



Sixth Form Curriculum Guide

With God's grace, we excel and lead



Welcome to the Sixth form at CJM

At The Convent of Jesus and Mary, we strive to provide a school experience which:

- In its breadth introduces each student to the fullness of a life rooted in the love of God.
- In its balance establishes attitudes, which produce concern for truth and respect for others.
- In its relevance enables each student to make their contribution to society with dignity and faith.

The Convent of Jesus and Mary is a place where young people thrive as they develop academically and spiritually in a safe and secure environment.

Our mission statement: 'With God's grace, we excel and lead' is evident in all we do and in the expectations that we have of students as they enter this very important stage in their education.

We have a long and rich history of students attending the very top Russell group universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. A great strength of our Sixth Form is that we have a member of staff who is purely dedicated to providing UCAS and Oxbridge support to the students. The students are given an extensive package of support in applying for taster courses and the application process starts in Year 12. We believe that regardless of ability, students should be able to get to the best university possible.

How to Apply to CJM Sixth form

All applications should be made online at: www.cjmlc.co.uk

1. Our Sixth Form offers a choice of Advanced Levels or intermediate courses. All courses will enable students to progress to university or to further advanced courses.

Please check individual subject pages for further information on entry requirements.

2. In order to be considered for entry to the Sixth Form in 2021, the application form must be completed online by the **4th January 2021**. (www.cjmlc.co.uk).

(Please complete all parts including all student and parent contact details).

External applicants only:

- a. We will write to your school to request a reference. Your reference will be obtained from your head of year or a senior member of staff.
- b. We will contact you with an appointment for interview, detailing any further information required.



Art

Course Content

The Art A-level at The Convent has a tradition of excellence and prides itself on a long history of success. Students work as individuals and within small groups; this enables our staff to offer inspiring, stimulating lessons and to give students individual attention. We offer a multitude of disciplines, processes and skills, as well as visits to galleries to complement your studio work. You may choose to concentrate on one or two of these as the course progresses.

We aim to develop your individual work through: intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers; investigative, analytical, practical and expressive skills; aesthetic understanding and critical judgement; understanding of contexts and inter-relationships between Photography, Art and Digital Media Design; knowledge of Photography, Art and Digital Media Design in contemporary society and in other times and cultures.

Course Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or above at GCSE Art

Assessment

- Awarding Body: AQA
- Externally set assignment – 40% Coursework – 60%

What will you be able to do with the subject at university or as a career?

We strive to enable students to pursue their dreams, by winning places in top London foundation courses at University Level 3 in the Arts; we do this by providing high quality specialist teaching. All Art students here at the Convent are encouraged to do their best and fulfil their creative and academic potential within this discipline. We believe that careful cultivation of skills and abilities, alongside innovative and inspiring teaching, results in students leaving the school as articulate, confident and imaginative young adults ready for a successful career ahead.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

While much of the work is studio-based, students will need to meet the demands of the subject through active research, gallery visits and a broad engagement in the whole area of Photography Art and Design. We also offer a regular programme of visits to galleries in London and involve students with visiting artists and lecturers.

The year 13 students are given extensive portfolio advice before making applications to the prestigious London art schools.

For more information, see Ms Faik



Photography

Do you want to be part of one of the fastest growing industry sectors in the UK economy? Then you need to get involved in the creative and media industries, and studying Photography will take you there.

Course Entry Requirements

Min grade 5 in GCSE Photography, Art & Design or in one of the creative subjects.

Course content

You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic techniques, styles and genres, including: portraiture, documentary, photojournalism, landscape and experimental imagery. You will develop technical understanding relating to the composition of images and an ability to explore the different elements of visual language.

- Portraiture
- Street photography
- Recreate a masterpiece
- Macro Photography
- Fashion Photography
- SLR Camera skills
- Experimental Photography
- Light Painting
- Still life
- Found still life
- Black & White/Colour

Other key aspects of the course are:

- 100% Practical and Contextual work (NO theory based exams)
- Examining Board AQA
- Access to SLR Cameras and a range of lenses to develop skills.
- 100% Digital course including the development of digital image manipulation skills.

Assessment

- Awarding Body: AQA
- Externally set assignment – 40% Coursework – 60%

What will you be able to do with the subject at university or as a career?

This course allows students to apply for a variety of Higher Education courses including Foundation Degrees, HNDs and BA degrees in Art, Design and different areas of Photography. Courses such as Documentary Photography, Photographic Art, Fashion Photography, Fine Art, Art Practice, Graphic Design, Animation, Media Studies, Multimedia and Lens Based Media, Film and Television.

This course will develop the essential skills needed for study at a higher level and those needed for employment. Students could leave this course and gain direct entry to a junior position within a photographic studio.

Speakers, trips, conferences or other Educational opportunities

While most of the work is studio based, students will, need to meet the demands of the subject through active research, gallery visits and a broad range engagement in the whole area of photography, art and design.

We also offer a regular programme of visits to galleries in London and involve students with visiting artists and lecturers.

For more information, see Ms Faik



Biology

The challenging and diverse nature of Biology makes it a prized subject in any profession, but most importantly the subject instils a passion for life itself. The study of Biology at Advanced Level is designed to develop a student's interest in, and enthusiasm for, the subject. To achieve highly in this subject, you will be expected to work collaboratively with your peers and staff. An understanding of scientific method is promoted to increase scientific knowledge and to develop an enquiring and critical approach.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grades 9-6 and also GCSE grade 6 in Separate (Biology or Chemistry) or Double Award Science, English Language and Mathematics. Science grades should have been obtained through the **higher** tier papers.

Course Content

The course will include advanced physiology, evolution and ecology. Within this, the topics covered include biological molecules, cells, viruses and reproduction of living things, classification and biodiversity, exchange and transport, origins of genetic variation, control systems and ecosystems. Finally, there will also be an exploration of general and practical principles in biology.

Some of the examination will assess student's knowledge and understanding of practical skills and techniques.

Progression opportunities

Studying A-Level Biology will give you many opportunities to work within the following fields: Veterinary Science, Medicine, Optometry, Psychology, Nursing, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Microbiology, Forensic Science, Biophysics, Genetics, Neuroscience, Botany, Zoology, Ecology and Environmental Science. The options are endless!

Speakers, Trips, conferences or other educational opportunities

All students attend a one-day Field Course during Year 13. Students will have opportunities to attend conferences and lectures that are conducted by Universities. At the Convent we have strong links with Imperial College London and we are working to further strengthen these.

For further information, see Mrs Anthony or Ms Patel



Chemistry

By studying chemistry at Advanced level students will acquire a wide range of skills and learn about ideas and concepts which address all the important questions in modern science. You will learn about a number of the key issues which face us, from environmental issues to new developments in pharmaceuticals. The skills that you will develop whilst studying an A-Level in Chemistry are wide ranging and will prepare you for a variety of careers. You will develop problem solving, time management and team working skills whilst carrying out a wide variety of experiments. You will become adept at data handling, demonstrate your numeracy and have opportunities to become a more confident communicator.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grades 9-6 and also a GCSE grade 6/7 in Separate (Biology or Chemistry) or Double Award Science, English Language and Mathematics. Science grades should have been obtained through the **higher tier papers**.

Course Content

- Advanced inorganic and physical chemistry:
The topics covered will include: atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding and structure, redox I, inorganic chemistry and the Periodic Table, formulae, equations and amounts of substance, energetics I, equilibrium I, equilibrium II, acid-based equilibria, energetics II, redox II and transition metals.
- Core organic and physical chemistry:
The topics covered are bonding and structure, redox I, formulae, equations and amounts of substance, organic chemistry I, modern analytical techniques I, kinetics I, kinetics II, organic chemistry II, organic chemistry III, modern analytical techniques II, general and practical principles in chemistry.

Half of the paper will focus on testing students' knowledge and understanding of practical skills and techniques.

Progression opportunities

Students will be able to follow many careers in healthcare such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry. However, the course is also extremely useful in careers in the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. Chemistry is also taken by many law applicants as it shows students can cope with difficult concepts. Learners need Chemistry to study veterinary science and medicine.

Speakers, Trips, conferences or other educational opportunities

Students will have opportunities to attend conferences and lectures that are conducted by Universities. There are also the Science Club, trips and visits, links with primary schools, science workshops and a Biology Field Trip.

For further information, see Mrs Anthony or Ms Patel



Psychology

If you would like to understand both yourself and others better, psychology is the subject for you. In fact, Psychology has close links with Science subjects and uses empirical research to make inferences and draw conclusions about the reasons behind aspects of human behaviour. This research is on-going – what we know about human behaviour is constantly being evaluated and challenged so there are no simple answers or facts in Psychology.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9 -5 including the following minimum grades: Mathematics 6, English Language 5 and a Science 5.

Course Content

Students will develop a broad knowledge and understanding of psychology through a range of topics. Make sure you have a realistic and accurate picture of what this subject entails. It is not an easy option and involves a great deal of reading difficult texts and producing evaluative written work. You must be prepared to deal with unfamiliar vocabulary and complex ideas and theories. We expect you to make a real contribution in lessons, asking and answering questions and participating in class discussion. There is a great deal to learn during your two years of studying A-Level Psychology. You also need to be able to evaluate theories and research as well as describing them. Essays make up a large part of the A-Level exam and we focus on developing your skills in extended writing and effective evaluation.

Assessment

There are three exams, each accounting for one third of the A-Level. Each exam lasts for 2 hours and is worth 96 marks each. The exams will consist of multiple-choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

- Paper 1 – Social Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Psychopathology
- Paper 2 – Approaches in Psychology, Biological Psychology, Research Method in Psychology and Issues and debates
- Paper 3 – You will also be expected to apply your psychological knowledge to various topic areas which we will choose as a class for Paper 3.

Progression Opportunities

Studying psychology at university can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Marketing | • Occupational therapy |
| • Business development | • Clinical psychology |
| • Accountancy | • Nursing |
| • Human resources | • Teaching |
| • Forensic psychology | |

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

Psychology is very much an applied discipline and as such it is all around us. Students are encouraged to investigate psychological issues in a range of media including the internet and traditional broadcast media such as TV and Radio. We attend conferences that we think will help the students in a very direct way with their studies or alternatively stimulate their interest in wider social science and psychological issues.

For further information, see Ms Mahajani



Geography

This A-level Geography course enables students to explore and evaluate contemporary geographical questions and issues such as the consequences of globalisation, responses to hazards, superpowers, water insecurity and climate change. Geography covers a challenging range of contemporary themes and equips students with the skills they will need to study Geography further at university level if they choose.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-5, including GCSE English. It is preferable for students to have studied Geography at GCSE and obtained a grade 5 or higher. (Suitable candidates with higher APS scores and a commitment to background reading may be considered without previously taking Geography at GCSE).

Course Content

Year 1	Year 2
Physical Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tectonic processes and hazards • Coastal landscapes and change 	Physical Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The water cycle and water insecurity • The carbon cycle and energy security
Human geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalisation • Regenerating places NEA (Non-examined assessment) – Fieldwork which makes up for 20% of final A-Level grade	Human Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superpowers • Migration, identity and sovereignty

Progression Opportunities

This qualification can lead to many careers in areas such as travel, tourism and leisure, teaching, quantity surveying, architecture, city planning, project management, policy and local government.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

The highlight of the course is the 4-day Fieldtrip to Devon which takes place during the first year. Students learn a wide variety of fieldwork techniques, collaborate in group-work activities, and get to experience aspects of their studies in the field. The stunning Devon coastline is the setting for their work on crowded coasts. Geography students also take part in conferences linked to natural hazards.

For further information, see Mr Duggan



English Literature

The English department is a committed team of teachers who strive to inspire students with a high regard for literature. We consistently have high expectations of our students, their work and reading repertoire.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grades 9-5; **must have grade 6 in English Literature and 6 in English Language**

Course Content

Paper 1: Literary Genres Aspects of Tragedy

- Shakespeare's 'Othello'
- Hardy's 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles'
- Miller's 'Death of a Salesman'

Exam: 2 hours 30mins (40%) Closed book

Paper 2: Texts and Genres Elements of Crime Writing

- Agatha Christie's 'The Murder of Roger Ackroyd';
- Kate Atkinson's 'When Will There Be Good News'
- a selection of pre-1914 poetry

Exam: 3 hours (40%) Open book

Non-exam assessment: Theory and Independence

Two essays: 1,250–1,500 words each. Both essays must interpret texts through the critical prism of Marxism, Feminism or Eco Theory. All texts need to be studied and read independently. This approach is intended to prepare students for their academic pursuits at university level.

Progression Routes

English Literature happily lends itself to qualifications in the educational sector - though other routes such as mentoring or tutoring would also benefit from a good degree in English. Traditionally an undergraduate degree in English is a successful platform for careers in Public Relations, advertising, communications, publishing, Human Resources, editing and the ever popular journalism. A graduate in English is recognised as being a competent researcher, an effective communicator and a voracious reader which are valuable and transferable skills for most professions.

For further information, see Ms Di Lullo



Politics

A-Level Politics provides you with an extensive understanding of the functions and purpose of government as well as of the different theories of how the state influences our lives. It enables you to be able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of society in terms of a democratic deficit and the inequalities or privileges of particular groups. You will develop strong analytical and critical thinking, whilst also developing your research, debate and presentation skills. Furthermore, as Politics is an essay-based subject, you will develop writing skills and it will provide an excellent foundation for any chosen subject at degree level. The subject makes a good combination with disciplines such as History, Sociology, Economics and English.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 5 or above including English Language at grade 5 or above

Course Content

- Paper 1: UK Politics and Political ideologies
- Paper 2: UK Government and Feminism
- Paper 3: Global Politics

Progression Opportunities

Many of our former A-Level Politics students go on to study the subject at university or use it as a platform for degrees in History, Law or International Relations. We have also had students becoming engaged in Politics and even addressing issues in the House of Commons. An A-Level in Politics can lead to a career in politics as a politician or following in the footsteps of former students, the Civil Service. However, the qualification is not limited to the political arena; it can be the foundation a career in journalism, conversion to law, teaching or anything which requires strong research and communication skills.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

Students will have the opportunity to go to the Houses of Parliament as part of a debate to support and consolidate learning. In recent years we have brought in outside speakers such as Dawn Butler (MP) to discuss her role and impact on government policy. There are also opportunities for the students to attend conferences led by Edexcel to help with exam revision to maximise their results.

For further information, see Ms McCombe



History

The History Department delivers a broad and exciting curriculum aimed at stimulating pupils' enthusiasm. The History team take real pleasure in the study and sharing of their subject, passing on that enjoyment to pupils at the Convent. This is complemented and enhanced through the provision of a variety of trips and workshops aimed at bringing History to life. History fires pupils' curiosity and imagination through the study of the dilemmas, choices and beliefs of people throughout time. Pupils are taught to develop historical thinking that helps them understand the wider world through which they develop a sense of their own identities. Pupils studying History not only learn the subject but also gain invaluable transferable skills such as research, analysis of sources and interpretations, conceptual understanding, and the development of an ability to communicate clear and coherent judgements.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-5, including GCSE English Language (Grade 5+). It is not essential that candidates have studied History at GCSE. Nonetheless, a love of reading, enthusiasm for historical enquiry and the ability to discuss and debate key issues, together with evidence of academic achievement, is required.

Course Content

In the first year students study courses linked by the common theme; struggles for rights and freedoms during the twentieth century.

The course is structured as follows:

- Paper 1: In search of the American Dream: the USA, c.1917-96.
- Paper 2: South Africa, 1948-94: From apartheid state to 'rainbow nation'.
- Paper 3: Ireland and the Union, c1774–1923
- An independently researched coursework essay

Progression Opportunities

Advanced Level History is a qualification highly respected by employers, universities and all institutes providing higher education. It demonstrates the possession of a number of valuable skills and abilities. History graduates go on to follow careers in fields such as law, investment banking and consultancy, advertising, accountancy, the Civil Service, publishing, journalism and the media, global charity work, museums, librarianship and archive work, and teaching.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

There are a number of extra-curricular activities available to enhance students' learning:

- Study trip to Dublin, Ireland.
- Engaging webinar workshops with Historians
- History conferences
- After school and lunch time revision/coursework workshops
- Mentoring and coaching year 11 through collaborative work

Visits during the school year take us to Dublin, Ireland where we develop our understanding of Irish nationalism. We visit key historical sites and conduct primary research. Students also have the opportunity to attend conferences, events and workshops throughout the course.

For further information, see Mrs Aninakwa



Modern Foreign Languages

Having a foreign language at Advanced Level shows a real breadth of knowledge and that a student has developed expertise in communication and critical thinking, which are readily transferable skills and highly sought-after by universities and employers. Students will develop a wide set of skills.

Course Entry Requirements

At least a grade 7 at GCSE in the language you wish to study.

Course Content

Students can choose from French, Italian and Spanish. They will consider technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Italian society, Francophone or Hispanic world. Learners will study highlights of artistic culture, regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. Students will learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape and the target language world. Students will study text and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice. Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Progression Opportunities

We have a great record of preparing students for further study of languages at University, including Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities. Students could choose to study just one language at university, two languages or a language and another subject such as Law, Economics, History, and Accountancy etc. There are various courses and of course you don't have to continue with languages at university. Studying a modern language will show any university or employer that a candidate is skilled in many areas: problem-solving, good communication skills, analytical thinking and essay-writing.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

In the past, pupils studying French have visited France on day trips to Lille to see the Christmas markets. Also students have enjoyed work experience and spent weeks in different cities throughout France improving their language skills and knowledge of the culture of the country. We have various links with schools in Italy which has allowed our Italian students to participate in exchanges with schools there and stay with families. The students come back from these trips with such confidence in speaking the foreign language and full of enthusiasm. We are looking forward to putting more trips into place which would support the students' learning of the cultural units studied in Year 13, such as a trip to the WWII fields in France, or cultural visits.

For further information, see Ms Vujicic



Religious Studies

All students need to acquire core knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of the religions and worldviews which not only shape their history and culture but which guide their own development. The modern world needs young people who are sufficiently confident in their own beliefs and values that they can respect the religious and cultural differences of others, and contribute to a cohesive and compassionate society (Education Secretary 2013).

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades 9-5, including a grade 5 or above in English Language and a minimum grade 6 in Religious Education.

Course Content

In **Philosophy**, students will explore theological questions in the light of the challenge posed by the existence of God, the question of evil and suffering and the debate on miracles and life after death.

For the **Ethics** of religion section of the course, students will investigate the different theories on how we can make moral decisions, their strengths and weaknesses and how they can be used in practice by looking at abortion, euthanasia, scientific research and capital punishment.

Within the **Christianity** section, students will widen their knowledge on the nature of God, debate the interpretation of the Bible, exploring ideas of feminism with religion and living in a contemporary pluralistic society.

Progression Opportunities

A-level Religious Studies is highly regarded by universities, including those in the Russell Group. A qualification in Religious Studies can lead to a wide and diverse range of Higher Education courses and careers. Studying Religious Studies at Advanced Level complements other subjects, as it greatly increases understanding of current affairs, ethical issues, and different cultures and religions. Students develop abilities in communication, debate and critical thinking – skills that are invaluable in careers such as politics, law, education, journalism, social care and law enforcement.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

Students are offered the opportunity of attending two conferences closely linked to their course, run by the acclaimed theologian Peter Vardy. This conference allows students to undertake debates with students from other schools and experience university-like lectures.

For further information, see Ms Maguire



Sociology

The Sociology course strives to promote, foster and encourage pupils' interest, knowledge, understanding and participation in the nature and understanding the society in which we live. This subject aims to provide an enriching, positive and rewarding experience for all pupils and ensure that they achieve their full potential.

Course Entry Requirements:

5 GCSE grades at 9-5, including GCSE English Language (Grade 5 or above).

Course Content

- Understand that societies are socially constructed - the reasons why they change and adapt over time and culture will be explored
- To gain an insight into other peoples' experiences and realise that problems/issues in society are multi-dimensional
- To understand sociological methodology and a range of research methods
- Reflect on personal experiences and develop an understanding and tolerance of diversity and difference
- Develop skills that they can utilize as an adult and apply to their everyday life
- Will read a variety of texts to glean information and be able to put these into note form
- To master essay skills, to be confident in their structure, which is essential for exam preparation
- Developing speaking, listening, discussion and debate – excellent for evaluation skills
- Research, fact-finding, for example culture projects and youth subcultures
- Organization and communication

Assessment

Students follow AQA Sociology (new linear course) in Years 12 and 13.

Formal assessment will be in the form of essays (timed in class and completed at home), knowledge tests and practice of short answer questions – all geared towards their exam.

There are 3 exam papers:

Paper 1 – Education with Theory and Methods	2 hours
Paper 2 – Topics in Sociology (Culture and Identity, Media)	2 hours
Paper 3 – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods	2 hours

The leap from GCSE to A-Level can be hard for some students, they need to be organised and realise that this is a two year course and that independent study outside of lessons is essential. Keeping up to date with current affairs and being organised with your time is paramount.

For further information, see Miss Juerakhan



Mathematics

Mathematics at A-Level is a subject worth studying for its own sake, as well as giving students a highly regarded qualification for the workplace and courses in Higher Education. The most important reason for choosing mathematics is that you are interested in it and enjoy it.

Course Entry Requirements

You will be accepted onto the course if you have 5 GCSEs at grade 6, or above **including** a grade 6 or above in Mathematics.

Course Content

Mathematics is divided into two branches: Pure and Applied. The course follows the new Edexcel A-Level syllabus for Mathematics. Students will be examined in all elements at the end of Year 13.

There are two Pure Mathematics units: Pure Mathematics 1, Pure Mathematics 2.

There is one Applied Mathematics unit: Statistics and Mechanics.

Progression Opportunities

Mathematics equips students with uniquely powerful ways to describe, analyse and change the world. It can stimulate moments of pleasure and wonder for all students when they solve a problem for the first time, discover a more elegant solution, or notice hidden connections. Students who are functional in mathematics are able to think independently in applied and abstract ways, and can reason, solve problems and assess risk. Mathematics is fundamental to national prosperity in providing tools for understanding science, engineering, technology and economics. It is essential in public decision-making and for participation in the knowledge economy.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

Students are given the opportunity to participate in national mathematics competitions that will challenge them to think “outside the box”. All Year 12 and 13 pupils participate in the Senior Maths Challenge, organised by Leeds University. We also encourage students to take part in the National Cipher challenges and the Further Maths programme. The further maths programme explores topics beyond A level, and give students insight into mathematics at degree level.

These opportunities continue online.

For further information, see Ms Gallimore or Mr Mapia



Drama and Theatre

This course is for those who are interested in creating exciting and innovative theatre based on a study of existing texts and practitioners. This course requires a range of skills including creative thinking, dramatic ability, written skills, conceptual thinking, an understanding of symbolic theatre and performance skills.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-5, including GCSE English and Drama. It is not essential that candidates have studied Drama at GCSE but this will be an advantage. A passion for theatre, acting and reading is essential for those who wish to study this course.

Course Content

Component 1: Theatre Workshop – devised reinterpreted theatre based on a set text – internal assessment - 1500 words creative log and performance to an audience (20%)

Component 2: Text in Action – one devised performance, one scripted performance, both based on a stimulus – performances are done in front of a visiting examiner. Written documentary evidence of 3000 words (40%)

Component 3: Text in Performance – a study of three texts and written exam paper. (40%)

Progression Opportunities

This course allows students to thrive in a creative and dynamic environment. Many Drama, Music and Dance students go on to study the subject at university level. Others, however, go on to study a range of other degrees from English to Psychology to Law. The study of Acting, Dance or Musical Theatre could also be an option at Degree Level. Students may also wish to pursue a career in technical elements of theatre, or directing theatre. Teaching is also a career progression route, as well as well as working in training and development in professional industries.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

Students go on a wide variety of theatre visits in order to have exposure to different genres of theatre, contrasting practitioners and also to see outstanding professional practice within the industry. Theatre visits to 'Les Miserables', 'Hamilton', 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' and 'War Horse' have all been undertaken in the last academic year. Students also participate in specialised workshops from visiting professionals. We also encourage students from different years to work together, giving critical and constructive advice on improvements. Opportunities for performance in front of varied audiences are evident throughout the course, as well as performances in front of an examiner. The study of Drama at A-Level will also enable students to be actively involved in the London Borough of Culture initiative.

For further information, see Ms Burgess



Music

The WJEC Eduqas A-Level in Music offers a broad and coherent course of study which encourages learners to engage actively in the process of music study. It provides a natural next step from the syllabus studied for GCSE as it builds upon the three key components of performing, composing and extending knowledge and understanding of music through history and the different genres of music.

Students will develop performing skills to demonstrate an understanding of musical elements, style, and sense of continuity, interpretation and expression. Their skills in composing original music will develop to demonstrate the manipulation of musical ideas and the use of musical devices and conventions. They will appraise contrasting genres, styles and traditions of music, and develop understanding of musical contexts and a coherent awareness of musical chronology.

A-Level music students personally develop and mature as effective, independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds. They reflect critically and make informed personal judgements on their own and others' music. They engage with, and extend appreciation of, the diverse heritage of music in order to promote personal, social, intellectual and cultural development.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-5, including grade 5 or above in GCSE in Music and the ability to perform on a chosen instrument or voice to at least Grade 6 standard. Knowledge of music notation and experience of reading music is necessary for A-Level study. A love and appreciation of music of all styles, the creativity to compose your own original music and the confidence to perform as a soloist and as part of an ensemble are all necessary attributes of an A-Level Music student.

Course Content

The course has 3 components: performance, composition and the study of music and genre through specific eras of history. Performance takes place in a formal recital and is assessed in the school by a visiting examiner. Composition is assessed by an external examiner. The written and listening examination covering the history and genres of music is also externally assessed. Students can choose to specialise in **either** performance **or** composition. If choosing to specialise in performance, 35% of the final grade will be for performance, 25% will be for composition and 40% for the written examination. If choosing to specialise in composition, 35% of the final grade will be for composition, 25% will be for performance and 40% for the written examination.

In this way, music students can perform to their strengths.

Progression Opportunities

Many Music, Drama, Art and Dance students go on to study a wide range of degrees at university level. The highest number of job opportunities remain within the creative industries. But the study of an arts subject at A-Level also speaks volumes about the person as an individual. It takes immense skill, discipline and commitment to succeed in A-Level Music. The personal skills and attributes that students develop over the two years of A-Level music study enable them to be set apart from others and they are admired and respected across a range of sectors and industries for their talent, creativity and cultural knowledge.

For further information, please see Mrs McGowan or Miss White



Religious Education – Compulsory Course

Students undertaking Sixth Form RE will gain an understanding of issues that are currently in the media, making them socially aware and emotionally mature. Students will also be exposed to different views and opinions regarding moral and ethical debates with the aim for them to become more understanding of others.

Course Entry Requirements

This is a compulsory course for all students. Each student is required to participate and attend one 50 minute Sixth Form RE lesson in Year 12 and Year 13 in a Catholic school.

Course Content

Students will explore a wide range of ethical and religious issues. The course will also help students to explore their moral, spiritual, physical and cultural development through debates, research and media. It will also give them an opportunity to learn about their wider community and how they can support those less fortunate than themselves. Students are required to complete a number of assessments. The course is studied in year 12 (Level 2) and continued in year 13 (Level 3). The course consists of one 50 minute lesson a week. There is no exam for this course but an assessment booklet is to be completed throughout the year.

Progression Opportunities

Alongside acquiring the subject knowledge, students will be helped to learn invaluable skills such as being able to independently research, organise their time effectively and build their confidence in essay writing and presentations. The students will also learn the independence of formulating their own opinions and arguments in light of what they are learning. Students who undertake RE are supported in all areas of their higher education and career.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

Outside speakers are arranged to give the students a different perspective and encourage them to undertake charity work in their local community. Students are also encouraged to live out the values of St Claudine by supporting the school's charity drives throughout the year.

For further information, see Ms Maguire



Level 3 Courses



Applied Biology

This BTEC National Extended Certificate advanced qualification has been designed specifically for those learners who wish to study Human Biology instead of Biology and there are no plants or ecology topics with the intention to progress to a health or health science Biology related degree.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-4, **including** English Language

Course Content

The course mandatory content allows learners to development of their knowledge, understanding, practical and research skills relevant in applied human biology and health science areas, over 2 years. Learners will also choose one optional unit, which will allow learners to choose a specific specialist area in which they wish to develop their knowledge and skills.

Mandatory units are:

- 1. Principles of Applied Human Biology (External Exam)
- 2. Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (External Exam)
- 5. Human Biology and Health Issues (Internal)

Optional units are:

- 4. Functional Physiology (Internal)

Educational and work placement opportunities

Students will be provided with the opportunity to undertake work placement over one week to gain knowledge and understanding with varying professionals and non-professionals that work within the Health and Health Science sector.

Employability skills:

- cognitive and problem-solving skills: using critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, using systems and technology
- interpersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
- intrapersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.

Transferable skills:

the ability to learn independently, to research actively and methodically, to give presentations and be active group members, to develop deep learning, to develop specialist knowledge and skills that involves (reading technical texts, analytical skills, preparation for assessment methods).

Progression Opportunities

This course qualification offers students the opportunity to pursue higher education studies at university in areas such as:

- BSc (Hons) in Nursing and Midwifery
- BA (Hons) in Occupational Health
- BA (Hons) in Sports Science

Careers and work progression in Applied Human Biology after university includes Midwifery, Teacher in Primary or Secondary education, Nursing, Occupational and Sports Therapist to name a few.

For further information, see Ms Foreman



Business Studies (Level 3)

Business is a major part of everyone's life and anybody who has a good idea about how businesses work is at an immediate advantage in the future. There are significant career opportunities in business structures, ethics, the economy, finance, marketing, human resources, and management. This Advanced course is for students who are interested in learning about the business sector with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects. The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society.

Course Entry Requirements

At least 4 GCSE grades 9-4, **including** English and Maths. Although not essential, it would most definitely be of benefit to have studied this subject at GCSE.

Course Content

Learners will study three mandatory units:

- Unit 1: Exploring Business
- Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign (External Exam)
- Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance (External Exam)

This qualification includes a choice of 20 optional units, including:

- Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection Process

Progression Opportunities

The qualification supports progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other vocational or general qualifications. Students can progress onto a wide range of university degrees including management, finance and accounting, banking and insurance, marketing and business law.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

The Business Studies department undertakes an annual trip to Cadbury World. Conferences that students attend are those based on the very popular TUTOR2U courses, where students have the opportunity to liaise with students from other schools and examiners. The students also had an opportunity to take part in an online workshop organised by PricewaterhouseCooper (PwC), to help them gain an exclusive insight into the world of business, accounting, and technology, and see what it's really like to work with PwC on their degree and apprenticeship programmes. The students also have the opportunity to chat directly with a member of the PwC team.

We have had a speaker from the Bank of the England come in to deliver a talk on the role of banks and financial institutions, to enable students to apply their knowledge and understanding and bring the economy to life in the classroom.

For further information, see Mrs Maclean-Thomas



Health and Social Care (Level 3)

This advanced qualification has been designed specifically for those learners who wish to progress to a health or social care related degree.

Course Entry Requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-4, **including** English Language

Course Content

Mandatory units are:

- 1. Human Lifespan Development (External Exam)
- 2. Working in Health and Social Care (External Exam)
- 5. Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (Internal)

Optional units are:

- 12. Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs (Internal)

Educational and work placement opportunities

This course qualification offers students the opportunity to pursue higher education studies at university in areas such as:

- BSc (Hons) in Paediatric & Adult Nursing
- BA (Hons) in Childhood Studies
- BA (Hons) in Primary & Secondary Education

Students are provided with the opportunity to undertake work placement over one week to gain knowledge and understanding with varying professionals and non-professionals that work within the Health and Social Care sector.

Progression Opportunities

The Health and Social Care advanced course is taught to prepare and develop learners' knowledge and understanding in order to apply a wide variety of vocational, transferable, cognitive and problem-solving skills in their preferred progression routes of health and social care employment via careers and work pathways after university such as Midwifery, Physiotherapist, Child Psychologist, Specialist Nurse, Teacher in Primary or Secondary education, Nursery Managers, Early Years Assistant, Adult and Children Nurse to name a few.

For further information, see Ms Foreman



Applied Science (Level 3)

This science course is excellent for those who wish to work within the science or medical field. This is applicable when taken with other science related courses.

Course Entry Requirements

3 GCSEs grades 9-5, (5 or above) or equivalent and at least a 4 in English Language.

5 GCSEs grades 9-5, (5 or above) or equivalent and at least a 4 in English Language, Maths and Science.

Course Content

To achieve an Advanced Level qualification, students need to take:

- Unit 1 – Principles and Applications of Science 1
- Unit 2 – Practical Scientific procedures and Techniques
- Unit 3 – Science Investigating Skills

These 3 are mandatory units.

- Unit 9 - Human Regulation and Reproduction. This is an optional unit.

Unit 1 – students will sit an external exam which is 1 hour 30mins long.

Unit 2 – this unit is internally assessed

Unit 3 – students will sit an external exam which is a practical exam which is divided into Part A and B.

- Part A is given to learners 8 days before Part B is scheduled and is undertaken under external supervision in a single session of 3hours
- Part B is a set task that is undertaken under external supervision in a single session of 1hour 30mins.

Progression Opportunities

Students will be able to follow medical related and science related courses at university.

For further information, see Mrs Anthony or Ms Patel



Intermediate

Level 2 Courses

These courses are studied over a one-year period



Creative Media Production- (Level 2) One Year

This **one-year** course will inspire and enthuse learners to consider a career in the creative digital media industries, rather than just to participate in media recreationally, for example surfing the web or playing video games. It gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge, and develop skills, across the creative digital media sectors, e.g. moving image, audio production, games design, website design and publishing.

Course Entry Requirements

At least 3 GCSE Grades 9-3, with at least a 3 in English Language

Course Content

This **intermediate** qualification has been developed to provide an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of media. It includes two core units and a selection of five optional specialist units, from which a further two units are chosen. Unit 1 of the core units is a broad unit that underpins the fundamental knowledge and understanding of media principles looking at all five key sectors (Digital Moving Image, Digital Audio Production, Digital Publishing, Website Production and Digital Games Production) and the different types of audiences. Unit 2 must be taken alongside the optional units and focuses on communication techniques.

Progression Opportunities

Learners in due course will be in a position to enter employment within a wide range of junior job roles across the creative digital media sectors. Junior job roles include, for example, photographer, sound recordist, assistant editor, assistant web designer and assistant games designer.

- Advanced level qualifications
- Related academic qualifications
- Employment within the creative digital media industry, such as junior roles working in moving image production, audio production, publishing, website production or digital games production.

For further information, see Ms Paisley



Tech Award in Health and Social Care (Level 1 or 2) One Year

This intermediate qualification has been designed specifically for those learners who wish to progress to a Level 3 Health and Social Care course.

Course Entry Requirements

At least 3 GCSE grades at 9-3.

Course Content

Units:

- Human Lifespan Development (36) Internal
- Health and Social Care Services and Values (36) Internal
- Health and Wellbeing (Synoptic External)
- Component set task- Three hours in the period timetabled by Pearson. (Total marks-60)
- External Resits February and May/June from 2019 onwards

Progression Opportunities, (after completion of Tech Award course)

At the Convent of Jesus and Mary Language college, students will advance into the Level 3 Health and Social care course to acquire qualification for higher education at university such as:

- BSc (Hons) in Paediatric and Nursing
- BA (Hons) in Childhood Studies
- BA (Hons) in Primary Education

Careers and work pathways after university ranges from Midwifery, Physiotherapist, Child Psychologist, Specialist Nurse, Teacher in Primary or Secondary education to name a few.

For further information, see Ms Foreman



Photography GCSE (Level 2) One Year

Do you want to be part of one of the fastest growing industry sectors in the UK economy? Then you need to get involved in the creative and media industries, and studying Photography will take you there. You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic techniques, styles and genres, including: portraiture, still life and experimental imagery. You will develop technical understanding relating to the composition of images and an ability to explore the different elements of visual language.

Course Entry Requirements

A GCSE in Photography, Art & Design or in one of the creative subjects.

Evidence of an avid interest and love of photography, art & design, this can be evidenced through a personal portfolio, sketchbooks, photography that can be presented on a USB.

Course Content

- Portraiture
- Recreate a masterpiece
- Fashion Photography
- SLR Camera skills
- Experimental Photography
- Still life
- Black & White /Colour

Assessment

- 100% Practical and Contextual work (NO theory based exams)
- Examining Board AQA
- Access to SLR Cameras and a range of lenses to develop skills.
- 100% Digital course including the development of digital image manipulation skills.

Assessment

- Externally set assignment – 40%

Coursework – 60%

- Awarding Body: AQA

Progression Opportunities

Successful completion of this course can allow students to apply for a Level 3 courses in Art or Photography.

Speakers, Trips, Conferences or Other Educational Opportunities

While most of the work is studio based, students will need to meet the demands of the subject through active research, gallery visits and a broad range engagement in the whole area of photography & art and design. We also offer a regular programme of visits to galleries in London and involve students with visiting artists and lecturers.

For further information, see Ms Faik