# Course Guide 2027-28

WHICKHAM SCHOOL




WHICKHAM SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
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# INTRODUCTION



Whickham Sixth Form offers an extensive curriculum to meet the needs of all learners. Over thirty subjects are available, offering both progression from GCSE and Level 2 BTEC courses as well as presenting opportunities to study new subject areas. Students are expected to study the equivalent of three or four level 3 courses.

**Courses available in Sixth Form**

***The following courses are available in Sixth Form:***
- A levels (Academic study)
- Legacy vocational qualifications
- V levels* (New, applied vocational qualifications)
- AAQ's (Applied academic qualifications)
- GCSE resit courses in Maths and English

**A-levels**
A-levels are linear qualifications. All exams are taken in year 13 after completing two years of study. Students do not sit external AS qualifications at the end of year 12 except in Further Maths. Student progress will be monitored through internally set examinations.

**Legacy Vocational Qualifications**
These courses are vocational in nature and allow students to specialise, to varying degrees, in a particular subject. The levels on offer are:

- BTEC Extended Certificate – equivalent to 1 A-level
- BTEC Diploma – equivalent to 2 A-levels
- BTEC Extended Diploma – equivalent to 3 A-levels

These courses are assessed using a Pass, Merit, Distinction criterion that are equivalents to E, C and A grades in A-levels. If the student achieves a distinction in enough units they will achieve a Distinction* which is equivalent to an A-level A* grade.

The reformed BTEC courses now have some externally examined content. The number of units which are externally examined varies with the course.

Students will have two attempts to achieve a pass or higher grade in the exams. Students cannot pass the overall qualification without passing the externally examined component.

**V Levels**
These courses are new Level 3 vocational qualifications in England, which will be launched in 2027. V Levels will be equivalent in size to A Levels, allowing for a 'mix and match' approach between the two study programmes. They are designed for students who want a vocational route without having to specialise too early. As a core progression pathway, they will carry UCAS points and are structured to support progression into higher education, particularly for vocational and applied degree courses. We will be offering our first V level in Digital Systems and Data From September 2027, with rollout of wider subjects in 2028.

Methods of assessment include internal assessments and external assessments and will use a grading scale of Pass, Merit, and Distinction, similar to Level 3 BTEC qualifications.

**Alternative Academic Qualifications (AAQ's)**
These qualifications are new Level 3 qualifications, equivalent to A-levels, and are often taken alongside or in place of A-levels, offering a more vocational approach to academic learning.

Methods of assessment include internal assessments and external assessments and will use a grading scale of Pass, Merit, and Distinction, similar to Level 3 BTEC qualifications.

**GCSE resit courses in Maths and English**
Students who have not yet achieved a Grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths and/or English are required to continue studying these subjects. Learners will benefit from small class sizes, providing tailored support to help them improve their skills and confidence. Students will also have the opportunity to resit their examinations during two examination periods each year.

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



**A-levels**

- All A-level subjects require students to have achieved 5 grades at or above Grade 4
- Some subjects have additional subject specific requirements which are listed below
- Please note that the GCSE English requirements can be met either from GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature subjects

| Subject | Minimum Entry Requirements |
|---|---|
| Art & Design | Grade 4 in an artistic GCSE or evidence of artistic ability |
| Biology | Grade 6 in GCSE Biology / 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Grade 6 is strongly recommended in GCSE English. |
| Business | Grade 4 in English GCSE |
| Chemistry | Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry / 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Grade 6 is strongly recommended in GCSE English. |
| Computer Science | Grade 6 or better in GCSE Computer Science (or 5 or better in a Science GCSE) and a 5 or better in GCSE Maths |
| Design Technology | Grade 5 in Maths and 4 in English |
| Drama and Theatre | GCSE Drama is beneficial but not essential |
| Economics | Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths |
| English Language | Grade 5 in English Language |
| English Literature | Grade 5 in English Literature |
| French | Grade 6 in GCSE French |
| Geography | Grade 5 in GCSE Geography or in GCSE English Literature |
| German | Grade 6 in GCSE German |
| History | Grade 5 in GCSE History or grade 5 in GCSE English |
| Mathematics | Grade 7 in GCSE Maths |
| Further Maths | Grade 7 in GCSE Maths |
| Media Studies | Grade 4 in GCSE Media or grade 4 in GCSE English |
| Photography | Grade 4 in an artistic GCSE or evidence of artistic ability |
| Physics | Grade 6 in GCSE Physics / 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Grade 6 is strongly recommended in GCSE English. |
| Psychology | Grade 5 in English, Maths and Science |
| RE/Philosophy | Grade 4 in GCSE RE or grade 4 in GCSE English |
| Physical Education | Grade 4 in GCSE PE and grade 5 and above in 2 Science GCSEs<br>Plus evidence of ability. |
| Sociology | Grade 5 in GCSE English |

**Vocational Courses**

| Subject | Entry Requirement |
|---|---|
| AAQ Applied Science | 5 Grade 4s including a Grade 6 in Science, Grade 5 in English and a Grade 5 in Maths |
| BTEC Business | 5 Grade 4s |
| AAQ Health and Social Care | 5 Grade 4s |
| BTEC Health & Social Care | 5 Grade 4s |
| Digital Systems and Data | 5 Grade 4s |
| BTEC Performing Arts (Dance) | 5 Grade 4s plus evidence of ability |
| BTEC Sport | 5 Grade 4s plus evidence of ability |
| BTEC Music Performance | 5 Grade 4s plus evidence of ability |
| Food Science and Nutrition | Grade 5 or above in Maths and English plus evidence of ability |

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE



Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs J James**

COURSE:
English Language A-level

AWARDING BODY:
AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:
2 years

## WHY CHOOSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

Do you want to learn how a child, within just a few years, progresses from being unable to speak or understand to acquiring the ability to communicate and comprehend? Are you interested in discovering the real differences in the speech styles of men and women? Do you want to learn about the rich variety of accents and dialects, exploring attitudes to social class and regional variation? Do you want to learn about the history of English and how it has evolved into a world language? Do you enjoy creative writing, experimenting with different genres, editing and re-drafting to a publishable standard? English Language A-Level can offer you a chance to tackle these central questions about the way in which human beings communicate and represent themselves and each other.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Language is rich and colourful and fascinating to explore. Naturally, you will learn about its technical linguistic features, including grammar and semantics, but you will also study key language theories. You will analyse a range of texts and explore how language functions in society. For coursework, you will produce a research project and a folder of your own writing. You will develop editorial, journalistic skills and learn how to construct high quality academic essays.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Teaching methods on this course vary, but there is a strong emphasis on group discussion. You must be prepared to work hard, think for yourself and be independent and resilient. You should have a keen interest in language because you already enjoy both reading and writing. You must be able to meet deadlines and be self-disciplined enough to organise your own time and work.

Independent coursework is an important part of the course and you must take the initiative to pursue your own writing and research interests.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

**Paper 1: Language, the individual & society**

***What's assessed?***
- Textual variations & representations
- Children's language development
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

***How it's assessed?***
- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks - 40% of A-level

**Paper 2: Language diversity & change**

***What's assessed?***
- Language diversity and change
- Language discourses
- Writing skills
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

***How it's assessed?***
- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks - 40% of A-level

**Non-exam assessment (coursework): Language in action**

***What's assessed?***
- Language investigation
- Original writing
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

***How it's assessed***
- Word count: 3,500
- 100 marks
- 20% of A-level
- Assessed by teachers
- Moderated by AQA

***Tasks***
Students produce:
- A language investigation (2,000 words excluding data)
- A piece of original writing and commentary (1,500 words total)

# ENGLISH LITERATURE



Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs J James**

COURSE:
English Literature A-level

AWARDING BODY:
AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:
2 years

## WHY CHOOSE ENGLISH LITERATURE?

How would you react if you found yourself in a world where women had to wear colour-coded uniforms to represent their status? What would you do if, as a child, you had told a lie which in later life, would destroy those you love most of all? How did a young woman who survived a shipwreck manage to convince everyone that she was, in fact, a man? All of these fantastical sounding scenarios derive from texts you will study during you're A-Level English Literature course. English Literature is the stuff of life: it deals with tragedy, comedy, crime and politics, codified in the safe world of words. It deals with real issues in fictional worlds. It deals with the thing we stay alive for: love. English Literature offers the opportunity to read a range of varied and complex fiction. It is a subject which values thinking, talking and writing. It is a subject highly regarded by higher education providers and employers alike and is accepted for entry to a wide range of degree courses. English Literature at Whickham has an excellent reputation and has led students down many and varied paths such as law, journalism, teaching, speech therapy, sociology, education, business and advertising.

The course is structured around the study of genre. In the first year, you will read four texts by different writers and judge them against Comedic conventions. Possible text choices include Twelfth Night, The Importance of Being Earnest, and a selection of comic poetry. In the second year you will read either fiction, with choices from Hamlet, Atonement, Brighton Rock and a selection of crime poetry. The NEA element also offers the opportunity for you to choose your own texts to write about which is always very popular with students.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The course is structured around the study of genre. In the first year, you will read four texts by different writers and judge them against either comedic or tragic convention.

Possible text choices include *Othello, Twelfth Night, Small Island, The Great Gatsby, Educating Rita, John Betjeman poems* and *Wise Children*. In the second year you will read either crime or political fiction, with choices from *Hamlet, Atonement, The Kite Runner, The Handmaid's Tale, The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* and *Henry IV part 1*. The second also offers the opportunity for you to choose your own texts for coursework, a part of the course which is always very popular with students.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Teaching methods on this course vary, but there is a strong emphasis on group discussion. You must be prepared to work hard, think for yourself and be independent and resilient. You should have a keen interest in reading. You are expected to read widely beyond the course texts. You must be able to meet deadlines and be self-disciplined enough to organise your own time and work.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Year 12 students studying the AQA GCE English Literature course will commence the study of component 1. This will be assessed at the end of year 13 in a terminal examination:

**Component 1 – Aspects of Comedy:** This is a written examination on the study of three texts through the lens of comedy.

This component tests analytical and essay writing skills linked to whole texts and an extract. In year 13, students will commence the study of component 2 and undertake **Non-exam assessment.**

**Component 2 – Elements of Crime Writing:** This is a written examination on the study of three texts through the lens of crime writing.

**NEA – Theory and independence:** Two essays of 1,250-1,550 each in which a prose text and a poetry collection are written about through various critical approaches.

Both exam components test analytical and essay writing skills linked to whole texts, an extract and an unseen text. Both exam components will be assessed at the end of year 13 in a terminal examination.

Assessment objectives foreground the importance of debate, written fluency, authorial method, genre and other contexts. Marking is holistic.

# MEDIA STUDIES

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs J James**

COURSE:

Media Studies A-level

AWARDING BODY:

Eduqas

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE MEDIA STUDIES?

Are you interested in films? Would you like to become a TV presenter, cameraman, journalist or web-designer? Would you like to understand how a TV programme is made? Would you like to produce your own media text? Media Studies provides the opportunity to study a range of media texts and industries as well as developing practical skills. You can improve your communication skills and will be given the opportunity to use advanced modern technology such as digital video cameras and editing equipment. This qualification will prove useful in our world of global communications and will give you a greater understanding of the technology available to us today. It is an essential course to study if you are interested in a career in journalism, performing, marketing or radio and TV broadcasting - both in front of and behind the camera.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

This new and exciting course aims to develop and widen students' understanding of the role of the media and its social, cultural and economic impact on our daily lives through critical analysis of a range of contemporary and historical media products. You will have the opportunity to study media products such as: film, online social media platforms, newspapers and music videos holistically and engage with the dynamic relationship between products, industries and audiences.

You will also be able to explore and peruse your own media interests through the practical element of the course which will allow you to apply your knowledge and planning skills to your own media product creation.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Due to the nature of this course, teaching style varies between academic study and coursework support. Academic study lessons will consist of seminar style lessons, group discussions and independent work in order to equip students with the knowledge that they need to develop their understanding of media products and apply theoretical framework effectively.

The coursework element of the course will require students to be disciplined with their time management, think independently and use initiative to further their knowledge through appropriate reading and research, in order to meet the strict deadlines assigned to the course.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

This course will be assessed over a two year period; A level units include:

**Component 1: 35%**

**Section A:** Media Language and Representation (45 marks)

**Section B:** Audiences, Industries and Contexts. (45 marks)

**Component 2: 35%**

You will be assessed on 3 media platforms: TV, magazines and online media. All questions are worth 30 marks and require continuous prose/ academic voice/ evaluation.

**Component 3: 30%**

NEA- Non Examined Assessment.

You will write a statement of aims, then complete a print-based and audio-visual piece of media, totalling 60 marks.

# MATHEMATICS

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs C Harrison**

COURSE:
Mathematics A-level

AWARDING BODY:
OCR B

LENGTH OF COURSE:
2 years

## WHY CHOOSE MATHEMATICS?

Mathematics is a powerful, concise and unambiguous means of communication, which crosses language barriers. It helps develop logical thought and accuracy. As a "service subject" it is invaluable, being essential to the study of many subjects. It is a major qualification in the eyes of higher education and employers. Students who intend to study mathematics at advanced level must have achieved at least a 7 in GCSE in year 11.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students will study a linear course over two years in Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.

The broad areas of study are:

***PURE:***
Algebra, Trigonometry, Co-ordinate Geometry, Calculus, Proof, Functions, Indices and Logarithms, Sequences, Numerical Methods, Vectors and Parametric Equations.

***STATISTICS:***
Data Analysis, Probability, Sampling, the Binomial Distribution and Hypothesis Testing.

***MECHANICS:***
Kinematics, statics and forces, Newton's laws of motion, momentum and projectiles.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Students in year 12 will be taught by two teachers. Lessons will mainly be teacher led and students will be expected to do follow up work after each lesson in addition to homework. Consistent work outside lessons for independent study is essential. This will be directed by class teachers. The ability of students to reinforce ideas and techniques developed in lessons by way of individual work is very important. Homework assignments are usually exam style and problem solving exercises.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Progress is closely monitored through homework assignments, where necessary support sessions will be allocated to help students make progress.

There will be 2 mock examinations in Year 12 to assess and aid progress.

External examinations at the end of Year 13 consist of three 2 hour papers, assessing all the taught content.

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs C Harrison**

COURSE:

Further Mathematics A-level or Further Mathematics AS Level (1 year)

AWARDING BODY:

OCR B

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE FURTHER MATHEMATICS?

When combined with A-level mathematics, further mathematics allows students to investigate the subject in greater depth and breadth. Most students find that A-level further mathematics provides a valuable basis for the first year of a degree in mathematics. Students must have achieved at least a grade 7 in GCSE to progress onto this course.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Pure mathematics is taken beyond the 'service subject' core, with modules in Statistics and Modelling with Algorithms. In addition to the mathematics course, students will study a linear course over two years, parallel to maths.

The broad areas of study are: complex numbers; curve sketching; matrices; polar co-ordinates; hyperbolic functions; work; energy and power; impulse and momentum; centre of mass; the Poisson distribution; the normal distribution; bivariate data; numerical methods; decision analysis, logic and the simplex method.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

The subject is taught separately from mathematics. Students will be taught by two teachers. The majority of lessons will involve notes, examples and discussion, with students expected to undertake independent study work in addition to homework. You will acquire problem solving skills and develop your interest in the subject beyond the syllabus.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Progress is closely monitored by the homework assignments.

There will be mock exams throughout years 12 and 13 to monitor progress and support where needed.

In year 12, students will sit external AS examinations: Pure (1hr 15mins), Statistics minor (1hr 15mins) and Modelling with Algorithms (1hr 15mins).

For the A-level qualification, students will sit 3 exams in year 13: Pure (2hr 40mins) , Statistics Major (2hr 15mins) and Modelling with Algorithms (1hr 15mins). This will replace the AS qualification, not add to it.

# APPLIED SCIENCE

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs T Beaumont**

COURSE:

AAQ in Applied Science
(1 A-Level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

OCR

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE APPLIED SCIENCE?

An AAQ in Applied Science will support progression to higher education or into the world of work. Studying applied science can lead to careers in biological sciences, nursing and health, life sciences and forensicsciences.

You might be interested in this qualification if you want to build applied or practical skills, to take alongside and enhance your A Levels or other Level 3 qualifications. You will have the opportunity to apply what you learn to real-life contexts, such as:

- Researching the fundamentals of science.
- Planning and performing laboratory investigations.

You will develop the following transferable skills that can be used in both higher education and other life and work situations:

- Communicating effectively with individuals or groups.
- Researching topic areas and recording research sources, then using them to interpret findings and present evidence.
- Presenting information, this will involve managing time and identifying aims, purpose, resources, methods.
- Problem solving when matching and analysing data.

**WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**

**The mandatory units are outlined below – you must take all these units:**

Unit F180: Fundamentals of science (90 guided learning hours). This unit is assessed by an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the key topics that are important in biology, chemistry and physics. You will study two key practicals for each of those components to be assessed as part of the exam.

F181: Science in society (60 guided learning hours). This unit is assessed by an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the skills scientists use and the roles they perform in an international scientific community. You will examine different types of scientific data and learn how scientists use them to draw conclusions that can contribute to scientific advancement.

Unit F182: Investigating Science (90 guided learning hours). This unit is assessed by an assignment.

In this unit you will learn about the role of a research scientist in industry by learning how to conduct your own scientific investigation. You will develop the skills to research, plan and risk assess your investigation before safely undertaking the practical tasks.

**The optional units are outlined below - you must take two of these units. Each is 60 guided learning hours. These units are all assessed by assignment.**

F183: Analytical techniques in chemistry

F184: Environmental studies

F185: Forensic biology

F186: Medical physics

**HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?**

The qualification is made up of 40% examined content and 60% non examined assessment (NEA) content. The qualification has three mandatory units and four optional units.

# BIOLOGY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss A Ross**

COURSE:
Biology A-level

AWARDING BODY:
AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:
2 years

## WHY CHOOSE BIOLOGY?

The course is designed to build on attainment at GCSE and provides for the needs of students who will progress to higher education and also those who may go directly into employment. Whilst many students combine biology and other sciences, students studying different subjects including geography, sociology, economics and psychology will find it an excellent 'mixer' acting as a bridge between science and a diversity of other curriculum areas. In higher education, many of our former students have gone on to study biological and other sciences at university; courses have included medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, nursing, medical physics, environmental sciences, genetics and biotechnology.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

A Level Biology students follow the AQA A Level Biology (7402) course and study 8 main topics:

**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**

These topics are assessed through 3 papers:

**Paper 1 -** Topics 1-4, 91 marks, 2 hours, 35% of A Level (76 marks - a mixture of short and long answer questions; 15 marks - extended response questions)

**Paper 2 -** Topics 5-8, 91 marks, 2 hours, 35% of A Level (76 marks - a mixture of short and long answer questions; 15 marks - comprehension question)

**Paper 3 -** Topics 1-8, 78 marks, 2 hours, 30% of A Level (38 marks - structured questions, including practical techniques; 15 marks - critical analysis of given experimental data; 25 marks - one essay from a choice of two titles)

Throughout the course students will also complete 12 required practicals that link to the topics listed above.

Although these are not externally assessed themselves, they are internally monitored and centre provisions are moderated by AQA. Students are expected however to have a knowledge of these techniques for the 3 external papers they sit.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Work in lessons includes formal teaching, discussions, and practical investigations. You are most likely to succeed if you have grade 5 in maths and grade 6 in English and science at GCSE and a good spread of other GCSE passes. You need to be prepared to spend about 4 hours per week outside of lessons on assignments, and more in year 13. During this time you will be asked to prepare work, write up notes, research topics and write up reports from investigations.

In addition you will have to learn and revise the work thoroughly as you go along. Recent visits organised during the course have included advanced practical investigations at the Centre for Life, and additional outings to the Farne Islands, Kielder, as well as workshops and lectures at local universities.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Progress is monitored through a series of internal tests, marks for written assignments and required practicals. Formal tests are set by AQA in June of year 13.

# CHEMISTRY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss A White**

COURSE:

Chemistry A-level

AWARDING BODY:

OCR

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry is the most asked for A-level for all types of degree courses. It develops a wide range of skills from research to investigation, analysis and interpretation. The career you go into may well require or have a preference for Chemistry to be one of your A-levels, such as Medicine, Finance, Engineering, Pharmacy and many other scientific courses.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

There are four taught modules (1-4) which are delivered in Year 12 and two modules which are covered in more depth (5+6) in Year 13:

**1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry**

**2 – Foundations of chemistry**

**3 – Periodic table and energy**

**4 – Core organic chemistry**

**5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements**

**6 – Organic chemistry and analysis**

In Year 12 students will revisit some key concepts from GCSE Chemistry but develop this understanding to new levels. You will also be introduced to a variety of new concepts including periodic trends, a new model for the atom and electron structure, alcohols and halogenoalkanes, synthesis of chemicals and a variety of analytical techniques. In Year 13 students take their understanding even further by studying the transition elements, fuels cells, organic compounds and more complex analytical techniques.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Chemistry lessons are taught using a variety of different techniques. These include formal teaching, group discussion, independent study and practical investigations. You will be expected to take a significant role in your own learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Students are most likely to be successful on this course if they have already achieved grade 6s in GCSE Science, Maths and English.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The course is assessed by three written exams. Papers 1 and 2 are 2¼ hours in length and are each worth 37% of the course and are called “Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry” and “Synthesis and analytical techniques”. Paper 1 covers topics 1,2,3 and 5 while Paper 2 covers topics 1,2,4 and 6. There is an additional synoptic paper worth 26% which is 1½ hours long and assesses all parts of the course.

There is also a non-examined practical endorsement which is reported alongside the main examination grade. This endorsement is based on practical investigations which are completed in class during the course.

# PHYSICS

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr P Dennis**

COURSE:

Physics A-level

AWARDING BODY:

OCR

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE PHYSICS?

We're all born with an urge to understand the world around us. This leads us to ask questions such as 'How does TV work ?', 'Why does the sun shine?', 'What is light?', 'What are the ultimate constituents of matter?', 'How did the universe begin?'. If you find that the more answers you discover, the more questions you want to ask, then you are on the road to becoming a physicist. One of the key ideas in physics is that, behind the complexity of the world around us, there is an underlying simplicity and unity in nature. This is often expressed through all-embracing fundamental concepts, such as the principle of energy conservation. These concepts supported by mathematical analysis provide explanations for how things happen. As well as being interesting and useful in its own right, physics forms an important part of Higher Education requirements for engineering degrees, astronomy, astrophysics, maths, electronics, geophysics, meteorology, material science and communications.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

There are four taught modules (1-4) which are delivered in year 12 and two modules which are covered in more depth (5+6) which are taught in year 13:

1 - Development of practical skills in physics

2 - Foundations of physics

3 - Forces and motion

4 - Electrons, waves and photons

5 - Newtonian world and astrophysics

6 - Particles and medical physics

In year 12, students will study the weird and wonderful world of the quantum nature of matter, electrical circuits as well as learning about the principles and applications of mechanics, materials and wave behaviour. Students are also taught the basic foundations of physical quantities, units and the practical skills necessary to complete the course.

In year 13 students study thermal physics, mechanics in more mathematical depth as well as fields, astrophysics and the wonderful and exciting world of the particles that make up the universe.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Physics lessons comprise a variety of learning activities including formal teaching, discussions, practical investigations and problem solving activities. We seek to develop skills such as the ability to interpret scientific data, to be organised, to be thorough and accurate in carrying out experiments and be able to express ideas clearly using correct scientific terminology.

Students are most likely to be successful in A-level Physics if they have already obtained Grade 6s in GCSE Science, Mathematics and English.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

By written exams. All papers access content from the whole course: "Modelling Physics" and "Exploring Physics". There is an additional synoptic paper.

There is also a non-examined practical endorsement which is reported alongside the main examination grade. This endorsement is based on practical investigations which are completed in class during the course.

# GEOGRAPHY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr J Milton**

COURSE:
Geography A-level

AWARDING BODY:
Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:
2 years

## WHY CHOOSE GEOGRAPHY?

The world we live in is changing. Geography allows you to see why and how it is changing.

Geography will appeal to you if:

- you are interested by the world's places, people and environments
- you like asking questions and finding answers
- you are interested in local, regional and global issues
- you have the ability to think independently
- have an interest in exploring human, physical and environmental geographical relationships.

An A level in Geography opens doors! You will find that studying Geography is a brilliant step towards a wider range of HE courses or employment opportunities. Being both a science and a humanities subject, Geography provides you with a wide range of options after the completion of your course.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

**Area of study 1**
**Dynamic Landscapes**

- Topic 1 – Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- Topic 2 – Landscape Systems, Processes and Change

**Area of study 2**
**Dynamic Places**

- Topic 3 – Globalisation
- Topic 4 – Shaping Places

**Area of study 3**
**Physical Systems and Sustainability**

- Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

**Area of study 4**
**Human systems and Geopolitics**

- Topic 8: Superpowers
- Topic 9: Global Development and Connections - one option:
- Health, Human Rights and Intervention

Coursework: Independent investigation of between 3000-4000 words. You will participate in a minimum of 4 days of fieldwork during which you will collect data for your coursework investigation.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The course will be examined at the end of Year 13

**Paper 1** (30%)
2 hrs 15min exam on Dynamic Landscapes and Physical Systems and Sustainability

**Paper 2** (30%)
2 hrs 15min exam on Dynamic Places and Human Systems and Geopolitics.

**Paper 3** (20%)
2 hrs 15min exam on a synoptic investigation of a geographical issue.

**Unit 4** (20%)
your independent investigation.

# HISTORY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr G Fullard**

COURSE:
History A-level

AWARDING BODY:
OCR

LENGTH OF COURSE:
2 years

## WHY CHOOSE HISTORY?

The strength of this subject is that it is so wide ranging. No area of human activity is irrelevant to it. Students trained in historical skills have something important to offer society and may themselves better understand the society in which they live. A training in History is designed to foster critical analysis, sharpness of judgement and the ability to present concise and lucid written arguments based on evidence. These qualities are appropriate to a wide range of careers including the Law, Civil Service, Accountancy, Teaching and the Media.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will study the following units and topics in the following years:

**Unit 1**
Britain 1930–1997 (Enquiry topic: Churchill 1930–1951). Essay and document based

**Unit 2**
Italy and Unification 1789–1896. Essay based

**Unit 3**
Russia and its Rulers 1855 - 1964. Essay and interpretation based.

**Unit 4**
Coursework (3,000-4,000 words, 20% of final grade). Independent study of students' choice.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

A variety of teaching styles will be used throughout the course. These will range from group discussion and creative tasks to more formal teacher-led presentation. Note taking and note making are important skills, along with the ability to analyse source documentation. Essay writing has a major role in teacher and external assessment. Students are expected to read widely for all parts of the course. Personal research is a compulsory part of Unit 4.

The department is happy to accept students who have done well at GCSE, but have not studied History since year 9.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

All students will be assessed by 3 exams (one for Unit 1, 2 and 3) at the end of Year 13.

Unit 4 is internally assessed and externally moderated.

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES, ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs K Mills**

COURSE:

Religious Studies/ Philosophy A-level

AWARDING BODY:

Eduqas

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

The philosophical and religious development of mankind has shaped the way the individual thinks and acts and the way in which cultures and society have been formed. We explore the greatest intellectual challenges man has to face, an understanding of these challenges helps us in our own development but it also helps us to understand our history, arts and society. The subject can be followed at university level but the qualification is also recognised and respected in many professions.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

**Component 1:**
**A Study of Religion: Christianity**

Written examination: 2 hours

33⅓% of qualification

**Key Questions:**

- How historically accurate are the stories of Jesus?
- How do Christians use the bible today?
- Is God male?
- Is 'being loving' the most important thing?
- Should we baptise children?
- Should Christians be rich?

**Component 2:**
**Philosophy of Religion**

Written examination: 2 hours

33% of qualification

**Key Questions:**

- Does God exist?
- Why would a loving God allow evil?
- Is religion an illusion?
- What does it mean to be atheist?
- Are miracles real?
- Can human language be used to discuss the divine?

**Component 3: Religion and Ethics**

Written examination: 2 hours

33% of qualification

**Key questions:**

- Does 'nature' tell us what's right and wrong?
- Is abortion acceptable?
- Can Christians accept homosexuality and polyamorous relationships?
- Is free will an illusion?
- Should we act according to the greatest good for the most people?

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

A variety of teaching styles will be used throughout the course. These will range from group discussion to the more formal teacher-led presentation. Essay writing has a major role in teacher and external assessment. Students are expected to read widely for all parts of the course. We are happy to accept students who have not followed the GCSE course.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Students will be examined at the end of Year 13 by 3 x 2 hours exams. There is no coursework element to this course.

# ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs M Johnstone**

COURSE:

A-Level Art, Craft & Design

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE ART, CRAFT & DESIGN?

A Level Art, Craft & Design is an exciting and flexible course that allows you to explore a wide range of creative disciplines. It is designed for students who want to develop their own artistic identity while building practical skills, confidence and a strong portfolio.

The course is offered as a broad pathway, allowing you to explore and combine different areas of art and design rather than specialising immediately in one subject. You can develop work in areas such as Fine Art, Graphic Design, Photography, Textiles, 3D Design, Ceramics and Digital Art, tailoring projects to reflect your own interests and ambitions.

You will experiment with a variety of materials, techniques and processes including drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, ceramics, sculpture, photography and digital design. You will learn how artists and designers develop ideas, respond to the world around them and create meaningful outcomes.

**WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?**

You will develop the ability to:

Create personal and original creative ideas.

Experiment with a wide range of materials and techniques.

Research and respond to artists, designers and creative practitioners.

Refine and improve your work through reflection and evaluation.

Produce ambitious and resolved outcomes.

**HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?**

**Component 1**
**Personal Investigation (60%)**

An extended coursework project based on your own chosen theme or starting point. You will develop a personal body of work through research, experimentation, refinement and evaluation, alongside a written element exploring the influences behind your creative journey.

**Component 2**
**Externally Set Assignment (40%)**

You will respond to a range of starting points set by AQA, developing ideas and creating a final outcome during a supervised 15-hour assessment.

**HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?**

Teaching includes practical workshops, demonstrations, discussions, independent research and individual feedback. You will be encouraged to take ownership of your creative development, building the technical, creative and analytical skills needed for further study or a career in the creative industries.

**FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

Art, Craft & Design provides excellent preparation for further study and careers in areas including Fine Art, Graphic Design, Photography, Fashion, Textiles, Illustration, Architecture, Interior Design, Product Design, Animation, Film and many other creative fields.

If you are imaginative, curious and enjoy expressing ideas visually, this course offers the opportunity to explore your creativity and build a portfolio that reflects your future ambitions.

Where there is sufficient student demand, we may also have the capacity to offer individual specialist pathways, such as Textiles, Graphic Design or Photography. This gives students the best of both worlds: the freedom to explore a broad range of creative practices, with the potential to specialise where numbers allow.

# PHOTOGRAPHY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr C Wheat**

COURSE:

A-Level Photography

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE PHOTOGRAPHY?

A Level Photography is a creative and practical course where you can develop your own visual style, build technical skills and create a strong personal portfolio. You will explore how photographers use light, colour, composition, space and subject matter to communicate ideas, explore issues and tell stories.

You will be encouraged to experiment, take creative risks and develop work that is personal and meaningful to you. Projects may include portraiture, fashion, documentary, street, landscape, still life, fine art, conceptual, editorial and commercial photography, as well as digital manipulation, installation, video and multimedia.

### WHY CHOOSE PHOTOGRAPHY?

A Level Photography is a creative and practical course where you can develop your own visual style, build technical skills and create a strong personal portfolio. You will explore how photographers use light, colour, composition, space and subject matter to communicate ideas, explore issues and tell stories.

### WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

You will develop confidence in using cameras and photographic equipment while learning about exposure, aperture, shutter speed, ISO, focus and depth of field. You will explore composition, lighting, colour and visual language, experiment with digital and physical processes, and use editing software to manipulate and refine your images.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

**Component 1 – Personal Investigation (60%)**

You will develop an extended photographic project based on a theme, idea, issue or concept that interests you. Your project will demonstrate research, experimentation, practical photography, digital editing, development, refinement and evaluation, leading to a resolved final outcome. Written work will support your practical work.

**Component 2 – Externally Set Assignment (40%)**

You will respond to a starting point set by AQA and independently develop your ideas through research, experimentation and photography. You will then produce your final outcome during a supervised 15-hour assessment.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Photography is a practical subject where you learn by making, experimenting and doing. Teaching includes photography and lighting workshops, digital editing, studio and location photography, artist and photographer research, group critiques, independent projects, tutorials and portfolio development.

### PHOTOGRAPHY AND CREATIVE PRACTICE

Photography is about more than taking photographs — it is about making decisions. You will consider why an image has been created, what it communicates and how an audience might respond.

You will explore how light, perspective, colour, scale, sequencing, editing and presentation can influence meaning and impact. You may also work beyond traditional photography through digital media, projection, installation, moving image and multimedia.

### FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

A Level Photography provides a strong foundation for further study and careers in photography, art, design, film, media and other creative subjects. Possible progression routes include Photography, Fashion, Fine Art, Digital Media, Graphic Design, Illustration, Animation, Film and Television, Visual Communication and Media Production.

### BUILDING YOUR PORTFOLIO

By the end of the course, you will have developed a substantial body of personal photographic work that can support applications for further study or employment. You will have gained experience in researching, experimenting, creating, editing, refining and presenting creative work, alongside the confidence to communicate your ideas visually.

# BTEC MUSIC PERFORMANCE

**Overview**

**Course Leader and contact for this course:** **Mr P Noble**

COURSE:

BTEC Extended Certificate in Music
(1 A-level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE BTEC MUSIC?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Music Performance is intended to be an Applied General qualification. It is for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the music sector or the creative sector as a whole. The qualification is equivalent in size of an A Level and is aimed at learners who are interested in music performance and want to study a broad programme of qualifications, sectors and subjects to support progression to higher education. It will be of particular interest to learners who want to develop skills and techniques in rehearsal and performance. It is designed to be taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications. No prior study of the sector is needed, but learners should normally have a range of achievement at level 2, in GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been consulted to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice.

Learners taking this qualification will study three mandatory units. They are Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony, Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry and Unit 3: Ensemble Music Performance.

Learners choose one optional unit. These have been designed to complement the knowledge and skills developed in music performance and support progression to more specialist creative courses in higher education. They also link with relevant occupational areas. The optional units cover the following areas: composing music, music performance session styles, solo performance

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the music performance suite are: performance – learners prepare for assessment over an extended window and demonstrate skills that generate some non-written evidence. There are also set tasks – learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task. Some external assessments include a period of preparation using set information. External assessments are available once or twice a year.

# DRAMA AND THEATRE

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mrs Cowen**

COURSE:

A Level Drama and Theatre

AWARDING BODY:

Eduqas

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE DRAMA AND THEATRE?

This course is ideal for students who have a passion for theatre, performance and creativity. It combines practical performance with the study of influential theatre practitioners and plays, allowing you to develop as both a performer and theatre-maker. You will build your confidence, analytical skills and creativity while exploring how theatre reflects society and communicates ideas to an audience.

A Level Drama and Theatre is an excellent preparation for university, drama school or careers in the creative industries, as well as developing valuable skills in communication, collaboration, problem-solving and critical thinking.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Throughout the two-year course, you will study a range of practical and theoretical elements of drama and theatre.

You will:

Develop your acting and performance skills through rehearsals and workshops.

Study influential theatre practitioners and their approaches to performance.

Explore a variety of contemporary and historical plays.

Create and perform original devised theatre inspired by a theatre practitioner.

Perform extracts from published plays.

Analyse and evaluate live theatre productions.

Develop your written analytical and evaluative skills for the written examination.

You will study a range of set texts and practitioners as part of the Eduqas specification, preparing you for both the practical and written components of the course.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Assessment is through a combination of practical coursework and a written examination.

Component 1: Theatre Workshop (20%)

Students reinterpret an extract from a published play using the techniques of a chosen theatre practitioner. Assessment includes a practical performance and a creative log.

Component 2: Text in Action (40%)

Students create and perform an original devised performance and perform an extract from a published play. This component is externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3: Text in Performance (40%)

A written examination assessing:

The interpretation of a set text from the perspective of an actor and designer.

Analysis and evaluation of a live theatre production.

Study of an additional set text.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students should have a genuine interest in theatre and performance. GCSE Drama is beneficial but not essential. A willingness to perform, collaborate and engage with written analysis is essential for success on the course.

# BTEC PERFORMING ARTS – DANCE SPECIALISM

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr D Below**

COURSE:

BTEC Extended Certificate in Performance Arts (Dance)
(1 A-level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE BTEC DANCE?

This course is ideal for students who enjoy dance and performance based activities. Students will get the opportunity to learn about the theoretical aspects of dance, work on their technique, experience different dance styles and study professional works.

**WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**

The course is made up of 360 Guided Learning hours. 5 units. 2 mandatory. 1 external. 3 optional.

**Mandatory units:**

1. Group performance workshop - 33%
2. Developing skills and techniques for performance - 17%

**Optional units:**

1. Classical Ballet technique
2. Tap dance technique
3. Jazz dance technique
4. Street dance technique
5. Contemporary dance technique
6. Healthy dancer
7. Choreography for live performance
8. Improvisation
9. Movement in performance
10. Physical Theatre techniques

**HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?**

A variety of teaching styles will be used throughout the course. These will range in style from formal teacher-led lessons to individual sessions in composition and performance skills. You will be required to write essays based on the work studied.

**HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?**

**What you will be studying;**

Alongside the 2 mandatory units we will select 3 optional units from those listed. These are likely to be:

- Contemporary dance technique
- Choreography for live performances
- Movement in performance

We feel these units will give students a good variety of theory and practical and will build upon knowledge and skills gained in KS4.

For each module you study, you will be given a grade of either Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Most of the work will be practical but there will be some written elements that will need to be completed.

Students will prepare and present a show in year 12 and 13.

You will complete some aspects of the course alongside the Acting students as there is some course overlap.

# AAQ HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Overview

Contact for this course: **Mrs McGuigan**

COURSE:

AAQ Health & Social Care
(1 A-level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

An AAQ in Health and Social Care can progress into further study at university or into the world of work. It can lead into a future career in nursing, child care, teaching social work among many other occupations.

**WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**

The AAQ in health and social care is made up of 4 units overall. Three mandatory units and 1 optional unit. Two of the mandatory units are assessed through an external exam which are examined at the end of year 12. You will have 2 further resits, if necessary, in Year 13. The remainder two units are coursework-based units that are marked and assessed by your teacher.

**Mandatory Units**

**1 - Human Lifespan and Development**
Students examine physical, intellectual, emotional and social development (PIES) across the human lifespan, the interaction between biological and social factors in health and well-being and how health care professionals provide effective care.

**2 - Human Biology and Health**
Students explore the organisation, structure and normal physiological functioning of the human body, and the effect on health of common disorders of the body systems.

**3 - Principles of Health & Social Care**
Students focus on the principles that underpin meeting the care and support needs of individuals, which are the foundation of all services within health and social care. (Coursework)

**Optional Units (choose one of the Coursework assessed units):**

**Unit 4** - Health, Policy & Wellbeing

**Unit 5** - Promoting Health Education

**Unit 6** - Safe Environments in Health & Social Care

**Unit 7** - Health Science

# BTEC HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Overview

Contact for this course: **Mrs McGuigan**

COURSE:

BTEC Diploma
(2 A-level equivalent)

BTEC Extended Diploma
(3 A-level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

A BTEC in Health and Social Care can progress into further study at university or into the world of work. It can lead into a future career in nursing, child care, teaching, social work among many other occupations.

### WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE ON OFFER?

| | Value | Units | What is studied? |
|---|---|---|---|
| Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care | 3 A-levels | 13 units over two years | 8 core units and 5 optional units 4 externally examined units |
| National Diploma in Health and Social Care | 2 A-levels | 8 units over two years | 6 mandatory units with 3 externally examined units |

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

BTEC Nationals use a combination of assessment styles to give you the knowledge to succeed in the workplace – and have the study skills to continue learning throughout your career. It is a combination of assignments set and assessed by your teachers plus exams and tasks set by Edexcel, the exam board.

### COURSE STRUCTURE

National Diploma in Health and Social Care (2 A-levels)

1. Human Lifespan Development (exam)
2. Working in Health and Social Care (exam)
4. Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (exam)
5. Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
6. Work Experience in Health and Social Care
7. Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
8. Promoting Public Health

PLUS 2 optional units

Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (3 A-levels)

1. Human Lifespan Development (exam)
2. Working in Health and Social Care (exam)
3. Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care (exam)
4. Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (exam)
5. Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
6. Work Experience in Health and Social Care
7. Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
8. Promoting Public Health

PLUS 5 optional units

### WHAT ARE THE EXAMINATIONS/TASKS LIKE?

The exams for Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development and Unit 2: Working in Health & Social Care will be 90 minutes long in Year 12 and are unseen and taken in exam conditions.

The exam for Unit 4: Enquiries into current research in Health and Social Care is a 3 hours supervised time over the course of 6 hours. There is pre-release material available 4 weeks in advance. Learners use pre-release material and their own research to produce a Research Commentary. This will be completed in year 13.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss F Beedle**

COURSE:

Physical Education A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE PE A LEVEL?

A-level PE covers a range of subjects from psychology to sports technology and can lead you into career options such as sports centre management, sports science, physiotherapy, PE teacher, fitness trainer, sports nutritionist, sports performer and many more.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will complete topic areas which encapsulate the factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport. They are Applied Physiology, Skill Acquisition, Sports Psychology, Sport and Society and Technology in Sport.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED

This qualification is linear.

Students will complete two exams each worth 35% of their total A Level grade (105 marks per exam).

**Paper 1** covers Applied anatomy and physiology, Skill acquisition & Sport and society.

**Paper 2** covers Exercise physiology and biomechanics, Sports psychology, Sport and society and technology in sport.

Students will then be assessed in a practical setting which makes up 30% of the non-exam assessment. This is broken down into two sections:

**Section 1** is worth 15%. Here students are assessed as a player/ performer or coach in the full context of one activity.

**Section 2** is also worth 15%. Here students produce a written or verbal analysis and evaluation of either their own or the performance of another.

Both practical sections will be subject to internal and external moderation.

# BTEC SPORT

**Overview**

**Course Leader and contact for this course:** **Mr M Davison**

COURSE:

BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport (1 A-Level equivalent)

BTEC Diploma Sport (2 A-level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## IS THE BTEC IN SPORT THE COURSE FOR YOU?

BTEC sport can lead you into a range of sports related course and careers such as Sports Science, coaching, teaching. It allows you to develop as a sports player as well as understand how the human body works in relation to physical activity. There are careers such as coaching, working in sports nutrition, physiotherapy, PE teaching, sports centre management and many more.

**BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORT**

4 Units / How you will be assessed:

1: Anatomy and Physiology (Double unit assessed via an External Exam)

2. Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-Being (Double unit assessed via external exam)

3. Professional Development in the Sports Industry (single unit internally assessed coursework)

4. Sports Leadership (single unit internally assessed coursework)

**DIPLOMA IN SPORT**

9 Units / How will you be assessed

1: Anatomy and Physiology (double unit assessed via an external exam)

2: Fitness Training and programming for health, sport and well-being (double unit assessed via external exam)

3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry (single unit internally assessed coursework)

4: Sports leadership (single unit, internally assessed coursework)

5: Application of Fitness Testing (double unit internally assessed coursework)

6. Sport Psychology (Double unit, internally assessed)

8: Coaching for Performance (double unit internally assessed coursework)

22: Investigating Business in Sport and the active leisure industry (double unit assessed via external exam)

23: Skill Acquisition (double unit, internally assessed coursework)

# FRENCH

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss N Hill**

COURSE:

French A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE FRENCH?

French is spoken by around 321 million people across the world. Being able to speak French can provide you with travel and work opportunities. Demand for French speakers in the UK is significant in many sectors, particularly management, sales, technology and marketing. Being able to speak French language is undoubtedly a powerful skill to have and potentially a huge asset to your career.

Studying French at A-Level, not only improves your language skills, but it provides you with insights into France's history and culture. If you plan on travelling after school, this knowledge will truly enhance your experience. With France being one of the UK's largest European trading partners, French can provide you with a number of career opportunities. Our previous A-level students have gone on to study a variety of subjects including law, translation and education.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The A level French course is split into 2 main themes: Social issues (such as the changing role of the family, volunteering, diversity and criminality) and Political and artistic trends (including Francophone Music and cinema, voting and immigration).

Alongside these topics, you will also study the film 'La Haine' and the novel 'No et moi'. In year 13 you will complete an individual research project on a topic of your choice, linked to the French speaking world.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

You will be taught using a range of teaching styles to improve your listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. You will be expected to contribute to discussions on contemporary issues and to complete research on a range of topics. You will use authentic materials to improve your comprehension skills.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

**Paper 1 (50%)**
Listening, Reading and Translation

**Paper 2 (20%)**
Writing exam

**Paper 3 (30%)**
Speaking exam

# GERMAN

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss N Hill**

COURSE:

German A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE GERMAN?

If you have a natural flair for languages, then you might want to consider studying German at A-Level. In an increasingly globalised world, being able to understand and speak German, even if only to A-Level, can provide many opportunities both academically and career-wise.

German is one of the most widely-spoken languages in the world. Approximately 133 million people speak German worldwide. Not only does the German language provide you with access to German culture, including its music and arts, but it opens up potential business and career opportunities too, particularly in the travel and tourism sector. It's spoken widely in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland and can be a big asset to UK companies.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will study aspects of German speaking society such as youth culture; the digital world; immigration; racism and integration. You will also study artistic and political culture. You will study the film 'Goodbye Lenin' and the book 'Der Vorleser' by Bernhard Schlink. In year 2 you will complete an independent research project on a topic of your choice.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

You will be taught using a range of teaching styles to improve your listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. You will be expected to contribute to discussions on contemporary issues and to complete research on a range of topics. You will use authentic materials to improve your comprehension skills.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

**Paper 1 (50%)**
Listening, Reading and Translation

**Paper 2 (20%)**
Written exam

**Paper 3 (30%)**
Speaking exam

# PSYCHOLOGY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr Higgs**

COURSE:

Psychology A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE PSYCHOLOGY?

It combines well with many subjects complementing and enhancing them eg: Biology, Maths, English language, Sociology. It is a subject welcomed by many employers, particularly in the caring and service industries. It can lead, via a degree course, to careers as varied as child guidance, educational psychology, occupational psychology, legal psychology etc. It gives a valuable insight into personal development (eg. moral, cognitive, linguistic) and development of behaviour within groups and in society.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

**Year 12**

The psychology is broken down into a number of different topics at A-level

**First year**

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Approaches in psychology
- Biopsychology
- Clinical Psychology and Mental Health
- Research methods

**Second year**

Compulsory content

- Issues and debates in psychology – nature v nurture, gender and culture bias, ethical issues.

**Optional content**

**Option one**

- Relationships * - Reasons for physical attraction, evolutionary explanations, virtual relationships
- Gender
- Cognition and development

**Option two**

- Schizophrenia
- Eating behaviour
- Stress

**Option three**

- Aggression
- Forensic psychology
- Addiction

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

A wide variety of teaching methods will be used. You will be required to actively participate in class discussions as well as work on your own initiative. There will also be opportunities to attend conferences given by leading psychologists and the AQA exam board.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The exams consist of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions. At A-level there are three exams, each account for one third of your A-level.

The three exams last 2 hours and are worth 96 marks each. The exams consist of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

There is no coursework in either year.

# SOCIOLOGY

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr Higgs**

COURSE:

Sociology A-level

AWARDING BODY:

OCR

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is an attempt to understand how society works. Through learning sociology, you will learn about how human societies are constructed and where our beliefs and daily routines come from. You will re-examine your assumptions and will never think about people in the same way again. Sociology is accepted by universities as an academic subject and can lead to careers as varied as:

• Social work and caring professions • Criminology • Law • Police
• Teaching and Further Education • Market Research • Civil Service
• Local Government Services • Politics • Journalism

**WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**

**Year 12 – Two components**

**Component 1**

Section A: Introducing socialisation, culture and identity.

Section B: Options (choose one of three)

**Component 2**

Section A: Research methods and researching social inequalities

Section B: Understanding social inequalities

**Year 13 – Three components**

Component 2 Continues into Year 13

**Component 3**

**SECTION A: GLOBALISATION AND THE DIGITAL SOCIAL WORLD**

What is the relationship between globalisation and digital forms of communication?

What is the impact of digital forms of communication in a global context?

This section provides students with the opportunity to consider developments in digital forms of communication within global society.

**SECTION B: OPTIONS (CHOOSE ONE OF THREE)**

All three options include a global aspect:

- Crime and deviance *(Includes a study of Patterns of crime and deviance as well as explanations and solutions to crime.)
- Education
- Religion, belief and faith

**HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?**

In year 13 at A-level there are 3 exams relating to the 3 components above. Component 1 is worth 30% and component 2 and 3 exams are worth 35% each. Component 1 is 1 hour and 30 minutes and component 2 and 3 are two hours and 15 minutes.

There is no coursework in either year.

# BTEC BUSINESS

**Overview**

**Course Leader and contact for this course:** **Mrs K Best**

COURSE:

BTEC Extended Certificate in Business (1 A-level equivalent)

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE BTEC NATIONAL BUSINESS?

This vocational course is equivalent to one A-level and can be combined with traditional A-level subjects or other vocational A-level subjects. It combines up-to-date industry knowledge with the right balance of the practical, research and behavioural skills learners need to succeed in higher education and in their careers. It gives learners an introduction to and understanding of a wide range of business activities. The course is likely to appeal to those who are interested in a career in business, or wish to achieve an enhanced qualification in this field as a route to higher education.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 A-level) consists of 4 units: 3 mandatory units and 1 optional.

The 3 mandatory units include 1 internally set assignment, 1 externally set assignment and an external examination.

**Extended Certificate mandatory units**

Unit 1 (internally set assignment) – Exploring Business

Unit 2 (externally set assignment) – Developing a Marketing Campaign

Unit 3 (external examination) – Personal and Business Finance

Unit 8 (Optional Unit) Recruitment and Selection Process

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Teaching styles will vary but will focus on developing understanding of the various aspects of business through case studies, links with local organisations within the industry and individual research. Within Unit 3, specific focus will be given to developing exam techniques to prepare students to sit the external finance examination. Within Unit 2, specific focus will be given to developing techniques to prepare students to research and construct a marketing plan.

Entry to the course requires a minimum of 5 GCSEs at 9–4 with English and Maths being desired. Students need not have studied the subject before. A capacity for individual study and an ability to meet deadlines and respond to feedback is an advantage.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The new BTEC Nationals in Business offer a wider range of assessments including assignments, tasks set and assessed by the exam board and a written exam. This balanced approach means learners can showcase for future employers how they apply their learning to relevant, everyday workplace challenges, and higher education institutions can be confident BTEC-qualified students are well prepared for a higher level of study and assessment methods.

# A LEVEL BUSINESS

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss Morton**

COURSE:

Business Studies A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE BUSINESS STUDIES?

Business is a dynamic and relevant subject that helps you understand how organisations operate and succeed in an increasingly competitive world. It is particularly valuable in today's rapidly changing employment landscape, where increasing numbers of people choose to start their own businesses or work for themselves at some point in their careers. In addition, the average person is likely to change jobs several times during their working life, making an understanding of business practices, management and decision-making more important than ever.

**WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**

The new AQA A Level Business course explores how businesses operate, make decisions and respond to the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing world. You will develop a holistic understanding of business, examining how different functions work together to achieve organisational objectives. There are three units of work:

1. What is business? Managing marketing and finance

2. Managing people and operations

3. Business and society, business and the external environment and business strategy

**Key areas of study include:**

- Entrepreneurship and business ownership
- Marketing and customer relationship management
- Operations and supply chain management
- Finance and business performance
- Human resources, leadership and organisational culture
- Business decision-making and strategy
- The impact of digital technology and artificial intelligence (AI)
- Equality, diversity, inclusion and employee wellbeing
- Ethics, sustainability and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) considerations
- Globalisation and international business
- The influence of society and external environment and its impact on business success

Throughout the course, you will investigate real businesses and current issues, considering how organisations respond to technological change, environmental challenges, evolving consumer expectations and developments in the global economy. You will learn to analyse and interpret data, evaluate business decisions and make informed judgements using evidence from a range of business contexts.

**HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?**

Lessons combine theory with real-world business examples. You will develop your understanding through a variety of activities including:

- Teacher-led discussion and explanation
- Analysis of current business news and case studies
- Group work
- Research tasks and independent study
- Examination practice and feedback
- Debates, simulations and problem-solving activities

Students are encouraged to follow business developments in the media and apply their knowledge to current business issues. Regular assessment and exam preparation throughout the course will help you build confidence and achieve your full potential.

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

**Overview**

**Course Leader and contact for this course:** **Mr A Lee**

COURSE:

Computer Science A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

This is the Digital Age! Computer programmes have all but infiltrated every aspect of our lives. Computer scientists theorise, design, develop, and apply the software and hardware for the programmes we use day in day out. A good grade in Computer Science at A level is valued by universities and employers since it requires the development of analytical thinking and problem solving skills. This course also lays an appropriate foundation for further study of Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or related subjects in higher education. Every industry uses computers so naturally computer scientists can work in any. Problems in science, engineering, health care, and so many other areas can be solved by computers. It's up to the computer scientist to figure out how, and design the software to apply the solution.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

You will study the following topic areas over the two years of the course:

- Fundamentals of programming
- Fundamentals of data structures
- Fundamentals of algorithms
- Theory of computation
- Fundamentals of data representation
- Fundamentals of computer systems
- Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture
- Consequences of uses of computing
- Fundamentals of communication and networking
- Fundamentals of databases
- Big Data
- Fundamentals of functional programming
- Systematic approach to problem solving
- Non-exam assessment - the computing practical project

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

Computer Science relies upon the practical application of theory, and as a result this quickly becomes a very practical course. A significant amount of theoretical knowledge is required, however it is those students who are able to apply these concepts, and therefore develop more efficient and robust programs, who will achieve the highest grades.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

You will sit two papers and complete a project as part of your assessment on the course.

**Paper 1 – On-screen exam (40%)**
Students answer a series of short questions and write/adapt/extend programs in an Electronic Answer Document provided.

**Paper 2 – Written exam (40%)**
Compulsory short-answer and extended-answer questions.

**Project (20%)**
The non-exam assessment assesses student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve or investigate a practical problem. Students will be expected to follow a systematic approach to problem solving.

# DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Ms R Newton-Scott**

COURSE:

A-level Design and Technology: Product Design (3D Design)

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY?

Our Product Design A-Level offers two pathways, Resistance Materials Technology and Graphic Products, each with its own specific content. The structure of the specification allows students to develop a range of skills and outcomes. The specification seeks to develop students' knowledge and understanding of, and skills and application in, designing products. They will also develop their research, analysis, product development, project planning and evaluation skills.

The assessment for this course involves Design and Make coursework activities, and externally assessed examinations. A qualification in this subject will open opportunities to pursue a career in Engineering, Industrial Design, Graphic Design, Architecture, Interior Design, Manufacturing and Motor Vehicle design.

**HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?**

Paper 1 is 2 hours 30 minutes and looks at Technical principles (the areas it covers are the same as the prospectus you have sent out) 120 marks and is 30% of A-level

**Paper 2** is 1 hour and 30 minutes and this is Design and make principles. Questions are a mixture of short answer and extended response questions.

**Section A:** Product Analysis: 30 marks. Up to 6 short answer questions based on visual stimulus of product(s).

**Section B:** Commercial manufacture: 50 marks. Mixture of short and extended response questions 80 marks in total and is 20% of A-level

Students need to complete a folder and practical which is 50% and the two examination papers are also 50%

Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles.

Substantial design and make project is 100 marks and is 50% of A-level. Students need evidence of either a written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of the final prototype.

# ECONOMICS

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss Morton**

COURSE:

Economics A-level

AWARDING BODY:

AQA

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE ECONOMICS?

We currently face the uncertainly of changes in the pattern of global trade. We have rising levels of inequality and poverty. We have a housing market failure. We face rising global pollution. Economics allows us to understand these issues, quantify the consequences and evaluate the policy solutions available. It is relevant to us all because it affects us all every day, whether on a macroeconomic level affecting employment and inflation, or on a microeconomic level affecting our personal wellbeing and standards of living. The study of economics is current; it helps us understand the world we live in. It allows students to develop important life skills such as critical thinking and problem solving. A-Level Economics complements many other subjects and is often studied in combination with business, mathematics, humanities, languages and even science.

### WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The course is evenly split between microeconomics and macroeconomics. The former focuses on the decisions and activities of individuals and firms, while the latter focuses on the wider economy and national and global issues.

### HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

A variety of teaching techniques will be used during the course. These will include group discussions, individual or small group presentations in class and more formal teacher-led work. Opportunities also exist to use ICT to investigate economic performance, research concepts and consolidate and apply learning in the management of the virtual economy.

### HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

A-level assessment involves 3 written exam papers combing multiple choice with data response questions and extended writing. Each lasts 2 hours and comprises one third of the A-level qualification.

All papers assess students' quantitative skills in an economic context and allow theoretical knowledge to be applied to both domestic and global contexts. The ability to calculate and interpret data in various formats and an enthusiasm for current affairs is therefore advantageous.

# FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Miss S Tumelty**

COURSE:

Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (Extended Certificate)

EXAM BOARD:

WJEC

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE FOOD AND NUTRITION?

Food Science & Nutrition allows students to develop an understanding of food science and nutrition as this is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that that support healthy eating initiatives. Many employment opportunities within the field of food science and nutrition are available to graduates.

### WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?

This qualification provides an in-depth understanding of food science, nutrition, and their application in real-world contexts. You will explore the relationship between diet and health, food safety, and the development of innovative food products. The course combines academic theory with practical skills, preparing you for higher education or careers in areas such as dietetics, food science, public health, and product development.

You will study:

- Nutritional needs across the life stages
- Practical food production skills
- Principles of food hygiene and food safety
- Optional units on food experimentation or current issues in food science and nutrition

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment is a combination of written examinations and non-examined assessments (coursework):

In Year 12:

- Unit 1: Nutritional needs across the life stages – Written exam (1 hr 30 mins) – 25%
- Unit 2: Developing practical food production skills – Internal assessment – 25%

In Year 13:

- Unit 3: Principles of food hygiene and food safety – Written exam (1 hr 30 mins) – 25%
- Plus one optional unit (Unit 4: Experimenting to solve food production problems OR Unit 5: Current issues in food science and nutrition) – Internal assessment – 25%

### HOW IS THIS COURSE DELIVERED?

The course is taught through a mix of classroom-based theory, practical sessions in a fully equipped kitchen, and independent research. You will develop advanced cooking techniques, understand food safety legislation, and apply scientific principles to food production.

### WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THIS COURSE?

This qualification supports progression to higher education courses such as:

BSc Food and Nutrition

BSc Human Nutrition

BSc Public Health Nutrition

BSc Food Science and Technology

It is also relevant for careers in:

Dietetics and nutrition consultancy

Food product development

Public health and food policy

Catering and hospitality management

# V-LEVEL DIGITAL SYSTEMS AND DATA

Overview

Course Leader and contact for this course: **Mr A Lee**

COURSE:

V-Level Digital Systems and Data

AWARDING BODY:

Pearson

LENGTH OF COURSE:

2 years

## WHY CHOOSE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY?

An V-Level in Information Technology can progress into further study at university or into the world of work. It can lead into a future career in software development, network engineer, IT support specialist among many other occupations.

**WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?**

The V-Level Digital Systems and Data combines theoretical knowledge with practical application, allowing students to develop the technical and professional skills required by employers and higher education.

**Expected Areas of Study**

**1 – Digital Systems**

Students will develop an understanding of modern computer systems and how hardware, software and networks work together.

Topics include:

-Computer hardware and architecture

-Operating systems

-Networks and communication

-Cloud technologies

-Cyber security principles

-Emerging digital technologies

**2 – Data Management**

Students will learn how organisations collect, store, process and use data safely and effectively.

Topics include:

-Data structures and databases

-Data modelling

-Data quality and validation

-Data analysis

-Information management

-Data protection and legislation

**3 – Developing Digital Solutions**

Students will investigate client requirements before designing and developing digital solutions to meet specific needs.

They will develop skills in:

-Analysing client briefs

-Designing digital solutions

-Testing and refining solutions

-Evaluating effectiveness

-Professional documentation

-Project management

**HOW WE EXPECT YOU TO BE ASSESSED?**

Assessment includes a combination of:

- External examinations assessing technical knowledge and understanding.
- Practical coursework/projects completed throughout the course.
- Applied assignments based on realistic workplace scenarios.

This balance allows students to demonstrate both their academic understanding and practical digital skills.

# ADDITIONAL STUDIES PROGRAMME



In order to complement their main study programme and to help build their academic skills, many students choose 1 additional option if they are not studying 4 A-levels.

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

COURSE LEADER: Mrs Hall

AWARDING BODY: Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENT: 5 or above in English

**Overview**

The Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an independent research-based qualification. Students choose a topic of personal interest, conduct extensive research, and produce either a 5,000-word dissertation, an artefact with a written report, a performance, or another approved project outcome. The qualification also requires a project log and a presentation explaining the research process and findings.

The EPQ develops key skills such as independent learning, critical thinking, project management, research, analysis, and evaluation. It is highly valued by many universities because it demonstrates a student's ability to work independently and engage with a subject in depth beyond the standard curriculum.

Studying an EPQ is equivalent to half an A Level and can earn up to 28 UCAS points.

## CORE MATHS

COURSE LEADER: Mrs Orwin

AWARDING BODY: AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths

**Overview**

Studying Core Maths at Level 3 helps students develop practical mathematical skills that can be applied to real-life situations, higher education, and employment. The qualification focuses on problem-solving, data analysis, financial mathematics, and interpreting information, enabling students to make informed decisions in everyday life.

Core Maths supports subjects such as science, geography, psychology, business, economics, and social sciences by strengthening numerical and analytical skills. It is particularly valuable for students who do not study A Level Mathematics but still need mathematical competence for university courses or future careers. The qualification also improves confidence in handling data, percentages, statistics, and financial calculations, all of which are increasingly important in modern workplaces and society.

Studying a Level 3 Core Maths qualification attracts the same UCAS Tariff points as an AS Level, earning up to 20 UCAS points.

# ADDITIONAL STUDIES PROGRAMME



In order to complement their main study programme and to help build their academic skills, many students choose 1 additional option if they are not studying 4 A-levels.

## Level 3 Award in Personal Finance

COURSE LEADER: Mrs Orwin

AWARDING BODY: OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENT: 5 or above in GCSE Maths

**Overview**

Our Award in Personal Finance allows students to develop their understanding of personal finance, progressing on to employment or higher education. Students will build their financial competence, developing critical analytical and decision-making skills in personal finance.

This will be delivered as a 1-year qualification, assessed by an exam. You will learn about the financial needs you're likely to experience during your lifetime and the financial products that may help you to meet these needs.

Topic Area 1: Personal financial activity

Topic Area 2: Using financial services

Topic Area 3: Financial planning

Studying this qualification can earn up to 16 UCAS points.

# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

In addition to their academic studies all students take an enrichment option. These options allow students to develop their skills in other areas to their main academic studies. Some of these options lead to further qualifications while others allow students the chance to do something different to their main studies.

**OUR ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME WILL VARY EACH YEAR.**

**EXAMPLES OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES ARE:**

- Level 3 Sports Leadership Award
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Work Experience
- Football Academy
- Enrichment Carousel

The enrichment carousel offers a less specialised enrichment offer for those who prefer to experience a broader enrichment pathway. This year the enrichment carousel includes recreational sport, First Aid, Debating, Preparing for overseas travel and RE.

We have a statutory obligation to deliver Religious Education in Sixth Form. This is covered within the Enrichment Programme. Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Religious Education. To do so, please contact their Head of Year.

# HOW TO JOIN THE SIXTH FORM



## INTERNAL APPLICANTS

If you are currently studying at Whickham School you will be offered a one-to-one interview with a senior member of staff, as well as gaining further information through assemblies, tutor time and careers guidance. You will complete an application form as part of this process.

## EXTERNAL APPLICANTS

If you are currently studying at another school you will need to complete an application form (available on our website and via the QR code below). You can also email us so we can send you details of Sixth Form events, in addition to having a one-to-one meeting with a member of our Sixth Form team to discuss your course options.

## JULY INDUCTION DAY

After GCSE examinations students are invited in for a taster day. This programme provides students with the opportunity to experience life as a sixth form student and take part in lessons for the subjects that they have chosen. In addition students will receive a small amount of preparation work to complete over the holidays to help prepare them for the start of year 12.

# NOTES

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WHICKHAM SCHOOL

Whickham School,
Burnthouse Lane, Whickham
Newcastle upon Tyne NE16 5AR

T: 0191 4960026
sixthform@whickhamschool.org

www.whickhamschool.org