

WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

A Specialist Language and Business & Enterprise College with Applied Learning Specialism



6th Form Courses 2014

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WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

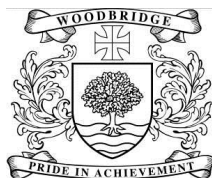
6th FORM GUIDANCE NOTES

There are several routes through the 6th Form at Woodbridge High School:

1. Students who have not yet gained the minimum requirements to study either a Level 3 course or AS / A Levels can join the one-year 6th Form Foundation Course. This will help them to gain a better GCSE grade in English and Maths, as well as giving them a grounding in skills for life. They will study an applied course in either Business or Health & Social Care at Level 2, giving them the equivalent of two additional GCSEs. They can go on to a Level 3 course after one year, providing they achieve the entry requirement.
2. Students who wish to study an applied (work-related) curriculum can select a curriculum made up of Level 3 courses in Business, Health & Social Care, Sport, Art & Design or Applied Biology. They may take this route after having achieved the entry requirements at GCSE in year 11 or having studied the 6th Form Foundation Course and achieved satisfactory grades.
3. Students may combine one or more Level 3 applied courses with one or more AS and A Levels – see 4 below.
4. Students who have met the entry requirements may study three or four GCE AS / A Levels in a range of subjects. This route usually requires students to have a minimum of B grades in the subjects they wish to study, as well as a GCSE average points score of at least 43. Students should have C grades in English and Maths.

There have been some changes to the pastoral structure of the 6th Form since the printing of the main part of this prospectus:

1. Students are not required to attend registration each morning, but instead have a programme of fortnightly tutorials with their personal tutor. These cover aspects of their academic progress and personal wellbeing, as well as preparation for university applications. There is a weekly assembly for all students, as well as a full enrichment programme each fortnight.
2. Full private study facilities are provided for all students. When students do not have lessons, they are free to use these facilities, although private study time is not timetabled unless students are struggling to manage their time appropriately.



WOODBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

6th FORM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The strict entrance requirement for a programme of study consisting of only GCE AS subjects at Woodbridge is **an average GCSE points score of 43 with at least a B grade in the subjects which students wish to study.** Students will normally also have achieved at least a C grade in English and Maths. For programmes of study including Level 3 applied courses, the entry requirement is 5 A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent, normally including English and Maths.

The GCSE average points score (APS) is calculated using GCSE grades only (no equivalents, such as BTECs are included). Each grade is worth a number of points as below:

A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
58	52	46	40	34	28	22	16

To find your predicted average, add up the points for your predicted grades and divide by the number of grades you have. Some examples:

- 8 C grades - average 40.0 points
- 5 Cs and 3 Bs - average 42.3 points
- 4 Cs and 4 Bs - average 43.0 points
- 8 B grades - average 46.0 points

Please refer to the specific entry requirements for courses on the next two pages. A grade B must be achieved at GCSE to study most subjects.

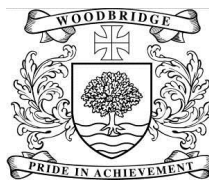
It is a requirement that those students studying GCE AS Levels or Level 3 applied courses who have not yet attained grade C in GCSE English and Maths will continue these subjects and take the exams during Year 12.

All students will have an interview when they apply for the 6th Form. They will only be permitted to apply for 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.

For progression from the AS (year 12) course to A2 (year 13), students must achieve at least a D grade in their AS examinations. This requirement is strictly enforced.



WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

6th Form Foundation Course

6th Form Foundation Course	<p>A minimum of 4 D or E grades at GCSE, or slightly lower on negotiation.</p> <p>Students will need to have an interest in either Business or Health & 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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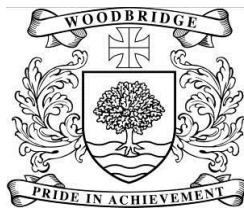
BTEC & Cambridge Technical Level 3

BTEC National Diploma / Extended Diploma (Level 3) Business	5 A*-C at GCSE, or Merit at BTEC First Diploma level
BTEC National Diploma (Level 3) Sport	5 A*-C at GCSE, or Merit at BTEC First Diploma level
Cambridge Technical Diploma (Level 3) Art & Design	5 A*-C at GCSE, Merit at L2 Art & Design
Cambridge Technical Diploma / Extended Diploma (Level 3) Health & Social Care	5 A*-C at GCSE, or Merit at L2 H&SC, GCSE English Grade C.

GCE AS / A Level

Art & Design	GCSE Art Grade B, GCSE English Grade B
Biology	GCSE Biology Grade B or Edexcel Certificate in Science Grade AA or GCSE Additional Science Grade A, GCSE Maths Grade B, GCSE English Grade B
Business Studies	GCSE Business Grade B, GCSE English & Maths Grade C.
Chemistry	GCSE Chemistry Grade B or Edexcel Certificate in Science Grade AA or GCSE Additional Science Grade A, GCSE Maths Grade B, GCSE English Grade B.
Community & Other Languages	GCSE Grade B in the language to be studied at AS Level

Computing	GCSE Maths Grade B and GCSE English Grade C
Drama & Theatre Studies	GCSE English Grade B, GCSE Drama or Expressive Arts Grade B
Economics	GCSE Business Studies Grade B if taken, GCSE English Grade B, GCSE Maths Grade B
English Language	GCSE English Grade B
English Literature	GCSE English and English Literature Grade B
Film Studies	GCSE Media Grade B or GCSE English or English Literature Grade B
French	GCSE French Grade B
Geography	GCSE Geography Grade B
German	GCSE German Grade B
History	GCSE History Grade B, GCSE English Grade B
ICT	GCSE ICT Grade B, GCSE English & Maths Grade C
Law	GCSE English Grade B
Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics Grade B (A* or A is preferred) or Pass in Additional Maths
Mathematics (Further)	GCSE Mathematics Grade A (A* is preferred) or Additional Maths Grade C.
Media Studies	GCSE Media Grade B or GCSE English or English Literature Grade B
Music	GCSE Music Grade A (lower grades may be accepted by negotiation)
Physical Education	GCSE PE Grade B
Physics	GCSE Physics Grade B or Edexcel Certificate in Science Grade AA or GCSE Additional Science Grade A, GCSE Maths Grade B and English Grade B
Product Design	GCSE Graphic Products or Product Design Grade B
Psychology	GCSE English Grade B. Also preferred in Maths and Core Science
Religious Studies	GCSE Religious Studies Grade B, or GCSE English Grade B
Russian	GCSE Russian Grade B
Sociology	GCSE English or English Literature Grade B



WOODBRIIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

APPLICATION TIMELINE FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS

28th November 2013

Sixth Form Open Evening

- Woodbridge High School Sixth Form Open Evening for parents and students
- Woodbridge High School Sixth Form prospectus issued with application form and school reference form

The Sixth Form Open Evening is a chance for you to come and meet and discuss Sixth Form options with our dedicated Heads of Department and gain sufficient information to help when considering pathways at post-16 level.

10th January 2014

Application Deadline

This is the deadline for a completed application, school reference and personal statement to be sent to Woodbridge High School.

February /March 2014

Interviews

External students will be invited to Woodbridge High School for an interview with either the Head of Sixth Form or an Assistant Head teacher. Then:

- a letter will be sent either offering you a place (you will be requested to reply by beginning April 2014) or advising you that you have been unsuccessful
- you will be invited to reply to our offer to either accept or not accept a place
- if you have **firmly accepted** a place, you will be invited to the post-16 Induction Week

30th June – 2nd July 2014

Post-16 Induction week

This week involves students following a Year 12 timetable for their chosen options and gaining a greater understanding of the level of study, commitment and materials required.



WOODBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
APPLICATION TIMELINE FOR CURRENT YEAR 11
WOODBRIDGE STUDENTS

28th November 2013

Sixth Form Open Evening

- Sixth Form Open Evening for parents and students
- Sixth Form prospectus issued with application form

The Sixth Form Open Evening is an opportunity for you to come and meet and discuss Sixth Form options with our dedicated Heads of Department and gain sufficient information to help when considering pathways at post-16 level.

12th December 2013

Application Deadline

This is the deadline for completed Sixth Form Applications to be returned to Mr Hogan, Deputy Head.

13th January 2014

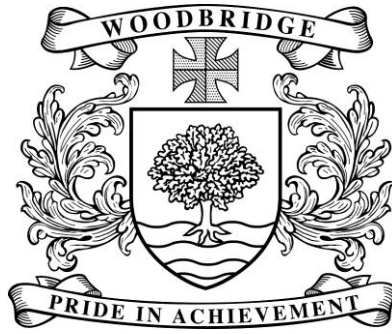
Interviews Begin

After the forms have been completed and handed in, senior staff will talk to the prospective students to help discuss their post-16 plans. Careers guidance will be available during this half term.

30th June – 2nd July 2014

Post 16 Induction Week

This week involves students following a Year 12 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 AS / A Levels.
- This course is taught over 27 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 Life Studies 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 Certificate 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. Work Experience is a compulsory part of these courses. Please see individual course pages for details.
- If you think that you may not gain 5 A*-C grades at GCSE (the entry requirement for Level 3 courses or GCE AS Levels), 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 AS / 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 C
- 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 AS / 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 27 hours of lessons per fortnight. There are five elements:

- GCSE English – 4 hours
- GCSE Maths – 4 hours
- Life Studies & Enrichment – 4 hours
- EITHER BTEC Extended 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 is assessed entirely by examination – this can take place at various times throughout the year. GCSE English is assessed by controlled assessment and examination. The BTEC and Cambridge Technical courses are assessed by internally and externally marked coursework and are equivalent to two GCSE grades.

What qualification do I need to have?

You will need to have 4 D/E grades from your GCSEs in year 11, or slightly lower grades by negotiation.

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 C or above.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss C. Iyengar, Head of 6th Form

BTEC FIRST CERTIFICATE (LEVEL 2) IN BUSINESS

What will I learn?

The BTEC First Certificate 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 Certificate (equivalent to two GCSEs at A* - C), is a one year course divided into eight 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)
- Principles of Marketing (board set assignment)
- Principles of customer service
- Sales and personal selling
- Providing Business support
- Using Business Documentation

How will I be assessed?

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

What qualification do I need to have?

You will need at least 4 D–E grades at GCSE level. An acceptable standard of literacy and numeracy is also required.

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 will entitle the student to apply for a Level 3 course, this is equivalent to an AS level. Many students continue onto a Level 3 applied course, which they study full time, as it is a Double Award (equivalent to two A2 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?

Mr J. Rahman, Head of Business Education, or Mr J. Hussain, teacher of Business Education

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. The course will allow students to be aware of how health and social care organisations operate through exploration of concepts such as health promotion and care.

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. It particularly suits students who prefer doing coursework to taking exams.

What is the structure of the course?

For the award of Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (Level 2), equivalent to two GCSEs at Grade A*-C, students must complete 4 units of study worth 30 credits - two mandatory units worth 50 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:

- To be decided depending on the interests of the group.

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?

A minimum of 4 D / E grades at GCSE of which one should be English Language.

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.

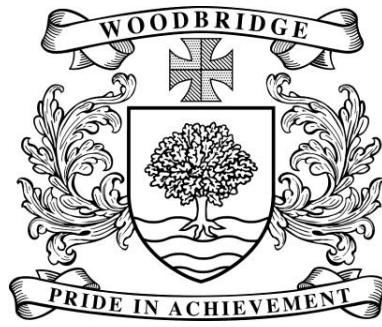
Progression routes

A Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (Level 2) is equivalent to two GCSEs at grades A*-C and if students gain a Merit grade this can then lead to progression to the Level 3 course. You could then go to university to train as a care professional (nurse, occupational therapist, physiotherapist or teacher). You could also use the course as a route into the police, armed forces or ambulance service.

Other progression routes include CACHE, Level 3 National Certificate and those wishing to pursue a career in the caring professions via Apprenticeship in Health, Social Care, or Early Years.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss J. Kersten, Head of Health & Social Care



COURSE INFORMATION

BTEC & CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL (CTEC) LEVEL 3 COURSES

- These Level 3 courses are available in a variety of forms to suit different students. Please make sure you have checked the notes below.
- BTEC Business can be studied as a double (18 periods) or triple (27 periods) option. The double can be combined with an AS subject, whereas the triple should be a student's only choice. The double leads to a BTEC Diploma after two years and the triple leads to a BTEC Extended Diploma after two years. Choose BTEC Business 1 and 2 for the double and 1, 2 and 3 for the triple.
- BTEC Sport can be studied as a single option (9 periods). This would normally then be combined with other subject(s). This course leads to the BTEC Subsidiary Diploma after two years which is worth one A Level.
- Cambridge Technical Health & Social Care can be studied as either a double (18 periods) or triple (27 periods) option. The double can be combined with an AS subject, whereas the triple should be a student's only choice. The double leads to a Cambridge Technical Diploma after two years and the triple leads to a Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma after two years. Choose CTEC H&SC 1 and 2 for the double and CTEC H&SC 1, 2 and 3 for the triple.
- Cambridge Technical Art & Design must be studied as a double option (18 periods) combined with an AS subject. Choose CTEC Art & Design 1 and 2.
- These courses are practical and work-based and are assessed chiefly through coursework. Work Experience is a compulsory part of all these courses. Please see individual course pages for details.

BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA / EXTENDED DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3) IN BUSINESS

What will I learn?

The BTEC National (Diploma and Extended Diploma) courses in Business are designed to give students an understanding of how a business operates and the problems it faces through investigating the principles which govern business decisions and the solution to business problems. You will acquire a broad background of understanding and core knowledge but at the same time study in detail specific areas such as Business Start-Up and Product Promotion.

Much of your learning will be developed in a practical and realistic way as several units of work are linked to trips and visits. The skills of communication, ICT, numeracy, presentation, analysis, interpretation, application, problem-solving, decision-making and evaluation are all developed through the course.

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 team

The Diploma course (equivalent to 2 A Levels) counts for two choices and you should choose this option if you would like to study another subject at GCE AS Level. The Extended Diploma course (equivalent to 3 A Levels) counts for three choices and you should choose this if you would only like to study BTEC Business.

What is the structure of the course?

The BTEC National Diploma in Business is a two-year course divided into twelve units. It leads to the equivalent of 2 A levels. The BTEC National Extended Diploma is a two-year course divided into eighteen units. It leads to the equivalent of 3 A Levels. You must complete all twelve or all eighteen units to gain the diploma. The core titles for both diplomas are:

- Exploring Business Activity
- Investigating Business Resources
- Introduction to Marketing
- Effective People & Communication

You will also study eight other units for the Diploma or fourteen others for the Extended Diploma.

How will I be assessed?

All units for both the Diploma and 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 of other skills. The work is internally assessed by your teacher and then checked by an external verifier. The major benefit of the assessment process for the BTEC National courses is that there is no requirement to sit externally set examinations, which differs greatly from any other courses at post-16 level.

What qualifications do I need to have?

You will be required to have a minimum of five GCSE's grade C or above OR a Merit at BTEC First Diploma level. A good standard of literacy, numeracy and ICT is also required.

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 AS / A2 (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?

Mr J. Rahman, Head of Business Education or Mr J. Hussain, teacher of Business Education

BTEC NATIONAL SUBSIDIARY 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 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 7 units over the two years and will achieve the BTEC Subsidiary Diploma, worth one A Level.
- Each unit will take approximately 60 hours of teaching time.
- Students will have 9 hours of lessons over the two week timetable.
- Students will have the opportunity to take the community sports leaders award and use their expertise and coaching qualities in school and at clubs.

How will I be assessed?

Seven units of work will be assessed. The assessment is carried out by the PE department and checked by external assessors. 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?

- 5 A*-C at GCSE or achieved Merit or above on the BTEC First Diploma (Level 2) course.
- Being a member of a club would be help.
- Some background knowledge of the sports industry.

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 Physical Education

CAMBRIDGE TEC DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3) IN ART & DESIGN

What will I learn?

This new and exciting applied course will allow students to take a broader look at design. Students will be able to develop and eventually demonstrate skills, knowledge and understanding of the design principles and the practicalities of delivering design opportunities to others. Development of these to a high level will enable them to progress within the design field.

Who is the course suitable for?

If you are a creative person and can envisage yourself working in the design field or in a related area, then this is for you. You can also study individual units alongside other qualifications if you want to. Students who have completed the Level 2 course will see this as natural progression.

What is the structure of the course?

1st Year - The course is structured around the completion of six units (unit one mandatory). Topics will include - Art & Design in Context, -Exploring how artists and designers use 3D materials, techniques and processes, -Branding and Corporate design and -Presenting, displaying, promoting and selling work. Students will then be awarded an OCR level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in Art and Design, at a Pass, Merit or Distinction level.

2nd Year - Students will study an additional six units. Topics will include Exploring digital photography and Carving, constructing and modelling 3D artwork. On successful completion, students will be awarded an OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Art and Design.

Throughout the duration of the course, students will also undertake a series of industrial / educational trips.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit within this course is designed around the principle that candidates will build a portfolio of evidence relating to progression towards meeting the unit assessment objectives. The unit assessment objectives reflect the demands of the learning outcomes for each unit. In order for candidates to be able to progress effectively towards meeting the requirements of each assessment objective, they must make sure that they develop their knowledge, understanding and skills requirements for each objective.

Assessment of these qualifications will be conducted in accordance with the appropriate codes of practice:-

- Assessment of all units will take place at school. There are no timetabled exams required.
- Performance at unit level is graded holistically, as Pass, Merit or Distinction, recognising that candidates may perform better in meeting the requirements of some objectives more than others.
- All units are centre-assessed and externally moderated by an OCR Visiting Moderator.

What qualifications do I need to have?

5 A*-C at GCSE. Ideally you should have studied the OCR level 2 in Art and Design and achieved Merit, although this is not essential.

Pre-course information required

Students will require a good level in ICT and should be willing to work in new materials and learn essential new skills. Students must also have an open mind about the design process. Students will have the opportunity to work on a wide range of projects. Finally, it is extremely important that potential students in this subject area are committed and enthusiastic as the course is focused in students gaining and developing new skills.

Progression routes?

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to progress to further education, e.g. HNDs or 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. This qualification is designed to enable students to enter employment at junior / trainee level within a wide range of design environments. A qualification in this subject area will certainly be viewed as an asset for these candidates.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr D. Wilson, Head of Design & Technology

CAMBRIDGE TECH DIPLOMA / EXTENDED DIPLOMA (L3) IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

What will I learn?

The Cambridge Technical Level 3 Diploma or Extended Diploma is a 2 year course. To achieve this qualification, students must complete 12 or 18 units 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.

Who is the course suitable for?

Students who have completed the Level 2 course In Health & Social Care. 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 & values and how they are used, communicate effectively and provide active support. This qualification is also suitable for those who want to continue their study in further or higher education. The Diploma course (equivalent to 2 A Levels) counts for two choices and you should choose this option if you would like to study another subject at GCE AS Level. The Extended Diploma course (equivalent to 3 A Levels) counts for three choices and you should choose this if you would like Health & Social Care to be your only subject.

What is the structure of the course?

To achieve this qualification, students must complete a total of 12 units worth 120 credits for the Diploma (equivalent to 2 A Levels) and 18 units (180 credits) for the Extended Diploma (equivalent to three A Levels). Students must achieve six mandatory units for the diploma and 7 mandatory units for the extended diploma along with a further 70 or 130 credits from the optional units. These are subject to change depending on the needs of the students.

Mandatory units:

Unit 1. Effective use of communication Unit 2. Legislation and policies that support anti-discriminatory practice
Unit 3. Health and safety requirements in care settings Unit 4. Life stages and affecting factors
Unit 5. Anatomy and physiology for health and social care. Unit 6. Sociological perspectives of health and social care.
Unit 7. Psychological perspectives of health and social care.

How will I be assessed?

All units are centre assessed and externally moderated by Cambridge. There are no timetabled exams for this qualification. The full qualification and units from this qualification are graded as Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*.

Key features of the assessment of these qualifications are:

- Assessment of all units takes place at different times throughout the two years.
- Tutors and assessors can draw on real work-based opportunities for students to generate evidence.
- 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.
- All units are centre-assessed and externally moderated by an Cambridge Visiting Moderator.

What qualifications do I need to have?

5*A-C Grades at GCSE including C in English. Ideally you should have studied an OCR level 2 in H&SC and achieved at least a Merit, although this is not essential.

Pre-course information required

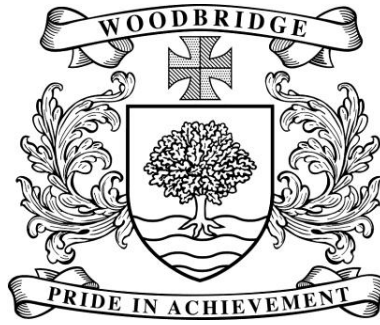
The course is designed and delivered using a variety of learning methods and teaching styles. This qualification is particularly suitable if you wish to study in preparation for employment in job roles where you will be expected to use your understanding of health and care principles and values, how they are used and the operations, activities and functions of care settings.

Progression routes

Many students have gone on to higher education following completion of this course. A student achieving an Level 3 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, teaching and teaching assistants, nursing specialising in the care of children, child minding.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss J. Kersten, Head of Health & Social Care



COURSE INFORMATION

GCE AS / A LEVELS

- These courses are all single choices. They lead to GCE AS Level qualifications at the end of year 12 and GCE A Levels at the end of year 13.
- Students normally choose three or four subjects. You should discuss with your teachers and your interviewer whether to opt for three or four subjects.
- Choices must fit into the block diagram which is shown on the application form. Other combinations may not be possible within the timetable. However, if there is a combination which is not possible, please see Mr Hogan to discuss your options. The block diagram may be subject to change.
- One or two AS Levels can be studied in combination with Level 3 courses, providing the entry requirements for each specific subject are met.
- Students normally progress from AS Levels to A2 Levels in year 13. Students who are studying four subjects in year 12 have the option to continue with three in year 13.

ART AND DESIGN

What will I learn?

On the course you will cover a broad range of disciplines including painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture, textiles, as well as mixed media work. Critical studies is also an integral part of the course where you will examine artefacts from other artists, designers and craftspeople, and also explore the context in which their work was made. You will be expected to complete written assignments for these and undertake independent research.

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 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?

AS Units:

1. Art and Design Coursework AS 60% (if continuing to A2 30%)
2. Externally set assignment AS 40% (if continuing to A2 20%)

A2 Units:

3. Art and Design Coursework A2 30%
4. Externally set assignment A2 20%

How will I be assessed?

AS Units

Units 1 is internally set and marked and externally moderated.
Unit 2 is externally set but internally marked and then externally moderated

A2 Units

Units 3 is internally set and marked and externally moderated.
Unit 4 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?

To be accepted on the AS course you will need a Grade B or higher at Art GCSE and English at grade 'B', and for the A2 course you must have firstly successfully completed the AS course.

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 an 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. With the success rate that we have on the course it is also an excellent way to improve your UCAS point score.

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms C. Ward, 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, and Global Climate Change.

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?

AS Units:

Unit 1: Lifestyle, transport, genes and health

Unit 2: Development, plants and the environment

Unit 3: Practical Biology and Research Skills. Students will submit a written report of between 1500 and 2000 words. The report may be either a record of a visit to a site of biological interest or a report of research into a biological topic.

A2 Units:

Unit 4: The Natural environment and species survival

Unit 5: Energy, exercise and co-ordination

Unit 6: Practical biology and investigative skills

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 essays and presentations to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding. The external examinations will be offered in January and June and will contain a variety of short answer and longer stretch and challenge questions. Your ability to manipulate equipment and analyse experimental results is continually assessed and will count towards your final grade. The exam board for this course is Edexcel.

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Biology, Grade AA in Edexcel Certificate in Science (Double Award) or Grade A in Additional Science, Grade B in GCSE Maths and Grade B in GCSE English.

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.

Progression routes?

This academic AS/A2 course is well regarded by all universities and employers as a measure of problem-solving ability, thinking skills and recall skills.

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?

AS	Unit 1 Planning and Financing a Business Unit 2 Managing a Business
A2	Unit 3 Strategies for Success Unit 4 The Business Environment and Change

How will I be assessed?

Assessment of each unit is through external examination. At AS level each unit is 1½ hours long and contributes 25% to the overall A2 grade.

At A2 level Units 3 + 4 are 1 hour and 45 minutes long, contributing 25% to the overall grade. The exam board for this course is AQA.

What qualifications do I need to have?

At least a Grade B in GCSE Business if studied at GCSE. Grade C in GCSE English and Maths are required.

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 AS / A2 (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.

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?

Mr J. Rahman, Head of Business Education, or Miss S. Aftab, teacher of Business Education

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. In A2, 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.

What is the structure of the course?

This course is made up of four externally assessed units, two at AS and two at A2 level. In addition, both years contain one internally assessed unit focusing on practical skills.

AS Unit 1: The Core Principles of Chemistry
 Unit 2: Application of the Core Principles of Chemistry
 Unit 3: Chemistry Laboratory Skills 1

A2 Unit 4: General Principles of Chemistry 1- Rates, Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry
 Unit 5: General Principles of Chemistry 11- Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry
 Unit 6: Chemistry Laboratory Skills 11

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 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 will count towards your final grade. **The exam board for this course is Edexcel.**

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Chemistry, Grade AA in Edexcel Certificate in Science (Double Award) or Grade A in Additional Science, Grade B in GCSE Maths and Grade B in GCSE English.

Pre-course information required

Apart from GCSE Science as above you need to develop the ability to work independently, read widely about current scientific issues and be able to meet deadlines at all times. A degree of manual dexterity is useful for practicals and you must be able to use a calculator!

Progression routes?

As with all AS/A2 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?

Mrs P. Pond, Head of Chemistry

COMMUNITY & OTHER LANGUAGES

What will I learn?

Urdu, Chinese (Cantonese or Mandarin), Turkish and Spanish are available to AS / A2 Level. You will consolidate your knowledge of the community language which you already speak, while learning to communicate effectively in a variety of registers and formats. You will learn to write essays, translate from and into English accurately and read texts for gist and detail. You will study the culture of the country or countries where your language is spoken in depth, including literature and films in the language. Other languages may also be available (such as Bengali, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi or Arabic), please check with us for details.

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is for students who speak one of the community languages above at home or with members of their close family. It will give them the opportunity to gain a formal, recognised qualification in that language.

What is the structure of the course?

The structure of the course varies according to the language, but in general you will have between 1 and 3 hours tuition time per week, in small groups. The classes take place in twilight time, between 3.15 and 5.15pm. For Urdu and Spanish, the course is split into four units, the first two AS units are taken at the end of the first year and the second two A2 units at the end of the second year. The others have one unit for AS and one unit for A2.

How will I be assessed?

Urdu and Spanish

For AS, you will complete two examinations:

Unit 1 - The Oral Exam,

Unit 2 - Listening, Reading and Writing

For A2:

Unit 3 - The Oral Exam,

Unit 4 - Research & Written Response

Chinese and Turkish

For Chinese AS, you will complete **Unit 1** Oral exam and **Unit 2** Understanding and Written Response. For A2 there is only one examination **Unit 3** Written response and Research in Chinese.

For Turkish, there are only 2 units **Unit 1** Understanding and Written Response, **Unit 2** Understanding and Written Response and Research

What qualifications do I need to have?

You need at least Grade B at GCSE in the community language which you want to study at AS Level at Woodbridge. It may be possible to take this qualification at Woodbridge in Year 12 and then complete the AS and A2 units in Year 13.

Pre-course information required

You need to be able to read and write accurately in the language you speak. If you are in doubt about this, you should come and discuss it with us. The GCSE prepares you to this level. You need to be aware of the demands of the course – although you may speak the language already, you will be expected to do a lot of background reading and study of books and texts to prepare yourself for the exams. Although you may speak the language fluently, it is not enough to turn up on the day of the exam. You need to be prepared to work independently on preparing for the exams.

Progression routes?

AS and A Levels in community languages are recognised qualifications at the same academic level as AS or A Levels in any other subject. They are recognised by universities and employers and count towards your points score for university entrance. Students who have studied the community language which they speak often go on to use it in employment. There is a huge demand for speakers of community languages in the health and social care sectors, the police service, the courts, education as well as in local government administration. Many educated speakers of community languages who also have a good command of English use their knowledge of the community language to do freelance translation or interpreting work. This can be very highly paid. There is also a growing demand for speakers of community languages amongst charities and in the voluntary sector. Many organisations work closely with communities for whom English is a second language and they are in need of well-qualified people who have a background in these communities and speak the language as well as they speak English. Those who wish to delve deeper into the culture of the country where their language is spoken can go on to study it at university, for example, at the School of Oriental and African Studies, part of the University of London

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss E. Zmirou, Head of Community Languages

COMPUTING

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. Experimental Computer Science can be done with computers whereby we can learn more about the natural world by observing the emergent behaviour of a colony of interacting software agents in a simulation. Computing 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?

There are two units to be covered at AS level:

• **COMP1: Problem Solving, Programming, Data Representation and Practical Exercise (External)**

Practical Programming Examination: a practical, on-screen, examination which allows candidates to demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamental principles of the subject, focusing on programming through a problem-solving scenario using pre-release material

• **COMP2: Computer Components, The Stored Program Concept and the Internet (External)**

Written Examination covering: hardware and software aspects of Computing and the social and economic consequences of Computing;

There are two further units to be covered to achieve the full Advanced level in the second year

• **COMP3: Problem Solving, Programming, Operating Systems, Databases and Networking (External)**

Written Examination covering: computational thinking, what can be computed, programming and problem-solving including communication and networking;

• **COMP4: The Computing Practical Project (Coursework)**

Students develop a software solution to solve a real-life computer based problem

How will I be assessed?

AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMP1: Problem Solving, Programming, Data Representation and Practical Exercise – 60% of total AS marks/30% of total A Level mark – 2 Hour Practical Programming Examination• COMP2: Computer Components, The Stored Program Concept and the Internet – 40% of total AS marks/20% of total A Level marks – 1 Hour Written Examination
A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMP3: Problem Solving, Programming, Operating Systems, Databases and Networking – 30% of total A Level mark – 2½ Hour Written Examination• COMP4: The Computing Practical Project – 20% of total A Level marks – Coursework Project

What qualifications do I need to have?

GCSE Maths Grade B and GCSE English grade C

Pre-course information required

Whilst we do not require previous study of ICT/Computing a good mathematical ability (at least GCSE grade B) is essential for this course, along with a GCSE grade C in English

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?

Mr P. Martin, Head of ICT and Computing

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

What will I learn?

On the course we explore and develop your skills as an actor and director in breathing life into a play. You will be shown the wonderful diversity in theatre and will learn to analyse, interpret and create imaginative, stylish and effective theatre, whilst increasingly becoming a competent theatre practitioner. While this A level is rigorously academic, it is essentially practical and offers a unique 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 as a participant. Through the study of different play texts, practitioners and the history of theatre, you will gain the theoretical knowledge and practical understanding to take the page to the stage. You will produce explorative notes analysing the process and demonstrating your theoretical understanding. Drama and Theatre Studies develops your ability to analyse situations, read people, build your confidence and improve your ability to present to an audience. The course demands practical, creative and communication skills in equal measure. Drama gives you the freedom to be creative and experiment working with others to expand ideas, make new discoveries and taking risks to create effective and original performance.

Who is the course suitable for?

Theatre Studies is designed for students with a keen interest in acting, directing and performing. The course is for those who want a deeper understanding of drama, interested in studying plays, looking at the work of influential theatre practitioners, analysing live theatre performance and creating performance work of their own. It is useful to have taken Drama or Expressive Arts at GCSE level but not essential. It is important that you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and plays work, and that you are keen to be involved in performances.

What is the structure of the course?

Theatre studies focuses on the study of plays from the perspective of a director, designer, performer and critic. The course will involve taking part in performance, studying plays, playwrights and practitioners exploring their theories developing practical responses. You will review professional performances and acquire a knowledge and understanding of the language of drama and theatre. The qualification is split into 4 units over the 2 years.

The AS year is essentially about taking a play from the page to performance. Over the year you complete 2 units. Within unit 1 we explore two contrasting play and recognised theatre practitioner. The approach is mostly practical with a high level of analysis. Through written and practical coursework assessment, you will demonstrate your understanding, practical skills and ideas. We will also visit the theatre to review plays and here you will learn to critique all aspects of the production with skill. Unit 2 focuses on you as a performer. We will develop your skills and prepare you for an externally assessed performance of a monologue or duologue and a group performance of a scripted play directed by your teacher.

A2 draws all of your experience, research and ideas to develop original pieces of theatre and understanding of the process of taking the page to the stage. You will also write a critique of a historic play you have seen, drawing comparisons with the plays original performance context and the performance seen. Again over the year we study 2 units.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: 40% of AS (20% of GCE) written & practical cwk
Unit 2: 60% of AS (30% of GCE) practical externally

Unit 3: 40% of A2 (20% of GCE) Written & practical cwk
Unit 4: 60% of A2 (30% of GCE) written exam based on

What qualifications do I need to have?

You will need a Grade B in GCSE English and in Drama or Expressive Arts, although outside experience or interest in Drama will be considered.

Pre-course information required

You will also be expected to attend organised trips to the theatre 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?

The course is excellent preparation for a degree in Drama or Drama School training; however, 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 you the edge and setting you apart from other candidates by demonstrating you have a diverse range of skills.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss L. Cranwell, 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?

AS

Unit 1 – Markets and Market Failure (50%)

Unit 2 – The National Economy (50%)

A2

Unit 3 – Business Economics and the Distribution of Income (50%)

Unit 4 – The National and International Economy (50%)

How will I be assessed?

AS

Unit 1 – 1 hour, 15 minute examination - multiple choice/written response

Unit 2 – 1 hour, 15 minute examination - multiple choice/written response

A2

Unit 3 – 2 hour examination - multiple choice/written response

Unit 4 – 2 hour examination - multiple choice/written response.

The exam board for this course is AQA.

What qualifications do I need?

If Business Studies is taken at GCSE - minimum Grade B is required.

A minimum grade B is also required in GCSE English and Maths.

Pre-course information required

If you would like to know more, please talk to Mr Khan to discuss the course further

Progression routes?

Economics is an extremely academic A level and thus 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.

Who do I contact for Further information?

Mr Rahman – Head of Business Education, or Mr J. Hussain, lead Economics teacher

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 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 you will learn how to use the linguistic methods to analyse texts.

In year 13 you will investigate language and study language development.

How will I be assessed?

Year 12

One examination and one piece of coursework

Year 13

One examination and one piece of coursework

The exam board for this course is AQA (Spec B)

What qualifications do I need to have?

You need to have Grade B in GCSE English (or higher).

Pre-course information required

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

Progression routes

As with all AS/A2 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 Ms V. Geary, Mr S. Wingfield and Ms V. Hughes

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 you will study the prose, poetry and drama of the First World War.

In Year 13 you will study the prose, poetry and drama of love through the ages.

How will I be assessed?

Year 12:

One examination and two pieces of coursework.

Year 13:

One examination and one extended coursework essay.

The exam board for this course is AQA (Spec A)

What qualifications do I need to have?

You need to have Grade B (or preferably higher) in GCSE English or English Literature.

Pre-course information required

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

Progression routes

As with all AS/A2 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, Mrs H. Dipple, Ms V. Geary, Mrs A. Rendell, Miss R. Ruzane and Mr S. Wingfield

FILM STUDIES

What will I learn?

Film Studies AS/A2 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?

Two units are studied each year through the WJEC exam board: coursework (40%) and exam (60%).

At AS, the coursework unit (**Exploring Film Form**) focuses on the way meaning is constructed in film through a close study of mise-en-scene, sound, cinematography and editing.

The exam unit (**British and American Film**) focuses on two national cinemas, the UK and the USA. You will learn about the history of production, distribution, exhibition and messages and values across these national cinemas as well as learning about the relationship between producers and audiences.

At A2, the coursework is an extended research project on a topic of your choosing and a creative unit on screenwriting. The exam unit covers World cinema (Spanish, German and Soviet) and spectatorship topics (shocking cinema, film and emotional response).

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through exam (60%) and coursework (40%). At AS, the exam is a 2 ½ hr written paper consisting of 3 essay questions. The coursework includes a 1500 word written analysis of a film extract and a 25 shot photographic storyboard of a film sequence of your own creative design.

At A2, the exam is a 2 ¾ hr written paper consisting of 3 essay questions. The coursework is an extended research project on a topic of your choosing and an 1800 word screenplay for a film sequence of your own creative design.

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Media Studies or GCSE English if you have not studied Media. An interest in Art, Business, History, ICT, Drama, Design or English will be advantageous but not vital.

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; it is much more than just watching films.

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 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.

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, individual rights and responsibilities, the education system and employment, the media, youth concern, the environment, racism and religion. 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. You will be expected to use one private study period per fortnight to take part in oral sessions run by our FLA (Foreign Language Assistant). These sessions are compulsory.

How will I be assessed?

The Edexcel AS French comprises two units:

For Edexcel A Level French, you need the two AS units plus two further units:

Unit 1 – Spoken Expression and Response in French – 10 mins, 30% of AS marks

Unit 3 – Understanding and Spoken Response in French – 12 mins, 35% of A2 marks

Unit 2 – Understanding and Written Response in French – 2½ hours, 70% of AS marks

Unit 4 – Research, Understanding and Written Response in French – 2½ hours, 65% of A2

The exam board for this course is Edexcel.

What qualifications do I need to have?

It is essential to have achieved at least a grade 'B' at GCSE in 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 AS/ A2 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/ prospective employees.

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms S. Gape, 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?

At AS level, all candidates will study core human and physical geography. In each area of study students will consider the values and attitudes of decision makers, consider their own values and attitudes to the issues being studied, and support their learning of ideas through the study of specific case studies. Students will also develop a variety of geographical skills which will broaden and deepen existing knowledge and be employed with a greater degree of independence. Students will study two units which include the study of rivers, floods and management, coastal environments, global population change, and energy issues. The applied geography unit includes basic, investigative, ICT, graphical, cartographical and statistical skills, research skills and fieldwork. Students are expected to attend a 3 day residential field trip in January.

At A2 level, students will continue to study a combination of human and physical geography. Students are required to choose whether to undertake preparatory investigative work in the field in order to be able to produce a fieldwork investigation, or undertake an issue evaluation exercise to extend the content within the specialised context of issue evaluation. Topics include plate tectonics, world cities, development and globalisation.

How will I be assessed?

AS Level

Paper 1 - Human and physical geography
Paper 2 - Geographical skills.
The exam board for this course is AQA.

A2 Level

Paper 4a - Geography Fieldwork Investigation
Paper 3 - Contemporary Geographical Issues

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Geography.

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 Built Environment, Forestry, Coastal Studies/Management, Surveying, Environmental Science/Education, Geology, Journalism, Leisure Management, Oceanography, Tourism Management
Underwater Studies, Town Planning, Diplomatic Service, Exploration, Water Resource Management, Zoology, Resource Management

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss F. Kong, 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 topics, for example the world around us, education and employment, youth culture and concerns, customs, traditions, beliefs and religions, national / International events and literature and the arts. 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 and films as well as the Edexcel German for A Level coursebook. Work experience in Germany is a recommended aspect of the course, as too are conferences run by native speakers. Students are expected to use one private study period per fortnight to take part in oral sessions run by our FLA (Foreign Language Assistant). These sessions are compulsory.

How will I be assessed?

The Edexcel AS German comprises two units:

For Edexcel A Level German, you need the two AS units plus two further units:

Unit 1 – Spoken Expression and Response in German – 10 mins, 30% of AS marks

Unit 3 – Understanding and Spoken Response in German – 12 mins, 35% of A2 marks

Unit 2 – Understanding and Written Response in German – 2½ hours, 70% of AS marks

Unit 4 – Research, Understanding and Written Response in German – 2½ hours, 65% of A2

What qualifications do I need to have?

It is essential to have achieved at least a Grade B at 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?

At AS Level you will study how Britain emerged as the leading industrial power in the world. Your study of this period will explore how Britain faced internal unrest after the Napoleonic wars and how the rulers managed to maintain power. You will also explore British foreign policy and the unique relationship with Ireland.

In addition, you will also study a course examining Hitler, Anti-Semitism and the German People 1919–45. This will explore the roots of Anti-Semitism and the debates which surround the Holocaust and the role of the German people.

At A2 you will study the change and continuity in the USSR from the start of the Great Patriotic War in 1941 to the break-up of the USSR in 1991. You will also explore the fascinating campaign for African American Civil Rights in the United States. This unit will explore American society and how African Americans faced discrimination and challenged for equality.

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?

AS Level

Unit 1: Britain, 1815-1865.

Unit 2: Hitler, Anti Semitism and the German People - 1919-45

A2 Level

Unit 3: Triumph & Collapse: Rise and Fall of the USSR 1941-1991

Unit 4: Personal Study. African American Civil Rights

How will I be assessed?

AS Level

Unit 1 is worth 50% of the AS Level and 25% of the total A Level. This will be assessed by a 1 hour 15 minute exam.

Unit 2 is worth 50% of the AS Level and 25% of the total A Level. This will be assessed by a 1 hour 30 minute exam. The exam board for this course is AQA.

A2 Level

Unit 3 is worth 30% of the total A Level. This will be assessed by a 1 hour and 30 minute exam.

Unit 4 is worth 20% of the total A Level. This is a personal study of approximately 3,500 words.

What qualification do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE History and GCSE English.

Pre-course information required

You must be fully aware of the demands of A Level history, by speaking to your History teacher, 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.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs M. Doig, Acting Head of History

ICT

What will I learn?

The impact of ICT on society is enormous and as the percentage of businesses and households connected to communication networks such as the internet grows, so does the need for individuals who can master and manipulate these new technologies. In this course students gain an understanding of how ICT is used in a range of different areas of society and the impact ICT has in these areas. The emphasis is on business ICT focus where students can gain skills that can be transferred into the business world. This course sees students develop a wide range of ICT skills together with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of ICT. Students are encouraged to become discerning users of ICT.

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is aimed at students who wish to further develop their knowledge of ICT in relation to how ICT affects society and how ICT systems are developed as well as their software skills, usually with the intention of continuing on to a computer or business related degree course. However, it is also suitable for students who wish to gain a more in depth understanding of computer software, web authoring, graphics and network environments while following a different career path.

What is the structure of the course?

There are two units to be covered at AS level:

- **G061: Information, Systems and Applications (External)**
 - Topics covered in this unit include: data, information, knowledge and processing; software and hardware components of an information system; spread sheet concepts; relational database concepts; applications software used for presentation and communication of data;
- **G062: Structured ICT Tasks (Coursework)**
 - Students have the opportunity to explore design, software development, testing and documentation through an exam board issued task.

There are two further units to be covered to achieve the full Advanced level in the second year

- **G063: ICT Systems, Applications and Implications (External)**
 - Students gain an understanding of the systems cycle; designing computer-based information systems; networks and communication; applications of ICT; implementing computer-based information systems
- **G064: ICT Project (Coursework)**
 - Students explore all stages of the systems development life cycle through a client-driven project.

How will I be assessed?

AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• G061: Information, Systems and Applications – 60% of total AS marks/30% of total A Level mark – 2 Hour Written Examination
A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• G062: Structured ICT Tasks – 40% of total AS marks/20% of total A Level marks – Coursework tasks• G063: ICT Systems, Applications and Implications – 30% of total A Level mark – 2 Hour Written Examination• G064: ICT Project –20% of total A Level marks – Coursework tasks

What qualification do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE ICT or Pass in OCR Nationals, and Grade C in GCSE English and Maths

Pre-course information required

It is an advantage to have a good knowledge of the technical terms used in ICT, which can be gained as part of a preparatory study during the summer before commencing the course. Also a keen interest in ICT and new technology would be advantageous.

Progression routes?

GCE ICT could form a basis for progression into further learning, including progression from AS to A2, university courses, or employment where they can take further training in such areas as programming, computer science, systems analysis, communications, multimedia, software systems, and project management or hardware applications.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr P. Martin, Head of ICT and Computing

LAW

What will I learn?

You will learn:

- How the law is made in the UK
- What powers the police have and how they may use them
- How our court system works
- How to become a solicitor/barrister
- The range of sentences given to offenders
- Criminal Law – including murder, theft, assault, defences

Who is the course suitable for?

- Students who wish to gain a broad understanding of the world of law.
- Students who enjoy thinking logically, problem solving, and like to debate current issues.
- Students who may wish to pursue a career in the legal profession

What is the structure of the course?

AS	A2
Unit 1 – English Legal System Unit 2 – Sources of Law	Unit 3a –Criminal Law Unit 3b -Criminal Law Special Study
AS is 50% of the qualification, studied in the first year	A2 is 50% of the qualification, studied in the second year

How will I be assessed?

AS (5161)	A2 (6161)
Unit 1 - 30% of Total A level mark Unit 2 - 20% of Total A Level mark	Unit 3 – 30% of Total A Level Unit 4 - 20% of Total A Level

All assessments are exam based. There is no course work for this course. The exam board is OCR.

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE English,

Pre-course information required

- Talk to the Law department and discuss the course further
- Talk to the careers advisor
- Review your predicted grades to ensure you have the required grades to study the subject

Progression routes?

As with all AS / A2 subjects, successful completion of this course will enable progression into both further and higher education or employment in the legal industry. This may include becoming a solicitor, barrister, legal clerk, paralegal or police officer. An A level in law will also provide you with the foundation you will build upon in a Law degree, in addition to valuable skills you may utilize in the job market.

Many universities will prefer you to have an A level in Law if you wish to study Law at the post-secondary level. This will allow you to begin your degree with an introductory understanding of the subject and its application.

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms N. Azaz, Head of Law

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?

AS and 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?

Year 12 Three modules are studied. Two of these are Pure Mathematics (C1 and C2) with the third being Statistics (S1).

Year 13 A further 3 modules, again, two of these are Pure Mathematics (C3 and C4) with the third being Mechanics (M1).

How will I be assessed?

Each module is assessed by a 90 minute exam. The modular examinations will take place in May/June of Year 12 and Year 13. Re-sits of modules are allowed, but we expect you to do the best you can on the first sitting to ease the work load. There is no coursework element in either AS or A Level Mathematics. The examination board is Edexcel.

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Maths is essential, but A is preferred. A pass in Additional Maths is also acceptable.

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?

Mr M. Hinds, Head of Mathematics

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 three modules of Pure Mathematics which includes topics such as Complex numbers, Numerical solutions, Matrices, Proof, Differential Equations, Series, Integration and Vectors. The remaining three modules (that will make up the full A level in Further Mathematics) cover Statistics, Mechanics and Decision Mathematics. Statistics and Mechanics will build on the work done in the 'normal' A level. Decision Mathematics is a branch of mathematics that considers algorithms to carry out a sort or search, analysing networks and linear programming.

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?

Year 12 Three modules are studied. Further Pure Mathematics (FP1), Decision Mathematics (D1) and Statistics (S2)

Year 13 A further three modules are studied, Further Pure Mathematics 2 (FP2), Further Pure Mathematics 3 (FP3) and Mechanics 2 (M2).

How will I be assessed?

Each module is assessed by a 90 minute exam. The modular examinations will take place in May/June of Year 12 and Year 13. Re-sits of modules are allowed, but we expect you to do the best you can on the first sitting to ease the work load. There is no coursework element in either AS or A Level Further Mathematics.

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade A in GCSE Mathematics is essential, but A* is preferred. A Grade C in Additional Maths is also acceptable. This course runs in conjunction with the A Level Mathematics course and both courses rely on the content and therefore the understanding of the other.

Pre-course information required

The skills required for Further Mathematics are exactly the same as that required for 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. The knowledge gap between GCSE and 'A' Level Mathematics is large and all pupils who offer for this course will be challenged at the higher level.

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 AS and 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?

Mr M. Hinds, Head of Mathematics

MEDIA STUDIES

What will I learn?

The course is designed to give you a broad understanding of Media: communication and Production, whilst allowing scope to focus on selected platforms within the industry, e.g. 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 & society and in critically examining the effects of the media on our everyday lives.
- Students who are creative & enjoy coursework & discussion.

What is the structure of the course?

Two units are studied in each year through the WJEC exam board: coursework (50%) and exam (50%). At AS, the coursework unit (**Media Production Processes**) is a practical production involving research, planning and production of 2 media texts, one desk-top published and the other filmed/edited. For the exam unit (**Media Representations and Responses**), you will study the key concepts of media language, representation and audience in the contemporary media landscape. At A2, the coursework is a research essay on a topic of your choosing accompanied by a practical production which supports your research findings. The exam is based on media theories around text, industry and audience. You will learn about three media industries in depth: the TV industry, the Film Industry and Advertising.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through exam (50%) and coursework (50%). At AS, the exam is a 2 ½ hour written paper consisting of 3 questions, including one based on an unseen media text. The coursework is a practical production (desk-top published and filmed/edited) accompanied by a 1600 word production report. At A2, the exam is a 2 ½ hour written paper consisting of 3 questions. The coursework is a 2000 word research essay accompanied by a practical production of your own choosing (can be filmed, print-media or e-media).

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Media Studies or Grade B in English if you have not studied Media. An interest in Art, Business, Graphics, ICT, Drama, Design or English will be advantageous but not vital.

Pre-course information required

The course is designed and delivered using a variety of learning methods and teaching styles. There is an emphasis on coursework and creativity. Students must be committed and prepared to work independently. You will need to do some filming and research outside school. If you enjoy discussion and are open to new ideas and challenges, this could be the course for you. You must be a confident writer as detailed written analysis 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 or music. You should be aware of current social trends and current affairs.

Progression routes?

The Media is one of the fastest growing areas in higher education, with a high employment rate for media 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 Richard & Judy!. 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.

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms A. Gold, Head of Media Studies

MUSIC

What will I learn?

The AQA AS and A2 extend 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. Both specifications offer scope to develop creatively using music technology.

Who is the course suitable for?

These specifications encourage 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?

From September 2012 the AQA AS is made up of three mandatory units and three mandatory units at A2.

Unit 1 – MUSC1	Influences on Music 30% of the AS – 1 hour 45 minutes written exam
Unit 2 – MUSC2	Composing: Creating Musical ideas – Externally Assessed Coursework 30% of the AS
Unit 3 – MUSC3	Performing: Interpreting Musical Ideas 40% of the AS – 10-16 minutes Internally Assessed – 80 marks
A2 Units	
Unit 4 – MUSC4	Music In Context 2 hours 15 minutes written examination – 100 marks
Unit 5 – MUSC5	Composing: Developing Musical Ideas Externally Assessed Coursework – 60 marks
Unit 6 – MUSC6	Performing: A Musical Performance 10-15 minutes Externally Assessed

How will I be assessed?

AS Music	Performing – Recital assessed internally Composing – Portfolio of compositional techniques assessed by the exam board Influences on Music– written exam marked by the examiner
A2 Music	Performing – Recital assessed internally Composing - externally assessed by an examiner Music in Context- 2 hour 15 minute written exam , marked by an examiner

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade A at GCSE Music (B grade by negotiation)

Pre-course information required

Good instrumental and /or vocal skills (equivalent to Grade 5)

Progression routes?

Music offers progression to a University or Music College to study for a degree in 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.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss O. Furse, Head of Music

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What will I learn?

AS

- **PHYSIOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE** – in depth study of Anatomy and Physiology including knowledge of bones, muscles, circulation, respiration and movement analysis.
- **PSYCHOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE** – the study of skill acquisition (how we learn to perform)
- **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION** – the study of Participation in Sport and the effect of healthy Lifestyles
- **ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY** – as a performer or an official.

A2

- **EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY** – how our body works during exercise
- **CONTEMPORARY ISSUES** – performance pathways and sports funding
- **OPTIMISING PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE** – analysis of improvement of performance
- **PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES** – how our minds affect physical performance including personality, motivation, aggression, attitudes and leadership

Who is the course suitable for?

Those interested in developing their knowledge of physical education and sport, and understanding more about their own performance. Also, those who are prepared to question their own point of view regarding sport and look at sport as a global industry.

What is the structure of the course?

AS - Candidates will develop knowledge and skills to help understand the opportunities for and effects of leading a healthy and active lifestyle. Candidates will be given the opportunity to build on their experience and improve their personal skills/techniques across a variety of roles in a sport of their choice to improve performance.

A2 – Candidates will further develop their understanding of physiological, psychological and biomechanical aspects that optimise performance. Candidates will be given the opportunity to utilise the knowledge and understanding developed during the course to improve their own personal performance, as a practical performer, coach/leader or official.

How will I be assessed?

Your theoretical knowledge is assessed in the form of four written exam papers. Your practical work is assessed internally by teachers at the school and is moderated externally by the exam board and throughout the course. Both your classwork and home learning will support your learning and allow teachers to monitor your progress and continually assess your performance.

Unit 1: Opportunities for and the effects of leading a healthy and active lifestyle (2 hour exam)

Unit 2: Analysis and evaluation of physical activity as performer and/or an adopted role/s (Practical)

Unit 3: Optimising performance and evaluating contemporary issues within sport (2 hour exam)

Unit 4: Optimising practical performance in a competitive situation (Practical)

The exam board for this course is AQA.

What qualification do I need to have?

B Grade in GCSE PE. It is desirable to have achieved 100/150 marks on the GCSE written paper as A Level is primarily theory. Pupils without GCSE PE will be considered but must recognise that extra work will be necessary. Distinction in BTEC Sport Level 2.

Pre-course information required

Talk to your PE teacher and find out if the course is suitable for you and talk to pupils who are currently taking the course for advice. Find out if your practical activity is allowed by the exam board (most are).

Progression routes?

As with all AS/A2 (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. Studying sport and the leisure industry at university is becoming increasingly popular.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr S. Jones, Head of Physical Education

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?

The course will be broken up into different modules. Each module will be designed to develop an excellent understanding of important topics 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. These applications could range from designing sports equipment, medical physics, technology in space, space part surgery and the construction of buildings in earthquake zones. Physics is a practical subject and experimentation and investigation will play an important role at AS and A2 level. 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 in January and June and will contain a variety of short answer and longer stretch and challenge questions. Your ability to manipulate equipment and analyse experimental results is continually assessed and will count towards your final grade.

What qualification do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Physics, Grade AA in Edexcel Certificate in Science (Double Award) or Grade A in Additional Science, Grade B in GCSE Maths and Grade B in GCSE English.

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. IT skills, especially the use of spreadsheets, are worth developing. It is important that you can express yourself clearly too, as Physicists need too be able to communicate with other people. You must develop your ability to work independently, read widely about current scientific issues and be able to meet deadlines.

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/A2 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?

Mr J. Barry, Head of Physics

PRODUCT DESIGN

What will I learn?

This course will enable students to tackle technological problems that affect our everyday lives. There will be opportunities to study, examine and propose high quality solutions to satisfy a variety of design needs. Each solution will be the result of detailed research and the use of knowledge gained in this subject area. The materials studied will include; plastic, wood, metal, card and paper.

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is aimed at all creative and innovative students with a real interest in designing products to meet the needs of people in the modern world.

What is the structure of the course?

The course is structured around four units of work, which consists of a combination of coursework and examined sessions. Students will complete various design and make assignments and undertake a series of industrial visits.

How will I be assessed?

Unit	Level	Name	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	
					AS	Advanced GCE
F521	AS	Advanced innovation challenge	7 hours	OCR-marked challenge	40	20
F522	AS	Product Study: Analysis and Development	30 hours	Centre-marked Coursework	60	30
F523	A2	Design, Make, Evaluate	40 hours	Centre-marked coursework	-	30
F524	A2	Product Design	2½ hours	Written exam	-	20

The exam board for this course is OCR.

What qualifications do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE Graphics Product or Product Design.

Pre-course information required

Students will require knowledge of the design process and good ICT skills are essential. It is important for students to have an open mind about the design process. Students will have the opportunity to design a range of varied products. Finally, it is extremely important that potential students in this subject area are committed and enthusiastic.

Progression routes?

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to progress on to 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 in fields including advertising, product development, architecture, teaching, interior design 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?

Mr D. Wilson, Head of Design Technology

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. In the AS students you will learn fifteen core studies from five different approaches. You will evaluate these studies using psychological issues and debates. You will also consider the value of psychological research by becoming familiar with four techniques that are used to collect and analyse data.

Who is the course suitable for?

This course is for anyone who wants to improve their psychological literacy. Psychologists are under a duty to “give psychology away “. 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.

What is the structure of the course?

In year 12 there are two units. The first unit is Psychological Investigations. In this course, students become familiar with research techniques. The second unit is core studies and the students become familiar with the perspectives and issues around published psychological evidence. The successful completion of these two units will lead to an AS Level. In the year 13 there are 2 units. One unit will focus on applied psychology. This could be forensic psychology, clinical psychology or the psychology of education. The second unit will explore approaches, perspectives, research methods and debates in psychology. The successful completion of all 4 units will lead to the A2.

How will I be assessed?

The AS will be assessed with two exam papers. The first exam paper will be 1 hour long and will assess students’ competencies with regard to research methods. It is worth 30% of the AS and 15% of the A2. The second exam paper will be 2 hours long and will assess student’s knowledge and understanding of the core studies and the issues that they raise. This is worth 70% of the AS and 35% of the A2.

The A2 will be examined with 2 exam papers. The first exam paper will be 90 minutes long and will cover the two areas of applied psychology that have been taught. This paper is worth 25% of the A2. The second exam paper will be 90 minutes long and will assess candidates understanding of research methods, and the ability to design valid research. This paper is also worth 25% of the A2.

What qualification do I need to have?

Grade B in GCSE English and Grade B in GCSE Maths and Science are preferred. It is not necessary for students to have GCSE Psychology, but a good grade in that will be a bonus.

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 also necessary. 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?

Miss J. Boakye-Collinson, Head of Psychology

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

What will I learn?
<p>At AS you will explore the foundation of the subject and explore a range of philosophical and ethical questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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?• Should genetic engineering be used to cure disease?• How do we decide between right and wrong?• Should we be judged on the intention of our action? Or the consequence of our action? <p>At A2 the course takes a more in-depth and critical study of philosophical and ethical questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the meaning and validity of religious language?• What is the relationship between the body and the soul?• Is it possible to have a religious experience?• What is the ethical debate surrounding homosexuality?• What is our moral duty to the environment?• What duty does corporate business have to act ethically?
Who is the course suitable for?
<p>This course is for anyone who is interested in opening their minds and wants to know the answer to a wide range of philosophical questions such as 'does God exist?', 'why is there evil in the world?', 'do miracles happen?', and 'is it possible to experience God?'. Additionally, this course welcomes all those who enjoy getting involved in lively discussions and debates.</p>
What is the structure of the course?
<p>In each year (AS and A2) there will be a study of Philosophy and Ethical theory. Usually the Philosophy teaching forms the first half of the course with Ethics towards the end of the year.</p>
How will I be assessed?
<p>There is one question papers for each year of study (AS and A2). There is no coursework. We follow the OCR exam board for this course.</p>
What qualification do I need to have?
<p>Grade B or above in GCSE English Language and Grade B or above in a Humanities subject (RE, Sociology, Psychology, History, Geography)</p>
Pre-course information required
<p>The course is different from the ways in which Religious Studies was taught at GCSE. It is more about your own ideas and opinions than learning about what others believe. The course involves a lot of class discussion as well as private reading. It makes you think about all you've learnt and causes you to stop and think!</p> <p>There are a large number of resources available for you to use which will help you to achieve the best grade possible.</p>
Progression routes?
<p>Traditionally Religious Studies has only been associated with certain jobs like teaching or social care, yet this is not the case. Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics, which is currently the fastest growing A-level, is increasingly being seen favourably by admission tutors in Law and Medicine due to the focus on evaluative and critical thinking skills. These skills are highly sought after and successful completion of the AS/A2 will enable progression onto a wide range of Higher Education courses.</p>
Who do I contact for further information?
<p>Miss L. Pullen, Head of Religious Education</p>

RUSSIAN

What will I learn?
The Edexcel Russian A level course will help you to develop your general transferable skills, but most of all you will learn how to communicate in higher level Russian. You will also gain a deeper insight into Russian history, culture and society.
Who is the course suitable for?
Russian at AS and A2 is suitable for students who are interested in languages and who enjoy learning about other cultures and ways of life. This course would suit you if you enjoyed Russian and History at GCSE.
What is the structure of the course?
Reading: You will learn to read, understand and extract information from written passages that are taken from authentic sources, such as newspapers and magazines, reports or books. Listening: You will be able to listen to and understand contemporary spoken language and answer questions on what you have heard. These will be taken from a range of sources such as news reports on radio or TV. Writing: You will learn to write essays and complete task-based assignments. You will learn the appropriate grammar to present information, provide opinions, organise arguments and analyse your ideas. Speaking: You will learn to use the language to communicate your ideas effectively in discussion, argument and debate. You 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 such as Family, Youth Concerns, Education, Business and Industry, Environment, Politics and Leisure and the Arts.
How will I be assessed?
Unit 1 – Spoken Expression and Response in Russian – 10 minutes, 30% of AS marks In this unit, you will have to respond to a stimulus on a topic chosen by you beforehand. You will answer questions in Russian put to you by the teacher examiner and then engage in a discussion moving away from the stimulus. Unit 2 – Understanding and Written Response in Russian – 2½ hours, 70% of AS marks This unit has 3 sections – listening, reading and writing. For the listening and reading, you will complete a range of exercises based on stimulus material. For the writing, you will write 150 -165 words in Russian based on a stimulus. Unit 3 – Understanding and Spoken Response in Russian – 13 minutes, 35% of A2 marks In this unit, you will choose a stance on a topic which you will defend in the exam and then discuss a further 2 topics. Unit 4 – Research, Understanding and Written Response in Russian – 2½ hours, 65% of A2 This unit has 3 sections – translation from English to Russian, a discursive or creative essay in response to questions on the paper and a prepared research-based essay of 180-200 words.
What qualification do I need to have?
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 AS or 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?
Miss K. Riddell, Head of Russian

SOCIOLOGY

What will I learn?

The aim of sociology is to investigate areas of social importance such as the education system, the family, crime and politics. 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.

Who is the course suitable for?

Success on this course will depend on your ability to identify, 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 for the AS qualification you will study:

- The family
- Education
- Sociological methods
- In the second year for the A2 qualification you will study:
- Crime and deviance
- Power and Politics
- Sociological theory and methods

How will I be assessed?

All of the units are assessed in an examination. For the AS qualification, there are two exams and for the A2 there are two exams.

What qualifications do I need to have?

At least a Grade B in English Language or English Literature. It is an advantage to have sound grades in subjects related to Sociology such as; History, R.E., Geography and Media Studies.

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.

Who do I contact for further information?

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