



Part of  
**The  
Three  
Rivers**  
Learning Trust

# The King Edward VI School

## Sixth Form Prospectus 2019/20



Becoming Accomplished Students

**Be Responsible**

**Be Curious**

**Be Caring**

**Be Motivated**

**Be Resilient**

**Be Respectful**

**Be Sixth Form at KEVI**

**Inclusive Sixth Form  
Exclusive Experience**

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## About Us

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Sixth Form at The King Edward VI School has a long and successful record of academic success. We are proud of our students achievements and many gain the highest grades, moreover our truly inclusive Sixth Form allows students to achieve far greater outcomes than their GCSE performance would suggest. From their individual starting points, students in our Sixth Form make rapid and sustained progress, and our 'Value Added' data has been significantly positive for a number of years.

Decisions about your Post 16 future will define your future, whether Higher Education, training or employment. Our 'Inclusive Sixth Form, Exclusive Experience' aims to celebrate and support the diverse individual accomplishments with a tailor-made experience; exclusive for everyone.

# We welcome you to Sixth Form at King Edward's.

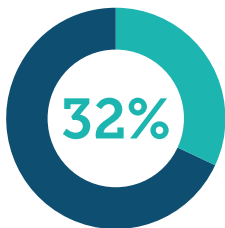
# Results

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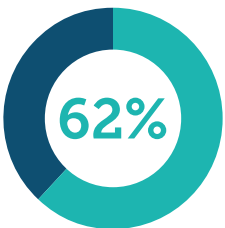
Students typically perform better than their GCSE grades would suggest, we have consistently high value added.

## Largest Sixth Form in Northumberland (on exam entries)

Over 32% of Grades A\* or A



Over 62% of Grades A\* to B



77% attend university



43% Russell Group Universities



Average Grade for A Level

**B-**

Average Grade for L3

**Merit+**



Over 30 courses, plus an  
exclusive enrichment package

# Joining Sixth Form and How to Apply

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Joining Sixth Form can be an exciting yet daunting prospect. Our experienced staff, welcoming environment and motivated, responsible students will take any stress or worry out of this new era of possibility.

Students in Sixth Form at King Edward's will be presented with and encouraged to take advantage of a range of opportunities that enhance their studies, as well as their Sixth Form experience.

Apply to Sixth Form at King Edward's online via our website [sixthformkevi.the3rivers.net](http://sixthformkevi.the3rivers.net) or by contacting the Sixth Form Office, 01670 501520.

All offers of Learning made are conditional on academic achievement and behaviour/conduct during Year 11. Places will only be confirmed after results day in August where formal enrolment will take place.



# Sixth Form Opportunities

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Debate



Youth Parliament



Dissection Club



Peer Mentors



Student Leaders



School Council



Paired Readers



NCS



KEVI Creatives



Bar Mock Trials



Choir



Orchestra



Chamber Choir



Jazz Band



Ceilidh Band



Rugby



Football



Netball



Hockey



University Visits



Employer Workshops

King Edward's

Inspires

## Sixth Form Life

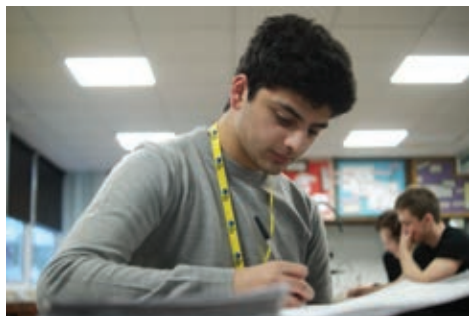
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Students in Sixth Form at King Edward's are challenged to meet their academic potential and fulfil their ambitions and aspirations. The Sixth Form benefit from their own modern, separate study facility, the Advanced Study Centre, as well as many departments offering Sixth Form only study areas. Sixth Form adopt a dress code of plain black, white and grey.

All students are encouraged to take advantage of our Digital Leader scheme, where students can get their own Chromebook with case and insurance to use within school,

at home and ultimately support them with their post 18 progression.

Typically Wednesday afternoons are the cornerstone of Year 12 activity. This is where students enjoy their chosen enrichment activities, which are wide ranging to suit every individual. Our partnership with a huge number of organisations allow us to provide that individualised and exclusive experience for our students. We place just as much emphasis on student endeavour as well as attainment.





## Student Testimonials

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- // Spending time here has given me the **confidence** I need to have high aspirations and to progress through the next stages of my life. Current student
- // From being in Sixth Form I have been granted with **independence** to learn and explore subjects and interests that speak to me on a more personal level. This this a quality to Sixth Form life that I really value. Current student
- // Knowledgeable staff provide an **academically challenging** curriculum, and a diverse extracurricular programme fosters potential for well-rounded growth...Having experienced other schools I am confident my future goals would not be as aspirational as they are today if I hadn't spent Sixth Form at King Edward's. Current student
- // "Life at King Edward's taught me that all experiences in life are important whether academic or outside of school. You learn a lot when you don't think you necessarily are. All of the extra-curricular activities I took part in at King Edward's helped me learn what I enjoyed and what I didn't. These experiences helped me to build **confidence** and have the belief I could achieve anything I wanted. Graduated Sixth Form in 2011
- // Being a student at KEVI since year 9, I can speak for the schools safe and **welcoming environment**, you are able to interact with all students and create the feeling of a family atmosphere. Current student

- // I was **supported** by Sixth Form Mentors and subject teachers all the way through the process of choosing my subjects, I kept changing and couldn't make up my mind!
- Current student
- // Sixth Form at King Edward's is effective at delivering a programme that allows students to **excel**, from offering support to applying to pre-university schemes to helping their students experience a month-long charity expedition to Central America with World Challenge.
- Current student
- // When I signed up for KEVI I felt anxious about the new environment and adapting to a whole new schools systems and people. However, both the efficiency and the **constant support** put my worries to rest.
- Current student,  
joined King Edward's  
in Year 12
- // KEVI has supported me in immersing myself in a **variety** of the school aspects such as Debate Society and Student Mentoring whilst achieving target grades.
- Current student,  
joined King Edward's  
in Year 12
- // I chose Sixth Form at King Edward's because of the **outstanding** statistics of pass rates and the brilliant learning environment.
- Current student,  
joined King Edward's  
in Year 12
- // What KEVI offers is **second to none**, the support you receive to allow you to reach your future ambitions is amazing, the staff are supportive and friendly and the learning environment on a whole is **academically robust** and **intellectually stimulating**.
- Current student,  
joined King Edward's  
in Year 12

## Support and Guidance

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Here at King Edward's we are delighted to be recognised for our excellent Careers Advice and Guidance. We have been awarded the Quality in Careers Standard, a national award recognising our commitment to and delivery of quality career guidance. We are also extremely proud of our work with the Gatsby charitable foundation on the National Career Benchmarks pilot programme, where our work has influenced government policy and we continue to be national advocates of the Career Benchmarks.

Students are supported by an experience Sixth Form Team of Year Leaders, Mentors and Post 16 Office Manager, as well as expert teaching staff. We offer a range of supportive events such as Introduction to Higher Education and King Edward's Inspires.



# Financial Support

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## Post 16 Bursary

Students entering any Post 16 education may be eligible for the Post 16-19 Bursary. The bursary is designed to enable students to access education, which they may not otherwise have been able to. The bursary is made up of two separate payment pathways, eligibility criteria must be met for both.

### Pathway 1

Eligibility for the weekly bursary is dependent on any of the criteria below:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Young people in Care</li><li>• Care Leavers</li><li>• Young people in receipt of ESA who are also in receipt of SLA or PIP payments</li><li>• Young people who receive Universal Credit payments in their own name</li></ul>	or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have been in receipt of Free School Meals at any point in the last six years</li></ul>
You could qualify for up to £1200 of support		You could qualify for up to £780 of support

Students eligible for Pathway 1 payments will automatically be able to apply for Pathway 2 payments.

### Pathway 2

Adhoc Discretionary Payments will be administered on a one off basis, and will be paid strictly on individual merit to assist essential educational participation where hardship is experienced. Any student may apply for assistance. Students who are from a low income background e.g. in receipt of Working Families Tax Credit or experience hardship through the year e.g. parental redundancy may apply by providing evidence. Social factors are also considered.

## Subsidised Transport

Students can apply for some financial assistance towards Post 16 transport. Sixth Form at King Edward’s would seek to support students who live in excess of 3 miles from school by reducing the cost of their Post 16 travel in order to access our provision. The nature of this support is likely to be a one-off discretionary payment. The specific amount will be determined by school budgets and student demand.

\*Information correct at time of print

The Sixth Form Team would be happy to discuss individual personal circumstances as appropriate.

## Statement of Entitlement

Being a member of Sixth Form at King Edward’s means developing and celebrating the accomplishments and endeavours of each and every student. Our core values of supporting and challenging students to develop resilience and curiosity, take responsibility for their own learning while being caring, respectful and responsible citizens, will allow Sixth Form students at King Edward’s to become truly accomplished.

Tutorial programme, including assemblies		
3 A Level/Level 3 qualifications (2 year in duration)	Enrichment package: a range of formal and experiential opportunities	Work experience
Care, guidance and support		

## The Curriculum

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Sixth Form at The King Edward VI School is large and vibrant, offering a large selection of A Level courses. The curriculum is organised into department/subject areas. The typical offer for Post 16 students are three full A Level (or equivalent) courses taught over 9 periods per fortnight, with additional independent study allocated. Extended Project Qualification and/or Core Maths can be taken as fourth subjects, these are typically a year in duration.

Formal examinations will take place at the end of Year 13 for most students, with internal assessments throughout Sixth Form. Students opting for Level 3/BTEC courses will have formal external assessments at the end of Year 12 and Year 13. Parents/Carers are informed of academic progress with three Grade Updates and an invitation to one parents evening each year.



# Entry Requirements

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To return to Sixth Form in September 2019 students must have a minimum of 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or above

All students wishing to attend Sixth Form at King Edward's must attain a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or better. Students must then meet the individual entry criteria for each subject they wish to take.

Any student who does not attain at least a Grade 4 in English Language/Literature and/or Maths will be supported to resit that qualification. This is a compulsory requirement.

It is expected that students wishing to attend Sixth Form at King Edward's will have maintained a good attendance and behaviour record during Year 11, and references will be sought from Year Leaders/Tutors and previous school/college.



Subject	Minimum Grade Entry Criteria for 2019 Start
Art	Grade 5 in Art
Art Graphics	Grade 4 in Art or Art Graphics or Design Technology, and Grade 4 in English Language or Literature
Biology	Grade 6,6 in Combined and 6 in Maths or Grade 6 in Biology and Maths plus a 6 in Chemistry/Physics
Business	Grade 4 in Business (if studied)
Chemistry	Grade 6,6 in Combined and 6 in Maths or Grade 6 in Chemistry and Maths plus a 6 in Biology/Physics
Computing	Grade 6 in Computing and/or Maths
Core Maths	Grade 5 in Maths
Design Technology	Grade 5 in Design Technology and Grade 4 in English Language or Literature and Maths
Economics	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature and Maths
English Language	Grade 5 in Language plus minimum Grade 4 in English Literature
English Literature	Grade 6 in Literature plus minimum Grade 4 in English Language
EPQ	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature
Food Science	Grade 4 in English Language or Literature and a 4,4 in Combined or 4,4,4 in separate Science
French/Spanish	Grade 6 in target language and Grade 5 in English Language
Further Maths	Grade 8 in Maths
Geography	Grade 5 Geography and English Language or Literature and Grade 4 in Maths
Health & Social Care	Grade 4 in English Language or Literature
History	Grade 5 in History and English Language or Literature
IT	Grade 4 in IT (if studied)
Maths	Grade 6 in Maths
Media Studies	Grade 5 in Language plus minimum Grade 4 in English Literature
Music	Grade 5 or above in Music GCSE or Grade 5 standard in Singing or Instrument Performance (this includes Drum Kit and Electric Guitar/Bass) and Grade 5 Music Theory (or plans to work towards Grade 5 theory).
Music Technology	Grade 4 in English Language or Literature. Students should also have some Instrumental or Singing experience with an enthusiasm for using and developing skills in studio recording and music production.
Photography	Grade 4 in one of the following; Art, Craft and Design, Graphic Communication or Design Technology and Grade 4 in English Language or Literature
Physics	Grade 6,6 in Combined and 7 in Maths (or taking A Level Maths) or Grade 6 in Physics and Grade 7 in Maths (or taking A Level Maths) plus a 6 in Biology/Chemistry
Psychology	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature and Maths
RE	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature
Sociology	Grade 4 in English Language or Literature
Sport & Physical Activity	Grade 4,4 in Combined Science or Grade 4 in Biology and Chemistry/ Physics and a regular participant in sport
Theatre & Drama	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature plus Grade 5 in Drama (if studied)





# Art, Craft & Design

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## Study

Students will gain skills in a range of techniques and processes. They will produce project based work that covers two or more of the following areas of Art and Design:

- **Fine Art**  
drawing, painting, printmaking
- **Digital Art**  
graphics, filmmaking, sound art
- **Textile Design**  
textiles, batik, stitch and embroidery, fashion design
- **Three Dimensional Design**  
installation art, plaster casting, wire and paper sculpture
- **Photography**  
digital and physical experimentation and manipulation

Students have the freedom to design and develop their own personal project ideas and to specialise in their chosen Art and Design discipline, developing skills and ideas based on their success in Year 1 of study. Students produce a piece of written work to support their project. A final exhibition will showcase students' work in the summer.

## Assessment

- Students are assessed against four objectives: Developing ideas, experimenting, recording and main pieces.
- Students will be assessed through 1:1 tutorials throughout the duration of the course. An assessment file records feedback from staff.

- Component 1 60% (Personal project)
- Component 2 40% (Externally Set Assignment).

## Progression Information

Art, Craft and Design compliments any other creative or design based subject. Many Art students go onto taking the Art Foundation Course before choosing the appropriate Art and Design based course at university. Some of our students have gone onto study a wide variety of courses including Architecture, Fashion and Textile Design, 3D Design, or Fine Art.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mrs L Summerson</b>
Syllabus:	<b>AQA</b>
Course Specification:	<b>7241</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level</b>
Minimum Grade Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 5 in Art</b>



# Art & Design: Graphics

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## Study

This is an ICT based Graphic Design course designed to prepare students for industry level design. Over the two years, students will be introduced to both Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

- **Year 1**

Building knowledge and understanding of the software and developing a number of technical skills with an emphasis on experimentation and generating ideas. Exploring different styles of graphic illustration including digital painting, vector art, photo manipulation and typography.

- **Year 2**

The Personal investigation requires a well developed personal response and furthers knowledge and understanding of editorial design and the formal elements of art. The externally set task is distributed in February. There will be approximately 8 weeks of preparation time before the 15 hour controlled task.

## Assessment

Each Project is assessed individually and students are provided with regular feedback and suggestions for improvement, using an Interactive assessment system through Google Classroom.

- Unit 1 (60%) – Personal investigation including a 1000-3000 word illustrated essay.
- Unit 2 (40%) – Externally set task.

## Progression Information

This subject combines well with Art and Design (Photography), Art and Design (Art, craft and design), Design Technology.

Students who have completed their A level in this subject have gone on to study Art and Design Foundation courses, Fashion Design/Marketing, Textiles, Interior Design, Architecture, Graphic Design, 3D Design, Game Design, Jewellery Design.

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Subject Leader:

**Mrs J McCorrell**

Syllabus:

**OCR**

Course Specification:

**H602 Art and Design (Graphic Communication) A Level**

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Grade 4 in Art, Art Graphics or Design Technology, and Grade 4 in English Language or English Literature**





# Biology

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## Study

In the first year students will build directly on GCSE knowledge and study topics such as biological molecules, cells, exchange in living organisms, genetic variation and DNA in more detail. In the second year students will build on the key ideas and knowledge covered in the first year and also study topics such as energy transfer, responding to the environment, evolution, ecosystems and the control of gene expression. Across all topics there will be an emphasis on both their maths skills and their practical skills.

## Assessment

A Level assessment is made up from three exams. All three exams are 120 minutes long. The third exam also requires students to write an essay on a given topic area.

## Progression Information

Various subjects can be studied alongside Biology, such as Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Geography, Psychology and PE. A Level Biology is either a requirement or recommended for many career choices such as Veterinary Sciences, Pharmacology, Medicine, Dentistry, Ecology, Nursing and many more.

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Subject Leader:	Dr S Havelock
Syllabus:	AQA
Course Specification:	7402
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade Entry Requirement:	Grade 6,6 in Combined and 6 in Maths or Grade 6 in Biology plus a 6 in Chemistry/Physics



# Business

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## Study

A Level in Business will provide learners with the ability to apply basic business concepts to a wider range of contexts, understand and apply sophisticated concepts and techniques, analyse, interpret and evaluate complex business information and generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues. It will develop skills such as data analysis, problem solving and essay writing. These transferable skills can be used within any subsequent course of study. They can also be applied by any learner progressing into a managerial role within any organisation.

## Assessment

In Year 13, there will be three two hour examinations in May/June. All three examinations will comprise a mixture of data response and essay based questions.

Both Paper 1 and Paper 2 account for 35% of the final mark. Paper 3 (Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment) will assess content across all four themes and account for 30% of the final mark. Questions will be drawn from local, national and global contexts and will be based on a pre-released context document.

- **Paper 1** consists of Themes 1 & 4 and will assess marketing, people and global businesses.
- **Paper 2** consists of Themes 2 & 3 will assess business finance and operations, business decisions and strategy.





## Progression Information

Business compliments most A level subjects. Students who have chosen to further their studies in Business have chosen university courses such as Business Studies and Business & Management studies.

Graduate careers in the business, consulting and management sector include:

- Business adviser
- Chartered management accountant
- Civil Service fast streamer
- Economist
- Environmental consultant
- Ergonomist
- Financial manager
- Financial risk analyst
- Health service manager
- Hotel manager
- Internal auditor
- IT consultant
- Management consultant
- Office manager
- Operational researcher
- Product manager
- Project manager
- Public affairs consultant
- Recruitment consultant
- Retail manager
- Risk manager
- Secretary/administrator

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Mr N Rowling**

**Edexcel**

**9BSO**

**A Level**

**4 in Business  
(if studied)**



# Chemistry

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## Study

A Level Chemistry attempts to answer the big question 'what is the world made of' and it's the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating. From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that chemistry provides are endless.

- **Foundation Chemistry**

This includes atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, periodicity, introduction to organic chemistry and alkalines.

- **Chemistry in Action**

This includes energetics, kinetics, equilibria, redox reactions, Group 7 – the halogens, Group 2 the alkaline earth metals, extraction of metals, halogenoalkanes, alcohols and analytical techniques.

- **Kinetics, Equilibria and Organic Chemistry**

This includes kinetics, equilibria, acids and bases, nomenclature and isomerism in organic chemistry, compounds containing carbonyl groups, aromatic chemistry, amines, amino acids, polymers, organic synthesis and analysis, and structure determination.

- **Energetics, Redox and Inorganic Chemistry**

This includes thermodynamics, periodicity, redox equilibria, transition metals, reactions of inorganic compounds in aqueous solutions.

- **Investigative and Practical Skills in A Level Chemistry**

The practical and investigative skills will be centre assessed. A 12 practicals will be assessed.

## Assessment

There will be three two hour exams at the end of A Level. Practical knowledge and working scientifically will be included in all exams.



## Progression Information

A Level Chemistry is complemented by and compliments most other A Level subjects. Common combinations include another science, maths, economics and music. Moving forward, A Level Chemistry can support UCAS applications and career paths in both vocational and academic fields including chemistry, chemical engineering, biochemical sciences, natural sciences, nursing, midwifery, medicine and dentistry to name only a few.

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

Mrs J Rawlinson

AQA

7405

A Level

Grade 6,6 in  
Combined and 6 in  
Maths or Grade 6 in  
Chemistry and Maths  
plus a 6 in Biology/  
Physics



# Computing

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## Study

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement, that can look at the natural world through a digital prism. Our Computer Science qualifications will value computational thinking, helping students to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence.

These are the concepts that lie at the heart of Computer Science qualifications. They will be the best preparation for students who want to go on to study Computer Science at a higher level and will also provide a good grounding for other subject areas that require computational thinking and analytical skills.

- Computing Principles
- Algorithms and Problem Solving
- Computer Systems
- Algorithms and Programming
- Programming Project

## Assessment

Students choosing Computer Science at Post 16 will complete an range of practical and theoretical topics and tasks as part of their study. This will be assessed via two externally marked exam papers each worth 40% and a programming project worth 20% of the final mark.

## Progression Information

Students who have completed their A Level in this subject have gone on to study Computer Science, Computer Games design with Programming and other associated degrees.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mr S Fraser</b>
Syllabus:	<b>OCR</b>
Course Specification:	<b>Computer Science - H446</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level</b>
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 6 in Computing and/or Maths</b>



# Core Maths

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## Study

The qualification is designed for students who achieve at least a good pass at GCSE (Level 5 and above) but who choose not to continue with AS or A Level Mathematics. It is equivalent in size to an AS Level qualification and carries the same UCAS points as an AS Level qualification.

The course enables students to:

- Study a mathematics curriculum that is integrated with other areas of their study, leading to the application of mathematics in these areas
- Develop mathematical modelling, evaluating and reasoning skills
- Solve problems which may not be well defined and may not have a unique solution
- Solve substantial, real life problems
- Use ICT as an exploratory tool and when solving problems
- Develop skills in the communication, selection, use and interpretation of their mathematics
- Enjoy mathematics and develop confidence in using mathematics.

Course Content in brief:

- Analysing data
- Personal finance
- Estimation
- Spreadsheets
- Statistics

## Assessment

Students will receive regular mini assessments to track progress throughout the course. Final assessment is by two calculator written papers both for 1 and a half hours, worth 60 marks each.

## Progression Information

Core Maths will link with any subject that has a mathematical content. All sciences including the social sciences, Geography, Computer Science, Business, Economics to name a few. As a follow up the link to careers in these areas is obvious. There is a large proportion of finance, data analysis and use of spreadsheets on the course so well suited to future careers where data analysis would be required.

Universities in particular, look favourably on candidates with Core Maths who are applying for courses aligned to the sciences including Social Sciences.

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Subject Leader:	Miss C Waterhouse
Syllabus:	AQA
Course Specification:	1350
Qualification:	Level 3
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 5 in Maths





# Design and Technology: Product Design

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## Study

The course is designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of Design and Technology, develop candidates' capacity to design and make products, and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing products of their choice.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

## Assessment

- **Paper 1**  
Technical Principles (30% of A Level).  
Written Exam 2 hrs 30 mins,  
120 Marks
- **Paper 2**  
Design and Making Principles (20% of A Level).  
Written Exam 1 hr 30 mins,  
80 Marks

Non-exam assessment (50% of A-level)  
Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles and specialist knowledge.

Students will be required to undertake a design and make task and produce a final prototype based on a design brief produced by the student.

The context of the task will be set by AQA.  
The contexts will change every year and will be released on 1 June in the year prior to the assessment being submitted.

How it's assessed:

- Substantial design and make task (45 hours)
- 100 marks  
Evidence: Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.



## Progression Information

This subject can be combined with a range of other subjects to enable access to a wide range of courses and careers in the Design industry and Engineering. e.g. Industrial Design, 3D Design, Fashion and Textiles, Interior Design, Creative industries, Architecture, Civil Engineering and Mechanical/Structural Engineering.

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Mr N McCall**

**AQA**

**7552**

**A Level**

**Grade 5 in  
Design Technology  
and Grade 4 in  
English Language or  
Literature and Maths**



# Economics

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## Study

A Level Economics gives a strong grounding in both microeconomics and macroeconomics, through a three component externally assessed qualification. The course content has been designed to capture and inspire the learner's interest in making links to modern life and the world around them. It provides the opportunity to study a wide range of concepts which can be applied in a variety of contexts. At the heart of Economics is its relevance to the modern world; its topicality will engage the learner and facilitate an understanding of their role in society. The course will encourage learners to develop their skills as independent learners, critical thinkers and decision makers – all personal assets that can make them stand out as they progress to higher education and/or the workplace. The aims of A Level Economics are to encourage the learners to think as economists.

- Microeconomic theory
- How competitive markets work
- Market failures and government intervention
- Macroeconomy functions on a domestic and global level
- Policy approaches
- Macroeconomic equilibrium
- Microeconomic theory
- Theoretical working of the free market
- Imperfections and market failures
- Macroeconomy functions on a domestic and global level
- Policy approaches
- Changes in macroeconomics over time

No prior study of Economics is required for taking either the AS or A Level qualification.

## Assessment

In Year 13, there will be three two hour examinations in May/June.

There are three mandatory components, focusing on microeconomics, macroeconomics and themes in economics, with the latter offering an opportunity for learners to apply theories and concepts to up-to-date contexts. All three examinations will comprise a mixture of data response, multiple choice and essay based questions and each accounts for 33.33% of the total marks.

## Progression Information

Economics compliments most A Level subjects, however, if students intend to study Economics at a top university most degree courses require A Level Mathematics.

Students who have chosen to further their studies in Economics have chosen university courses such as Economics, Business Studies, and Business & Management studies.

Careers that an economics degree could lead to include:

- Actuarial analyst
- Chartered accountant
- Chartered certified accountant
- Chartered public finance accountant
- Data analyst
- Economist
- Financial risk analyst
- Forensic accountant
- Investment analyst
- Statistician
- Stockbroker

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

Mr N Rowling

OCR

H060/H460

A Level

Grade 5 in

English Language or  
Literature and Maths



# English Language

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## Study

This is a linear course requiring the study of language use in a wide range of real spoken and written situations. You will also study how the English language has changed over time, how language is used in the media and how children acquire language. You will be exposed to some of the current debates about language use and encouraged to form and discuss your own opinions.

- **Unit 1 Study:**  
**Exploring Language**

In this unit you will explore language use in a variety of spoken and written texts for example newspaper articles, transcripts of informal conversations, emails and advertisements. You will learn to use linguistic terminology and concepts in order to analyse unseen texts from a variety of sources in the examination. You will also write a response on a topical language issue such as the impact of technology on the English language.

- **Unit 2 Study:**  
**Dimensions of Linguistic Variation**

For this unit, you will study Child Language Acquisition, Language Change and Language in the Media. In the examination you will be given a resource booklet of language texts to respond to and analyse. You will learn some of the theories and concepts behind these topics and draw on them in your answers.

- **Unit 3 Study:**  
**Independent Language Research**

This is a coursework unit allowing you the opportunity to pursue an independent language investigation into an aspect of language use. You will research and explore the language use in something that interests you. This could be for example, the language of sport commentary, changes in local dialect, language variety in text messages, changes in language and style of a particular magazine over time or the language of stand up comedy.

## Assessment

There are two equally weighted examinations taken at the end of the two year course, both of two and a half hours. Coursework accounts for 20% of the total qualification.

## Progression Information

- Areas of overlap with Sociology, Psychology and Government and Politics.
- Combines well with Modern Foreign Languages in terms of the grammar content.
- Careers in journalism, sports writing, business, marketing, publishing and media.
- The unit in Child Language Acquisition is good preparation for Primary Education, teaching and any sort of work with children.
- Links well with speech therapy and communication courses.

Subject Leader:

**Miss J McKay**

Syllabus:

**OCR**

Course Specification:

**H470**

Qualification:

**A Level**

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Grade 5 in English  
Language plus  
minimum Grade 4 in  
English Literature**



# English Literature

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## Study

This is a linear course requiring the study of eight texts plus unseen poetry. There are three externally examined components, and one coursework unit all at the end of Year 13. Texts will be studied and revisited over the two year course but it is essential that you are prepared to read and re-read texts in your own time if you wish to study Literature at A Level. The coursework is worth 20% of the total qualification and involves the study of two texts in order to produce a comparative essay of 2,500-3,000 words.

- **Unit 1 Study:**

The focus of this unit is Drama. For this unit, you will study one Shakespeare play and one other drama text from the genre of tragedy. You will also be required to study some of a Critical Anthology and other essays relating to your Shakespeare text. This will help you to consider how texts can be read from different perspectives. This unit is worth 30% of the total qualification

- **Unit 2 Study:**

Prose is the focus of component 2. Two prose texts are studied from a chosen theme; one of the texts will have been written pre-1900. You will be asked to write one comparative essay from a choice of two questions. This unit is worth 20% of the qualification.

- **Unit 3 Study:**

This unit on Poetry involves the study of a range of prescribed poetry either by a named poet or from a specific literary period. You will also be prepared for responding to unseen poetry in the examination.

## Assessment

There are three examinations taken at the end of the two year course, two, two hour papers and one lasting an hour. Coursework accounts for 20% of the total qualification. The examinations are open book meaning that clean copies of the texts may be taken into the examination.

## Progression Information

- Often combines surprisingly well with A Level Maths, as both use analytical skills.
- Skills crossover with A Level History, including essay writing and using evidence.
- Teaching English, both here and abroad.
- Careers in law, publishing, academia.
- Useful for courses such as engineering, where written and spoken communication skills are essential.

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

Miss J McKay

Edexcel

9ETO

A Level

**Grade 6 in English Literature plus minimum Grade 4 in English Language**



# Extended Project Qualification

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## Study

EPQ allows each student to embark on a largely self-directed and self motivated project. Students must choose a topic, plan, research and develop their idea. The project title must not overlap with their other A Level specifications. Students begin working on their project in the October of Year 12 and submit their work for the November exam season in Year 13.

## Assessment

EPQ is 100% coursework. Students complete a 5,000 word essay, produce a candidate log which documents the entire process and deliver a presentation to a small non specialist audience. It is graded A\* – E.

## Progression Information

Universities recognise the commitment that students make to this qualification and the learning skills that students develop throughout the project. EPQ complements any subject combination.

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Subject Leader:

**Mrs N Johnstone**

Syllabus:

**AQA**

Course Specification:

**EPQ 7993**

Qualification:

**EPQ Level 3 –  
equivalent to  
half an A Level**

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Grade 5 in English  
Language or  
Literature**





# Food Science and Nutrition

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## Study

- **Unit 1:**  
**Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups**  
Through this unit, you will gain an understanding of how to identify hazards and minimise risks when producing food to meet the nutritional needs of specific groups. You will learn about different types of nutrients and how those are used by the body to ensure you can plan a balanced nutritious diet. You will develop skills for preparing, cooking and presenting nutritious dishes that meet specific needs.

This unit is both internally and externally assessed. Both assessments will provide an overall grade for the unit.

- **Unit 2:**  
**Ensuring that food is safe to eat**  
Learners will develop an understanding of hazards and risks in relation to the storage, preparation and cooking of food in different environments and the control measures needed to minimise these risks. From this understanding, learners will be able to recommend the control measures that need to be in place, in different environments, to ensure that food is safe to eat.
- **Unit 3:**  
**Experimenting to solve food production problems**  
The aim of this unit is for learners to use their understanding of the properties of food in order to plan and carry out experiments. The results of the experiments will be used to propose options to solve food production problems.

## Assessment

### Year 1:

- 90 minute examination; plus 15 minutes reading time (50% of final grade)
- 9 ½ hour internal coursework task: (50% of final grade)

### Year 2:

- 12 hour internal assessment: food investigation (50% of final grade)
- External assessment: assignment under exam conditions (50% of final grade)

## Progression Information

Subjects that complement Food Science and nutrition are Applied Science, PE, Health and Social Care, Business, Psychology and Sociology. Students go on to study nutrition, human nutrition, product design, hospitality, public health and dietetics.

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Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Mrs M Gray**

**WJEC**

**601/4553/5**

**Level 3 Diploma**

**Grade 4 in English  
Language or  
Literature and a 4,4  
in Combined or 4,4,4  
in Separate Science**



# French

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## Study

The specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. Topics studied include family, cyber-society, volunteering, cultural heritage, music and cinema and the film "La Haine". In Year 13 the topics of diversity, the marginalised, crime and the justice system, political engagement, strikes and immigration and the book: "Sac de billes" by Joffo are studied.

## Assessment

- **Paper 1:**  
**Listening, reading and writing**  
Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (100 marks/50% of A-level)  
Listening to and reading passages from a range of contexts. All questions are in French, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in French on the topics studied.  
Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks)  
Translation into French; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).
- **Paper 2:**  
**Writing**  
Written exam: 2 hours (80 marks/20% of A-level)  
2 essays- one essay on the film studied (choice of two questions) and one essay on the book studied (choice of 2 questions).

- **Paper 3:**  
**Speaking**

Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) (60 marks/30% of A-level)  
Discussion on a stimulus card based on the topics studied followed by the presentation and discussion around the candidate's Individual Research Project.


## Progression Information

Having studied a language is a highly-valued skill by universities and employers. It compliments well careers in Finance, Business, Engineering, Tourism, Diplomacy, Civil Service and Education. For the past 5 years, nearly 90% of our students who chose to study a language degree or a joint honours degree with a language got a place in a Russell group university.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mrs J Sibbald</b>
Syllabus:	<b>AQA</b>
Course Specification:	<b>AS 7651/A Level 7652</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level</b>
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 6 in target language and Grade 5 in English Language</b>



The image features a collage of French words on white rectangular cards, layered over a blurred background of a map. The words are in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The visible words include 'merci', 'être', 'aller', 'va', and 'bonjour'. The map background shows various geographical features like roads, rivers, and green spaces, with some text like 'Javel' and 'Centre' visible. The overall composition suggests a theme of travel or language learning.

**merci**

**être**

**aller**

**va**

**bonjour**

# Further Mathematics

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## Study

Students will follow the A Level Mathematics course simultaneously. Those who opt for Further Maths will also do Maths and hence gain two separate Maths qualifications. They will extend their knowledge of the key principles of Pure Maths covered in A Level Mathematics and will also study Statistics and Mechanics to a greater depth. It is essential that students enjoy the problem solving nature of Maths and have a strong background in the subject.

Students will cover Pure Maths concepts including more advanced matrix algebra, differential equations, hyperbolic functions and further coordinate systems. We also look at the use of complex numbers. In addition they will cover different probability distributions in Statistics and more advanced hypothesis testing and greater use of Newton's Laws of motion in Mechanics involving projectile motion. We also look at mathematical modelling across Pure Maths, Mechanics and Statistics.

Where students are able it may be possible to take Further Maths as a fourth A Level. This will be dependent on subject combinations and individual circumstances.

## Assessment

Students will take an assessment at the end of each topic to monitor progress. These mini assessments do not count towards a final grade. The final examinations will take place at the end of the course. Students will take a separate paper for Pure Maths to the applied disciplines of Statistics and Mechanics. A scientific calculator that allows students to gain information from statistical tables and apply matrix manipulation is essential. These can be ordered from the Maths department.

## Progression Information

Further Maths goes well with Maths, Sciences (Physics and Chemistry in particular), Economics, Computer Science but also with social sciences such as Psychology. Most of our students who take Further Maths enter fields such as Physics, Astrophysics, Engineering, Mathematics, Economics or which include the use of statistics such as Medical Statistics.

It is worth noting that some universities will require Further Maths as essential to pursue a Maths degree and very desirable if not essential for some Engineering or Computer Science degrees.

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

Miss C Waterhouse

Edexcel

9FM0

A Level

Grade 8 in Maths





# Geography

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## Study

The AQA specification offers a varied course encompassing a wide range of geographical themes. Following from AQA GCSE geography, geographers with interests in distinct physical, human and environmental approaches will find plenty to keep them engaged. Fieldwork and research skills are also key features of the A Level.

Students will have two teachers for A Level geography, with one focusing on physical geography and one on human – although there are several crossover topics as well.

Over the two years the students will study a combination of physical and human geography:

### Physical

- Water and carbon cycles
- Coastal Geography
- Natural Hazards

### Human

- Global systems and Global governance
- Changing places
- Urban environments

### Fieldwork investigation

Students will also complete a geographical investigation which is linked to the specification content but based on a question defined individually by students. As part of the investigation students must undertake independent fieldwork.

## Assessment

Both the physical and human geography units will be assessed at the end of Year 13. Students will sit a 2 hour 30 minute exam for each unit worth 40% of their final grade. Additionally they will complete their 3,000-4,000 word geographical investigation which will form 20% of their final grade.

## Progression Information

Students studying Maths, English, History, Biology and Economics will find many links to those subjects in this Geography specification. As an academic A Level, there are many paths to follow from here. Typical careers include law, accountancy, education, as well as many pathways in the environmental field. The broad nature of a geography A Level means that students will develop and be assessed on a wide range of skills which are valued by both employers and higher education providers.

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Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

**Mr D Kinninment**

**AQA**

**7037**

**A Level**

**Grade 5 in  
Geography and  
English Language  
or Literature and  
Grade 4 in Maths**



# Health & Social Care

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## Study

This qualification is relevant to all students contemplating working in every area of health care or social care.

Students are supported to find a work experience in a health or social care setting to meet their personal career aspirations. This work experience will also support students learning across all units. Work experience gives students an advantage when applying for university or college places and employment because students have the opportunity to apply experience of professional working practices to their assessments.

## Assessment

The units you will study over the two years are as follows:

- **Unit 1:**  
Building relationships in health and social care (Internal assessment)
- **Unit 2:**  
Equality, Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care (External exam)
- **Unit 3:**  
Health, Safety and Security in Health and Social Care (External exam)

- **Unit 4:**  
Anatomy and Physiology for health and social care (External exam)
- **Unit 10:**  
Nutrition for health (Internal assessment)
- **Unit 22:**  
Psychology for health and social care (Internal assessment)

## Progression Information

Subjects that go well with H&SC are Science, Applied Science, Food Science and Nutrition , Psychology, Sociology and PE. Students go on to study nursing, midwifery, teaching, social work and care work.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mrs M Gray</b>
Syllabus:	<b>OCR Cambridge Technical</b>
Course Specification:	<b>05830-05833, 05871 (2016 suite)</b>
Qualification:	<b>Level 3</b>
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 4 in English Language or Literature</b>



# History

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## Study

In Year 12 the reigns of Henry VII and VIII with consideration of rebellions, the nature of Kingship, court intrigue, the causes and consequences of the break from the Catholic Church. Consideration of key individuals such as Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn and Thomas Cromwell are studied. Along with the rise of Mussolini with assessment of the Impact of WW1 on democracy.

In Year 13 we study Elizabeth I. We examine how the Tudor monarchs tackled the problems of the succession, the developing role of Parliament and recurrent threats to their security from plots and rebellions.

## Assessment

A Level – two examinations at the end of Year 13, one examination on Tudor England, one on the Rise of Fascism and a Personal Study (20% of the final grade).

## Progression Information

Complements English Literature and Language, Economics, Geography, Psychology and Sociology. Linked careers – Journalism, Law, Teaching, Marketing and Business.

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Subject Leader:	Mrs N Johnstone
Syllabus:	AQA
Course Specification:	His1C, His2L
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 5 in History and English Language or Literature





# Information & Communication Technology

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## Study

The BTEC Level 3 qualification in ICT is a mixed course covering both practical and theoretical ICT concepts. The course allows students to further develop their skills and knowledge of ICT through a number of challenging, interesting and relevant units.

You will develop deep practical skills and understanding, and an internationally recognised qualification, highly valued by employers and higher education establishments.

## Assessment

In Year 12, the Using Social Media in Business Unit is assessed through internally assessed controlled assessment tasks. The Creating Systems to Manage Information Unit is externally assessed through an end of Year 10 hour practical controlled assessment task. In Year 13, the Information Technology Systems Unit is assessed through an externally set 2 hour exam. The Web Development Unit is assessed through a range of internally assessed controlled assessment tasks.

## Progression Information

Students who have completed their A Level in this subject have gone on to study degrees in Information and Communication Technology, Web Development, Cyber Security with Digital Forensics and other associated degrees.

Subject Leader:	Mr S Fraser
Syllabus:	BTEC Level 3 (NCF) Extended Diploma in IT
Course Specification:	Edexcel BTEC
Qualification:	Level 3
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 4 in IT (if studied)





# Mathematics

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## Study

Students will cover work from Pure Maths, Mechanics and Statistics. Many of the areas met in Pure Maths serve as an important foundation for other branches of mathematics, especially Mechanics and Statistics. The work builds upon knowledge gained at GCSE in topics such as trigonometry, sequences and the geometry of straight lines. In addition students learn about calculus and its applications, including the solving of differential equations and the many techniques behind integration.

Many ideas met in Mechanics form an almost essential introduction to important modern fields of study such as cybernetics, robotics, biomechanics and sports science as well as the more traditional areas of engineering and physics. In Mechanics students cover in depth the application of Newton's laws of motion and apply knowledge of forces to moments.

Many of the ideas in Statistics have applications in a wide range of other fields, from assessing car insurance costs to evaluating risk due to natural disasters. Many techniques are used widely in sciences and social sciences such as hypothesis testing.

## Assessment

Students will take regular assessments at the end of topics to monitor progress. These mini assessments do not count towards a final grade. The exams are taken at the end of the course. Students take three 2 hour papers two of which are Pure Maths and the third is an applications paper. Students' knowledge prepares them more thoroughly for certain University courses. There is no coursework. A scientific calculator that allows students to gain information from statistical tables and apply matrix manipulation is essential. These can be ordered from the Maths department.

# Progression Information

Maths goes well with virtually every other subject. There are obvious links to Physics, Biology and Chemistry but also to the social sciences such as Psychology. In addition Maths will go well with Computer Science, Economics and Business.

Many of our students have gone on to pursue careers in Economics and Engineering and we have also had students taking Maths degrees who now work in the city.

In terms of degrees, many courses will have maths as an essential qualification including for example engineering, economics, computer science, mathematics, physics.

There are a wide variety of careers open to students who have studied maths; the many different fields of engineering, accountancy, finance, economics, investment banking, medicine, veterinary medicine and architecture, to name but a few.

Subject Leader:	Miss C Waterhouse
Syllabus:	Edexcel
Course Specification:	9MA0
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 6 in Maths



# Media Studies

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## Study

The course will help you develop three relationships with the media. As a consumer you will become more aware of the many ways in which media messages are presented to us. You will also discover how the institutions, which produce and shape media products, are trying to reach you. By producing and evaluating your own media productions you will have hands – on understanding of how media messages are created and what they are trying to do.

The course is divided up into three units:

- **Media Messages**

In this unit you will complete two linked in-depth studies that focus on contemporary news in the UK, requiring learners to explore how and why newspapers and their online counterparts are evolving as media products and the relationship between both online and offline news. You will also study issues surrounding media language and representation in magazines, advertising and marketing and music videos.

- **Evolving Media**

This unit explores media industries and audiences, through radio, video games and film. We also complete an in-depth study of television as an evolving, global media form. We look at contemporary English language long form TV drama (for example 'House of Cards' and 'Stranger Things') and a non-English language long form TV drama to inform their study. These texts are set by the exam board and are subject to change.

- **Making Media**

This coursework (or NEA) unit gives you the opportunity to create a cross-media product in response to a brief that is set by the exam board.

## Assessment

There are three assessment elements to the course:

- **Media Messages**  
(external 2 hour examination: 35%)
- **Evolving Media**  
(external 2 hour examination: 35%)
- **Making Media**  
(NEA/coursework element: 30%)

## Progression Information

A Level Media Studies is a great introduction to a career in the media or communications. It goes well with Graphics, Photography, English Language and Sociology as A Level subjects.

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

Miss J McKay

OCR

2570

A Level

**Grade 5 in Language  
plus minimum Grade  
4 in English Literature**



# Music Technology

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## Study

This course is ideal for anyone who enjoys performing and listening to popular and contemporary music and who wants to develop their recording skills through the use of our iMac suite, high quality microphones and specialist desk in our Recording Studio. It helps to have a reasonable ability in reading musical notation and gained basic keyboard skills. For recommended listening, students will be learning to appreciate a wide range of musicians and bands whose music has defined the major styles in modern music including examples of Blues, Jazz, Rock, Reggae, Soul and Dance genres. Students will learn to use Logic software to record, compose and edit their music.

Where students are able it may be possible to take Music Technology as a fourth A Level. This will be dependent on subject combinations and individual circumstances.

## Assessment

- **Component 1:  
Recording 20%**

Students will make a live multi-track studio recording that lasts between 3 and 3.5 minutes from a list of 10 contemporary songs supplied by the Exam board. This song must consist of a minimum of five compulsory instruments and two additional instruments. A logbook and authentication form must also be completed.

- **Component 2:  
Technology Based Composition 20%**

Students will create a technology-based composition chosen from three briefs set by the Exam board using synthesis, sampling, audio manipulation, and creative effects. The composition should last exactly 3 minutes, and a logbook and authentication form must be completed.

- **Component 3:  
Listening and Analysing 25%**

A written exam lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes in which students listen to an audio CD and answer questions on commercial recordings testing understanding of recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes, principles of sound and audio technology, and the development of recording and production technology.

- **Component 4:  
Producing and Analysing 35%**

A written and practical exam that combines to last 2 hour 15 minutes (plus 10 minutes setting up time) in which students will correct and then combine audio and midi materials to form a completed mix which may include creating new tracks or parts from the materials provided.

All components will be externally assessed.

## Progression Information

Music Technology A Level combines well with Music A Level, any other creative subject but also Maths and Physics as it concerns the principals behind the properties of sound. Students go on to develop careers in the Music Industry as sound engineers, producers, composers and performers.

Subject Leader:

Syllabus:

Course Specification:

Qualification:

Minimum Grade

Entry Requirement:

Mr R Forbes

Pearson Edexcel

9MT0

A Level

**Grade 4 in English Language or Literature. Students should also have some Instrumental or Singing experience with an enthusiasm for using and developing skills in studio recording and music production**



# Music

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## Study

This course is ideal for anyone who enjoys performing instrumental or vocal music and who wants to develop their practical skills. All styles of music are accepted from classical to jazz and folk to rock. It is strongly recommended that students study Music Theory up to Grade 5 before starting this course by completing the appropriate Music Theory In Practice booklets.

## Assessment

- **Component 1:**  
**Performing 30%**

This unit gives opportunities for students to perform as soloists or as part of an ensemble. Students can choose music in any style but to gain the highest grades they must be a minimum of Grade 7 in standard by the end of the two year course. Any instrument or voice is acceptable in producing a recital of pieces which must last a minimum of 8 minutes. Performances must be recorded after 1 March in the year of certification and sent to be externally marked by 15 May. These performances can be fully notated or improvised performances. Students must continue taking regular instrumental or vocal lessons to support their preparation for this exam.

- **Component 2:**  
**Composing 30%**

This unit encourages students to develop their creative skills with access to our specialist iMac suite and extensive practice rooms. Students must produce two compositions which must have a minimum combined time of 6 minutes. The first composition must relate to a set brief or to a free brief decided by the student. The second composition must be chosen from a list of briefs which will be assessing compositional techniques. The styles of these compositions can be developed from any genre including Jazz, Folk, Rock, Dance, Classical and Choral music idioms.

- **Component 3:**  
**Appraising 40%**

A written exam lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes in which students listen to an audio CD and answer questions on commercial recordings testing understanding of recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes, principles of sound and audio technology, and the development of recording and production technology.

# Progression Information

Music gives a great creative balance to sixth form study and this subject works well with Psychology, History, English Literature, English Language, Business Studies, Media Studies and Drama. However many of our A Level Music students go on Higher Education to study Medicine, Nursing, Teaching, Dentistry and Media. Specific careers that lead on from Music A Level include work as a professional performer, as a recording engineer and as a musician employed as a music therapist or teacher.

Subject Leader:	Mr R Forbes
Syllabus:	Edexcel
Course Specification:	9MU0
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 5 or above in Music GCSE or Grade 5 standard in Singing or Instrument Performance (this includes Drum Kit and Electric Guitar/ Bass) and Grade 5 Music Theory (or plans to work towards Grade 5 theory)





# Photography

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## Study

This practical course enables students to experience photography including the technical aspects of camera work and the conceptual and artistic context of photography. Students should have a real passion for photography and be prepared to invest the necessary time outside of lessons planning and carrying out shoots on location.

- **Year 1:**  
will focus on digital technology, the use of camera equipment and lens, lighting and exposure techniques and digital manipulation. There will be opportunities to create moving image using stop motion, time lapse photography and/or video footage. Students will use Adobe Spark and Google Sites to create portfolios.
- **Year 2:**  
Comprised of two units; The personal investigation briefs will focus on portraiture, still life, documentary and fashion. The Externally set task is distributed in February. There will be approximately 8 weeks of preparation time before the 15 hour controlled task.

## Assessment

Each Project is assessed individually and students are provided with regular feedback and suggestions for improvement, using an Interactive assessment system through Google Classroom.

- **Unit 1 (60%):**  
Personal investigation including a 1000-3000 word essay
- **Unit 2 (40%):**  
Externally set task.

## Progression Information

This subject combines well with Art and Design (Photography), Art and Design (Art, craft and design), Design Technology.

Students who have completed their A level in this subject have gone on to study Art and Design Foundation courses, Photography, Fashion Design/Marketing, Textiles, Interior Design, Architecture, Graphic Design, 3D Design, Game Design, Jewellery Design,

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Subject Leader:	Mrs J McGorrell
Syllabus:	OCR
Course Specification:	H603 Art and Design (Photography)
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 4 in one of the following; Art, Craft and Design, Graphic Communication or Design Technology and Grade 4 in English Language or Literature



# Physics

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## Study

The Year 12 physics course builds directly on GCSE knowledge through a more in-depth look at topics such as waves, mechanics, materials and electricity. You will be introduced to the on-going development of new ideas in areas such as particle physics and there is an emphasis on maths skills and practical work across all topics.

The Year 13 physics course builds on the key ideas and knowledge covered in Year 12 through topics such as further mechanics, thermal physics, fields and their consequences and nuclear physics. You are given the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of a selected branch of physics through one of the following option topics.

- Astrophysics
- Medical physics
- Engineering physics
- Electronics
- Turning points in physics

## Assessment

The exams are interesting, straightforward and clear with no hidden surprises. You will be rewarded for the skills and knowledge that you develop. The A level qualification requires students to sit three 120 minute exams. All exams consist of structured questions and multiple choice questions.

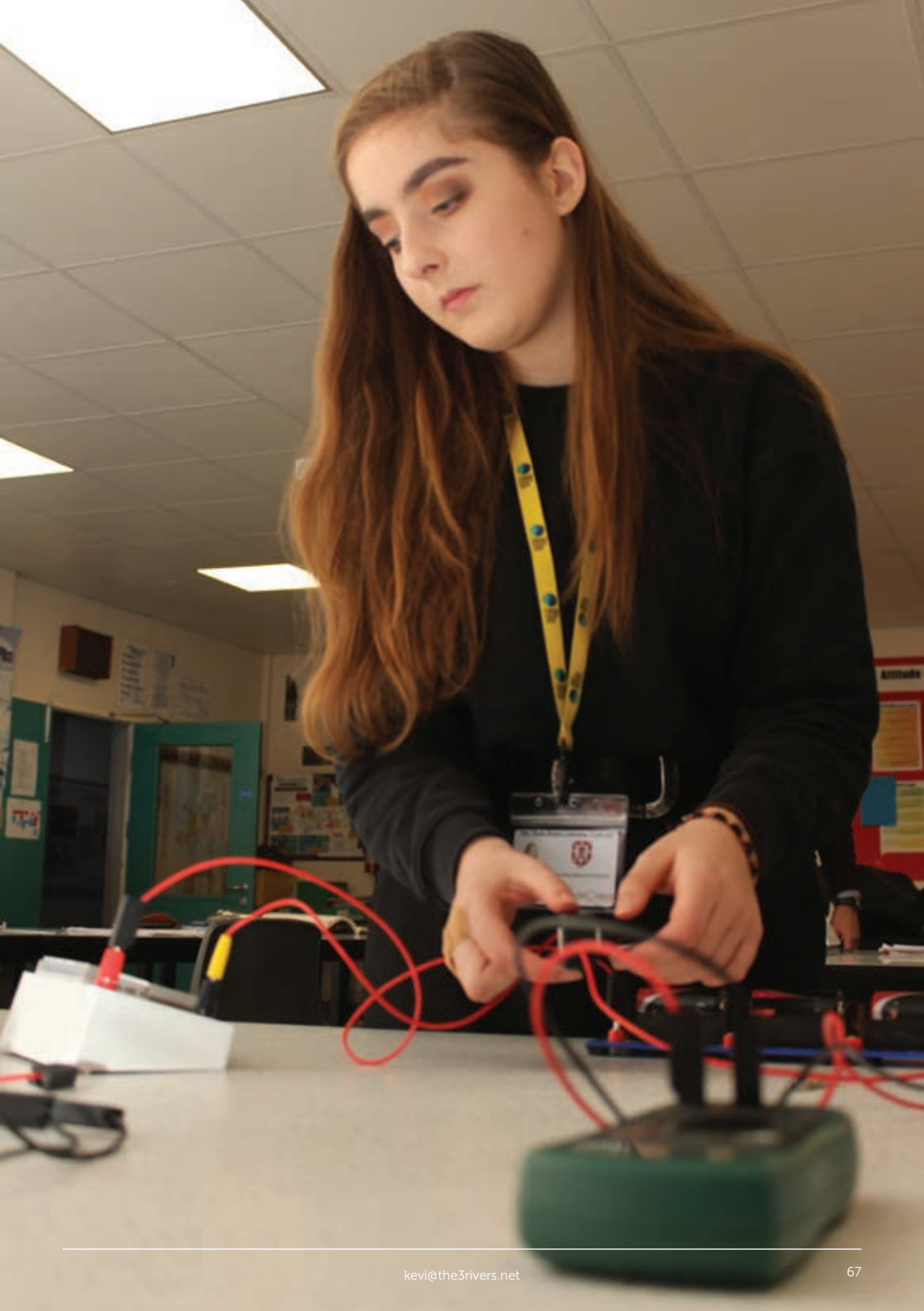
## Progression Information

Students take Physics alongside just about every subject however most students (80% – 90%) also take Maths.

An A Level in Physics is highly regarded and would support careers in areas such as Engineering, Cosmology, Medicine, Architecture and Finance.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mr M Dennis</b>
Syllabus:	<b>AQA</b>
Course Specification:	<b>1451 and 2451</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level</b>
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 6,6 in Combined and 7 in Maths (or taking A Level Maths) or Grade 6 in Physics and Grade 7 in Maths (or taking A Level Maths) plus a 6 in Biology/Chemistry</b>



# Psychology

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## Study

Classed as an A Level Science, this is a well-recognised and applied course. Students will study Research Methods: planning research, experimental and non-experimental methods, representing data, descriptive statistics and ethics in psychological research. Social Influence: why do we obey authority? Why do people 'follow the crowd'? Attachment: the influence of attachment on childhood, animal studies on attachment and cultural variations in attachment. Remembering and Forgetting: models of memory, the working memory model, explanations of forgetting and eyewitness testimony. Psychopathology: what is abnormal behaviour? How do we treat Phobias? Explanations for Depression and OCD. Forensics: What is a crime and how do we measure crime? Offender profiling, how do we identify offenders? What makes a person commit crime and what theories of offending are there? Schizophrenia: what is Schizophrenia and how do we treat this disorder? Issues and Debates: socially sensitive research, forms of bias in research, key debates such as Free will v Determinism and further research methods including the features of science and inferential statistics. Key Approaches including biological, social learning theory, and behaviourism are embedded throughout the course. There is 10% of the course that includes Mathematical content. Please note some topics such as Psychopathology and Attachment are sensitive in nature.

## Assessment

There are three exams for the full A Level award lasting 2 hours each paper.

## Progression Information

Related degrees include Educational Psychology, Criminology, Science related degrees as well as Business and Sport. Future careers include forensic scientist, criminologist, psychologist, teaching, NHS and public services.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mrs A Richardson</b>
Syllabus:	<b>AQA</b>
Course Specification:	<b>7182</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level</b>
Minimum Grade Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 5 in English Language or Literature and Maths</b>





# Religious Studies: Philosophy, Ethics and Developments in Religion

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## Study

Religious studies looks at some of the biggest questions that man has asked – Does God exist? Why do people suffer? You will encounter a range of thinkers who have grappled with these ideas.

Learners will study Western Philosophy, through ideas such as what can we know, to questions about the soul, to the issue of whether we can prove that God does or does not exist.

You will explore how we decide whether something is right or wrong through ethical theories and the application of these as well as exploring the nature of the conscience and how we use language to express ideas of right and wrong.

You will also look at how Eastern Philosophy developed through the rise of Buddhism, tracing the religion from its earliest influences to the philosophical tradition it represents today. This will include looking at how Buddhism rises to the challenges of the modern world.

## Assessment

3 examinations of 2 hours each.

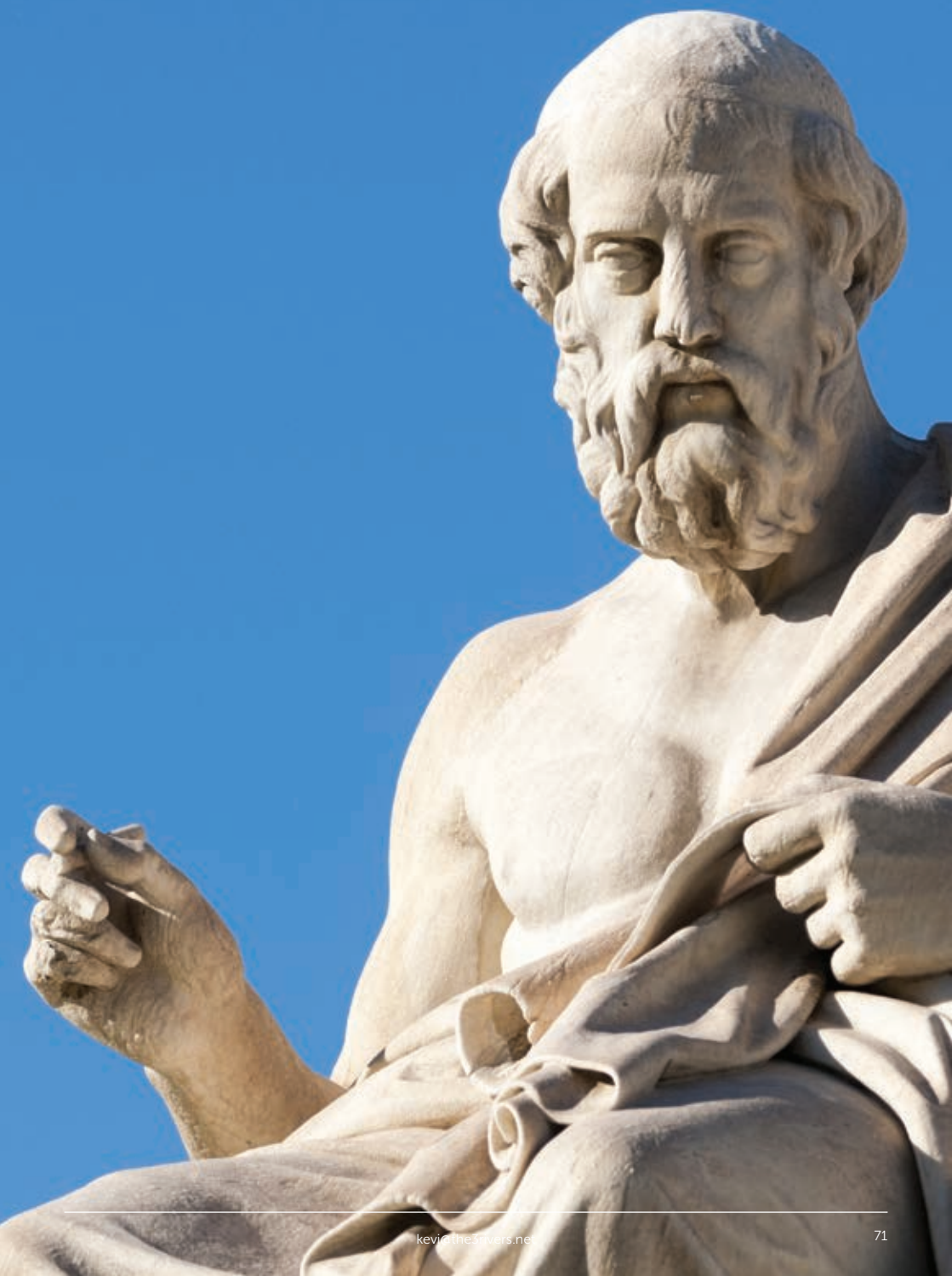
## Progression Information

RPE is a well respected humanities A Level that is valued by employers and universities alike. It sits well alongside other humanities A Levels, as well as Psychology, Sociology and English.

Previous students have gone on to study such diverse areas at university as politics, economics, law, nursing, history, town planning, journalism and many more with past graduates now enjoying careers in banking, international law, journalism, theatre and one working as the media manager for a large gaming firm!.

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Subject Leader:	Mr M Malton-Earl
Syllabus:	OCR
Course Specification:	H573
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature





# Sociology

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## Study

Sociology is an engaging and academic Social Science. Students will develop skills valued by higher education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. You should be interested in current affairs and be able to analyse and interpret information.

Topics include Families & Households: What is a family? What changes have there been to childhood over the last 100 years? Education: What shapes our identity within schools and how can this affect our grades? How can a teacher form a label and make us under or over achieve? Students need to understand a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods and be able to apply these to the context of education. Beliefs in Society: How significant is religion in a contemporary global world? Is religion a controlling ideology? Are religious organisations including cults and sects taking over from denominations and churches? Has science replaced religion as an ideology? Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: explanations of crime applied to key topics such as media, gender and globalisation.

Pure sociological theory is studied in depth as well as key debates such as Sociology as a science.

## Assessment

A Level Sociology is assessed only through examination. There is no coursework. There are three two hour exams at the end of Year 2 of study.

## Progression Information

Related degrees include Criminology, Law, Health and Social Care and Government and Politics. Future careers include criminologist, social worker, health and social care worker, teaching, NHS and a range of public services.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mrs A Richardson</b>
Syllabus:	<b>AQA</b>
Course Specification:	<b>7192</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level</b>
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 4 in English Language or Literature</b>



# Spanish

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## Study

A Level Spanish is the right subject for you if:

- Enjoy learning about language and culture
- Want to develop opinions about current issues
- Enjoy speaking and contributing to discussions
- Enjoy expressing your ideas and points of view
- Have a good memory for vocabulary
- Have a logical mind for applying grammar
- Enjoy independent research
- Have good independent study habits
- Like to keep up to date with current affairs
- Are organised and can meet deadlines

Students will study technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society. They will study highlights of Hispanic artistic culture, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. They will also learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world and explore the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of Hispanic countries and issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

Topics include:

- **Aspects of Hispanic society:**  
Modern and traditional values, Cyberspace, Equal rights
- **Multiculturalism in Hispanic society:**  
Immigration, Racism, Integration
- **Artistic culture in the Hispanic world:**  
Modern day idols, Spanish regional identity, Cultural heritage
- **Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world:**  
Today's youth - tomorrow's citizens, Monarchies and dictatorships, Popular movements

## Assessment

- **Paper 1:**  
**Listening, reading and writing 2 hours 30 minutes (100 marks – 50% of A Level)**

Listening to and reading questions in Spanish with non-verbal and responses in Spanish on:

- Aspects of Spanish speaking society
- Artistic culture in the Spanish speaking world
- Multiculturalism in Spanish speaking society
- Aspects of political life in Spanish speaking society
- Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words
- Translation into Spanish; a passage of minimum 100 words

- **Paper 2:**  
**Writing 2 hours (80 marks – 20% of A Level)**
- Either one question in Spanish on a text and one question in Spanish on a film (a choice of two questions each) or two questions in Spanish on texts (two questions on each text).
- **Paper 3:**  
**Speaking 21–23 minutes including 5 minutes preparation time (60 marks – 30% of A Level)**
- Discussion of one of four sub-themes (i.e. Aspects of Spanish speaking society, Artistic culture in the Spanish speaking world, Multiculturalism in Spanish speaking society or Aspects of political life in Spanish speaking society) with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5–6 minutes).  
The student studies the card for 5 minutes at the start of the test.
- Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of individual research project.

## Progression Information

Having studied a language is a highly-valued skill by universities and employers. It compliments well careers in Finance, Business, Engineering, Tourism, Diplomacy, Civil Service and Education. For the past 5 years, nearly 90% of our students who chose to study a language degree or a joint honours degree with a language got a place in a Russell group university.

Subject Leader:	Mrs J Sibbald
Syllabus:	AQA
Course Specification:	A7692
Qualification:	A Level
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	Grade 6 in target language and Grade 5 in English Language



# Sport & Physical Activity

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## Study

The course will be taught over two years and is equivalent to one A Level. Success in this course will lead to a Level 3 Award in Sport and Physical Activity.

Mandatory Units

- **Unit 1:**  
Body systems and the effects of physical activity (external examination).
- **Unit 2:**  
Sports coaching and leadership (coursework - internally assessed, externally moderated). The coursework in Year 12 requires students to spend time leading a sports activity. They will use this experience to complete their written coursework.
- **Unit 3:**  
Sports organisation and development (external examination).

Optional Units

- **Unit 18:**  
Practical skills in sport and physical activities (coursework - internally assessed, externally moderated). In Year 13 students will play and officiate several activities and be assessed on their practical performances.
- **Unit 19:**  
Sport and exercise psychology (coursework - internally assessed, externally moderated). The coursework in Year 13 requires students to develop knowledge of different psychological factors that can influence performance within sport and exercise, for both an elite performer and general participant.

## Assessment

Students will be assessed by a combination of both internal and external assessment. There will be two written exam papers which will be set and marked by the Exam Board. Internal assessment will be based on coursework, which will be internally marked and externally moderated.

## Progression Information

The course will provide you with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into Higher Education on a sport related programme such as Sport and Physical Education, Sports Science, Sports Coaching and Development of Sport and Leisure Management.

It links well with subjects such as Biology, Psychology and Health and Social Care.

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Subject Leader:	Mrs R Shaw
Syllabus:	OCR Cambridge Technicals
Course Specification:	Sport and Physical Activity
Qualification:	Level 3 Extended Certificate
Minimum Grade Entry Requirement:	Grade 4,4 in Combined Science or Grade 4 in Biology and Chemistry/ Physics and a regular participant in sport





# Theatre & Drama

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## Study

This course allows students to develop skills in a range of practical drama elements including acting and directing. Theatre visits are central to the course and students can expect to see some fantastic live performances over the two years. In the first year students will perform a set text which they will have spent time throughout the year studying in a practical manner. Students will also explore a number of contemporary theatrical styles and key practitioners of Modern Theatre.

Students will complete two research reports and two portfolios of work during the course. The course is heavily weighted on the written element with regards to the theoretical practices of performance. Students will study a further two text from a chosen theme which is followed by an extended essay question.

## Assessment

- **Unit 1**  
Practitioners in Practice  
40% Non Examined Assessment
- **Unit 2**  
Exploring Texts for Performance  
20% Non Examined Assessment
- **Unit 3**  
Analysing Performance  
20% Written Exam
- **Unit 4**  
Deconstructing Texts for Performance  
20% Written Exam

Assessment for the practical units also takes account of your own individual contribution to the process throughout the preparation period as well as your final performance which is important at this higher level as you seek to gain credit for your growing proficiency and skills in performing, analysing and devising.

## Progression Information

This subject works well with Psychology, History, English Lit, English Language, Business Studies, Media Studies and others - Due to the nature of this subject if you are passionate about Drama then you will enjoy all lessons. Many of our students follow the Higher Education pathway – Acting, Dancing, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Teaching, Dentistry, Media.

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Subject Leader:	<b>Mrs F Anderson</b>
Syllabus:	<b>OCR</b>
Course Specification:	<b>H059, H459</b>
Qualification:	<b>A Level 3</b>
Minimum Grade	
Entry Requirement:	<b>Grade 5 in English Language or Literature plus Grade 5 in Drama (if studied)</b>





## How to Apply

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All students and their parents and carers are invited to our Post 16 Information Evening on Thursday 10 January 2019. On this evening all of our expert staff and current students will be able to answer your questions about the A Levels you are thinking of studying. Further events will be held throughout the year, keep up to date by following our social media channels.



@sixthformkevi



/sixthformkevi



@KEVISixthForm

Applications are invited via our online form from 10 January. This is accessed from our website [sixthformkevi.the3rivers.net](http://sixthformkevi.the3rivers.net). This form will be live until Tuesday 5 February. We still welcome applications after this date via the Sixth Form Office.

If you have any queries or would like additional information or to arrange a visit to our Sixth Form, please contact Susan Brown (Post 16 Office Manager) on [01670 501520](tel:01670501520) or email [sixthformkevi@the3rivers.net](mailto:sixthformkevi@the3rivers.net)

All applicants will be invited to attend Bridging Week from Monday 8 July. This will allow students to sample lessons, meet staff and get the full Sixth Form at King Edward's experience.

All offers of Learning made are conditional on academic achievement and behaviour/conduct during Year 11. Places will only be confirmed after results day in August where formal enrolment will take place.



## **The King Edward VI School**

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### **Email**

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