



Computer Science



QUALIFICATION	EXAMINATION BOARD	COURSE LENGTH
A Level	OCR	2 years

Who will this course interest?

Students who are looking to develop an advanced understanding of computer science. Great for students wanting to apply their coding ability to solve real-world problems. If you are aiming to work in the computing industry within any sector this is a great A level to focus on.

What Will I study?

Programming (in python or similar), data structures, algorithms, theory of computation, data representation, computer systems and architecture, consequences of using computers, communication and networking, databases, big data, functional programming, systematic problem solving, practical project.

How will I be taught?

There is significant programming content within this course and because of this student will be taught programming throughout the course supported by in depth theory content. Students are expected to complete independence modules to support their learning throughout the course.

How Will I be assessed?

A Level Computer Science is assessed through two written exams (each worth 40%) and a Programming Project (worth 20%). There is one re-sit opportunity for this subject. Students initially studying the AS before moving onto the A level course will sit two written exams both

worth 50% one directed on computing theory and the other on programming concepts.

Which subjects go well with it?

Subjects that support this subject well are:

- Maths
- Science

What could this course lead to?

This course, as with other IT subjects, is a pathway to a huge range of higher education courses. The skills you learn will be invaluable for problem solving, project management, analysis, and technical understanding of computer systems.

This course could take you into a variety of careers, for example: software engineering, IT auditor, systems security administrator, data modeller, cyber security engineer and more.

Entry requirements - at least a grade 6 in both literature and language at GCSE.

- Grade '6' in GCSE Mathematics
- Grade '6' in GCSE Computing (or ICT) if taken.

Preparation for this course:

There is a significant programming content to this A Level. If you have no previous experience with

programming then you are strongly advised to sign up with an on-line learning site such as

<https://www.codecademy.com> and to begin learning a language such as Python.



Fine Art (Art and Design)

QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of fine art media, processes and techniques. They will be made aware of both traditional and new media.

What will I study?

Students will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Sketchbooks/ workbooks/ journals may be used to underpin your work where appropriate.

Students will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making processes. Students' responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate an understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. Students will be aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented. They will be aware of the importance of process as well as product.

Students are required to work in one or more area(s) of fine art, such as those listed below. They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas

- **How will I be taught?**

You will be expected to understand and demonstrate skills, in the context of your chosen area(s) of fine art. In

addition, you will be required to demonstrate skills in all of the following:

- appreciation of different approaches to recording images, such as observation, analysis, expression and imagination
- awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of fine art
- understanding of the conventions of figurative/ representational and abstract/ nonrepresentational imagery or genres
- appreciation of different ways of working, such as, using under painting, glazing, wash and impasto
- modelling, carving, casting, constructing, assembling and welding; etching, engraving, dry point, mono printing, lino printing, screen printing, photo silkscreen and lithography
- understanding of pictorial space, composition, rhythm, scale and structure
- appreciation of colour, line, tone, texture, shape and form

How will I be assessed?

You will be aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented, and also of the importance of process as well as product.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 5 or above in GCSE art
- 2 Merits or above in BTEC art



Business

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QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge
Technical Extended
Certificate in Business
(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

If you want to broaden and expand your knowledge in the specialist work-related area of business and develop the essential skills and understanding needed to gain confidence and progression, then this vocational course will interest you.

It will prepare you for progression to university or into employment in this vocational sector.

What will I study?

The course is made up of five units taken over two years.

- The business environment (exam)
- Working in business (exam)
- Business decisions (exam)
- Customers and communication (coursework)
- Marketing and market research (coursework)
- Business events (coursework)

How will I be taught?

You will learn by completing a mix of coursework assignments, whilst preparing for final exams. The coursework is based on key functions of business, while using real scenarios to help you evidence the skills required. The exam units are focused on an 'introduction to business studies' and the skills required for 'working in a business'.

How will I be assessed?

Exam units and coursework projects.

Which subjects go well with it?

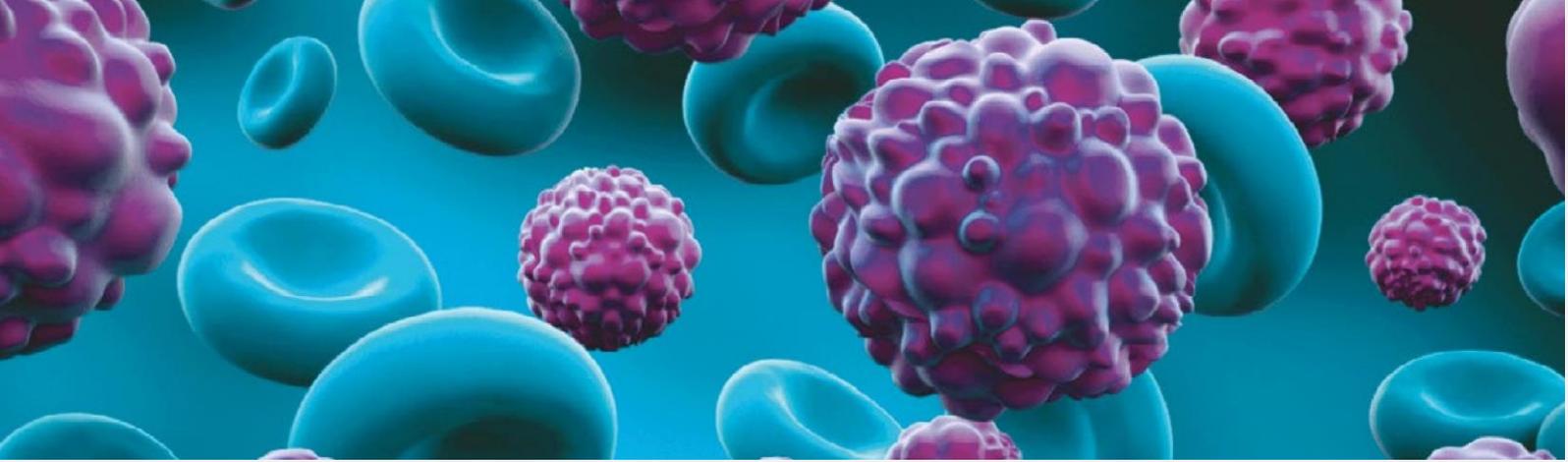
Business combines well with digital media, finance, health and social care, IT, mathematics, performing arts and sport.

What could this course lead to?

The course provides a solid foundation for studies at a higher level in the following areas: accountancy and finance, business management or administration, human resource management and marketing.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 4 in English or mathematics



Biology

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QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Biology is a science at the forefront of some of the most exciting and sensitive issues in the news today. Are you intrigued when you hear about the medical developments in genetic engineering? Do you want to know why cells divide and what are the causes of cancer? Or are you concerned with the threat of global extinction and the devastation being caused by global warming? Studying A Level Biology will enable you to learn more about these issues of interest.

What will I study?

You will study topics that you are familiar with from GCSE, but at a much deeper and more challenging level.

Units covered in Year 12:

You will study 4 units:

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations in biology
- Exchange and transport
- Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Units covered in Year 13 You will study 3 units:

- Practical skills in biology
- Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

How will I be taught?

Via a series of practical and theory lessons. Our approach is to make the lessons as interactive as possible.

How will I be assessed?

Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics. You will be externally assessed through written papers set by OCR. You will also be assessed by your teacher for the Practical Endorsement, for which you will carry out a minimum of 12 tasks during the course.

Which subjects go well with it?

This subject complements subjects such as chemistry, geography, psychology and sport.

What could this course lead to?

Achieving A Level Biology can lead to a wide range of careers or degree courses. You can go on to study biochemistry, biomedical sciences, biology, medicine, microbiology, pharmacy, psychology, veterinary science and zoology amongst other rewarding subjects at university. Biology is also an excellent A Level for entry to non-science careers or degree courses.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in biology or 6/6 in combined science
- Grade 5 in English
- Grade 6 in mathematics



Business

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QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge
Technical Extended
Certificate in Business
(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

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It will prepare you for progression to university or into employment in this vocational sector.

What will I study?

The course is made up of five units taken over two years.

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- Customers and communication (coursework)
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- Business events (coursework)

How will I be taught?

You will learn by completing a mix of coursework assignments, whilst preparing for final exams. The coursework is based on key functions of business, while using real scenarios to help you evidence the skills required. The exam units are focused on an 'introduction to business studies' and the skills required for 'working in a business'.

How will I be assessed?

Exam units and coursework projects.

Which subjects go well with it?

Business combines well with digital media, finance, health and social care, IT, mathematics, performing arts and sport.

What could this course lead to?

The course provides a solid foundation for studies at a higher level in the following areas: accountancy and finance, business management or administration, human resource management and marketing.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 4 in English or mathematics



Chemistry



QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Chemistry allows you to study and explore the world around you. If you are interested in problem solving, using logic and maths, and studying trends and patterns, chemistry is for you. You will find out the truth about the particles that make up atoms and build your knowledge of fuels and chemicals that we use every day. You will also find out how TNT is made and how drug cheats are caught.

It is a very practical subject and you will learn techniques that are a real asset for work in university or 'real-life' laboratories.

What will I study?

You will study topics that you are familiar with from GCSE, but at a deeper and more challenging level.

For the A Level qualification, content is split into six teaching modules:

- Module 1: Development of practical skills in chemistry
- Module 2: Foundations in chemistry
- Module 3: Periodic table and energy
- Module 4: Core organic chemistry
- Module 5: Physical chemistry and transition elements
- Module 6: Organic chemistry and analysis

How will I be taught?

Via a series of practical and theory lessons. Our approach is to make the lessons as interactive as possible.

How will I be assessed?

Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics. They will be externally assessed through written papers set by OCR. You will also be assessed by your teacher for the Practical Endorsement, for which you will carry out a minimum of 12 tasks during the course.

Which subjects go well with it?

This subject complements subjects such as biology, geography, history, mathematics, physics and sport.

What could this course lead to?

Achieving A Level Chemistry can lead to a wide range of careers or degree courses. You can go on to study biochemistry, biomedical sciences, chemistry, pharmacy and psychology amongst other rewarding subjects at university. Chemistry is also an excellent A Level for entry to non-science careers or degree courses.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in chemistry or 6/6 in combined science
- Grade 6 in mathematics
- Grade 5 in English



Criminology



QUALIFICATION	EXAMINATION BOARD	COURSE LENGTH
Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology (Equivalent to 1 A Level)	WJEC	2 years

Who will this course interest?

Criminology is the study of the reasons why individuals commit crimes. By understanding why a person commits a crime, we can develop ways to control crime or rehabilitate the criminal. So, if you ever wondered how much the media influences our perception of crime and how does psychology and sociology explain crime, then this is the course for you!

What will I study?

Year 12:

In “Changing Awareness of Crime” you will learn about the wide range of crime that occurs in society and the reasons people have for not always reporting crime. You will explore the ways in which the media portrays crime and the effect this might have on our perceptions of crime. You will gain an understanding of the social implications of crime and criminality.

Year 13:

In “Crime Scene to Courtroom” you will gain an understanding of the process of criminal investigations. The criminal trial process involves many different people and agencies. Learning about the roles of these will give you a clearer insight into what happens once a crime is detected and the process that leads to either a guilty or nonguilty verdict.

How will I be taught?

As a vocational qualification, the Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology will include:

- group work – researching evidence, assessing theories and giving presentations
- independent work – researching contemporary issues
- guest speakers on issues such as the role of the police
- departmental visits to give experience of issues covered in lessons
- student presentations
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How will I be assessed?

There are four units to be completed which are all mandatory. Each unit is worth 25% of the overall grade. Students must pass all units to gain this qualification.

Which subjects go well with it?

Applied science, business, digital media, IT, psychology, sociology and sport.

- BA Criminology and Sociology
- BSc Psychology and Sociology
- BSc Criminology with Law
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Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in English



Digital Media



QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge Technical
Extended Certificate 2016 Suite
(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Anyone interested in a career in the media or who just has a fascination for how we interact with films, television, newspapers, magazines and the internet.

What will I study?

Compulsory Units

- Unit 1 – Media products and audiences
- Unit 2 – Pre-production and planning
- Unit 3 – Create a media product

Optional units

The following units are subject to change, based on student's interest.

- Unit 7 – Journalism

- Unit 22 – Scripting
- Unit 23 – Creating a media profile

How will I be taught?

There will be a variety of teaching formats – university style lectures, small group discussions, student led presentations, group and practical tasks. This is a highly practical course where you are expected to generate ideas and create media products using cameras and IT software.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 and 2 – external examinations (50% of qualification combined)

Units 3, 20, 21 and 24 are coursework and will be externally moderated (50% of qualification combined).

Which subjects go well with it?

Digital Media combines well with applied science, business, English language, English literature, IT, music, performing arts, psychology, sociology and sport.

What could this course lead to?

Higher Education: BA/BSc in art, film production, media studies, psychology, sociology and teaching.

Career opportunities in: Advertising, art, any kind of PR work or job where you have to present ideas, communications, journalism, law, marketing, social media and teaching.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

Grade 4 in English or mathematics

- An interest in creative subjects would be advantageous



English Language and Literature Combined



QUALIFICATION	EXAMINATION BOARD	COURSE LENGTH
A Level	AQA	2 years

Studying English Language and Literature together is a great combination and one which will equip you with a variety of transferable skills such as; writing, analysis, applying context and reading for meaning.

The course is perfect if you enjoy not only the creative aspects of the written word, but also if you're interested in how literature and language reflect society. It will complement your other studies and prepare you well for university and your future career.

This course combines a detailed study of literature with the opportunity to read more widely and independently. Throughout the course you will be encouraged to attend theatre productions of the texts studied and to watch film versions of set and related texts.

The course includes:

Telling stories

- Remembered places – the representation of place
- Imagined worlds – point of view and genre in prose
- Poetic voices – the forms and functions of poetic voice
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Exploring conflict

- Writing about society – the role of the individual in society, and re-creative writing based on set texts
- Critical commentary – evaluating own writing
- Dramatic encounters – conflict in drama
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Making connections – Non-exam assessment

Making connections – investigation on a chosen theme and texts. Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activity.

How will I be taught and what will my exams look like?

Assessment consists of 20% non-exam assessment and 80% examinations – paper 1 is 3 hours in length and paper 2 is 2 hours and 30 minutes in length.

Which subjects go well with it?

This A Level complements a range of other subjects, such as, French, history, philosophy, psychology, and sociology.

What could this course lead to?

This course, as with the other English subjects, is a pathway to a huge range of higher education courses. The skills you learn will be invaluable for essay writing, dissertations, report writing and presentations in later life.

This course could take you into a variety of careers, for example: teaching, journalism, playwriting, marketing, PR and media.

Entry requirements - at least a grade 6 in both literature and language at GCSE.

- Grade 6 in English



Geography



QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

How will I be assessed?

Examinations are at the end of the second year.

Component 1: (2 hours 30 minutes) Physical geography paper (120 marks, 40% of qualification) Exam paper has three sections covering: Water and the carbon cycle (section A), coastal systems and landscapes (section B) and hazards (section C).

Component 2: (2 hours 30 minutes) Human geography paper (120 marks, 40% of qualification) Exam paper has three sections covering: global systems and global governance (section A), changing places (section B) or population and the environment (section C).

Component 3: Geography fieldwork investigation (60 marks, 20% of qualification)

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

Which subjects go well with it?

The study of geography would support and be supported by biology, mathematics, philosophy and sociology.

What could this course lead to?

The study of geography could lead on to a range of careers through access to BA/BSc courses in environmental sciences, geography, geology, international development or property management.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in geography if studied
- Grade 5 in English or mathematics

German

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QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Travel – so the saying goes – broadens the mind. And never more so than when you speak the language. That way you'll be able to find out what the local people are thinking, how they live and how their culture really works. This course has been designed to give you a profound understanding of German. Not only will you know about the mechanics of the language – like grammar and vocabulary – but how people use language on a day to day basis.

What will I study?

In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of artistic life of German-speaking countries. In the second year, further aspects of the social background are covered, alongside the German political landscape, both in relation to Germany itself and its place in Europe. The past and its role in shaping the present is viewed through the reunification and its consequences while the focus on young people and politics looks forward to shaping the future of German-speaking countries.

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where German is spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources in German.

Students must also study either one book and one film or two books from the lists in the specification.

How will I be taught?

Lessons are taught in the usual style of modern foreign language lessons. Groups are generally smaller which allows lessons to be more interactive and include more

pair and group work. The majority of the lessons are taught in German to encourage you to gain confidence in the spoken language.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Paper 2: Writing,

Written exam: 2 hours (80 marks).

20% of A Level

Paper 3: Speaking

Oral exam: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes

Which subjects go well with it?

German goes very well with business studies, English literature, French or history but can also be an interesting contrast to mathematics or sciences.

What could this course lead to?

Apart from being beneficial at a personal level, your A Level German can help with lots of career paths. International organisations such as the EU or the UN welcome employees who can communicate in more than one language. Other career opportunities include import/ export trade, international banking, tourism, both at home and overseas, communication, interpreting, journalism, public relations, publishing, technology, telecommunications, translating and of course teaching. In fact the world is your oyster!

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in German



Health and Social Care



QUALIFICATION	EXAMINATION BOARD	COURSE LENGTH
Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care (Equivalent to 1 A Level)	OCR	2 years

Who will this course interest?

If you are interested in working in a health and social care environment, then this course will help prepare you for university and employment.

What will I study?

This course is made up of six units:

- Building Positive relationships (coursework)
- Anatomy and Physiology (external examination)
- Public Health (coursework)
- Equality and Diversity (external examination)
- Health, safety and security in health and social care (external examination)

How will I be taught?

The units will be taught through class activities, discussions and visits to health and social care settings, as well as visits by experts in lessons.

How will I be assessed?

Coursework and external written assessments.

Which subjects go well with it?

Applied science, biology, food science and nutrition, psychology, sociology and sport.

What could this course lead to?

University courses such as midwifery, nursing, paramedic studies, physiotherapy or employment within health and social care settings or social work education.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 4 in English or mathematics



HISTORY

History

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QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

History A Level is the course to do if you enjoy learning about the past. If you are good at debating and challenging other people's ideas then you should choose this course. You will learn to form reasoned and justified arguments and to think critically about the past and other people's ideas.

What will I study?

The two years will be divided into four units. •

Unit 1: Early Tudors 1485-1558

- Unit 2: Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany 1919-1963
- Unit 3: Popular Culture and the Witch Craze of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
- Unit 4: Non examined assessment: Topic based essay

How will I be taught?

Lessons are taught using a variety of methods including independent reading, presentations, debate, seminar-style discussions, analysing other historians' works and creative modelling or role play. The expectations are extremely high so you must be prepared to carry out extra reading and consistently contribute to lesson discussions.

How will I be assessed?

All exams are taken at the end of the two year A Level.

- Unit 1: 1 hour 30 minutes examination (25% of total A Level)
- Unit 2: 1 hour examination (15% of total A Level)
- Unit 3: 2 hour 30 minutes examination (40% of total A Level)
- Unit 4: Coursework. Individual 3-4000 word essay based on a topic of your choice. (20% of total A Level)

Which subjects go well with it?

Studying A Level History will support you in many other subjects that require similar evaluative and analytical skills, such as English language, English literature, philosophy and sociology.

What could this course lead to?

This course will lead onto higher education degrees in a wide range of subjects, including English, history, law, politics, sociology and teaching. With a History A Level there are numerous career opportunities available to you, such as journalism, law, political work and teaching. The skills learnt studying this subject can be transferred across many careers that require you to think analytically and require you to argue.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in history if studied
- Grade 5 in English



ICT

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QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge Technical (Extended Introductory Diploma Certificate) in IT (Equivalent to 1 A Level)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Anyone with an interest in ICT, programming, computer maintenance.

It is an ideal foundation for students entering the workplace, providing them with theoretical apprenticeships, related higher education background reinforced with practical skills that transfer into the modern workplace. It's also highly recommended by universities.

What will I study?

There are two examined core units:

- Fundamentals of ICT (Yr 12)
- Global information (Yr 12)

In addition, there are three coursework units:

- Application design (Yr 12)
- Social media & digital marketing (Yr 13)
- Web design & photography (Yr 13)

The coursework element will involve planning and then creating a website for a business.

How will I be taught?

The examined units will be the focus for the first part of Year 12, before going on to develop an application for a given client. There is a challenging blend of theoretical knowledge and practical hands-on application design development. **How will I be assessed?**

The assessment is based on 40% exam and 60% coursework. The coursework is externally moderated by a visiting moderator.

Which subjects go well with it?

ICT is a good choice to take with a range of other subjects, due to the transferrable skills that are inherent in the subject. It is often taken with applied science, business, finance, health and social care, media and sport.

What could this course lead to?

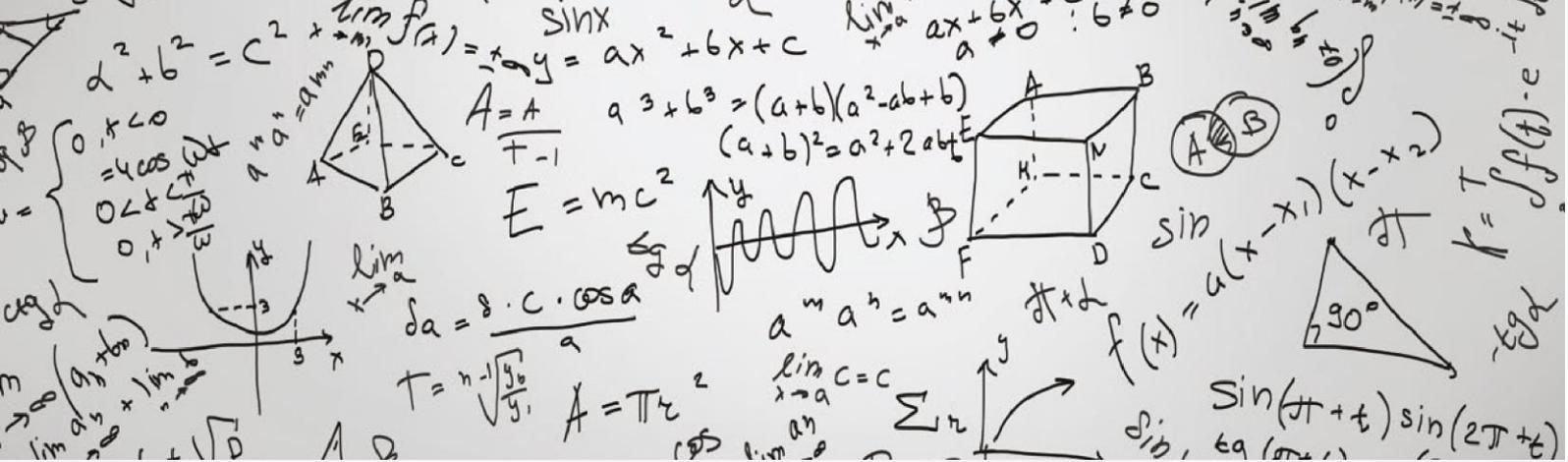
Information and communications technology is the growth sector of the moment. There is an estimated shortage of 30,000 ICT professionals in the UK. As a result, good quality candidates can command good salaries within a short time in their careers. Many of our students go on to do ICT related courses at university.

Job opportunities:

- Networking
- Software developer
- Tech support
- Digital technology sector
- Application development
- Data analysis
- Web developer
- App developer
- Software analyst

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 5 in English
- Grade 5 in mathematics



Mathematics

QUALIFICATION

AS/A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

This course will interest you if you have an enthusiasm for problem-solving, a willingness to try a variety of approaches and the tenacity to keep going in the hunt for possible solutions to awkward problems. If you want to develop your ability to produce well-reasoned answers to extended mathematical problems, then maths could be the subject for you. It is highly logical; it requires imagination and determination to work well on your own.

What will I study?

In the Pure component of the course you will learn methods and techniques which underpin the study of all other areas of mathematics, such as, proof, algebra, trigonometry, calculus, and vectors. Alongside this you will also study Statistics; reaching conclusions from data and calculating the likelihood of an event occurring. Finally there is a Mechanics component to the course; the modelling of the world around us, the motion of objects and the forces acting on them. Students planning careers in physics or engineering would find mechanics particularly useful.

How will I be taught?

Lessons are taught using a variety of methods, university style lectures to introduce new concepts, presentations and individual or group work.

You will be expected to spend at least an equal amount of time outside your timetabled lessons consolidating your learning.

How will I be assessed?

There are three external examinations at the end of year 13.

Which subjects go well with it?

Many subjects use Maths including; Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Business Studies, Economics, PE, Engineering, Computing, Psychology, Sociology, Law and Geography.

What could this course lead to?

Higher education: A level Mathematics is essential or desirable for a wide range of degree courses including Economics, Computing, Social sciences, Mathematics, Business. Actuarial science, Financial services and Supply chain logistics. According to research by UCL, students with an A level in Mathematics are more likely to attend a Russell Group university.

Career opportunities

There is a huge shortage of people with STEM skills needed to enter the workforce.

Applications of mathematics in technology: Medical, Games Design, Internet Security, Financial engineering, Programming and Communications.

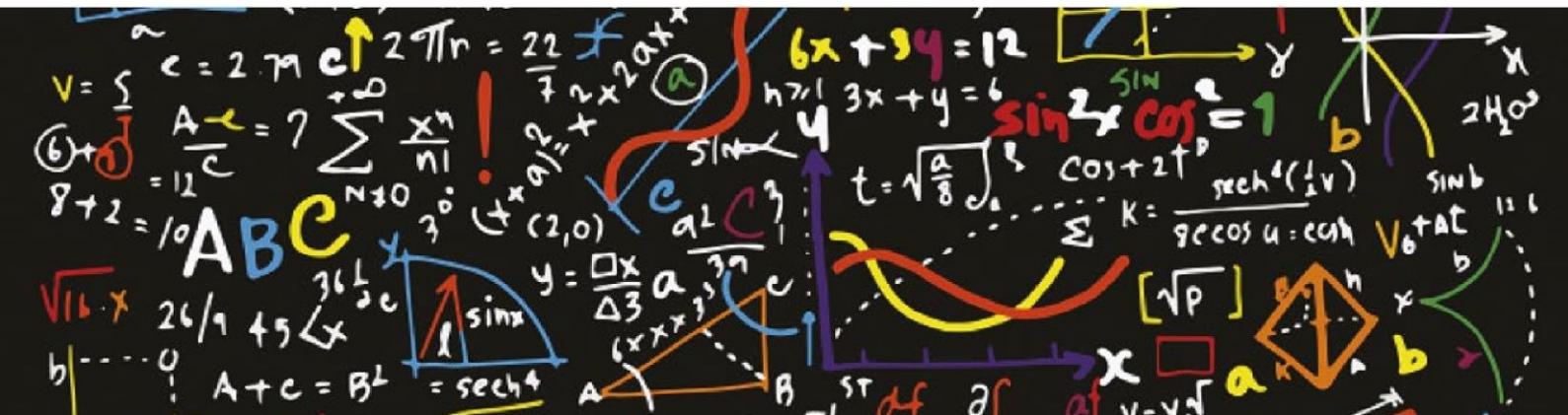
On-going applications in engineering, such as: Aircraft Modelling, Fluid Flows, Acoustic, Software Development, Electronics and Civil Engineering.

New scientific processes such as: Modelling and predicting epidemics, Quantum Physics, Forensics, DNA sequencing and AI.

Applications relating to human behaviours and interactions: Data Science, Psychology, Law, Economics, Climate Change, Environmental Modelling, Political Science and International Development.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 7 in Mathematics



Further Mathematics

QUALIFICATION

AS/A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Further Mathematics is an AS/A level qualification taken in **addition to** an AS/A level in Mathematics. It is designed to stretch and challenge students and prepare them for university courses in mathematics and related quantitative and scientific subjects.

What will I study?

You will study Further pure topics such as complex numbers and matrices, differential equations, and in-depth calculus. Further mechanics and Further statistics, Further pure or decision.

How will I be taught?

Lessons are taught using a variety of methods, university style lectures to introduce new concepts, presentations and individual or group work.

You will be expected to spend at least an equal amount of time outside of timetabled lessons consolidating your learning.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed via four external examinations at the end of Year 13.

Which subjects go well with it?

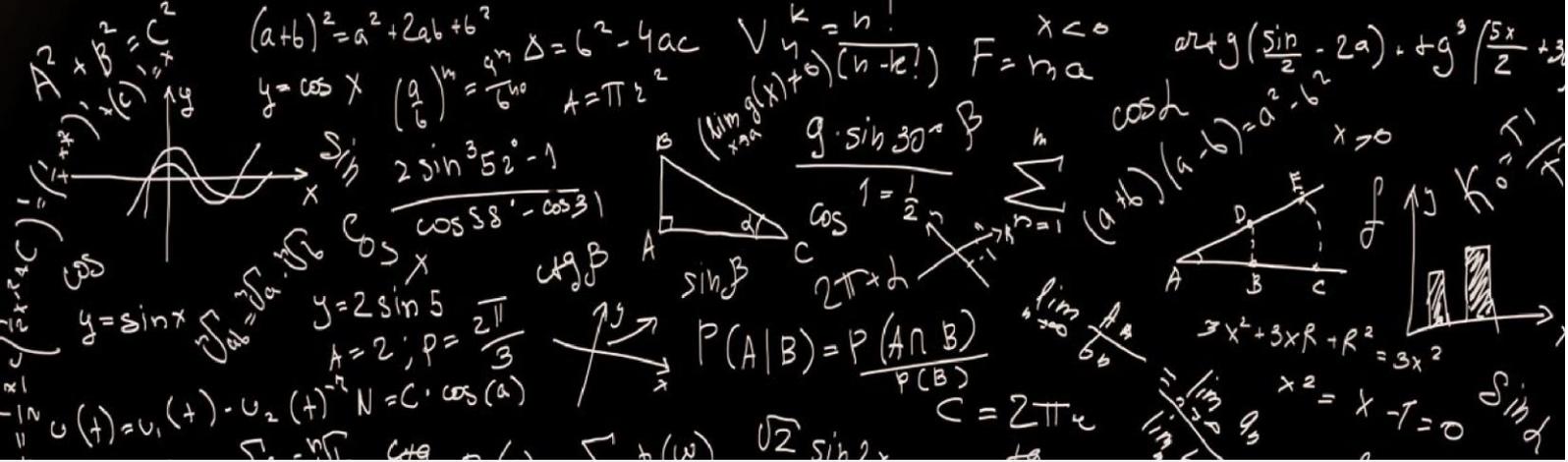
Must be studied alongside A Level Mathematics and provides excellent support for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It also supports Business, Psychology, Sociology and Computer science.

What could this course lead to?

Students applying to study a degree in a STEM subject should also consider taking Further Mathematics, to at least AS level, alongside A level Mathematics.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 8 in Mathematics



Core Mathematics

QUALIFICATION

Level 3

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

1 year

What is Core Maths?

Core Maths is a relatively new course for those who want to keep up their valuable maths skills but are not planning to take AS or A Level Mathematics. At the end of the one-year course, you will gain a Level 3 qualification - similar to an AS, e.g. a Grade A will be worth 20 UCAS points.

Why Should I Study Core Maths?

Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real-life maths skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis in work, study or life.

You will learn about analysing data, finance and estimation, alongside other statistical techniques. Most students find the personal finance lessons particularly interesting. Here we learn about credits cards, loans and mortgages, as well as calculating tax and national insurance.

It will also help with other A Level subjects- in particular with science, geography, business studies, psychology.

Only a quarter of students who pass GCSE continue to study any Maths post-16. In other OECD countries, most students study some form of Maths until the age of 18. This puts young people in the UK-you - at a major disadvantage in a global job market.

Most students who study maths after GCSE improve their career choices and increase their earning potential.

Will it be recognised by universities and employers?

A Core Maths qualification will equip you with the general mathematical knowledge and skills required by higher education and employment. Several universities have come out in strong support of Core Maths and some University departments may even make a reduced offer for their courses where such a qualification is taken alongside three A-levels or equivalent.

Employers from all different sectors are firmly behind the Core Maths qualification. Many roles in today's workplace require high levels of budget management and problem-solving skills; Core Maths will be useful in equipping you with these skills.

How will I be assessed?

The qualification is assessed by 2 exams at the end of the year with some pre-release material. There is no coursework component.

What do I need to be able to study Core Maths?

You will need a grade 6 or above in mathematics at GCSE and a minimum of grade 4 in GCSE English language

Is it only for those that got a 6 in GCSE Mathematics?

No, students with 9- 7 will also be appropriately challenged by the course.



Philosophy and Ethics



QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

If you enjoy questioning life and don't like to simply accept what we are told; if you like to have answers to the big questions that challenge our existence then this course is for you. If you enjoy debating your ideas and opinions with others and like to be challenged in your thinking then this course is definitely for you. You will be encouraged to think logically and you will be taught how to put those thoughts into carefully considered arguments.

What will I study?

This is a challenging and exciting course that allows you to gain a thorough grounding in key philosophical concepts, themes and techniques.

Content overview:

Philosophy of religion

- Ancient philosophical influences
- The nature of the soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence of God
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language

Religion and ethics

- Ethical theories such as Utilitarianism and Kant and the application of ethical theory to euthanasia and business
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs

Developments in religious thought

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority

- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society All learners will study in the context of Christianity.

How will I be taught?

Lessons are taught using a variety of university style lectures to introduce new topics, presentations and small group work sessions. Philosophy and Ethics is taught in a very active manner using such things as junk modelling and student led activities.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed via external examinations at the end of Year 13. There are 3 exams each of 2 hours length.

Which subjects go well with it?

Philosophy and ethics combines well with English language, English literature, history, and sociology.

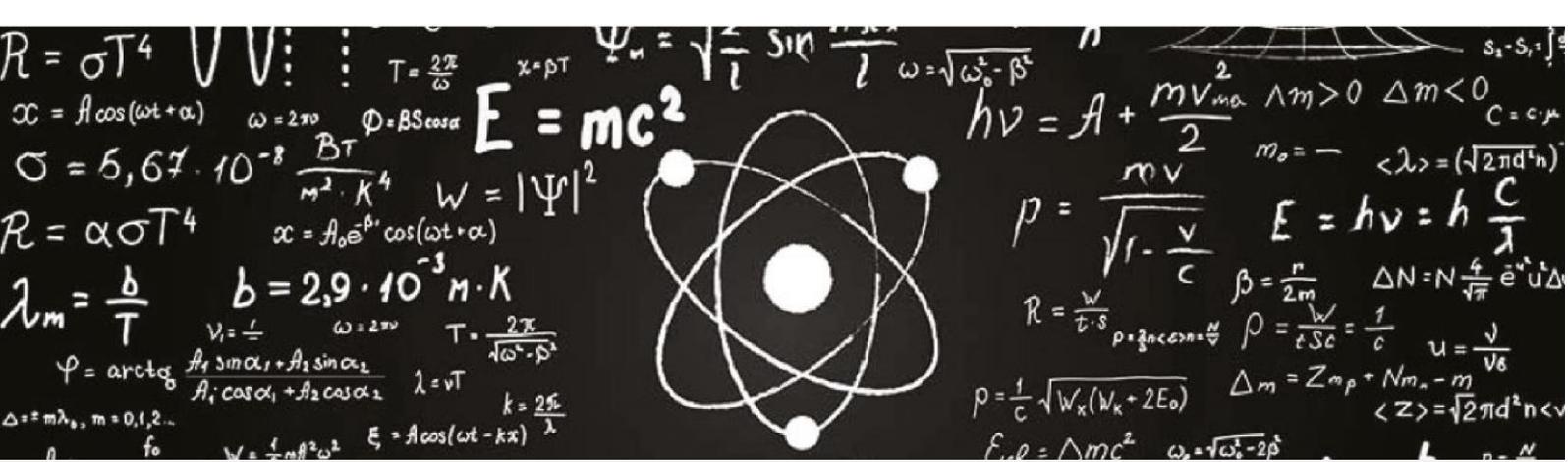
What could this course lead to?

Higher education – art, anthropology, comparative religion, law, philosophy, psychology, sociology, teaching and theology.

Career opportunities – journalism, law, media, nursing, police, social work, teaching and TV.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in English



Physics



QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

For students who like to solve problems and answer challenging questions about the physical world around them.

This is an essential course for anyone who is interested in finding out about the world around them from the smallest particle to the entire universe.

What will I study?

The course looks at and connects the following topics: Newtonian mechanics, energy, electricity, magnetism, photons, quantum universe, cosmology, nuclear, medical, thermal and particle physics.

Units covered in Year 12

- Forces and motion
- Foundation in physics
- Electrons, photons and quantum mechanics
- Practical skills in physics

Additional units covered in Year 13

- Newtonian world and astrophysics
- Particles and medical physics
- Practical skills in physics

How will I be taught?

Via a series of practical and theory lessons. Our approach is to make the lessons as interactive as possible.

How will I be assessed?

Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics. You will be externally assessed through written papers set by OCR. You will also be assessed by your teacher for the Practical

Endorsement, for which you will carry out a minimum of 12 tasks during the course.

Which subjects go well with it?

Any subject that requires an analytical approach would benefit from the study of physics, it combines well with chemistry, ICT and mathematics.

What could this course lead to?

Physics gives you the skills to problem solve, so after the successful completion of a physics course you will be welcomed on to any university course or training programme. Careers include astronaut, computer science, engineering, finance, medicine, research scientist and sport science.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in science
- Grade 6 in physics or 6/6 in combined science
- Grade 6 in mathematics
- Grade 5 in English



Government and Politics

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QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

Pearson Edexcel

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

This course will appeal to those students who like to know how the country is run and also enjoy a good argument! It will also interest those who keep up to date with current affairs.

What will I study?

In Year 12 you will learn about how the UK is governed and why it is governed in this way. In Year 13 you will examine how the USA is governed and why and then compare this to the UK.

Units covered:

- UK Politics - Elections, political parties and looking in depth at how the media impacts on voting behaviour
- UK Government - Features and functions of parliament, the Supreme Court and the power of the Prime Minister
- Political ideas - Liberalism and Feminism
- US political comparison - Compare the government of the UK with the USA and look at concepts

How will I be taught?

Seminars, lecture style, silent debates and group work.

How will I be assessed?

There are three examinations each with equal weighting • UK Politics

- UK Government
- Comparative unit with USA politics

Which subjects go well with it?

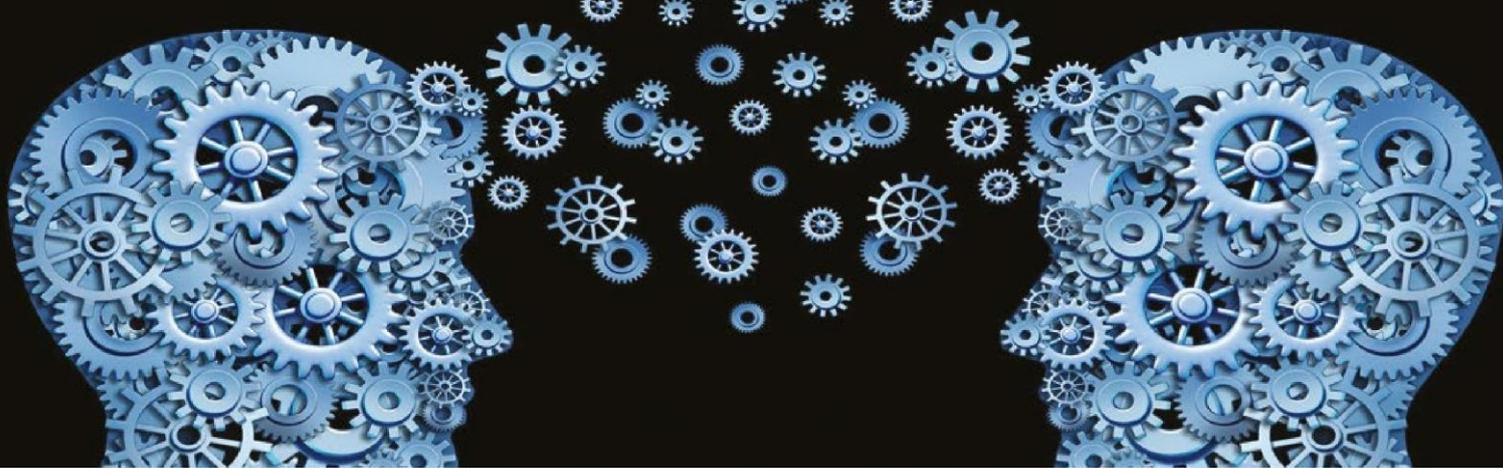
Politics combines well with English language, English literature, geography, history, philosophy and sociology.

What could this course lead to?

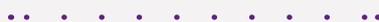
Having A Level Politics can lead you to university degree courses in advertising, ethics, history, international development, journalism, media studies, philosophy, politics, and sociology.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in English



Psychology



QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Anyone with a curious mind and a desire to learn about human behaviour.

What will I study?

The scientific study of human mind and behaviour. You will touch on many aspects of psychology and answer questions such as: How does our memory work? Do early relationships affect our behaviour for the rest of our lives? Does violent media lead to violent behaviour? What causes phobias? Why are we obedient?

Unit 1

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Unit 2

- Approaches in psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research methods

Unit 3

- Cognition and development
- Stress
- Forensic psychology
- Issues and debates

How will I be taught?

Through the use of classroom lessons, note taking, interactive activities, group work, discussions and videos.

How will I be assessed?

Regular assessment of knowledge and understanding through the two years to track your progress.

Three external written examinations at the end of Year 13.

Which subjects go well with it?

Biology, criminology, English, health and social care, history, mathematics, sociology and sport.

What could this course lead to?

A wide range of degree courses at University.

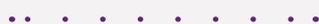
Numerous career opportunities including business, educational, clinical, forensic, journalism, laboratory work, occupational and sport psychology, police force and teaching.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in English
- Grade 5 in mathematics



Sociology



QUALIFICATION

A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Anyone with an interest in society, the family, education, criminology and the role of religion in society.

What will I study?

You will study many aspects of contemporary society including socialisation, culture and identity. You will study the education system including policy and patterns of achievement. You will then go on to look at the role of the family in modern British society, and about the role of religion in western society looking specifically at fundamentalism. Finally, you will learn about crime, deviance and reasons why someone turns to crime.

Year 12

- Education with methods in context
- Topic: Families and households
- Research Methods

Year 13

- Topic: Beliefs in Society
- Crime and Deviance
- Theory and Methods

How will I be taught?

Through the use of classroom lessons, note taking, interactive activities, discussions, visiting speakers, independent study and research etc.

How will I be assessed?

External written examination at the end of Year 13.

Which subjects go well with it?

As a Social Science subject, Sociology combines well with most A Levels and is an excellent choice to add breadth to your programme. Subject combinations include politics, health and social care, law, and psychology.

What could this course lead to?

Sociology A Level is a useful and relevant preparation for many degree courses at university such as education, criminology, law, sociology, social policy or social work. It can also lead on to many career options such as: care working, prison officer, social worker and teaching.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 6 in English



Sport

QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge
Technical Extended
Certificate in Sport &
Physical Activity
(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

A possible Diploma (Equivalent
to 2 A Levels)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Students who are interested in sport in general, but especially for those who would like to seek a career in the world of sport. Also for those who enjoy a mixture of practical sport, coaching and theoretical areas surrounding sport. This is a vocational course and in support of this, we aim to provide a number of opportunities for you to see for yourselves a broad range of PE/Sport providers.

What will I study?

A mixture of units that cover the broad spectrum of sport. The various units will be delivered either as practical, theory, or seminar. Units that will be covered in the duration of the course:

- Unit 1 - Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Unit 2 - Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Unit 3 - Sports organisation and development
- Unit 8 - Organisation of sports event
- Unit 18 - Practical skills in sport and physical activities

How will I be taught?

You will be taught via a range of different teaching styles. Some lessons will be structured classroom lessons; exploration of the internet and books; through practical activities; teacher led workshops; group work and seminars.

How will I be assessed?

3 units will be internally assessed via the quality of the students' coursework. 2 units are externally assessed via written examinations.

Which subjects go well with it?

It would work well with a mixture of A Levels or vocational subjects. If you wanted to study sports science then other sciences would be beneficial. For teaching opportunities, subjects such as psychology or sociology could help.

What could this course lead to?

If you're wanting to seek employment in physical activity or sport then this course would be beneficial for fitness instructors, sports coaches, and sports events management. This course is also a very relevant stepping stone onto many sportrelated university courses.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 4 or above in sport related qualification if studied.
- Preferred grade 4 in



Performing Arts



QUALIFICATION	EXAMINATION BOARD	COURSE LENGTH
Level 3 National Diploma in Performing Arts (Equivalent to 2 A Levels) Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (Equivalent to 1 A Level)	OCR	2 years

Who will this course interest?

If you have a passion for performing dance, drama and musical theatre and have an interest in the creative process as well as performing, then this is the course for you. Whether you want a career in the performing arts industry (extended diploma) or you want to engage with any of the art form to satisfy your creative desire and help develop skills for other careers (extended certificate), you will find this course both stimulating and challenging. You have the option to study only performing arts if you know this is the career path you want to invest your time in.

What will I study?

During this course there will be an emphasis on performance technique through the study of influential practitioners across performing arts history. You will develop skills and techniques for live performance work as well as specialising in your chosen discipline. As well as practical work analysis of professional work is an important component of study as this will encourage your creativity and exploration in developing your own artistic practice.

How will I be taught?

This course will be tailored to suit your creative ability in modules that you will study dance, drama and music.

There is no written examination. You will be assessed on a wide variety of modules that will include dance, drama and music.

Which subjects go well with it?

Studying Performing Arts will support you in many other subjects that require similar analytic skills such as English, media studies, sociology and criminology but it also compliments law due to the performance nature of the role. Certainly, the performing arts also combines well with art due to its highly creative nature.

What could this course lead to?

Higher Education: Performing Arts could lead on to studying a degree in dance, drama, music, performance, teaching or another related subject.

Career opportunities: beyond the prospect of becoming a professional artist, you may also use this qualification to reach other areas of the industry such as arts choreography, arts journalism, and creative direction within a theatre or independent company or arts therapy.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 4 in English or mathematics
- Grade 4 in performing arts if taken at GCSE
- Merit in a performing arts subject





Economics

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QUALIFICATION

AS / A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

COURSE LENGTH

1-2 years

Who will this course interest?

A level Economics studies the fundamental financial, ethical and political forces which affect our lives, including employment, the cost of living, international trade, and poverty. It examines how people interact with one another, and looks at the fundamental ties between consumers, manufacturers and government.

Both the A level and AS Economics specifications are split into two sections; the first in each is concerned with household economics; the second with the larger national and international pictures.

What will I study?

Individuals, firms, markets and market failure:

- Unit 1: Economic methodology and the economic problem
- Unit 2: Individual economic decision making (A level only)
- Unit 3: Price determination in a competitive market
- Unit 4: Production, costs and revenue
- Unit 5: Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly (A level only)
- Unit 6: The labour market (A level only)
- Unit 7: The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality (A level only)
- Unit 8: The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets.

The national and international economy:

- Unit 9: The measurement of macroeconomic performance
- Unit 10: How the macroeconomy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis, and related concepts
- Unit 11: Economic performance
- Unit 12: Financial markets and monetary policy (A level only)
- Unit 13: Fiscal policy and supply-side policies
- Unit 14: The international economy (A level only)

Which subjects go well with it?

This A Level complements a range of other subjects including; Law, Mathematics, Geography, History, Politics, Philosophy and Languages.

What could this course lead to?

You could find yourself working for big corporations or banks, but equally your qualification could be valuable support in a career like Marketing, Law, Journalism or Teaching.

Entry requirements

6 GCSEs graded 5 and above including English and Mathematics at grade 6 or above.



ICT

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QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge Technical (Extended Introductory Diploma Certificate) in IT (Equivalent to 1 A Level)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Anyone with an interest in ICT, programming, computer maintenance.

It is an ideal foundation for students entering the workplace, providing them with theoretical apprenticeships, related higher education background reinforced with practical skills that transfer into the modern workplace. It's also highly recommended by universities.

What will I study?

There are two examined core units:

- Fundamentals of ICT (Yr 12)
- Global information (Yr 12)

In addition, there are three coursework units:

- Application design (Yr 12)
- Social media & digital marketing (Yr 13)
- Web design & photography (Yr 13)

The coursework element will involve planning and then creating a website for a business.

How will I be taught?

The examined units will be the focus for the first part of Year 12, before going on to develop an application for a given client. There is a challenging blend of theoretical knowledge and practical hands-on application design development. **How will I be assessed?**

The assessment is based on 40% exam and 60% coursework. The coursework is externally moderated by a visiting moderator.

Which subjects go well with it?

ICT is a good choice to take with a range of other subjects, due to the transferrable skills that are inherent in the subject. It is often taken with applied science, business, finance, health and social care, media and sport.

What could this course lead to?

Information and communications technology is the growth sector of the moment. There is an estimated shortage of 30,000 ICT professionals in the UK. As a result, good quality candidates can command good salaries within a short time in their careers. Many of our students go on to do ICT related courses at university.

Job opportunities:

- Networking
- Software developer
- Tech support
- Digital technology sector
- Application development
- Data analysis
- Web developer
- App developer
- Software analyst

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 5 in English
- Grade 5 in mathematics



Digital Media



QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Cambridge Technical
Extended Certificate 2016 Suite
(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

Anyone interested in a career in the media or who just has a fascination for how we interact with films, television, newspapers, magazines and the internet.

What will I study?

Compulsory Units

- Unit 1 – Media products and audiences
- Unit 2 – Pre-production and planning
- Unit 3 – Create a media product

Optional units

The following units are subject to change, based on student's interest. • Unit 7 – Journalism

- Unit 22 – Scripting
- Unit 23 – Creating a media profile

How will I be taught?

There will be a variety of teaching formats – university style lectures, small group discussions, student led presentations, group and practical tasks. This is a highly practical course where you are expected to generate ideas and create media products using cameras and IT software.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 and 2 – external examinations (50% of qualification combined)

Units 3, 20, 21 and 24 are coursework and will be externally moderated (50% of qualification combined).

Which subjects go well with it?

Digital Media combines well with applied science, business, English language, English literature, IT, music, performing arts, psychology, sociology and sport.

What could this course lead to?

Higher Education: BA/BSc in art, film production, media studies, psychology, sociology and teaching.

Career opportunities in: Advertising, art, any kind of PR work or job where you have to present ideas, communications, journalism, law, marketing, social media and teaching.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

Grade 4 in English or mathematics

- An interest in creative subjects would be advantageous



Music



QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma
for Music Practitioners

(Performance Pathway)

EXAMINATION BOARD

RSL

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

Who will this course interest?

The Level 3 RSL course is an enjoyable, creative course for students who wish to pursue a career or interest in music. Students with a strong interest in music and who enjoy performing, both as an individual and as part of a group, are best suited to this course.

What will I study?

The qualification includes both core and optional units. You will follow the **Performance** pathway, although there may be the opportunity to study an optional unit from one of the other pathways.

Core Units:

- Rehearsal Skills & Live Music Performance
- Planning a Career in Music

Examples of Optional Units:

- Auditioning for Music
- Improving Instrumental Performance
- Practical Musicianship
- Listening to Music
- Understanding Musical Styles
- Music Arrangement
- Working as a Freelance Music Practitioner

Optional units will be chosen to reflect the interests and skill set of the cohort.

How will I be taught?

All units will be completed through a combination of practical and written work.

What could this course lead to?

Completing the Level 3 RSL course will prepare you for further study in Music or related performance subjects. You will also gain valuable experience relevant to building a career in the music industry.

Studying Music develops a broad range of valuable, transferable skills which employers and universities are always looking for.

Entry requirements - at least 5 subjects at grade 4-9/L2P-D* including:

- Grade 5 or above in GCSE Music/L2 Merit or above in BTEC Music (or equivalent)

PLUS

- Experience in learning and performing on your chosen instrument/voice
- A strong interest in Music and enjoy performing as an individual and as part of a group
- An interest in learning music theory to enhance your practical music skills

If you have not taken music at KS4 but have a talent for the subject and the ability to be a reflective practitioner, you may be considered for the course.