



# WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

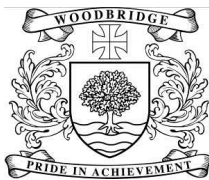
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# SIXTH FORM COURSE INFORMATION 2018

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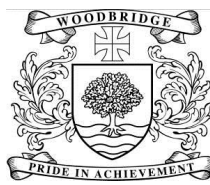


## WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

### 6th FORM ACADEMIC ROUTES

Your first decision will be to choose one of the **four academic routes** through the 6th Form at Woodbridge High School:

Route	Curriculum Features	Suitable For	Entry Requirements	Progression Routes
<b>6th Form Foundation Course</b>	An applied course at Level 2 in Business Studies <u>or</u> Health and Social Care, together with GCSE English, Maths and timetabled private study.  The course lasts for one year.	Students who have not gained the minimum requirements for Level 3.	GCSE total points score of at least 25.	Students who achieve a Merit can go on to Level 3 applied general study.  Apprenticeship
<b>Level 3 Applied General Course</b>	An applied general (work-related) course at Level 3 (A Level equivalent) in Business, Health & Social Care or Sport. You study one of these and will receive a 'triple' (extended) award if you complete all units.	Students who have gained grade 4s and 5s in their GCSEs, or who would prefer an applied course.	GCSE total points score of at least 40 and grade 5 in Maths and English Language or Literature.	University or higher education in a wide range of fields.  Apprenticeship or work-based study.
<b>Three GCE A Level Subjects</b>	Three subjects from those offered by the school, plus one further opportunity – either an Extended Project or Maths Studies.	Students who have gained grade 5s and 6s in their GCSEs, and generally 6s in the subjects they wish to study.	GCSE total points score of at least 50 and grade 5 in Maths and English Language or Literature.	University, including Russell Group and Centres of Excellence.  Apprenticeship or work-based study.
<b>Four GCE A Level Subjects</b>	Four subjects from those offered by the school.	Students who have gained grade 7s in their GCSEs.	GCSE total points score of at least 65 and grade 5 in Maths and English Language or Literature.	University, including Russell Group and Centres of Excellence.  Apprenticeship or work-based study.



# WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## 6th FORM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The strict entrance requirement for a programme of study consisting of GCE A Level subjects at Woodbridge is **a total GCSE points score of 50 with at least a grade B or 6 in the subjects which students wish to study**. Students will also have achieved at least a grade 5 in English Language or Literature and Maths. For Level 3 applied general courses, the entry requirement is a total GCSE points score of 40 and a grade 5 in English Language or Literature and Maths.

The GCSE total points score is calculated by adding together the points gained from all GCSE and equivalent qualifications. Every grade counts and is worth a number of points as below:

**All GCSEs except those listed below:**

<b>Grade:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Points:</b>	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

**Other GCSEs**

**(Business Studies, Child Development, Media Studies, Design & Technology, Russian, Psychology):**

<b>Grade:</b>	<b>A*</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Points:</b>	8.5	7	5.5	4	3	2	1.5	1

**BTEC or OCR Cambridge National Qualifications:**

<b>Grade:</b>	<b>L2 Dist*</b>	<b>L2 Dist</b>	<b>L2 Merit</b>	<b>L2 Pass</b>	<b>L1 Dist</b>	<b>L1 Merit</b>	<b>L1 Pass BTEC</b>	<b>L1 Pass Camb Nat</b>
<b>Points:</b>	8.5	7	5.5	4	3	2	1.75	1.25

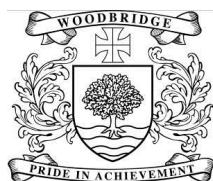
Please refer to the specific entry requirements for courses on the next two pages. To study three maths / science subjects, students must have achieved 21 points across these three subjects.

It is a requirement that those students studying GCE A Levels or Level 3 applied general courses who have not yet attained grade 4 in GCSE English Language (or Literature) and Maths will continue these subjects and take the retake exams during Year 12. We advise students who achieve grade 4 to consider retaking their GCSE to achieve grade 5, as some universities are likely to require this for entry.

All students will have a course choice discussion with a senior member of staff. They will only be permitted to choose courses for which they have the appropriate predicted GCSE grades. The grades predicted by year 11 teachers are a key part of the application process.

Entry requirements are strictly enforced. Students will only be placed on courses in the 6th Form for which they have met the entry requirements. In exceptional circumstances, entry requirements may be waived at the discretion of the Head of 6th Form or Assistant Headteacher.

Throughout the year, progress will be monitored to ensure that students are making adequate progress. Where there are areas of concern, departments will contact parents and discuss issues with students. A clear programme of intervention will be devised to support students in making progress. If no progress is made, Heads of Department and the Head of Sixth Form may deem it appropriate to remove students from a course or from the Sixth Form.



# WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

<b>6th Form Foundation Course</b>	<p>GCSE total points score of 25.</p> <p>Students will need to have an interest in either Business or Health &amp; Social Care as one of these is a compulsory part of the course. They will need to be willing to improve their English and Maths GCSE grades.</p>
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**BTEC & Cambridge Technical Level 3 (Triple Award)**

In addition to the requirement of a total GCSE points score of 40 for these programmes, the following separate subject entry requirements apply:

<b>BTEC National Extended Diploma (Level 3) Business</b>	<p>Merit in BTEC Business Level 2 (foundation course)</p> <p>5 in English Lang or Lit</p> <p>5 in Maths</p>
<b>BTEC National Extended Diploma (Level 3) Sport</b>	<p>5 in English Lang or Lit</p> <p>5 in Maths</p> <p>4:4 in Combined Science</p>
<b>Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma (Level 3) Health &amp; Social Care</b>	<p>Merit in OCR Tec H&amp;SC Level 2 (foundation course)</p> <p>5 in English Lang or Lit</p> <p>5 in Maths</p> <p>4:4 in Combined Science</p>

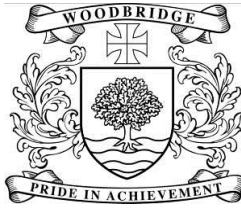
**GCE A Level or Combined Programmes**

In addition to the requirement of a total GCSE points score of 50 for these programmes, the following separate subject entry requirements apply:

	Subject Requirement	English / Maths Requirement
<b>Art &amp; Design</b>	6 in Art	5 in English Lang or Lit
<b>Biology*</b>	6 in Biology (7 preferred) <b>or</b> 7:6 in Combined Science	6 in English Lang or Lit 6 in Maths
<b>Business Studies</b>	B in Business Studies (if taken)	5 in English Lang or Lit 5 in Maths

	<b>Subject Requirement</b>	<b>English / Maths Requirement</b>
<b>Chemistry*</b>	6 in Chemistry (7 preferred) <u>or</u> 7:6 in Combined Science	5 in English Lang or Lit 6 in Maths
<b>Computer Science</b>	6 in Computer Science (if taken)	5 in English Lang or Lit 6 in Maths
<b>Design &amp; Technology</b>	B in Graphic Products <u>or</u> B in Product Design	5 in English Lang or Lit 5 in Maths
<b>Drama &amp; Theatre Studies</b>	5 in Drama	5 in English Lang or Lit
<b>Economics</b>		5 in English Lang or Lit 5 in Maths (6 preferred)
<b>English Language</b>	6 in English Language	
<b>English Literature</b>	6 in English Literature	6 in English Language
<b>Film Studies</b>	B in Media Studies <u>or</u> 6 in English Lang or Lit	
<b>French</b>	6 in French	
<b>Geography</b>	6 in Geography	5 in English Lang or Lit 5 in Maths (6 pref in both)
<b>German</b>	6 in German	
<b>History</b>	6 in History	5 in English Lang or Lit
<b>Mathematics*</b>	7 in Maths	
<b>Mathematics* (Further)</b>	8 in Maths	
<b>Mathematical Studies (AS)</b>	5 in Maths	
<b>Media Studies</b>	B in Media Studies <u>or</u> 6 in English Lang or Lit	
<b>Music</b>	6 in Music (7 preferred)	6 in English Lang or Lit
<b>Physics*</b>	6 in Physics (7 preferred) <u>or</u> 7:6 in Combined Science	5 in English Lang or Lit 6 in Maths
<b>Psychology</b>	B in Psychology	6 in English Lang or Lit 5 in Maths (6 preferred)
<b>Religious Studies</b>	6 in Religious Studies <u>or</u> 6 in English Lang or Lit	
<b>Russian</b>	B in Russian	
<b>Sociology</b>	6 in English Lang or Lit	
<b>Spanish</b>	6 in Spanish	

\*To study three science or maths subjects, students must achieve at least 21 points across these three subjects.



## WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

### APPLICATION PROCESS FOR WOODBRIDGE STUDENTS

#### 23rd November 2017 Sixth Form Open Evening

The Sixth Form Open Evening is a chance for you to discuss Sixth Form options with the Heads of Department. You will be able to gain sufficient information to help when considering pathways at post-16. You will need to complete an online Sixth Form Choices Form after the open evening.

#### 8th December 2017 Online Choices Form Deadline

This is the deadline to complete the online Sixth Form Choices Form. You will receive a link to your form in your school email. You must complete this form electronically.

#### January 2018 Sixth Form Choices Discussions Begin

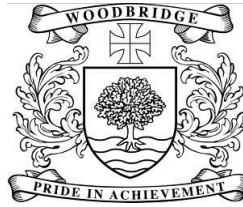
After the choices forms have been completed and handed in, senior staff will talk to all Y11 students to discuss their post-16 plans. Careers guidance will be available during this half term. Choices made may need to be amended in the light of students' predicted grades.

#### March / April 2018 Offer Letters and Responses

A letter will be sent either offering you a place (you will be requested to reply by the end of April 2018) or advising you that you have been unsuccessful. You will be invited to reply to our offer to either accept or decline a place. If you have **firmly accepted** a place, you will be invited to the Sixth Form Induction.

#### July 2018 Sixth Form Induction

Sixth Form Induction involves students following a timetable for their chosen options and gaining a greater understanding of the level of study, commitment and materials required.



## **WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**

### **APPLICATION PROCESS FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS**

#### **23rd November 2017** **Sixth Form Open Evening**

The Sixth Form Open Evening is a chance for you to have a tour of the school and discuss Sixth Form options with our Heads of Department. You will be able to gain sufficient information to help when considering pathways at post-16. You will give us your contact details and we will invite you to attend one of our open days.

If you are not able to attend the open evening, you can also let us know your details by completing the online form on the school's website, under Admissions > Sixth Form > Sixth Form Application Process.

#### **January / February 2018** **Sixth Form Open Days for External Students**

Following your attendance at the open evening or by completing the online form, you will be invited to attend one of our open days. At the open day you will meet other students, experience some lessons and complete a form to let us know your predicted grades and what you intend to study. If, following the open day, we feel you are likely to meet our entry requirements, we will offer you a place in the Sixth Form for September 2018.

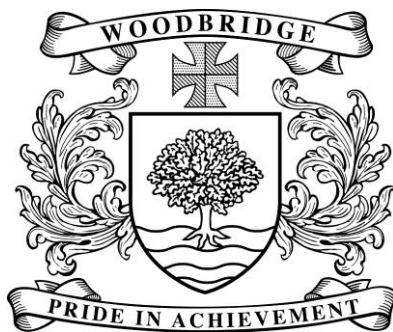
#### **March / April 2018** **Offer Letters and Responses**

A letter will be sent either offering you a place (you will be requested to reply by the end of April 2018) or advising you that you have been unsuccessful. You will be invited to reply to our offer to either accept or decline a place. If you have **firmly accepted** a place, you will be invited to the Sixth Form Induction.

#### **July 2018** **Sixth Form Induction**

Sixth Form Induction involves students following a timetable for their chosen options and gaining a greater understanding of the level of study, commitment and materials required.





# COURSE INFORMATION

## 6th FORM FOUNDATION COURSE

- This is a full-time one year course for students who have not yet achieved the entry requirements for Level 3 applied courses or GCE A Levels.
- This course is taught over 38 hours per fortnight. Students study both English and Maths as part of this course in order to improve their GCSE grade. They also have a Study Support programme to give them skills to apply for employment or courses in the 6th Form or at college.
- This course is not combined with other subjects and is a full-time course. Students have one option as part of this course; EITHER to study for the BTEC First Award in Business OR to study for the Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care.
- These courses are practical and work-based and are assessed chiefly through coursework. Please see individual course pages for details.
- If you think that you may not gain a total of 40 points at GCSE (the entry requirement for Level 3 applied general courses), then this course is the right option for you. It will give you one year to improve your grades.

# 6th FORM FOUNDATION COURSE CORE

## What will I learn?

The 6th Form Foundation Course is just that – a course which enables you to lay the foundations for study of Level 3 courses or even A Levels in the 6th Form. It is a one-year course and students will learn:

- Skills to improve their GCSE English and Maths Grades to at least grade 4
- Skills needed to apply for employment or courses in the 6th Form or at college, including writing CVs
- Skills needed to be able to complete high standard coursework for a range of applied courses
- Skills needed to research given topics, use and reference internet and paper-based sources correctly, draft and redraft their work and give presentations

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course is suitable for students who have not yet achieved the entry requirements for Level 3 applied courses or GCE A Levels. It will lay the foundation for further successful study in the 6th Form or at college.

## What is the structure of the course?

This course is a full-time one-year course with 38 hours of timetabled lessons and private study per fortnight. There are five elements:

- GCSE English – 5 hours
- GCSE Maths – 5 hours
- Study Support – 4 hours
- EITHER BTEC Award in Business OR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care (see full details on the following pages) – 15 hours
- Directed private study within the 6th Form – minimum of 9 hours

In addition to this, all students are expected to take part in the whole 6th Form enrichment programme. Students will have a personal tutor and fortnightly tutorials. There is also the opportunity of additional time to spend on English for students for whom English is an additional language.

## How will I be assessed?

GCSE Maths and English are assessed entirely by examination – this can take place at various times throughout the year. The BTEC and Cambridge Technical courses are assessed by internally and externally marked coursework.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 25.

## Pre-course information required

You will need to decide if you are interested in the Business or Health & Social Care option – talk to teachers of these subjects.

## Progression routes

This course will help you to develop the skills and get the grades needed to apply for a Level 3 course in Business, Health & Social Care, or in one of the other Level 3 subjects. You may also be able to study an AS / A Level subject if you meet the entry requirements. You may also go on to employment or to a modern apprenticeship or college course which requires you to have GCSEs in English / Maths and other subjects at grade 4 or above.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Miss C. Iyengar, Head of 6th Form

# BTEC FIRST AWARD (LEVEL 2) IN BUSINESS

## What will I learn?

The BTEC First Award course is designed to enable you to gain an understanding of how a business operates and the processes that enable it to produce goods and services to satisfy the needs of its customers. You will acquire a broad background of understanding and knowledge of the key fundamentals of operating a business by studying areas such as Business Finance and Key Influences or Pressures on Business Activities.

Much of your learning will be developed in a practical and realistic way as several of the units studied are based on “real-life” business scenarios or are work-related. The skills of communication, ICT, numeracy, presentation, analysis, interpretation, application, problem solving, decision making and evaluation are developed.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Students who want to gain an understanding of the world of Business. They will have an interest in understanding how a Business operates; enjoy independent research, communication and presenting ideas; enjoy coursework and teamwork and will want to progress to Level 3 courses.

## What is the structure of the course?

The BTEC First Award (equivalent to one GCSE), is a one year course divided into four units. You must follow the course for the full year to achieve full accreditation. Study areas include:

- Enterprise in the Business World
- Finance for Business (external exam)
- Promoting a brand
- Principles of customer service

## How will I be assessed?

There is one external examination. One of the four units will be assessed by a board-set assignment that will be marked by your tutor and moderated externally. The other two units are set and marked internally. You will have to finish all four units to be able to gain full qualification.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 25.

## Pre-course information required

- To speak to your business teacher to discuss the entry and progression routes.
- Be committed to the route of education, e.g. level 2 then a level 3 course, before you can study at university level.
- It is not necessary to have studied business before you start this course.
- You must be able to work independently and research real-life situations to gather data.

## Progression routes

Completion of this course, gaining at least a Merit grade, will entitle the student to apply for a Level 3 course. Many students continue onto a Level 3 applied course, which they study full time, as it is a Triple Award (equivalent to three A Level qualifications). This course will allow you to enter a modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. Business Studies will equip you with many of the valuable skills required in the modern employment market. Business is the most popular university course and whatever aspect you excel in can be studied at a higher level.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Miss B. James, Head of Business

# CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE (LEVEL 2) IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

## What will I learn?

This course offers students the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and understanding which will prepare them for entry into employment in the Health & Social Care sector, or into further education. Students will gain an understanding of the key components of the Health & Social Care sector and how they operate to meet the needs of today's clients.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This subject provides sound preparation for students planning to work in the health care or social care field or with young children.

## What is the structure of the course?

For the award of Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (Level 2), equivalent to two GCSEs, students must complete 4 units of study worth 30 credits - two mandatory units worth 5 credits each and two optional units worth 10 credits each.

### Mandatory units:

- Unit 1 Communication in Health and Social Care.
- Unit 3 Individual needs in Health and Social Care.

### Optional units:

- Unit 5 Vocational Experience in the Health and Social Care sector
- Unit 7 Anatomy and Physiology

**A period of work experience is also an important component of this course.**

## How will I be assessed?

There are no exams. All the units are portfolio based. Your teacher will assess your work for all units and this will be moderated by the exam board. Grades awarded are Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction\*.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 25.

## Pre-course information required

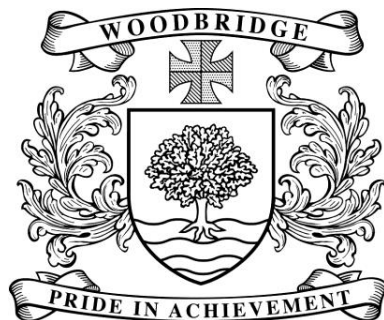
The course is designed and delivered using a variety of learning methods and teaching styles. It is not necessary to have any particular knowledge before taking the course, but GCSE Child Development will be very useful. It is essential that if choosing this course you display skills of motivation and commitment.

## Progression routes

A Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (Level 2) is equivalent to two GCSEs and if students gain a Merit grade they can be considered for progression to the Level 3 course. You could then go to university to train as a care professional (e.g. nurse, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, paramedic or teacher). Other progression routes include CACHE or Apprenticeships in Health, Social Care, or Early Years.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms L. Griffiths, Head of Health & Social Care



# COURSE INFORMATION

## BTEC & CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL (CTEC) LEVEL 3 COURSES

- These Level 3 courses are available to students who gain a total GCSE points score of 40 or more. Students select one full-time course from the three available:
  - Business
  - Health & Social Care
  - Sport
- Level 3 (Triple award) courses are chiefly assessed through coursework, with some exams. They are two-year courses and the assessment takes place throughout the course. If students complete all units during the course, they will gain the equivalent of three full A Levels. These courses attract UCAS points which can be used when applying to university.
- Work Experience is a compulsory part of all these courses. Please see individual course pages for details.
- It may be possible to study one A Level alongside a Level 3 course. You should indicate on your choices form if you wish to do this. You will need to meet the entry requirements for your chosen course.

# BTEC NATIONAL EXTENDED DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3) IN BUSINESS

## What will I learn?

The BTEC National Applied General has been revised and students will be starting a new specification from 2018. This exciting course prepares learners for a career in Business, via employment, apprenticeship or Higher Education. Students will study a range of units, exposing them to a wide variety of business topics, and will be assessed in many different ways including practical role plays and presentations.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Students who want to gain a broad understanding of the world of business and industry. They will:

- enjoy communication and presenting ideas through a variety of methods.
- enjoy working independently and in a team

The Extended Diploma course (equivalent to 3 A Levels) counts for three choices and you should choose this if you would like to study BTEC Business.

## What is the structure of the course?

The BTEC National Extended Diploma in Business is a two-year course divided into thirteen units. It leads to the equivalent of 3 A Levels. You must complete all thirteen units to gain the Extended Diploma. You will complete seven mandatory units, and then an additional six, chosen by your teacher to fit your classes profile and interests.

One of the units is an external exam, written and marked by Pearson. Three units are task based and set and marked by Pearson. The remaining nine units are set and marked internally by your teachers.

## How will I be assessed?

All units for the Extended Diploma are assessed by portfolio work. You will study for a number of units at once and complete the work required for each of them along the way. Some of the work consists of written work, other assessment is of other skills. Some units are internally assessed by your teacher and then checked by an external verifier. Other units are set and marked by Pearson.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 40, or Merit at BTEC Business Level 2 from the foundation course. You should also have GCSE English and Maths at Grade 5.

## Pre-course information required

The course is designed and delivered using a variety of learning methods and teaching styles. As there is a heavy emphasis on coursework students must be highly organised and able to meet deadlines. Students must be committed, be prepared to work independently and be ready to do lots and lots of business research – both on-line and through visits.

## Progression routes

As with all A Level/Level 3 subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto both further and higher education, a modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. Business Studies will equip you with many of the valuable skills required in the modern employment market. Successful completion of BTEC National courses attract UCAS points, and as there are so many different themes within the Business Studies field you will have a real insight into a number of areas which you can specialise in if you choose to pursue higher education. Business is the most popular University course and whatever aspect you excel in can be studied at a higher level.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Miss B. James, Head of Business

# BTEC NATIONAL EXTENDED DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3) IN SPORT

## What will I learn?

In BTEC Sport you will learn about:

- The sports industry including the organisation of sport and key issues that influence the media in sport.
- Health and safety in sport.
- How to prepare for sport, including anatomy and physiology.
- The body in sport learning about the different energy systems that impact on performance.
- Sports leadership skills including coaching, officiating and performing.
- Factors that affect sports performance and how training can improve performance.
- Practical sport learning skills, tactics and officiating and coaching in chosen sports.

## What is the course for?

For students who have a desire to follow a career in the sports industry and who have a real interest in a vocational approach to sport. Students may wish to continue on the pathway and seek employment in sport. This course is also suitable for students who wish to study a sport-related course at university.

## What is the structure of the course?

- Students will be taught 14 units over the two years of which 4 are externally assessed.
- This is an applied general qualification, equivalent in size to three A Levels.
- It is a two year full time course.
- Students will have 27 hours of lessons over the two week timetable.
- Students will have the opportunity to attend a residential trip, interview key figures in Redbridge and attend stadium and facility tours.

## How will I be assessed?

All fourteen units of work will be assessed. 78% of the course is mandatory content and 42% of the course is externally assessed. There will be one unit examined under exam conditions and two units in the style of an extended project. Depending on the quality of your work will determine whether you achieve pass, merit or distinction for each unit.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 40.  
You should also have GCSE English and Maths at Grade 5 and Science at Grade 4:4.

## Pre-course information require

- Be sure that the vocational pathway is right for you.
- Research the course and make an informed decision.
- Check with the PE department that the course will be of interest to you.
- Ask plenty of questions.

## Progression routes?

- A career in the sports industry/working for the Sports Council / Governing Body
- A career at a leisure centre
- Management of a leisure centre or sports centre
- Personal trainer or gym instructor.
- Coach of a sporting activity
- Sports physiotherapy / sports injury
- Any other career path in the sports industry.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mr S. Jones, Head of PE

# CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL EXTENDED DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3) IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

## What will I learn?

The Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Diploma is a 2 year course. To achieve this qualification, students must complete 180 credits of work. These qualifications specifically aim to develop students' knowledge and understanding of the health, social care and early years' sector and also to develop students' skills, knowledge and understanding in contexts that are directly relevant to employment situations, thereby enhancing their employability within the health, social care and early years' sector. The course covers a broad range of academic disciplines including Human Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Social Policy and Health Promotion.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Students who are considering higher education career pathways in Health (e.g. Nursing, Midwifery, Paramedic Science or Occupational Therapy), Social Care (e.g. Social Work, Youth and Community Work) or Early Years (e.g. Nursery or Primary Teaching, Special Needs Education). Also students who wish to progress straight into work or further training as Nursery Nurses or Teaching Assistants. Students will also be considered if they are preparing for employment in job roles where they will be expected to use their understanding of health and care principles and values and how they are used, communicate effectively and provide active support, or if they intend to study particular elements of the course further, e.g. Psychology, Social Sciences, Health Studies, Health Service management. The Extended Diploma course (equivalent to 3 A Levels) counts for three choices.

## What is the structure of the course?

Students must achieve seven mandatory units, 1 Core Optional Unit and also 95 credits from optional units. These are subject to change depending on the needs of the students.

### Mandatory units:

- Unit 1. Building Positive Relationships in Health and Social Care
- Unit 2. Equality, Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care
- Unit 3. Health, Safety and Security in Health and Social Care
- Unit 4. Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care
- Unit 5. Infection Control
- Unit 6. Personalisation and a person centred approach to care
- Unit 7. Safeguarding

### The Core Optional Unit will be either:

Unit 12. Promote Positive Behaviour OR Unit 13. The impact of long-term physiological conditions.

**A period of work experience is also an important component of this course.**

## How will I be assessed?

Five units, a total of 75 credits, are assessed by External exam. Learners must achieve a Pass (equivalent to grade C) in all exams in order to pass the course overall. One unit is an externally set piece of coursework which is completed in school but marked by an external assessor. The remaining units are assessed internally as coursework, and then checked by a visiting moderator who comes into school twice a year.

- Performance at unit level is graded holistically, as Pass, Merit or Distinction or Distinction\*, recognising that students may perform better in meeting the requirements of some objectives more than others.
- The final grades will be achieved as an aggregate score of all the marks given over the two years of the course.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 40, or Merit at CTEC Health & Social Care Level 2 from the foundation course. You should also have GCSE English and Maths at Grade 5 and Science at Grade 4:4.

## Pre-course information required

The course is delivered using a variety of learning methods and teaching styles, relating theory to practical situations in Health, Social care and Early Year's settings. Students require excellent time management and organisational skills.

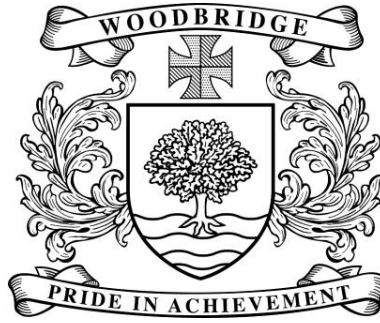
## Progression routes

Many students have gone on to higher education following completion of this course. A student achieving a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health, Social Care and Early Years and wishing to progress to further qualifications in the health, social care or early years sectors may undertake a qualification in one of the following areas: nursing, professions allied to medicine, complementary healthcare, sports health, dietetics, NVQs to become home care organisers, teaching and teaching assistants, working with people with disabilities, counselling, nursery nursing, playgroup leading, nursing specialising in the care of children, child minding.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms L. Griffiths, Head of Health & Social Care





# COURSE INFORMATION

## GCE A LEVELS

- These courses all lead to GCE A Levels at the end of year 13.
- Students would normally choose three or four subjects. You should discuss this with your teachers and the person who sees you to discuss your choices.
- Students choosing may also complete either the Extended Project Qualification or study for the Maths Studies qualification.

# ART AND DESIGN

## What will I learn?

Under the umbrella of Art, Craft and Design you will have the opportunity to work in a range of disciplines including Fine Art, Graphic communication, Textile design, Three-dimensional design and Photography. You will have to show evidence that you can work in at least two of these disciplines throughout your personal investigation and can specialise, if you choose, in the externally set assignment. During the course you will learn how to analyse the work of artists, crafts people and designers, decoding the context, meaning and messages within their work as well as closely studying the materials and processes they have used. You will learn about the context in which art is made and develop a strong understanding of art specialist vocabulary and terminology. You will learn how to identify, select and use appropriate sources in response to a starting point, theme or concept. Throughout the course you will learn how to generate ideas and sustain focused investigations through the experimentation of materials, techniques and processes.

## Who is the course suitable for?

The course is for students who want to study Art to an advanced level and are not afraid of hard work. We are looking for passionate, intelligent, creative and open minded students who have a genuine interest in the visual world. You will need to show initiatives and be able to work independently as much of the course is structured around individual ideas.

## What is the structure of the course?

Component 1: Personal investigation 60%  
Component 2: Externally set assignment 40%

The A level will run over the course of two years, with both units externally moderated at the end of the course.

## How will I be assessed?

Component 1 is internally set and marked and externally moderated.

Component 2 is externally set but internally marked and then externally moderated.

The exam board for this course is AQA.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Art and a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Pre-course information required

The standard of work in the Art Department at Woodbridge is incredibly high. We maintain these standards through providing a rigorous course that makes high demands on students. You need to have a genuine passion for Art and not be afraid of hard work.

You will be expected to spend a minimum of four hours a week on Art home learning and provide an A3 spiral bound sketchbook for this purpose. The provision of a basic set of art materials and a folder is desirable.

## Progression routes?

This course is excellent preparation for anyone interested not only for a career in Art, but also in a wide range of commercial industries such as industrial design, fashion, textiles, video/ film production, media, publishing, animation, advertising to name a few. Many students take the natural step forward and complete an Art foundation for a year before embarking upon a specialised degree course.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs C. Ward-Mills, Head of Art

# BIOLOGY

## What will I learn?

The Biology course is designed to give a broad and balanced understanding of both Plant and Animal Biology and the skills and techniques needed to study living organisms. The curriculum is structured to include those areas of Biology that are at the forefront of modern scientific research, including Gene Technology, Transmission and Prevention of Disease, Conservation, Global Climate Change and Epigenetics.

## Who is the course suitable for?

A diverse range of students study biology. It is essential for those hoping to go on to study medicine, veterinary science and physiotherapy but also provides useful links with P.E., Psychology, and Geography.

## What is the structure of the course?

Paper 1 – Advanced Biochemistry, Microbiology and Genetics (1hr 45min)

Paper 2 – Advanced Physiology, Evolution and Ecology (1hr 45min)

Paper 3 – General and Practical Principles in Biology (2 hours 30min)

## How will I be assessed?

At the end of each unit of study you will be internally assessed to monitor your progress. You will also be expected to prepare presentations to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding, and write up your core practicals. The external examinations will be offered in June at the end of Year 13 and will contain a variety of multiple choice, short answer and longer stretch and challenge questions.

The A Level assessment will include synoptic application of all knowledge taught across the 2 years of the course. Your ability to manipulate equipment and analyse experimental results is continually assessed and will be reported separately at the end of the A Level course, it will not contribute to your final grade. The exam board for this course is Edexcel.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Biology (with Grade 7 preferred), a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. If you have studied Combined Science you will need a Grade 7:6 (with Grade 7:7 preferred). To study three science or maths subjects, students must achieve at least 21 points across these three subjects.

## Pre-course information required

Candidates need to have a good understanding of general scientific concepts and a keen interest in Biology. You should get into the habit of reading scientific periodicals and papers. You should read widely about scientific issues in the news. Candidates should be aware that A-level Biology includes “maths for Biologists” and this accounts for 20% of the marks available on every paper.

## Progression routes?

Biology is well regarded by all universities and employers as being an academically rigorous subject producing students who are competent in problem-solving, thinking skills and recall skills. These skills are valued irrespective of whether the course or job is linked to Biology and so it is worthwhile to consider taking Biology even if you are certain you wish to pursue an “arts” based route through A-level.

Biology is essential if you wish to work in any area of medicine or veterinary science, it is also beneficial to study Chemistry if you wish to follow these courses.

Studying Biology will also allow you to go on to study a degree or to work in the following areas; Medicine, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Midwifery, Forensic Science, Marine Biology, Sport Science, Environmental Science, Veterinary Medicine and Microbiology.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms C. Tew, Head of Science

# BUSINESS STUDIES

## What will I learn?

- The diverse nature of business enterprise and its ever-changing character
- The interdependence of the business world and of business itself with society and economics
- A critical understanding of organisations, the market they serve and the process of adding value
- An awareness that business behaviour can be studied from the perspective of a range of stakeholders
- The importance of economic, environmental, ethical, governmental, legal, social and technological issues associated with business activity.

## Who is the course suitable for?

- Students who want a broad understanding of the world of business
- Students who enjoy challenges, problem solving, numerical situations.
- Students who want a recognised qualification

## What is the structure of the course?

Students will spend Year 1 learning about businesses across a variety of contexts and about the key decisions that are made to improve the performance of businesses across the main functional areas of marketing, human resources, operations management and finance. In Year 2, students will build upon this knowledge and learn about strategic decision making, direction and methods that are used across a number of different business contexts.

## How will I be assessed?

The A-level is assessed by three two hour written exams at the end of the course:

- Paper 1: Multiple-choice questions, short answer and two essays.  
Paper 2: Three compulsory data response questions.  
Paper 3: One compulsory case study consisting of six questions.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade B in GCSE Business (if taken), a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 5 in Maths.

## Pre-course information required

- Talk to your business studies teacher and discuss the course further
- Talk to the careers advisor
- Look at your targets and predicted grades to see if you have the requirements to study the subject

## Progression routes?

As with all A Level subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto both further and higher education, a modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. Business Studies will equip you with many of the valuable skills required in the modern employment market.

As there are so many different themes within Business Studies you will have a real insight into a number of areas which you can go on further to high education to specialise in. Business is the most popular University course and whatever aspect you excel in can be studied at a higher level.

Research in the Careers Library – section C, N & O

## Who do I contact for further information?

Miss B James, Head of Business

# CHEMISTRY

## What will I learn?

Chemistry is the science of materials. Advanced chemistry students learn about atomic and electronic structure and use these ideas to explain the chemistry of particular elements in the Periodic Table. The chemistry of carbon (organic chemistry) is studied specifically and the factors that control chemical change form the basis for a study of physical chemistry. Quantitative chemistry is developed and students study organic synthesis and analysis methods in further studies of organic chemistry. Chemistry is a laboratory-based subject and throughout the course practical activities are linked to the theory studied and a variety of experimental techniques are learnt.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Chemistry is a must if you are interested in any medical career or in biological or environmental studies. It is suitable if you wish to study any area of science, engineering or technology in higher education and can be studied alongside business based courses and will be highly regarded addition to any CV because of the academic skills required.

## What is the structure of the course?

**Paper 1** Advanced Inorganic and Physical Chemistry 1hr 45 min  
**Paper 2** Advanced Organic and Physical Chemistry 1hr 45min  
**Paper 3** General & Practical Principles in Chemistry 2hr 30 min

## How will I be assessed?

At the end of each unit of study you will be internally assessed to monitor your progress. You will also be expected to prepare answers to detailed questions on all topics and to prepare presentations to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the work. The external examinations are taken in June of year 13 and will contain a variety of multiple choice, short answer and longer stretch and challenge questions. Your ability to manipulate equipment and analyse experimental results is continually assessed and is reported to the exam board but will not count towards your final grade. Examination questions will test your practical skills. The exam board for this course is Edexcel.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry (with Grade 7 preferred), a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 6 in Maths. If you have studied Combined Science you will need a Grade 7:6 (with Grade 7:7 preferred). To study three science or maths subjects, students must achieve at least 21 points across these three subjects.

## Pre-course information required

Apart from GCSE Science you need to develop the ability to work independently, read widely about current scientific issues and be able to meet deadlines at all times. Manual dexterity is useful for practicals and you must be able to use a calculator! Questions involving the use of mathematical skills in Chemistry will contribute to 20% of the assessment.

## Progression routes?

As with all A Level subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto both further and higher education, a Modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. Chemistry is an essential qualification for virtually all careers in the medical and veterinary world. Employment opportunities making use of chemistry qualifications are very diverse - these include jobs in industry, research and in the field. There is currently a shortage of people in the labour market with appropriate qualifications in chemistry. Chemistry qualifications are also well regarded in colleges, universities and by employers as a measure of problem solving ability, recall skills and manual dexterity for those not necessarily intending to continue with science, particularly for careers in business and management.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Dr S Pih, Head of Chemistry

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## What will I learn?

The course is much more than just training in a programming language. The emphasis is on computational thinking. Computational thinking is a kind of reasoning used by both humans and machines. Thinking computationally means using abstraction and decomposition. The study of computation is about what can be computed and how to compute it. Computer Science involves questions that have the potential to change how we view the world. Computer Science is about designing new algorithms to solve new problems. In this sense Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes. This course, with its emphasis on abstract thinking, general problem-solving, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning, scientific and engineering-based thinking, is a good foundation for understanding these future challenges.

## Who is the course suitable for?

The course is aimed at students who wish to develop a logical approach to solving problems and understanding the ways in which computer systems are developed. Students should be able to work independently applying their own analytical reasoning to solve both abstract and specific problems. The pre-release practical exam requires high levels of students preparation.

## What is the structure of the course?

### Year 12

Logical problem solving and computer programming accounts for 50% of the course. As students advance in their programming, increasingly difficult problems are presented for them to solve, building up to solve a complex problem scenario released in advance of the practical onscreen programming examination.

Computer Science theory accounts for the remaining 50% of the course, where students learn theory of computation, how the internet works as a global network of computers and the impact that computer use has upon our lives.

### Year 13

Students' knowledge of theoretical computer science is deepened, exploring emerging areas such as Big Data, functional programming and advanced data structures used in programming. In Year 13 students complete an extensive independent programming project creating software to solve a real world problem or a scientific simulation.

## How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: tests a student's ability to program, as well as their theoretical Computer Science knowledge of algorithms, data structures and computation – 40% of total A Level mark – 2½ Hour on-screen examination
- Paper 2: Theory Topics: fundamentals of computer systems, data representation, networking, databases, Big Data and functional programming – 40% of total A Level marks – 2½ Hour Written Examination
- Practical Programming Project - 20% of total A Level marks – Coursework Project

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science (if taken), a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 6 in Maths.

## Pre-course information required

Whilst we do not require previous study of ICT/Computing a good mathematical ability (at least GCSE grade 6) is essential for this course, along with a GCSE grade 5 in English Language or Literature.

## Progression routes?

This course is very well respected academically and will be a strong support to students intending to study medicine, law, engineering, computing, foreign languages, physical sciences or maths based courses at university. As computing pervades all aspects of study and contemporary research, this course supports a very wide range of career paths at university in addition to those listed above.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms J. Surujpaul, Head of Computing and ICT

# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

## What will I learn?

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. 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.

## Who is the course suitable for?

The course is aimed at all creative and innovative students with a real interest in designing and making high quality, fully functioning products.

## What is the structure of the course?

The course is structured around two units of work, which consists of one controlled assessment unit (50%) and one written exam (50%):

Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology      2.5 hour written exam

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project      40 hours, centre marked, externally moderated

The exam board for this course is Edexcel.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade B in GCSE Product Design or Graphic Products, a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 5 in Maths.

## Pre-course information required

Competent drawings skills, good levels of literacy, numeracy and ICT skills are essential. It is important for students to have an open mind about the design process and be willing to work independently to fully research chosen design contexts. Students will have the opportunity to design a range of varied products from a range of contextual tasks set by the exam board. Students should enjoy a challenge and solving complex problems.

## Progression routes?

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to progress on to a range of university courses. There are also a wide range of Modern Apprenticeship and employment opportunities available in a variety of industries. Skills such as 3D and graphical design are in great demand. Careers supported by Product Design include engineering, animation, product development, architecture, teaching, interior design, construction, robotics, and other media based areas are on offer to successful students. A qualification in this subject area will certainly be viewed as an asset for these candidates.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms M. Rivers, Head of Design Technology

# DRAMA

## What will I learn?

Drama offers a practical and challenging course of study which encourages learners to develop their creative ability to build, analyse and interpret theatre. Throughout the course you will explore a wide range of play texts, practitioners and become spectator to a diverse range of theatrical experiences. These will allow you to explore the impact that theatre can have on past, present and future audiences. Students will make their own impact on audiences in devising original performances utilising their imaginative, sophisticated and resonant ideas. While this A level is rigorously academic, it is essentially practical and offers a unique and independent approach to learning. It is an active and creative course which aims to nurture your enthusiasm for and interest in theatre, both as an audience member and a participant. Throughout the course you will develop your ability to reflect and evaluate your ideas recording the process of making and discovering. You will produce a creative log and report that analyses the process of developing theatre from the role of the director, actor, designer and audience. An A Level in Drama and Theatre studies will also develop your oracy, confidence, ability to use multi-dimensional communication and work with others. The course demands practical, creative and communication skills in equal measure. Drama gives you the freedom to be innovative and experiment with your ideas as you work with others to expand these and make new discoveries taking risks to create original performances.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Drama and Theatre Studies is designed for students that are creative, innovative and have a keen interest in theatre. Students will be expected to devise, present, act, and direct. These skills in turn require learners to be open-minded, critical and have excellent levels of oracy. The course is for those who want a deeper understanding of drama, that are interested in studying plays, looking at the work of influential theatre practitioners, analysing live theatre performance re-interpreting text and creating original work. It is useful to have taken Drama at GCSE but not essential.

## What is the structure of the course?

Drama focuses on the study of theatre from the perspective of a creator, director, designer, performer and critic. Throughout you will use the theories of the practitioners to re-interpret and create new pieces of theatre.

### **The course is made up of 3 components:**

**Component 1:** Theatre Workshop 60 marks (20%). Internally assessed. A practical component with a written creative log.

**Component 2:** Text in Action 120 marks (40%). Externally assessed by a visiting examiner. A practical component with a written process report.

**Component 3:** Text in Performance 120 marks (40%). Written exam broken in to three parts.

## How will I be assessed?

Drama will be assessed through a combination of a written examination and non-examined practical assessment with coursework. Component 1 and 2 assessments will entail practical performances and written reflections. Component 3 is a written exam. Regular feedback on presentation and written work will track progress.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 5 in GCSE Drama and a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature. Students without GCSE Drama will be considered for this course.

## Pre-course information required

You will also be expected to attend organised trips to the theatre and to workshops with the school and extra-curricular rehearsals. You will need to be prepared to express yourself and overcome any fears of performing, so approach the course with an open mind and a positive attitude.

## Progression routes?

A level Drama and Theatre Studies is listed on the preferred subjects by all universities. The diversity of the course makes it an excellent choice for many career paths not only in preparation for a degree in Drama or Drama School training. The skills developed through this course are relevant to many different academic and professional areas. It combines well with other Arts, Humanities and English. Drama offers the opportunity to acquire and develop skills many universities and employers look for. It can give your application to university, to an apprenticeship or job the edge that sets you apart from other candidates by demonstrating you have a diverse range of transferable skills.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Miss K. Pinnell, Head of Drama



# ECONOMICS

## What will I learn?

- Gain knowledge of the workings of an 'economy' – at both the national and international level
- Study the UK, US and Chinese economies – among others.
- Develop an understanding of a range of economic concepts and acquire an ability to apply them to a variety of situations
- Develop an ability to think like an economist, i.e. take a critical approach to the study of economics
- Understand the role governments, consumers and firms play in our economy
- Learn about inflation, employment, GDP, trading and supply and demand.

## Who is the course suitable for?

- Students intrigued by the UK's and the world's current and on-going economic situation
- Students who may be considering a career in finance, trading or investment banking.
- Students with good logic and numeracy skills who enjoy reading
- Students with good problem solving and analytical skills who are able to write clearly
- Pupils who enjoy following current events/news stories

## What is the structure of the course?

Students will learn about the operation of markets and market failure as well as the national economy in Year 1 of the course, with a focus on how markets function, and firms compete, as well as government policies and intervention in the economy. Year 2 will build upon the knowledge gained in Year 1, and includes further development in the theory of the firm, behavioural economics, labour markets, inequality, financial markets and the international economy.

## How will I be assessed?

The A Level has three, two hour written exams, taken at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1: Markets and market failure: data response and extended writing  
Paper 2: National and international economy: data response and extended writing  
Paper 3: Economic principles and issues – multiple choice and extended writing

## What qualifications do I need?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 5 in GCSE Maths, with Grade 6 Maths preferred.

## Pre-course information required

If you would like to know more, please talk to Miss Aftab or Miss Iyengar to discuss the course further.

## Progression routes?

Economics is an extremely academic A level and is very well respected by top Universities. Many of our Economics students go on to pursue degrees at top national and international universities in a variety of disciplines. We have had some of our economics pupils' interview at Oxbridge and go on to secure excellent internships in the City of London. Studying Economics at A level is highly recommended for anyone considering a career in Finance, International Relations, Politics, Philosophy, History and Journalism, among many more. Pupils wishing to study Economics, Maths, Engineering or any other social science at university will benefit greatly from the A level Economics course as a facilitating subject.

## Who do I contact for Further information?

Miss S. Aftab, 2i/c in Business (Lead KS5 Economics)

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## What will I learn?

You should have an interest in and enjoyment of the way English is used. This course teaches you about the structures and functions of the language and the way it has changed with time and use. You will learn to express yourself in speech and creative writing with increasing competence and sophistication. You will be encouraged to read widely and develop skills in listening critically and attentively to spoken English, as well as analyse all modes of language critically.

You will find out about language through four 'frameworks': what it means (semantics), how it is constructed (grammar); what words are chosen (lexis) and how it sounds (phonology).

## Who is the course suitable for?

You must be passionate about being a language scientist who critically examines the technical make-up of words, sentences and texts. Also, are you ready to be a language sleuth- investigating language with a microscope? If so, then please do not hesitate to approach a member of the department for more information.

## What is the structure of the course?

In Year 12 and Year 13 you will cover the following topics: Language and the Individual (and Society -Y13) and Language Diversity (and Change- Y13).

## How will I be assessed?

Two two-and-a-half hour written exams (80%) and coursework (20%), taken at the end of Year 13.

The exam board for this course is AQA.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

## Pre-course information required

You should talk to the teachers of the English Department and students currently studying A Level Language.

## Progression routes

As with all A Level subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto both further and higher education, a Modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. A qualification in English is highly valued in many industries, especially where analytical written and communication skills play an important role. Don't just think of journalism or law, either English qualification will open doorways to future career development.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs M Amihere, Head of English, or and Mr S. Wingfield, Second in English

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## What will I learn?

This course will broaden your knowledge and understanding of both modern and traditional literature and aims to encourage you to read as widely as possible. You will study texts closely and gain an understanding of how cultural and historical influences affect both readers and writers. You will learn how to analyse novels, plays and poetry and write essays about them. However, there is also a lot of emphasis placed on discussion work in this course and you are encouraged to engage fully in debate about the set texts in class.

## Who is the suitable course for?

Reading for pleasure is important if you wish to take this course. However, you must be interested in studying texts closely, analysing language and writing essays. It is imperative for all pupils to consider how much wider reading is required to complete this course successfully. English Literature is not for the faint hearted and will require excellent skills of managing class reading and independent enquiry. If you are up for this challenge, then this course is for you.

## What is the structure of the course?

In Year 12 and Year 13 you will study the prose, poetry and drama covering the topic of Love Through The Ages and Texts In Shared Contexts: WW1 and its Aftermath or Modern Times Literature from 1945 to the present day.  
In Year 13 you will study the prose, poetry and drama of love through the ages.

## How will I be assessed?

One three hour and one two-and-a-half hour written exams (80%) and coursework (20%), taken at the end of Year 13.  
The exam board for this course is AQA.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature and a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

## Pre-course information required

You should talk to teachers of the English Department and students currently studying A level Literature.

## Progression routes

As with all A Level subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto both further and higher education, a Modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. A qualification in English is highly valued in many industries, especially where analytical written and communication skills play an important role. Don't just think of journalism or law, either English qualification will open doorways to future career development.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs M. Amihere, Head of English, or Mrs P. Colman, Miss R. Ruzane, Ms M. Ree, Mr J. Drake and Mr S. Wingfield

# FILM STUDIES

## What will I learn?

Film Studies A Level is designed to deepen students' understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film, the major art form of the twentieth century. You will study film from a variety of approaches: the history of film; the film industry; film in social context, film as an art form and the close study and analysis of how the language of film generates meaning and audience responses. You will acquire transferrable skills in essay writing, research, and presentation as well as creative skills in photography, film-making and screenwriting. Studying film will also broaden your understanding of modern history and politics and give you a wider appreciation of different cultures through the world cinema modules.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Students who love film and are open to explore new and unfamiliar topics. As well as getting to study films, film-makers and aspects of the film industry that interest you personally, you will engage with a wide range of different kinds of films from different eras, countries and in different styles, developing skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection. Assessment is through a combination of essays and creative work with the intention of producing imaginative, active learners so you will need to be a confident writer as well as creative and enthusiastic.

## What is the structure of the course?

3 units are covered across the 2 year course.

Unit 1 focuses on **American and British** film, covering Classical Hollywood (the 40s and 50s), Hollywood since the 60s, Contemporary American Independent Film and British film, past and present.

Unit 2 focuses on **Varieties of Film**, covering silent film, documentaries, global film and short film.

Unit 3 is the **Production** element of practical coursework. Students will choose between either making a short film, or writing a screenplay for a short film, and producing a photographic storyboard of a section of the screenplay. The practical unit is accompanied by a 1200-1500 word evaluative analysis.

## How will I be assessed?

The exam board is Eduqas. Assessment is through exams (70%) and coursework (30%).

Two 3 hr written exams at the end of the course are each worth 35%.

The production work is assessed independently - there is no group work option, although students can obviously use other people as cast and crew to help them produce their film.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade B in GCSE Media Studies OR a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature. There is **no requirement** to have taken a GCSE in Media Studies.

## Pre-course information required

The specification builds on the cine-literacy learners have developed informally since childhood. They will study film and industry deriving from a variety of production contexts and experienced in a variety of viewing situations; you study films in the same depth as you study novels, plays and poetry in English Literature.

## Progression routes?

There are a wide range of Film- or Film-related university degrees. Students have gone on to study academic subjects such as Film Studies, Film Theory or History of Art as well as Film Production and many other practical courses such as directing and screenwriting. You can also combine your study of film with such related humanities courses as History, English, Modern Foreign Languages, Sociology, Psychology, Politics, Philosophy and Drama. Some students will go on to work in the media and film industries. Film Studies is a good multi-disciplinary basis to progress to any humanities or language study.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms A. Gold, Head of Media Studies

# FRENCH

## What will I learn?

The French Advanced level course is a progression from French GCSE. You will study grammar in detail, do prose translations, have discussions and debates in French as well as use the internet for research and study purposes. The cultural aspect is also explored in order to provide an insight into the lifestyle of French speaking countries. A range of topics will be studied, including contemporary issues such as new family structures, the education system and employment, the media, youth concerns, integration and multiculturalism, the rise of the extreme right and occupation and resistance. You also gain a range of transferable skills, which are highly valued by employers and universities.

## Who is the course suitable for?

If you are keen to develop the invaluable language skills you acquired for GCSE, have a lively interest in contemporary issues, have a willingness to listen to a range of opinions and to express your own views as well as an open attitude to exploring other cultures then this is the right course for you. It would also suit you if you are interested in the business world, history, travel, tourism, media or journalism.

## What is the structure of the course?

The course is structured to develop the language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing – through the study of various aspects of French contemporary society. Grammar will be taught in one main block, then intermittently revisited over the course period, independent modules of listening and reading will be undertaken on a fortnightly basis. You will work from two course books supplemented by a range of materials: TV, magazine and newspaper articles, French websites, books and films. Work experience in France is a possible aspect of the course, as too are conferences run by native speakers.

## How will I be assessed?

The Edexcel A level French comprises three units on all 4 themes :

### Paper 1 – Listening, reading and translation

Written examination: 2hours, 80 marks, 40% of the qualification

### Paper 2: Written response to work, grammar and translation

Written examination: 2hours 40 minutes, 120 marks, 30% of the qualification

### Paper 3: Speaking

21-23 minutes, 5 minutes preparation, 72 marks, 30% of the qualification

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE French.

## Pre-course information required

It is advisable to revise GCSE work and to practise particularly presenting oral work. This will help when providing opinions, organising arguments and analysing ideas. Taster sessions should also be attended, during which time transition work will be set to complete over the Summer holiday. It is ideal to spend some time in a French speaking country before the course commences, but this is not compulsory. Between now and the start of your A Level course, you are encouraged to keep practising grammar. Interested students, both internal and external, may request a transition pack and a grammar pack to fully prepare.

## Progression routes?

As with all A level subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto further and higher education, a Modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. As we live in a global economy, with the European Union being the UK's biggest trading partner, proficiency in a language such as French will be a much prized qualification. Qualifications in modern languages are a requirement in many areas in the travel industry and are likely to increase your chance of employment in the business world. It is becoming increasingly prudent to study a language such as French alongside another subject or purely on its own. More and more Joint Honours courses are available involving the study of French, all of which will open up the workplace for students.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs M. Orcel, Head of French

# GEOGRAPHY

## What will I learn?

- What are the forces influencing our natural environment?
- What are the issues affecting people and the places where they live?
- How are people affecting the environment we all live in?
- What are the economic forces that drive the world economy, and how are they changing?
- What decisions are being made about the use and management of resources, and who makes these decisions?
- How to plan a fieldwork investigation – the collection of primary and secondary evidence and how to analyse it.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- have an interest in and concern for the environment
- are interested in current affairs
- want the opportunity to carry out practical work outdoors as well as class work
- enjoy travel and finding out about new people, places, landscapes and events.

## What is the structure of the course?

**Year 1:** Changing Places [30 lessons/6 Weeks]/ Water and Carbon Cycles [30 lessons/6 Weeks]/WINTER MOCK/  
Contemporary Urban Environments[44 Lessons/10 Weeks]/ Coastal Systems [30 lessons/6 Weeks]/ REVISION/  
SUMMER MOCKS

**Year 2:** Independent Fieldwork [52 lessons/12 Weeks]/ Global Systems and Governance [30 Lessons/6 Weeks]/  
WINTER MOCKS/ Hazards[44 Lessons/10 Weeks]/ EASTER MOCKS/REVISION/AQA EXAMINATIONS

## How will I be assessed?

### A Level Assessment

Component 1: Physical Geography	[2.5 hours/ 120 Marks/ 40% A Level]
Component 2: Human Geography	[2.5 hours/ 96 Marks/ 40% A Level]
Component 3: Geographical Investigation	[3000-4000 word Fieldwork Report/ 20% A Level]

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Geography, a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 5 in GCSE Maths (Grade 6 preferred in English and Maths)

## Pre-course information required

A keen interest in the world around us. A willingness to avidly follow current affairs and an interest in Sociology, Economics, Politics, Environmental Issues and History are all essential to a full appreciation of the subject.

## Progression routes?

An A Level in Geography can lead you to complete a wide variety of degrees which may include: Medicine, Journalism, Law, Teaching, Surveying, Environmental Science/Education, Geology, Leisure Management, Oceanography, Tourism Management, Town Planning, Diplomatic Service, Exploration, Water Resource Management, Zoology, Resource Management.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mr J Steacy-Buck, Head of Geography

# GERMAN

## What will I learn?

The course will help you to develop your general study skills, but most of all you will learn to communicate at a higher level in German. You will also learn much more about the society and cultural arena(s) in which German is spoken. You will study a range of themes and topics, for example nature and environment, education and the world of work, media, customs, traditions, and the political and artistic culture of Germany and German speaking countries and communities. Emphasis will be placed on the development of personal and intellectual skills as well as linguistic skills.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course is suitable for those interested in languages and communication and particularly if you enjoy learning about different cultures and ways of life. It is also of value to those students who would like to combine their interest in German with business, history, travel, tourism, media or journalism.

## What is the structure of the course?

You will develop the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing – through the study of various aspects of German contemporary society. Grammar will be taught in one main block, then intermittently revisited over the course period, independent modules of listening and reading will be undertaken on a fortnightly basis. You will work with a range of authentic materials such as magazine and newspaper articles, German websites, German literary texts and films as well as the Edexcel German for A Level course book. Work experience in Germany is a recommended aspect of the course, as too are conferences run by native speakers.

## How will I be assessed?

The Edexcel A Level German course is a two year course and comprises three units:

**Unit 1** – Listening, reading and translation – 1 hour 50 mins, 40% of the marks

**Unit 2** – Written response to works and translation – 2 hours 40 mins, 30% of the marks

**Unit 3** - Speaking – 23 mins, 30% of the marks

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE German.

## Pre-course information required

It is advisable to revise GCSE work and to practise particularly presenting oral work. This will help when providing opinions, organising arguments and analysing ideas. Taster sessions should also be attended, during which time transition work will be set to complete over the Summer holiday. It would of course be wonderful if students were able to spend some time in a German speaking country before the course commences, but this is not compulsory.

## Progression routes?

Languages are proving to be more and more important in an ever expanding Europe and international climate and particular areas of employment could include: International banking and finance, journalism, teaching, translating & interpreting, tourism and hotel industry, international law, or marketing. As far as university courses are concerned it is becoming increasingly prudent to study a language such as German alongside another subject or to study it either alongside another language or purely on its own. More and more Joint Honours courses are available involving the study of German, all of which will open up the workplace for students/prospective employees.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs S. Turner, Head of German

# HISTORY

## What will I learn?

The new and improved History A level offers an exciting range of material that does not fail to disappoint. The modules selected focus on **'The British Empire'** and the **'Birth of the USA'**. The **'British Empire'** module is based around the growth and development of imperialism with a heavy focus on Africa and India and serves as the **'Breadth' study**. The module is assessed through the use and understanding of historical interpretations based upon this controversial and much debated piece of history.

The **'Depth Study'** is focused on the **'Birth of the USA'**. This module provides for the study in depth of the years in which thirteen American colonies chose to sever their links with Great Britain and thus found the USA. This study explores the concepts of imperialism, mercantilism and legitimate government; alongside the exciting events that surround the creation of the USA we know today.

Finally, those opting to take History as an A-level subject will experience both of the above plus a personal 'Historical Investigation' which will be based on the **'Civil Rights Movement'** up until the present day. This has proved a very popular topic with previous A level students!

## Who is the course suitable for?

In the words of the American President Harry S Truman, "There is nothing new in the world, except the History you don't know". To those who enjoy studying the past, who relish a challenge and who like to think for themselves, this subject is for you!

## What is the structure of the course?

**Breadth Unit:** The British Empire, c1857 – 1914

**Depth Unit:** The Birth of the USA, 1760–1801

**Coursework:** Personal Study - The Civil Rights Movement 3500 words approximately.

## How will I be assessed?

**Breadth unit** is worth 40% of the total A Level. This will be assessed by a 2 hour and 30 minute exam.

**Depth unit** is worth 40% of the total A Level. This will be assessed by a 2 hour 30 minute exam.

**Coursework** is worth 20% of the total A Level.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE History and a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Pre-course information required

You must be fully aware of the demands of A Level History, by speaking to your History teacher and attending the open evening.

## Progress routes?

Advanced Level History is a highly regarded subject by admissions tutors at university. The knowledge and skills that you will develop will be of huge benefit in a variety of further education courses and in a diverse range of employment opportunities. History is an academic subject and highly regarded.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms P. Larkin, Head of History



# MATHEMATICS

## What will I learn?

Two thirds of the course is the study of Pure Mathematics with the remaining third being the study of Statistics and Mechanics. You will develop many of the ideas and techniques that you learned in your GCSE but at a more advanced level. These topics include simultaneous equations, solving quadratic equations, equations of straight lines, surds and indices. New topics include a very important branch of Mathematics – Calculus. In Statistics you will discover new statistical techniques and in Mechanics you will learn how the movement of particles and how the laws of Physics interact with Mathematics.

## Who is the course suitable for?

A Level Mathematics is a challenging yet highly respected qualification. It complements courses in both the Sciences and Business. You need to be accurate, logical and thoughtful. You need to understand that practice makes perfect. You need to enjoy problem solving and appreciate that answers need structure and that 100% is always attainable.

## What is the structure of the course?

In year 12 you will have covered content for Paper 1 of the Pure syllabus and part of the Statistics and Mechanics syllabus. In year 13 you will have covered content for Paper 2 of the Pure syllabus and the rest of the Statistics and Mechanics syllabus.

Each module of work will be taught by a different teacher who has the specialist knowledge to deliver the course to high standards.

## How will I be assessed?

There are three papers in the A level mathematics course. Paper 1 and Paper 2 are Pure Maths Papers each worth one third of the marks. Paper 3 is a Statistics and Mechanics paper and is worth one third of the marks. All three papers are two hours long and marked out of 100 marks. The examinations will take place in May/June of Year 13. There is no coursework element. The examination board is Edexcel. Calculators can be used in all three papers.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 7 in GCSE Maths. To study three science or maths subjects, students must achieve at least 21 points across these three subjects.

## Pre-course information required

You will need to be very good at algebra and enjoy the challenge of this exciting branch of Mathematics. Virtually every topic that we study is linked to algebra. You need to be confident that you can solve equations, factorise and manipulate them by rearranging them to change the subject of the formula. You need to remember formulae and be able to apply the right technique in context to solve problems. Speak to your Mathematics teacher who can advise you about the course and give you more information. Speak to some Year 12 students to see what the demands of the course are. They can give you some invaluable insight into the way the course is structured and both the good and bad points of studying Mathematics at a higher level.

## Progression routes?

Successful completion will enable progression on to further and higher education. Mathematics is particularly desirable for Medicine and Engineering as well as for ICT, Accountancy, Economics or any of the Sciences. No employer will ignore an Advanced level qualification in Mathematics – this is a much valued subject and will make you stand out from the crowd. A recent study showed that employees with A Level Mathematics earned, on average, £10K pa more than people with equivalent qualifications in other subjects. Mathematics is well worth the effort!

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms K. Fisher, KS5 Mathematics coordinator

# MATHEMATICS (FURTHER)

## What will I learn?

Further Mathematics is a challenging yet interesting course. It builds on work that you have already met at GCSE and supports many other subjects. While studying this course you will use mathematical skills and knowledge as well as logic to solve problems. You will simplify real life situations so that you can use mathematics to show what is happening and what might happen in different circumstances. The course covers four modules of Further Mathematics.

Module 1: Proof, Complex Numbers, Matrices, Further Algebra and Functions, Further Calculus, Further Vectors.

Module 2: Complex Numbers, Further Algebra and Functions, Further Calculus, Polar Coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions, Differential Equations.

Module 3: There are four different routes to choose from: Pure, Statistics, Mechanics or Decision Maths.

Module 4: There are four different routes to choose from: Pure, Statistics, Mechanics or Decision Maths.

## Who is the course suitable for?

A Level Further Mathematics is an extension and advancement of A Level Mathematics. The love of Mathematics is essential, particularly the branches of Algebra and Trigonometry. An essential part of mathematical study is the challenge of analysing and solving a problem and the satisfaction and confidence gained from achieving a 'correct answer'. You will not have to write essays, but you will need to be able to communicate accurately and logically in written work to explain your solutions.

## What is the structure of the course?

In Year 12 you will study modules 1 and 2 of the A level content for Further Mathematics.

In Year 13 you will study modules 3 and 4 of the A level content for Further Mathematics.

The decision on which modules you will follow in year 13 will depend upon the strengths of the students in the class.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on four further maths modules. Each paper is a 90 minute exam and marked out of 75. The examinations will take place in May/June of Year 13. There is no coursework element in A Level Further Mathematics. The exam board is Edexcel. Calculators can be used in all four papers.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 8 in GCSE Maths. You have to study A Level Maths alongside A Level Further Maths. To study three science or maths subjects, students must achieve at least 21 points across these three subjects.

## Pre-course information required

The skills required for Further Mathematics are exactly the same as that required for A level Mathematics. However, the accuracy and understanding of all topics needs to be more highly tuned. This course is very focused on learning new mathematics skills and knowledge and is not for the faint hearted.

## Progression routes?

Higher Education courses or careers that require 'A' Level Mathematics include Economics, Medicine, Architecture, Engineering, Accountancy, Physics and Computing. The acquisition of Further Mathematics will be especially noted on any CV or application form as only approximately 8,000 people across the country gain this qualification every year. People entering today's most lucrative industries such as IT, banking and the stock market, need to be confident using mathematics on a daily basis. Even in areas where pure mathematics is not required, other skills learned at A Level, such as logical thinking, problem solving and statistical analysis, are often very desirable in the workplace.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms K. Fisher, KS5 Mathematics coordinator

# MEDIA STUDIES

## What will I learn?

The course is designed to give you a broad understanding of Media: communication and Production, across all platforms within the industry, print, broadcasting and e-media. You will study the relationship between media products, their meanings, their producers and their audiences. You will be encouraged to develop a critical awareness of the media in society and will examine the moral and cultural implications of media texts and industry. You will acquire practical production skills and there will be the opportunity to research and produce your own media product using video and editing equipment and desktop publishing software.

## Who is the course suitable for?

- Students who want to gain an understanding of key pathways in the media industry, or who are hoping to carry on with related subjects at university.
- Students who have an interest in culture and society and in critically examining the effects of the media on our everyday lives.
- Students who are creative and enjoy coursework & discussion.

## What is the structure of the course?

Component 1 **Media Products, Industries and Audiences**, focuses on how representations and ideologies are constructed in media products through media language, as well as how representations are influenced by social, cultural, historical and industry contexts. They will study various theoretical approaches.

Component 2 **Media Forms and Products in Depth**, has a focus on Television in the global age, Media in the online age and Magazines: Alternative and Mainstream media

Component 3 is the **Production** element of practical coursework. Students will produce an individual cross-media production based on 2 forms in response to a choice of briefs set by the exam board. This will be accompanied by a 500 word statement of intentions.

## How will I be assessed?

The exam board is Eduqas. Assessment is through exam (70%) and coursework (30%).

Two 3 hr written exams at the end of the course. Unit 1 is worth 35% and Unit 2 is worth 35%.

The production work (30%) is assessed independently - there is no group work option, although students can obviously use other people as cast and crew to help with their production.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade B in GCSE Media Studies OR a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Pre-course information required

Students must be committed and prepared to work independently. You must be a confident writer as detailed written analysis and essay writing is important to all aspects of the course. You should have a keen interest in the media generally by being interested in film, television, advertising, magazines, gaming or music. You should be aware of current social trends and current affairs.

## Progression routes?

There is a high employment rate for Media Studies graduates. As well as a degree in Media Studies, other popular courses include Marketing, Events Management, Film Studies, Communications, Cultural Studies, Public Relations, Advertising, TV, Film and Radio Production and Web Design. Some students go straight out to work in the Media industry; previous students have gone on to work for News International, The BBC, The Times, Ant & Dec and This Morning! As well as continuing education and an introduction to the industry, a Media Studies A level will give you a mixture of skills that can be applied to many different occupations and it is a good basis from which to study any humanities subject.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms A. Gold, Head of Media Studies

# MUSIC

## What will I learn?

The Edexcel A Level extends the GCSE skills of Performing, Composing and Appraising in ways that emphasise their interdependence. There are increased opportunities for the development of skills and understanding in performing, listening and appraisal. There are no limits on the instruments or voices and type of repertoire which may be presented and the study of the widest possible range of music. The course offers scope to compose creatively using music technology.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This specification encourages students to:

- Extend the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to communicate through and to take part in making music.
- Engage in and extend their appreciation of the diverse and dynamic heritage of music, promoting spiritual and culture development.

## What is the structure of the course?

The Edexcel A Level is made up of three components:

Component 1: Performing 30% of the qualification

- A public performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital.
- Performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music using music technology.
- The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 8 minutes

Component 2: Composing 30% of the qualification

- Total of two compositions, one to a brief set by Pearson and one either free composition or also to a brief.
- One composition must be from either a list of briefs related to the areas of study, or a free composition, carrying 40 marks for this component. This composition must be at least 4 minutes in duration
- One composition must be from a list of briefs assessing compositional technique, carrying 20 marks for this component.

Component 3: Appraising 40% of the qualification

- One written paper of 2 hours
- Section A: listening questions on the set works and melodic/rhythmic dictation
- Section B: two essay questions based on the set works

## How will I be assessed?

- Performing – Solo Recital assessed externally by an examiner
- Composing – Two compositions assessed externally by an examiner
- Developing Musical Understanding – written exam marked by the examiner

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Music, with Grade 7 preferred, and a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Pre-course information required

Good instrumental and/or vocal skills (equivalent to Grade 4/5 at the start of the course)

## Progression routes?

Music offers progression to a University or Conservatoire to read music, employment in Music related industries such as arts administration, theatre, TV and journalism, and is also a strong academic subject which can extend numerous analytical and critical skills. It is accepted by top Russell Group universities as a rigorous A Level subject.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms N. Exposito, Head of Music

# PHYSICS

## What will I learn?

You will learn about how objects move, how mechanical systems operate, how light, waves and sub-atomic particles behave, how electric and gravitational fields affect the world around us and how Physics applications shape the world of the future. You will be expected to solve numerical problems and to describe and discuss your understanding of physical concepts. You will have the opportunity to develop your practical skills and will perform experiments that illustrate scientific theory.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course is for students interested in a detailed study of Physics, who can think logically, are mathematically able, have an enquiring mind, enjoy challenges and testing theory by experimentation.

## What is the structure of the course?

Each topic is designed to develop an excellent understanding of important concepts in the subject. These ideas include from modern day physics like antiparticles and the quark model. You will develop your understanding of astrophysics and cosmology and in radioactivity you will be able to explain why your body is made from nuclear waste of long dead stars. Each topic will be linked to practical applications of the physics involved in order to aid learning. Physics is a practical subject and experimentation and investigation will play an important role. Students will be expected to carry out experiments, go on physics based visits and to complete case studies on the applications of physics.

## How will I be assessed?

At the end of each unit of study you will be internally assessed to monitor your progress. You will also be expected to prepare presentations and to apply your knowledge different situations to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the work.

The external examinations will be offered at the end of Year 13 and they will contain a variety of short answer and longer stretch and challenge questions and also questions about the experiments that you will have done. Your ability to manipulate equipment and analyse experimental results is continually assessed by your teacher.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Physics (with Grade 7 preferred), a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. If you have studied GCSE Combined Science you will need a Grade 7:6 (with Grade 7:7 preferred). To study three science or maths subjects, students must achieve at least 21 points across these three subjects.

## Pre-course information required

Good mathematical skills are essential if you are to be able to cope with the demands of this course. You must make sure that you have a good basic knowledge of algebra and trigonometry. You must develop your ability to work independently on solving problems. This requires time, dedication and organisation. It is this commitment and work ethic, which will be a major determiner of whether you will be successful in this subject.

## Progression routes?

Physics is essential for those students entering Physical Science, Engineering or Electronics at all levels. Physics is also very useful for those wanting to follow a medical career. Physics qualifications are highly sought after. Students who have achieved a good grade in A level Physics demonstrate the clarity of thought and determination to solve problems which enable them to succeed in many jobs and professions. This academic AS/A Level course is well regarded by employers, colleges and universities as a measure of problem solving ability and thinking skills. The skills developed on this course can be applied just as well to business and management as well as to science. Many companies place a high value of numerate physics students who can demonstrate that they can think logically and imaginatively.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms C Tew, Head of Science

# PSYCHOLOGY

## What will I learn?

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and the mind. It asks three big questions:

***Why do I behave the way I do? Why do I think the way I do? Why do I feel the way I do?***

This course aims to develop advanced knowledge and understanding of how different perspectives in psychology answer these three big questions. During AS Psychology, students will undertake introductory concepts, such as Social Influence, Psychopathology and Attachment. Students will also learn about the scientific methods, psychologists use to glean information about behaviour.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course is for anyone who wants to develop an understanding of human behaviour. However, participants must be interested in human behaviour and want to develop that interest through an academic route. The course will develop thinking skills, research skills and improve a Sixth Former's knowledge base. This is a heavily essay based subject. An interest in Biology is also desirable as the course has some heavily scientific and mathematical content.

## What is the structure of the course?

In year 12, there are six units. The first unit is 'Introductory Topics'. In this unit, students become familiar with the perspectives and issues around published psychological evidence. The second unit Psychology in Context, focuses on the application and conduct of Psychology in the real world. In Year 13 there are three units. One unit will focus on advanced Introductory Topics, the second will build upon the Psychology in Context unit studied in Year 12. The third unit will focus on Options and Issues in Psychology. The successful completion of all units will lead to an A Level in Psychology.

## How will I be assessed?

The A2 will be examined with three exam papers, lasting two hours each. All papers will comprise of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Paper 1 will consist of: Social Psychology, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology

Paper 2 will consist of: Approaches, Biopsychology and Research Methods

Paper 3 will consist of: Issues and Debates, Schizophrenia, Aggression and Relationships

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade B in GCSE Psychology or a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature and Grade 5 in GCSE Maths, with Grade 6 Maths preferred.

## Pre-course information required

The pre-requisite for this course is a willingness to learn and to think. In fact it is essential that you are prepared for uncertainty in your learning. Psychology will be delivered using a variety of teaching methods to meet different learning needs. However, the study of psychology involves reading various books and articles and writing essays, therefore literacy skills are crucial. Statistics are used in research and so numeracy is a necessary requirement. 10% of the Psychology examination will be maths centred. Furthermore, Psychology takes place in a historical and political context so an interest in both current affairs and twentieth century history would be advantageous. Finally, the internet is invaluable so ICT skills are preferred.

## Progression routes?

If you choose to go onto university, you will find that Psychology complements the sciences as well as the humanities. You may wish to specialise in Psychology at degree level and further. Psychologists find themselves working in all areas of life, in the legal justice system, in health care, in media, in retail, in business and in education.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs A Param, Head of Psychology

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

## What will I learn?

You will study one religion at length. At WHS we choose to study Islam however we also draw upon other world religions particularly Christianity. Students will also be given opportunities to explore a range of philosophical and ethical questions. An example of some of the content you will cover in RE includes:

- The role of Muhammad (pbuh) in the development of Islam.
- The journey of Islam
- The Qur'an as a source of authority
- The six articles of faith
- Ethical matters such as shari'ah law and Jihad
- Is there a world beyond that of our physical senses?
- Who is God? Does God exist?
- What is the problem of evil and how does it challenge religious belief?
- The nature and influence of religious experience
- Virtue ethics – how personal qualities and morals impact on the ethical system and ethical decisions
- How do we decide between right and wrong?
- Should we be judged on the intention of our action? Or the consequence of our action?
- Explore the work of Thomas Aquinas, David Hume, Darwin, A.J Ayer and many more.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course is for anyone who is interested in opening their minds to a wide range of philosophical questions. The course will help you to develop highly analytical and critical styles of thinking. Additionally, this course welcomes all those who enjoy getting involved in lively discussions and debates. If you enjoy learning about moral issues and discussing the rightness or wrongness of particular actions. Or if you enjoy thinking about abstract concepts such as the nature of our existence then this course is for you.

## What is the structure of the course?

The focus in the first year is placed on religion and in particular Islam and philosophy. In the second year the focus is placed on philosophy and ethics. A portion of time is dedicated to recapping and revision.

## How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed through 3 exams. Each exam is 2 hours long and contributes towards 33.3% of the course. We follow the WJEC Eduqas exam board for this course.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Religious Studies OR a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Pre-course information required

The course is different from the way in which Religious Studies is taught at GCSE. It is more about developing your own ideas and opinions than learning about what others believe. The course involves a lot of class discussion as well as private reading and essay writing. It makes you think about all that you have learnt and causes you to stop and think! There are a large number of resources available for you to use which will help you to achieve the best grade possible.

## Progression routes?

Traditionally Religious Studies has only been associated with certain jobs like teaching or social care, yet this is not the case in the modern world. Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics, is currently the fastest growing A-level and is increasingly being seen favourably by admission tutors in degrees such as Philosophy, Law, English, History, Psychology and Medicine. The heavy focus on evaluative and critical thinking skills in the A-Level course are highly sought after and successful completion of the A Level will enable progression onto a wide range of Higher Education courses. *The Russell Group of top universities has have described the A Level to be suitably preparing students for University*".

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms N Choudhry, Head of Religious Education, Mr J Edwards Teacher of Religious Studies and Ms T Morgan Teacher of Religious Studies and History.

# RUSSIAN

## What will I learn?

The course will help you to develop your general study skills, but most of all you will learn to communicate at a higher level in Russian. You will also learn much more about the society and cultural arena(s) in which Russian is spoken. You will study a range of themes and topics, for example post-Soviet society, education and the world of work, media, customs, traditions, and the political and artistic culture of Russia and Russian speaking communities. Emphasis will be placed on the development of personal and intellectual skills as well as linguistic skills.

## Who is the course suitable for?

This course is suitable for those interested in languages and communication and particularly if you enjoy learning about different cultures and ways of life. It is also of value to those students who would like to combine their interest in Russian with business, history, travel, tourism, media or journalism.

## What is the structure of the course?

You will develop the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing – through the study of various aspects of Russian contemporary society. Grammar will be taught in one main block, then intermittently revisited over the course period, independent modules of listening and reading will be undertaken on a fortnightly basis. You will work with a range of authentic materials such as magazine and newspaper articles, Russian websites, Russian literary texts and films. You will study a Russian book and a film during the course. Lessons will be taught by two teachers – one of these will lead the grammar and speaking aspects of the course and the other will lead the reading, listening and writing aspects through the study of contemporary topics.

## How will I be assessed?

The Edexcel A Level Russian comprises three units:

Unit 1 – Listening, reading and translation 2 hours, 40% of the marks

Unit 2 – Written response to works and translation hours 40 mins, 30% of the marks

Unit 3 - Speaking – 23 mins, 30% of the marks.

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade B in GCSE Russian.

## Pre-course information required

You should have enjoyed GCSE Russian and be interested in learning more about Russian history and culture.

## Progression routes?

This course is particularly suitable for students wishing to continue with Russian language or cultural studies at university. For those applying to university to study any subject, a foreign language, and especially Russian, makes you stand out from the crowd. Any admissions tutor would look at a candidate with Russian A Level with interest. Students interested in pursuing a career in journalism, politics, travel and tourism, or the media will also find Russian an advantage. Similarly, if you are interested in the business world, language skills are more in demand now than ever and Russian is in demand by UK businesses because of expanding markets in Russia.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs R. Clark, Head of Russian



# SOCIOLOGY

## What will I learn?

The aim of sociology is to investigate areas of social importance such as the education and political system and the family. We also explore how sociologists investigate society, and how common-sense perceptions about what is happening in our world often do not stand up to scientific research. The course also looks in depth at the divisions in society in terms of social class, ethnicity and gender.

## Who is the course suitable for?

Success on this course will depend on your ability to identify and analyse a variety of sociological sources. If you are interested in issues in the news, and have an enquiring and questioning mind you will find this course important and interesting.

## What is the structure of the course?

In the first year of the course students will study:

- Families and households.
- The education system.
- Culture and socialisation

In the second year the course explores:

- Social differentiation and stratification and power and politics.

Over the two years there is a continuing study of methods of sociological enquiry.

## How will I be assessed?

All of the units are assessed in an examination at the end of the second year. There are three components; one is an examination of socialisation and culture, the second covers the methods of sociological enquiry and the third covers power and stratification.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Pre-course information required

It is necessary to have excellent English Language skills, and a keen interest in current affairs.

## Progression routes?

This course provides a foundation for the further study of sociology and related subjects in higher education. Sociology also provides an important grounding for careers in education, the law, media, the caring professions and social services.

It is also a very important general qualification that all employers view favourably as it gives an excellent general knowledge of the world, an ability to understand how society operates and how problems can be addressed. Sociology students go on into a wide variety of jobs.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Mr S. Shaw, Head of Sociology or Ms Z. Younis, Teacher of Sociology

# SPANISH

## What will I learn?

The Spanish Advanced level course is a progression from Spanish GCSE. You will study grammar in detail, do prose translations, have discussions and debates in Spanish as well as use the internet for research and study purposes. The cultural aspect is also explored in order to provide an insight into the lifestyle of Spanish speaking countries. A range of topics will be studied, including contemporary issues such as new family structures, the education system and employment, media, customs, traditions, and the political and artistic culture of Spain and Spanish speaking countries. You will also gain a range of transferable skills, which are highly valued by employers and universities.

## Who is the course suitable for?

If you are keen to develop the invaluable language skills you acquired for GCSE, have a lively interest in contemporary issues, have a willingness to listen to a range of opinions and to express your own views as well as an open attitude to exploring other cultures then this is the right course for you. It would also suit you if you are interested in the business world, history, travel, tourism, media or journalism.

## What is the structure of the course?

The course is structured to develop the language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing – through the study of various aspects of Spanish speaking contemporary societies. Grammar will be taught in one main block, then intermittently revisited over the course period, independent modules of listening and reading will be undertaken on a fortnightly basis. You will work from one course book supplemented by a range of materials: TV, magazine and newspaper articles, Spanish websites, books and films. You will study a Spanish book and a film during the course. Lessons will be taught by two teachers – one of these will lead the grammar and speaking aspects of the course and the other will lead the reading, listening and writing aspects through the study of contemporary topics.

## How will I be assessed?

The Edexcel A level Spanish comprises three units on all 4 themes :

**Paper 1 : Listening, reading and translation**

Written examination: 2 hours 40% of the qualification

**Paper 2: Written response to work and translation**

Written examination: 2h 40 minutes, 30% of the qualification

**Paper 3: Speaking ( Internally conducted and externally assessed )**

Total assessment time: between 21 and 23 minutes, 30% of the qualification

## What qualification do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

## Pre-course information required

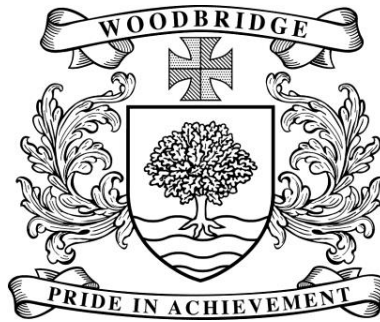
It is advisable to revise GCSE work and to practise particularly presenting oral work. This will help when providing opinions, organising arguments and analysing ideas. Taster sessions should also be attended, during which time transition work will be set to complete over the Summer holiday. It is ideal to spend some time in a Spanish speaking country before the course commences, but this is not compulsory. Between now and the start of your A Level course, you are encouraged to keep practising grammar. Interested students, both internal and external, may request a transition pack and a grammar pack to fully prepare.

## Progression routes?

As with all A level subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression onto further and higher education, a Modern Apprenticeship or employment in a range of industries. As we live in a global economy, with the European Union being the UK's biggest trading partner, proficiency in a language such as Spanish will be a much prized qualification. Qualifications in modern languages are a requirement in many areas in the travel industry and are likely to increase your chance of employment in the business world. It is becoming increasingly prudent to study a language such as Spanish alongside another subject or purely on its own. More and more Joint Honours courses are available involving the study of Spanish, all of which will open up the workplace for students.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms E Zmirou, Head of Spanish



# COURSE INFORMATION

## ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Students studying three A Level subjects would usually select one of these additional opportunities to study alongside.
- These courses are equivalent to half an A Level.
- You should discuss this with the senior member of staff who sees you to discuss your choices.

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (AS Level)

### What will I learn?

This Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an opportunity for you to complete a project on a subject which interests you. Your project can be a dissertation (a long essay), an investigation, a performance or an artefact. You will learn how to go about researching your topic independently, how to write in an academic style, how to reference your sources and how to keep a log of your activity.

### Who is the course suitable for?

The course is suitable for students who wish to broaden their programme of study and do some independent research. Universities value the EPQ because it equips students for the kind of independent study they will do later on.

### What is the structure of the course?

The initial part of the course is taught to enable you to develop the skills to complete your project effectively. After this, you will have regular tutorials. You will not learn the subject knowledge of the topic you have chosen, but rather the skills required to find this out for yourself.

You can choose the subject for your project to closely reflect something you are studying in one of your subjects, or to relate directly to something you wish to study at university.

### How will I be assessed?

There is no examination for the EPQ. Your work will be assessed by the school and moderated by the exam board.

You will complete your project and also present your findings to other students and your teacher(s).

### What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will need to be taking three or four A Levels alongside this.

### Pre-course information required

You should have some initial ideas about the broad subject areas which you are interested in.

### Progression routes?

The EPQ is valued by universities. Cambridge University says:

*We welcome the introduction of the Extended Project and would encourage you to undertake one as it will help you develop independent study and research skills, which will ease the transition from school / college to higher education.*

### Who do I contact for further information?

Mr J. Steacy-Buck, EPQ Co-ordinator

# MATHEMATICAL STUDIES (AS Level)

## What will I learn?

This new qualification is designed to equip learners to develop and apply real-world maths skills to help them progress to university, employment or higher apprenticeships in a wide range of industry sectors. You will learn maths skills which you can apply to subjects across the curriculum, such as the sciences, Psychology, Sociology and Design Technology. You will develop competence in the selection and use of mathematical methods and techniques. You will develop confidence in representing and analysing authentic situations mathematically, and in applying mathematics to address related questions and issues. You will also build your skills in mathematical thinking, reasoning and communication.

## Who is the course suitable for?

The course is suitable for students who have achieved a minimum of grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics, and who are studying courses which include an element of maths – these include GCE A level Biology, Business Studies, Economics, Computing, Geography, Psychology, Business and Health and Social Care.

## What is the structure of the course?

The course is designed to be taught in one year. You will study:

- Analysis of Data
- Personal Finance
- Modelling and Estimation
- Critical Analysis
- Graphical Methods , Rates Of Change , Exponential Functions

## How will I be assessed?

There are two exam papers.

Paper 1 - Analysis of Data, Personal Finance and Modelling and Estimation.

Paper 2 – Critical Analysis, Graphical Methods, Rates Of Change and Exponential Functions.

The exam board is AQA. Both papers are calculator papers.

## What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a GCSE total points score of 50. You will also need a Grade 5 in GCSE Maths.

## Pre-course information required

You should have an interest in Maths and its application to other subjects.

## Progression routes?

This course provides a foundation for the further study of subjects which have an element of maths within them. It provides a background for working with various types of statistics – this is a requirement for many university courses. Students studying this course will find that they are able to understand and deal with mathematical problems which occur in everyday life.

## Who do I contact for further information?

Ms K. Fisher, Key Stage 5 Co-ordinator