

Sixth Form Course Guide – 2025 Entry





Academic Information

Curriculum

We encourage our students to take three AS Level qualifications - although a small number do take four - which are externally examined at the end of the Lower Sixth. In the Upper Sixth they will usually continue with three subjects at A Level.

All of the A Level qualifications are linear, which means that the full course will be externally examined at the end of the second year of study (Upper Sixth).

Sixth Form entry

Students entering the Sixth Form need to have achieved at least five GCSEs, Grades 9 to 4 including Mathematics and English. Furthermore, it is usually necessary to have a minimum of Grade 6 or 7 in the subjects students wish to study at A Level. In some subjects (such as Sciences, Mathematics and Languages), achieving a Grade 9 to 7 at GCSE is strongly advised (please refer to the individual course pages for specific information). However, we always consider each student's application individually in order to construct the best possible course combination.

How to choose your options

- Choose the subjects you think you can do best in – it is the nature of your A Level Grades which determines your university choice.
- Choose subjects which you like, will enjoy studying and for which you have the motivation and interest to engage in additional research and background reading.
- Research your subjects and the course content thoroughly.
- Look ahead to possible degree courses and careers, but do not be too narrow in this. Don't commit yourself to areas of study for which you have no enthusiasm because of a career plan which you may wish to change later on.
- Do not select on narrow definitions of "usefulness". It is very difficult to prove that one subject is more useful than another.
- Listen to advice offered by staff, subject teachers, current Sixth Form students, parents and professionals.
- Think about breadth – consider the opportunity to have variety in your studies.

But remember, it is ultimately your choice.

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Art and Design | Fine Art (OCR H201/H601)

Taking an A Level in Art and Design will help you to develop a number of new skills as well as developing your creativity and independent thought. The various areas of study will enable you to learn how to express yourself visually. National and international study trips will allow you to experience historical and contemporary artists' work first hand and to learn in an interactive way through guided tours and art workshops.

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills so that they are able to demonstrate them in all of the following:

- Appreciation of different approaches to recording images, such as observation, analysis, expression and imagination.
- Awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of fine art.
- Understanding of the conventions of figurative/representational and abstract/non-representational imagery or genres.
- Appreciation of different ways of working, such as using underpainting, glazing, wash and impasto; modelling, carving, casting, constructing, assembling and welding; etching, engraving, drypoint, mono printing, lino printing, screen printing, photo silkscreen and lithography.

- Understanding of pictorial space, composition, rhythm, scale and structure.
- Appreciation of colour, line, tone, texture, shape and form.

Areas of study

Students are required to work in one or more area(s) of fine art, such as those listed below.

- Drawing and painting
- Mixed-media, including collage and assemblage
- Sculpture
- Ceramics
- Installation
- Print making (relief, intaglio, screen processes and lithography)
- Moving image and photography

Future career options | Studying Art can lead to careers including a designer in industry, freelance artist or designer, gallery/museum work, researcher, teacher, artist in residence. Often Art students will apply for a Foundation Course for a year and then specialise in one field of the arts on a degree course.

Good subject combinations | Textiles, Design Technology or any other A Level subject.

Entry requirements | GCSE Art and/or GCSE Textiles (GCSE Grade 6 or above is a good foundation for a successful A Level student).

Additional costs | National Art trips cost approximately £35 and generally offered annually. Students will need art materials which they may buy independently or from the art department at cost price. An estimate of material costs per year would be approximately £130 but this can vary subject to a student's project. Art and Photography International study tours are usually offered biannually, and these vary in price depending on the destination. Prices are usually between £900 (non-european) and £1300 (european); places are limited and it is not compulsory.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Personal Investigation	Students will produce a portfolio of practical work showing their personal response to a selected theme. This portfolio work is internally assessed and externally moderated.	Worth up to 100% of the AS Level Grade.

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Personal Investigation	Students will produce two elements: 1. A portfolio of practical work showing their personal response to either a starting point, brief, scenario or stimulus, devised and provided by the student or centre. 2. A related written study of a minimum of 1,000 words.	Worth up to 120 marks (60% of A Level).
Component 2: Externally set assignment	Students produce work in response to one of OCR's seven written and visual starting points, briefs and stimuli. Preparatory work starts in early February and continues until day the first day of the 15 hours of supervised time.	Worth up to 80 marks (40% of A Level).

Art and Design | Textiles (OCR H204/H604)

Art and Design: Textiles will provide you with the opportunity to develop and use your creative and analytical skills to explore the world around you. Working across a range of media to start developing your practical expertise you will build skills across a broad range of textile techniques.

What will I study?

Students will be required to demonstrate skills in all of the following:

- Awareness of the elements of textile design, such as shape, line, scale, colour, texture, pattern, contrast and/or repetition in relation to the chosen area(s) of textile design.
- An ability to record experiences and observations in photography, stitch, mark making, textiles illustration, materials sampling and other forms.
- Ability to respond to an issue, concept or idea, working to a brief or answering a need in the chosen area(s) of textile design.
- Understanding of the relationship between society and art textiles: this will include historical, cultural, environmental and political concepts and issues.
- Methods of researching, investigating and analysing; and how works are interpreted and evaluated.

- Understanding of a variety of textile methods, such as: fabric printing, mono-printing and screen printing; tie-dye and batik; fabric construction; stitching, appliqué, patchwork, padding, quilting and embroidery.

Areas of study

Students are required to work in one or more area(s) of textiles, such as those listed below:

- Fashion design
- Fashion textiles
- Costume design
- Digital textiles
- Printed and/or dyed fabric and materials
- Domestic textiles and wallpaper
- Interior design
- Constructed textiles
- Art textiles
- Installed textiles

Future career options | Studying Textiles can lead to a career in Fashion (including Designer, Buyer, Merchandiser, Journalist). It can also lead to careers such as Textile Designer, Fabric Technologist, Garment Technologist, working with galleries, research or textile restoration and much more.

Good subject combinations | Design Technology, English, Sciences, Business Studies, Art, Languages and Mathematics.

Entry requirements | Grade 7-9 GCSE Art and Design: Textiles and/or GCSE Art.

Additional costs | A £50 annual cost will be charged for additional materials and specialist equipment used for AS and A Level. Annual day trips to visit galleries, exhibitions and events are arranged by the department and attendance is encouraged, these cost approximately £30. Art and Photography international study tours are usually offered biannually, and these vary in price depending on the destination. Prices are usually between £1000 (non-european) and £1900 (european); places are limited and it is not compulsory.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Personal Investigation	<p>Students start working on an internally set theme from September and build up their preparatory work over the course of the year. Students start with a series of workshops and experiment with a wide range of media and processes.</p> <p>Several outcomes are produced across the year which all go towards their Personal Investigation.</p>	Internally assessed and externally moderated. 80 marks (100% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Personal Investigation	<p>Students will produce two elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A portfolio of practical work showing their personal response to either a starting point, brief, scenario or stimulus, devised and provided by the student or centre.2. A related study; an extended response of 1,000-3,000 words.	Internally assessed and externally moderated. 120 marks (60% of A Level).
Component 2: Externally set task	<p>The early release paper will be issued on 1 February and will provide students with a number of themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points, briefs and stimuli.</p> <p>A response should be based on one of these options.</p>	15 hours. Practical Exam. 80 marks (40% of A Level).

Biology (OCR H020/H420)

Biologists try to understand how animals and organisms work, how we evolved and the things that can make us sick or improve our health. If you are interested in how to try to stop the spread of disease, track down natural resources, improve public health, animal care and conservation and work out the true impacts of things like pollution then A Level Biology could be the course for you.

What will I study?

- **Module 1 | Development of Practical Skills in Biology**
Planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation.
- **Module 2 | Foundations in Biology**
Cell structure, biological molecules, nucleotides and nucleic acids, enzymes, biological membranes, cell division, cell diversity and cellular organisation.
- **Module 3 | Exchange and Transport**
Exchange surfaces, transport in animals and transport in plants.
- **Module 4 | Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease**
Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system, biodiversity and classification and evolution.
- **Module 5 | Communication, Homeostasis and Energy**
Communication and homeostasis, excretion as an example of homeostatic control, neuronal communication, hormonal communication, plant and animal responses, photosynthesis and respiration.
- **Module 6 | Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems**
Cellular control, patterns of inheritance, manipulating genomes, cloning and biotechnology, ecosystems, populations and sustainability.

Future career options | A bioscience qualification leads to a range of career opportunities. Many graduates choose laboratory work and build on the knowledge and practical skills they learnt at university. Others apply their knowledge in a bioscience related occupation that is not laboratory based. However, the majority of employers value the numerical, analytical and communication skills that a Bioscientist can offer.

Good subject combinations | Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geography and PE.

Entry requirements | GCSE Biology at Grade 9-7 is preferred or 9-7 in the Science Trilogy GCSEs. A scientific mind is needed as well as a good use of English to express ideas clearly.

Additional costs | A trip to a field centre in Year 12 to carry out ecological surveying techniques and undertake a research project for the Practical Endorsement qualification. Cost approximately £100.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Breadth in Biology Covering Modules 1-4.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).
Component 2	Depth in Biology Covering Modules 1-4.	Written exam, one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Biological Processes Covering Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 100 marks. (37% of A Level)
Component 2	Biological Diversity Covering Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 100 marks (37% of A Level).
Component 3	Unified Biology Covering content from all Modules 1-6.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (26% of A Level).
Component 4	Practical Endorsement in Biology.	Non-examination assessment.

Business (Edexcel 8BS0/9BS0)

If you have some great ideas for new products or services, or perhaps want to work for a large company in areas such as marketing, finance, operations, human resources or management, then a Business A Level will provide you with the background knowledge and skills to get started.

What will I study?

Year One

- **Theme 1 | Marketing and People**
In this theme, students will develop an understanding of:
 - Meeting customer needs
 - The market
 - Marketing mix and strategy
 - Managing people
 - Entrepreneurs and leaders
- **Theme 2 | Managing Business Activities**
In this theme, students will develop an understanding of:
 - Raising finance
 - Financial planning
 - Managing finance
 - Resource management
 - External influences

Year Two

- **Theme 3 | Business Decisions and Strategy**
In this theme, students will develop an understanding of:
 - Business objectives and strategy
 - Business growth
 - Decision-making techniques
 - Influences on business decisions
 - Assessing competitiveness
 - Managing change
- **Theme 4 | Global Business**
This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1. Students will develop an understanding of:
 - Globalisation
 - Global markets and business expansion
 - Global marketing
 - Global industries and companies (multinational corporations)

Future career options | Studying Business can lead to a career in engineering, architecture, economics, accountancy, management, computing, human resource management, commercial law, marketing and public relations.

Good subject combinations | English, Sciences, Business Studies, Languages, Mathematics, Geography and Textiles.

Entry requirements | You do not need to have studied this subject at GCSE to take it at A Level; however, we require Grade 6 or above if taken at GCSE level, or a Grade 6 in English and/or a humanities-based subject if students have not previously studied Business GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Questions will be drawn from Theme 1 and from local, national and global contexts.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 80 marks (50% of AS Level).
Paper 2	Questions will be drawn from Theme 2 and from local, national and global contexts.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 80 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 4, and from local, national and global contexts.	Written exam: two hours. 100 marks (35% of A Level).
Paper 2	Questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 3, and from local, national and global contexts.	Written exam: two hours. 100 marks (35% of A Level).
Paper 3	Covers content from across all four themes. Questions will be drawn from local, national and global contexts. This paper has a pre-release content to enable students to investigate an industry or market in which businesses operate.	Written exam: two hours. 100 marks (30% of A Level).

Chemistry (OCR H032/H432)

By studying for an A Level in Chemistry you will gain practical skills and a real understanding of how Science works. You will discover that chemists are real innovators, designing solutions to the problems that affect modern life.

What will I study?

- **Module 1 | Year 1 and 2 | Development of Practical Skills in Chemistry**
Planning, Implementing, Analysing and Evaluating.
- **Module 2 | Year 1 | Foundations in Chemistry**
Atoms, Ions and Compounds, Amount of Substance, Acids and Redox, Electrons and Bonding, Shapes of Molecules and Intermolecular Forces.
- **Module 3 | Year 1 | Periodic Table and Energy**
Periodicity, Reactivity trends, Enthalpy, Reaction Rates and Equilibrium.
- **Module 4 | Year 1 | Core Organic Chemistry and Analysis**
Basic Concepts of Organic Chemistry, Alkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols, Haloalkanes, Organic Synthesis and Spectroscopy.
- **Module 5 | Year 2 | Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements**
Rates of Reaction, Equilibrium, Acids, Bases and pH, Buffers and Neutralisation, Enthalpy and Entropy, Redox and Electrode Potentials and Transition Elements.
- **Module 6 | Year 2 | Organic Chemistry and Analysis**
Aromatic Chemistry, Carbonyls and Carboxylic Acids, Amines, Amino Acids and Polymers, Organic Synthesis, Chromatography and Spectroscopy.

Future career options | Studying Chemistry can lead to a career in medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, pharmacy, biochemistry, biomedical science, chemical engineering, mining engineering and food science.

Good subject combinations | Biology, Physics, Mathematics and Geography.

Entry requirements | GCSE Chemistry at Grade 9-7 or Grade 9-7 in the Science Trilogy GCSEs along with GCSE Mathematics at Grade 9-7. A scientific mind is needed as well as a good use of English to express ideas clearly.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Breadth in Chemistry Covering Modules 1-4.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).
Component 2	Depth in Chemistry Covering Modules 1-4.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry Covering Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 100 marks (37% of A Level).
Component 2	Synthesis and Analytical Techniques Covering Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 100 marks (37% of A Level).
Component 3	Unified Chemistry Covering content from all Modules (1-6).	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (26% of A Level).
Component 4	Practical Endorsement in Chemistry.	Non-examination assessment.

Computing - Application Development (OCR Level 3 610/3975/5)

Equivalent to A Level

This course will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will help prepare you for progression to undergraduate study and are relevant to the ICT practitioners’ sector. The qualification will also help you develop independence and confidence in using skills that are relevant to the sector and that prepare you for progressing to university courses where independent study skills are needed. You will also develop the transferable skills that can be used in both higher education and work situations.

What will I study?

Year One

Fundamentals of application development

You will learn about the about the different stages that developers go through to produce a working software application, how developers scope application requirements, and the design features which make applications intuitive for users.

Designing and communicating user solutions User Experience/User Interface (UX/UI)

You will learn the principles of UX/UI design and what makes an interface easy to use. You will learn tools and techniques to plan UX/UI solutions and how to design high-fidelity prototypes of UX/UI solutions. You will also learn how to communicate effectively with clients.

Future career options | 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: Computer Science, Creative Computing, Web and Mobile Development, Web and User Experience Design

Good subject combinations | The following subjects are particularly suited to combine with this qualification: Art and Design, Business Studies, Design and Technology and Mathematics.

Entry requirements | Grade 4 in Mathematics and English.

Year Two

Developing application software

You will learn about implementation methodology and the areas that need to be considered when applications are being developed for different platforms. You will also learn about how data moves in applications and beyond, and how to make sure applications are safe to use and the data they hold is secure.

Website development

You will learn about website principles and the components of web pages. You will then learn how to plan, design, create, and test website prototypes that can be viewed on a range of devices.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Theory	Fundamentals of application development	Written exam: one hour, 15 minutes. (20% of qualification).
Paper 2: Practical	Designing and communicating user solutions	15 hour coursework project, completed in class. (20% of qualification).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 3: Advanced Theory	Developing application software	Written exam: one hour, 15 minutes. (20% of qualification).
Paper 4: Advanced Practical	Website Development	15 hour coursework project, completed in class. (20% of qualification).
Paper 5: Advanced Practical	Immersive technology solution development	15 hour coursework project, completed in class. (20% of qualification).

Dance (AQA 7237)

For many people dance is a way in which they can express themselves. Studying for an A Level in Dance will enable you to gain knowledge and understanding of the dancer in action and the skills involved in performance. You will also gain an appreciation and understanding of the historical and cultural context of dance. This is a two year A Level course with assessment taking place at the end of Year 2.

What will I study?

• Component 1 | Performance and Choreography

Performance: Students will develop and apply the knowledge, understanding and skills required to perform dance, as a soloist or within a duet/trio during their studies. Students are required to perform as part of a quartet for A Level assessment. The knowledge and understanding of physical skills, including: flexibility, strength, cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, agility, neuromuscular coordination and kinaesthetic awareness will underpin and inform the development of both the physical/technical and interpretative/performance skills.

Choreography: Students will learn how to create an original piece of choreography. During their studies students will learn to choreograph solos and duets/trios, but students will choreograph a group dance

for their final A Level piece in response to an externally set task. To translate their dance ideas into choreography, students will develop and apply practical knowledge and understanding of the choreographic processes, including: researching, developing and experimenting with dance ideas through studio and non-studio investigation and understanding the rehearsal process.

• Component 2 | Critical Engagement

Students will analyse, interpret and evaluate their own practice during their studies as well as critically engage with professional dance works, practitioners, and areas of study with two set works being studied at A Level. This provides an appropriate focus for students to critically engage with dance and develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the inter-relationship between the creation, presentation, viewing and appreciation of dance.

Future career options | Studying Dance can lead to a career as a dancer, performer, choreographer, teacher, director, dance critic, arts administrator, choreologist, dance therapist or dance historian. You could use it with drama or music, in combination for work in TV, theatre, musicals and film production.

Good subject combinations | Drama, Art, Textiles, Music, English, Physical Education, Business Studies and Psychology.

Entry requirements | Ideally students will have achieved Grade 9-6 in GCSE Dance or would have reached the higher level Grades in recognised dance examinations, e.g. RAD or ISTD.

How will I be assessed?

Year One | Internal Assessment only

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Performance and Choreography	Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study. Performance in a quartet. Group choreography.	Practical exam. 80 marks (50% of A Level).
Component 2: Critical Engagement	Section A: Short answer questions and one essay question on compulsory set work/area of study. Section B: Two essay questions on the second set work/optional area of study.	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 100 marks (50% of A Level).

Design and Technology: Product Design (AQA 7551/7552)

Studying Design and Technology will prepare you to participate in tomorrow's rapidly changing technologies. Modern society needs technologists, people who can solve problems, be creative, be aware of social, moral and ethical considerations and who can practically apply theoretical knowledge.

What will I study?

Students will learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices.

The course places an emphasis on understanding and applying interactive design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes to solve real and relevant problems, whilst considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

They will practise the practical application of technical principles and designing and making principles. Students will cover design and technology skills and knowledge as set out into two categories:

- **Technical Principles**
- **Designing and Making Principles**

Students will also develop knowledge and understanding of how skills and knowledge from other subject areas inform decisions in design and the application or development of technology.

There are clear links between aspects of the specification content and other subject areas such as:

- Computer Science – “The use of computer systems”, “Computer aided design” and “Computer aided manufacture”.
- Marketing – “The concept of global marketing”.
- Business – “Product development and improvement” and “Enterprise and marketing in the development of products”.
- Mathematics – “Scale, Proportion, Surface Area and Volume calculations”.

There are opportunities within the specification for students to integrate and apply their wider learning and understanding from other subject areas studied during Key Stage 4, as well as those subjects that they are studying alongside A Level Design and Technology. Students will also demonstrate their Maths and Science skills within practical scenarios.

Future career options | Career pathways are many and varied and include engineering, industrial design, project management, architecture, interior design, concept development and product design.

Good subject combinations | This subject combines well with a wide range of other subjects such as Sciences, Mathematics, Art and Business Studies, providing an excellent springboard onto many degree courses.

Entry requirements | GCSE Design and Technology at Grade 9-6 is preferred.

Additional costs | A combined trip this year plus annual cost for materials. This can change on an annual basis but can equate to £40 as a subsidy.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Portfolio: Students will produce one portfolio for a single design and make task (set by exam board).	Product Study Blue Sky Thinking Product Manufacture (30 Marks each)
Component 2	Question and answer paper consisting of multiple choice, short-answer and extended response questions.	Written exam: Two hours.

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Two question and answer papers: Paper 1. Technical Principles. Paper 2. Design & Making Principles.	Two written exams. Paper 1: 1hr 30mins Paper 2: 2hr 30mins (50% of A Level).
Component 2	Portfolio: Students are required to undertake a substantial design and make a product of their choice. This unit results in the development of an appropriate product supported by an iterative design folder which	Non-Examination Assessment (50% of A Level).

Drama and Theatre Studies (EDUQAS)

Studying Drama A Level will give you an opportunity to develop your own performance and directorial skills, explore the world of theatre and the many different theatrical styles and genres of plays and practitioners.

What will I study?

Year 1

- Unit 1 | Performance Workshop**
 Students will create an original devised piece of theatre based on the methodologies of the theatre company Punchdrunk, in which they reinterpret a set text which will be changed annually. Students will also perform in a duologue or group piece which must be performed as a traditional interpretation of the text.
- Unit 2 | Text in Action**
 Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of:
 - One devised piece using the working methods and techniques of a second different influential theatre practitioner or recognised theatre company
 - One extract from a text in a different style to the devised performance.

Unit 2 | Text in Context

This unit is examined through a written paper. Students will be required to answer a series of structured questions based on their ideas for the design and direction of the play 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' by Tennessee Williams.

Year 2

- Unit 1 | Theatre Workshop**
 Students will use a stimulus to create two pieces of live theatre. One devised piece using the working methods of Frantic Assembly and one extract from a text using the style of Naturalism.

Future career options | Drama encourages good communication skills which builds confidence and teamwork. This will support you in any career you choose, whether in the wider fields of theatre and broadcasting, or in less closely connected careers such as law, teaching, personnel, publishing and arts administration. In fact any career that needs teamwork and good communication at its core.

Good subject combinations | History, Sociology, English, Textiles, Art and Science.

Entry requirements | GCSE Drama at Grade 9-7 in is preferred.

Additional costs | Theatre trips are run over the two years to London shows at a cost of approximately £50 per year.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Unit 1 – Performance Workshop	Practical: Create an original devised piece of theatre and perform in a duologue or group piece. Coursework: Produce a Creative Log and an Evaluation of the performance for both pieces of work. 3,000 words in total.	Internal assessment and externally moderated. 120 marks (60% of AS Level)
Unit 2 – Text in Context	Students will study one complete text, considering the theatrical processes and practices involved in interpreting and performing theatre.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 80 marks (40% of AS Level).
Year Two		
Unit 1 – Theatre Workshop	Two practical pieces inspired by unseen stimulus shared at the start of the examination year. Coursework for this unit is 3,000 words in total.	Externally assessed. 60 marks (20% of A Level).
Unit 2 – Text in Action	Students participate in the creation, development and performance of a devised piece using the working methods of Frantic Assembly as well as an extract from a text performed naturalistically.	Externally assessed. 120 marks (40% of A Level).
Unit 3 – Text in Performance	Section A (55 marks): One question exploring how the text can be performed in the theatre. Section B (40 marks): An essay question on how the text can be adapted for a contemporary audience. Section C (40 marks): One question exploring how the text can be performed in the theatre.	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 120 marks (40% of A Level)

English Literature (AQA 7711/7712)

“We read to know we are not alone” (C S Lewis). We also read to live in the shoes of others, to “slip inside their skin” (Atticus Finch), to travel back in time, share the experiences of others and take on new perspectives; to explore ideas, beliefs and values, challenge or discover your own and learn the literary skills to express ourselves more powerfully in original and creative ways through an enriched appreciation of our language.

What will I study?

- Component 1 | Love Through the Ages**
The aim of this topic area is to encourage students to explore aspects of a central literary theme as seen over time, using unseen material and set texts. Students should be prepared for Love Through the Ages by reading widely in the topic area, reading texts from a range of authors and times.
AS Level | Students will study four texts: one Shakespeare play, one poetry anthology and two prose texts. They will also respond to an unseen poems in the exam.
A Level | Students will study three texts – one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. They will also respond to two unseen poems in the exam.
- Component 2 | Texts in Shared Contexts (A Level only)**
The aim of this topic area is to encourage students to explore aspects of literature connected through a period of time. Students will choose one of the following options:
 - Literature on, or inspired by World War One
 - Modern Literature – 1945 to the present day
- Component 3 | Independent Critical Study | Texts Across Time (A Level only)**
This component provides a challenging and wide-ranging opportunity for independent study. Students are required to write a comparative critical study of two texts. The text chosen for study must maximise opportunities for writing about comparative similarity and difference and must allow access to a range of critical views and interpretations, including over time.

Future career options | It would be easy to say that there are few direct options for an English A Level student or graduate, but the opposite is true. Any college, university or employer would want someone who can read, think and write at this level. Any place would want someone with this level of cultural and literary and artistic awareness and knowledge. English Literature A Levels are valued as indicators of high levels of these skills.

Good subject combinations | English Literature works very well in combination with a number of subjects, in particular Religious Studies, History and especially Drama. There is no reason why a student studying three sciences, for example, could not achieve the highest Grades in English whilst demonstrating a range of skills and interests.

Entry requirements | Ideally GCSE English Literature at Grade 7-9, or English Language at Grade 7-9. Some students have done well with a Grade 5-6, although there would be a further distance to catch up initially. Students' work develops so much over the A Level years, the important things are enjoyment, dedication and a desire to work and progress.

Additional costs | Regular theatre trips to London, Stratford and Oxford, and a two-day residential trip to France at A Level (alternating years depending on texts studied). Approximate cost £300.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1 - Love through the age: Shakespeare and poetry	Section A: Shakespeare – One passage-based question with linked essay. Section B: Poetry – One question on a printed poem.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. Closed book. 50 marks (50% of AS Level).
Paper 2 - Love through the ages: Prose	Section A: Unseen prose – One compulsory question on unseen prose extract. Section B: Comparing prose texts – One comparative question on two prose texts.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. Open book. 50 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper - Love through the ages	Section A: Shakespeare – One passage-based question with linked essay. Section B: Unseen Poetry Section C: Comparing texts – One essay question linking two texts.	Written exam: three hours. 75 marks (40% of A Level).
Paper 2 - Texts in shared contexts	Section A: Set Texts – One essay question on set text. Section B: Contextual linking – One compulsory question on an unseen extract and one essay question linking two texts.	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 75 marks (40% of A Level).
Independent critical study: Texts across time	Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900. One extended essay and a bibliography.	Non-exam assessment. 50 marks (20% of A Level).

Food Science and Nutrition (WJEC Level 3 Diploma)

Equivalent to A Level

The Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition qualification allows you to gain a wealth of knowledge about the food and nutrition industry. You will have the opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as practical skills for cooking and preparing food.

What will I study?

- **Component 1 | Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups (mandatory unit)**
The purpose of this unit is for learners to develop an understanding of the nutritional needs of specific target groups. Through on-going practical sessions, students will develop practical skills to plan and cook high level, quality food items to meet the needs of individuals.
- **Component 2 | Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat (mandatory unit)**
Learners will develop an understanding of hazards and risks in relation to the storage, preparation and cooking of food in different environments and the control measures needed to minimise these risks. From this understanding, learners will be able to recommend the control measures that need to be in place, in different environments, to ensure that food is safe to eat. Practical sessions will support the gaining of theoretical knowledge and ensure learning is a tactile experience.
- **Component 3 | Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems (optional unit)**
The aim of this unit is for students to use their understanding of the properties of food in order to plan and carry out experiments. The results of the experiments would be used to propose options to solve food production problems.
- **Component 4 | Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition (optional unit)**
Through this unit, students will develop the skills needed to plan, carry out and present a research project on current issues linked to issues related to food science and nutrition. This could be from the perspective of a consumer, food manufacturer, caterer and/or policy-making perspective.

Future career options | The course will prepare you for a food related degree course and help you towards a career in a variety of industries such as public health, dietetics, pharmaceuticals, medical diagnostics, food production, teaching and sports nutrition.

Good subject combinations | Sciences, Psychology, Business Studies and Physical Education.

Entry requirements | Desirable courses to have followed at Key Stage 4 include Food Preparation and Nutrition, Food and Nutrition, Biology, Chemistry or Physical Education.

Note | It is recommended for students to practice cooking dishes at home so additional ingredients are needed for home-cooking. All school-based ingredients are provided by the School.

How will I be assessed?

The course is comprised of two mandatory units and one optional unit.

Mandatory Units		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1	Mandatory Unit: Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups	Written exam worth 25% of the course (AS equivalent). Practical Controlled Assessment worth 25% of the course (AS equivalent).
Component 2	Mandatory Unit: Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat	Eight hour timed, supervised practical assessment. To be completed over more than one session. 25% of the course (AS Level equivalent).
Optional Units - Students complete either Unit 3 or Unit 4		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 3	Optional Unit: Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems	12 hour timed, supervised practical assessment. To be completed over more than one session. 25% of the course.
Component 4	Optional Unit: Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition	14 hour timed, supervised practical assessment. To be completed over more than one session. 25% of the course.

The course is graded Level 3 Pass (E), Level 3 Merit (C) and Level 3 Distinction/Distinction* (A/A*).

French (AQA 7651/7652)

French is one of the most widely learned languages in the world and spoken by more than 200 million people in four different continents. Apart from the obvious benefit of being able to communicate in a different language, the practicalities of studying a language will help improve your communication and critical thinking skills and have a positive impact on your other studies.

What will I study?

• Component 1 | Social Issues and Trends

Students will study current trends and issues in relation to at least one French-speaking country including: the changing nature of the family, the “cyber-society” and the place of voluntary work for young people in our society.

A Level only: The positive features of a diverse society, life for the marginalised and how criminals are treated.

• Component 2 | Political and Artistic Culture

Students will study the following in relation to at least one French-speaking country: National heritage, contemporary francophone music and cinema.

A Level only: Teenagers – the right to vote and political commitment, demonstrations and strikes and politics and immigration.

• Component 3 | Set Works

AS Level: Students must study either one text or one film from a supplied list of set works.

A Level: Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from a supplied list of set works.

• Component 4 (A Level only) | Individual Research Project

Students must identify a subject or a key question which is of interest to them and which relates to a country or countries where French is spoken. They must select relevant information in French from a range of sources including the internet. The aim of the research project is to develop research skills. Students will demonstrate their ability to initiate and conduct individual research by analysing and summarising their findings, in order to present and discuss them in the speaking assessment.

- **Grammar:** For both AS and A Level, students will be expected to study the grammatical system and structures of the language during their course. Knowledge of the grammar and structures specified for GCSE is assumed.

Future career options | Studying a modern language at A Level can help you on your way to a specific languages career such as interpreter, translator and teacher. However, most employers are keen to see a modern language as an integral part of a student’s A Level portfolio. A large number of our A Level students continue with languages at university, specialising in a language-related degree.

Good subject combinations | Studying English or another foreign language could be an advantage. Recent students have combined their languages with Mathematics, Sciences, History, English, Textiles, Sociology, Psychology and Business Studies.

Entry requirements | Ideally students will have achieved GCSE French at Grade 9-7.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. Translation into English (minimum 70 word passage).	Written exam: one hour, 45 minutes. 90 marks (45% of AS Level).
Paper 2: Writing	Translation into French (minimum 70 word passage) Either one question in French on a set text from a choice of two questions or one question in French on a set film from a choice of two questions.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 50 marks (25% of AS Level).
Paper 3: Speaking	Discussion of two sub-themes (6–7 minutes on each) with the discussion based on a stimulus card for each sub-theme.	Oral exam: 12-14 minutes. 60 marks (30% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. Translation into English Translation into French (minimum 100 word passages for each).	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 100 marks (50% of A Level).
Paper 2: Writing	Either one question in French on a set text from a choice of two and one question in French on a set film from a choice of two OR two questions in French on set texts from a choice of two on each text.	Written exam: two hours. 80 marks (20% of A Level).
Paper 3: Speaking	Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5–6 minutes). Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of Individual Research project.	Oral exam: 21–23 minutes. 60 marks (30% of A Level).

Geography (AQA 7036/7037)

Geography is a pretty unique subject because it invites us to study both the physical structure of the planet and the social and economic structure (i.e. how we affect our environment and how it affects us) in the past, present and future. Studying for an A Level in Geography will help you to develop your observational, analytical, interpretative and predictive skills – invaluable to many other areas of study and life.

What will I study?

- Component 1 | Physical Geography**
 In this module students are introduced to Water and carbon cycles and landscapes and hazards.
A Level only: glacial systems complete the unit, alongside the topics covered at AS Level.
- Component 2 | Human Geography**
 In this module students will learn about changing places and investigative skills, including statistical analysis of data and fieldwork.
A Level only: Global systems and global governance and population and the environment complete the unit, alongside the Changing Places topic.
- Component 3 | Geography Fieldwork Investigation (NEA)**
 All students are required to undertake fieldwork in relation to processes in both physical and human geography throughout the course, equating to four days during their A Level course. Students will normally undertake a two day residential in Year 12 and a further two-day residential to Dorset in Year 13, with local fieldwork also included during some lessons, where applicable.
- Geographical Skills**
 During their course students will develop an understanding of different types of geographical information and learn how to communicate and evaluate findings, including the ability to construct extended written arguments about geographical matters.

Future career options | A Level Geography develops the transferable skills and the key skills that employers are looking for, they can lead to a very wide range of employment opportunities including careers in sustainability and green issues, urban regeneration, energy supply, retail location, managing the effects of hazards and climate change, business and economics, law, human rights, international relations and journalism.

Good subject combinations | Geography provides the bridge between the Humanities and the Sciences and combines well with almost all other subjects.

Entry requirements | GCSE in both Mathematics and Geography at Grade 9-6.

Additional costs | It is expected the four days of fieldwork is likely to be split into two x two-days at approximately £200 per residential, depending on student numbers attending and location.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Physical Geography	Section A: Glacial systems and landscapes. Section B: Hazards.	Written exam: one hour, 45 minutes. 80 marks (50% of AS Level).
Component 2: Human Geography	Section A: Changing places. Section B: Geography fieldwork investigation and geographical skills.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 80 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Physical Geography	Section A: Water and carbon cycles. Section B: Glacial systems and landscapes. Section C: Hazards.	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 120 marks (40% of A Level).
Component 2: Human Geography	Section A: Global systems and global governance. Section B: Changing places. Section C: Population and the environment.	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 120 marks (40% of A Level).
Component 3: Geography Fieldwork Investigation (NEA)	An individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.	4,000 words (guidance). 60 marks (20% of A Level).

German (AQA 7661/7662)

Germany is considered to be the European Union's economic powerhouse and as Germany continues to dominate European politics, now is a fascinating as well as sensible time to learn all about its language and culture. Apart from the obvious benefit of being able to communicate in a different language, the practicalities of studying a language will help improve your communication and critical thinking skills and have a positive impact on your other studies.

What will I study?

- Component 1 | Social Issues and Trends**
 Students will study current trends and issues in relation to at least one German-speaking country including the changing state of the family, the digital world and youth culture.
A Level only: Immigration, integration and racism.
- Component 2 | Political and Artistic culture**
 Students must study 'The cultural life of Berlin' in relation to Berlin. They will then study the following in relation to at least one German-speaking country: Festivals and traditions, art and architecture, politics and youth.
A Level only: Students must study Germany and the EU and German re-unification and its consequences in relation to Germany. Also politics and youth.
- Component 3 | Set Works**
AS Level: Students must study either one text or one film from a supplied list of set works.
- A Level:** Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from a supplied list of set works.
- Component 4 | Individual Research Project (A Level only)**
 Students must identify a subject or a key question which is of interest to them and which relates to a country or countries where German is spoken. They must select relevant information in German from a range of sources including the internet. The aim of the research project is to develop research skills. Students will demonstrate their ability to initiate and conduct individual research by analysing and summarising their findings, in order to present and discuss them in the speaking assessment.
- Grammar:** For both AS and A Level students will be expected to study the grammatical system and structures of the language during their course. Knowledge of the grammar and structures specified for GCSE is assumed.

Future career options | Studying a modern language at A Level can help you on your way to a specific languages career such as interpreter, translator and teacher. However, most employers are keen to see a modern language as an integral part of a student's A Level portfolio. A large number of our A Level students continue with languages at university, specialising in a language-related degree.

Good subject combinations | Studying English or another foreign language could be an advantage. Students have combined their languages with Mathematics, Sciences, History, English, Textiles, Sociology, Psychology and Business Studies.

Entry requirements | Ideally students will have achieved GCSE German at Grade 9-7.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. Translation into English (minimum 70 word passage)	Written exam: one hour, 45 minutes. 90 marks (45% of AS Level).
Paper 2: Writing	Translation into German (minimum 70 word passage) Either one question in German on a set text from a choice of two questions or one question in German on a set film from a choice of two questions.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 50 marks (25% of AS Level).
Paper 3: Speaking	Discussion of two sub-themes (6-7 minutes on each) with the discussion based on a stimulus card for each sub-theme.	Oral exam: 12-14 minutes. 60 marks (30% of AS Level)

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. Translation into English Translation into German (minimum 100 word passages for each)	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 100 marks (50% of A Level).
Paper 2: Writing	Either one question in German on a set text from a choice of two and one question in German on a set film from a choice of two OR two questions in German on set texts from a choice of two on each text.	Written exam: two hours. 80 marks (20% of A Level).
Paper 3: Speaking	Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5-6 minutes). Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9-10 minutes) of Individual Research Project.	Oral exam: 21-23 minutes. 60 marks (30% of A Level).

History (Edexcel 9H10)

Route F: Searching for Rights and Freedoms

A study of History encourages you to evaluate the many factors (social, economic, political and cultural) that influence behaviour and bring about change. By studying A Level History you will learn how to gather and critically analyse information and sources as well as how to form and sustain developed lines of argument. The development of these vital skills make A Level History a qualification which universities and employers hold in high regard.

What will I study?

- **Unit 1 | Breadth Study | In Search of The American Dream: the USA c1917-1996**
This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period. Students will cover the following themes:
 - The changing political environment 1917-1980.
 - The quest for civil rights 1917-1980.
 - Society and culture in change 1917-1980.
 - The changing quality of life 1917-1980.
 - The impact of the Reagan presidency 1981-96: historical interpretations.
- **Unit 2 | Depth Study | The Road to Independence: India c1914-1948**
Students will study:
 - The First World War and its impact on British India c1914-19.
 - Changing political relationships 1920-30.
 - Consultation and confrontation 1930-42.
 - The road to independence and partition 1942-48.
- **Unit 3 | Protest, Agitation and Parliamentary Reform in Britain c1780-1928**
Students will study:
Aspects in breadth:
 - Reform of Parliament c1780-1928.
 - Changing influences in parliament c1780-1928**Aspects in depth:**
 - Radical reformers c1780-1819.
 - Chartism c1838-1850.
 - Contagious Diseases Act and the campaign for their repeal 1862-86.
 - The Women's Social and Political Union (Suffragettes) 1903-1914.
 - Trades union militancy 1915-1927.
- **Unit 4 | Coursework**
The purpose of the coursework is to enable students to develop an enhanced understanding of the nature and purpose of history as a discipline and how historians work. Students will be required to form a critical view based on relevant reading on a question of their own devising. They will also be required to analyse, explain and evaluate the interpretations of three historians on their chosen issue.

Future career options | With a qualification in History, you can go on to work in a huge variety of careers, in areas as diverse as law, education, journalism and the media, politics, leisure and tourism, museums, libraries, art galleries, the police service, the armed forces, the civil service and business.

Good subject combinations | Social sciences, Arts or Humanities-based subjects as well as Languages.

Entry requirements | Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE History. It is possible to take A Level History if you have not studied the subject for GCSE and a minimum Grade 7 for GCSE English will be required if this is the case.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Unit 1: Breadth study	Section A: One essay question from a choice of two. Section B: One essay question from a choice of two. Section C: One compulsory question linked to interpretations.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 60 marks (60% of AS Level).
Unit 2: Depth study	Section A: One two-part compulsory question linked to sources contemporary to the period. Section B: One essay question from a choice of three.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 40 marks (40% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Unit 1: Breadth study	Section A: One essay question from a choice of two. Section B: One essay question from a choice of two. Section C: One compulsory question linked to interpretations.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 60 marks (30% of A Level).
Unit 2: Depth study	Section A: One compulsory question linked to sources contemporary to the period. Section B: One essay question from a choice of two.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 40 marks (20% of A Level).
Unit 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth	Section A: One compulsory question linked to sources contemporary to the period. Section B: One essay from a choice of two. Section C: One essay from a choice of two.	Written exam: two hours, 15 minutes. 60 marks (30% of A Level).
Unit 4: Coursework	A personal study (3,000–4,000 words in length) based Topic to be chosen by the student after discussion with course teachers.	Essay. 40 Marks (20% of A Level).

Mathematics (Edexcel 8MA0/9MA0)

A Level Mathematics will provide you with a stimulating and challenging course. It will help to develop key employability skills such as problem-solving, logical reasoning, communication and resilience. Because Mathematics underpins so many areas of life, it also provides a good foundation for many other subjects, especially Science and Technology.

What will I study?

• Component 1 | Pure Mathematics

In this component students will consider the following areas: Proof, Algebra and Functions, Coordinate Geometry in the (x,y) Plane, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Numerical Methods (A Level only) and Vectors.

• Component 2 | Statistics and Mechanics

In this component students will consider the following areas:

Statistics: Statistical Sampling, Data Presentation and Interpretation, Probability, Statistical Distributions and Statistical Hypothesis Testing. **Mechanics:** Quantities and Units in Mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's Laws and Moments (A Level only).

Further Mathematics (Edexcel 8FM0/9FMO)

If you enjoy Mathematics, and feel confident with it, then Further Mathematics may be for you. It will introduce you to some very interesting ideas and new areas of Mathematics such as Matrices, Complex Numbers and Decision Mathematics.

Further Maths is taken alongside ordinary Mathematics as a second Mathematics AS Level. You should not consider taking Further Mathematics without a Grade 8 or 9 at GCSE. Further Mathematics at AS is not significantly harder than Mathematics; it could be described instead as "Extra Mathematics".

Further Mathematics is assessed through two papers at AS Level. The course is taught over two years and final examinations are taken in Year 13.

Future career options | Business, Computer Technology, Science, Engineering, Economics, Architecture, Accountancy, Surveying, Market Research, Teaching, Electronics and many more.

Good subject combinations | Mathematics trains you to think logically and therefore goes well with any subject. It is a very helpful tool to have alongside the sciences, particularly Physics and the Statistics elements are useful in Biology, Geography and Sociology. There are obvious links with Information Technology and Business; Mathematics can also be a good subject to complement the more creative subjects or languages.

Entry requirements | GCSE Mathematics at Grade 7-9.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Pure Mathematics	Covers all Pure Mathematics topics and all Mechanics.	Written exam: 2 hours, 100 marks (62.5% of AS Level).
Paper 2: Statistics Mechanics	Covers all: Statistics topics Mechanics topics.	Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 60 marks (37.5% of AS Level)

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Pure Mathematics	May contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content.	Written exam: two hours. 100 marks (one third of A Level).
Paper 2: Pure Mathematics	May contain questions on any topic from the Pure Mathematics content.	Written exam: two hours. 100 marks (one third of A Level).
Paper 3: Mechanics and Statistics	May contain questions on any topic from the Mechanics and Statistics content.	Written exam: two hours. 100 marks (one third of A Level).

Calculators can be used in all of the assessments.

Music (EDUQAS/WJEC B660QS/A660PA/A660PB)

Studying for an A Level in Music will allow you to expand your musical repertoire whilst developing a real appreciation of what you hear within different styles. You will gain an understanding of how elements of music work together putting your knowledge into practice as you create your own compositions. You will also learn about what inspires musicians and develop techniques for practice and performance. In your second year, you choose whether to specialise in Composition or Performance.

What will I study?

- Component 1 | Performance**
 Students must be able to perform music using one or both of the following ways: Instrumental or vocal (as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble) and will choose a minimum of two pieces. At A Level you can specialise in Performing or Composing. AS, Grade VI minimum, A Level Grade VII minimum.
- Component 2 | Composition**
 Students must learn how to develop musical ideas, including extending and manipulating musical ideas, and compose music that is musically convincing through two or three compositions. One must be in response to an externally set brief (Composition 1) and the other a free composition (Composition 2).
- Component 3 | Appraising Music**
 The areas of study provide an appropriate focus for students to appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. Students must study Western classical tradition focusing on The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900. This centres around Haydn and Mendelssohn. Students then choose two further areas of study. One is a choice between Rock and Pop, Musical Theatre and Jazz. The third is a choice between Into The 20th Century or Into The 21st Century.

Future career options | Possible careers include performance, composing for TV, commercials, film and records, music publishing, speech and music therapy, magazine editing, journalism, teaching, theatre direction, production and performance, album production and compilation work, sound engineering and entertainment law.

Good subject combinations | Languages, Mathematics, English, Drama, Art and the Sciences. It is generally recognised that there are two types of musician; the mathematically minded and the artistically minded. Both are well accommodated on the course and would benefit from the rigours of each module.

Entry requirements | Minimum Grade 7 at GCSE Music. If you have not taken GCSE Music you will need to have at least Grade 5 Theory and Grade 5 on an Instrument of your choice.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Performance	Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist or vocalist. 6-8 minutes in total is required, performed before a visiting examiner.	72 marks (30% of total).
Component 2: Composition	Composition 1: Composition that reflects music conventions of the Western Classical Tradition in response to a brief. Composition 2: Free composition. Four minutes and 30 seconds-7 minutes of music in total are required.	72 marks (30% of total).
Component 3: Appraising Music	The study of Western Classical Music, focusing on the Symphony. Choose between Rock and Pop, Musical Theatre or Jazz for a second area of study. Assessed externally with a 90 minute listening and written exam.	88 marks (40% of total).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: Performance	Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist or vocalist. If performance is the chosen focus, 10-12 minutes are required; otherwise 6-8 minutes, performed before a visiting examiner.	108 or 72 marks (35 or 25%).
Component 2: Composition	Composition 1: Composition that reflects music conventions of the Western Classical Tradition in response to a brief. Composition 2: Free composition. These are 4-6 minutes in total. If composition is the focus, a third composition is required that relates to a further area of study. The required total becomes 8-10 minutes in total.	72 or 108 marks (25 or 35%).
Component 3: Appraising Music	The study of Western Classical Music, focusing on the Symphony. Choose between Rock and Pop, Musical Theatre or Jazz for a second area of study. The final area of study is a choice between 'Into the 20 th Century' or 'Into the 21 st Century'.	Written and listening exam: two hours and 15 minutes. 100 marks (40%).

Physical Education (AQA 7582)

A Physical Education (PE) A Level is not just about playing sport, it is the understanding of how the body and mind work, about how politics affects participation, about striving for perfection. Sport and fitness is a huge industry and studying for an A Level in Physical Education could be your first step towards a sports-related career.

This will be a two-year course with the external examination sat at the end of Year 13. An assessment will be sat at the end of Year 12, which will be externally marked, but will not constitute an external AS Grade.

What will I study?

- **Applied Anatomy and Physiology** | Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the changes within the body systems prior to exercise, during exercise of differing intensities and during recovery.
- **Exercise Physiology** | Students should understand the adaptations to the body systems through training or lifestyle, and how these changes affect efficiency.
- **Biomechanics and Technology** | Students will develop an understanding of motion and forces, and how technology can help to optimise performance in sport.
- **Skill Acquisition** | Students will learn the differences in types of skills, guidance, feedback and principles and theories of learning to help develop movement in sport.
- **Sports Psychology** | Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the role of sport psychology in optimising performance in physical activity and sport.
- **Sport and Society** | Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the interaction between, and the evolution of sport and global events.
- **Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) | Practical Performance in Physical Activity and Sport**
The NEA aspect of the qualification requires students to develop their ability and aptitude in physical activity, demonstrating appropriate skills and techniques. There are two aspects to the NEA: Performance Assessment (practical performance or coaching) and a Performance Analysis & Evaluation.

Future career options | Possible career options include teaching, coach/instructor, sports development or psychologist. When combined with subjects such as Business Studies it could lead into employment sectors such as sports and leisure management and fitness centre development. Combined with the correct A Levels it could be a step into a career in medicine or physiotherapy. Or with an increasing media interest in the world of sport, careers such as sports journalism or sports presenter are possibilities for those wishing to combine the subject with English.

Good subject combinations | Biology is an ideal accompaniment as it will reinforce certain areas of human anatomy and physiology, as will A Level Psychology, in regards to the sport psychology aspects covered.

Entry requirements | GCSE PE would be useful but not essential. An average GCSE Science at Grade of 5 or above is a minimum requirement to study the course due to the scientific nature of some of the modules. All students on this course will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to study sport at degree or higher education level. An ongoing active and involvement in competitive sport however is a must.

Please note: Students can opt to coach or perform in a variety of sports. All students will need to provide video footage of their chosen sport to submit to the examining board. Students will need to be a minimum of club standard in their chosen sport. Pipers specific sports kit is not needed for Sixth Form, however Pipers kit will be needed for competitive representation.

How will I be assessed?

Year One | Internal Assessment only

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Factors Affecting Participation in physical activity and sport	Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology. Section B: Skill acquisition. Section C: Sport and society Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: two hours. 105 marks (35% of A Level).
Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport	Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics. Section B: Sport psychology. Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport. Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: two hours. 105 marks (35% of A Level).
Practical performance in physical activity and sport	Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity. Plus written/verbal analysis of performance.	Non-Examination Assessment. 90 marks (30% of A Level).

Physics (AQA 7407/7408)

Studying for an A Level in Physics will help you to find out more about the world around you and provides answers to many of life's big questions such as how the universe was formed, how aeroplanes stay up in the air and what holds the universe together. It will encourage you to think logically and build your problem solving skills.

What will I study?

- **Measurements and Their Errors**
A continuing study for a student of Physics. A working knowledge of the specified fundamental (base) units of measurement is vital. Practical work in the subject needs to be underpinned by an awareness of the nature of measurement errors and of their numerical treatment.
- **Particles and Radiation**
Introduces students both to the fundamental properties of matter, and to electromagnetic radiation and quantum phenomena.
- **Waves and Optics**
GCSE studies of wave phenomena are extended through a development of knowledge of the characteristics, properties, and applications of travelling and stationary waves. Topics include refraction, diffraction, superposition and interference.
- **Mechanics and Materials**
Vectors and their treatment are introduced followed by development of the student's knowledge and understanding of forces, energy and momentum. Study of materials considered in terms of their bulk properties and tensile strength.
- **Electricity**
Builds on and develops earlier study of these phenomena from GCSE. It provides opportunities for the development of practical skills at an early stage in the course and lays the groundwork for later study of the many electrical applications that are important to society.
- **Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics (Year 2 only)**
Study of mechanics is further advanced through a consideration of circular motion and simple harmonic motion. Thermal properties of materials, the properties and nature of ideal gases, and the molecular kinetic theory are studied in-depth.
- **Fields (Year 2 only)**
The concept of field is one of the great unifying ideas in physics. The ideas of gravitation, electrostatics and magnetic field theory are developed within the topic to emphasise this unification.
- **Nuclear Physics (Year 2 only)**
Builds on the work of particles and radiation to link the properties of the nucleus to the production of nuclear power through the characteristics of the nucleus, the properties of unstable nuclei, and the link between energy and mass.
- **Optional Sections (Year 2 only)**
One optional area of study is selected from: Astrophysics, Medical Physics, Engineering Physics, Turning Points in Physics or Electronics.

Future career options | Medicine (doctor, dentist, radiographer, physiotherapist), engineering, transport (armed services, pilot, air traffic controller), education, communications, IT, energy and the environment (geologist, meteorologist, surveyor, architect).

Good subject combinations | Physics is a good option to take with subjects such as Mathematics, IT, Design and Technology: Product Design, Biology and Chemistry.

Entry requirements | A Grade 9-7 in GCSE Physics or 9-7 in GCSE Science Trilogy and GCSE Mathematics along with a good enquiring mind.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Sections 1–5 Short and long answer questions split by topic.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level)
Paper 2	Sections 1-5 Section A: 20 marks of short and long answer questions on practical skills and data analysis. Section B: 20 marks of short and long answer questions from across all areas of Year 1 content. Section C: 30 multiple choice questions.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Sections 1-5 and 6.1 (Periodic Motion) 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.	Written exam: two hours. 85 marks (34% of A Level).
Paper 2	Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.	Written exam: two hours. 85 marks (34% of A Level).
Paper 3	Section A (45 marks) Compulsory section: Practical skills and data analysis. Short and long answer questions. Section B (35 marks) Students choose one section from list of options given. Short and long answer questions.	Written exam: two hours. 80 marks (32% of A Level).

Politics (Edexcel 9PLO)

The study of Politics empowers students to make links between political theories studied in the classroom and current political events in the UK and the USA. The course has three key elements: the first focuses on political culture and engagement, the second on how the UK is governed, including a study of political philosophy and ideas, and the third involves a comparative analysis of the government of the USA.

What will I study?

- **Component 1 | UK Politics and Core Political Ideas**
This section explores the nature of politics and how people engage in the political process in the UK, analysing the nature of democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the role of the media. Students also explore in-depth the three traditional political ideas of Conservatism, Liberalism and Socialism.
- **Component 2 | UK Government and Non-Core Political Ideas**
This component is fundamental to understanding where, how and by whom political decisions are made in the UK. The role of the Prime Minister and executive are examined, as is Parliament, the constitution and relations between the branches.

Students also explore a further political idea in-depth on Anarchism and examine how the ideas and principles apply in practice to human nature, the state, society and the economy. Students investigate the divisions within the idea chosen and the key thinkers associated with it.
- **Component 3 | Comparative Politics: Government and Politics of the USA**
Students explore the US Constitution and the arguments surrounding this guiding document of US democracy. In learning about the key institutions of government in the USA and analysing the manner in which they achieve this power and exercise it over their citizens, students will judge ultimately whether 'liberty and justice for all' has been achieved in the USA.

Students will be expected to highlight the debates on the nature of democracy in the USA and evaluate the extent to which it remains an issue. Students will begin to compare and contrast politics and institutions in the US with those in the UK. This will develop a wider understanding of politics as a discipline, underpinned by the theoretical concepts of comparative politics.

Future career options | Skills and knowledge developed in the study of Politics are beneficial in preparing students for careers encompassing the diplomatic and intelligence services, political and social research and analysis, journalism and global business development.

Good subject combinations | The subject is a particularly good companion to History, Sociology, Religious Studies and/or Modern Foreign Languages.

Entry requirements | A Grade 6 or above in an essay-based GCSE subject such as English or History.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: UK Politics	One 10 mark question from a choice of two. One 10 mark question based on a single source. One 10 mark question focusing on two comparative sources. One 30 mark question from a choice of two.	Written exam: One hour, 45 minutes. 60 marks. (50% of AS Level).
Component 2: UK Government	One 10 mark question from a choice of two. One 10 mark question based on a single source. One 10 mark question focusing on two comparative sources. One 30 mark question from a choice of two.	Written exam: one hour, 45 minutes. 60 marks. (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Component 1: UK Politics	One 30 mark source question from a choice of two. One 30 mark essay question from a choice of two. One 24 mark question from a choice of two.	Written exam: two hours. 84 marks. (One third of A Level).
Component 2: UK Government	One 30 mark source question from a choice of two. One 30 mark essay question from a choice of two. One 24 mark question from a choice of two.	Written exam: two hours. 84 marks. (One third of A Level).
Component 3: Comparative Politics – Government and Politics of the USA	One 12 mark question from a choice of two. One compulsory 12 mark question focused on comparative theories. Two 30 mark questions from a choice of three.	Written exam: two hours. 84 marks. (One third of A Level).

Psychology (AQA 7181/7182)

A Level Psychology will give you an understanding of the way people think and why people behave in certain ways. You will learn a variety of skills including analytical thinking, improved communication, problem solving that will prepare you for an exciting future with the possibility of a range of fantastic careers.

What will I study?

- **Component 1 | Social Influence:** Types of conformity, conformity to social roles as explanations for obedience, explanations of resistance to social influence, minority influence and the role of social influence processes in social change.
- **Component 2 | Memory:** The multi-store model of memory, types of long-term memory, the working memory model, explanations for forgetting, factors affecting the accuracy of eyewitness testimony and improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.
- **Component 3 | Attachment:** Caregiver-infant interactions in humans, animal studies of attachment: Lorenz and Harlow, explanations of attachment, Ainsworth's "Strange Situation", Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation and the influence of early attachment on childhood and adult relationships.
- **Component 4 | Psychopathology:** Definitions of abnormality, the behavioural, emotional and cognitive characteristics of phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), the behavioural approach to explaining and treating phobias, the cognitive approach to explaining and treating depression and the biological approach to explaining and treating OCD.
- **Component 5 | Approaches in Psychology:** The origins of psychology. The basic assumptions of the following approaches: learning approaches, the cognitive approach, the biological approach, the psychodynamic approach, Humanistic Psychology, and comparison of approaches.
- **Component 7 | Research Methods:** Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a number of research methods, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, and be familiar with their use and be aware of their strengths and limitations.
- **Component 7 | Biopsychology (A Level only)** The divisions of the nervous system, the structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurons, the function of the endocrine system, localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation, ways of studying the brain and biological rhythms.
- **Component 8 | Issues and Debates in Psychology (A Level only):** Gender and culture in psychology, free will and determinism, the nature-nurture debate, holism and reductionism, idiographic and nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation and ethical implications of research studies and theory, including reference to social sensitivity.
- **Optional content sections (A Level only)** One from each section, chosen by the teacher:
Option 1: Relationships, Gender or Cognition and Development.
Option 2: Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour or Stress.
Option 3: Aggression, Forensic Psychology or Addiction.

Future career options | Studying Psychology at university can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including: marketing, business development, accountancy, human resources, occupational therapy, clinical psychology, nursing and teaching.

Good subject combinations | Biology, Business Studies, History, Geography, PE, Religious Studies and Sociology.

Entry requirements | A minimum of Grade 6 in GCSE Science and Mathematics. A good level of English comprehension is essential.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology	Compulsory content: Social Influence, Memory and Attachment. Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).
Paper 2: Psychology in context	Compulsory content: Approaches in Psychology, Psychopathology and Research Methods. Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 70 marks (50% of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology	Compulsory content: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology. Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: two hours. 96 marks (one third of A Level).
Paper 2: Psychology in context	Compulsory content: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods. Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: two hours. 96 marks (one third of A Level).
Paper 3: Issues and options in Psychology	Compulsory content: Issues and debates in Psychology. Optional content: One from each of the three options. Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.	Written exam: two hours. 80 marks (one third of A Level).

Religious Studies (OCR H173/H573)

Studying Philosophy, Religion and Ethics is essential for students in today's complex world. These disciplines provide a strong foundation for critical-thinking, moral reasoning, and decision-making. The study of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics encourages students to question assumptions, analyse arguments and explore the most fundamental questions in life. It equips them with valuable skills in problem-solving and the ability to engage in thoughtful dialogue on complex issues. Moreover, the study of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics fosters empathy and tolerance, preparing students to navigate diverse perspectives and contribute positively to society. In an era where ethical dilemmas abound, a background in Philosophy, Religion and Ethics is an invaluable asset, empowering students to make informed, ethically-sound choices in their personal and professional lives.

What will I study?

- **Component 1 | Philosophy of Religion**
This component explores philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. Students will study ancient philosophical influences, the nature of the soul, mind and body, arguments about the existence or non-existence of God, the nature and impact of religious experience and the challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil.
A Level only: Ideas about the nature of God and issues in religious language.
- **Component 2 | Religion and Ethics**
In this component, learners have the opportunity to study key concepts related to religion and ethics. Students will consider normative ethical theories and the application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance.
A Level only: Ethical language and thought, debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience and sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.
- **Component 3 | Developments in Christian Thought**
Students will learn about: religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world, sources of religious wisdom and authority, and practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition.
A Level only: Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought, and key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Future career options | The skills that you will learn in Religious Studies will be useful to you in any number of careers such as teaching, youth work, journalism, civil service or government.

Good subject combinations | Religious Studies combines well with most other subjects. It is particularly compatible with Psychology, History and English.

Entry requirements | GCSE Religious Studies at Grade 6 or above and/or GCSE English at Grade 5.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Philosophy of Religion	Written exam: one hour, 15 minutes. 60 marks (one third of AS Level).
Paper 2	Religion and Ethics	Written exam: one hour, 15 minutes. 60 marks (one third of AS Level).
Paper 3	Developments in Christian Thought	Written exam: one hour, 15 minutes. 60 marks (one third of AS Level).

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Philosophy of Religion	Written exam: two hours. 120 marks (one third of A Level).
Paper 2	Religion and Ethics	Written exam: two hours. 120 marks (one third of A Level).
Paper 3	Developments in Christian Thought	Written exam: two hours. 120 marks (one third of A Level).

Sociology (AQA 7191/7192)

The study of Sociology will help you to understand how and why events in society occur and why we generally conform to shared ideas and practices in everyday life. You will develop the ability to present coherent arguments regarding many aspects of our social world, in addition to practical skills that will benefit all of your chosen courses of study.

What will I study?

- **Education:** Students will explore the role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure. Using official statistics students will examine differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity and explore various explanations, such as relationships and processes within schools or external factors. Students will evaluate the impact of educational policies for marketisation and greater equality of opportunity or outcome.
- **Theories and methods:** Students will learn how Sociologists conduct their research by considering how theoretical, practical and ethical considerations can influence a choice of topic and choice of method. Students will debate whether Sociology can be a science, how subjective Sociology is and is there a relationship between Sociology and social policy?
- **Families and households:** Students will define the family and how this changes with the social structure such as the economy and state policies creating family diversity. Students will research the different gender roles within the contemporary families such as what domestic labour roles they play and who has power within the family. Using official statistics students will analyse demographic changes since the 1900s.
- **Beliefs in society:** Students will research and debate what people believe in, such as politics, science or religion. They will analyse the relationship between religion and social change and how this created a range of different religious organisations such as cults, sects and New Age movements. Students will discuss the significance of religion and religiosity in the contemporary world, including the nature and extent of secularisation in a global context, and globalisation and the spread of religions.
- **Crime and deviance:** Students will explore the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and explanations for crime. Students will research how globalisation has affected crime in contemporary society such as the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes. Students will discuss how crime can be controlled, through surveillance, prevention and punishment.

Future career options | Your chosen profession will benefit from sociological knowledge and many careers include the subject matter as part of ongoing learning and development. Doctors, teachers, civil service and police personnel, social workers, workers in positions of administration, hospitality and any work situation where social interaction is concerned will gain from the knowledge of society and the skills you will develop.

Good subject combinations | Psychology, Business Studies, English, Religious Studies, Physical Education, History and Geography are all complementary. The advantage for those studying Psychology is that there is an overlap on the research methods and some of the theory.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Education and with Methods in Context	Written exam: One hour, 30 minutes. 60 marks
Paper 2	Research methods and Families and Households	Written exam: One hour, 30 minutes. 60 marks

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1	Education with Theories and Methods	Written exam: Two hours. 80 marks
Paper 2	Topics in Sociology: Families and Households and Beliefs in Society	Written exam: Two hours. 80 marks
Paper 3	Crime and Deviance with Theories and Methods	Written exam: Two hours. 80 marks

Spanish (AQA 7691/7692)

Spanish is the fourth most commonly spoken language in the world. With over 400 million speakers, Spanish is an official language on four continents and is the mother tongue in 21 countries. Apart from the obvious benefit of being able to communicate in a different language, the practicalities of studying a language will help improve your communication and critical thinking skills and have a positive impact on your other studies.

What will I study?

- Component 1 | Social Issues and Trends:** Students will study current trends and issues in relation to at least one Spanish-speaking country including: modern and traditional values, cyberspace and equal rights.
A Level only: Immigration, integration and racism.
- Component 2 | Political and Artistic Culture:** Students must study Spanish regional identity in relation to Spain. They will then study the following in relation to at least one Spanish-speaking country: modern day idols and cultural heritage.
A Level only: Students must study Monarchies and dictatorships in relation to any relevant Spanish-speaking country or countries, as well as today's youth and popular movements.
- Component 3 | Set Works:**
AS Level: Students must study either one text or one film from a supplied list of set works.
- A Level:** Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from a supplied list of set works.
- Component 4 | Individual Research Project (A Level only):** Students must identify a subject or a key question which is of interest to them and which relates to a country or countries where Spanish is spoken. They must select relevant information in Spanish from a range of sources including the internet. The aim of the research project is to develop research skills. Students will demonstrate their ability to initiate and conduct individual research by analysing and summarising their findings, in order to present and discuss them in the speaking assessment.
- Grammar:** For both AS and A Level students will be expected to study the grammatical system and structures of the language during their course. Knowledge of the grammar and structures specified for GCSE is assumed.

Future career options | Studying a modern language at A Level can help you on your way to a specific languages career such as interpreter, translator and teacher. However, most employers are keen to see a modern language as an integral part of a student's A Level portfolio. A large number of our A Level students continue with languages at university, specialising in a language-related degree.

Good subject combinations | Studying English or another foreign language could be an advantage. Recent students have combined their Languages with Mathematics, Sciences, History, English, Textiles, Sociology, Psychology and Business Studies.

Entry requirements | Ideally students will have achieved GCSE Spanish at Grade 9-7.

Additional costs | A possible theatre trip in February/March that costs in the region of £70. Optional Trip to Spain in October half-term of Year 13 costing around £800.

How will I be assessed?

Year One		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. Translation into English (minimum 70 word passage).	Written exam: one hour, 45 minutes. 90 marks (45% of AS Level).
Paper 2: Writing	Translation into Spanish (minimum 70 word passage). Either one question in Spanish on a set text from a choice of two questions OR one question in Spanish on a set film from a choice of two questions.	Written exam: one hour, 30 minutes. 50 marks (25% of AS Level).
Paper 3: Speaking	Discussion of two sub-themes (6–7 minutes on each) with the discussion based on a stimulus card for each sub-theme.	Oral exam: 12-14 minutes. 60 marks (30% of AS Level)

Year Two		
Assessment	Content	Details
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. Translation into English Translation into Spanish (minimum 100 word passages for each).	Written exam: two hours, 30 minutes. 100 marks (50% of A Level).
Paper 2: Writing	Either one question in Spanish on a set text from a choice of two and one question in Spanish on a set film from a choice of two OR two questions in Spanish on set texts from a choice of two on each text.	Written exam: two hours. 80 marks (20% of A Level).
Paper 3: Speaking	Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5–6 minutes). Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of the Individual Research Project.	Oral exam: 21–23 minutes. 60 marks (30% of A Level).

Supplementary Qualifications

Our wider Sixth Form Curriculum enables all students to cultivate skills that extend far beyond the conventional curriculum.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The EPQ is held in high-esteem by universities and carries UCAS points equivalent to half an A Level qualification. Students in the Lower Sixth have the opportunity to participate in this excellent course which involves either completing an extended essay (5,000 words), producing a performance piece (plus a 1,000 word report) or creating an artefact (plus 1,000 word report) in a subject area of their choice.

The course provides the context for critical thinking and project management skills which are widely transferable and assesses students' ability to plan, carry out, report on and evaluate a project. During the EPQ, students will have taught skills lessons to support them with their academic writing, complete 90 hours of independent work, produce a 15-page log to accompany their project and give a presentation.

Previous projects	Current projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is AI the next breakthrough for medical developments?Should the Equestrian Industry's 'social licence to operate' be revoked?Does the menstrual cycle affect women's performance in sport?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is Diplomatic Immunity Ethical?Should the UK adopt a codified constitution?Does the evolution of historical perspectives on ADHD inform current understanding and management of the disorder?

Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Mathematics)

This course is designed to equip you with essential mathematical skills that will be invaluable in your future studies and career. Unlike traditional A Level Maths, Core Maths focuses on practical applications, real-world problems, and statistical analysis. You'll explore topics such as data handling, probability, and financial mathematics and risk analysis, gaining a deeper understanding of how maths impacts our everyday lives.

In addition, the course will naturally supplement the mathematical content within other popular A Levels such as Business, Psychology, Geography and the Sciences. It also comes with AS Level UCAS points or commonly reduced offers during the UCAS application process.

AS Level Further Mathematics

This Further Mathematics qualification is designed to fill the gap for high achieving students by assessing their higher order mathematical skills, particularly in algebraic reasoning, in greater depth, thus preparing them fully to maximise their potential in further studies at Level 3. It offers the opportunity for stretch and challenge that builds on the Key Stage 4 curriculum and is intended as an additional qualification to A Level Mathematics.

The content covers the areas of algebra and geometry, which are crucial to further study in the subject, in greater depth and breadth and focusses on improving the students' problem solving skills. It also gives an introduction to calculus and matrices and develops further skills in trigonometry, functions and graphs. It is highly advantageous to students who wish to consider studying A Level Mathematics.

Entry requirements | GCSE Mathematics at Grade 8 or above.

Art and Design | Photography- AS Level (OCR H203)

Taking AS Level in Photography over the two Sixth Form years, two double periods a week, will help you to develop a number of new skills as well as developing your creativity and independent thought. The various areas of study will enable you to learn how to express yourself visually. National or international study trips will allow you to experience historical and contemporary photographers' work first-hand and to learn in an interactive way through guided tours or photography workshops.

How will I be assessed?

Years One and Two Assessment Content Details		
Assessment	Content	Details
Personal Investigation	Students will produce a photographic portfolio of practical work showing their personal response to a selected theme. This portfolio work is internally-assessed	Worth up to 100% of the AS Level Grade.

Entry requirements

GCSE Art and/or GCSE Textiles is a good foundation for a successful AS Photography student but not essential. A real passion for photography is important!

Leaver Destinations

A selection of our leavers' destinations between 2020 and 2023 and their courses of study







