadlines will be important

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Component 01 – Computer Systems (40%)

System architecture, memory, data structures, software development, networking, web tech, databases, and legal/ethical issues
Written Exam – 2 hour 30 minutes

Component 02—Algorithms & Programming (40%)
Elements of computational thinking/problem solving and programming /algorithms
A practical approach is used to teach aspects of this module
Written Exam – 2 hour 30 minutes

03—Programming Project (20%)
An independent practical project to design, develop, test and document a complete software solution in a language of your choice.
Course work (NEA)

Criminology

Level 3 (Vocational Studies)

WJEC— Applied Diploma

What is the course about?

Criminology is a qualification with elements of psychology, law and sociology. Students of Criminology gain the chance to understand why a person becomes a criminal and the legal aspects of the criminal justice system. During the course you will gain an insight into deviancy and crime which you will apply to a wide range of contexts and example. As an area of social science, it encourages students to develop the important skills of advocacy and critical thinking.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course will appeal to students who are interested in the types of crime that take place within our society and the reasons why people commit crime. It looks at how the criminal justice system works and how social control is achieved within our society. If you are fascinated by the workings of crime and punishment, this course could be for you!

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment

Teaching and learning in Criminology is a combination of written assessments and application activities. Within each of the lesson's students need to have the drive and determination to research specific cases of crime relevant to the course. In lesson, we will assess this learning through discussion, group work activities and essay work.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Criminology can open the door to an array of career paths that require understanding of the criminal justice sector. These may include careers in the police force or in police support roles, the field of forensic psychology, social and probation work, or the prison services.

Method of Study and Assessment:
Students are expected to take the course for two years gaining enough credits in total to equate to 1 A level. Assessment will be through internally marked controlled assessments and external examinations. The weightings for assessment are 50% external, 50% internal. Students can achieve grades A – E on each unit. The final grade is an aggregate of all the unit grades to give an overall grade of A* - E.

Units covered:

YEAR ONE
UNIT ONE – Changing awareness of crime — Internally Assessed
In this unit students will look at crime and deviance. They will be expected to write a report about the different types of crimes, the complexity of crime and then design a campaign for change.
UNIT TWO—Criminological Theories—Externally Assessed
In this unit students will be looking at the wide range of theories which can be used to explain crime and deviance. They will be looking at biological, environmental, sociological and psychological explanations for crime.

YEAR TWO
UNIT THREE— Crime scene to courtroom—Internally Assessed
During this unit students will learn about crime scenes and court cases. In the unit we look at evidence collection and the processes that exists to prevent contamination. In addition, we look at the core processes involved in the court room, CPS and other legal agencies for criminal cases.
UNIT FOUR—Crime and Punishment—Externally Assessed
In this unit students will be looking at the wide range of explanations surrounding crime and punishment. This will focus on how laws are made and why they have been selected as core processes.

Design Technology

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about and who will it suit?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers and especially those in the creative industries. Students will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by creating 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.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Through theoretical lessons and designing and manufacturing tasks. Students are expected to utilise time outside contact lessons to complete homework and coursework tasks.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Design Technology is recognised by many universities as being one of the most useful subjects available, due to the analytical and creative thinking elements that it focuses upon. The course enables students to be inspired, moved and challenged by following a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study, that also gives an insight into related sectors, such as manufacturing and engineering. The course is a 'springboard' into a wide variety of courses and careers. In the last few years our students have gone on to study: Industrial Design, Product Design, Engineering, Industrial Design and Engineering, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Mechanical Engineering, Automotive design, and Computer Illustration in some of the best universities in the country as well as taking on apprenticeships or employment using Computer Aided Design

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

The A level is split into three units. A coursework design and manufacture unit weighted at 50% of the A level and two examination units one 30% and one 20% of the qualification.

Unit 1

Core technical, designing and making principles, and additional specialist knowledge are assessed in the examination unit and questions are in multiple choice, short answer and extended response format.

30% of A Level
2 hours 30 minutes written paper

Unit 2

Specialist knowledge, technical, designing and making principles, are assessed in the examination unit. The questions are in multiple choice, short answer and extended response format.

20% of A Level
1hour 30 minutes written paper

Unit 3

Practical applications of technical, designing and making principles and specialist knowledge are assessed in the coursework design and manufacture unit. Students undertake a single design and make project. The coursework is 50% of the qualification and will be submitted as a written or digital design portfolio with photographic evidence of final prototype.

50% of A Level
Written design portfolio; manufactured outcome.

Drama & Theatre

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL)

What is the course about?

A challenging, academic, practical and creative A Level will give you the opportunity to develop your communication skills and confidence which are exceptionally valuable in the international, modern workplace. Drama and Theatre studies is widely recognised as a demanding , analytical, multi-skill based and character building course, which has applications in many careers.

Who is this course suitable for:

It is suitable for you if you are interested in Drama either as a performer or costume, set, sound or lighting designer, if you enjoy reading plays, if you would like to go to watch plays regularly and learn more about societal and cultural heritage. If you want to be able to express yourself physically and verbally in a recognised academic arts discipline with a proven track record of success. If you want to develop your self confidence, or have the desire to go into a career where presentation and promotion of self is important or if you would like to feel confident when addressing groups of assembled people. If you want to develop critical and analytical skills in your written and practical work of the kind required for success in Higher Education. If you want to have the opportunity to support the development of other students within the Drama Department through House Drama competitions, productions and Houselights and if you want to belong to a thriving, supportive community within the school.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

The course is taught through creative practical explorations influenced by Theatre Practitioners alongside periods of focused study of set text plays and live performance that incorporate collaboration, discussion and debate. For scripted and devised theatre, students work inter-dependently to support each other in all aspects of their performance. Homework is regularly set and is written into Student Booklets; it consists of discussion notes, lesson evaluations, research projects and theatre reviews.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

This course is a valuable asset to any career involving presentational or problem solving skills and generally will develop self confidence in an individual. Above all, this course is essential for those who wish to take their study of Drama, Theatre and Performing Arts further, either as a university course or at Drama School.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Component 1 – Devising (Practical and Written)

Devise and perform an original performance piece (20 marks)
Written Portfolio (3000 words) (60 marks)
Performer or designer routes available
80 marks in total—40% of A Level
This component is marked by teachers and moderated by EDEXCEL

Component 2 – Text in Performance (Practical)

A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a performance text.
A monologue or duologue performance/design realization from one key extract from a different performance text.
60 marks in total—20% of A Level
This component is marked by an EDEXCEL Visiting Examiner

Component 3 – Theatre Makers in Practice (Written Exam)

Practical exploration and study of two full play texts, one in the light of a theatre practitioner.
Evaluation of Live Theatre performances.
Written Examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
80 marks in total—40% of A Level
Externally marked by EDEXCEL

Economics

(Awarding Body – Edexcel)

What is the course about?

The course aims to develop a thorough comprehension of how the UK and global economies operate so that students can analyse how current economic issues and problems affect our daily lives. In Year 1 students are introduced to both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics and topics studied include demand and supply, markets and market failure as well as UK economic policy in recent years. The course starts with the foundations and builds layer upon layer of understanding: every topic covered will have a distinct purpose and link to the examinations.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course will appeal to students who are interested in understanding how the global, European and UK economies operate. Students who enjoy analysing and evaluating economic problems and working with theoretical models and data benefit from the course. It will also provide a valuable insight into the world of politics and the environment in which the financial institutions and the business community operate. Much of the content is mathematical and students require at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and a grade 6 in English is also desirable due to the amount of essay writing. This is normally the minimum requirement for a student to fully access this course.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

A variety of approaches will be used, including note-taking, the use of case studies and the evaluation of current media and global indicators. Students will be expected to complete additional assignments, including research projects on current economic issues using theories learned in class and up-to-date information and data from newspapers and magazines. Students will also learn how to structure and write effective, critical and intelligent essays under timed conditions.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Economics is a challenging, progressive subject which can be useful for a wide variety of careers. Business, politics, law, banking, accountancy, insurance, journalism and management are just a few of the many areas that appreciate an understanding of economic policies, problems and issues. Knowledge of Economics will also help students embarking on degree courses in Business Studies, Accountancy, Geography, Mathematics, Sociology, Social Work, Politics and Law.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Paper 1 Microeconomics

Markets and Business Behaviour

The paper comprises three sections. Students answer all questions from Section A and B, and one from Section C. Written paper 2 hours - 35% of A level

Paper 2 Macroeconomics

The National and Global Economy

The paper comprises three sections. Students answer all questions from Section A and B, and one from Section C. Written paper 2 hours - 35% of A level

Paper 3

Microeconomics and Macroeconomics

The paper comprises two sections. Each section comprises one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including a choice of extended open-response questions; students select one from a choice of two. Written paper 2 hours - 30% of A level

English Literature

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?

The course will involve the study of eight to ten literary texts – poetry, drama and novels written during
the past 700 years. Shakespeare is likely to be the most distant writer chronologically; in contrast, at least
one text will have been written since 2000. English Literature is a subject that by its nature has always required candidates to consider individual, moral, ethical, social, political, cultural and contemporary issues but, unlike previous specifications, the new syllabus also includes 'unseen' material which tests the autonomous reading skills of students.

Who is this course suitable for:

Prospective students should have a genuine love of literature and a readiness to engage in the extensive independent reading that is built into the course. Students will broaden their critical and analytical skills and will be encouraged to present their own insights and develop their own judgements.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

The teaching of English Literature centres around discussion and students are expected to take an active part in this. Lessons will take the form of teacher- led discussion, student-led discussion, presentations, essay writing skills and reading skills. Homework will be regular reading and wider independent reading along with preparing presentations and developing essay writing skills.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Skills learnt in the study of English Literature are transferable to a wide range of subjects at degree level. As a core subject, English is a firm base on which to build most careers. You may decide to pursue careers
in the teaching profession, publishing or the media. Yet other students use their generic skills to enter such diverse areas as government administration, law, finance and management.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Paper 1 – Love Through The Ages

Study of three texts: one poetry & one prose, of which one must be written pre 1900, & one Shakespeare play. The exam will include two unseen poems.

Written exam 3 hours – 40% of A Level

Paper 2– Texts in Shared contexts

Modern times: Literature from 1945 to present day

A study of three texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama, of which one must be written post 2000.

The exam will include an unseen extract.

Written exam 2 hours 30 minutes 40% of A Level

Non-exam assessment:

Independent Critical Study :Texts across Time

Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one to have been written pre 1900

One extended essay (2500 words) and a bibliography

20% of A Level

Film Studies

(Awarding Body – OCR)

What is the course about?

Film Studies is primarily an academic, rather than practical subject in which the candidate will study and appreciate cinema on a number of levels: as an entertainment form, as an expressive art and as a powerful multi-million dollar industry. The study will focus on the formal properties of cinema (cinematography, editing, lighting etc), movie audiences, the film producers themselves as well as key movements/periods in cinema history. The subject is fun and exciting but also stimulating and demanding.

Who is this course suitable for:

There is no requirement for GCSE Media or Film Studies to study the course; however, it is recommended that candidates should have at least grade 6 in English Language or Literature if they are to cope with the academic demands of the specification.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

The teaching of Film Studies centres around discussion and students are expected to take an active part in this. Lessons will take the form of teacher- led discussion, student- led discussion, presentations, essay writing skills and reading skills. Homework will be regular reading and wider independent reading along with preparing presentations and essays. Students will also be expected to watch and critique a wide range of films in their own time.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

As a broad Arts subject, Film Studies can often lead to a wide range of careers and degree courses. Some of these could include working in Film/TV production companies, Commercial Galleries, Craft & Design institutions, Advertising/Marketing Arts Organisations, Civil Service Departments and Universities/Colleges/Schools.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Unit 1
Film History
A study of 3 US films from a set list from the silent era to 1990.
Also a study of 2 set films from two major European film movements
2 hr paper 35% of A Level

Unit 2
Critical Approaches
A critical study of different types of film including contemporary British and American, documentary, non-European non-English language, English language (non US) and US independent
2 hr paper 35% of A Level

Unit 3 Coursework
Making Short Film
Learners must study one compilation of short British fiction films. Learners have the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and skills through:
the production of a 5 minute short film or 10 minute screenplay for a short film (incorporating a digitally photographed storyboard) and
an evaluative analysis of the production in relation to professionally produced set short films
30% of A Level

French

(Awarding Body – EDUQAS)

What is the course about?

French is the language of love. It is also the language of our closest neighbour. More importantly it is an official language of many organisations, such as the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations. For this reason, studying French at A-level will leave you well placed to enter many careers and will equip you with a skill that is highly valued amongst employers (organisation such as the CBI report year after year that companies are struggling to recruit enough employees with language skills.)It has a range of cross-curricular elements which make it an ideal companion to many combinations of subject.

As a department our aim is to increase your fluency in the language and also to give you an understanding of the culture in which the language operates. We look at many varied topic areas such as family and education through to the second world war, always basing them in the French speaking world. At first, you will notice a clear overlap between GCSE and A Level and this is done purposefully to ease you in to studying at advanced level. However, by the end of the Year 13 you will have the ability to communicate in a variety of situations, including unpredictable and spontaneous ones. Studying French at A-level is challenging and requires dedication and hard work. It is also extremely rewarding and opens many doors for you in the future.

Who is this course suitable for:

In order to study A level French you will need to have an interest in the French speaking world and a desire to develop your language skills. You will need to be confident that you can develop the necessary independent study skills required at this level. You will also need to have achieved a grade 6 at GCSE.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

The main emphasis throughout the two year course is on developing your fluency and accuracy. You will develop a deeper understanding of grammar and also extend your vocabulary. Some teaching is from the front to develop grammatical accuracy and broaden cultural understanding but there is also more emphasis placed on independent learning.

Students can expect to have about five hours homework a week. The assignments will range from vocabulary tests, reading or listening comprehensions, grammar exercises and written essays. Alongside set homework you will need to spend a good deal of time reading French articles, watching French films and listening to French music/radio.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Topics studied

Being a young person in French-speaking society - including family, fashion, technology, education

Understanding the French-speaking world - including regional culture & heritage, media, art, film, music

Diversity & Difference - including migration, integration, marginalisation, discrimination

France 1940 : 1950

Film and Literature

Assessment

Component 1 - Speaking exam - 30% of A Level

Component 2 - Listening, reading, translation exam - 50% of A Level

Component 3 - Writing exam - 20% of A Level

Geography

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?
Geography is the study of the Earth's landscapes, people, places and environments. The course develops and extends the knowledge and skills required to be an active geographer. The course divides into physical and human geography but there is an increased focus on where these overlap.

Who is this course suitable for:
Geography combines well with both Humanities and Science subjects as well as Economics, Business and Social Sciences and can be an option for all students in the Sixth Form, following a GCSE Geography course and attaining at least a grade 6 in the geography GCSE. A good standard of English and Maths is required to manage the essay writing and statistical content of the course.

A residential fieldwork component is an essential part of the course and attendance by all students is compulsory, to gather data needed for the individual investigations. There is a cost involved in this which is usually subsidised by the school where possible. Students in receipt of a bursary will be entitled to help with this cost. Students are expected to keep up to date with their work, meet deadlines and to do up to five hours of independent study in addition to lessons.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
A geographical education develops knowledge and skills useful for careers in Administration, Computer Programming and Systems Analysis, Education, Finance, General Management, Librarianship, International Aid and Development Services, Landscape Architecture, Marketing and Sales and Personnel. Geography provides an ideal framework for relating to other fields of knowledge. It is not surprising that those trained as Geographers often contribute substantially to the applied management of resources and environments. Geography is a facilitating subject, allowing students to move on to a wide range of future choices.
s a facilitating subject, allowing students to move on to a wide range of future choices.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Units Covered:

Physical Geography
Coastal Systems and Landscapes
Hazards
Water and Carbon Cycles

Human Geography
Changing Places
Global Systems and Global Governance
Population and the Environment

Geography Fieldwork
Investigation Skills
Geographical Skills

Assessment

Physical Geography
Paper 1
Written exam
2 hours 30 minutes
40% of A level

Human Geography
Paper 2
Written exam
2 hours 30 minutes
40% of A level

Geography Fieldwork
Non-Examined Assessment (NEA)
Students complete an individual investigation which must include primary data collected in the field.
The investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.
20% of A level
Marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.

Geography Fieldwork
3 day residential to Flatford Mill, Suffolk
1 day trip to Stratford, London
1 local day in Ramsgate or Margate

Health & Social Care

Level 3 (Vocational Studies) SINGLE

OCR Cambridge Advanced National AAQ Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care

What is the course about?

The course gives students a sound understanding about the Health and Social Care sector, including Mental Health awareness, Behavioural Psychology and Care Quality practice. Students will gain understanding about current legislation and policy relating to the Health and Social Care sector as well as having a 'hands on' experience in both fields when completing the work experience programme. There are very strong links with volunteer groups within the care and education services - for example, Ageless Thanet and Macmillan Crossroads.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course will appeal to empathic students who are interested in working in the Health and Social Care sector, including education, social work and work within the NHS. Lessons will include class discussions relating to current legislation, policies and issues so students who enjoy current affairs will be most suitable. Students would be expected to manage their time effectively, have a good work ethic, good examination techniques combined with sound written skills and the ability to develop independent learning skills.
The single award is equivalent to 1 A-Level and is completed over 360 Guided Learning Hours by the completion of 2 exams and 4 coursework units. The qualification has 4 mandatory units and two optional units.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Teaching methods include class discussions, group research and practical tasks to enhance learning. Students are expected to take class notes and need to make sure that they keep on task as homework is essential to the successful completion of the course. The coursework units are split into a series of tasks. The emphasis in this course is on independent learning. Students work with teachers who guide them through the course and set deadlines for assignments which must be met. Examination work will be mainly teacher lead, with strong links to practical application.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Both the subject-specific knowledge, understanding and skills, and broader transferable skills developed through these units, will help you progress to further study in related areas such as:
BSc Nursing (Adult/Child/Learning disabilities/Mental health), BSc Midwifery, BSc Health and social care, BSc Healthcare and Health Science, BSc Health Sciences, BSc Paramedic Science, BSc Public Health and Wellbeing, BA Social Work.
There are also a lot of apprenticeships within the NHS and other organisations which allow a direct line into the industry. Health and social courses offer entry into a range of different careers including Social worker, Nursery Nurse, Medical Secretary, Nurse, Midwife, Care Assistant, Primary School Teacher or Assistant, Charity Workers, Mental Health Carers and Counsellors.

Method of Study and Assessment:
The course consists of a total of six units of work. There are four mandatory units and two optional units, these are to be completed over the two years.

The mandatory units are:
F090: Principles of health and social care – You will learn about the key topics that are important to develop underpinning knowledge and understanding relevant to health and social care. Assessment - This unit is assessed by an exam
F091: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care – You will learn about the arrangement of body systems and the structure and function of the component parts. You will learn about key processes within each body system, that enable them to function properly. Assessment - This unit is assessed by an exam
F092: Person-centred approach to care – You will learn the principles and values that underpin a person-centred approach to care, to develop care plans for individuals. Exploring how to communicate, how to build relationships and the barriers that need to be overcome to achieve person-centred care. Assessment - This unit is assessed by an assignment.
F093: Supporting people with mental health conditions – In this unit you will learn about how individuals with mental health conditions can be cared for and supported in a way which is suitable for their needs. Assessment - This unit is assessed by an assignment.
Optional Units – 2 must be selected:
F094: Supporting people with long term physiological conditions
F095: Investigating public health
F096: Supporting people in relation to sexual health, pregnancy and postnatal health
F097: Supporting healthy nutrition and lifestyles

Mental Health: Individuals & Society

Level 3 (Vocational Studies) SINGLE

OCR Cambridge Advanced National AAQ Extended Certificate in Mental Health

What is the course about?

The course gives students a sound understanding about the Mental Health Sector Students will gain understanding about current legislation and policy relating to the Mental Health sector as well as having a hands-on experience in both fields when completing the work experience programme. There are very strong links with volunteer groups within the care and education services - for example, Ageless Thanet.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course will appeal to empathic students who are interested in working in the Mental Health Sector. Lessons will include class discussions relating to current legislation, policies and issues so students who enjoy current affairs will be most suitable. Students would be expected to manage their time effectively, have a good work ethic, good examination techniques combined with sound written skills and the ability to develop independent learning skills.

The single award is equivalent to 1 A-Level and is completed over 360 Guided Learning Hours by the completion of 2 exams and 3 Coursework units. The qualification has 4 mandatory units and one optional unit.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Teaching methods include class discussions, group research and practical tasks to enhance learning. Students are expected to take class notes and need to make sure that they keep on task as homework is essential to the successful completion of the course. The coursework units are split into a series of tasks. The emphasis in this course is on independent learning. Students work with teachers who guide them through the course and set deadlines for assignments which must be met. Examination work will be mainly teacher lead, with strong links to practical application.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Both the subject-specific knowledge, understanding and skills, and broader transferable skills developed through these units, will help you progress to further study in related areas such as: BSc (Hons) Mental Health and Wellbeing, BA (Hons) Counselling, Mental Health and Wellbeing, BSc (Hons) Mental Health and Wellbeing Coaching, BSc (Hons) Health and Wellbeing, BSc (Hons) Health Studies. There are also a lot of apprenticeships within the NHS and other organisations which allow a direct line into the industry. Health and social courses offer entry into a range of different careers including Social worker, Nursery, Mental Health Carers and Counsellors, Medical Secretary, Nurse, Midwife, Care Assistant, Primary School Teacher or Assistant, Charity Workers, Mental Health Carers and Counsellors.

Method of Study and Assessment

The course consists of five units of work, four that are mandatory and one optional unit. These are to be completed in two years.

The four mandatory units are:

F400: Fundamentals of mental health and the individual – assessed by an exam
F401: Mental health and wellbeing and society – assessed by an exam
F402: Supporting and promoting and wellbeing in organisations – assessed by an assignment
F403: Community-based support for mental health and wellbeing – assess by an assignment

The two optional units are (one must be selected):

F404: Supporting mental health and wellbeing with physical activity
F405: Supporting mental health and wellbeing with outdoor and creative activities

Health & Social Care & Mental Health

Level 3 (Vocational Studies) DOUBLE

OCR Cambridge Advanced National AAQ Diploma in Health & Social Care and Mental Health

What is the course about?

The course gives students a sound understanding about the Health and Social Care sector, including Mental Health awareness, Behavioural Psychology and Care Quality practice. Through a combination of theoretical study and hands-on experience, you will develop the necessary knowledge and skills that can support progression to higher education Health and Social Care and mental health and wellbeing study. In the examined units, you will study key knowledge and understanding relevant to Health and Social care and individual mental health and wellbeing, and mental health and wellbeing in society.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course will appeal to empathic students who are interested in working in the Health and Social Care sector, including education, social work and work within the NHS. Lessons will include class discussions relating to current legislation, policies and issues. Students would be expected to manage their time effectively, have a good work ethic, good examination techniques combined with sound written skills and the ability to develop independent learning skills and confidence in using skills relevant to this sector.

The double award is equivalent to 2 A-Levels and is completed over 720 Guided Learning Hours by the completion of 4 exams and 7 coursework units, there are 4 mandatory units and 1 optional unit. The course is divided over two years, Year 1 completes the Health & Social Care content and Year 2 completes the Mental Health content.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Teaching methods include class discussions, group research and practical tasks to enhance learning. Students are expected to take class notes and need to make sure that they keep on task as homework is essential to the successful completion of the course. The coursework units are split into a series of tasks. The emphasis in this course is on independent learning. Students work with teachers who guide them through the course and set deadlines for assignments which must be met. Examination work will be mainly teacher lead, with strong links to practical application.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Both the subject-specific knowledge, understanding and skills, and broader transferable skills developed through these units, will help you progress to further study in related areas such as: BSc (Hons) Mental Health and Wellbeing, BA (Hons) Counselling, Mental Health and Wellbeing, BSc (Hons) Mental Health and Wellbeing Coaching, BSc (Hons) Health and Wellbeing, BSc (Hons) Health Studies, BSc Nursing (Adult/Child/Learning disabilities/Mental health), BSc Midwifery, BSc Health and social care, BSc Healthcare and Health Science, BSc Health Sciences, BSc Paramedic Science, BSc Public Health and Wellbeing and BA Social Work . There are also a lot of apprenticeships within the NHS and other organisations which allow a direct line into the industry. Health and social courses offer entry into a range of different careers including Social worker, Nursery Nurse, Medical Secretary, Nurse, Midwife, Care Assistant, Primary School Teacher or Assistant, Charity Workers, Mental Health Carers and Counsellors.

Method of Study and Assessment

Year 1 – Health and Social Care content

You will complete the Health and Social Care AAQ (See Health and Social Care Single content)

Year 2 – Mental Health Content

The course consists of five units of work, four that are mandatory and one optional unit. These are to be completed in two years.

The four mandatory units are:

F400: Fundamentals of mental health and the individual – assessed by an exam
F401: Mental health and wellbeing and society – assessed by an exam
F402: Supporting and promoting and wellbeing in organisations – assessed by an assignment
F403: Community-based support for mental health and wellbeing – assess by an assignment

History

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL)

What is the course about?
The A-Level syllabus is an engaging and relevant course which covers a range of topics from 19th and 20th Century British, European and World History. Year 12 will focus on 20th Century German and Italian history. Year 13 will focus on a broad investigation exploring political, social and economic developments in Britain from 1780-1928. Students will complete a coursework assignment exploring an historical controversy of their choice.

Who is this course suitable for:
The course is suitable for any student who has interest in the past and/or who likes to engage with complex, controversial and emotive issues. The key entrance requirements that students need are a Grade 6 in GCSE History as well as enthusiasm, a good work ethic and an enquiring mind. A number of candidates have picked up history in Year 12 despite not having a GCSE and have performed very well at A-Level. We recommend these students have a Grade 6, or above, in English Literature.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
All lessons focus on key examination related questions. In lessons students will be expected to complete written, reading and discussion based tasks and assignments. Whilst teacher input is paramount the students are encouraged to develop their independent study skills. Core homework assignments will consist of exam-style essays, research and reading tasks.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
History is one of the most respected academic subjects amongst universities enabling you to study any subject at university including Law, Philosophy, English and even Medicine and its associated sciences, as well as History itself.
Career opportunities associated with a history degree are varied such as Law, Media, Banking and Business sectors.
For some professions it is the actual study of the past which is deemed important, for others it is the method of study, breath of outlook, ability to handle and analyse evidence, understanding of motives, cause and effect which make the
historian an attractive asset in the job market.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Paper 1 – Germany & West Germany 1918-1989
Political changes, opposition, economic and social shifts in the period engaging with the historical controversy 'How far was Hitler's foreign policy responsible for the Second World War?'
Paper 2 – The Rise & Fall of Fascism in Italy 1911-1946
Examining the collapse of liberal Italy and the rise and dictatorship of Mussolini
Paper 3 –Protest, Agitation & Parliamentary
Reform in Britain 1780-1928
Examining specific aspects of British political, economic and social history culminating in 'depth' investigations.

Coursework
An investigation which examines, explains and analyses conflicting historical interpretations of a topic of the student's choice.

Examination
Paper 1: Germany (2hrs 15 min – 30% of 'A' Level)
Paper 2: Italy (1 hr 30 min – 20% of 'A' Level)
Paper 3: Britain (2hrs 15 min – 30% of 'A' Level)
Coursework: (20% of 'A' Level)

Mathematics

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL)

What is the course about?
The Mathematics course provides a good foundation for either the Science or Humanities based Mathematicians or for students who enjoy Mathematics in its own right just as much as we do. All students will study Pure Maths, Mechanics and Statistics modules for their A level. The Pure maths covers areas such as Algebra, Co-ordinate Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus. There are a number of areas on the Pure papers which relate to the GCSE Higher paper: factorisation, inequalities, sketching and transformation of graphs, trigonometry and surds will seem quite familiar.
Mechanics and Statistics include Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing, Kinematics and Forces and Newton's laws.
This new specification has 100% prescribed content and therefore students do not have a choice of topics.

Who is this course suitable for:
The course is suitable for students who have achieved at least a grade 7 in the GCSE course. An algebra booklet is issued to prospective students during Induction week and is expected to be completed over the summer. A test on GCSE Algebra skills will be administered during the first week in September so that students can make an informed decision whether the mathematics course is for them. Weekly after-school algebra workshops are available throughout Term 1. An enjoyment of problem solving, particularly involving
algebraic techniques is very useful.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
A variety of approaches are used, including note-taking, practice of different types of questions and use of computer software and graphical calculators. Emphasis is placed on a two-way approach to learning i.e. the student should consult staff in the department when further assistance is needed in understanding a topic and will be encouraged to read around the subject by studying the textbook which includes numerous back-up examples. Homework will largely be a series of problems from the textbook or past papers and will be set every lesson. Classwork exercises need to be completed in addition to the homework set.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Mathematics can lead you into many different fields. Mathematics is the Queen of Sciences (Gauss). Areas to explore are Mathematics, Engineering, Economics, Maths and Finance, Maths and Philosophy and Management as well as the usual Accountancy, Actuarial science and Banking.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Both Pure exams are 2 hours long and account for 66.7% of the A level course.
The Mechanics and Statistics exams is 1 hour long and accounts for 33.3% of the A Level course.

Paper 1 and 2—Pure Maths
Algebra and functions, Co-ordinate geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, Series , Vectors, proof and exponentials and logarithms

Paper 3 Statistics and Mechanics
Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing, Kinematics and Forces and Newton's laws, moments and hypothesis testing

Core Mathematics

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL 1 Year Course)

What is the course about?

Do you want to keep your maths skills sharp without the intensity of A-Level Maths? Core Maths is a practical, engaging course designed to show you how maths applies to the real world! Whether it's understanding loans and tax, analysing data in the news, or marking predictions using statistics, this course helps you develop problem-solving skills that are valuable for university, work and everyday life. You'll explore real-life scenarios from finance, business, science or social studies—giving you the confidence to use maths in practical ways.

Who is this course suitable for:

If you've achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths and want to continue using maths in a relevant, applied way, this course is for you! It's perfect for students taking subjects like psychology, business, geography, and sciences, where data and numerical skills are important. It's also a great option if you want to boost your employability and strengthen your university applications without taking A-Level Maths.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Expect an interactive and engaging learning environment! Lessons focus on real-world problems, group discussions, and also some good old maths skills. You'll tackle financial calculations, analyse statistics, and work on problem-solving tasks that prepare you for future studies and careers. Homework will reinforce what you've learned in class, but it's all about applying maths in practical ways.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Core Maths is highly valued by universities and employers because it shows you can think critically and apply numerical skills in real situations. It supports degrees in business, social sciences, healthcare, and engineering while also giving you a strong advantage in careers such as finance, data analysis, marketing and management. If you want to stand out with strong problem-solving skills, this course is a good choice!

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

The course is assessed through two written examinations at the end of Year 12, covering practical problem-solving, statistical analysis and mathematical modelling. There is no coursework, but students will complete regular in-class assessments to track their progress.

Paper 1: Comprehension (40%) 1 hour 40 minutes
Themes: Application of Statistic, Linear Programming, Probability, Sequences and Growth
Students will be given a source booklet and the four contexts above will be assessed. It will require students to comprehend, interpret and analyse the content in order to answer the questions.

Paper 2: Applications (60%) 1 hour 40 minutes
Themes: Application of Statistic, Linear Programming, Probability, Sequences and Growth
Students will be given a source booklet and will need to apply their problem solving skills to answer the questions from across the four given themes.

Further Mathematics

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL)

What is the course about?
The Accelerated Mathematics route is the full A Level Mathematics course taken in Year 12 which, if completed successfully (grade B or above), leads to the studying of GCE Further Mathematics in year 13. The new A2 Mathematics course is completed in 1 year with the students studying 2 Pure Maths elements and 1 Mechanics and Statistics element. In Year 13 students study the Further Maths specification of two Further Pure components, Further Mechanics and Decision Maths.

Who is this course suitable for:
The Accelerated Mathematics course is suitable for the most able students that achieve grade 8 or 9 at GCSE, and are able to work at pace and independently.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
Our Further Mathematicians must show serious commitment to the course and work at a fast pace whilst being proactive in consulting a member of the department to help with any problem areas. Students can take advantage of maths trips to popular mathematics lectures which motivate further study and increase enjoyment of the subject. They are expected to read about mathematics including popular books about maths to enrich their mathematical life. Homework will largely be a series of problems from the textbook or past papers and will be set every lesson. Classwork exercises need to be completed in addition to the homework set.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Mathematics can lead you into many different fields. "Without mathematics there's nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics" (Shakuntala Devi). With Further Maths you can choose to do anything. Areas to consider are Mathematics, Engineering, Economics, Maths and Finance, Maths and Philosophy, Operational research, Actuarial science, Accountancy and Banking.

Method of Study and Assessment:

Accelerated Mathematics (Year 12 Course)	Further Mathematics (Year 13 Course)
The method of assessment is via three examinations. Each paper is 2 hours long and accounts for 33.3% of the A level course. Paper 1 Pure Maths Algebra and functions, Co-ordinate geometry, Trigonometry and exponentials and logarithms Paper 2 Pure Maths Calculus, Series, Vectors, proof and numerical methods Paper 3 Statistics and Mechanics Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing, Kinematics and Forces, Newton's laws, moments and hypothesis testing	The method of assessment of Further Mathematics is via four examinations. Each paper is of 1½ hours duration and account for 25% of the A-level. Paper 1 – Further Pure Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, calculus, vectors Paper 2– Further Pure Complex numbers, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations Paper 3–Further Statistics Hypothesis testing, Chi squared tests Paper 4-Decision Maths Algorithms, Graph theory Networks and critical path analysis

Media Studies

(Awarding Body – OCR)

What is the course about?
Media Studies is the systematic study and analysis of the mass media through the Key Concepts of Narrative, Representation, Audience, Ideology, Media Language and Institutions. We aim to equip you with a critical understanding of the way that media texts communicate, studying anything from computer games, to broadsheet newspapers, to Postmodern TV and cinema and music videos. In addition to the theoretical element, the course is 30% practical and you will learn about print and film/video production, including lighting and composition in photography and cinematography, and editing using DTP and video editing software.

Who is this course suitable for:
Contrary to popular belief, Media Studies is a very dense and complex subject with a great deal of critical theory to absorb and use. To do well, you will need to be enthusiastic, motivated, thoughtful and well organised. It is not essential to have taken Media Studies GCSE, but a good grade in English Language (grade 6 or above) is a strong indicator that you will be able to cope with the essay-writing requirements.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
The course is split up into practical work and theory. Theory lessons are conventionally teacher led, but you may be called upon to make presentations and lead sessions when discussing your own research. Practical work will be taught through a series of shorter assigned tasks that build confidence in the use of equipment, giving you the independence to produce work individually. You should expect at least one written assignment and one learning assignment per week unless you are working on practical assignments.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Media Studies carries the same number of UCAS points as any other A Level subject and is accepted by all universities. The method of study lends itself to both practical/creative subjects and academic/research based subjects. In addition to the more conventional university courses, many institutions now offer practical courses that provide a good springboard into media industries, and OCR Media Studies is well respected by these institutions.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Component 1 Media Messages
Students study news and online, social and participatory media in depth and learn how media language is used to construct representations and meaning in a variety of set media products. There are two sections:
Section A-News and online media—students carry out two in-depth studies that focus on contemporary news in the UK, requiring students to explore how and why newspapers and their online counterparts are evolving as media products and the relationship between both online and offline news.
Section B– Media Language and Representation—Students focus on media language and representation and consider how meanings are constructed across different media forms. This covers advertising and marketing, magazines and music videos.
Written paper—35% of A level

Component 2 Evolving Media
Section A—Media Industries and Audiences—Students explore media industries through film, video games and radio and audiences through video games and radio.
Section B—Long Form Television Drama
Students carry out an in-depth study focusing on contemporary long form television dramas, one English and one European (non-English language)
Written paper—35% of A level

Component 3 Creating Media
Students create a cross-media product for an intended audience in response to a set brief. This gives the opportunity to work
independently and develop expertise built from components 1 and 2.
Non-exam assessment—30% of A level

Music

(Awarding Body – EDUQAS)

What is the course about?
This course teaches performance, composition and understanding of music at an advanced level and lessons explore Western Classical music, as well as a variety of modern musical genres and styles.

Who is this course suitable for:
This course would be suitable for you if:
You have a love of many kinds of music and are willing to explore and expand on this throughout the course
You are about Grade 5 (or equivalent) or above on an instrument or voice.
You have a basic knowledge of music theory (Grade 5 Theory is not necessary but useful) or have taken Music GCSE

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
The course is taught using a variety of media, such as scores, streamed music and the internet. The main software used is Musescore. Homework is varied and could be essay based, composition or acquiring listening skills.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
This course could lead to a music, or other degree, or to employment with a musical slant.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Unit 1 – Performing
- A performance, in front of a visiting examiner, of three or more pieces, performed as a recital.
- Performance can be playing or singing solo, or in an ensemble.
- The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 8 minutes.

Candidate must perform at Grade 6 (or equivalent) or above in Year 13
35% of A Level

Unit 2 – Composition
- Total of two compositions, one to a brief set by Eduqas and one other free composition

or from a list of briefs assessing compositional technique and harmony. One must be in a classical style.
25% of A Level

Unit 3 – Developing Musical Understanding
This unit focuses on listening to familiar and unfamiliar music and understanding how it works.
- Two questions related to the set works (audio and skeleton score provided).
- One short melody/rhythm completion exercise.
- One essay question – worth 15 marks (Unit 3 assessed on one written paper of 2 hours 15 minutes)

40% of A Level

The set works and topic areas studied are as follows:
Hayden's Symphony 100
Debussy's Nuages
Poulenc's Trio Sonata
An overview of the development of the symphony

Music Theatre and its development
focusing on Rodger's & Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Claude-Michel Schonberg, Sondheim and Stephen Schwartz

Music into the 20th Century
focusing on Impressionism and Neoclassicism

Music Technology

(Awarding Body – EDEXCEL)

What is the course about?
This course covers the areas of real world recording, production and computer based music creation

Who is this course suitable for:
This course would be suitable for you if:
You have a love of many different kinds of popular music (including jazz) and are willing to explore and expand on this throughout the course
You want to study music but do not wish to perform as part of the course (or are not at a Grade 5 level on your first instrument). You will need keyboard skills to access the course.
You have studied music at KS4. If you have a basic knowledge of music theory due to having instrumental lessons please confirm with staff at Open Evening or Induction Week that your knowledge is sufficient.
You have a desire to learn how to record music professionally
You are happy writing music on computer using software such as Sibelius, Cubase and Reason.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
You will use current and industry standard music software and a digital twenty four track recording studio to complete coursework. Homework is generally research based tasks.
All theories and topics are covered via teacher led lessons and are then supported by practical exercises and experimentation to develop the candidates' skills and knowledge.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
This course could lead to eventual careers within the following areas – Music Production, Studio Engineering, Live Sound Engineering, Sound Effects and Foley work.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Two Coursework Components
Externally Assessed

Component 1 – Recording
Three minute close-mic studio recording of a commercially available song. Choice of 10 songs or artists as prescribed by the exam board.

Component 2 – Technology Based Composition
Three minute composition utilizing technology in its creation. Choice of one brief, from a set of three, provided by the exam board covering music to film, music to lyrics or sampling
.

Two Exam Components
Externally Assessed

Component 3 – Critical Listening Paper
Written exam requiring the student to analyse, critique and compare a range of unheard material. You will be expected to comment on sound production techniques, production errors/limitations and possible solutions

Component 4 – Analysing and Producing Paper
Practical exam that requires the student to identify and correct musical and/or production errors across a range of audio tracks provided. The final task in the exam is to mix the tracks into one final stereo master, for submission with their exam paper

Physics

(Awarding Body – OCR)

What is the course about?

Physics will teach you how to communicate effectively and how to research and think critically about problems. A level Physics takes some of the topics you studied at GCSE into more depth, so that it builds upon previous knowledge. It also introduces new topics such as quantum phenomena, field theory and medical physics. You will carry out practical investigations as you did at GCSE, to help your understanding.

Who is this course suitable for:

The course is aimed at interested students who have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Physics or 6,6 in GCSE Combined: Trilogy (Physics Component)

A grade 6 in Mathematics at GCSE is also desirable to show the ability to cope with the high mathematical content.

Choose Physics if:

You are an able and confident mathematician

You intend to pursue a career or further studies in Physics, engineering or another science related field

You have enjoyed studying Physics, even if you are not sure of taking it at tertiary level

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

A wide variety of teaching and learning styles are used. These will involve students in:

Using practical techniques to carry out investigations

Solving problems using mathematical techniques as well as non mathematical concepts

Studying the applications of Physics

Students are expected to spend a minimum of 5 hours a week, outside lesson time. This will involve a wide variety of activities including problem solving, background reading and researching topics.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

You will acquire skills and knowledge that will be useful for any occupation. In particular, your problem solving skills will be sought after by universities and companies. Many physicists have careers in engineering or research where they investigate the latest theories at the cutting edge of technology.

Method of Study and Assessment:

Module 1—Development of practical skills
Module 2—Foundation of physics
Module 3—Forces & motion
Module 4—Electrons, waves & photons
Module 5—Newtonian world & astrophysics
Module 6—Particles & medical physics

At A level—Paper 1 can assess content from Modules 1, 3 & 5,
Paper 2 Modules 1, 2, 4 &6 plus any material appropriately flagged within specification from Modules 1-6
Paper 3 content from Modules 1-6

A Level Course

Paper 1– Modelling Physics
Multiple choice & Structured questions
2 hours 15 mins– 37% of A Level
Paper 2—Exploring Physics
Multiple choice & Structured questions
2 hours 15 mins– 37% of A Level
Paper 3 Unified Physics
Written Paper – 1 hour 30 minutes—26% of A Level

Politics

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?

Year 12 focuses on British Government (national, local, devolved and EU), the British Constitution, voting behaviour, political participation, pressure groups, political parties, media and political concepts & ideologies. Political Ideologies will be taught in preparation for the Unit 3 Ideologies paper. The main focus of the 2nd part of the course is the Government and Politics of the USA and comparative government. Ideologies will then be revisited in more detail. Where possible, trips are arranged to a sixth form student politics conference and the Houses of Parliament where students meet MPs. Most subjects fit well with Government & Politics but the subjects where there can be some curricular overlap include History, Sociology, Business Studies, Economics, Media Studies and Geography

Who is this course suitable for:

The course aims to give students a grounding in, and understanding of, the working of both the British and American political systems together with an appreciation of traditional and more contemporary political ideologies. The course will appeal to students enthusiastic about politics and current affairs and who want to know more about how decisions are reached in government and the extent to which the electorate can influence these decisions. Students also learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and will develop a critical awareness of political events and issues in both the UK and the USA. Good essay writing skills are the main means of assessment.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

Throughout the course students are taught each of the topics they are required to know using a range of methods. Students are encouraged to actively participate in class discussion through formal and informal debates. Political traditions are interrogated and challenged in an open and respectful manner. Students work independently and in close collaboration with the class teacher and each other. Extended reading and 'flipped learning' tasks and activities are built into the scheme of learning. Students receive homework tasks and reading each week and regularly complete summative assessments in line with all the examination requirements of each of the different types of questions they will be examined on.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

Many degree courses, apart from a degree in Politics itself, have strong politics content such as Sociology, Modern History, Law, Economics, International Relations, Geography, Public Administration, Business Studies, Social Work, Social Policy and Industrial Relations. Successful completion of A-level Government & Politics gives students a very good foundation to their degree courses and will be of great value for careers in law, journalism, local government, the civil service, social work, media, public relations, management and administration. It also serves as a useful grounding for those wanting to be involved in local politics, community affairs, trade unions and governing bodies of schools/hospitals/professional associations or simply for those who just want to have a greater understanding of the way decisions are made. Students of politics have even followed an accountancy training route because of the analytical skills they have developed.

Method of Study and Assessment: 100% examination

A Level Course

Unit 1 - Government and Politics of the UK
Written Paper – 2 hours
33.3% of A-level

Unit 2 – Government and Politics of the USA and Comparative Politics
Written Paper – 2 hours
33.3% of A-level

Unit 3 – Political Ideas
Written Paper – 2 hours
33.3% of A-level

Psychology

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?
Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. You will learn a variety of skills including analytical thinking, improved communication, problem solving and many more that will prepare you for an exciting future with the possibility of a range of fantastic careers

Who is this course suitable for:
The course will appeal to students who are fascinated by human and animal behaviour as well as learning about what makes people tick. Successful students need to be self-disciplined in completing written investigative work and enjoy reading texts about research and theories, which require scientific analysis. Most subjects fit in well with Psychology but the subjects complementing Psychology include Sociology, Mathematics (especially Statistics), Biology, English, Theatre Studies, Sports Studies, Philosophy and Business Studies.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
A wide range of teaching methods are used, including formal deliveries, student presentations, role plays, group discussions, group teaching, as well as opportunities for students to conduct their own experiments. Students must also be prepared to practice writing essays under timed conditions.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
A-level Psychology gives students a very good foundation in a variety of degree courses. According to bestcourse4me.com, the top seven degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in Psychology are: Psychology, English, Sociology, Business, Teaching, Sport and Exercise Science and Law. Studying psychology at university can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including : Marketing, Business development, Accountancy, Human resources, Forensic psychology, Occupational therapy, Clinical psychology, Nursing & Teaching.

A Level Course

Paper 1
Introductory topics in Psychology
Memory, Social influence, Attachment, Psychopathology
Written Paper—2 hours
33.3% of A Level

Paper 2
Psychology in Context
Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology,
Research methods
Written Paper - 2 hours
33.3% of A Level

Paper3
Issues & Options in Psychology
Gender, Aggression, Schizophrenia, Issues and Debates, Stress, Eating behaviour, Addiction, Cognition development, Relationships, Forensic Psychology
Written Paper - 2 hours
33.3% of A Level

Written Paper = 2 hours
% of A level

Religion & Philosophy

(Awarding Body – OCR)

What is the course about?
The course encourages learners to adopt an enquiring, critical approach to the study of religion, philosophy and ethics.
The A Level should prove an excellent addition to your completed A Level profile, whether you are following a Humanities, Arts or Science based course

Who is this course suitable for:
If you have an interest in asking questions about the existence of God, human existence, ethics or values; if you have an interest in religion in general or if you wish to follow a philosophical and ethical approach to study, then this course will provide you with the opportunity to study those areas of interest.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment
Students will learn through a variety of teaching methods so that all may benefit from the course. There will be opportunities to visit places of interest such as churches during the course. Students are assessed regularly through essay assignments and mock examinations. Extra revision classes, textbooks and other course materials also support the learning.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Successful completion of this A Level will give access to a range of possible career and educational opportunities. Employers and universities value the range of transferable skills acquired by the students throughout their A Level which include synthesising, interpreting and evaluating information from a variety of scholarly sources and the need for research to be effectively communicated. Students who have completed this course have gone on to study a host of disciplines including medicine, sciences, journalism, business studies, philosophy and theology, anthropology, archaeology, robotics and engineering.

Method of Study and Assessment:

The A Level Course

Component 1 – Philosophy of religion
Ancient philosophy (Plato and Aristotle)
Soul, mind and body
Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
Religious experience
The problem of evil
Religious language
Written Exam Paper—2 Hours (33.3% of A Level)

Component 2—Moral Philosophy (Ethics)
Normative theories (natural law, situation ethics, Kant, utilitarianism)
Business ethics
Euthanasia
Meta-ethics
Conscience
Sexual ethics
Written Exam Paper—2 Hours (33.3% of A Level)

Component 3—Religious thought (Christianity)
Augustine
Death and the afterlife
The person of Jesus
Christian moral principles and action
Religious pluralism
Gender and society
Secularisation
Written Exam Paper—2 Hours (33.3% of A Level)

Sociology

(Awarding Body – AQA)

What is the course about?
The course aims to give students a sound understanding of current sociological ideas, concepts and knowledge. Students will also gain an understanding of sociological methods of research and will develop skills to enable them to participate effectively in adult life. The main topics studied in year 12 are family, education and sociological methods of research. In the second year of the course students study sociological theories, methods of research, the mass media and crime and deviance. Assessment is by examination only.

Who is this course suitable for:
The course will appeal to students who are interested in social issues and enjoy class discussions. Students also need to enjoy reading and keeping up-to-date with current affairs and issues. Most subjects fit in well with Sociology. The subjects where there is some curricular overlap with Sociology include Government & Politics, History, Geography, Economics, Business Studies, Religious Studies, Sports Studies, Media Studies and Psychology.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
Throughout the course, topics are discussed in class and students are expected to take class-notes. As ongoing homework, students are expected to supplement their class-notes with their own note-taking from textbooks and articles as well as keeping up-to-date with relevant news items. In class there is plenty of opportunity for discussion and questions. Once a topic has been covered, there will be regular timed "mock" tests and examination papers in class.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
Many degree courses have a strong Sociology content – Anthropology, Politics, Law, Social Studies, Economics, International Relations, Public Administration, Business Studies, Social Work, Media Studies, Religious Studies, Statistics… to name a few. Successful completion of an A level course in Sociology gives students a very good foundation to their degree courses. In addition, some professional courses, for example nursing, have a Sociology component. Studying Sociology will be of great value to those entering social work, journalism, market research, public relations, teaching, nursing, the paramedic professions, the civil service, law, politics, the media, management and medical secretarial work. It will also be of benefit to any student who simply wants to have a greater understanding about the world in which we live.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Paper 1 – Education with Methods in Context and
Theory and Method
Written Paper – 2 hours
33.3% of A level

Paper 2 – Families & Households and Mass Media
Written Paper - 2 hours
33.3% of A level
Paper 3 – Crime & Deviance and Theory & Method
Written Paper - 2 hours
33.3% of A level

Spanish

(Awarding Body – EDUQAS)

What is the course about?
Spanish is spoken widely throughout the world, not just in Europe but in the Americas too, and sits in third place after English and Mandarin Chinese as the world's most spoken language. It is also an official language of many international organisations. If you have an A level in Spanish you will have a highly sought after qualification that will make you one of the forerunners in the job market. You will also develop a number of skills that will benefit your other subjects, making it an excellent partner for many different combinations of A-levels.
Our aim is to increase fluency in the language whilst giving you an understanding of the culture in which the language operates. We look at varied topic areas such as the Spanish Civil War to Hispanic films and literature always basing them in the Spanish speaking world. Having developed an understanding of the basics at GCSE, you will now acquire a more refined understanding of Spanish grammar and a broader vocabulary. By the end of Year 13 you will be in a position to communicate quite fluently and more importantly be able to continue your language skills independently, or at university. Spanish at A-level is challenging, requiring dedication and hard-work. It is also extremely rewarding and opens many doors in the future.

Who is this course suitable for:
In order to study Spanish at A-level you will need to have achieved at least Grade 6 at GCSE . You will need to have an interest in the Spanish speaking world and a desire to develop your language skills. You will also need to be confident that you can develop the necessary independent study skills required at this level.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment
The main emphasis throughout the two year course is on developing your fluency and accuracy. You will develop a deeper understanding of grammar and also extend your vocabulary. Some teaching is from the front to develop grammatical accuracy and develop cultural understanding but there is also more emphasis placed on independent learning. Students can expect to have about five hours homework a week with assignments ranging from vocabulary tests, grammar exercises and written essays. You will also need to spend a good deal of time reading Spanish articles, watching Spanish films and listening to Spanish music/radio.

Method of Study and Assessment:

A Level Course

Topics studied:

Being a young person in the Spanish speaking world - including family, fashion, technology, education
Understanding the Spanish speaking world - including regional culture & heritage, media, film, art
Diversity and Difference - including migration, integration, cultural identity, celebrating difference
The two Spain's: 1936 onwards - including the franco dictatorship, post-civil war Spain
Literature and Film

Assessment:
Component 1: Speaking exam - 30% of A level
Component 2: Listening, reading, translation exam - 50% of A level
Component 3: Writing exam - 20% of A level

Sport & Physical Activity

Level 3 (Vocational Studies)

OCR CTEC Extended Certificate/Diploma in Sport & Physical Activity

What is the course about?
The Level 3 Sport course has an engaging, practical approach to learning and assessment. The emphasis is on Independent Learning. You will work with tutors who will guide you through the course and set deadlines for assignments which must be met. The course covers a range of topics to provide knowledge and understanding of sporting activities and environments. It is designed to provide career related skills allowing you to enter a range of jobs within the sports industry. You will study the structure and function of sectors including, retail, coaching, professional sport and sports tourism, and the general economic impact of sport.

Who is this course suitable for:
This course will suit anyone interested in sports, those wanting a career in the sports industry or those wishing to continue their sports studies at University. No sporting background is required to complete the course but whilst it is not essential, GCSE PE is advantageous as directly relates to the exam content.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:
A variety of approaches are used, including note-taking, presentations, video, computer based research, teacher-led sessions and practical sporting activities. Students are required to work independently, completing each assignment, including a teaching module and practical sports skills modules.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?
The CTEC sport courses are a great choice for students wishing to develop sports industry skills alongside academic qualifications. Progression routes include Physiotherapy, sports coaching, teaching, sports marketing, strength and conditioning, personal training, the armed forces and public services.

Method of Study and Assessment:
Students have the two options when choosing Sport at KS5.
Single Award – (1 A-Level, 5hrs pw): 2 exam units and 3 coursework units
Double Award – (2 A-Level, 10hrs pw): 3 exam units and 9 coursework units.
The course takes two years to complete with students being offered the chance to re-sit the exam if they wish to improve.

Examples of Mandatory Units	Examples of Other Units
Body systems and the effects of physical activity	Sport and Exercise Psychology
Sports coaching and activity leadership	Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise
Working safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure	Organisation of Sports Events

Travel and Tourism BTEC Btech

Level 3 (Vocational Studies)

Pearson - National Extended certificate

What is the course about?

The Pearson Level 3 Extended Certificate in Travel and Tourism is an exciting opportunity to explore one of the world's largest and fastest-changing industries. You will discover how tourism impacts destinations and the global economy, explore popular destinations and emerging trends, and investigate the wide range of careers available across the industry. Through a variety of engaging assignments, you will develop valuable skills in research, communication, problem-solving, analysis and decision-making. The course also encourages you to connect your learning across different topics and apply your knowledge to real-world situations. If you are passionate about travel, people, places and different cultures, this qualification could open the door to a wide range of exciting future opportunities.

For whom is the course suitable?

This course is ideal for students with an enthusiasm for travel, tourism and the world around us, alongside the ability to work independently and collaboratively. Good organisation and time management are important for completing coursework and meeting deadlines. There is no specific English Language entry requirement, but students should be comfortable completing extended written coursework. The course is perfect for those who want to connect their learning to real-world experiences while developing the knowledge, skills and confidence to progress into further study or an exciting career in travel and tourism.

Teaching Methods and Homework commitment:

The course uses a variety of teaching and learning approaches to keep lessons engaging and help you develop a range of skills. Activities include note-taking, presentations, videos, computer-based research, discussions and teacher-led sessions. You will be encouraged to become an independent and confident learner, taking responsibility for completing assignments, keeping your work up to date and meeting important deadlines. Weekly homework will be set to support and reinforce the topics covered in lessons, helping you develop your understanding and prepare for upcoming assignments. The course also includes exciting educational trips, giving you the opportunity to apply your learning in real-world settings. Trips include Chessington World of Adventures and a visit to London, including Madame Tussauds, the London Eye and a River Cruise. Being organised, committed and willing to work both independently and collaboratively will help you get the most from the course and succeed in your qualification.

What could I go on to do at the end of the course?

This qualification can prepare you for further education or employment across a wide range of travel and tourism sectors. You could progress to higher-level qualifications in travel and tourism or related subjects, or explore careers within areas such as travel, tourism, hospitality and events. Throughout the course, you will develop valuable transferable skills, including independent research, organisation, communication, teamwork and presentation skills. These are highly valued by employers across many industries.

Method of Study and Assessment: Students are expected to take the course for two years gaining enough credits in total to equate to 1 A level. This subject will be assessed by 40% coursework and 60% examination

Units covered:

The world of Travel and Tourism – Explore the scale, scope and key components of the travel and tourism industry, providing a foundation for the rest of the course.

Global Destinations – Discover the appeal of global destinations, travel planning and the factors and trends that influence the tourism industry.

Principles of Marketing in Travel and Tourism – Explore how tourism organisations use marketing to attract customers and meet their expectations, before creating your own promotional campaign.

Visitor Attractions – Investigate a range of natural and built visitor attractions, exploring their purpose, appeal and the factors that contribute to their success.

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