



The
Appleton
Sixth Form

Achieving Excellence

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Biology

Are you interested in:

- The human body?
- Ways in which science works?
- The contribution of science to modern society?
- Interpreting data relating to disease risk factors?
- Understanding medical developments in the media?
- The impact humans have on the environment?

Leading to a career in:

A-level Biology prepares you for a wide range of degree courses leading to careers in medicine, veterinary and forensic science, science journalism, genetics, biomedical research, environmental science and many more.

Teacher Contacts

Mrs Bell

Assessment Criteria

There is regular assessment throughout both years of the course and continuous practical assessment.

There are 3 exams at the end of the 2 years. Each is 2 hours long and contains 100 marks.

Paper 1 examines topics 1-6.

Paper 2 topics 1-4, 7 and 8.

Paper 3 general practiced skills and questions on a pre-released scientific article.

Exam Board: Edexcel Advanced GCE 9BNO



What is Biology?

Biology engages and inspires students. The fundamentals of Biology help you to understand contemporary issues, such as genetic modification or climate change as well as understanding the mechanisms that underpin all living organisms. Biology can be studied with a wide range of other A-level courses, as a single science in your programme or combined with other sciences such as Chemistry and Physics.

Year 1 course content

In A-Level Biology you explore fundamentals such as cell structure, genetics, DNA and enzymes which help you to make sense of the big picture. You will also study human health and disease, an area where research is pushing back the boundaries of our knowledge almost daily. The course has a large practical component and so you will become expert in using microscopes and a range of laboratory techniques.

The four topics which make up the course are:

- 'Lifestyle, health and risk'
- 'Genes and health'
- 'Voice of the genome'
- 'Biodiversity and natural resources'

Year 2 course content

In A2 Biology you explore new themes, but many build on the principles learnt in Year 1 Biology.

What is s Business Studies?

Simon Cowell, Richard Branson and J K Rowling are all successful entrepreneurs. So what makes a successful business idea? Everything in life involves Business. Think about the new top you bought last week and then think of what businesses made it possible for you to be wearing it right now. The obvious ones are the shop and the manufacturing plant, but what about the cotton growers and the delivery company as well as the companies that manage the finances of all those businesses? Thinking about all those processes and people, allows you begin to understand about what Business Studies is all about.

Year 1 course content

This enables students to understand how businesses identify opportunities and to explore how businesses focus on developing a competitive advantage through interacting with customers. Students develop an understanding of how businesses need to adapt their marketing to operate in a dynamic business environment. The AS also considers people; exploring how businesses recruit, train, organise and motivate employees, as well as the role of enterprising individuals and leaders. Students must investigate different types and sizes of organisation in various business sectors and environments, and in local, national and global contexts. Students develop an understanding of raising and managing finance and measuring business performance and consider the external influences that have an impact on businesses, including economic and legal factors.

Year 2 course content

This moves from functions to strategy, enabling students to develop their understanding of the core concepts and to take a strategic view of business opportunities and issues. Students analyse corporate objectives and strategy against financial and non- financial performance measures and how businesses grow, and develop an understanding of the impact of external influences. Students assess causes and effects of change and how businesses mitigate risk and uncertainty. Students investigate businesses that trade on a global scale and explore their reasons for doing so. Students develop an understanding of the globally competitive environment and consider the ethical and moral

Assessment Criteria

100% examination at A-Level across 3 exams.

Business Studies

Are you interested in:

- The way businesses affect our lives?
- How the economy, politics, social trends and technology impact on business?
- Knowing how to assess the performance of a business?
- Setting up a business of your own or holding a managerial position?
- A career in the city?

Leading to a career in:

- Management
- Accounting
- Sales
- Marketing
- Human Resources
- Operations
- Financial services...

... in other words, a career in Business!

Teacher Contacts

Mr Browne

Miss Sweeney

Mr Lawrence

Mrs Manning

Chemistry



Are you interested in:

- Practical Chemistry?
- Applications of Science?
- Problem solving?
- Scientific research?

Leading to a career in:

- Teaching
- Technical support
- Pharmacy
- Degree in Chemistry and related subjects
- Forensic Science
- Food Science/ Nutrition
- Microbiology
- Medicine/ Physiotherapy/ Radiography
- Chemistry/ Engineers
- Veterinary Science
- Biochemistry

What is Chemistry?

Studying the principles of Physical, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry and exploring these through experimental work, which will allow you to access Chemistry in the real world.

Year 1 course content

During the course students will look at the relationship between atomic structure, chemical reactivity and patterns in the Periodic Table. This leads on to an introduction to Organic Chemistry, where we look at alkane, alkenes and other families and their effect on the environment including pollution and global warming. Finally we will study how certain groups in the periodic table react with different chemicals.

Year 2 course content

The Year 2 course provides an opportunity for practical investigations to explore thermodynamics, equilibria and kinetics in more detail. Then explore transition metals, Organic Chemistry and their applications in industry and medicine. The course is presented clearly to ensure that the subject content is relevant to real world experiences. It will inspire students and lay the ground work for further studies at university.

Teacher Contacts

Mr Prior

Mrs Wilson

Assessment Criteria

A Level 100% examination on 3 papers

Entry Requirements

A Level 100% examination on 3 papers

Exam Board: Edexcel AQA A level 7405



Computer Science

What is Computer Science?

Computer science encompasses the study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their principles, their hardware and software designs, their applications, and their impact on society. It's an intensively creative subject that combines invention and excitement, and can look at the natural world through a digital prism.

A Level course content

Unit 1 Computer Systems: Encryption, Networking, Database Design, Web Technology, Programming, Computer Law.

Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming: Creative Thinking, Abstraction, Computational Methods, Problem solving and Algorithms.

Unit 3 Programming Project: Learners will be expected to analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language.

Assessment Criteria

Unit 1 Computer Systems (examination paper) 40% of the total A Level

Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming (examination paper) 40% of the total A Level

Unit 3 Programming Project course work - 20% of the total A Level. The project you develop is your own choice and you pick a suitable implementation language and environment.

Are you interested in:

Problem solving, programming, deal with abstract concepts, interested in creative design, making a real world impact

Leading to a career in:

- Banking
- Medicine
- Education
- Business
- Music
- Multimedia
- Sports
- Construction
- Engineering
- And many more.

Teacher Contacts

Mr Gillooly

Criminology



Are you interested in:

- Debating and asking questions?
- Solving problems?
- How society functions?
- Why people act in the way they do?
- Linking theory to real world issues?

Leading to a career in:

- Criminal justice
- Police Force and Local Government
- Social work
- Law and Politics
- Prison service
- Victim support
- Medical and Health care

Teacher Contacts

Miss Aucklah

Assessment Criteria

The course is comprised of four units, each worth 25% of the overall grade.

Two units will be examined; one in Year 12 and one in Year 13.

Each exam will be 90 minutes long.

Two units will be assessed by an extended assignment (controlled assessment).

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in English.

What is Criminology?

Criminology is the study of crime. It examines who commits crimes, why they commit them, their impact, and how to prevent them. It draws on concepts from psychology, psychiatry, law, sociology and social anthropology.

Applied Diploma course content

Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime

Different types of crime, such as hate crime, domestic abuse, honour crime, cybercrime and white collar crime.

Reasons why some crimes tend to go unreported, and the consequences of this for the victim, the offender, and the wider community.

How the media represents crime, for example in new reports, TV shows, films and games, and how this impacts on how the public perceive crime.

Methods of studying and collecting data on crime. • Campaigns for change in the awareness or legal situation of specific crimes.

Unit 2: Criminological Theories

The definition of criminal behaviour and deviance. ☐ The social construction of criminality and how our perceptions of what is criminal change over time, culture and situations.

Biological theories of criminality, including the role of genes.

Individualistic theories of criminality such as the role of childhood experiences.

Sociological theories of criminality, including the impact of social structure and labelling. ☐ How social change and campaigns lead to changes in the law.

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom

The process of criminal investigations.

Investigative techniques.

How evidence is processed.

Trial processes.

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

The processes of law making and the organisation of the criminal justice system.

Forms of social control.

Aims of punishment.

Roles, contributions and effectiveness of agencies of social control.

What is Economics?

Economics is all about the key issues facing us today ie poverty, unemployment and inflation. It is essentially about the choices people make – as consumers, workers, producers and government, and the result of these choices.

Studying Economics will allow students to:

- develop an understanding of real life economic concepts and theories
- evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the market economy and the role of government within it
- develop a critical approach to various economic theories.

Year 1 course content

This course covers both Micro and Macro Economics.

Microeconomics involves looking at how individuals are affected by certain economic factors and includes studying the behaviour of customers, firms and government. Macroeconomics involves looking at the whole economy including the study of unemployment, inflation and comparing different economies.

Year 2 course content

This course covers both the Micro and Macro Economics elements from year 1 plus additional topics:

At the micro level these include:

- Poverty
- Inequality
- The labour market

At the macro level these include:

- Looking at the financial markets and monetary policy
- Fiscal policy (how governments raise and spend money)
- Supply-side policies (how the government tries to increase output in the economy)
- The international economy

Economics

Are you interested in:

- What lies behind the success of Ebay?
- What's happening in the housing market?
- How has streaming changed the economics of the music industry?
- Poverty and inequality?
- Why some countries have become richer under globalisation and others much poorer?

Leading to a career in:

You can use Economics within most job areas as it is recognised as a very valuable A level and degree. It is useful for many professions including: accountancy, teaching, journalism, the civil service and the police force.

Teacher Contacts

Mrs Baker

Mrs Manning



English Language

Are you interested in:

- reading a variety of texts?
- interpreting examples of real life language?
- gathering your own data to use for analysis?
- undertaking private, independent study as well as participating in class sessions?

Leading to a career in:

- Journalism
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Advertising
- Law
- Teaching

Teacher Contacts

Ms Levey

Mrs Beard

Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed both through coursework and examinations. In examinations you will be presented with unseen transcripts and short extracts and asked to write analytical essays in response to these. You will also be asked for original pieces of writing regarding language issues. You must apply your knowledge of linguistic theories and concepts in your answers.

Exam Board: OCR A2: H470



What is English Language?

Are you interested in the way that our language system works? Do you ever wonder why people speak to each other the way they do? This course will develop your understanding of the English language. You will explore examples of real life language in use and apply concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis of language. You will develop your skills as producers and interpreters of language, and engage creatively with topical issues relevant to language.

Course Content

You will discover how language features are used in both written and spoken texts and explore how these features convey meaning. By comparing a range of transcripts you will develop your close reading and analytical skills, alongside your ability to apply language theories and concepts to unseen texts. You will explore topical language issues, for example the issues associated with language and gender and language and power, and apply theories regarding these issues to unseen texts in order to explore the attitudes of the speakers.

Exploring Language

This unit focuses on the linguistic analysis of real life transcripts from different contexts. You will also explore more topical issues related to language and create an original piece of writing for a real-world purpose on a topical language issue

Dimensions of Linguistic Variation

You will explore how children acquire language by engaging with samples of authentic children's spoken texts. You will also examine how the English language has changed over time, and how language is used today in the media.

Independent Language Research

This is a piece of coursework which will allow you to explore an area of language that is of personal interest to you. You will complete an investigation into this aspect of language, collecting your own data for analysis, and then create an academic poster to present your findings.



English

Literature

What is English Literature?

The OCR English Literature course at The Appleton School is academically challenging and extremely rewarding. English Literature is widely accepted as one of the most reputable and rigorous of all the academic disciplines and for students wishing to study certain areas at top universities it is an essential pre-requisite. You will have the opportunity to study a variety of texts from different genres, including prose, poetry and drama dating from 1600 to the present day. You will read, not just to learn, but to explore human thoughts, feelings, ideas and behaviours, as seen through the imaginations of novelists, poets and playwrights.

Course Content

- You will study a Shakespeare play, a Georgian play and pre-1900 poetry. You will also have the opportunity to undertake a critical study in a genre such as gothic, dystopian or American literature. You will also be given the opportunity to write two pieces of coursework on three post-1900 texts of your choice. This course will facilitate the knowledge and understanding of:
- the ways in which writers shape meanings in texts
- the ways in which texts are interpreted by different readers, including over time
- the ways in which texts relate to one another and to literary traditions, movements and genres
- the significance of cultural and contextual influences on readers and writers.

Are you interested in:

- reading widely?
- exploring and sharing ideas?
- developing your analytical skills and essay writing?
- discussing and debating literary texts?

Leading to a career in:

Journalism
Publishing
Teaching
Advertising
Legal Professions

Teacher Contacts

Mr Archer

French

Are you interested in:

- Understanding how language works?
- Living or working abroad?
- Social and cultural issues?
- Communicating with others?
- Obtaining an impressive qualification for University entrance?
- Impressing employers?
- Increasing your salary potential?

Leading to a career in:

- Business with international links
- Employment which requires communication, research and analytical skills
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Interpreting and translating
- Law

Teacher Contacts

Mr Jones

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in French

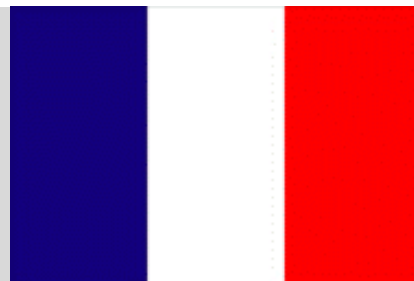
Assessment Criteria

The Advanced GCE is assessed over 3 examination papers.

Paper 1 is the listening, reading and translation examination. This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes. (40% of A level)

Paper 2 is a written response to works and translation. Students are assessed on an English to French translation, and 2 extended essays on 2 separate literary texts or films (30% of A level)

Paper 3 is the speaking exam (21-23 minutes). Task one is a discussion on one theme from the specification based on a stimulus. Task two is a presentation and discussion on independent research carried out by the student. (30% of A level)



What is French?

The course develops your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as your general knowledge of the country. You will develop these skills through researching and discussing topics and studying a French film and a literary text.

Year 12 course content

The main topics are:

Changes in French society

Changes in the structure of the family (The changes in attitudes towards marriage; partnership and the family) Education (The education system; student life) The world of work (Life at work in France and the moral of the workforce; the right to strike; gender equality)

Political and artistic culture in French speaking countries

Music (Changes and trends; the influence of music on popular culture) The Media (Freedom of expression; digital-, print-, and online media; the influence on society and politics) Festivals and Traditions (Festivals; celebrations; customs; traditions)

Year 13 course content

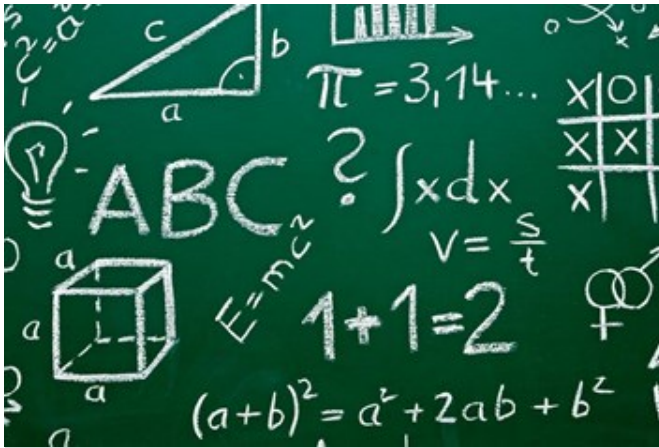
The main topics are:

Integration and the French multicultural society

Integration and multiculturalism (The origins of immigration; the evolution of political strategies; advantages and difficulties of social integration and multiculturalism) The rise of the far right (The objectives of the National Front; the leaders of the National Front; the rise of the National Front; public opinion)

The Occupation and the Resistance

The Occupation (Life under the Vichy regime and the Maréchal Pétain dictatorship; the occupation of France) The Resistance (The French Resistance; the importance of Jean Moulin and Charles de Gaulle)



Further

Mathematics

What is Further Mathematics?

Further Mathematics extends the knowledge and understanding gained in A-Level Mathematics, as well as exploring new topics. It is advantageous to students who are considering studying Mathematics, Physics or Engineering at university, as there are benefits to studying the Mathematics they will need at this stage. Those choosing further mathematics will complete the Maths A-Level in Year 12.

Course Content

The full A-Level consists of 4 full modules (Core Pure 1 & 2, Further Statistics 1 and Further Mechanics 1). The Pure modules look at complex numbers, matrices, vectors and proof. The Statistics module looks at probability distributions and Chi-squared testing. The mechanics module explores collisions, momentum and work, energy power. The Pure modules build on the AS work with additional work in Polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions and differential equations. The Statistics module contains the topics plus Hypothesis testing, Central limit theorem and probability generating functions. The Mechanics module continues the work on collisions with the addition of elastic springs and strings.

Teacher Contacts

Mr Lewis

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 7 in Maths (preferred grade 8) **and students must pass the Further Maths entrance exam.**

Exam Board: Edexcel

Are you interested in:

- Progressing towards a career with a universal language?
- Discovering how to model real life situations with mathematics?
- How important decisions are made using Statistics?
- Mathematics for Mathematics sake?
- Mathematics and the Economy?
- Mathematics and Architecture?
- Mathematics and Engineering?
- Mathematics Teaching?
- Algorithms and Computer programming?

Leading to a career in:

- Finance
- Civil Service
- Management
- Economics
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Medicine
- Teaching
- Consultancy

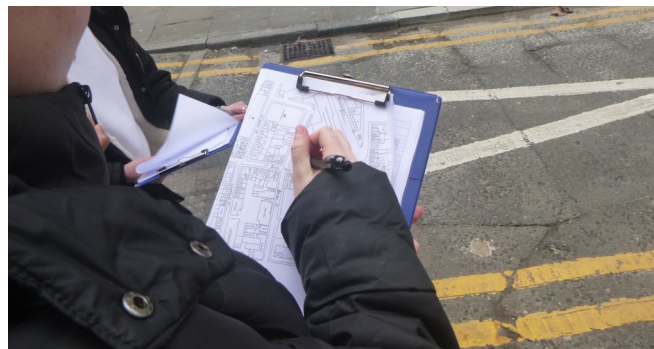
Geography

Are you interested in:

- The world around you?
- The challenges facing the environment?
- Understanding other cultures?
- The pressures and opportunities of world cities?
- Fieldwork and active research?
- A bridge between the arts and sciences?

Leading to a career in:

- Conservation
- Travel and tourism
- Local government and planning
- Resource management
- Meteorology and climatology including climate change
- Teaching



What is Geography?

Geography is the study of the world around us and man's impact on it. It considers the physical and human influences that shape and style our world including climate change, immigration, extreme climates, earthquakes, globalisation and the regeneration of cities.

Course Content

Physical Geography

- Water and Carbon cycles
- Coastal systems and processes
- Hazards

Human Geography

- Global systems and governance
- Changing places
- Population and the Environment

Geographical Skills

- A Geographical investigation based on fieldwork.
- Local fieldwork in both human and Physical geography settings



Teacher Contacts

Mrs Rush

Dr Hunt

Assessment Criteria

A2: 80% examination; 20% Geographical investigation.



German

What is A-level German?

The course develops your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as your general knowledge of the country. You will develop these skills through researching and discussing topics and studying a German film and a literary text.

Year 12 Course Content

The main topics are:

Changes in German society

Nature and the environment (Environmental awareness; recycling; renewable energy; sustainable living)

Education (The education system; student life; repeating a year; vocational training)

The world of work (Life at work in Germany and the moral of the workforce; German business and industries)

Political and artistic culture in German speaking countries

Music (Changes and trends; the influence of music on popular culture)

The Media (TV; digital-, print-, and online media; the influence on society and politics)

Festivals and Traditions (Festivals; celebrations; customs; traditions)

Year 13 course content

The main topics are:

Immigration and the German multicultural society

Integration and multiculturalism (Foreign workers; Immigrants; Asylum seekers; Advantages and difficulties of social integration and multiculturalism)

The economic and social effects of immigration (Competition in the workplace; Access to work and accommodation; increasing extremism)

The German reunification

East German society before the reunification (Communism in the DDR; relationships with the west; life and work)

Germany after the reunification (The breakdown of communism; emigration from east to west; effects on the German economy and society)

Are you interested in:

- Understanding how language works?
- Living or working abroad?
- Social and cultural issues?
- Communicating with others?
- Obtaining an impressive qualification for University entrance?
- Impressing employers?
- Increasing your salary potential?

Leading to a career in:

- Business with international links
- Employment which requires communication, research and analytical skills
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Interpreting and translating
- Law

Teacher Contacts

Mrs Geisser-Holmes

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in German

Assessment Criteria

The Advanced GCE is assessed over 3 examination papers.

Paper 1 is the listening, reading and translation examination. This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes. (40% of A level)

Paper 2 is a written response to works and translation. Students are assessed on an English to German translation, and 2 extended essays on 2 separate literary texts or films (30% of A level)

Paper 3 is the speaking exam (21-23 minutes). Task one is a discussion on one theme from the specification based on a stimulus. Task two is a presentation and discussion on independent research carried out by the student. (30% of A level)

History

Are you interested in:

- Thinking?
- Analysing information?
- Discussion and Debate?
- Research?
- Independent reading/ learning?
- Working in collaboration?
- Evaluating evidence?
- Coming to clear conclusions?

Leading to a career in:

- Law
- Education
- Media
- Public Sector
- Business
- Journalism change

Teacher Contacts

Ms Cox

Mr Dobinson



Exam Board: AQA



What is History?

This course is designed to help students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. It will help them to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives. The study of British, European and international topics throughout the course will provide them with the knowledge and skills they require to succeed as Alevel historians. They will gain a deep understanding of the events that shaped the world in which we live, as well as developing the transferable skills of source analysis and essay writing.

The course enables students to study:

- Significant events, individuals and issues
- A range of historical perspectives
- The diversity of society
- The history of more than one country or state
- A period of time

Course Content

The origins and development of the Cold War from the atomic bomb to the Cuban Missile Crisis and then further developments towards the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War.

The growth of the British Empire from the mid-1800s to the outbreak of the First World War and then the disintegration and ultimate collapse of the Empire up to the 1970s.

Coursework will be on the causes of the Tudor Rebellions from 1485-1587.



Law

What is Law?

A-level Law develops knowledge and understanding of the English Legal system. The study of Law at A- level enables students to develop their analytical and critical thinking skills. Studying Law develops students' problem solving skills through the application of legal rules, together with an understanding of legal method and reasoning.

Course Content

- The Legal System
- Criminal Law
- Law Making
- Law of Tort
- The Nature of Law
- Human Rights Law

Are you interested in:

- Who makes the law and how it is interpreted?
- Studying cases about murder, manslaughter, fraud or theft?
- Evaluating defendants' criminal liability?
- Merits and faults with the current law?
- Visits to court and talks with legal professionals?

Leading to a career in:

- The legal profession
- Law Enforcement
- Government politics
- Banking and finance
- Trading standards

Teacher Contacts

Miss Cutler



Mathematics

Are you interested in:

- Progressing towards a career with a universal language?
- Discovering how to model real life situations with mathematics?
- How important decisions are made using Statistics?
- Mathematics for Mathematics sake?
- Mathematics and the Economy?
- Mathematics and Architecture?
- Mathematics and Engineering?
- Mathematics Teaching?
- Algorithms and Computer programming?

Leading to a career in:

- Finance
- Civil Service
- Management
- Economics
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Medicine
- Teaching
- Consultancy
- Computing
- Banking

Teacher Contacts

Mr Lewis

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in Maths (preferred grade 7) and students must pass the Maths entrance exam.

Exam Board: Edexcel



What is Mathematics?

Mathematics is the abstract study of topics such as quantity, structure, space and change. Study of Mathematics will enhance problem solving skills, communication skills, reasoning and making connections. A significant proportion of the course is Algebra based and being able to work confidently with equations and graphs is crucial. To achieve the higher grades in this course you must be prepared to put in the hours of work.

Year 1 content

The course is broadly broken into Pure and Applied. Within Pure maths you will explore quadratics, graphs, polynomials, trigonometry, vectors and Calculus. The applied maths is again split into Statistics and Mechanics.

Statistics is data driven and explore the ways of comparing and presenting data with probability also playing a part. Mechanics is the maths behind movement.

Year 2 content

This contains all from the AS course but extends it further. Calculus and trigonometry are taken a lot further along with exponentials and logarithms. The statistical part of the course also moves on from the Year 12 course exploring other probability distributions and how we can apply them. Mechanics moves into forces around movement and moments.

Assessment Criteria

- Pure 1: 2 hr
- Pure 2: 2 hr
- Applied: 2 hr

What is Religious Studies?

Philosophy is an enquiry or study into the fundamental principles (big questions.) Ethics are systems of principles affecting how people make decisions and lead their lives. Studying this course leads to an A Level in Religious Studies.

Course Content

Students study three units:

1. Philosophy of Religion

- Existence of God
- Problem of Evil
- Religious Experience
- Religious language
- Critiques of religious beliefs
- Life after death
- Religion and science

2. Religion and Ethics

- Ethical theories
- Environmental issues
- Equality
- War and peace
- Sexual ethics
- Ethical language
- Religion and morality
- Medical Ethics

3. Islam

- Six beliefs
- Life and work of the Prophet Muhammad
- Qur'an
- The Five Pillars of Islam
- Ummah
- Developments of Sunni and Shi'a Islam
- Spread of Islam
- Sufism
- Islam and science
- Challenges of secularisation
- Gender and Islam

Religious Studies

Are you interested in:

Debating and asking questions?

Understanding yourself and the world around you?

Understanding the concept of God in more detail from atheist – theist perspectives?

Deciding what is right and wrong?

Linking theory to real world dilemmas and problems?

Leading to a career in:

- Business and Finance
- Police Force and Local Government
- Education
- Law and Politics
- Medical and Health care

Teacher Contacts

Miss Aucklah

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in Religious Studies or GCSE Grade 5 in English

Assessment Criteria

Three examinations, 3 hours each:

- Philosophy of religion and Ethics
- Study of religion and dialogues



Physics

Are you interested in:

- Asking the fundamental questions?
- Intellectual challenge?
- Experimental work?
- Problem solving?
- Improving your ICT skills?

Leading to a career in:

- Physics
- Medicine
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Computing

Teacher Contacts

Mr Hill

Mr Hannan

Assessment Criteria

Three written papers each of two hours including long and short answer questions, multiple choice and practical skills



What is Physics?

Physics is a curiosity-driven science that asks fundamental questions about what we find in the universe, and seeks to answer these questions by observing and experimenting. This experimenting has led to huge technological advances that continue to radically change our lives – mobile phones, 3D medical scanning, the internet...

Year 1 content

Particle physics (what is in a atom) quantum phenomena, electricity, mechanics, properties of solids and properties of waves.

Year 2 content

Nuclear physics, thermal physics and further mechanics fields and an option from: Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics, Turning points in physics, Electronics.



Politics

What is Politics?

What happens in Westminster affects us all, and this course allows you to study the theoretical assumptions that underpin its actions. A-Level Government and Politics enables students to develop their critical thinking skills and enhance their ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics. In Year 12 students will concentrate on people, politics and participation as well as governing modern Britain. In Year 13 students will learn about global politics and the different issues facing governance around the world.

This course is particularly suitable for students who have studied Economics, History, Sociology and English. It may also appeal to students who wish to study Government and Politics or History at a higher level.

Teacher Contacts

Mr Dobinson

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in English Language or Literature.

Assessment Criteria

- Paper 1 - UK politics - 33% - 2 hour exam
- Paper 2 - Comparative politics - USA - 33% - 2 hour exam
- Paper 3 - Political ideologies - 33% - 2 hour exam

Are you interested in:

- Who governs the country
- Why people vote the way they do
- How party leaders are selected
- The role of the media in politics
- Strengths and weaknesses of different electoral systems
- The role of the EU

Leading to a career in:

- Politics
- Law
- Local Government
- Civil Service
- Media
- Education
- Journalism



Psychology

Are you interested in:

- Consciousness, thought processes and how the mind works?
- Memory processes?
- The relationship between mind and body eg stress and schizophrenia?
- Individual differences and mental disorders?
- Biological and psychological therapies?
- The extent to which study of the human being can be scientific?
- The effects of nature? (genetics and evolution)
- The effects of nurture? (the environment, learning, and the media)
- The impact of Psychological research on real life?

Leading to a career in:

- Personnel or Social Work
- Counselling, Health or Medicine
- Teaching or Child Care
- Forensic Psychology or Police
- Sport Psychology
- Media

Teacher Contacts

Miss Sangha

Assessment Criteria

100% examination.



What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour and gives you the opportunity to investigate the intricate workings of both. You will have direct experience of what psychologists do when investigating human behaviour by participating in experimental work and research.

Course Content

Topics covered:

Social Psychology

Obedience and Conformity, Relationships, Forensic

Psychology Cognitive Psychology

Models of Memory, Forgetting and Eyewitness

Testimony Developmental Psychology

Theories of Attachment and Cultural Variations

Biopsychology

Stress, The Nervous System, the Brain and Sleep

Psychopathology

Phobias, Depression, OCD, Schizophrenia



KEEP
CALM
AND
STUDY
PSYCHOLOGY

Sociology



What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. Sociology tries to understand how various social institutions such as the family and education system operate, how they relate to one another and in whose interest they operate. Sociology is concerned with describing and explaining the patterns of inequality, power and conflict that are features of nearly all societies.

To learn sociology is to learn about how human societies are constructed and where our beliefs and daily routines come from. We learn about how our identities are formed and the influence of social class, gender, ethnicity, sexuality and age on our opportunities in life. Sociology is above all about developing a critical understanding of the taken for granted assumptions which we all hold and which influence the way we think about ourselves and others. In developing this, Sociology can itself contribute to changes in society, for example by highlighting and explaining social problems like unemployment, poverty and crime. The study of Sociology can provide the essential tools for a better understanding of the world we live in and therefore the means for improving it.

Teacher Contacts

Miss Aucklah

Assessment Criteria

Three examinations, each 2 hours

Are you interested in:

- Lively debate?
- Asking questions?
- Discussing current social issues?

Leading to a career in:

- Journalism
- Social Work
- Teaching
- Health Professions
- Law
- Urban and Rural Planning



EPQ

The EPQ can enhance any other qualifications studied and commonly studied topics are:

- Medicine and Veterinary medicine
- Law
- Advertising/ marketing
- Economics and business
- Psychology
- Art and design
- Humanities – Geography, History and RS
- Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Government and politics
- English Literature and Language – journalism and creative writing
- Performing Arts
- Sport and physiotherapy

Teacher Contacts

Miss Vale



What is the EPQ?

The EPQ is an additional qualification which students can study on top of their chosen subjects. It is a subject that revolves around independent work and requires a student to complete around 90 hours of self-study to complete a project. The project title is student drive, whereby the student selects their topic of choice, as long as it does not overlap with the specifications of any of their current subjects.

Compulsory Content

- A formal Production Log (diary to be completed which tracks the development of the project from start to finish)
- An independent project meeting AO criteria
- A presentation to staff and peers to present their project

Students can choose from 2 formats to make their project

Route A

The creation of an artefact – a physical object or planning of and running an event with a 1,000 word report.

Route B

Writing an extended essay of about 5,000 words

Entry Requirements

It is essential that students have excellent written communication skills so a GCSE Grade 5 English or above is advised.

Students also require high level independent learning skills and a strong work ethic.

Assessment Criteria

This qualification is worth half an A-Level. It has no exam and is 100% coursework based.



BTEC Business

What is BTEC Business?

BTEC National qualifications provide specialist, work-related learning across a range of vocational sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment or university.

The Diploma is designed to be the substantive part of a 16–19 study programme for learners who want a strong core of sector study. This programme may include other BTEC Nationals or A Levels to support progression to higher education courses in business areas before entering employment. The additional qualification(s) studied allow learners either to give breadth to their study programme by choosing a contrasting subject, or to give it more focus by choosing a complementary subject.

Teacher Contacts

Miss Brown

Mrs Baker

Assessment Criteria

Equivalent in size to three A Levels.

13 units of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Mandatory content (66%)

External assessment (42%).

Are you interested in:

The qualification gives learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the business sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose two units from a selection of options to supplement the mandatory units which reflect the key topics in business:

- Marketing
- business environments
- international business
- Management
- finance.

Leading to:

The qualification is recognised by higher education institutions as fully meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses in a variety of areas in the business sector, as single or joint programmes at degree, foundation degree or HND level. When studied with other qualifications in the study programme, learners can progress to higher education on combined courses.

Performing Arts

Assessment

Year 12

Students will complete the Extended Certificate which is equivalent to 1 A Level

Mandatory units

1. Investigating practitioners work. Learners investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work. This is an external exam. 3 hours, out of 60 marks.
2. Developing skills for live performance. Learners explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles.

Year 13

Students will extend their qualification to complete the Foundation Diploma, worth 1.5 A Levels.

1. Group Performance workshop

Learners explore and integrate creative, physical and vocal skills and techniques, working collaboratively to create a performance in response to a given stimulus. Final performance in front of an audience, out of 18 marks.

1. Variety Performance

In this unit students will research the history of variety performances, developing knowledge in preparation for creating their own version of a variety 'BGT' inspired performance. Students can choose any performance discipline they like, this can vary

Teacher Contacts

Mrs Edwards-Ricketts



What is Performing Arts?

The Performing Arts are art forms in which artists use their body or voice to convey artistic expression and include dance, music, opera, theatre, magic, spoken word, circus arts, recitation and musical theatre.

Course Content

BTEC Performing Arts will provide you with a broad foundation in all aspects of performance. You will participate in a variety of practical workshops, focusing on Acting, Singing and Dancing. You will develop key physical and performance skills in a range of disciplines, whilst analysing and exploring a variety of Musical Theatre works and practitioners. You will have the opportunity to participate in a range of workshop and performances, both in class and within Performing Arts extracurricular. You will work on building confidence to perform to a range of audiences, within different projects.





What is National Extended Certificate in Sport?

A broad basis of study for the sport sector.

This qualification is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

Course Content

This is intended as an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size of one A Level. It is a two-year, full-time course of 4 units, in which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory content (83%).

External assessment (67%).

Learners will cover the following units:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry

National Extended Certificate in Sport

Progression Routes

Students will have a range of different career pathways they may choose to select at the end of the two year course: • Gain employment • Gain an Apprenticeship • Apply to University in this country (We would recommend you look at Brighton University, Southampton Solent University or UCFB University web sites to see the range of courses available).

Leading to a career in:

- Sports coaching
- Fitness training
- Sports development Law

Teacher Contacts

Mr Rowe

Miss Heath

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in PE or merit Level 2 Sport and a Grade 5 in English and a Grade 4 in Maths



National Extended Diploma in Sport



Are you interested in:

- How the body works?
- Improving fitness?
- Developing as a coach?

Assessment Criteria

The course entails completing a minimum of 3 hours of classroom studies a day. **Priority is given to their academic studies not their participation in practical activities.** Coursework has to be completed to Target grade and handed in on time. Homework will entail revision for tests or ensuring coursework is completed to the expected standard.

Progression Routes

Students will have a range of different career pathways they may choose to select at the end of the two year course:

- Gain employment
- Gain an Apprenticeship
- Apply to University in this country (We would recommend you look at Brighton University, Southampton Solent University or UCFB University web sites to see the range of courses available).
- Apply to an American College for a scholarship.

Academic Attainment

Last year 88% of the cohort of students who selected this course achieved the equivalent of three 'A' grades at ALevel, placing the school in the top 5% of schools nationally.

77% have gone on to University to study a sports related degree course and 23% have gained employment in a sports related industry.

Standards expected are exceptionally high so your child must be motivated to work hard and be conscientious to strive for academic excellence.

What is National Extended Diploma in Sport?

This is intended as an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to three A Levels. It is a two-year, fulltime course that meets entry requirements on its own right for learners who want to progress into higher education courses in sport before entering employment.

- It is equivalent to the size of three A Levels.
- 14 units of which 10 are mandatory and 4 are externally assessed
- External assessment (4 exams worth 42% of the overall marks)

Learners will cover ten mandatory units:

1. Anatomy and Physiology
2. Fitness Training and programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
3. Professional Development in the Sports Industry
4. Sports Leadership
5. Practical Sports Performance
6. Coaching for Performance
7. Research Methods
8. Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity
9. Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry
10. Skill Acquisition The optional units include: - Application of Fitness Testing - Sports Organisation - Rules and Regulations and Officiating Sport - Technical

Teacher Contacts

Mr Rowe

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in PE or merit Level 2 BTEC Sport and a grade 5 in English and grade 4 in Maths.



Core Mathematics

What is Core Mathematics?

Core Maths is a 1 Year Course in Year 12 which is equivalent to an AS-Level. This course is designed to support the mathematics needed in various other courses which students might be studying at A-Level. Examples include Biology, Chemistry, Business, Geography and Psychology. This is an additional qualification which can be studied alongside 3 other A-Levels, including A-Level Maths.

Compulsory Content

- Analysis of data
- Maths for personal finance
- Estimation
- Critical analysis of given data and models

Students will then study 3 further units from either Route A or Route B. (This choice often partly depends on which other A-Levels students are studying in Year 12.)

Route A

- The Normal Distribution
- Statistical Probabilities and Estimation
- Correlation and Regression

Route B

- Critical Path and Risk Analysis
- Probability and Expectation
- Cost Benefit Analysis

Leading to a Career in:

- Finance / Financial Modelling
- Insurance
- Banking
- Mortgage Broker
- Statistical Analysis
- Actuary
- Linear Programming
- Inland Revenue and Tax

Teacher Contacts

Mr. O'Neill

Entry Requirements

Students will need to have sat the Higher GCSE Maths and gained grade 5 or above.

Assessment Criteria

The course is assessed in two exam papers. Both are normally sat during May of Year 12. Each paper will count for 50% of the course. Both papers allow a calculator and some formulae are given.