



# Course Information September 2021



## Art and Design FINE ART

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** AQA

**Introduction:** Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of two and three dimensional media, processes and techniques. They will explore both traditional and new technologies, relevant images, artifacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making process. Their responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities, which demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

**Where does it lead?** The course can lead into an Arts foundation course, leading into a degree in Fine Art, Fashion, Textiles and Design etc. Careers include the media industries, design education, galleries, architecture and fashion design.

Career paths such as medicine and dentistry also see the value of an arts course as those students show particular skills in manual dexterity

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document. Students should have displayed an enjoyment of art and demonstrated the ability to work independently and generate their own ideas. Students must also be aware that the course requires written, theoretical work to support practical work.

**Course details:** Students will become aware of the four assessment objectives and will explore drawing using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Students will use sketchbooks/workbooks/journals to underpin their work where appropriate.

Component 1 – Personal Investigation (Year 13)

Assessment: 50% of total A Level mark

Component 2 – Art and Design Externally Set Assignment (Year 13)

Assessment: 50% of total A Level mark 15 hour timed examination

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs C Bye – Head of Art**

## **Biology**

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** OCR

**Introduction:** A Level Biology will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of biology. It covers the key concepts of biology and practical skills are integrated throughout the course. This combination of academic challenge and practical focus makes the prospect of studying A Level Biology highly appealing. We aim to enable candidates to develop interest and enthusiasm for biology, creating opportunities of further study and careers in the biology field.

**Where does it lead?** A Level Biology A is an excellent base for a university degree in healthcare, such as medicine, veterinary or dentistry, as well as the biological sciences, such as biochemistry, molecular biology or forensic science. Biology can also complement sports science, psychology, sociology. Students in biology can also progress into other areas relating to law and ICT.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

#### **Module 1: Development of practical skills taught over 2 years**

##### **Year 1**

Module 2- Foundations in Biology

Module 3- Exchange and transport

Module 4- Biodiversity, evolution and disease

##### **Year 2**

Module 5- Communication, homeostasis and energy

Module 6- Genetic, evolution and ecosystems

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs K Smith**

## **BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business**

**Level:** Level 3

**Examination board:** Edexcel (Pearson)

**Introduction:** The Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post 16 students wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the business sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A level and aims to provide a coherent introduction to study of the business sector, normally alongside other level 3 qualifications. Students wishing to take this BTEC will have successfully completed a level 2 programme of learning with GCSEs or vocational qualifications

**Where does it lead?** The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

There are many different career paths for those who wish to work within the business sector. These include management, HR, finance, marketing and business information management, with the opportunity to work both in the UK and internationally.

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been involved and consulted in order to confirm that the content is also appropriate for and consistent with current practice for students planning to enter employment directly in the business sector. Everyone taking this qualification will study three mandatory units. They are:

- Exploring the Business Environment (Internal Assessment)
- Developing a Marketing Campaign (Controlled Assessment, Externally Marked)
- Personal and Business Finance (External Assessment)

The optional units have been designed to support choices in progression to business courses in Higher Education, and to link with relevant occupational areas. They cover content areas such as:

- Human Resources (Internal Assessment)
- Accounting (Internal Assessment)
- Marketing (Internal Assessment)
- Law (Internal Assessment)

The course will be assessed through 2 internal assessments, 1 controlled assessment (externally marked) and 1 external assessment.

**For further information, contact: Miss H Gisbourne**

## Chemistry

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** OCR

**Introduction:** A Level Chemistry will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of chemistry. It covers the key concepts of chemistry and practical skills are integrated throughout the course. This combination of academic challenge and practical focus makes the prospect of studying A Level Chemistry highly appealing. You will learn about chemistry in a range of different contexts and the impact it has on industry and many aspects of everyday life. You will learn to investigate and solve problems in a range of contexts.

**Where does it lead?** Gaining a qualification in Chemistry at this level can lead into higher education in areas such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry as well as the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. A range of career opportunities include chemical manufacturing and pharmaceutical industries and in areas such as forensics, environmental protection and healthcare.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

#### **Module 1: Development of practical skills taught over 2 years**

##### **Year 1**

Module 2 - Foundations in chemistry

Module 3 - Periodic table and energy

Module 4 - Core organic chemistry and analysis

##### **Year 2**

Module 5 - Physical chemistry and transition metals

Module 6 - Organic chemistry and analysis

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs L Beatty & Mr G Brockwell**

## Computer Science

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** OCR

**Introduction:** The OCR A Level in Computer Science allows students with a strong interest in the field of computing and ICT to develop skills and knowledge that will equip them to take full advantage of current and future technology. This is a highly practical subject that allows learners to experiment and create products that solve real world scenarios. Students completing the course will have discovered methods to analyse and develop solutions, be able to think creatively and abstractly and be aware of the moral and ethical issues that their solutions can cause.

**Where does it lead?** Students who complete this course often move on to study a branch of computing at University, with cyber security and software engineering as particularly popular options. Students have also been successful in apprenticeship placements, including Amazon. Those not wishing to follow the Computer Science route will often opt for Physics and Maths routes.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

The objective of this qualification is to provide learners with access to subject knowledge and skills in computer science and computer systems, enabling learners to progress to further study of the sector or other sectors.

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it incorporates the most up-to-date knowledge and skills to enable progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been consulted on the content development to corroborate its relevance with current industry practice used in computing and related occupational disciplines. Everyone taking this qualification will study three mandatory key units:

- Computer Systems - (Externally assessed)
- Algorithms and programming – (Externally Assessed)
- Programming Project. – (Internally Assessed)

The programming project is a chance for students to select a computational problem of their own to solve. They will work through the stages of system design and analysis to create a piece of software or an electronic product that meets this need.

The course will be assessed through the two exams and the final project, weighted as 40%, 40% and 20% respectively, with all final assessment taking place in year 2.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mr Clawson**

## Criminology

**Level:** Level 3 Diploma – Applied general qualification

**Examination board:** WJEC

**Introduction:** WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of psychology, law and sociology that complements studies in humanities. It has been designed to offer applied learning through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system. It is likely to be studied alongside GCE A Levels.

**Where does it lead?** An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunal Service or the National Offender Management Service. Being an applied general qualification it is designed primarily to support learners accessing higher education degree courses, such as a BA or BSc Criminology or BSc (Hons) Criminology with Law, Psychology or Sociology.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

**Course details:** There are four mandatory units

<b>UNIT 1 Changing Awareness of Crime</b>	<b>UNIT 2 Criminological Theories</b>
demonstrate understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported	demonstrate an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1.
<b>UNIT 3 Crime Scene to Courtroom</b>	<b>UNIT 4 Crime and Punishment</b>
display an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. develop an understanding and display the skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases	apply an understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

### Assessment

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment.

Unit 2 and 4 are externally assessed as follows: a 90-minute examination with a total of 75 marks; three questions on each paper with both short and extended answer questions based on stimulus material and applied contexts.

Unit 1 and 3 are internally assessed through summative controlled assessment in a model assignment. The three controlled stages are task setting, taking and marking.

Grades are awarded A\* to E

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs S Phair**



## Design and Technology Product Design

**Level:** 3 Advanced GCE

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

### Introduction

Product Design is about equipping students with design skills for the future - Students will be able to recognise design needs and develop an understanding of how current global issues, including integrating technology, impacts on today's world. Encourages creativity and innovation.

At A level students will have the confidence to innovate and produce creative design solutions as they develop their own design brief with a client / end user.

**Where does it all lead?** An A Level qualification in Product Design could lead the way to studying a degree at University, or a career in one of the many design industries.

Other Students who have followed this course went onto;

- Air accident investigation.

- Supplying materials to the aircraft industry.

- Teaching DT, and PE

- Trained as a Policeman

- Employed by John Lewis

- Civil Engineering Modern Apprenticeship

### What do I need?

Please see the Course Requirements document. The cost of materials used in making student designed products will need to be paid for. Specialist pens and course textbooks for use at home will be required and details of these can be provided nearer to starting the course.

Areas of Study	Assessment
Component 1 Principles of Design and Technology Paper code; 9DT0/01	Written examination: 2 Hours 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 120 marks

### Content Overview

Materials

Performance characteristics of materials

Digital Technologies

Factors influencing the development of products

Effects of technological developments

Potential hazards and risk assessment

Features of manufacturing industries

Design for maintenance and a cleaner environment

Current legislation

Information handling, Modelling and planning

Further processes and techniques

Component 2 Independent Design and Make Project: Paper code; 9DT0/02	Non Examined Teacher assessed unit 50% of the qualification 120 marks
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### Assessment Overview

Part 1 Identifying opportunities for design

Part 2 Designing a Prototype

Part 3 Making a Prototype

Part 4 Evaluating own design and prototype

**For further information, contact any of the DT team  
Mr J Poote – Head of Design and Technology**



## English Language

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** (Edexcel Specification)

**Introduction:** Do you enjoy reading a range of different media? Do you like to delve deeper into how and why authors write in the way that they do? Are you interested in how authors craft their language for purpose or audience? Why not consider studying English Language at A Level. This course will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of linguistic study, looking at key topics such as how language has changed over time and how children learn to speak.

**Where does it lead?** English Language is a course that builds strong analysis, writing and communication skills as well as the ability to debate ideas, and is therefore an excellent addition to any combination of subjects. English is good for any job that involves communication, writing and / or literary knowledge. These include: advertising, marketing, writing and journalism, law, consultancy, business, teaching, performing arts, academia, government, linguistics, foreign languages, media and design. Careers in the sciences, engineering, technology and maths also need more English than you think. Writing proposals, academic papers and articles and communicating with others is key to getting funding for projects and reaching people with your work.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

#### **Paper One: Language Variation**

*2 hour 15 mins written exam – 35% A Level*

Students will explore:

- how language varies depending on mode, field, function and audience
- how language choices can create personal identities
- language variation in English from c1550 (the beginnings of Early Modern English) to the present day.

#### **Paper Two: Child Language**

*1 hour written exam – 20% A Level*

Students will explore:

- spoken language acquisition and how children learn to write between the ages of 0 and 8
- the relationship between spoken language acquisition and literacy skills that children are taught, including the beginnings of reading
- appropriate theories of children's language development.

#### **Paper Three: Investigating Language**

*1 hour 45 mins written exam – 25% A Level*

Students will:

- select a research focus from five topic areas
- develop their research and investigation skills
- undertake a focused investigation
- apply their knowledge of language levels and key language concepts developed through the whole course
- develop their personal language specialism.

**Coursework**

*20% A Level*

Students will:

- research a selected genre
- demonstrate their skills as writers within their selected genre, crafting texts for different audiences and/or purposes
- reflect on their research and writing in an accompanying commentary.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs A Onan-Read**

## English Literature

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** (AQA Specification B)

**Introduction:** Do you enjoy reading a range of different genres? Do you like to delve deeper into how and why authors write in the way that they do? Why not consider studying English Literature at A Level. This course will provide you with a comprehensive study of key texts from the 1500s onwards whilst looking in depth at specific genres and contexts, as well as an understanding of key literary theories such as Marxism, feminism etc.

**Where does it lead?** Studying English Literature helps to sharpen your analytical skills. If you can take a text and find the themes plus connect it with other texts, theories and historical events, you are showing that you can handle complex ideas, search for patterns and interpret information in a wider context. You will also develop your planning and research skills as well as gain knowledge of history, culture, philosophy and even human behaviour. English is good for any job that involves communication, writing and / or literary knowledge. These include: advertising, marketing, writing and journalism, law, consultancy, business, teaching, performing arts, academia, government, linguistics, foreign languages, media and design. Careers in the sciences, engineering, technology and maths also need more English than you think. Writing proposals, academic papers and articles and communicating with others is key to getting funding for projects and reaching people with your work. English Literature A-level is an essential subject for any English degree. Some Drama, Media Studies, American Studies and Law degree courses will also ask for an English Literature A-level.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Opportunities Arising from Taking this Course:

- *Aspects of Tragedy* Trip to London.
- **Theatre Trips**

### Course details:

#### Paper 1: Literary Genres

##### Content

Aspects of tragedy

This unit explores how texts can be connected through a mainstream literary genre: the aspects of Tragedy. The choice of the texts have been selected and grouped together because they share some of the features of traditional tragic drama, which have their origins in the Ancient World.

- **'King Lear' by William Shakespeare**
- **'Death of a Salesman' by Arthur Miller**
- **A selection of poetry by John Keats**

##### Assessment

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes.

Closed book

75 marks - 40% of A-level

## **Paper 2: Texts and Genres**

### **Content**

Elements of political and social protest writing

Although it could be claimed that all texts are political, what defines the texts here is that they have issues of power and powerlessness at their core, with political and social protest issues central to each text's structure. The political and social protest genre covers representations of both public and private settings.

- **'Song of Innocence and Experience' by William Blake**
- **'The Handmaid's Tale' by Margaret Atwood**
- **'The Kite Runner' by Khaled Hosseini**

*Exam will also include an unseen passage.*

### **Assessment**

Written exam: 3 hours

Open book

75 marks - 40% of A-level

## **Non-exam Assessment (coursework)**

### **Theory and Independence**

#### **Content**

Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text, informed by study of the Critical Anthology.

Two essays of 1250-1500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical Anthology. One essay can be re-creative. The re-creative piece will be accompanied by a commentary.

#### **Assessment**

- Assessed by teachers
- Moderated by AQA
- 50 marks
- 20% of A-level

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs A Onan-Read**

## French

**Level:** A Level

### **Benefits of the course:**

You will develop your understanding of themes relating to the society and culture of the countries where French is spoken, and your language skills. You will do so by using authentic spoken and written sources in French.

### **What will you study?**

#### **Core content**

- 1. Social issues and trends:** Current trends and issues: The changing nature of the family, the cyber-society, the place of voluntary work, positive features of a diverse society, life for the marginalised, how criminals are treated.
- 2. Political and artistic culture:** A culture proud of its heritage, contemporary francophone music, cinema, Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment, demonstrations, strikes, politics and immigration.
- 3. Grammar**

#### **Options**

#### **Works: Literary texts and films.**

Students will study either two texts or one text and one film from the list below:

#### **Texts:**

Molière le Tartuffe  
Voltaire Candide  
Maupassant Boule de suif et autres contes de la guerre  
Camus L'étranger  
Françoise Sagan Bonjour tristesse  
Claire Etcherelli Elise ou la vraie vie  
Joseph Joffo Un sac de bille  
Faiza Guène Kiffe kiffe demain  
Philippe Grimbert Un secret  
Delphine de Vigan No et moi

#### **Films**

Au revoir les enfants  
La haine  
L'auberge espagnole  
Un long dimanche de fiancailles  
Entre les murs  
Les 400 coups

#### **4. Individual research project**

Students will identify and research a subject or a key question which is of interest to them and which relates to a country where French is spoken. It may be linked to the themes or texts studied but students must not base their research on the text or film they refer to in their written assessment.

#### **How will you be assessed?**

All examinations will take place at the end of the two year course.

Paper one: Listening, Reading and Writing will assess the core content. 2h30 minutes. 40% of A level

Paper two: Writing will assess one text or film and grammar. 2 hours. 30% of A grade

Paper 3: Speaking will assess one sub-theme from current trends and political and artistic culture in the French speaking world, and an individual research project. 21-23 minutes. 30% of A level.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs E McMinn**

## Geography

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** AQA

**Introduction:** The AQA A level in Geography specification will excite students' minds, challenge perceptions and stimulate their investigative and analytical skills. The content includes a blend of traditional geography units and new focus areas to provide a developed experience from GCSE Geography.

### **Where does it lead?**

Geography bridges the gap between the arts and sciences. Its links with all other curriculum areas enables Geography to harmonise well with most subjects. You will gain an understanding and appreciation of the world around you and further many skills learnt at GCSE.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

#### **Component 1: Physical geography**

What's assessed?

Section A: Water and carbon cycles

Section B: Coastal systems and landscapes

Section C: Hazards

#### **Component 2: Human geography**

What's assessed?

Section A: Global systems and global governance

Section B: Changing places

Section C: either Contemporary urban environments or Population and the environment or Resource security

#### **Component 3: Geographical investigation**

Students complete 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. This should be 3,000–4,000 words. It makes up 20% of the A-level Geography grade.

### **Assessment**

Students sit two written exams in physical and human geography. Both papers are 2 hours 30 minutes and worth 96 marks. Each paper makes up 40% of the A-level Geography grade.

Question types: multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response, extended prose.

Grades are awarded A\* to E

**For further information, contact:**

**Mr A Pye**

## Diploma in Financial Studies (DipFS)

**Level:** Level 3

**Examination board:** London Institute of Banking and Finance

**Introduction:** The Diploma in Financial Studies is an Applied General qualification, for students aged 16 - 19. It provides an in-depth exploration of the concepts of financial capability and how to apply them. Within DipFS, students explore the political, economic, social, technological, ethical and legal impacts of personal finance in the short, medium and longer terms. Through this, a greater understanding of the impact that global events can have upon consumers and the wider financial services industry is developed. DipFS therefore enhances the ability to make informed financial decisions through effective planning to manage the risks and challenges involved in personal finance.

The DipFS qualification will complement a wide range of other subjects at post-16 level.

**Where does it lead?** The financially related content of this qualification serves as an excellent grounding for undergraduate study within finance and business-related disciplines, with many students going on to study accounting, business, finance and banking. The skills developed and enhanced during the course provide valuable study skills appropriate for these disciplines and others; students pursue a wide range of other undergraduate courses.

If students considering apprenticeships beyond sixth form, the DipFS would support this goal. It is primarily suited to the development of a solid foundation in personal finance that underpins employment in any field of endeavour; this foundation is across a wider range of opportunities than would be found within a single apprenticeship framework.

For students choosing to go into employment, DipFS may support employment opportunities in areas such insurance, banking, and office administration, or within the voluntary sector such as Citizens Advice.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

What will you study?

- Importance of financial capability in the immediate, short, medium and long term.
- The impact of external influences at different stages in the personal life cycle.
- Risk and reward in managing personal finance.
- Personal and external factors that lead to change.
- Maintaining financial sustainability and avoiding long-term debt.
- The financial services system and financial sustainability (individual and general).
- Marketing techniques.

DipFS is made up of four mandatory units. They are:

- Unit 1 Financial capability for the immediate and short term
- Unit 2 Financial capability for the medium and long term
- Unit 3 Sustainability of an individual's finances
- Unit 4 Sustainability of the financial services system

All four units can be assessed by paper based examination or by the LIBF e-test electronic testing system. Each unit is assessed through Part A, a combination of Multiple Choice Questions Part B, a



written paper. Part B will also assess spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG) through the essay responses.

Grades are awarded on a scale of A\*-E and carry the same UCAS tariff as A levels.

**For further information, contact:**

**Miss H Gisbourne**

## **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care**

**Level:** Level 3

**Examination board:** Pearson

**Introduction:** This qualification is ideal for anyone interested in a role in the health and social care sector, which employs almost four million people in the UK. During the course students cover a range of topics such as key job roles, the framework in which staff operate and the importance of appropriate patient care. Students will gain key skills to help them pursue a career or further education in this field.

**Where does it lead?** Past students have followed a range of careers such as nursing, paramedic science, sport science and childcare studies. Although well suited to anyone interested in pursuing a career in health and social care, the course aims to develop universal key skills such as critical thinking, collaborative working and time management.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

The course consists of four units:

- Human lifespan development
- Working in health and social care
- Meeting individual care and support needs
- Physiological disorders and their care

The course consists of two examined units and two portfolio based units. 58% of the course is externally assessed.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs V Moore**

## History

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** OCR

**Introduction:** You will develop a number of key skills which Universities and employers look for, these include: the ability to select information from a broad range of materials; evaluating and then drawing conclusions from data; preparing reasoned and structured arguments in favour or against a hypothesis; research skills; independence; analysis skills; understanding information to apply to a puzzle; communications skills both verbally and in writing; time management and prioritising of tasks; solving historical conundrums; planning and organising to complete tasks and finally the drive and determination to succeed.

**Where does this lead?** History is a popular subject and highly regarded both by employers and in further education. Studying history equips you with skills useful in a variety of occupations. Students who have studied A level at The Cottesloe School have gone on to a number of prestigious Universities including Cambridge and Kings College London.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

You will study 4 modules all of which are assessed at the end of year 13. The course covers both British and international history and covers a breadth of 200 years.

**Unit 1 Britain 1930-1997** Churchill 1930-1951.

25% of the A level and exam of one hour and 30 minutes.

**Unit 2 A non British period study.** The Crusades. Worth 15% of the A level, 1 hour exam.

**Unit 3 Thematic study and historical interpretations:** Russia and its rulers 1855- 1964. Worth 40% of the A level, a 2 hours and 30 minutes exam

**Unit 4 Coursework** Internally marked and externally moderated. 3000-4,000 word researched essay based upon an independent investigation of an historical issue, the choice of topic may be one from the other units studied or can be something the student has not studied at A level. Worth 20% of the A level.

All the courses are examined at the end of the course in year 13.

### **Resources**

Students will be required to buy texts for each of the units. You will be advised of which ones by your class teacher.

**For further information, contact**

**Mrs D Roberts**

**Head of History**

## Mathematics

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** EDEXCEL

**Introduction:** The skills developed through the study of Mathematics are in high demand from employers. In addition to developing the ability to solve problems and think logically, the study of Mathematics provides opportunities to develop team-working skills, resilience, effective communication of complex ideas and the ability to use your own initiative.

**Where does it lead?** Mathematics A level is a highly regarded qualification no matter where your future leads you. It is an essential entry requirement to Scientific, Engineering, Information Technology, Architecture, Accountancy and many other degree subjects and careers.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

A level Mathematics is a linear course with all examinations at the end of year 13. It has a simple 2:1 ratio of pure to applied content.

Component	Overview	Assessment
Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1	Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content.	2 hours 100 marks
Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2		2 hours 100 marks
Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics	Section A: Statistics Section B: Mechanics	2 hours Section A: 50 marks Section B: 50 marks

Key topic areas:

Pure maths	Statistics	mechanics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Algebra and functions</li> <li>● sequences and series</li> <li>● exponentials &amp; logarithms</li> <li>● calculus</li> <li>● coordinate geometry</li> <li>● trigonometry</li> <li>● proof</li> <li>● numerical methods</li> <li>● vectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statistical sampling</li> <li>● Data presentation</li> <li>● Probability</li> <li>● Statistical distributions</li> <li>● Statistical hypothesis testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quantities and units in mechanics</li> <li>● Kinematics</li> <li>● Forces and Newton's laws</li> <li>● moments</li> </ul>

### Resources

Students will be required to buy texts for each of the units. They will also require a more advanced calculator than used at GCSE. You will be advised of which ones by your class teacher.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs L Evans – KS5 Coordinator Mathematics**

## Further Mathematics

**Level:** A Level

**Further Mathematics can be studied at AS level or A level.**

***If you choose to study Further Maths at AS level then this will be in addition to 3 other subjects one of which must be Mathematics.***

***If you choose to study Further Maths at A level then this will be one of your 3 subject choices alongside Mathematics and one other subject.***

**Examination board:** EDEXCEL

### **Introduction:**

If you have a strong aptitude for Mathematics, then Further Mathematics is a good choice at A level. The skills that you will improve through taking this course are highly valued by universities and employers. A mathematics qualification requires students to utilise problem solving skills in combination with logic. Through its application to problems students will improve independence of thought, the ability to effectively communicate ideas, solutions will be enhanced and resilience as learners will be improved.

It is highly recommended for anyone wishing to study the subject at university and is very useful for those going into a mathematically orientated subject such as Engineering or Physics.

### **Where does it lead?**

Students with Further Mathematics commonly take up top professional careers in a wide variety of areas. These include Insurance and Actuarial Work, Finance, Management, Operational Research, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Architecture, Government, Medical or Pharmaceutical Statisticians, Business Analysts and others.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document. Note this course is taken alongside A level Mathematics.

### **Course details:**

**Further Mathematics is a linear course. All exams will be taken at the end of the course.**

Students will take a mix of pure and applied options. Pure topics from A Level Mathematics are extended to a higher level, whilst new topics studied include complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions. Applied topics may contain Statistics (including regression, chi-squared tests and confidence intervals), or Mechanics (including collisions, elasticity and circular motion), or broaden their study into the new area of Decision Mathematics (including algorithms, CPA, linear programming, dynamic programming and game theory).

### **AS level**

Each paper makes up 50% of the final grade.

Component	Overview	Assessment
Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics	Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors	1hour 40 minutes 80 marks

Paper 2 : Further Mathematics options	Students select 2 units from further pure, mechanics, statistics and decision	1hour 40 minutes Section A: 40 marks Section B: 40 marks
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### **A level**

Each paper makes up 25% of the final grade.

Component	Overview	Assessment
Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1	Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equation	1hour 30 minutes 75 marks
Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2		1 hour 30 minutes 75 marks
Paper 3: Further Mathematics option 1	Students take one of the following 4 options: A: Further Pure Mathematics 1 B: Further Statistics 1 C: Further Mechanics 1 D: Decision Mathematics 1	1hour 30 minutes 75 marks
Paper 4 : Further Mathematics option 2	Students take one of the following 7 options: A: Further Pure Mathematics 2 B: Further Statistics 1 C: Further Mechanics 1 D: Decision Mathematics 1 E: Further Statistics 2 F: Further Mechanics 2 G: Decision Mathematics 2	1hour 30 minutes 75 marks

### **Resources**

Students will be required to buy texts for each of the units. They will also require a more advanced calculator than used at GCSE. You will be advised of which ones by your class teacher.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs L Evans – KS5 Coordinator Mathematics**

## BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

**Level:** Level 3

**Examination board:** Pearson (EDEXCEL)

**Introduction:** This is an ideal course for performers who are interested in collaboration and writing about the Performing Arts. The qualification allows actors, dancers and singers to explore the work of practitioners and to write an exploratory essay about this. Musicians who are interested in Musical Theatre may also enjoy this programme, which will enable you to develop the professionalism required for a career in the Performing Arts industry. A significant amount of the work is a reflective journal and portfolio documenting your progress as a developing performer. Performers will develop training programmes to improve their specialist discipline and present a demonstration of this.

**Where does it lead?** On successful completion you will be well prepared for a career in the Performing Arts or to pursue further training in your chosen specialism.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

This is a Level 3 National Extended Certificate equivalent to 1 A level.

There are 3 mandatory units:

- Year 12: Investigating Practitioners' Work (externally assessed written essay of 2,000 words)
- Year 12: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance (internally assessed)
- Year 13: Group Performance Work

For assessment in 2022, you will also complete the following unit from the list of options.

- Year 13: Variety Performance including a performance and written reflection

**For further information, contact:**

**A member of the Performing Arts Team.**



## Physics

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** OCR

**Introduction:** The A level Physics course will prove fascinating to anyone who has an interest in how the world around us works, from the very small: quantum phenomena and particle physics, to the very large: astrophysics and relativity, there are topics to engage the most inquisitive minds. Perhaps you have heard about the recent discovery of the Higgs Boson (CERN) or maybe you are a keen astronomer with a real interest in space; if so this is the course for you...

**Where does it lead?** Physics will help you to build up your problem solving, research, and analytical skills. With these skills you'll be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other people's theories, which is useful for any kind of job that involves research or debate.

Physics is a seriously useful subject for the majority of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) careers and you'll find physicists everywhere, in industry, transport, government, universities, the armed forces, the secret service, games companies, research labs and more.

Physics is especially helpful for jobs that involve building things and developing new technologies, including: engineering, astronomy, robotics, renewable energies, computer science, communications, space exploration, science writing, sports and games technology, research and nanotechnology (that's engineering on a seriously tiny molecular scale).

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

You will also need to provide your own text book for the course.

### **Course details:**

There are 6 units that all students have to study.

Module 1 – Practical Skills

Module 2 – Foundations of Physics

Module 3 – Forces and Motion

Module 4 – Electrons, Waves and Photons

Module 5 – Newtonian World and Astrophysics

Module 6 – Particles and Medical Physics

Students will be assessed in three written exams at the end of the course and will also receive a practical endorsement which is reported separately

**For further information, contact:**

**Mr B Garland – Head of Science/Physics**



## Psychology

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** AQA

**Introduction:** Psychology is a popular subject which is attractive to students because it develops a range of valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

### Where does it lead?

These skills are particularly relevant to young people and are transferable to further study or the workplace. This qualification offers students an engaging and stimulating introduction to the study of psychology, combined with the academic integrity and skills that Higher Education and employers value. Careers are many and varied from clinical, health or educational psychology to the criminal justice sector. However, studying psychology will benefit any career path.

### What do I need?

Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

#### Compulsory content

1 Social influence, 2 Memory, 3 Attachment, 4 Psychopathology, 5 Approaches in Psychology, 6 Biopsychology, 7 Research methods and 8 Issues and debates in Psychology

OPTION GROUPS	ASSESSMENT
<b>Option 1</b> 9 Relationships, 10 Gender, 11 Cognition and development	<b>Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology</b> Written exam; 2 hours 96 marks 33.3% of A-level Compulsory 1 – 4
<b>Option 2</b> 12 Schizophrenia, 13 Eating behaviour, 14 Stress	<b>Paper 2: Psychology in Context</b> Written exam; 2 hours 96 marks 33.3% of A-level Compulsory 5 – 7
<b>Option 3</b> 15 Aggression, 16 Forensic Psychology, 17 Addiction	<b>Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology</b> Written exam; 2 hours 96 marks 33.3% of A-level Compulsory 8 and optional content: one topic from each option group

### Assessment

In the form of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.

### For further information, contact:

**Mrs A Kokuti**

## Religious Studies – Philosophy and Ethics

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** AQA

**Introduction:** The aims of the course are to study core philosophical, theological and ethical theories and learn to evaluate them critically. Through the study of Philosophy and Ethics students will develop the ability to formulate and structure an argument, identify and draw out weaknesses and to express themselves logically and with precision.

**Where does it lead?** An A Level in Philosophy of Religion and Ethics is highly regarded by universities and is excellent preparation for degrees in Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies, PPE Sociology and Law. Graduates in these subjects may go on to careers in Law, Civil Service, Foreign Office and Teaching. The Ethical theories studied in this A Level are also highly relevant to degrees in Medicine, Science and Business.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

#### **Philosophy of Religion**

You will study classical arguments for the existence of God, the Problem of Evil, and the relationship between Religion and Science.

#### **Religious Ethics**

You will study what it means to be good, how a good action is decided and how to apply this to ethical issues.

#### **Christianity**

You will study the religious beliefs, teachings, values and practices of Christianity, with reference to its place in contemporary society.

You will be assessed by 2 exams, each 3 hours long, using extended essay writing skills.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs E Redman and Miss Lay**

## **BTEC National Extended Certificate in Applied Science**

**Level:** Level 3

**Examination board:** EDEXCEL

**Introduction:** The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post-16 students wanting to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education, and ultimately to employment, possibly in the applied science sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to one A level and makes up a third of a typical study programme, normally alongside other A level or vocational qualifications at level 3.

**Where does it lead?** A BTEC in Applied Science will prepare you for a career in the applied science sector. This can include biomedical, forensic and physical and chemical sciences. You will also be prepared to enter high education for courses related to applied science such as nursing, environmental science and sport science among others.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### **Course details:**

There are 4 units that are studied over the two years:

Unit 1: Principles and applications of science (assessed by exam)

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (assessed by internal assignments)

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills (assessed by external assignments)

Unit 8: Physiology of human body systems (assessed by internal assignments)

Assignments are assessed continually throughout the year with the exception of unit 1 which is assessed in 3 short exams in January of Year 12 and a practical assessment for Unit 3 at the end of Year 13.

You will achieve a Pass, Merit or Distinction for each unit and as an overall grade at the completion of the course.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs Beatty and Mrs Woodburn**

## Sociology

**Level:** A Level

**Examination board:** AQA

**Introduction:** Our qualification offers an engaging and effective introduction to Sociology. Students develop knowledge and understanding about society and its academic study. Our course will help students understand society's structures, processes and issues. Sociology is exciting, interesting and relevant to students' lives.

**Where does it lead?** The course has close links with higher education and the British Sociological Association (BSA). This helps students to progress to further study and employment such as undergraduate studies in sociology, social policy or criminology. Careers include all areas of the criminal justice system, social services and careers within both local and central government.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Course details:

	ASSESSMENT
<b>Paper 1</b> <b>Education and Theory and Methods</b>	Written exam; 2 hours 80 marks 33.3% of A-level
<b>Paper 2</b> <b>Families and Households and Beliefs in Society</b>	Written exam; 2 hours 80 marks 33.3% of A-level
<b>Paper 3</b> <b>Crime and Deviance with Theory</b>	Written exam; 2 hours 80 marks 33.3% of A-level

### **Assessment**

In the form of short answer and extended writing.

**For further information, contact:**

**Miss C Cowley and Miss M Lay**

## **BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport**

**Level:** Level 3

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Introduction:** The Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post 16 students wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the sporting sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A Level. And aims to provide a coherent introduction to the study of Sport and Physical Education. Students wishing to take this BTEC will have successfully completed a level 2 programme of learning with GCSEs or vocational qualifications.

**Where does it lead?** The extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the sporting sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

**Course details:** There are many different career paths for those who wish to work within the sporting sector. These include, Sports Coaching, Fitness Instruction, Sports Media, Physical Education, Sports Psychology, and Physiotherapy.

The course content has been developed to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. The course will be delivered over 4 units, 2 externally assessed and 2 internally assessed, they are:

### Externally Assessed

1. Anatomy and Physiology
2. Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

### Internally Assessed

1. Professional development in the Sports Industry
2. Sports Psychology

The course is assessed both internally and externally. Anatomy and Physiology is a written exam, whilst Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being will be a synoptic assessment. This will also be externally marked. The remaining units will be assignment based and assessed internally.

**For further information, contact:**

**Mr A Curtis**

## Core Maths - Level 3 Mathematical Studies (AS qualification)

Examination Board: AQA

***This is a supplementary course which would be studied in addition to 3 A levels or their equivalent.***

**Introduction:** Core Maths is a new Level 3 qualification for students who wish to develop their practical skills so they may apply these in work, study or everyday life. The qualification is designed to prepare students for the mathematical demands of further study and employment. The course includes elements of financial mathematics, statistics, probability and estimation. Core Maths supports other A Level courses such as Sciences, Geography, Business, Psychology and Social Sciences and is strongly recommended for students who are studying these subjects but not taking A Level Maths. Core Maths will also be useful preparation for university where Maths or Statistics may be required.

**Why is it useful?** Mathematics skills are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education. Core Maths is about students doing meaningful mathematical problems to increase their confidence in using mathematics in addition to being better equipped for the mathematical demands of other courses, higher education and employment.

**What do I need?** Please see the Course Requirements document.

### Exam information:

Core Maths is designed to be studied over 1 year with all assessments at the end of the course. There is a compulsory element which includes financial maths, statistics, probability and estimation, and an optional element where students can choose between statistical techniques, critical path and risk analysis or Graphical techniques.

Preliminary material is made available from 1<sup>st</sup> March to help students prepare for the exam.

	What is assessed?	
Paper 1	Analysis of data Maths for personal finance Estimation	1 hour 30 minutes 60 marks
Paper 2	Critical analysis of data Optional content (statistical techniques, critical path and risk analysis or graphical techniques)	1 hour 30 minutes 60 Marks

**For further information, contact:**

**Mrs B Williamson**

## **AQA Extended Project Qualification**

EPQ is a qualification in addition to your A Level studies credited with UCAS points. EPQ aims to boost your skills such as independent research and organisation. You can study an area of personal interest; a topic related to your existing subjects (but outside of the curriculum), or research a subject that is entirely new. You must plan, deliver and present your project work.

### **What format does the project take?**

- A 5000 word essay/report

OR

- An artefact (e.g. model, sculpture, computer game) and a written report of at least 1000 words

OR

- A performance/production (e.g. drama production, sports event) and a written report of at least 1000 words

### **Why do an EPQ?**

- Improve academic skills, research skills and gain better A Level grades
- Develop confidence in using new technologies
- Applying skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise
- Skills developed on the EPQ programme are transferable across all A Level subjects
- Makes a UCAS application stronger
- Previous students have commented on how the EPQ has helped them to improve their higher level thinking, synthesis, evaluation, written fluency, oral communication and more
- It's worth extra UCAS points (e.g. A\* gains 24 points, A gains 30 points, B gains 16 points, C gains 12 points, D gains 8 points and E gains 4 points.)
- Universities recognise the advantages of the EPQ experience for potential undergraduates
- Employability skills e.g. develop and improve own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent learners, develop and apply decision making and problem solving skills and extend planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, evaluation and presentation skills.

### **For further information, contact:**

**Mrs A Kokuti**

