ROYAL ALEXANDRA & ALBERT SCHOOL

Sixth Form Course Information

2027-2029

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Introduction

The Sixth Form at the Royal Alexandra and Albert School is focused on developing a well-rounded student who is ready to not only meet their future head on and be an integral part of the world around them but also, crucially, to change it. To make their mark, to have a voice and to be heard. The skills, personal education and academic focus we strive to instil work to develop each of these goals.

Having spent two years with us undertaking A Levels, students will be well equipped to understand and facilitate their professional future. They will have all the skills and qualities to succeed as an undergraduate or on a top-level apprenticeship. Our bespoke Futures Programme gives them the guidance and structure needed to make the right, informed decisions about their future.

Education at Sixth Form is about academic success but this only comes when students are given the opportunity to learn about themselves and their future. The Royal Alexandra and Albert School offers a holistic programme whereby students are encouraged to take part in the community: volunteer, lead and get involved across the school. Upon leaving us, our students are able to negotiate personal life and have an awareness of their psychological and emotional wellbeing.

The Sixth Form Team

Meet the Team

Mr David Brackpool

Assistant Headteacher: Director of Learning - Key Stage 5

Mr Brackpool has 17 years' experience teaching and leading various aspects of Sixth Form. He runs the Extended Project Qualification course as well as teaching English Literature and Sociology. He has been a Head of Year 12, Head of Year 13 and a tutor across all age groups. Mr Brackpool graduated from the University of Sussex and UCL with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and master's degrees in both English Literature and Psychoanalysis.

Ms Donna Bedford

Deputy Director of Key Stage 5

Ms Bedford previously worked in the further education sector from 2004 to 2014 before transitioning into secondary education in 2014. At RAAS, she leads on achievement, standards, and inclusion initiatives within the Sixth Form, and in addition to her responsibilities as Deputy Director of Sixth Form, she also teaches Mathematics. In two of her previous secondary schools, Ms Bedford held curriculum leader positions. She holds a bachelor's degree in Secondary Mathematics Education with QTS from the University of Brighton.

Miss Alexandra Hunter

Key Stage 5 Destinations Coordinator

Miss Hunter has been teaching for five years. She teaches English and Drama and has been a form tutor across Key Stage 4 and 5. She has been the High Potential Achiever Coordinator across all year groups. Miss Hunter graduated from the University of Hull with a bachelor's degree in Politics and International Relations and a master's degree in English Literature and Creative Writing.

The Sixth Form

Full Boarding

These places allow students to live at the school during term time, with the option of returning home at weekends. As our boarders come from the UK and overseas, our boarding houses remain vibrant places during the weekend.

Non-Boarding

Our Non-Boarding students usually live within close proximity to the school. They can access the school facilities for an extended period, including evening access to the Sixth Form study areas in G6 Sixth Form centre. Non-Boarding students have no requirement to board.

Students who join us on the Sixth Form Non-Boarding package gain access to Gatton 6 and the amenities of their linked boarding house from 7.30am, during break and lunch, and after school until 9.00pm, Monday to Friday. Please note specific timings apply for each location.

Unlike in the Junior and Senior schools, Sixth Formers do not have to attend Saturday morning enrichment. This is optional. While students are encouraged to engage in enrichment activities, they are also free to dedicate their Saturday mornings to part-time employment, volunteering, academic study, driving lessons, or simply relaxation.

Pastoral Care

At the Royal Alexandra and Albert School we pride ourselves on our exceptional level of pastoral care. Every Sixth Form student is allocated a personal tutor who is their main point of contact throughout their time in the Sixth Form. The Deputy Head of Sixth Form monitors student progression and facilitates support or intervention whenever this is needed.

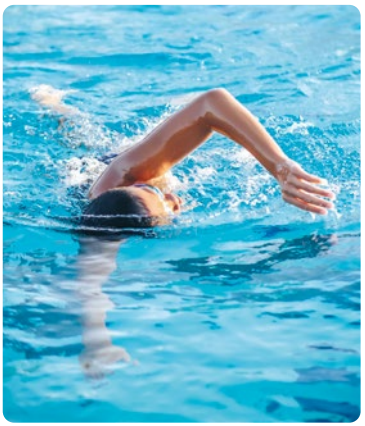
There is an open-door policy in Gatton 6, where a member of the Sixth Form team is on hand throughout the working week. For students who require further support, the Sixth Form team has regular one-to-one meetings.

Students' development is supported with bespoke lectures on Personal, Social, Health, Economic and Relationship education, as well as information on future pathways and the professional world. Lectures and the provisions on offer are regularly reviewed to accommodate our students' changing needs.

In recent years, we have developed close links with apprenticeship professionals to inform our students of choices in addition to the university route, whilst maintaining all the information required for Russell Group applications.

Boarding Facilities

Boarding is a large part of life at this school. Around 60% of Sixth Form students are Full Boarders and around 40% are Non-Boarders. The school has seven boarding houses, with three houses providing Sixth Form accommodation in dedicated annexes. Gatton Hall, the flagship Sixth Form house, is exclusively for the use of Sixth Form students. It is situated in the school's grade II listed building and consists of spacious shared dorms.



There are various facilities open to Boarders and Non-Boarders at different times during the week and weekend, including all sporting facilities such as the purpose-built fitness suite, swimming pool and dance studio.

In 2023, we opened a brand-new Sixth Form Centre, Gatton 6. This gives our growing Sixth Form more space for personal study and common areas for students to relax and socialise in. Gatton 6 has excellent facilities including common rooms, a breakout room for group work and an IT suite for quiet study. Gatton 6 is accessible from 7.30am until 9pm Monday to Friday.

Enrichment

Life in the RAA Sixth Form is about more than academics; we also focus on students' co-curricular life and the skills they can gain in participating in additional activities. Our co-curricular provision is extensive. There are over 100 clubs and activities on offer every term, with many activities dedicated for Sixth Formers only.

Students are able to volunteer across the school, including in the Junior School, as well as in the Co-curricular Programme where they can help run and even create clubs of their own. The school's aim is to develop well-rounded students who are academically able but community focused. Involvement in the co-curricular life of the school is also a great way for students to build experiences to add to their university personal statements or CVs.

There is a Boarders Trip Programme with weekly trips to a variety of academic and leisure facilities in and around the area, from the very popular Thorpe Park Fright Night trips to the annual ski trip.

English and Maths Re-sit

If you find yourself in a position where you need to re-sit either your English or Maths GCSE, this can be organised through extra sessions on top of your A Level timetable. These will be organised lessons taught by our very able English and Maths departments. Students will also be given extra support on a Saturday if boarding with us.

Study Support

After school we encourage students to stay for a further period to do their prep, revision or complete group work. The access to Sixth Form study facilities enables students who need the framework of quiet, in-school working areas to have additional support for their studies. Weekly lessons with the Year Leader are offered to further support students with study skills.

Post-18 Provision (UCAS / Apprenticeships / PSHE)

Our Designated Destinations Coordinator leads the Sixth Form in the development of post-18 options. With this in mind, our post-18 programme is twofold:

Firstly, students are guided through their immediate post-18 options. This includes information about, and support for, UCAS and apprenticeship applications, trips to universities for talks from admissions tutors, as well as guided seminars from industry professionals on the apprenticeship process. This support continues until the submission of the UCAS application or the myriad of apprenticeship applications a student may make.

Secondly, alongside trips, lectures and personal guidance, we support students by introducing them to the world of work and the world beyond formal education. There is information and lectures about the workplace, being a homeowner, managing finances, and how students can look after their emotional and physical wellbeing in a demanding world. All this is delivered by experienced and knowledgeable Year Leaders, a team of outstanding tutors, a network of external industry professionals and former students.

Extended Project Qualification

All students in Year 12 undertake the Extended Project Qualification, a course designed to develop their research and writing skills in preparation for degree and apprenticeship pathways. In recent years, this qualification has carried a 100% pass rate and 95% A*-B, empowering students to be successful in competitive courses as undergraduates.

The course is highly sought after by universities. Students, with support from staff, produce either a Dissertation, Investigation, Artefact or Event. They plan, research and deliver their final product and are marked not just on their outcome but on the whole process. In the past, we have had students complete historical research, literary research, organise big events, and create apps - all with great success.

This qualification makes students stand apart from others in the post-16 landscape, and we are excited to give every student the opportunity to undertake the Extended Project Qualification.

Level 3 Award in Personal Finance (OCR H056)

We offer this newly launched OCR course to students as an additional qualification to complement their main study programme. Financial independence starts here; this practical course equips you with valuable everyday finance skills for life after Sixth Form, while boosting your university application with valuable extra UCAS tariff points.

What You Will Learn

- **Budgeting and Living Costs:** Master income, expenditure, and building real-world budgets for life milestones (buying a car, moving out, or living independently at university).
- **Banking and Financial Services:** Understand how to navigate bank accounts, savings options, and everyday financial tools effectively.
- **Managing Credit and Debt:** Learn the difference between 'good debt' and 'bad debt', how interest rates work, and how to borrow responsibly.
- **Lifelong Financial Resilience:** Develop the analytical skills needed to make smart, informed choices at every stage of work and adult life.

Course Format and Assessment

Single paper-based 60-minute external exam sat in January or June.

Sixth Form Dress Code

The Sixth Form dress code is business casual and reflects the modern working environment. This includes smart trousers or skirts and collared shirts or blouses, but ties and blazers are not required for everyday wear (only required for certain occasions).

Subject Entry Criteria

An Inclusive Community

Our Sixth Form community prides itself on being a welcoming, warm, and inclusive environment where students from diverse backgrounds come together to learn and grow. With an international flavour, our community represents a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, and experiences. We celebrate this diversity and believe it enhances the educational experience for all our students. This diverse community prepares our students for a globalised world and helps them develop into well-rounded, empathetic individuals.

Our Year 12 consists of a combination of existing students, who are continuing at the school for A Level studies, and new students who are joining us for the first time. This distribution is almost evenly split, with nearly 50% of the cohort joining the community at Year 12, both as Full Boarders and as Non-Boarders.

Sixth Form Entry Criteria - 5 GCSEs at Grade 4-9 including Maths and English.
Students who do not secure a Grade 4 In GCSE English and Maths will be able to retake those alongside their chosen Sixth Form courses.

Subject	Entry Criteria	Additional Notes
Art and Design	Grade 5 in GCSE Art and Design (if studied)	
Biology	Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or 7/7 in Double Award Science and 6 in GCSE Mathematics	
Business Studies	A Merit or grade 5 in GCSE Business Studies (if studied) and 5 in both GCSE English and Mathematics	No requirement to have studied Business previously. Cannot be studied with Economics
Chemistry	Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or 7/7 in Double Award Science and 6 in GCSE Mathematics	
Design and Technology - Product Design	Grade 5 in Design and Technology with 5 in GCSE Mathematics	
Economics	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature	No requirement to have studied Economics previously. Cannot be studied with Business
English Literature	Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature and 6 in GCSE English Language	

Subject	Entry Criteria	Additional Notes
Health and Social Care AAQ	General Sixth Form entry criteria	
History	Grade 6 in GCSE History	
Information Technology AAQ	General Sixth Form entry criteria	
Mathematics	Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics	
Mathematics - Further	Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics	A Level Maths should be studied alongside Further Maths
Media Studies	General Sixth Form entry criteria	
Physics	Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or 7/7 in Double Award Science and 7 in GCSE Mathematics	
Psychology	Grade 5 in any GCSE Science	
Sociology	General Sixth Form entry criteria	

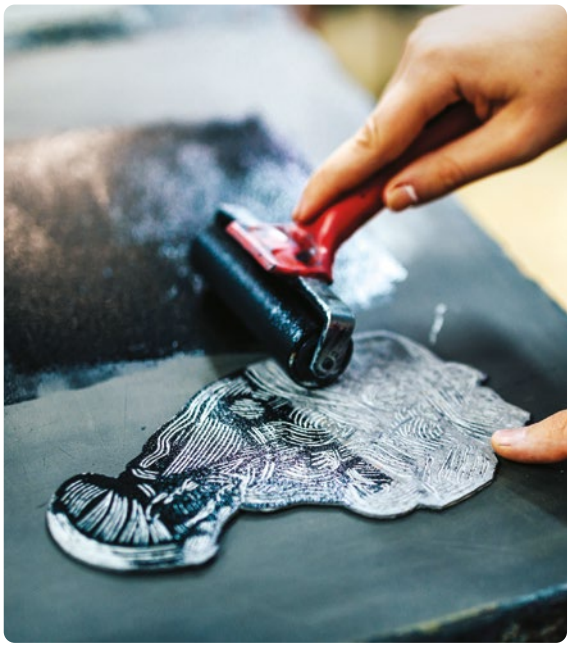
International Level 2 qualifications will be matched to UK GCSEs using equivalency tariffs.

A subject will only be considered viable to run if there are sufficient numbers of students wishing to take the subject.

Art and Design

Entry Criteria:
Grade 5 in GCSE Art and Design (if studied).

This course encourages your creative side and is a great deal of fun! With the creative economy booming this is a fantastic time for you to be involved in the arts. You can work in any artistic media, thereby supporting your individual area of interest. From the start, you are introduced to a broad range of artistic disciplines, including fine art drawing, painting and printmaking, including 3D art and ceramics, textiles and photography. You will work to a brief set by the department but are always encouraged to work independently to build up confidence in your own work and progression.



Course Overview

Unit 1: Illustrated Essay/Personal Project

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment

Non Examined Assessment (NEA): Identity

Future Progression

Students wishing to study an art related degree are usually expected to complete a Foundation Course on completion of A Level Art.

Art can be used in a range of employment areas: Art Galleries, Museums, Education, Media, Interior Design, Freelance, Art Advisory Roles.

Biology

Entry Criteria:
Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or 7/7 in Double Award Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

Biology is an exciting science which could allow you to develop the essential skills that any good scientist should have, from planning experiments, making and recording accurate measurements and analysing data. Biology is the natural science concerned with the study of life and living organisms, including their structure, function, growth, origin, evolution, distribution, and taxonomy. You will engage in a variety of learning activities during your study of Biology, including individual practical work, small group exercises, online research and presentation, whole-class teaching and peer assessment.

Course Overview

Unit 1: Development of practical skills in Biology

Unit 2: Foundations in Biology

Unit 3: Exchange and transport

Unit 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Unit 5: Communication, homeostasis and energy

Unit 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Practicals (PAGS)

As there is no longer a coursework element, practical skills will be assessed within lessons and the exams. The skills demonstrated within lessons will go towards the practical endorsement certificate which is either a Pass or Fail.

Future Progression

Possible career options include Biochemistry, Medicine and Nursing, Dentistry, Genetics, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Nutrition, Veterinary Science and Agriculture to name but a few. Others go on to careers in Computing, Accounting or teaching. Students who study Biology can also use the essential skills learnt in many other careers such as law and business studies.

Business Studies

Entry Criteria:
A Merit or Grade 5 Business Studies (if studied) and Grade 5 in both GCSE Mathematics and English. No requirement to have studied Business previously. Cannot be studied with Economics.

This course will develop students' understanding of the range of activities businesses undertake to compete and be successful in the local, national and global economy.

Course Overview

The course aims to take a holistic approach to the subject and demonstrate the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations. The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society. Students will develop an understanding of:

- Meeting customer needs
- The market
- Marketing mix and strategy
- Managing people
- Entrepreneurs and leaders
- Raising finance
- Financial planning
- Managing finance
- Resource management
- External influences
- Business objectives and strategy
- Business growth
- Decision-making techniques
- Influences on business decisions
- Assessing competitiveness
- Managing change
- Globalisation global markets and business expansion
- Global marketing
- Global industries and companies (multinational corporations).

Students will be expected to keep up to date with news and business affairs.

Future Progression

The subject can lead to degrees in Business Management, Finance, Marketing, Leisure Management and careers such as an Accountant, Retail Manager, Civil Servant, Teacher/Lecturer or setting up your own business.

Chemistry

Entry Criteria:
Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or 7/7 in Double Award Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

Chemistry A Level builds upon the knowledge gained at GCSE but goes much further. The course allows you to develop a range of skills such as problem-solving, analysis and effective communication. Handling data is a key component of this course and you will build up practical skills as well as secure knowledge relating to Health and Safety. The course requires students to select the most appropriate methods for the investigative activities.

Course Overview

Unit 1: Development of practical skills in Chemistry

Unit 2: Foundations in Chemistry

Unit 3: Periodic Table and energy

Unit 4: Core organic Chemistry

Unit 5: Physical Chemistry and transition elements

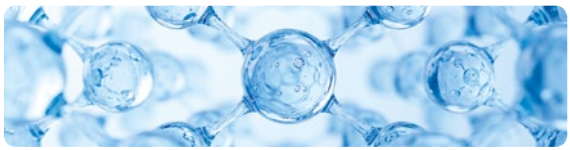
Unit 6: Organic Chemistry and analysis

Practicals (PAGS)

As there is no longer a coursework element, practical skills will be assessed within lessons and the exams. The skills demonstrated within lessons will go towards the practical endorsement certificate which is either a Pass or Fail.

Future Progression

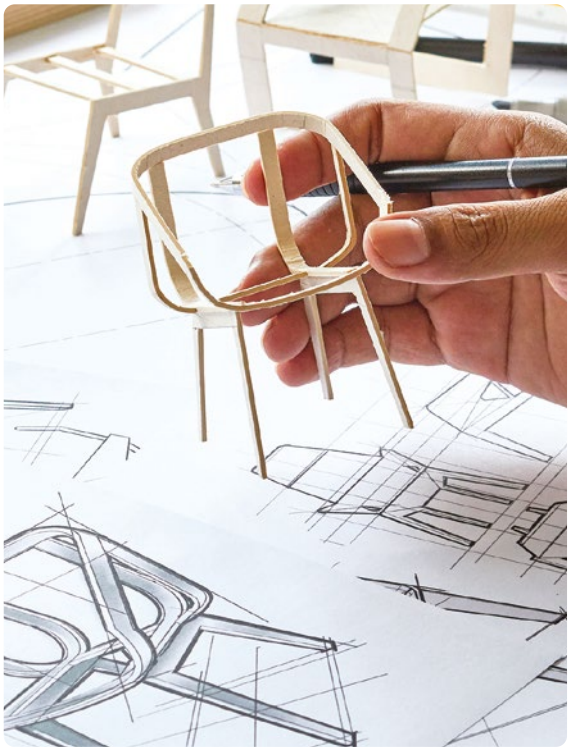
UK Higher Education institutions currently offer over 200 courses where Chemistry is the primary subject. Some courses can include study in other related areas. Examples include Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry, Chemistry with Forensic Science and Toxicology, Chemistry with Pharmacology. In addition, a number of other courses either specifically require or find it desirable to have an A Level in Chemistry. These include courses such as Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Biological Sciences, Environmental Science, Pharmacy and Dentistry.



Product Design | Design and Technology

Entry Criteria:
Grade 5 GCSE Design and Technology with Grade 5 GCSE Mathematics.

The specification has been designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of design and technology, to develop their capacity to design, make products and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing. The course has both practical and theoretical elements.



Course Overview

Unit 1: Technical principles

Unit 2: Designing and making principals

Non Examined Assessment (NEA): Including folder of evidence and research combined with practical making task, based on a context and design brief developed by the student.

Future Progression

Product Design is valued by universities and leads to a range of professions including Architecture, Furniture Designer, Graphic Designer, all aspects of Engineering and Construction plus many more related professions.

Economics

Entry Criteria:
Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature. No requirement to have studied Economics previously. Cannot be studied with Business.

This course aims to enable you to develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, the subject through an appreciation of the contribution that economics makes to the wider economic and social environment. By taking this course you will develop analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes that will equip you for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

Course Overview

Unit 1: Introduction to markets and market failure

Unit 2: The UK economy - focusing on performance and policies

Unit 3: Business behaviour and the labour market

Unit 4: A global perspective

Practicals (PAGS)

Degrees can be taken in Economics, Finance, Business Management, Social Policy, History and careers as an Economist, Financial Risk Analyst, Accountant, Actuary, Statistician, Civil Servant.

English Literature

Entry Criteria:
Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature and 6 in GCSE English Language.

The power of literature cannot be underestimated and this course explores connections of social and political protest across a range of literary texts, providing abstract thought to aspects of tragedy through the study of prose, poetry and drama. You will be encouraged to respond imaginatively and independently to the written word fostering sophisticated literacy skills, fluency and clarity in discussion and written presentation.

Course Overview

Throughout this course, you will develop intellectual creativity and critical appreciation of how writers shape meaning within their texts, while aiming to craft responses to passage-based as well as whole text analytical questions spanning a significant range of the English Literary Heritage.

Unit 1: Literary Genres: Aspects of Tragedy, Drama

Unit 2: Literary Genres: Aspects of Tragedy, Prose and Poetry

Unit 3: Literary Genres

Unit 4: Text and Genres

Non Examined Assessment (NEA): Theory and Independence – two essays of 1500 words each.

Future Progression

This subject can be used to pursue many different careers and these are some that would apply - Speech and Language Therapy, Education, Academic Research, Forensic Speech Science, Marketing and Communications, Publishing, Broadcast and Journalism, Librarianship, Law, Local Government and Public Office, Finance and Accountancy.

Health and Social Care AAQ

Entry Criteria:
General Sixth Form Entry Criteria.

Are you passionate about helping others and considering a future in the health or social care sector? The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) BTEC National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care is a dynamic and engaging course designed to introduce students to key aspects of working in health and social care settings.

Course Overview

This qualification blends academic learning with real-world relevance, and complements other A Level subjects such as Biology, Psychology, Sociology and English by enhancing your understanding and reinforcing key concepts across these disciplines — all essential knowledge areas for future health and care professionals. In a time where the demand for skilled, compassionate professionals is on the rise, this course provides the knowledge, skills, and insight needed to thrive in a people-centred profession. It's more than just a qualification. This is an opportunity to shape a future that's not only personally fulfilling but also socially impactful.

Year 12

Unit 1: Human Lifespan and Development (External exam unit)

Unit 5: Promoting Health Education (Internally assessed coursework unit)

Year 13

Unit 3: Principles of Health and Social Care Practice (Internally assessed coursework unit)

Unit 2: Human Health and Biology (External exam unit)

Future Progression

With a strongly contextualised approach, this qualification not only explores various roles within the health and social care sector but also supports progression into higher education and apprenticeships. It serves as a stepping stone into a wide array of professional careers, such as Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Paramedic Science, Mental Health Support, Public Health and more.

History

Entry Criteria:
Grade 6 in GCSE History.

The best reason for taking History at A Level is that the past fascinates you. The study of History involves the discovery and exploration of worlds and minds very different from our own. It will enable you to confront challenging and complex problems and give you the critical thinking and problem solving skills to make sense of these. History also provides us with opportunities to understand the world we live in today; after all, the past is the source of our political, social and ethical ideals.

Course Overview

Unit 1: Britain 1930–1997 with a source enquiry of Churchill 1930–1951

Unit 2: The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774–1815

Unit 3: Russia and its Rulers, 1855-1964

Non Examined Assessment (NEA):
A personal and independent study of the student's choice; 3,000-4,000 word essay.

Future Progression

History A Level is a sought-after qualification due to the skills that you will develop during your course of study. Universities and employers will know that a student with an A Level in History can: gather and read different kinds of information; read maps, graphs and other diagrams; communicate clearly and argue a point of view through. Such skills are invaluable to a range of careers and fields, such as Media, Law and Advertising. These skills can be useful in Business or even Accountancy.

Information Technology AAQ

Entry Criteria:
General Sixth Form Entry Criteria.

The Pearson Level 3 BTEC National in Information Technology (Extended Certificate) is a dynamic qualification that equips students with essential IT knowledge and skills. Developing your understanding the world of Information Technology, exploring the implications of IT systems, tackling cyber-security threats, and mastering the creation of targeted websites and relational databases. With a blend of two examined and two internally assessed units, students will engage in hands-on projects that enhance their IT expertise. This qualification is designed to complement A Levels, linking seamlessly with subjects like Mathematics and Business Studies, Psychology and Art and Design, paving the way for higher education and future career opportunities.

Course Overview

The course contains the following modules:

Module 1: Information Technology Systems (Exam based)

Module 2: Cyber Security and Incident Management (Exam based)

Module 3: Website Development (Course work)

Module 4: Relational Database Development (Course work)

Future Progression

This qualification can lead to progression to the following degrees:

- BA Business Studies
- BSc Information Systems
- BSc Computer Science

Or to workplace apprenticeships in: Cybersecurity Analyst, Data Analyst, Web Developer, Database Administrator, IT Support Specialist, Cloud Engineer, Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Engineer, Software Developer, Systems Analyst, Network Administrator

Mathematics

Entry Criteria:
Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

Mathematics at A Level is so much more than numbers. This subject offers a number of transferable skills including logical skills, problem solving and analysis.

Course Overview

Mathematics A Level comprises several different modules, both pure and applied, including Mechanics and Statistics. Topics such as Geometry, Calculus, Trigonometry and Algebra are covered in the Core modules and form part of the fundamental mathematical toolkit required for this course. Abstract reasoning, logic in problem solving and the ability to perform algebraic manipulation are key skills required for studying this subject.

Future Progression

Degrees in Mathematics, Statistics, Applied Mathematics, Computing, Engineering, Actuarial Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Industrial Mathematics, Finance or Mathematics Education can be followed. Career paths to follow are varied and can include Accountant, IT Consultant, Teacher, Engineer, Quantitative Analyst, Actuary, Financial Consultant, Statistician, Quantity Surveyor.

Mathematics - Further

Entry Criteria:
Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics. A Level Mathematics should also be studied alongside Further Mathematics.

Do you love Maths? Do you want to do more Maths? The mathematics studied in this subject is beyond that required for the standard A Level Mathematics course.

Course Overview

New topics are introduced such as Complex Numbers, Matrices, Co-ordinate Systems, Polar Co-ordinates and Hyperbolic Functions. Topics already met in the single A Level Mathematics course (such as Calculus and its applications, Vectors and Proof) are further extended.

Unit 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1

Unit 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2

Unit 3: Decision Mathematics 1

Unit 4: Further Mechanics 1

Future Progression

Degrees in Mathematics, Statistics, Applied Mathematics, Computing, Engineering, Actuarial Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Industrial Mathematics, Finance or Mathematics Education can be followed. Career paths to follow are varied and can include Accountant, IT Consultant, Teacher, Engineer, Quantitative Analyst, Actuary, Financial Consultant, Statistician, Quantity Surveyor

Media Studies

Entry Criteria:
General Sixth Form Entry Criteria.

The media shapes our lives in many different ways. Developing a strong understanding of the techniques media industries use to influence audiences is an essential life skill in our modern and diverse world. The media industry is universal, fast-moving and interactive, making Media Studies a relevant and engaging subject for all young people to study.

Course Overview

In the Media Studies course, students will study nine media forms and associated set products using a theoretical framework covering media language, media representations, media industries and media audiences. They also consider the social, cultural, economic, political and historical contexts of media products.

Component 01: Media Messages

Component 02: Evolving Media

Component 03/04: Creating Media

Assessment

Media Messages: 2-hour exam – 35%

Evolving Media: 2-hour exam – 35%

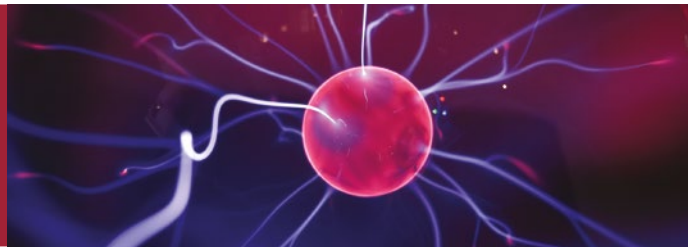
Making Media: 30%

Future Progression

An A Level in Media Studies opens doors to a range of exciting post-18 options and careers in an array of creative industries, including: Television; Advertising and Marketing; Film; Gaming; Online, Social and Participatory Media. Students who study Media Studies at A Level often go on to university degree courses such as Media Studies, Film Studies, Animation, Photography, Marketing and other arts related subjects. Students may also go on to apply to film schools or pursue apprenticeships in the media industry.

Physics

Entry Criteria:
Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or 7/7 in Double Award Science and Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.



It began with Physics. Physics encompasses the study of the universe from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles. Physics - the study of matter, energy and their interactions - is an international enterprise, which plays a key role in the future progress of humankind. This course will provide a firm foundation in Physics knowledge and understanding, together with mathematical competence. You will be introduced to a wide range of Physics principles and will be led to an understanding of how nature operates at both microscopic and macroscopic scales.

Course Overview

Unit 1: Measurements and their errors

Unit 2: Particles and radiation

Unit 3: Waves

Unit 4: Mechanics and materials

Unit 5: Electricity

Unit 6: Further mechanics and thermal physics

Unit 7: Fields and their consequences

Unit 8: Nuclear physics

Unit 9: Medical physics

Unit 10: Practical skills will be assessed within lessons and the exams. The skills demonstrated within lessons will go towards the practical endorsement certificate which is either a Pass or Fail.

Future Progression

Physicists are in short supply nationally and command a premium on earnings. Physicists go on to study a variety of different degrees from the general Physics degrees through to more specialised degrees in Aeronautical Engineering, Laser Physics and Nuclear Physics. Graduates in Physics tend to be extremely well qualified for further research and a scientific career, depending on the level to which they have specialised in their undergraduate degree.

Psychology

Entry Criteria:
Grade 5 in any GCSE Science.

Psychology A Level is a fascinating subject which looks to answer the big question 'Why do people behave in the way they do?' The mind is a heady cocktail of enzymes, neurons, neurotransmitters, thoughts and signals which dictate how and why we feel, think and behave; but why are we all different? Why are some people more prone to stress than others? Why do most people fear snakes that others love and collect? How can a normal person in WW2 commit atrocities just because they were following orders? Psychology looks at questions like these with the use of scientific control and experimentation to try and produce valid answers to some of society's most pertinent questions.

Course Overview

Unit 1: Social Approach: The influence of individuals, groups and society on behaviour.

Unit 2: Cognitive Approach: The nature of memory and issues such as dementia.

Unit 3: Biological Approach: How the CNS, brain and hormones influences behaviour focused on aggression.

Unit 4: Learning Approach: How we learn through stimulus-response and from role models.

Unit 5: Clinical Psychology: The diagnosis, symptoms and treatments of mental disorders.

Unit 6: Criminal Psychology: Influences on people who commit crime and treatments to prevent recidivism.

Unit 7: Perspectives in Psychology: A synoptic topic discussing the many influences on human behaviour

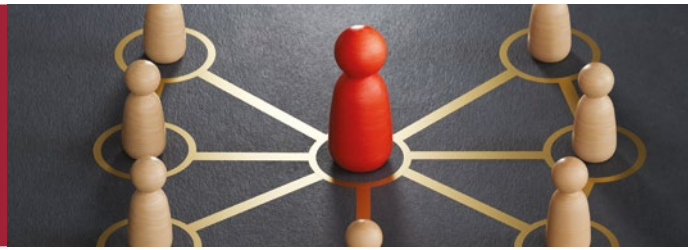
Within each topic, students will learn about different research methods within Psychology.

Future Progression

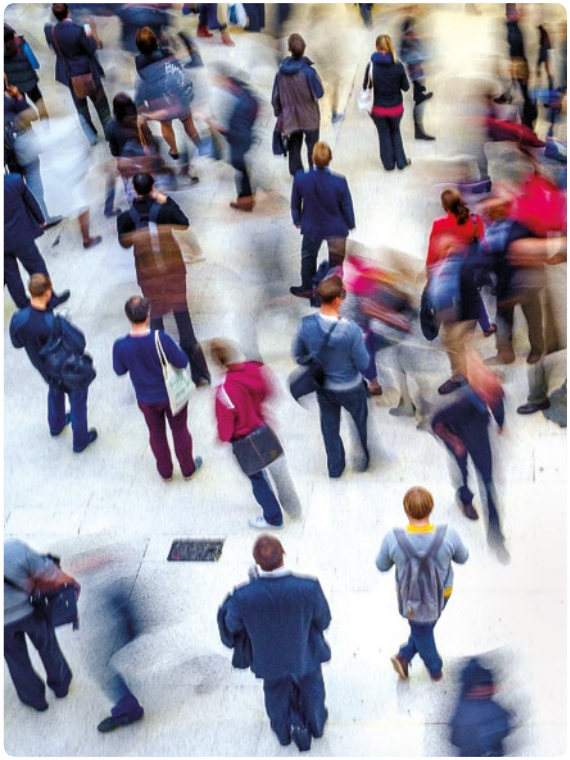
Psychology can help towards careers both directly and indirectly. Many graduates go directly into psychological professions such as Clinical, Criminal, Education or Occupational Psychology. They may also use their psychological knowledge in careers such as Law, Human Resources, Acting and Marketing.

Sociology

Entry Criteria:
General Sixth Form Entry Criteria.



Sociology is the study of society and how people behave in social groups. If you enjoy people-watching and asking the question why, then this is the ideal subject. A Level Sociology offers you the opportunity to develop the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought.



Course Overview

Unit 1: Family and Households

Unit 2: Education; Sociological Methods

Unit 3: Beliefs in Society

Unit 4: Crime and Deviance; Theory and Methods

Future Progression

An A Level in Sociology will allow you to develop and display the skills of essay writing including analysis, interpretation, evaluation, as well as the ability to construct a logical argument supported with a range of evidence.

Therefore, Sociology can gain you a place at prestigious universities such as those belonging to the Russell Group. An A Level in Sociology can assist entry to a range of humanity and social science courses or indeed any other degree course.

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