



Simon Balle
All-through School

Sixth Form
Subject guide 2024/25



Sixth Form Option Blocks 2024/25

Please choose 3 subjects from the options blocks below.

All students will participate in up to 5 hours of enrichment each week in option block A or they can alternatively choose to study Further Maths as either their 3rd or 4th A level subject choice or an EPQ as their 4th choice in place of enrichment.

A

Sixth Form Enrichment
or
Further Maths
or
EPQ

B

Biology
Computer Science
Geography
History
Maths
PE
Media Studies
CTEC Business (Double)
Must choose Business (Single) in
Block D first

C

Art & Design
Economics
English Literature
French
Physics
Psychology
Sociology
BTEC Sport (Single)

D

Business
Chemistry
English Literature
Music
Spanish
CTEC Business (Single)
BTEC Sport (Triple)
Must choose Sport (Single) in
Block C & (Double) in Block E first

E

Biology
Film Studies
Geography
Maths
Politics
PRE
Psychology
BTEC Sport (Double)
Must choose Sport (Single) in
Block C first

BTEC Sport is offered as a Single, Double or Triple qualification.

This is the equivalent to 1, 2 or 3 A levels. Please ensure you choose the Single option plus the additional course options in each block.

For example: If you wish to study BTEC Sport as a double award, worth 2 A levels, please select BTEC Sport (Single) in C and BTEC Sport (Double) in E plus one other A level from blocks B or D.

This is the same for the CTEC Business (Single) and (Double) option.



Average Point Score (APS) and Subject Entry Requirements

Meeting Entry Requirements

Students aspiring to join Simon Balle Sixth Form must meet the minimum average point score (APS) plus individual subject entry criteria.

The entry criteria set is designed to ensure that students study courses which will allow them to be successful and realise their aspirations. However, prior to courses being finalised, we will always treat each application on an individual basis, taking into account any extenuating circumstances.

| Subject | APS | Maths | English | Subject Specific Entry Requirements |
|--------------------|-----|-------|---------|---|
| Art & Design | 5.0 | 4 | 4 | Art or Design at GCSE Grade 5 |
| Biology | 5.6 | 6 | 5 | Double Science Grades 7/7, Triple Science 6/6/6 |
| Business | 5.0 | 5 | 5 | |
| Business (CTEC) | 4.0 | 4 | 4 | |
| Chemistry | 5.6 | 6 | 5 | Double Science Grades 7/7, Triple Science 6/6/6 |
| Computer Science | 5.6 | 7 | 5 | Computer Science Grade 5 or Maths Grade 7 |
| Economics | 5.6 | 6 | 6 | |
| English Literature | 5.0 | 5 | 5&6 | |
| EPQ | 5.6 | | | |
| Film Studies | 4.0 | 4 | 4 | |
| French | 5.0 | 5 | 5 | French GCSE Grade 5 |
| Further Maths | 5.6 | 8 | 5 | |
| Geography | 5.0 | 5 | 5 | Geography Grade 6 or Science Grade 6 |
| History | 5.0 | 5 | Lan 6 | History Grade 6 or English Language Grade 6 |
| Maths | 5.6 | 7 | 5 | |
| Media Studies | 4.0 | 4 | 4&4 | |
| Music | 5.0 | 4 | 4 | Grade 6 Music GCSE or Grade 5 instrumental exam |
| PE | 5.0 | 5 | 5 | Science Grade 5. Sport GCSE Grade 6. Practical sport. |
| Physics | 5.6 | 6 | 5 | Double Science Grades 7/7, Triple Science 6/6/6 |
| Politics | 5.0 | 5 | Lan 6 | |
| PRE | 5.0 | 5 | 6 | |
| Psychology | 5.6 | 5 | 5 | Science Grade 5. |
| Sociology | 5.0 | 5 | Lit 5 | |
| Spanish | 5.0 | 5 | 5 | Spanish GCSE Grade 5. |
| Sport (BTEC) | 4.0 | 4 | 4 | Science GCSE Grade 4. |



CALCULATING YOUR AVERAGE POINT SCORE

For Simon Balle's entry requirement score, your **Average Point Score (APS)** is calculated by using your best 8 grades at GCSE.

Each grade is worth the number of points shown in the table.

Add the 8 grades together and divide by 8



| GCSE Grade Point Values | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Grade | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Points | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

| A*-G Grade Point Values (Legacy) - For reference only | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|
| Grade | A* | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
| Points | 8.5 | 7 | 5.5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1.5 | 1 |

| Level 2 BTEC Grade Point Values | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|------|
| Grade | Distinction * | Distinction | Merit | Pass |
| Points | 8.5 | 7 | 5.5 | 4 |



Art & Design

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 4.

GCSE English: 4.

Art or Design at GCSE Grade 5

In Year 12 students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of media, processes and techniques during workshops and mini-projects that are aimed at developing confidence with appropriate skills, knowledge and techniques that will form the foundations to a successful performance in Year 13.

After June half term in Year 12 students will begin Component 1 - "Personal Investigation" This is a practical investigation supported by written material. Students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The investigation must show clear development from initial intentions to the final outcome or outcomes. It must include evidence of the student's ability to research and develop ideas and relate their work in meaningful ways to relevant critical/contextual materials. Component 2 - "Externally Set Assignment"

On February 1st of Year 13; students will be given a question paper consisting of 8 questions to be used as starting points from which they are required to choose one. Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time.

Assessment:

Linear A Level

60% Component 1 (Coursework)

40% Component 2 (Externally Set Assignment)



Biology

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

GCSE Triple Science: 6's in each or

GCSE Combined Science: 7/7

GCSE Maths: 6

GCSE English: 5

1 Biological molecules

2 Cells

3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment

4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

5 Energy transfers in and between organisms

6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments

7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems

8 The control of gene expression

Assessment:

Linear A Level

3 papers, each 2 hours long. Total of 260 marks

Paper 1: Units 1-4. 91 Marks

Paper 2: Units 5-8. 91 Marks

Paper 3: Synoptic (all units) including 25 mark essay. 78 marks



Business

A Level - Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English: 5

Paper 1 will assess marketing, people and global businesses. Questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 4, and from local, national and global contexts.

Paper 2 will assess business finance and operations, business decisions and strategy. Questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 3, and from local, national and global contexts. Paper 3 will assess content across all four themes. Questions will be drawn from local, national and global contexts.

For Paper 3, there will be a pre-released context document issued on our website in November of the previous year. A new context will be given to centres each year and will relate to the examination series for the following summer. The context will focus on a broad context, such as an industry or market in which businesses operate. The question paper will be in two sections.

Assessment:

Linear A Level

Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses 35%

Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy 35%

Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment 30%



Business (Single) Technical - OCR

Entry Requirements: GCSE Maths: 4
APS: 4.0 GCSE English: 4

5 units of work in total.
3 are exams and 2 are pieces of coursework.

Students will complete the following units:

Unit 1 - The business environment (exam)
Unit 2 - Working in Business (exam)]
Unit 3 - Business decisions (exam)
Unit 4 - Customers and Communication (coursework)]
Unit 16 - Principles of project management.

This a vocational course that allows a mixture of coursework and exams.
Exams are sat in Year 12 and Year 13.



Business (Double) Technical - OCR

Entry Requirements: GCSE Maths: 4
APS: 4.0 GCSE English: 4

10 units of work completed in total.
4 are exams and 6 are pieces of coursework.

Students complete the marketing pathway which includes the following units of work:

- Unit 1 - The business environment (exam)
- Unit 2 - Working in Business (exam)
- Unit 3 - Business decisions (exam)
- Unit 4 - Customers and Communication (coursework)
- Unit 5 - Marketing and market research (coursework)
- Unit 6 - Marketing Strategy (coursework)
- Unit 7 - Marketing Campaign (coursework)
- Unit 15 - Change Management (exam)
- Unit 16 - Principles of project management (coursework)
- Unit 22 - Delivering a business project (coursework) where students work in a group to deliver part of the schools Christmas Frost Fair.

This a vocational course that allows a mixture of coursework and exams which is perfect for learners. Exams are sat in Year 12 and Year 13.



Chemistry

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

GCSE Triple Science: 6's in each or

GCSE Combined Science: 7/7

GCSE Maths: 6

GCSE English: 5

The course is split into three areas of Chemistry; Physical, Organic and Inorganic. All three are taught on rotation through the two years and practical skills are embedded within the curriculum, with 12 of these being compulsory.

Assessment

Linear A Level

Paper 1: 2 hours 35%: Physical and Inorganic Chemistry and Practical Skills

Paper 2: 2 hours 35%: Physical and Organic Chemistry and Practical Skills

Paper 3: 2 hours 30%: Synoptic Paper and Practical Skills



Computer Science

A Level - AQA 7517 (D)

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

Computer Science Grade 5 or Maths Grade 7

GCSE Maths: 7

GCSE English: 5

A Level Computer Science focuses on both practical programming skills and the theoretical concepts behind computing. Students will have the opportunity to develop their coding skills, as well as undertake an extended project on a topic of their choice.

Specific topics covered within this course are:

- 1 - Fundamentals of programming
- 2 - Fundamentals of data structures
- 3 - Fundamentals of algorithms
- 4 - Theory of computation
- 5 - Fundamentals of data representation
- 6 - Fundamentals of computer systems
- 7 - Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture
- 8 - Consequences of uses of computing
- 9 - Fundamentals of communication and networking
- 10 - Fundamentals of databases
- 11 - Big Data
- 12 - Fundamentals of functional programming
- 13 - Systematic approach to problem solving
- 14 - Non-exam assessment – the computing practical project

Assessment

Linear A Level

Paper 1: On-screen exam. 2hrs 30 mins - 40%.

Paper 2: Written exam. 2hrs 30 mins - 40%.

NEA (programming project) - 20%



Economics

A Level - Edexcel A

Entry Requirements:
APS: 5.6

GCSE Maths: 6
GCSE English: 6

A-Level Economics has 4 components: Markets, consumers and firms, The wider economic environment, The global economy and Making markets work.

Students are introduced to economics through building knowledge of core microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts, and by investigating economic theory through real-world businesses and the environments in which they operate. Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessment and demonstrate an awareness of current economic events and policies.

Assessment

Linear A Level

The examination consists of three externally examined papers.

Paper 1 - 35%

Paper 2 - 35%

Paper 3 - 30%



English Literature

A Level - AQA 7717 (B)

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

At least Grade 5 and Grade 6 in English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

GCSE Maths: 5

A Level English Literature has three components: Tragedy (Exam), Crime (Exam) and Theory & Independence (Non-Exam Assessment). Students will use the various 'lenses' and apply them to a series of texts.

Tragedy:

- Othello by William Shakespeare
- Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller
- Keats Poetry

Crime:

- Atonement by Ian McEwan
- Brighton Rock by Graham Green
- Crabbe, Wilde and Browning Poetry

Theory and Independence:

Apply a theory to one prose text and one collection of poems. There is a broad and diverse range of texts and writers to choose from. The theories are:

- Narrative
- Marxist
- Feminist
- Ecocritical
- Post-Colonial
- Value and the Canon

Assessment

Linear A Level

Component 1 EXAM Literary Genres option A: Aspects of Tragedy 40%

Component 2 EXAM Texts and Genres option A: Elements of Crime 40%

Component 3 NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT Theory and Independence 20%



EPQ

Extended Project Qualification

Entry Requirements: APS: 5.6

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a **qualification equivalent in size to an AS**, but equivalent in depth to an A-level, graded A*- E. It involves undertaking a substantial research based project on an area of personal interest. The outcome can range from either a written report or essay of around 5000 words or the production of an artefact with accompanying report / essay of at least 1000 words. Students will then present the findings from their research projects to a non specialist audience in a formal environment. Throughout the process students will record their intentions and evaluate their progress through a production log.

Over the years, students at Simon Balle have explored a broad range of topics;

Has French secularism gone too far?

How can listening to music affect dopamine release in our body?

Should the world adopt a single currency?

To what extent can the development of Antimicrobial resistance in animals affect humans?

How can a Dyslexic's working life be made easier?

Undertaking an EPQ is seen as excellent preparation for higher education as it helps to develop the independent study skills that universities and employers demand in this ever challenging world.

Assessment:

Students will be assigned a supervisor from the outset and this member of teaching staff would, over the course of the project and at key stages during the process, meet and support the student.

A key aspect of undertaking an EPQ is working independently and this will equate to approximately 90 hours of independent study. This is a real commitment and students must be aware of this if they are considering applying.



Film Studies

A Level - WJEC

Entry Requirements:

APS: 4.0

GCSE English: 4

GCSE Maths: 4

Film studies provides an understanding of film construction techniques, through the study and analysis of a variety of films.

Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking: Hollywood 1930-1990, American film since 2005, British film since 1995.

Component 2: Global film, documentary film, silent cinema and experimental film.

Component C: A short film or screenplay, with accompanying evaluative analysis. There are frequent opportunities to explore practical film making skills, working independently as well as in small groups.

Assessment

Linear A Level

2 exams:

Component 1: 2hrs 30mins (35%)

Component 2: 2hrs 30 mins (35%)

Component C: practical coursework (30%)



French

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE English: 5

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE French: 5

The A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.

The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages single honours or joint honours degree. Combining a language with another subject at university is a very common route for a lot of students. Students will study the following themes and sub-themes in relation to at least one French-speaking country. They will study the themes and sub-themes using a range of sources, including material from online media.

Assessment

Linear A Level

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes - 100 marks

50% of A-level

Paper 2: Writing

One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the Written specification

Exam: 2 hours - 80 marks

20% of A-level

Paper 3: Speaking

Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) - 60 marks in total

30% of A-level



Further Maths

A Level - Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

GCSE Maths: 8

The Pure Maths content covers:

Complex Numbers, Matrices, Proof, Vectors, Roots of Polynomials, Series, Polar Coordinates, Calculus, Differential Equations

Statistics covers

Probability, Binomial Distribution, Poisson Distribution, Geometric Distribution, Chi-Squared Tests, Central Limit Theorem, Probability Generating Functions

Mechanics covers

Momentum, Work, Energy and Power, Hookes Law, Collisions

Decision Maths covers

Algorithms, Networks, Route Inspection, Linear Programming, Simplex Method, Critical Path Analysis

Assessment

Linear A Level

Four exams each lasting 1.5 hours. Two exams cover the compulsory Core (Pure Maths) content. The third exam covers Further Statistics, whilst the fourth covers an Applied Unit where the students have the choice of Further Mechanics or Decision Maths.



Geography

A Level - Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE English: 5

GCSE Maths: 5

Geography grade 6, or if you have not studied this subject, then a Grade 6 in Science is required.

A Level Geography focuses on 4 areas of study. Dynamic landscape, dynamic places, physical systems and sustainability and human systems and geopolitics. Within these topics students will learn and explore a range of physical, human and environmental geography. Specific topics that are covered in this course are:

- Tectonic processes and hazards
- Coastal landscapes and change
- Globalisation
- Regeneration
- The water cycle and water insecurity
- The carbon cycle and energy security
- Superpowers
- Migration, identity and sovereignty

As part of the qualification students there are two compulsory fieldwork trips; one at the start of Year 12 (Manchester) , the second at the start of year 13 (Dorset). There is also an optional residential field trip to Iceland, which runs every two years. required two complete fieldwork.

Assessment

Linear A Level

Paper 1: 2hrs 15mins 30%

Paper 2: 2hrs 15mins 30%

Paper 3: 2hrs 15 mins 20%

Non examined assessment 20%



History

A Level - OCR

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English Language: 6

Grade 6 in History or 6 in English if History has not been taken at GCSE.

In Year 12 you will study two units; Unit 1 The Cold War in Europe 1941–1995 and Unit 2 From Pitt to Peel: Britain 1783–1853. These units will be completed by the end of Year 12. You will also start researching your independent research essay. We have some suggested titles that you can complete for your research essay however if there is an area of particular interest that is appropriate for study then you may follow this line of enquiry. You will have completed the first draft of your coursework by the end of Year 12.

In Year 13 you will be focusing on Unit 3; Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992 whilst refining your research essay and revising the Year 12 units. Your research essay should be completed by December of Year 13. There is an optional study trip to Berlin which runs every other year.

Assessment

Linear A Level

All formal exams are taken at the end of Year 13:

The Cold War in Europe 1941–1995 (15%)

From Pitt to Peel: Britain 1783–1853 (25%)

Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992 (40%).

Independent study handed in by December of Year 13:

4000 word independent research essay (20%).



Mathematics

A Level - Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

GCSE Maths: 7

The Pure Maths content covers:

Trigonometry, Calculus, Logarithms and Exponentials, Functions, Vectors, Numerical Methods, Sequences, Proof and Parametrics

Statistics covers

Probability, Binomial Distribution, Normal Distribution, Sampling, Data Analysis

Mechanics covers

Forces, Kinematics and Moments

Assessment

Linear A Level

Three exams each lasting 2 hours.

Two exams cover Pure Maths content, the third covers Mechanics and Statistics.



Media Studies

A Level - AQA (7572)

Entry Requirements:

APS: 4.0

GCSE English Literature and Language: 4

GCSE Maths: 4

A Level Media Studies focuses on in depth study of media products and centres on the following theoretical frameworks:

Media Language -semiotics, narratology, genre theory, structuralism, postmodernism.

Media Representation -theories of representation, identity, feminism, gender performativity, ethnicity and postcolonial theory.

Media Industries -power and media industries, regulation, and cultural industries.

Media Audiences -media effects, cultivation theory, reception theory, fandom, and 'end of audience' theories.

Students must study all of the following media forms:

Television, film, radio, newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing, online, social and participatory media, video games and music video.

Students are also given the opportunity to attend trips to the theatre and exhibitions, where available.

Assessment - Linear A Level

Two 2 hour exams (70%)

Media One - A range of questions relating to an unseen source and Close Study. Two essay questions, one of which is an extended response question.

Media Two. Analysis question. Three essay questions, one of which is an extended response question and one of which is a synoptic question.

Non-Exam Assessment (30%)

Students to apply their knowledge of the theoretical framework to create their own media product for an intended audience in one of the following forms:

television, music video, **radio, newspapers, magazines, advertising/marketing, online, social and participatory media, video games.**



Music

A Level - Eduqas

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 4

GCSE English: 4

Grade 6 in Music GCSE or Grade 5 in an instrumental exam.

Performance studies and Composition studies. The Listening and Appraising exam consists of the following topics:

- Musical Theatre
- The Symphony
- 20th Century music

For detailed information on Music Pathways in the Sixth Form please visit the department webpage

<https://www.simonballe.herts.sch.uk/music/academy>

Assessment

Linear A Level

Listening and Appraising: 2hr 15 mins - 40%

Performance exam - 35%

Composition coursework - 25%



Physical Education

A Level - OCR

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English: 5

Science Grade 5 and GCCSE Grade 6 in Sports Studies.

Students must play their chosen sport(s) regularly outside of school throughout Sixth Form.

In Year 12 you will study, Anatomy and Physiology, Socio-cultural issues in Physical activity and sport, Skill Acquisition. In Year 13 students will build the aforementioned units from Year 12 and will study the following remaining units; Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics, Sport Psychology and both coursework elements.

In March of Year 13 students will complete both their Practical and Oral assessments.

Assessment

Linear A Level

All formal exams are taken at the end of Year 13:

Physiological factors affecting performance (01)*

90 marks (2 hour written paper) - 30%

Psychological factors affecting performance (02)*

60 marks (1 hour written paper) - 20%

Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport (03)*

60 marks (1 hour written paper) - 20%

Performance in physical education

(04)*

60 marks non-exam assessment (NEA) - 30%



Physics

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

GCSE Triple Science: 6's in each or

GCSE Combined Science: 7/7

GCSE Maths: 6

GCSE English: 5

These qualifications are linear. Linear means that students will sit all the AS exams at the end of their AS course and all the A-level exams at the end of their A-level course.

Subject content

Core content

1 Measurements and their errors

2 Particles and radiation

3 Waves

4 Mechanics and materials

5 Electricity

6 Further mechanics and thermal physics

7 Fields and their consequences

8 Nuclear physics

Options

9 Astrophysics

10 Medical physics

11 Engineering physics

12 Turning points in physics

13 Electronics

Assessment:

Linear A Level

3 papers, each 2 hours long.



Politics

A Level - Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English Literature: 6

In Year 12 - focus on UK politics:

Democracy and Participation

Political Parties

Electoral Systems

Voting Behaviour and the Media

Constitution

Parliament

Prime Minister and the Executive

Relationships between the different branches of the government

In Year 13 - focus on US politics:

US Constitution and Federalism

US Congress

US Presidency

US Supreme Court and Civil Rights

Democracy and Participation

Assessment

Linear A Level

Three exams at the end of Yr 13.

Paper 1, 2 hours (Political Participation and Core Political Ideas)

Paper 2, 2 hours (UK Government and Other Political Ideas)

Paper 3, 2 hours (US Politics & Comparing US and UK Politics)



PRE

A Level - OCR

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English: 5

PRE Grade 5 or if you have not studied the subject then a Grade 5 in English is required.

Philosophy of Religion - a study of ancient Greek philosophy, the soul, arguments for the existence of God, the problem of evil, religious experience, the nature of God and religious language.

Ethics - theories such as utilitarianism, natural law and Kantian ethics, and application to euthanasia, business ethics and sexual ethics.

Developments in Christian thought - a study of the original sin, the historical Jesus, Christian moral belief and action, life after death.

Assessment

Linear A Level

3 exams at the end of year 13, each exam three hours in length.



Psychology

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.6

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English Literature: 5

GCSE Science: 5

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. At A Level we explore a wide range of topic areas, from the early Psychologists such as Sigmund Freud who revolutionised the field of treating mental illness to the most recent and exciting developments in the field of Neuroscience.

In Year 12 we introduce the subject by exploring the different approaches to studying Psychology through the years and then go into more depth. We ask how Social influence can make you do things people didn't believe were possible; how your memory works, how significant are attachments in childhood to your adulthood, and what mental illness is and how can it be treated?

The Year 13 course explores more complex topic areas. Asking how your biology affects your behaviour, how your sex affects your gender, how do people become and overcome addiction, and what is schizophrenia? We also consider the most significant issues and debates in Psychology such as the relative influence of nature and nurture.

Transferable and subject specific skills developed include understanding and using research methods, discussion of issues and debates and the use of evidence to inform arguments.

Assessment

Linear A Level

Paper 1, 2 hours, 33%: Introductory Topics in Psychology.

Paper 2, 2 hours, 33%: Psychology in Context.

Paper 3, 2 hours, 33%: Issues and Options in Psychology.



Sociology

A Level - OCR H580

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English Literature: 5

A Level Sociology provides students with the exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the world around them and reflect on social issues that are often relevant to their own social experiences. It opens up the possibility for fascinating discussions and allows students to acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes.

It comprises 3 components:

1. Culture, Socialisation and Identity including Youth Subcultures
2. Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities
3. Debates in Contemporary Society - Globalisation and the Digital Social World and Crime and Deviance.

Assessment

Linear A Level

Three examinations at the end of Year 13

Paper 1: 1hr 30 mins 30%

Paper 2: 2 hrs 15 mins 35%

Paper 3: 2 hrs 15 mins 35%



Spanish

A Level - AQA

Entry Requirements:

APS: 5.0

GCSE Maths: 5

GCSE English Literature: 5

GCSE Spanish: 5

The A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.

The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree. Students will study the following themes and sub-themes in relation to at least one Spanish-speaking country. They will study the themes and sub-themes using a range of sources, including material from online media.

Assessment

Linear A Level

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

100 marks

50% of A-level

Paper 2: Writing

One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the

Written specification

exam: 2 hours

80 marks

20% of A-level

Paper 3: Speaking

Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)

60 marks in total

30% of A-level



Sport (Single) Technical - Edexcel

Entry Requirements: GCSE Maths: 4
APS: 4.0 GCSE English: 4
GCSE Science: 4

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport

The 'single' award course will give you knowledge related to key areas of the sports industry including anatomy and physiology, health and wellbeing and professional development. This will enable you to gain insight and experience in how the industry operates and the skills required to begin the move into any one of these specialised sectors or a university course.

The course is divided into four units over two years, and is the equivalent of one A Level. Work will be internally assessed through coursework and externally assessed with two exam modules.

Core unit title and content

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

How the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory systems function and the fundamentals of the energy systems.
Externally assessed 1.5 hour exam.

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing

Client screening and lifestyle assessment, fitness training methods and fitness programming to support improvements in a client's health and wellbeing,
Externally assessed 2.5 hour exam. (in 2 parts)

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

The knowledge and skills required for different career pathways in the sports industry. Learners will take part in a personal skills audit, career action plan and practical interview assessment activities.
Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 4: Sports Leadership

We study what makes a good leader, the different capacities of this role, and the leadership skills and techniques necessary when leading activities in different roles.
Internally assessed through coursework



Sport (Double) Technical - Edexcel

Entry Requirements: The same as Sport (Single)

BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport

This 'double award' course will prepare students for entry to an appropriate university course or employment in the sport and related industries. As well as learning about this employment area, you will develop important skills for a career in sport. This course is particularly suitable if you are interested in sports psychology, leadership, working in health and fitness, or teaching.

The course is divided into 9 units over two years, and is the equivalent of two A Levels. Work will be internally assessed through coursework and externally assessed with 3 exam modules, set and marked by the exam board.

Core unit title and content - Units 1-4 +

Unit 6: Sport Psychology

This unit covers the psychological dimensions of sport, and introduces psychological techniques that can be used to enhance performance. Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 10: Sports Event Organisation

Learners will plan, promote and deliver an approved sports event and review the implementation of the event and their own performance Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 22: Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry.

How business operates in the sport and active leisure industry and how it responds to trends and other influences to meet the needs of clients and to benefit the business. Externally assessed 3 hour exam.

Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport.

Learners study the factors that contribute to a skilled performance in sport and examine how sports performers learn and develop their skills. Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 25: Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport

Learners explore the historical development of the rules and regulations in a selected sport, and apply them while officiating. Internally assessed through coursework



Sport (Triple) Technical - Edexcel

Entry Requirements: The same as Sport (Single)

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport

This 'triple award' course will give you a wide variety of the skills required to help you work towards being part of the fast paced and exciting sports industry, either through direct employment or following further study at university. The academic BTEC qualification gives you knowledge of a wide set of relevant sports topics while additional integrated qualifications allow for practical skills in related environments so that employment opportunities can be increased.

The course is divided into 14 units over two years, and is the equivalent of three A Levels. Work will be internally assessed through coursework and externally assessed with 4 exam modules, set and marked by the exam board.

Core unit title and content - Units 1-4, 6, 10, 22, 23, 25 +

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

Learners study the skills, techniques, tactics and rules of selected sports through active participation in individual/team sports
Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 8: Coaching for Performance

Learners will develop the techniques, personal knowledge and ability to deliver coaching sessions.
Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 9: Research Methods in Sport

Learners cover the importance of research, factors affecting the quality of research, an introduction to research and the different methods commonly used in sport-based research.
Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 18: Work Experience in Active Leisure

Learners prepare for, undertake and reflect on a work placement in the sports industry.
Internally assessed through coursework

Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Learners study the development and provision of sport in the UK and its relationship with global sport, including understanding what is needed to write a proposal for a sports development project.
Externally assessed 2.5 hour exam.



BTEC Sport

Structures of the qualifications at a glance
(GLH are guided learning hours also referred to as Credits)

| Unit | GLH | Single | Double | Triple |
|--|-----|------------|------------|------------|
| 1 - Anatomy and Physiology | 120 | Exam | Exam | Exam |
| 2 - Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing | 120 | Exam | Exam | Exam |
| 3 - Professional Development in the Sports Industry | 60 | Coursework | Coursework | Coursework |
| 4 - Sports Leadership | 60 | Coursework | Coursework | Coursework |
| 22 - Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry | 90 | | Exam | Exam |
| 23 - Skill Acquisition in Sport | 90 | | Coursework | Coursework |
| 6 - Sports Psychology | 60 | | Coursework | Coursework |
| 10 - Sports Event Organisation | 60 | | Coursework | Coursework |
| 25 - Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport | 60 | | Coursework | Coursework |
| 7 - Practical Sports Performance | 60 | | | Coursework |
| 8 - Coaching for Performance | 60 | | | Coursework |
| 9 - Research Methods in Sport | 60 | | | Coursework |
| 18 - Work Experience in Active Leisure | 60 | | | Coursework |
| 19 - Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity | 120 | | | Exam |



