

SIXTH FORM COURSE INFORMATION **2022-24**

ROYAL
ALEXANDRA
& ALBERT
SCHOOL





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The Sixth Form at the Royal Alexandra and Albert School is focused on developing a well-rounded student who is ready to not only meet their future head on and be an integral part of the world around them but also, crucially, to change it. To make their mark, to have a voice and to be heard. The skills, personal education and academic focus we strive to instil work to develop each of these goals.

Having spent two years with us undertaking either studies in BTECs or A Levels, students will be well equipped to understand and facilitate their professional future. They will have all the skills and qualities to succeed as an undergraduate or on a top-level apprenticeship. Our bespoke Futures Programme gives them the guidance and structure needed to make the right, informed decisions about their future.

Education at Sixth Form is about academic success but this only comes when students are given the opportunity to learn about themselves and their future. The Royal Alexandra and Albert School offers a holistic programme under the umbrella of the 'Global Leaders Award' whereby students are encouraged to take part in the community: volunteer, lead and get involved across the school. Upon leaving us, our students are able to negotiate personal life and have an awareness of their psychological and emotional wellbeing.

The Sixth Form Team





Mr David Brackpool - Director of Sixth Form

Mr Brackpool has 12 years' experience teaching and leading various aspects of Sixth Form. He runs the Extended Project Qualification and Global Perspectives courses as well as teaching Literature, Film and Sociology. He has been a Head of Year 12, Head of Year 13 and a tutor across all age groups. Mr Brackpool graduated from the University of Sussex and UCL with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Masters degrees in both English Literature and Psychoanalysis.



Mr Alistair Phillips - Head of Year 13

Mr Phillips has been teaching for 15 years and has over ten years' experience teaching at A Level. He has been a Head of Citizenship, Head of A Level Literature and taught English Language, English Literature and Global Perspectives at A Level. He has also been a Housemaster and has over 15 years' experience working in the boarding community and pastoral care. Mr Phillips graduated from the University of Concordia in 2003 with a BA in English Literature and Classical Civilisations and gained his teaching qualification with the University of Southampton in 2007.



Miss Laura Willighan - Head of Year 12

Miss Willighan has over 10 years' experience teaching at A Level. She has been a Head of History and been an EPQ Co-ordinator. She has been a Head of Sixth Form in a British Curriculum School overseas, gaining invaluable pastoral experience especially within an international context. Miss Willighan graduated from Queen's University Belfast with a joint History and English Degree and holds a MA from Nottingham University specialising in Inclusion and Special Needs within education.



PASTORAL CARE

At the Royal Alexandra and Albert School we pride ourselves on our exceptional level of pastoral care. Every Sixth Form student is allocated a personal tutor who is their main point of contact throughout their time in the Sixth Form. The Head of Year monitors student progression and facilitates support or intervention whenever this is needed.

There is an open-door policy in the Sunley Sixth Form Centre, where a member of the Sixth Form team is on hand from 8am to 8pm throughout the working week. For pupils who require further support, the Sixth Form team has regular one-to-one meetings.

Students' development is supported with bespoke outside lectures on Personal, Social, Health, Economic and Relationship education, as well as information on future pathways and the professional world. Lectures and the provision on offer are regularly reviewed to accommodate our students' changing needs.

In recent years, we have developed close links with apprenticeship professionals to inform our students of choices in addition to the university route, whilst maintaining all the information required for Russell Group applications.



BOARDING FACILITIES

Boarding is a large part of life at this School. 64% of Sixth Form students are full boarders and 36% are non-boarders. The School has nine boarding houses, with four houses providing Sixth Form accommodation in dedicated annexes where students have an individual room or share with one other Sixth Form student. Gatton Hall, the flagship Sixth Form house, was recently renovated and is exclusively for the use of Sixth Form students. It is situated in the School's Grade II listed building and consists of spacious shared dorms.

There are various facilities open to boarders and non-boarders at different times during the week and weekend, including all sporting facilities such as the purpose-built fitness suite, swimming pool and dance studio.



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & BOARDERS TRIPS PROGRAMME

Life in the RAA Sixth Form is about more than academics; we also focus on students' co-curricular life and the skills they can gain in participating in additional activities. Our Co-Curricular provision is extensive. There are over 140 clubs and activities on offer every term, with many activities dedicated for Sixth Formers only.

Students are able to volunteer across the School, including in the Junior School, as well as in the Co-Curricular Programme where they can help run and even create clubs of their own. The School's aim is to develop well-rounded students who are academically able but community focused. Involvement in the co-curricular life of the School is also a great way for students to build experiences to add to their university personal statements or CVs.

There is a Boarders Trip Programme with weekly trips to a variety of academic and leisure facilities in and around the area, from the very popular Thorpe Park Fright Night trips to the annual ski trip.



ENGLISH AND MATHS RE-SIT

If you find yourself in a position where you need to re-sit either your English or Math GCSE, this can be organised through extra sessions on top of your A Level timetable. These will be organised lessons taught by our very able English and Maths departments.



STUDY SUPPORT

The Sunley Sixth Form Centre and the School's ICT suites cater for nearly 200 students, allowing students access to study spaces. After school we encourage pupils to stay for a further period to do their prep, revision or complete group work. The access to Sixth Form study facilities enables students who need the framework of quiet, in-school working areas to have additional support for their studies. Weekly lessons with the Head of Year are offered to further support students with study skills.



POST 18 PROVISION (UCAS / APPRENTICESHIPS / PSHE):

The Sixth Form aims to provide students with detailed knowledge of post-18 options and giving them the tools to excel in adult life. With this in mind, our post-18 programme is twofold:

Firstly, students are guided through their immediate post-18 options. This includes information about, and support for, UCAS and Apprenticeship applications, trips to universities for talks from admissions tutors, as well as guided seminars from industry professionals on the apprenticeship process. This support continues until the submission of the UCAS application or the myriad of apprenticeship applications a student may make.

Secondly, alongside trips, lectures and personal guidance, we support students by introducing them to the world of work and the world beyond formal education. There is information and lectures about the workplace, being a homeowner, managing finances, and how students can look after their emotional and physical wellbeing in a demanding world. All this is delivered by experienced and knowledgeable Heads of Year, a team of outstanding tutors, a network of external industry professionals and former students.



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION & GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PRE-U

In a highly competitive post-18 world, when applying for universities, apprenticeships or jobs, students need to stand out. Students at the Royal Alexandra and Albert School do so by sitting an extra qualification at A level.

Students may sit either the Extended Project Qualification (an independent 5,000-word research project) or the Global Perspectives Pre-U Course (exam and coursework based), both of which offer skills and insights that will be of practical benefit to their futures.

For the EPQ, students embark on independent research, mirroring undergraduate studies and putting together a research based mini dissertation. This will highlight to competitive universities not only their skill set but their enthusiasm for their chosen subject.



For the Global Perspectives Pre-U, students embark on a journey across multiple areas of global concern, looking at arguments both for and against issues surrounding climate change, artificial intelligence and the role of belief in society. Here they will hone skills of argument and analysis, again, gaining an advantage in their application to competitive courses. As well as the academic benefits, our students will stand out as globally aware students, aware of the challenges we face in the world and with ideas on how to combat them.





SUBJECT	ENTRY CRITERIA	ADDITIONAL NOTES
Sixth Form Entry Criteria - 5 GCSEs at Grade 4-9 including Maths and English. Students who do not secure a Grade 4 In GCSE English and Maths will be able to retake those alongside their chosen Sixth Form courses.		
Art and Design	Grade 5 in GCSE Art & Design (if studied)	
Biology	Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or 7/7 in Double Award Science and 6 in GCSE Mathematics	
Business Studies	A Merit or grade 5 in GCSE Business Studies (if studied) and 5 in both GCSE English and Mathematics	No requirement to have studied Business previously. Cannot be studied with Economics
Business BTEC	Sixth Form entry criteria	No requirement to have studied Business previously. Cannot be studied with Economics
Chemistry	Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or 7/7 in Double Award Science and 6 in GCSE Mathematics	
Computing	Grade 5 in GCSE Computing or ICT (if studied) and 6 in GCSE Mathematics	No requirement to have studied Computing previously. Cannot be studied with IT
Drama and Theatre Studies	Grade 5 in GCSE Drama (if studied)	
Economics	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and English	No requirement to have studied Economics previously. Cannot be studied with Business
English Literature	Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature	
Film Studies	Sixth Form entry criteria	No requirement to have studied Film Studies previously
French	Grade 6 in GCSE French	
Geography	Grade 6 in GCSE Geography	
Health & Social Care BTEC	Sixth Form entry criteria	Cannot be studied with Sociology



SUBJECT	ENTRY CRITERIA	ADDITIONAL NOTES
History	Grade 6 in GCSE History	
IT	Sixth Form entry criteria	Cannot be studied with Computing
Mathematics	Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics	
Mathematics – Further	Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics	A Level Maths should be studied alongside Further Maths
Media BTEC	Sixth Form entry criteria	
Music	Grade 5 in GCSE Music	Professional vocal or instrumental tuition taken
Physics	Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or 7/7 in Double Award Science and 7 in GCSE Mathematics	
Politics	Sixth Form entry criteria	
Product Design	Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or Art	
Psychology	Sixth Form entry criteria including grade 6 in Science	
Sociology	Sixth Form entry criteria	Cannot be studied with health and Social Care
Spanish	Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish	
Sport BTEC	Grade 4 at GCSE PE (if studied) plus a 4-4 in Science	

International Level 2 qualifications will be matched to UK GCSEs using NARIC. Equivalent grades will be used as entry criteria.

A subject will only be considered viable to run if there are sufficient numbers of students wishing to take the subject.



This course encourages your creative side and is a great deal of fun! With the creative economy booming this is a fantastic time for you to be involved in the arts. You can work in any artistic media, thereby supporting your individual area of interest. From the start, you are introduced to a broad range of artistic disciplines, including fine art drawing, painting and printmaking, including 3D art and ceramics, textiles and photography. You will work to a brief set by the department but are always encouraged to work independently to build up confidence in your own work and progression.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 5 in GCSE Art and Design (if studied).

COURSE OVERVIEW

Non Examined Assessment (NEA): Identity

Unit 1: Illustrated Essay/Personal Project

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Students wishing to study an art related degree are usually expected to complete a Foundation Course on completion of A Level Art.

Art can be used in a range of employment areas: Art Gallery and Museums, Education, Media, Interior Design, Freelance, Artist Advisory roles.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Biology is an exciting science which could allow you to develop the essential skills that any good scientist should have, from planning experiments, making and recording accurate measurements and analysing data. Biology is the natural science concerned with the study of life and living organisms, including their structure, function, growth, origin, evolution, distribution, and taxonomy. You will engage in a variety of learning activities during your study of Biology, including individual practical work, small group exercises, online research and presentation, whole-class teaching and peer assessment.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or 7/7 in Double Award Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Development of practical skills in Biology

Unit 2: Foundations in Biology

Unit 3: Exchange and transport

Unit 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Unit 5: Communication, homeostasis and energy

Unit 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Practicals (PAGS):

As there is no longer a coursework element, practical skills will be assessed within lessons and the exams. The skills demonstrated within lessons will go towards the practical endorsement certificate which is either a Pass or Fail.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Possible career options include biochemist, doctor, nurse, dentist, geneticist, radiography, physiotherapy, nutritionist, vet and agriculture to name but a few. Others go on to careers in computing, accounting or teaching. Students who study Biology can also use the essential skills learnt in many other careers such as law and business studies.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





This course will develop students' understanding of the range of activities businesses undertake to compete and be successful in the local, national and global economy.

ENTRY CRITERIA

A Merit or Grade 5 Business Studies (if studied) and Grade 5 in both GCSE Mathematics and English. No requirement to have studied Business previously. Cannot be studied with Economics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course aims to take a holistic approach to the subject and demonstrate the inter-related nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations. The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society. Students will develop an understanding of:

- meeting customer needs
- the market
- marketing mix and strategy
- managing people
- entrepreneurs and leaders
- raising finance
- financial planning
- managing finance
- resource management
- external influences
- business objectives and strategy
- business growth
- decision-making techniques
- influences on business decisions
- assessing competitiveness
- managing change
- globalisation
- global markets and business expansion
- global marketing
- global industries and companies (multinational corporations).

Students will be expected to keep up to date with news and business affairs.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

The subject can lead to degrees in Business Management, Finance, Marketing, Leisure Management and careers such as an Accountant, Retail Manager, Civil Servant, Teacher/Lecturer or setting up your own business.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Business BTEC takes a practical look at the business world and tests and develops students' employability skills such as time management, communication, problem solving and planning. This course aims to provide you with a sound, basic business education showing how many factors shape the nature of organisations operating in an increasingly complex business world.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria.

No requirement to have studied Business previously. Cannot be studied with Economics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Exploring Business

Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign

Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance

Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection Process

FUTURE PROGRESSION

This course is suitable for those seeking to further their studies at university and a range of careers in industry, commerce and public administration. Marketing Manager, Public Sector Manager, Accounting or setting up their own business.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Chemistry A Level builds upon the knowledge gained at GCSE but goes much further. The course allows you to develop a range of skills such as problem-solving, analysis and effective communication. Handling data is a key component of this course and you will build up practical skills as well as secure knowledge relating to Health and Safety. The course requires students to select the most appropriate methods for the investigative activities.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or 7/7 in Double Award Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Development of practical skills in Chemistry

Unit 2: Foundations in Chemistry

Unit 3: Periodic Table and energy

Unit 4: Core organic Chemistry

Unit 5: Physical Chemistry and transition elements

Unit 6: Organic Chemistry and analysis

FUTURE PROGRESSION

UK Higher Education institutions currently offer over 200 courses where Chemistry is the primary subject. Some courses can include study in other related areas. Examples include Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry, Chemistry with Forensic Science and Toxicology, Chemistry with Pharmacology. In addition, a number of other courses either specifically require or find it desirable to have an A Level in Chemistry. These include courses such as Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Biological Sciences, Environmental Science, Pharmacy and Dentistry.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





This course puts computational thinking at its core, helping you to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand human and machine intelligence. It also allows you to apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real world systems in an exciting and engaging manner. You will develop a comprehensive understanding of computer skills, knowledge of the subject and the impact of technology on society and it will also help with the capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 5 in GCSE Computing or ICT (if studied) and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics. No requirement to have studied Computing previously. Cannot be studied with IT.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Computing Principles

Unit 2: Algorithms and Problem Solving

Unit 3: Computing Systems

Unit 4: Algorithms and Programming

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Computing can be studied at university and there are many other undergraduate and postgraduate courses such as Computer Science, Games Software Development, Information Systems Security, Business Information Systems, Computer Security with Forensics, Business and ICT, Computing Management, Computing, Games Software Development, Software Engineering, Network Management and Design, Information Technology with Business Studies, and Computer and Information Security. Students can also follow a Modern Apprenticeship in the computing industry, or with an employer which has a large computing or information technology function.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Drama and Theatre Studies combines academic and practical skills in equal measure. The course offers you the opportunity to study the work of theatrical practitioners, analyse a range of texts and create your own productions utilising performance, design and directorial skills. It is a broad subject, which enables you to think critically and work practically, whilst engaging with historical, social and cultural learning.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 5 in GCSE Drama (if studied).

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Drama and Theatre

Unit 2: Creating Original Drama

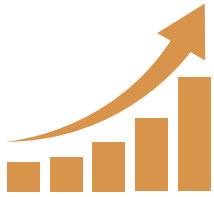
Unit 3: Making Theatre

FUTURE PROGRESSION

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies is useful if you are considering higher education in any arts or humanities subject including Performing Arts, Acting, Theatre Design, Stage Management, Lighting Design, Costume Design, Education/Teaching, English Language or Literature, Media and Film Studies, Journalism, Communication Studies. It can also be a good foundation for a career in Performance, Arts Management or Administration, Production Design, Media/Journalism, Education, Public Relations, Personnel or Retail Management, Journalism, Creative Writing, Marketing, Sales, Media, Law.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





This course aims to enable you to develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, the subject through an appreciation of the contribution that economics makes to the wider economic and social environment. By taking this course you will develop analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes that will equip you for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and English.

No requirement to have studied Economics previously. Cannot be studied with Business.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Introduction to markets and market failure

Unit 2: The UK economy - focusing on performance and policies

Unit 3: Business behaviour and the labour market

Unit 4: A global perspective

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Degrees can be taken in Economics, Finance, Business Management, Social Policy, History and careers as an Economist, Financial Risk Analyst, Accountant, Actuary, Statistician, Civil Servant.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





The power of literature cannot be underestimated and this course explores connections of social and political protest across a range of literary texts, providing abstract thought to aspects of tragedy through the study of prose, poetry and drama. You will be encouraged to respond imaginatively and independently to the written word fostering sophisticated literacy skills, fluency and clarity in discussion and written presentation.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Throughout this course, you will develop intellectual creativity and critical appreciation of how writers shape meaning within their texts, while aiming to craft responses to passage-based as well as whole text analytical questions spanning a significant range of the English Literary Heritage.

Unit 1: Literary Genres: Aspects of Tragedy, Drama

Unit 2: Literary Genres: Aspects of Tragedy, Prose and Poetry

Unit 3: Literary Genres

Unit 4: Texts and Genres

Non Examination Assessment (NEA): Theory and Independence – 2 essays of 1500 words each

FUTURE PROGRESSION

This subject can be used to pursue many different careers and these are some that would apply - Speech and Language Therapy; Education; Academic Research; Forensic Speech Science; Marketing and Communications; Publishing; Broadcast and Journalism; Librarianship; Law; Local Government and Public Office; Finance and Accountancy.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Film Studies gives you the technical skills to be recognised on any media platform from 3 minute TikToks to full length movies, you'll be able to stand out. You'll also get the analytical tools to criticise and offer informed opinions on the films you watch and the stories you see. You'll build opinions on subjects that surround film, like the raging debate between Digital and 45mm film; will you be with George Lucas and cheer on Star Wars or back Tarantino and champion the older ways through the Hateful Eight? In short, Film Studies offers you an engaging subject through a multicultural mix of a range of genres, actors and films.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria.

No requirement to have studied Film Studies previously.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Units: Ideology, the Auteur, Old and New Hollywood, Global Film, Silent Film, Documentary Film and Experimental Film.

Texts include: Pulp Fiction, Trainspotting, Sightseers, La La Land, Buster Keaton Short, Blade Runner, Psycho, Captain Fantastic and many more used to teach the medium of film.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Undergraduate courses in a variety of disciplines but specifically progression to English, Media, History, Law and, of course, Film.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





French A Level covers a variety of topics which will deepen your knowledge and love of language. French is a world language, with more than 300 million people speaking French on the five continents. It is a language for the international job market, it is the language of culture and of travel. By taking A Level French you will be opening up the world, by not only learning the French language but also culture and history.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 6 in GCSE French.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Listening, reading comprehension and writing which is a translation from French to English

Unit 2: Writing essay on a book and a film and a translation from English to French

Unit 3: Speaking: discussion on a stimulus card and presentation and discussion of an independent research project

FUTURE PROGRESSION

You will be able to pursue your interests in French at university, either as a specialist or in conjunction with another subject. Employment and career opportunities are greatly enhanced for applicants who can demonstrate a higher level of linguistic competence. With the knowledge of a foreign language, you can pursue a wide range of careers in Law, Finance and Business, Travel and Tourism, Translator and Interpreter and Teaching.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Geography is a diverse and engaging subject that covers issues relevant to our world today. A range of technologies is used for areas such as fieldwork which can be undertaken on any area of the specification content. Our A Level Geography qualification will develop your understanding of physical and human geography from a local through to a global scale. You will develop practical fieldwork skills as you explore and think critically about the interactions between people and the environment and the issues arising.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 6 in GCSE Geography.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Landscape Systems – Coasts & Earth's Life Support Systems

Unit 2: Human Interactions – Changing Spaces; making places, Global Migration & Human Rights

Unit 3: Geographical Debates – Hazardous Earth (including synoptic links) and Diseases

Unit 4: Non Examined Assessment (NEA)

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Geography is a fantastic option for many careers or university courses. It is an indicator of an able, well-rounded student who can work with numbers and text; is organised; works well as part of a team, synthesises and argues well. Geography is also useful for related courses such as Geology, Architecture and Development Studies.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Taking the Health & Social Care course will give you the chance to build an awareness and understanding of contemporary issues in health and social care as well as learn skills essential for higher education and the world of work. This course aims to provide you with work-related learning, giving you an edge and opening the door to higher education or employment in the healthcare or social care sectors.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria. Cannot be studied with Sociology.

COURSE OVERVIEW

There are a total of 4 units:

Unit 1: Human lifespan development

Unit 2: Working in Health and Social care

Unit 5: Meeting individual care and support needs

Unit 10: Sociological Perspectives

FUTURE PROGRESSION

With Health & Social Care you may decide to take up a place at university studying one of a number of degrees related to this subject. Popular courses include Nursing, Midwifery, Speech and Language Therapy, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Teaching. A qualification in Health & Social Care will provide essential knowledge of the industry and help prepare students for Higher Education or the world of work.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





The best reason for taking History at A Level is that the past fascinates you. The study of History involves the discovery and exploration of worlds and minds very different from our own. It will enable you to confront challenging and complex problems and give you the critical thinking and problem solving skills to make sense of these. History also provides us with opportunities to understand the world we live in today; after all, the past is the source of our political, social and ethical ideals.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 6 in GCSE History.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Britain 1930–1997 with a source enquiry of Churchill 1930–1951

Unit 2: The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774–1815

Unit 3: Russia and its Rulers, 1855–1964

Non Examined Assessment (NEA): A personal and independent study of the student's choice; 3,000–4,000 word essay.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

History A Level is a sought-after qualification due to the skills that you will develop during your course of study. Universities and employers will know that a student with an A Level in History can: gather and read different kinds of information; read maps, graphs and other diagrams; communicate clearly and argue a point of view through. Such skills are invaluable to a range of careers and fields, such as media, law and advertising. These skills can be useful in business or even accountancy.

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The IT course is not just about being able to use computers; it is designed to give you a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in the context of applied IT; thereby providing you with the opportunity to enter an apprenticeship, move directly into employment, or progress to a related Higher Education (HE) course.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria. Cannot be studied with Computing.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Mandatory units (Year 1)

- Essentials of IT
- Cyber Security and Global Information

Options (Year 2 – these will be confirmed at the end of the first year)

- IT Infrastructure Technician
- Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner
- Application Developer
- Data Analyst

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Higher Education related courses: Business and ICT, Teaching, Computer Science, ICT, Electronic Engineering, Computer Information Systems, Computer Networking, Web Technologies, Multimedia Design. Career related options include: IT Infrastructure Technician, Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner, Application Developer and Data Analyst.

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Mathematics at A Level is so much more than numbers. This subject offers a number of transferable skills including logical skills, problem solving and analysis.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Mathematics A Level comprises several different modules, both pure and applied, including mechanics and statistics. Topics such as geometry, calculus, trigonometry and algebra are covered in the Core modules and form part of the fundamental mathematical toolkit required for this course. Abstract reasoning, logic in problem solving and the ability to perform algebraic manipulation are key skills required for studying this subject.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Degrees in Mathematics, Statistics, Applied Mathematics, Computing, Engineering, Actuarial Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Industrial Mathematics, Finance or Mathematics Education can be followed. Career paths to follow are varied and can include Accountant, IT Consultant, Teacher, Engineer, Quantitative Analyst, Actuary, Financial Consultant, Statistician, Quantity Surveyor.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Do you love Maths? Do you want to do more Maths?
The mathematics studied in this subject is beyond that required for the standard A Level Mathematics course.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics.

A Level Mathematics should also be studied alongside Further Mathematics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

New topics are introduced such as Complex Numbers, Matrices, Co-ordinate Systems, Polar Co-ordinates and Hyperbolic Functions. Topics already met in the single A Level Mathematics course (such as Calculus and its applications, Vectors and Proof) are further extended.

Unit 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1

Unit 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2

Unit 3: Further Mathematics 1

Unit 4: Further Mathematics 2

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Degrees in Mathematics, Statistics, Applied Mathematics, Computing, Engineering, Actuarial Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Industrial Mathematics, Finance or Mathematics Education can be followed. Career paths to follow are varied and can include Accountant, IT Consultant, Teacher, Engineer, Quantitative Analyst, Actuary, Financial Consultant, Statistician, Quantity Surveyor.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





**“Whoever controls the media, controls the mind”
– Jim Morrison**

This course provides a coherent introduction to the study of creative digital media. You will develop an understanding of the media industry through analysing media representations and pitching and producing media projects.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Media Representations – Mandatory Unit – Assessed Externally

Unit 4: Pre-Production Portfolio – Mandatory Unit – Assessed Internally

Unit 8: Responding to a Commission – Mandatory Unit – Assessed Externally

Unit 14: Digital Media Production – Optional Unit – Assessed Internally

FUTURE PROGRESSION

The media sector never stays still both in terms of film and editing online digital content. This dynamic industry affords a wealth of employment opportunities. This course seeks to provide a basic skill set that can be further developed through apprenticeship or degree level study as well as direct access into the workplace.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





An A Level in Music provides a contemporary, accessible and creative education in Music with an integrated approach to the three main elements – Performing, Composing and Appraising. Students are encouraged to be creative and to broaden their musical horizons and understanding with new areas of study that inspire and challenge. Areas of study include Western Classical Music, Rock & Pop, Musical Theatre and Jazz music.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 5 in GCSE Music with vocal or instrumental tuition taken.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Performing: an examined performance

Composing: composition of at least two separate pieces of music – one to a brief set by Eduqas and one set by the student

Listening & Appraising: written exam responding to extracts on a CD and a contextual study of prescribed works and areas of study

FUTURE PROGRESSION

An A Level in Music provides a full foundation for study at higher education level, including conservatoires and universities.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





It began with Physics. Physics encompasses the study of the universe from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles. Physics - the study of matter, energy and their interactions - is an international enterprise, which plays a key role in the future progress of humankind. This course will provide a firm foundation in Physics knowledge and understanding, together with mathematical competence. You will be introduced to a wide range of Physics principles and will be led to an understanding of how nature operates at both microscopic and macroscopic scales. All leading to an understanding of how these principles are applied in tackling problems of human society.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or 7/7 in Double Award Science and Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Measurements and their errors

Unit 2: Particles and radiation

Unit 3: Waves

Unit 4: Mechanics and materials

Unit 5: Electricity

Unit 6: Further mechanics and thermal physics

Unit 7: Fields and their consequences

Unit 8: Nuclear physics

Unit 9: Medical physics

Practicals (PAGS): As there is no longer a coursework element, practical skills will be assessed within lessons and the exams. The skills demonstrated within lessons will go towards the practical endorsement certificate which is either a Pass or Fail.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Physicists are in short supply nationally and command a premium on earnings. Physicists go on to study a variety of different degrees from the general Physics degrees through to more specialised degrees in Aeronautical Engineering, Laser Physics and Nuclear Physics. Graduates in Physics tend to be extremely well qualified for further research and a scientific career, depending on the level to which they have specialised in their undergraduate degree.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Politics shapes our lives on a day-to-day basis from our drinking water, to what is studied at school, to the amount you actually take home from your wages. It is often cited that the UK population, and particularly youth, are disconnected from politics and apathetic – we do not believe that this is, or should be, the case. Recent national and international events have sparked the political debate and this course will equip you with the ability to engage with the discussion in an informed manner.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: UK Politics

Unit 2: UK Government

Unit 3: Comparative Politics

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Politics A Level is a well-respected qualification due to the skills you will develop when studying it. Universities and employers will know that a student with an A Level in Politics can utilise sources, communicate clearly and argue a point of view through. Such skills are invaluable to a range of careers and fields, such as media, law and advertising. These skills can also be useful in business or even accountancy.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





The specification has been designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of design and technology, to develop their capacity to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing. The course has both practical and theoretical elements.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or GCSE Art.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Technical principles

Unit 2: Designing and making principals

Non Examined Assessment (NEA): including folder of evidence and research combined with practical making task, based on a context and design brief developed by the student.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Product Design is valued by universities and leads to a range of professions including Architecture, Furniture Designer, Graphic Designer, all aspects of Engineering and Construction plus many more related professions.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Psychology A Level is a fascinating subject which looks to answer the big question 'Why do people behave in the way they do?' The mind is a heady cocktail of enzymes, neurons, neurotransmitters, thoughts and signals which dictate how and why we feel, think and behave; but why are we all different? Why are some people more prone to stress than others? Why do most people fear snakes that others love and collect? How can a normal person in WW2 commit atrocities just because they were following orders? Psychology looks at questions like these with the use of scientific control and experimentation to try and produce valid answers to some of society's most pertinent questions.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria. Grade 6 in GCSE Science.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Social Approach: the influence of individuals, groups and society on behaviour

Unit 2: Cognitive Approach: the nature of memory and issues such as dementia

Unit 3: Biological Approach: how the CNS, brain and hormones influences behaviour – focused on aggression

Unit 4: Learning Approach: how we learn through stimulus-response and from role models

Unit 5: Clinical Psychology: the diagnosis, symptoms and treatments of mental disorders

Unit 6: Criminal Psychology: influences on people who commit crime and treatments to prevent recidivism

Unit 7: Perspectives in Psychology: a synoptic topic discussing the many influences on human behaviour

Within each topic, students will learn about different research methods within psychology.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

Psychology can help towards careers both directly and indirectly. Many graduates go directly into psychological professions such as clinical, criminal, education or occupational psychology. They may also use their psychological knowledge in careers such as law, human resources, acting and marketing.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Sociology is the study of society and how people behave in social groups. If you enjoy people-watching and asking the question why, then this is the ideal subject. A Level Sociology offers you the opportunity to develop the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Sixth Form entry criteria. Cannot be studied with Health & Social Care.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 1: Family and Households

Unit 2: Education; Sociological Methods

Unit 3: Beliefs in Society

Unit 4: Crime and Deviance; Theory and Methods

FUTURE PROGRESSION

An A Level in Sociology will allow you to develop and display the skills of essay writing including analysis, interpretation, evaluation, as well as the ability to construct a logical argument supported with a range of evidence.

Therefore, Sociology can gain you a place at prestigious universities such as those belonging to the Russell Group. An A Level in Sociology can assist entry to a range of humanity and social science courses or indeed any other degree course.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





Spanish A Level covers a variety of topics which will deepen students' knowledge and love of language. These topics will include family, cyber society, voluntary work, national heritage, Spanish music, Spanish cinema, social issues and political issues as well as immigration.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Year 12

Unit 1: Changes in the family structure and the influence of the Catholic Church

Unit 2: The positive and negative impact of the internet, smart phones and social media

Unit 3: Equal rights: role of women in the workplace; what feminism looks like today and gay and transgender rights

Unit 4: the influence of singers; TV stars and models

Unit 5: regional identity through traditions; food and languages

Unit 6: cultural inheritance: historical sites; art and architecture; musical history

Film: Volver: Pedro Almodóvar

Year 13

Unit 1: immigration

Unit 2: racism

Unit 3: how we benefit from a multi-cultural society generally, in education and in religion

Unit 4: young people and their attitude towards politics; problems of unemployment and the type of society that they want to live in

Unit 5: Impact of the Civil War and life under Franco; transition to democracy, Latin American dictators

Unit 6: popular movements: how effective protest movements and strikes are; trade unions; social protests

Novel: Crónica de una muerte anunciada by Gabriel García Márquez

FUTURE PROGRESSION

You will be able to pursue your interests in Spanish at university, either as specialists or in conjunction with another subject. Employment and career opportunities are greatly enhanced for applicants who can demonstrate a higher level of linguistic competence. With the knowledge of a foreign language, you can pursue a wide range of careers in Law, Finance and Business, Travel and Tourism, Translator and Interpreter and Teaching.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO





A BTEC in Sport will give you the skills and confidence you need to progress into a fulfilling, exciting career. The sport and fitness industry is always moving and changing, making it essential for you to have the drive and resilience to adapt.

At all stages of your academic career, the practical base of a BTEC in Sport will help you to excel as team players, coaches and leaders of the future.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Grade 4 at GCSE PE (if studied) plus a 4-4 in Science.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The mandatory content allows students to concentrate on the development of their practical skills and the broad knowledge required for entrance into higher education programmes.

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 6: Sports Psychology

In addition, students will study a further three units from a range of optional units that have been designed to support progression to a variety of sport courses in higher education and link with relevant occupational areas.

FUTURE PROGRESSION

This is suitable for those seeking to further their studies at university and a range of careers in the sports sector.

WATCH COURSE VIDEO



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