



# North Kesteven Academy Sixth Form Prospectus 2019

## Introduction to the North Kesteven Academy Prospectus for 2019

We are excited to present the North Kesteven Academy Sixth Form course choices information within this booklet. We hope you will find a comprehensive source of information as you make important decisions about which subjects you will study at Key Stage 5. Making the right choices in Year 11 will ensure opportunity and possibility in the future whatever pathway you eventually choose. Every student now needs to stay in education or training until they are 18 and we would encourage you to see Sixth Form as your natural next step.

It is important that you consider your choices carefully and discuss the subjects you are interested in with your teachers and parents/carers. We have designed the open evening to facilitate these discussions, whilst also giving you an insight into the sixth form classroom experience. In addition, we have several invited guests who represent the extended and enrichment learning that we offer as part of the sixth form. We believe in developing the whole student here at the academy and you will find more information about life as a sixth former in this booklet. We are also very pleased to have a representative from Cambridge University to talk to students with particular aspirations.

Over the last few years the examination system has changed significantly and an overview is provided within this booklet to help you to understand the changes. There is also information about the different types of qualifications on offer and where they sit on the UCAS tariff system. If you have any questions about the content of a course or the way in which it will be examined, please do not hesitate to ask any of your teachers. There will be further opportunities to discuss your options as we will be having meetings with all students, individually, in the two weeks succeeding this open evening.

Mrs J Tunnicliffe  
Head Teacher

Miss R Yarsley  
Head of Sixth Form

## Key Dates:

Tuesday 20th November 2018	Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 21st November 2018	Applications Window Opens
Monday 26th November 2018 to Friday 7th December 2018	North Kesteven Year 11 Meetings
Monday 17th December 2018	Course Offer Review*
Wednesday 26th June 2019	Sixth Form Induction Days
Thursday 22nd August 2019	GCSE Results Day
Friday 30th August 2019	Sixth Form Registration Morning

\*The 'Course Offer Review' is where we look at the number of applications for each course and may decide to withdraw the course from our offer due to lack of interest.

The courses offered are those that we can deliver. We reserve the right to withdraw a course from the offer at anytime up until the start of the academic year 2019.

## Key Contacts:

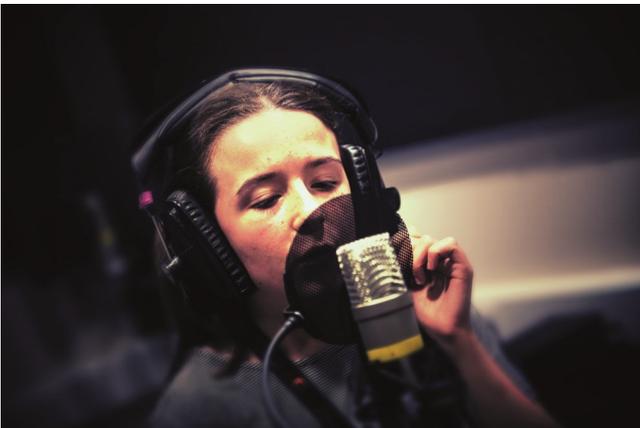
Mrs J Tunnicliffe	Head Teacher
Miss R Yarsley	Head of Sixth Form
Mrs R Barber	Sixth Form Achievement Lead
Mr B Smith	Curriculum
Mrs P Calder	SENDCo
Miss G Betts	Careers Coordinator

# Being a Sixth Form Student

Life in the sixth form is full. You will be productive in your studies, engaged in enrichments activities, organising projects and attending events and focussed on making plans for the future. Here at NKA we want to support you in all of these endeavours and have founded our sixth form on these principles. We feel that the knowledge, skills and personal qualities that you gain from being a sixth former, will set you up for the next stages in your life and the sixth form team work very hard to ensure that that is tailored to your individual needs as much as possible.

You can expect to work hard at your studies as you will be studying three or more Level 3 courses. You will have non-teaching periods that will be used for both recreational and study activities and as a sixth former you will be expected to contribute fully to the life of the school. You are young adults and as such have a responsibility to be the role models and leaders that the lower school look up to.

Sixth form is a time of growth and development, which extends to your personal lives through endeavours such as part time work, driving lessons and work based training. We will support such activities, as long as you ensure that your primary focus is your study, as that is the ultimate passport to your future.



# General Information

## Policies

All policies and further information about the North Kesteven Academy Sixth Form can be found on the Academy web site. If you cannot find an answer to your query please email: [sixthform@nkacademy.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@nkacademy.co.uk)

## 16-19 Bursary

There is a small fund of money made available to the academy to help support students who may struggle financially. Only students who satisfy certain criteria will be eligible to access the fund. The criteria will be specified in the 16-19 Bursary Statement and will be updated for September 2019 before the end of this academic year.

## Dress Code

Students clothing and footwear must be appropriate for a school environment and their course. All clothing must maintain modesty and not display any offensive labelling. Skirts, dresses and shorts will be of knee length (shorts are only permitted during the summer term). Ripped clothing is not permitted. Sports wear (tracksuits, jogging bottoms, etc.) are only permitted if a requirement for the course and should only be worn for that lesson.

All students will be issued with an ID card and a lanyard. These must be worn around the neck and visible at all

## Smoking

North Kesteven Academy is a no smoking site.. This rule applies to all forms of smoking paraphernalia including e-cigarettes, etc. Students may not smoke on any part of the site or in the local vicinity of the Academy.

## North Kesteven Academy School Day

Students are required to be in school for the entire school day. Non-contact periods will appear on the students timetable and these periods should be spent in the Common Room or Study Centre. Sixth Form students are granted additional freedom by being permitted to go off site during break and lunch.

Registration	08:45—08:55
Lesson 1	09:00—10:00
Lesson 2	10:05—11:05
Break	11:05—11:25
Lesson 3	11:25—12:25
Lunch	12:25—13:10
Lesson 4	13:10—14:10
Lesson 5	14:15—15:15

## NK Academy Term Dates 2019-2020

Term 1	Wednesday 4th September 2019 Friday 18th October 2019
Term 2	Tuesday 29th October 2019 Thursday 19th December 2019
Term 3	Tuesday 7th January 2020 Friday 14th February 2020
Term 4	Monday 24th February 2020 Thursday 2nd April 2020
Term 5	Monday 20th April 2020 Friday 22nd May 2020
Term 6	Monday 1st June 2020 Tuesday 21st July 2020

# Qualification Types and Grading

In England there are a number of different types of qualification on offer to suit the learning needs of everyone. A list of high quality qualifications is published each year by the Department for Education and we ensure that the qualifications we offer at North Kesteven Academy are on this list to enable our sixth form students to progress successfully into higher education, apprenticeships or employment.

## What do the levels mean?

**Level 1** means a GCSE passed at a grade 1 to 4, or an equivalent qualification.

**Level 2** means a GCSE passed at a grade 5 or above. There are also BTEC, OCR Nationals, Awards and Certificates on offer at North Kesteven Academy at Level 2. This is the level that we would expect the vast majority of our students to be achieving at the end of Year 11.

**Level 3** qualifications are A Levels or an equivalent BTEC, CTEC etc. This is the level studied in our sixth form.

**Level 4 to 8** qualifications are available at universities and other higher education providers.

## What is the difference between A Level, CTEC and BTEC Courses?

Level 3 BTEC and CTEC courses are comparable to A Level courses. The BTEC and CTEC content generally includes more practical and vocational elements. All courses have an examined element, but in some A Level's this counts as 100% of the qualification, whereas with BTEC and CTEC it is a smaller percentage.

The individual BTEC and CTEC courses offered in Sixth Form are the equivalent of one A Level. In some cases these courses can be combined into a larger qualification that is the equivalent of two or three A Level's. Please speak to the Head of Department if you wish to discuss the possibility of a larger qualification.

You can study a combination of BTEC, CTEC and A Level courses whilst at NK Academy. When considering your course choices you should look at what suits your learning style. The BTEC and CTEC courses are not the easy option, while the exam element is a smaller percentage of the qualification than in an A Level there are constant deadlines for coursework that need to be met.

## What grades are awarded if the qualification isn't a GCE (A Level)?

BTEC and CTEC qualifications are all "vocational" qualifications. This means that they relate more directly to the world of work. They all have a portfolio of units and assignments to successfully complete and all have at least one examination. The grades on offer from a Level 3 qualification are Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction\*.

We currently offer a LIBF (London Institute of Finance and Banking) qualification at level 3 in Finance. The grading for this qualification is currently A\* to E and is in line with A Level grading.

## Qualification Types and Grading Systems continued...

### What do Universities look for?

All the Level 3 qualifications on offer at NK Academy have UCAS (University and Colleges Admissions Service) points associated with them. When looking at University courses for life after Sixth Form there is generally a number of UCAS points required in order to access the course. We will provide regular updates as to progress and the grade we believe can be achieved at the end of your two years with us. This will allow you to research university courses with the knowledge of the number of UCAS points you are expected to achieve.

The table below shows the comparison between Level 3 A Level, BTEC and CTEC qualifications and the associated UCAS Points.

This information has been taken from UCAS information for entries for September 2019.

A Level /LIBF Grade	BTEC Subsidiary Diploma Grade	CTEC Introductory Diploma Grade	UCAS Points
A*	Distinction *	Distinction *	56
A	Distinction	Distinction	48
B			40
C	Merit	Merit	32
D			24
E	Pass	Pass	16

# Course Listing

Page	Course	Department
8	Applied Science	Science
9	Art	Art
10	Biology	Science
11	Business	Business
12	Chemistry	Science
13	Core Maths	Mathematics
14	Criminology	Social Science
15	Dance	Dance
16	Drama	Drama
17	Engineering	Technology
18	English Language & Literature	English
19	English Literature	English
20	Finance	Business
21	Further Maths	Mathematics
22	Geography	Geography
23	German	Modern Foreign Languages
24	Health & Social Care	Social Science
25	History	History
26	Mathematics	Mathematics
27	Music	Music
28	Music Technology	Music
29	PE & Sport	Physical Education
30	Philosophy & Ethics	Social Science
31	Physics	Science
32	Politics	History
33	Product Design	Technology
34	Psychology	Social Science
35	Sociology	Social Science

# Applied Science

## Course Details

### Course Type:

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science

**Contact:** Dr D Mansfield

**Examined Component:** 40%

**Controlled Component:** 60%

### Summary of course content:

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. Employers and professional bodies have also been involved and consulted to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for students planning to enter employment directly in the applied science sector.

You will study three mandatory units:

- Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills.

We then choose one optional unit which has been designed to support choices in progression to applied science courses in higher education.

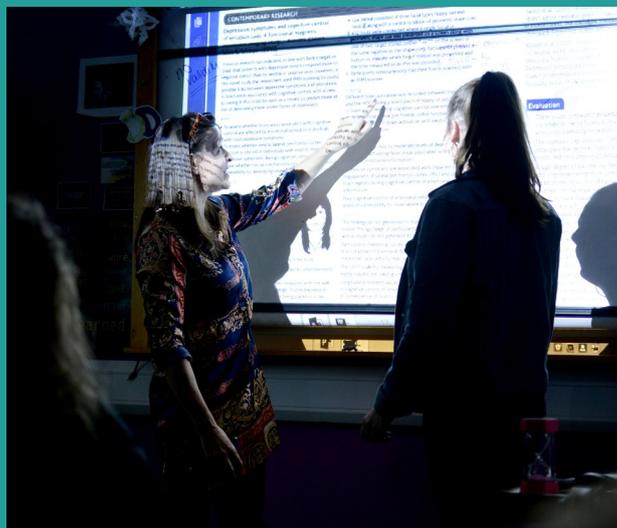
Optional units include:

- Unit 8: Physiology of Human Body Systems
- Unit 10: Biological Molecules and Metabolic Pathways
- Unit 13: Applications of Inorganic Chemistry
- Unit 15: Electrical Circuits and their Application.

### How to access this course:

You will need at least a Level 5 in GCSE combined Science or Level 5 in two of the three GCSE separate sciences.

Alternatively a Merit in the BTEC Level 2 National Diploma in Applied Science



### Progression and Career routes:

The requirements of the qualification means that you develop the transferable and higher order skills which are valued by higher education providers and employers. When studying *Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills*, you will develop skills on how to plan investigations, collect, analyse and present data as well as communicate the results which are all valuable for higher education, employment, self-employment or training.

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses when taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning, including, but not exclusively, those which have a relationship with science.

The qualification can be taken as part of a diverse programme, leaving progression options fully open. It can also give context to higher education subjects which would benefit from some scientific background. This would depend on the combination of qualifications chosen. For example, taken alongside:

- Mathematics and/or Engineering to progress to engineering related courses.
- Psychology and Sport or PE to progress onto sport psychology courses.
- Health and Social Care to progress to nursing courses.
- Sport or PE to progress to sport and exercise science courses.
- Geography to progress to geography or environmental science courses.

# Art



## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Fine Art/BTEC Level 3 Art & Design

**Contact:** Mrs S Gilbride

**Examined Component:** A Level: 40%    BTEC: 50%

**Controlled Component:** A Level: 60%    BTEC: 50%

### Progression and Career routes:

Many of our students go on to study creative courses at a higher level including Fine Art, Photography, Advertising, Scenic Art, Fashion and Graphics.

These courses also lend themselves well to apprenticeships in the creative sector.

### Summary of course content:

**A Level:** The A level Fine Art course offers you the opportunity to develop your skills in a range of materials and techniques before pursuing your own themes and interests in a Fine Art context. It provides freedom for you to experiment and take risks with your work whilst developing your own style. During the course learners will explore the work of other artists, designers and craftspeople and develop your skills in critically analysing your work.

**BTEC:** The BTEC course offers a vocational backdrop for Art and Design. The course is made up of 4 units which cover a range of Art and Design disciplines. During the course learners will explore a wide range of materials and techniques including drawing, painting, printing, sculpture and digital ways of working. They will develop your ability to discuss the work of others as well as developing your own ideas in a response to a brief.

### How to access this course:

**A Level:** You will need at least a grade 5 in GCSE Art. A grade 4 or above in English language is preferable due to the written element of the course.

**BTEC:** You will need at least a grade 4 GCSE Art or other creative subject including Media or Photography. A grade 4 or above in English language is preferable due to the written element of the course.

# Biology

## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
A Level Biology

**Contact:** Mr N Davies

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%



## Summary of course content:

The course consists of 6 modules of work, the first 3 of which are studied in year 12 and the remaining 3 during year 13.

The unit titles are:

1. Development of practical skills in Biology
2. Foundations in Biology
3. Exchange and transport
4. Biodiversity, evolution and disease
5. Communication, homeostasis and energy
6. Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

The practical skills element (module 1) will be conducted during both years and will be assessed in the terminal exams.

### A Level Assessment

There are three terminal exams at the end of the A level course. Paper 1 assesses content from units 1, 2, 3 and 5 and is worth 37% of the final marks; paper 2 assesses content from units 1, 2, 4 and 6 and is also worth 37% of the final marks; paper 3 assesses content from units 1 to 6 and is worth 26% of the final marks. Papers 1 and 2 are 2 hours and 15 minutes in length, while paper 3 is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

## Progression and Career routes:

GCE Biology is used in many different areas. This course could lead to careers in areas such as Medicine, Nursing, Forensics, Veterinary Science, Environmental Science, Dentistry, Pathology, Biochemistry, and Physiotherapy or as an A-level to accompany other non-science subjects. Due to the demands of the course it is respected by Universities as a preferred subject for both science and non-science based courses at University or College.

## How to access this course:

You will require two Science or individual science subject grades at Grade 6. A grade 6 in Maths would also be desirable. You will need to have a genuine interest and a desire to understand in more detail, how the body works, and about the complicated relationships that exist between the living things on our planet. They must also have a willingness to read around the subject and appreciate that lessons are only a starting point for the development of their knowledge and understanding. You must be highly motivated and be able to work both independently and within a team. They must show a willingness to constantly learn and revise the content covered during the course.

# Business



## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Business/CTECH Business

**Contact:** Mr L Athersych

**Examined Component:** A Level: 100% CTEC:40%

**Controlled Component:** A Level: 0% CTEC: 60%

### Progression and Career routes:

**A Level:** Students who study Business go on to higher education or high level apprenticeships. There are many degree and sandwich courses in business, or combinations with other subjects such as languages. There are career opportunities both inside and outside the UK in both the private and public sectors.

**CTECH:** A Ctech in Business leads to a wide range of degree courses in business and related subjects. Universities praise the study skills students with a vocational A level leave with. Higher level apprenticeships and employment are also other routes for which this Ctech would help support.

### How to access this course:

**A Level:** If you have studied business/finance at Key Stage 4 a grade 5 /merit is required Grade 5 in both English and Maths are also required.

**CTECH:** If you have studied business at Key Stage 4 a 5 is required. Grade 5 in English is also required.

### Summary of course content:

**A Level:** A Level Business Studies is a course which will enable you to focus on the dynamic nature of the contemporary business world, providing opportunities for exploring real business situations and researching topical business issues. You will investigate business issues and concepts from initial business start-up, right through to large multinationals.

The course draws together the business functions and the external environment to study the objectives and strategies that businesses adopt, for example recent merger activities and globalisation. A variety of approaches are used.

Units include Marketing, Finance, Operations, Human Resources and Management.

The assessment is based on three exams of equal weighting that cover all the topic areas over the two years and test a variety of skills from multiple choice to extended writing and data analysis.

**CTECH:** You will study the business environment which includes ownership, finance and functional areas. After this examination, they have the business knowledge to then complete portfolios in marketing, business communication, human resources and a work experience based research project.

**Year 1:**The  
Business Environment (examination)  
Customers and Communication (portfolio)

**Year 2:**  
Working in Business (examination)  
Marketing and market research (portfolio)

# Chemistry

## Course Details

**Course Type:**

A Level Chemistry A

**Contact:** Dr D Mansfield**Examined Component:** 100%**Controlled Component:** 0%**Summary of course content:**

**A Level Chemistry A** – a content-led approach. A flexible approach where the specification is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of chemistry. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they're assessed both through written papers and, for A level only, the Practical Endorsement.

The course content is split into six teaching modules:

- Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry
- Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry
- Module 3 – Periodic table and energy
- Module 4 – Core organic chemistry
- Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements
- Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis

**How to access this course:**

**A Level Chemistry A** – You will be required to achieve at least a grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or GCSE Combined Science. A grade 6 In GCSE Mathematics is also advisable.

**Progression and Career routes:**

The A Level Chemistry course will prepare learners for progression to undergraduate courses in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Pharmacy, one of the other sciences or related subjects. For learners wishing to follow an apprenticeship route or those seeking direct entry into chemical science careers, this A level provides a strong background and progression pathway.

Find out more at [www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)

# Core Maths

## Course Details

**Course Type:**

Level 3 Certificate in Core Maths

**Contact:** Mr T Allen**Examined Component:** 100%**Controlled Component:** 0%**Progression and Career routes:**

Employers from all different sectors are also firmly behind Core Maths qualifications. Many roles in today's workplace require high levels of budget management and problem-solving skills; Core Maths will equip you with these skills.

**How to access this course:**

You will need a GCSE grade 4 or above, and want to continue to study mathematics, but not at AS/A Level.

Mathematics should be a subject you enjoyed at GCSE and you may have an interest in subjects such as the sciences, geography, business studies, psychology, or economics,

**Summary of course content:**

Core Maths will help you understand and apply clear, mathematical reasoning to real-life problems, analyse and interpret data in various contexts and confidently deal with everyday financial maths. Most courses include a financial maths element helping you to understand the impact of interest rates on loans and investments.

These practical mathematical skills will also help you with your other A-Level subjects, in particular with sciences, geography, business studies, psychology, and economics

Core Maths is a course designed for post-16 students who want to continue studying mathematics but not at AS or A-Level. The Core Maths qualifications will help you retain, deepen and extend your mathematics to be better prepared for higher education and employment.

Universities have already come out in strong support of Core Maths qualifications; even subjects like history now recognise the importance of statistics and problem solving skills learned studying Core Maths.

# Criminology

## Course Details

### Course Type:

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

**Contact:** Mrs S Allen

**Examined Component:** 50%

**Controlled Component:** 50%



### Summary of course content:

The Applied Diploma in Criminology comprises of four units, 2 to be studied in year 12 and a further 2 to be studied in year 13. Students will study the Changing awareness of crime, Criminological Theories, Crime scene to Courtroom and Crime and Punishment. The purpose of the WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Criminology is to provide learners with an introduction to criminal justice and to give a context for humanities learning.

Together with other relevant qualifications, such as Psychology and Sociology, it develops the understanding to support entry to higher education courses in the humanities sector.

### How to access this course:

In order to access this course you will need five GCSEs at grade 5 or above or equivalent BTEC qualifications including English and Maths.

### Progression and Career routes:

The main purpose of the course is to use the qualification to support access to higher education degree courses, such as:

- BSc Criminology
- BA Criminology
- BA Criminology and Criminal Justice
- BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology
- LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology
- BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology
- BA (Hons) Criminology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology

# Dance

## Course Details

**Course Type:**

A Level Dance/BTEC Performing Arts: Dance

**Contact:** Mrs A Lloyd

**Examined Component:** A Level: 50% BTEC: 25%

**Controlled Component:** A Level 50% BTEC: 75%

**Progression and Career routes:**

The course would lead into higher education opportunities, such as studying Dance or Performing Arts. It could also lead to careers in performing, choreography, production design, theatre management, teaching, community dance or dance therapy. It's a brilliant subject to develop life skills vital to any career such as team work, communication, time management, organisation and self confidence.

**How to access this course:**

A Level: Grade 5 at GCSE or merit at level 2 BTEC or equivalent dance experience.

BTEC: Grade 4 at GCSE or merit at level 2 BTEC or equivalent dance experience.

**Summary of course content:**

**A Level:** This course develops your practical skills and your understanding of dance theory. We favour a practical approach to theory lessons with you learning repertoire from professional works and exploring set choreographers' processes creatively, to develop your understanding of the set works and areas of study. The main style studied during the course is contemporary. You will develop your technique and performance skills in this style and must perform a solo and quartet. You will also learn the process and craft of choreography: producing your own group piece.

**BTEC:** This course offers a vocational approach to developing your knowledge of dance theory and practical performance skills. You will gain understanding of the work of influential practitioners through analysis and performance of repertoire. You will develop your technique and expressive skills in both contemporary and street dance through group performances. Practical assessments will be completed as public performances.

# Drama & Theatre

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Drama and Theatre/ BTEC Drama/BTEC Musical Theatre

**Contact:** Miss R Yarsley

**Examined Component:** A Level: 60% BTEC: 25%

**Controlled Component:** A Level: 40% BTEC: 75%

### Summary of course content:

**A Level:** This is both an academic and practical approach to both drama and theatre. Over the two years, you can expect to study a variety of plays and practitioners, leading to an understanding of how plays can be interpreted for performance. There is also a large performance element where you are taught the art of devising theatre for performance and approaching a role as both actor and director.

**BTEC:** This course offers a vocational approach to developing your knowledge of drama/musical theatre theory and practical performance skills. You will gain understanding of the work of influential practitioners through analysis and performance of plays and devised work. You will develop your performance skills in a variety of theatrical styles. Practical assessments will be completed as public performances.

### How to access this course:

**A Level:** Grade 5 at GCSE or merit at level 2 BTEC or equivalent drama experience.

**BTEC:** Grade 4 at GCSE or merit at level 2 BTEC or equivalent drama experience.



### Progression and Career routes:

All of the courses that we offer are suitable for anyone wishing to pursue a career in the performing arts business, which incidentally is the third largest industry in this country, that is a given. We are highly trained specialists offering teaching and training that is second to none in the county and is often of a university standard.

However for those of you who are still undecided about your future, or are thinking, 'I don't want to be an actor, singer, dancer etc.' taking a drama course will still benefit you because of the wealth of skills that you will learn from the experiences that you have with us. Many of the jobs that will exist in the next twenty years do not even exist yet as the rate of technological development moves apace every day. These employers will be looking for creatively minded problem –solvers who are confident and able to adapt in the face of change.

# Engineering



## Course Details

### Course Type:

CTEC Extended Certificate in Engineering

**Contact:** Mr P Smith and Mr J Coster

**Examined Component:** 67%

**Controlled Component:** 33%

### Progression and Career routes:

This course could lead to a Higher Apprenticeship in the engineering sector or one of many Degree level courses at university. There will be an unprecedented demand for graduate engineers over the next ten to fifteen years and anyone moving into this sector will find themselves very much in demand. These are interesting, well paid and secure careers.

### How to access this course:

You will need a Grade 6 or above at GCSE in a Technology Subject, Mathematics and Science.

You will also need to be studying Mathematics or Physics at A level.

### Summary of course content:

This course consists of six units taught over two years. Four of the units have an exam element while two are coursework. The units are as follows:

- Mathematics for Engineering (Examined)
- Science for Engineering (Examined)
- Principles of Mechanical Engineering (Examined)
- Principles of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (Examined)
- Electrical and Electronic Design (NEA)
- Computer Aided Design (NEA)

Many of the big challenges facing society today such as sustainable energy production, renewable resources and transportation will be solved by the engineers of the future. British engineers are in demand around the world because of their outstanding training and innovation.

# English Language & Literature

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level English Language & Literature

**Contact:** Mrs H Burr and Mrs J Stones

**Examined Component:** 80%

**Controlled Component:** 20%



### Summary of course content:

A Level English Language and Literature draws together the study of linguistics with a wide range of literary and non-literary texts.

You will study both language and literature elements through a really interesting range of material including novels, a play, poetry and non-fiction. The course aims to build on your analytical skills by developing terminology and introducing new ideas and concepts.

The assessment is based on three exams which cover all the texts studied over the two years and assess your analytical skills, ability to apply terminology, writing skills and understanding of concepts. You will also complete a piece of independent written work on a text of your choice, worth 20% of the final grade.

### Progression and Career routes:

The course is beneficial for a wide range of higher education courses and careers beyond English because of the transferable skills it offers. It is particularly useful for those wanting to study further English, History, Journalism, Media, Social Sciences and communication based courses at university.

### How to access this course:

Grade 6 or above in both your English Language and English Literature GCSEs

# English Literature



## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
A Level English Literature

**Contact:** Mrs J Stones and Miss F McGrath

**Examined Component:** 80%

**Controlled Component:** 20%

## Progression and Career routes:

Further literary study and careers in the written arts are the obvious outcomes and this course is highly respected academically by top universities. A student of literature is a reader for life and the analysis and experience of a range of literary texts will be transferable to almost every profession.

## Summary of course content:

The focus for this subject is to enable the exploration of different reading processes to enrich one's understanding of literary texts. Texts range through all genres and all ages, from the contemporary to the archaic.

A choice will be made between aspects of comedy and aspects of tragedy through the study of three texts, one of which will be a Shakespeare play for the first examined unit.

The second examined unit will cover three further texts focussing on either crime or political writing.

The non-examined assessment requires close analysis of poetry and prose and application of critical theory.

The independent study unit empowers you to analyse texts while also exploring, investigating and probing critical thinking thus extending your understanding of different interpretations and viewpoints.

## How to access this course:

Grade 6 or above in both your English Language and English Literature GCSEs

# Finance

## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
Finance Diploma

**Contact:** Mr L Athersych

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%



### Summary of course content:

#### Year one—Certificate

The course is divided into two units each year. The units cover the topic areas that will be assessed in the two, 2-part exams. Part A covers multiple choice questions whereas part B covers extended writing.

Exam dates for the Unit 1 are typically January with Unit 2 in May.

#### Year Two—Diploma

This follows the same format of assessment with the exams for units 3 and 4 in January and May respectively.

The course is delivered through teacher input in classroom based learning and you are expected to broaden your knowledge and support your understanding with learning beyond the classroom.

### Progression and Career routes:

This course will serve as an excellent foundation for many undergraduate courses, particularly Business, Finance and Accountancy. Job prospects are excellent with past students entering Accountancy, Banking and Journalism.

### How to access this course:

A robust and independent learning style, good punctuality and previous attendance in year 11

Grade 4 in English and Maths

A teacher recommendation will also be considered if the course requirements were not met.

# Further Mathematics



## Course Details

**Course Type:**

A Level Further Mathematics

**Contact:** Mr T Allen**Examined Component:** 100%**Controlled Component:** 0%

### Progression and Career routes:

This course will both extend and deepen your knowledge of mathematics, beyond the standard A level. If you are planning a career in: Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance/Economics or even a degree in Mathematics itself then A Level Further Mathematics will benefit you enormously. Many of the topics covered are useful in many STEM degrees.

Further Mathematics qualifications are highly regarded and are warmly welcomed by universities. Students who take Further Mathematics are really demonstrating a strong commitment to their studies, as well as learning mathematics that is very useful for any mathematically rich degree. Some prestigious university courses require you to have a Further Mathematics qualification and others may adjust their grade requirements more favourably to students with Further Mathematics

### How to access this course:

You must be studying A level Mathematics to take A level Further Mathematics. Entry requirements for the course are similar to that for A level Mathematics plus teacher recommendation for the course.

You must possess a genuine interest in deepening your understanding of mathematical concepts and ideas as well as a passion for maths. You must be highly motivated, highly capable mathematicians with a willingness to work independently to further your skills and understanding.

### Summary of course content:

A-level Further Mathematics is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying A-level Mathematics. It MUST therefore be studied alongside A level Mathematics. A level Further Mathematics is a challenging course and you must be motivated to succeed.

The course is assessed through 3 examinations. Two of which focus on Pure Mathematics content and one of which focuses on Applied Mathematics content, namely statistics, mechanics or discrete mathematics. In the pure element of the course you study content including proof, matrices, complex numbers, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations, trigonometry and numerical methods. During the course, you will be taught how to apply these concepts to modelling and problem solving questions which are a feature of the examination.

Each of the 3 examinations make up one third of the qualification. Each examination lasts for 2 hours and will include a range of question styles, from short single mark questions to multi-step problems.

# Geography

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Geography

**Contact:** Miss R Bellamy

**Examined Component:** 80%

**Controlled Component:** 20%



## Summary of course content:

**Physical Geography** – Water and Carbon Cycles, Coastal Systems and Landscapes, Ecosystems Under Stress.

This involves themes including distribution of cycles and environments across the globe, processes and systems which exist in environments and their impact & effects, physical features which exist in environments, changes to environments which take place over time, threats to environments, management of environments to encourage sustainability and specific case studies from global & local locations.

**Human Geography** – Global Systems and Governance, Changing Places, Contemporary Urban Environments.

Global processes e.g. global trade, Globalisation, impacts & issues relating to global processes, global governance & international organisations, international Issues – climate change, resources & Antarctica, how & why places change – the nature and dynamics of change and resource development & sustainable use – Global Management Strategies.

**Geography Fieldwork Investigation** – students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected by the student.

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student. Staff will provide a pool of themes from which question can be developed. Students must demonstrate subject knowledge from the Physical and Human units. Students must also demonstrate a range of Geographical skills including planning & methodology, data collection & sampling, research, analysis & statistical

## Progression and Career routes:

A Level Geography students have found that:

- Employers and places of further education value Geography as a good academic subject. They are seeking out employees or students with the skills Geography helps develop.
- Geography leads to many career opportunities. A few examples are chartered surveyor, town planner, diplomat, teaching, utilities manager, accountant, social worker and tourism based careers.

## How to access this course:

If students have studied Geography at Key Stage 4 a Grade 5 is desirable. Other circumstances or teachers recommendation will be considered. GCSE English and GCSE Maths at grade 4 is a requirement.

The requirement for Grade 4 is linked to the need to write extensive and in-depth answers, displaying an ability to structure and paragraph answers clearly and coherently. The Level 4 requirement in Maths is borne out of the large amount of work with data, including presentation and statistical techniques which students need to be able to demonstrate across each unit.

The A Level course is suitable for anyone with a passion for Geography. Students really should have a desire to further their knowledge and understanding of the subject. They must be keen to explore ideas, concepts and theories in-depth, both in the classroom and through wider reading. Students should want to find out information for themselves and not just rely on the classroom as a learning environment. We would expect students to be well informed of current events around the globe and read newspapers, articles, web journals, etc. to further their knowledge and understanding.

# German



## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
A Level German

**Contact:** Mrs C Ertmann

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%

### Progression and Career routes:

German at A Level offers a suitable progression route to further study at university level, and may also add to your employability profile, particularly for UK organisations trading overseas as well as with international companies based in the UK and globally. You can progress to a wide range of careers in areas such as journalism and media, education, science, medicine, the civil service, sales, marketing, retail and charities. You will develop transferable skills that support study of other GCE subjects, higher education study, and the transition to employment, together with an understanding and appreciation of German-speaking countries and their cultures. Nationally very few people study a foreign language to A level, and it is increasingly becoming a rare but sought-after skill in many areas of employment, complementing perfectly A levels in a wide range of subjects.

### How to access this course:

You will require at least a level 6 at GCSE and should have a genuine interest in the history, politics and society of Germany and German-speaking countries. You will need to be prepared to do independent study of German reference materials and be motivated to learn vocabulary and deepen your understanding of German grammar. If you are a mature and highly motivated learner with a strong desire to achieve a confident working knowledge of German you will be ideally suited to this course.

### Summary of course content:

You will study four broad themes;

**The development of German Society** (environment, education and the world of work)

**Political and Artistic Culture in German-Speaking Countries** (music, media, celebrations and festivals)

**Immigration and German multicultural Society** (challenges, benefits and state and social reactions to immigration) and

**German Unity** (life in the GDR, events leading up to unification and Germany since unification)

The A Level Exam requires the study of two literary texts or a literary text and a film. The final exam consists of three papers:

Paper 1 – Listening, reading and translation into English (40% of final mark)

Paper 2 – Written response to books / film and translation into German (30% of final mark)

Paper 3 – Discussion on a theme that students have studied (30% of final mark)

# Health & Social Care

## Course Details

### Course Type:

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

**Contact:** Mrs J Ferrier

**Examined Component:** Two 1.5 hour exams 58%

**Controlled Component:** 42%

### Summary of course content:

This course is the equivalent to one A Level. Its content covers three mandatory (m) and one optional (o) unit, and looks at:

- \* Human Lifespan and Development (m)
- \* Working in Health and Social Care (m)
- \* Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (m)
- \* Psychological Perspectives (o)

The mandatory content has been mapped to the National Occupational Standards to reflect essential skills and knowledge needed for entry to employment.

The content has also been mapped to Care Certificate standards.

This course compliments a variety of other subjects (including Biology, Psychology, English, History, Sport or any other Social Science) for progression into Higher Education or Employment in the relevant sector.

The skills you will develop include:

- Cognitive and problem-solving *critical thinking, creative solutions, use of technology*
- Intrapersonal skills *communication, working collaboratively, negotiating, influencing, self-presentation*
- Interpersonal skills *self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.*



### Progression and Career routes:

This course can help with progression to BSC (Hons) Nursing, BA (Hons) Primary Education, BSc (Hons) Social Work

The employability skills developed throughout course and its mapping to recognised standards make it ideal for students wanting to seek employment in the 'Health & Social Care' sector

### How to access this course:

You are most likely to see success if you have:

- 5 GCSEs at good grades and / or
- BTEC qualifications at Level 2
- Achievement in English and Maths

# History

## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
A Level History

**Contact:** Ms S Dewey

**Examined Component:** 80%

**Controlled Component:** 20%



### Summary of course content:

The A Level History course is a 2 year A Level which comprises of 3 units:

#### **Breadth Study – Tsarist & Communist Russia, 1855 – 1964**

This involves studying the nature of causes and consequences of change and continuity and of similarity and differences over a long period of time, the links between perspectives, such as political, economic, social or religious as well as appreciating developments relating the perspectives separately over time and the role played by individuals, groups, ideas or ideology. The unit focuses on political change in Russia over the time period and how these changes impact on social and economic strands within Russia as it moved from being a Tsarist state to a Communist state. This is explored through the role of individuals such as Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchev.

#### **Depth Study – The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007**

Each 'Depth' study is focussed on a significant period of historical change or development. Students will gain deep understanding of change and continuity through the study of the interrelationships of a variety of perspectives. The unit focuses on the Conservative era and the affluent society of the 1950's, the social changes which occurred during the Sixties thanks to a move to a Labour government. The unit moves through further social and economic change brought about during the Thatcher era and the legacy of New Labour during the 1990's and into the new millennium.

#### **A Historical Investigation**

You will be required to identify an issue you wish to study and develop a question from. This issue will be the focus

of the historical investigation. The issue to be investigated has to be placed in the context of approximately 100 years. Through undertaking the historical investigation you will develop an enhanced understanding of the nature and purpose of history as a discipline and how historians work.

### Progression and Career routes:

An A Level in History can lead to further education routes which specialise in specific areas of History and also provides a foundation for a route into careers such as journalism, law, art criticism, archaeology, museum curator, education – both teaching and lecturing, archivist, military analyst and civil servant.

### How to access this course:

If you have studied History at Key Stage 4 a Grade 6 is desirable. Other circumstances or teachers recommendation will however be considered. GCSE English at grade 5 is also a requirement.

# Mathematics

## Course Details

**Course Type:**

A Level Mathematics

**Contact:** Mr T Allen**Examined Component:** 100%**Controlled Component:** 0%**Summary of course content:**

Mathematics A Level is a linear course taught over two years and is divided into three broad strands of mathematics. Pure mathematics is similar to the algebra taught at grade A GCSE but extends on to new topics such as Calculus, Advanced Geometry and Functions and equations. The other two modules are in applied mathematics. The statistics element covers probability, representing data, calculating measures of central tendency and spread and hypothesis testing. The mechanics module deals with forces and mathematical interactions in the physical world. In this module you study Newton's laws, resolving forces and projectiles.

There is a strong problem solving element to all three strands and examination is by three 2 hour papers at the end of the two years. A Level mathematics is a challenging but rewarding course, and you must be prepared to put in independent study during the course to consolidate your understanding of new topics.

A Level Mathematics is challenging but satisfying and promotes logical thought and a rigorous approach to solving problems. If you enjoy algebra at GCSE this would be a good choice of course. You need to be able to persevere with demanding questions independently and be prepared to put in enough time practising questions to be secure with concepts as they are taught. The course builds week-by-week, on each piece of newly acquired knowledge or skill

**Progression and Career routes:**

As well as degree opportunities in mathematics, this course could lead to further study in science, engineering, finance or any subject requiring data analysis. Some university courses which have a large mathematical content may require or recommend Maths A Level for entry on to particular courses. All career disciplines and higher education establishments value the high level of thinking skills evidenced by an A Level Maths qualification

**How to access this course:**

GCSE Maths at grade 7 or above.

A sound understanding of the Algebra topics taught at GCSE.

An ability to reason logically and an enjoyment of problem solving

# Music

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Music/BTEC Music Performing

**Contact:** Mr J Smith

**Examined Component:** A Level: 40% BTEC: 50%

**Controlled Component:** A Level: 60% BTEC: 50%



### Summary of course content:

**A Level:** You will learn to perform, compose and appreciate different types of music, developing critical and creative thinking, cultural, aesthetic and emotional awareness, and the ability to make music individually and as part of a group. Music has a straightforward structure with three engaging components, assessed through practical performances, compositions and one externally examined paper. The key content of musical elements, contents and language are taught through the areas of study and set works to show real examples of how these are used within different types of music

**BTEC:** This is a very practical and hands-on course and as such you need to be organised, self-motivated, meet deadlines, and be good at independent working. **All instruments and voices are welcome.** The course gives you a real insight into all aspects of Music. Taught by teachers who have a wealth of performance and composition experience you will embark upon a personalised journey as you develop your skills as a musician. Everyone taking this qualification will study **three mandatory** units, covering the following content areas:

- **Ensemble Music Performance** (Externally assessed)
- **Practical Music Theory and Harmony** (Internally assessed)
- **Professional Practice in the Music Industry** (Externally assessed)

You can then choose **one optional** unit. All optional units are internally assessed. They cover content areas such as:

- **Composing Music**

- **Music Promotion**
- **Music Performance Session Styles**
- **Solo Performance**
- **Music Software Skills.**

### Progression and Career routes:

Students doing Music tend to progress onto Higher Education or follow a more personalised career path in Music. It may set you up for a career in the music industry (e.g. performing, teaching, radio, TV, journalism, tourism, leisure and entertainment, music therapy, retail, music production, publishing and arts administration). It's an excellent subject to develop life skills vital to any career such as team work, communication, time management, organisation and self-confidence.

### How to access this course:

**A Level:** Grade 5 at GCSE or equivalent music experience. Grade 6 practical ability is required for the performance coursework but working towards grade 5 at the start of the course will be allowed. Grade 5 theory is also desirable but can be started on the course.

**BTEC:** Grade 5 at GCSE or merit at level 2 BTEC or equivalent music experience.

# Music Technology

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Music Technology

**Contact:** Mr J Smith

**Examined Component:** 60%

**Controlled Component:** 40%



### Summary of course content:

This is a very practical and hands-on course and as such you need to be organised, self-motivated, meet deadlines, and be good at independent working. You will learn to;

- understand the principles of sound and audio technology and how they are used in creative and professional practice
- developing recording skills to demonstrate an understanding of sound and its capture
- develop the skills to create and manipulate sound in imaginative and creative way
- understand the latest developments in music technology and the impact they have on technology-based composition, performance and the tonal qualities of recordings
- develop an understanding of the historical and cultural contexts of the use of technology in the creation, performance and production of music

### Progression and Career routes:

Students doing Music tend to progress onto Higher Education or follow a more personalised career path in Music. It may set you up for a career in the music industry (e.g. performing, teaching, radio, TV, journalism, tourism, leisure and entertainment, music therapy, retail, music production, publishing and arts administration). It's an excellent subject to develop life skills vital to any career such as team work, communication, time management, organisation and self-confidence.

### How to access this course:

Grade 5 at GCSE or merit at level 2 BTEC or equivalent music experience.

# PE & Sport

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level PE/CTEC Sport & Physical Activity

**Contact:** Mrs Taylor/Miss Penney/Miss Coles

**Examined Component:** A Level: 70% CTEC: 40%

**Controlled Component:** A Level: 30% CTEC: 60%



### Summary of course content:

**A Level:** Overview of the unit content

**1. Applied anatomy and physiology, 2. Skill acquisition, 3. Sport & society, 4. Exercise physiology, 5. Biomechanical movement, 6. Sports psychology, 7. Sport & society & the role of technology in physical activity and sport**

**Practical performance:** Students are required to be assessed in one activity in the role of player/performer or coach. Students need to be at club level competing regularly outside of school. Students will be assessed on their ability to execute the core skills/techniques outlined in the specific activity criteria, in a fully competitive situation/ equivalent scenario. All performers should demonstrate their range of skills and will be assessed on their execution of recognised techniques, compliance with the official rules and regulation, accuracy, consistency, and outcome. The application of skills and techniques will be assessed through the complementation of appropriate strategies and tactics to optimise performance to create effective attacking and defensive options/equivalent situations depending on the requirements of the individual activities through the practical performance.

**CTEC:** The course is aimed at individuals who are looking at careers in sport or the health and fitness industry. Students typically go on to study an aspect of Sport at University or enter an apprenticeship or employment in a sport or health and fitness related industry. Students must be able to research and apply knowledge to various 'real life' scenarios, coach small groups and apply knowledge to exam based questions. CTEC Sport and Physical Activity is a course which will enable you to focus on various aspects of sport, physical activity and the fitness industry. Likely units are: Unit 1 Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity, Unit 2 Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership – Internal assessment, Unit 3 Sports Organisation and Development – External assessment (exam), Unit 17 Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation – Internal assessment and Unit 19 Sport and Exercise Psychology – 29 Internal assessment

### Progression and Career routes:

Students who study sport and physical activity may go on to study a sport based course in higher education or they may move onto apprenticeships or employment in the following areas:

**Leisure Industry** – working in various roles within a leisure centre or private club

**Fitness instructor** – delivering variety of classes in various locations

**Personal Trainer** – working with individuals to help develop personal health and fitness

**Sports Coach** – coaching children or adults in a specific sport

Students who study sport may also look to progress into careers in the armed forces.

### How to access this course:

A Level:

CTEC: If students have studied PE / Sport / Health and Fitness at Key Stage 4 a grade 5/Merit grade is desirable. Grade 5 in both English and Maths are also desirable. A teacher recommendation would be considered if the course requirements were not met.

Both courses:

You need to have a love of sport and want to learn everything and anything about it! A passionate interest in the world of sport will help to develop a wide knowledge base and give you modern day examples to use in lessons and help deepen your understanding. You will need to have commitment to study / work hard outside of lessons, high levels of practical ability in at least one sport and be competing / training outside of school,

# Philosophy & Ethics



## Course Details

**Course Type:**

A Level RS: Philosophy and Ethics

**Contact:** Mrs S Allen and Mr C Robinson**Examined Component:** 100%**Controlled Component:** 0%**Progression and Career routes:**

This course could lead to many different degrees and career paths needing analytical or interpersonal skills. The course particularly meets needs in broadcasting, journalism, law, publishing, medicine, the care industry and teaching. In recent years there has also been an increase in demand for philosophy and ethics students to fill roles in business and consultancy as well as filling places on NHS and other ethics boards within private firms.

**How to access this course:**

Exams are essay based and so ideally a grade 5 in GCSE REP or Sociology but a Grade 5 in English/ English Literature will also be accepted

**Summary of course content:**

The A level consists of two components each worth 50% of the overall grade:

Component one – Philosophy of religion and Ethics including:

- Arguments for the existence of God
- Evil and suffering
- Religious experience, miracles conversion etc
- Self and life after death.
- Ethical theories – different ethical systems and application to dilemmas
- Issues of human and animal life and death
- Free will and moral responsibility
- Conscience – do we have one? Where does it come from?

Component two – Religious dialogues – considering the evolution of discussion including;

- Sources of wisdom and authority – where do they get their ideas?
- Good conduct and key moral principles
- Expression of religious identity
- Religion, gender and sexuality
- Religion and science

# Physics

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Physics A

**Contact:** Mr R Aliwell

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%

### Summary of course content:

The course consists of 6 modules of work.

The unit titles are:

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

The practical skills element (module 1) will be conducted during both years and will be assessed in the terminal exams. Modules 2, 3 and 4 are studied in year 12.

Modules 5 and 6 are studied in year 13

### A Level Assessment

There are three exams at the end of the A level course. Paper 1 assesses content from units 1, 2, 3 and 5 and is worth 37% of the final marks; paper 2 assesses content from units 1, 2, 4 and 6 and is also worth 37% of the final marks; paper 3 assesses content from units 1 to 6 and is worth 26% of the final marks. Papers 1 and 2 are 2 hours and 15 minutes in length, while paper 3 is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

Studying physics can help you to develop a range of skills that can be applied in many areas, both scientific and non-technical. These skills include: problem solving - with a pragmatic and analytical approach, reasoning - constructing logical arguments, applying analytical skills and grasping complex problems.

You will need to have a genuine interest and a desire to understand the physical world around us in more detail; How did the universe form? What is matter made from? How do the forces of nature work? What science lies



behind the amazing technological advances of the last few generations? Why is quantum physics so strange?

You must also have a willingness to read around the subject and appreciate that lessons are only a starting point for the development of your knowledge and understanding. You must be highly motivated and be able to work both independently and within a team. You must show a willingness to constantly learn and revise the content covered during the course.

### Progression and Career routes:

Physics is a seriously useful subject for the majority of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) careers and you'll find physicists everywhere, in industry, transport, government universities, the armed forces, the secret service, games companies, research labs and more.

### How to access this course:

You will require two Science or individual science subject grades at Grade 6. A grade 6 in Maths is also advisable.

# Politics

## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
A Level Politics

**Contact:** MS S Dewey

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%



## Summary of course content:

Politics is the most relevant and current A level you can study – whilst lessons follow the specification, they are constantly evolving to fit in with current political trends and issues. It is different to any GCSE you have studied. There is a big focus on critical debate and evaluation. You will look at big questions in the world of politics, and consider the impact they have on society as a whole. You will learn how our system of government and politics works. Let's be honest, you will be joining the fastest growing demographic of voters influencing the future direction of our country... No pressure!!!

The course enables you to develop a wide range of skills including:

- the ability to comprehend, synthesise and interpret political information
- analyse and evaluate political knowledge
- identify connections, assess similarities and differences between the areas studied
- select relevant material and construct and communicate arguments clearly and coherently using appropriate political vocabulary

You will study the following units:

Unit 1- UK Politics

Unit 2- UK Government

Unit 3- Comparative Politics- USA

## Progression and Career routes:

Many students who take Government and Politics go on to study Politics at university. From there you might become a researcher, join local or national government or even start on the path to become a future Prime Minister! But there are other job options too. If you fancy a career in journalism or the media, this course is very useful. Students also go on to become teachers or work in the legal profession.

## How to access this course:

GCSE grade 5 in English Language and Literature

GCSE grade 5 in a humanities subject e.g. History, Geography, REP

An interest in politics and current affairs

A willingness to contribute ideas and engage in lesson discussion

# Product Design

## Course Details

### Course Type:

A Level Product Design

**Contact:** Mr P Smith and Mr J Coster

**Examined Component:** Two exams total 50%

**Controlled Component:** One 'Design and Make' NEA unit 50%



### Progression and Career routes:

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers incl. Architecture, Graphic Design, Product Design, Industrial design, Vehicle Designer or Engineering disciplines.

### How to access this course:

You will need a Grade 6 or above at GCSE in a Technology Subject.

### Summary of course content:

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

Paper 1- This paper covers the core technical principles and core designing and making principles. The students will answer a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended responses. It contributes to 25% of the A-Level.

Paper 2- This paper covers more specialist knowledge in technical and designing and making principles. It is split into two sections. Section A covers product analysis consisting of up to 6 short answer questions based on visual stimulus of a product(s). Section B covers Commercial manufacture consisting of a mixture of short and extended response questions. It contributes to 25% of the A-Level.

NEA (Non-exam Assessment) – You will produce a substantial design and make task in the form of a written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype product. It shows the practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles and specialist knowledge. It contributes to 50% of the A Level.

# Psychology

## Course Details

### Course Type:

AQA A Level Psychology

**Contact:** Mrs S Allen and Mrs J Ferrier

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%

### Summary of course content:

The A Level Psychology course is a 2 year A Level which comprises of 3 Units:

Psychology is the science of mind and behaviour. What do you really know about the human mind? It is an academic subject which introduces you to scientific research, critical thinking, discussion and essay writing in the context of the world around you.

The course is broken down in to mandatory units which are studies relating to psychological theory. There are then optional units.

Mandatory Units cover 8 themes—Social Influence, Memory Attachment, Psychopathology, Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research methods and Issues and debates in Psychology

Optional Unit are split into 3 groups:

Relationships, Gender or Cognitive Development

Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour and Stress

Aggression, Forensic Psychology and Addiction

To see success you need to have an analytical mind, competence with statistical maths and an interest in the world at large and explanations for behaviours



### Progression and Career routes:

The course would lead into higher education opportunities, such as studying psychological, social sciences, criminology, politics and social policy. It could also lead to careers in multiple fields in psychology—for example child psychology, research posts, education and teaching.

### How to access this course:

Essay based assessment requires a Level 5 in GCSE English & Maths and due to the high Biology content a grade 5 in GCSE Biology or equivalent Combined Science course is desirable.

# Sociology

## Course Details

**Course Type:**  
A Level Sociology

**Contact:** Mr C Robinson and Mrs G Betts

**Examined Component:** 100%

**Controlled Component:** 0%



### Progression and Career routes:

According to [bestcourse4me.com](http://bestcourse4me.com), the top six degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in sociology are: • Sociology • Psychology • English studies • Business studies • Law • Teaching.

Possible career options studying sociology at university can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including: • Social work • Human resources • Advertising • Policing • Marketing • Journalism • Law • Teaching.

### How to access this course:

Ideally a grade 5 in GCSE REP or Sociology but a Grade 5 in English/English Literature

### Summary of course content:

A-level Sociology will help you to make sense of the society we live in and understand the cultural and identity issues which affect us all. You will learn a number of skills including the use of evidence to support your arguments, how to investigate facts, and critical thinking. It is relevant to the society you live in so you are bound to enjoy learning about topics that are relevant to everyday life; plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers. The topics we cover are:

- Education with theory and methods
- Crime and deviance with theory and methods
- Families and households
- Beliefs in society

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 80 marks each. The exams consist of a mixture of short answer and extended writing questions.