



**DROITWICH SPA
HIGH SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE**



DSHS 6F PROSPECTUS 2021/2028



BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

#BETHEBESTYOU CAN BE



COURSES AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

V Level Accounting and Finance

Art, Craft and Design

Biology

Business (Cambridge Technical External Certificate)

Chemistry

Criminology (Level 3 Applied Diploma)

Dance

Design and Technology - Production Design

Drama and Theatre Studies

Economics

English Literature

Film Studies

Food Science and Nutrition (AAQ)

French

Geography

German

Health and Social Care (AAQ)

History

IT (Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate)

Mathematics (Core)

Mathematics

Mathematics (Further)

Medical science

Philosophy and Ethics

Physics

Psychology

Sociology

Spanish

Sports and Physical Activity

(Cambridge Technical - Foundation Diploma)

Sports and Physical Activity

(Cambridge Technical - Extended Diploma)

ABOUT OUR SIXTH FORM

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum* requirement for entry to our Sixth Form is:

- Grade 4 in English Language
- Grade 4 in Maths
- At least 28 points from your six best other level 2 qualifications (GCSEs or equivalent)

However, a student that only has the above does not have total freedom to select from all of the courses in the prospectus. More academically challenging subjects have higher criteria, which are displayed on each page.

**Exceptions may be made for students who have narrowly missed these.*

THE CURRICULUM

Even the highest quality universities make their offers based on three subjects. Furthermore, many universities including Cambridge, Manchester, Bristol and Durham have publicly stated that students that take four subjects will not be at an advantage to contemporaries with three. In fact, many entry requirements for 2027/8 admission stated that the Extended Qualification Project (EPQ) is preferred to a fourth AS Level and that an A* grade amongst the three grades is a much better discriminator between candidates than an extra AS or A Level.

The only exception to this is that for some courses the study of Further Maths alongside three A Levels (including Maths) is highly regarded.

For this reason, we expect that all of our students will begin Year 12 with a minimum of three subjects and continue these subjects into Year 13.

We do not enter students for AS Levels at the end of Year 12. This means that we can organise our teaching to ensure deep learning, rather than being distracted with external assessments during Year 12 that ultimately doesn't count at the end of Year 13. We have 'Year 13 Entrance' exams and students must pass these in order to progress to Year 13. We discuss course selection with all applicants at interview. This allows us to advise individuals and, where applicable, suggest changes should they have ambitions to.

THE SCHOLARS' PROGRAMME AND HE+

Our very brightest students will be given the extra stretch and challenge they require. Students with exceptional GCSE results will be added to the 'Scholars' group to support them to progress to prestigious destinations. This group will be eligible for (and encouraged to undertake as many as possible of) the following:

- Study of the Extended Project Qualification. The teaching of research and report writing skills in this qualification are essential at university and prestigious ones place high value upon it.
- Study of Core Maths (alongside appropriate nonScholars) for those not doing Maths. This course will be very useful for admission to university courses that have some quantitative elements (e.g. Psychology, Economics but where Maths A Level is not required).
- Study of four subjects in Year 12, particularly if one is Further Maths.
- Visits to high quality universities, including meeting ex Droitwich Spa High School Sixth Form students on campus.
- Mock interview practice to support with university admissions.

The HE+ programme is run by Cambridge University.

HOW TO APPLY

Students in Year 11 with us can apply using the 16-18 tracker portal and External candidates can access an online application form; both are on the Sixth Form page of the School Website.

WHAT DO OUR SIXTH FORMERS GET?

#1

SMALL CLASS SIZES

The average class size in the Sixth Form is currently < 14.
Students receive close attention.

Each lesson has 4.5 hours lesson time per week whilst many other institutions only have 4 hours per week.

#2

EXPERT UCAS AND CAREER PREPARATION

First class support for students in preparation for university, apprenticeships and employment. Well over three hours of work goes into each student application through one-to-one meetings and reference writing.

There is also mock interview preparation for those who face this challenge during their application.

#3

DIVERSE EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

There are visits to New York, Europe and India as well as theatre trips and fieldwork in many subjects.

Many Sixth Formers undertake community volunteering and/or high quality work experience. There is also a wide range of sporting opportunity as well as Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Enrichment qualifications in Oracy or Personal Finance

#4

HIGH QUALITY STUDY AREAS AND FACILITIES

We have large, modern, quiet spaces where Sixth Formers can study.

Sixth Form also have access to a number of laptops and desktops to support their learning. Alongside this they have access to the school Wi-Fi if they bring their own device.

#5

16-19 BURSARY SUPPORT

6F bursaries are available to lower income families. These are awarded based on financial income and students are then provided with a specified amount per half term, money towards trips, educational resources and even towards laptops and electronic devices to support their learning

Bursaries that cover part of the cost of transport are also available.

#6

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Each Sixth Former has a personal tutor who guides them through an age specific tutor programme. For example, there are sessions on new driver safety, student finance and voting and democracy.

We also have an Assistant Head of Sixth Form Year and a Full-time Pastoral Manager to closely monitor attendance and achievement.

#7

SIXTH FORM SNACK SHACK

The Sixth Form have their own personal café and vending machine.

#8

FLEXIBLE STUDY

Students who are achieving and attending well will 'earn' flexible study, where they can study at home during non-contact periods.

The more confident teachers are that students are 'on track' the more flexible study they are entitled to.

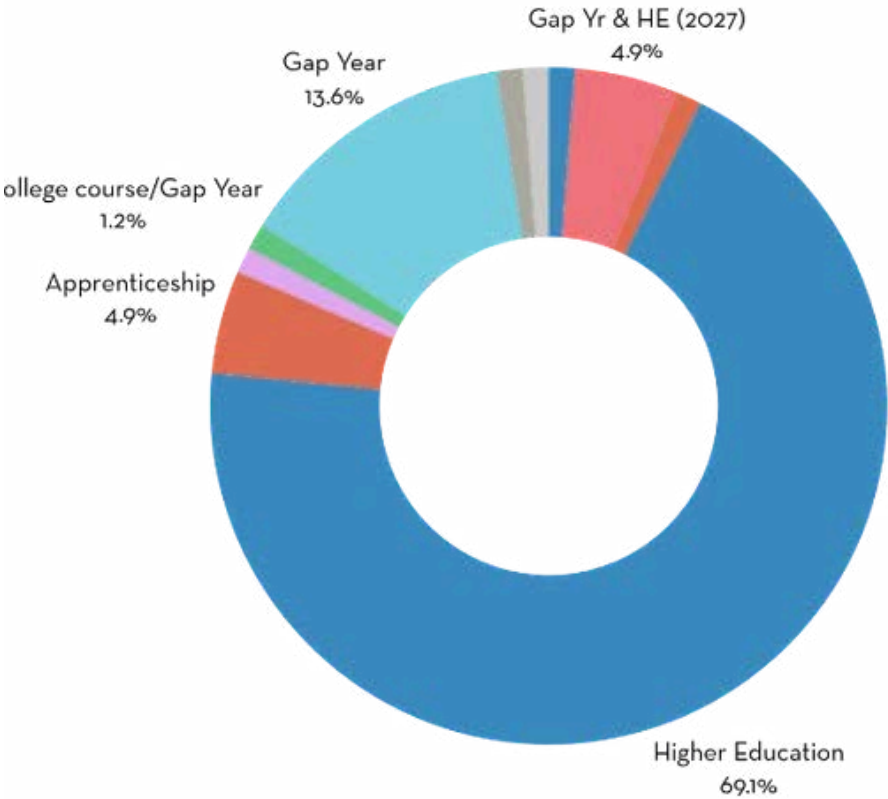
#9

TUTOR PROGRAMME

Tutors deliver an engaging and diverse tutor programme designed to support and prepare students.

#BETHEBESTYOU CAN BE

OUR DESTINATIONS



69.1%
of our Year 13 cohort
2026 are continuing into
Higher Education.

Degree Apprenticeship	1
Gap Yr & HE (2027)	4
Gap Yr & HE 2027	1
Higher Education	56
Apprenticeship	4
College course/Gap Year	1
Gap Year - Canada	1
Gap Year	11
College	1
World of Work	1



OUR ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

WHO DO I SEE FOR MORE INFORMATION?

For general enquiries:

- **Mrs Evans**,
Head of Sixth Form
- **Miss Habberton**,
Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Active-U

- **Mr Rollit**,
Sixth Form Pastoral Manager School/Community

Oracy

- **Mrs Evans**,
Head of Sixth Form

Personal Finance Mr Hodgkiss

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

- **Mr Tibbits**,
Teacher of Chemistry & DofE Coordinator

Industrial Cadets Gold Award

- **Mr Millicheap**,
Head of Design and Technology

WHAT WILL I STUDY AND LEARN?

It is compulsory to take part in an enrichment activity in Y12. We offer a broad range of different activities which allow you to compliment your studies, learn something new or help maintain your physical or mental well-being.

WHAT ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

Active-U

Active-U gives students the opportunity to take part in an hour of sport or physical activity each week. The activities offered very much depend on the availability but will usually include the following*: Football, Badminton, Squash, Table tennis and use of the Gym at the leisure centre. (*Activities subject to change pending availability at the leisure centre – not all activities will be available during every Active-U slot)

Lesson Support

Students can volunteer to support a Y8-10 class with subject knowledge they have gained during their own GCSE and A Level programmes. This may include an A Level Maths student supporting a Y8 Maths group or a student following an area of interest rather than study, for example supporting in a Food class even if they don't opt for Food A Level.

Level 3 Personal Finance

Students can learn about managing income, expenditure and how to build and manage personal budgets. They also get the opportunity to evaluate different types of bank accounts, savings and improve understanding of good versus bad debt. The end result is young people feeling more and more confident with managing their own finances and planning for life stages beyond university and work.

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is for young people 16+ who wish to gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs for university and job applications. The award is very highly regarded and helps individuals develop a range of skills. You don't need to have completed the Silver or Bronze award to take part in the Gold award programme.

Level 3 Oracy qualification in Speech

Public speaking is a significantly important skill to possess but it doesn't always come naturally to everyone. This enrichment opportunity will help you develop your confidence and teach you the different techniques associated with speaking in public, developing presentation skills and the ability and confidence in questioning and debating.

Industrial Cadets Gold Award

The Industrial Cadets Gold award is an excellent opportunity to immerse yourself in a genuine industrial project from conception to finalisation. Your project will tackle actual engineering challenges and will boost your teamworking, problem solving and engineering. You will have support mentors from a specialist engineering company. The project includes a residential visit to a leading University in the field of Engineering, as well as the opportunity



HEAD OF SIXTH FORM WELCOME



Mrs Joanna Evans

Assistant Headteacher,
Head of Sixth Form and
Post-16 Preparation



Mrs Sarah Habberton

Assistant Head of Sixth Form



Mr Ed Rollit

Sixth Form Pastoral Manager



Mrs Tracey Jackson-Brown

Sixth Form and Work
Experience Administrator

I believe that a successful Sixth Form is one where:

- All students feel safe, valued and respected.
- Expert and engaging teachers lead small, well-motivated classes.
- There is the right mix of academic rigour and vocational opportunity so that students can build a curriculum that suits them and allows them to demonstrate their talent.
- Teachers and tutors offer high quality guidance and support, particularly in careers and university applications, at every opportunity.
- Participation in a diverse range of extra curricular and leadership opportunities, particularly those that support charitable objectives, is high.
- Students are afforded the opportunity to develop soft-skills vital to their future and a balance between achieving academic excellence and character building is at the heart of the Sixth Form ethos.
- Sixth Formers have their own dedicated, high quality facilities where they can study and socialise.

Every day, my team and I, together with all of the teaching staff, strive to ensure that the seven characteristics above are the day to day reality in our Sixth Form.

We are succeeding.

I know this because:

- Our student numbers are healthy and our completion rate is very high.
- Our student and parent surveys are very positive. 100% of parents say their child is safe and well cared for in the Sixth Form and 98% say that their child is well taught.
- We have a wide range of courses available and our average class size in the 26/27 academic year is <14.
- Our students' UCAS references and CVs are packed with extra curricular activity and volunteering and employment experience.
- Our destination data is impressive. Nearly 70% of last year's Year 13 have secured university places with 94% of them accepting offers from their "Firm" choice. There are also some very impressive apprenticeship and employment destinations.

I am delighted that you are thinking about joining our Sixth Form.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Joanna Evans
Head of Sixth Form

V LEVEL ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Extra
Entry Requirements:
GCSE Maths Grade 4

What Will I study and Learn?

This exciting new qualification combines accounting, finance and business decision-making, helping you understand how organisations manage money and use financial information to make important decisions. You will learn how to analyse financial performance, interpret accounts, evaluate budgets and investment decisions, and explore the ethical and regulatory responsibilities of businesses. The course uses realistic workplace scenarios to develop your understanding of how financial information is used across the private, public and charitable sectors. By the end of the course you should expect to be able to analyse company performance, compare investment opportunities, evaluate business budgets, investigate ethical issues in financial reporting, and explore the impact of AI on modern organisations.

How Is It Taught?

Learning is centred around real-world business contexts and practical organisational scenarios. You will work with financial data, budgets, accounts and performance information, developing skills in analysis, problem-solving and decision-making. Lessons will include case studies, discussions, presentations and the use of digital tools commonly used in finance and accounting, helping you communicate financial information clearly and professionally.

How Will Accounting And Finance Help Me?

This qualification provides excellent preparation for further study, apprenticeships and careers in accounting, finance, business, economics and related fields. You will develop highly valued transferable skills including numerical reasoning, critical thinking, data analysis, communication and professional judgement. The course is designed to help you understand how organisations operate and make decisions, giving you a strong foundation for both higher education and employment in an increasingly data-driven world.

**Who Do I See For
More Information?**

- Mr A Pope

ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN

Extra
Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in
an Art based GCSE

What Will I study and Learn?

Art, Craft and Design A Level. The AQA Art, Craft and Design (7201) Specification title requires students to explore practical work and contextual sources across at least two different specialist areas (such as fine art, graphic communication, textile design, three-dimensional design, or photography). Students must explore and create work associated with areas of study from at least two titles listed below. Fine art : for example drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, lens-/light-based media, photography and the moving image, printmaking, mixed media and land art. Graphic communication : for example communication graphics, design for print, advertising and branding, illustration, package design, typography, interactive design, (including web, app and game), multi-media, motion graphics, signage and exhibition graphics. Textile design : for example art textiles, fashion design and illustration, costume design, constructed textiles, printed and dyed textiles, surface pattern, stitched and/or embellished textiles, soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors, digital textiles and installed textiles. Three-dimensional design : for example architectural design, sculpture, ceramics, product design, jewellery and body adornment, interior design, environmental/landscape/garden design, exhibition design, three-dimensional digital design and designs for theatre, film and television. Photography : for example portraiture, location photography, studio photography, experimental imagery, installation, documentary photography, photo-journalism, moving image: film, video and animation, fashion photography.

How Is It Taught?

It is taught by two subject specialists in a dedicated studio in the main Art block. The first term is an opportunity to build on skills already acquired at GCSE and try out new ways of working and thinking in a series of workshops. Following this is an introductory project which develops further understanding of addressing the Assessment Objectives at A Level. Then you will start the Personal Investigation which is worth 60% of your overall grade and this is a practical assignment supported by a short written element. This project offers a chance for you to look at an area of personal interest and create a body of work that develops your ideas, leading to a series of outcomes. The second project is an Externally Set Assignment and this runs from February to May in Year 13 and is worth 40% of the overall grade.

How Will Art, Craft and Design Help Me?

As well as building a portfolio for traditional creative pathways Post-18 such as entry onto Foundation Courses the Art, Craft and Design A Level will develop many transferable skills such as the following: • Problem-solving: You learn to test ideas, embrace mistakes, and find creative solutions using different materials. • Project management: You manage long-term personal investigations and meet self-directed project goals. • Visual literacy: You learn how to analyse, interpret, and communicate complex visual messages. • Critical thinking: You research historical and contemporary contexts to evaluate your own progress and conceptual ideas.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Beetson,**
Head of Art and Design
- **Miss Ellis,**
Teacher of Art

BIOLOGY

What Will I study and Learn?

You will be expected to learn the fundamental principles of Biology and develop your skills in applying this knowledge to novel contexts. This will involve note-taking, practical investigations, data analysis, and practicing exam questions, including extended essay style responses. The A level Biology course covers the following topics biological molecules cells organisms exchange substances with their environment genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems, the control of gene expression. The course also includes a practical endorsement, comprising 12 required practical activities that will be undertaken throughout the two-year course.

How Is It Taught?

Teaching is shared between two specialist Biology teachers, providing students with the benefit of a range of expertise across the course. Students receive regular feedback on their progress and are supported in developing the independent study skills needed for success at A Level and beyond.

How Will Biology Help Me?

Biology is a highly respected A Level that develops analytical, practical and problem-solving skills valued by universities and employers. It provides an excellent foundation for degree courses and careers in areas such as Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Biological Sciences, Environmental Science, Forensic Science and Biotechnology. Beyond science related careers, the ability to interpret data, evaluate evidence and communicate complex ideas makes Biology a valuable qualification for a wide range of professions. Students who enjoy understanding how living systems work and want to make a difference in the world will find Biology both challenging and rewarding.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

At least a grade 6 in GCSE Biology, a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics, and a grade 5 in English.

Or

At least grades 6–6 in GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (a combined score of 12), together with a grade 6 in Mathematics and a grade 5 in English.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Merrit**,
Head of Science
- **Mrs Geoghegan**,
Head of Biology

BUSINESS

Extra Entry Requirements

While OCR sets no formal entry barriers, students are typically expected to meet our standard post-16 entry requirements (e.g., a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, ideally including English Language and Mathematics).

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Dr Buckler,**
Head of Business, IT & Economics
- **Mr Jacobs,**
Head of D'Oliveira House & Teacher of Business & Economics

What Will I study and Learn?

The Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Business is an applied learning qualification designed to develop the core specialist knowledge, skills, and understanding required in the business sector. You will study five units in total, consisting of three mandatory units and two optional units. Key areas of study include the business operate, their structures, and how external factors impact their success, working in business, developing essential workplace skills, including understanding business protocols, administrative tasks, and human resource processes, customers and communication, learning how businesses communicate effectively with internal and external stakeholders, and how to deliver exceptional customer service, specialised pathways. Two additional optional units designed to deepen your expertise in practical business topics.

How Is It Taught?

This course is delivered through an applied learning approach, combining theoretical knowledge with practical, real-world scenarios. The assessment mix uses a blend of externally assessed examinations and internally assessed, externally assessed moderated coursework portfolios. Hands on projects, you will engage in case studies, business simulations, and practical tasks that mirror real workplace environments, helping you build practical skills alongside academic theory.

How Will Business Help Me?

Information Technology provides you with an ideal bridge between academic theory and real-world commercial employment. Because the course structure is deeply supported by industry giants like IBM, Cisco, and Fujitsu, you will graduate with employer-ready communication, technical analysis, and mathematical logic skills. This qualification carries full UCAS tariff points, unlocking pathways to a wide range of university degrees. It serves as a brilliant springboard into competitive higher apprenticeships or immediate careers in fields such as cybersecurity analysis, network engineering, database administration, and digital product management.

CHEMISTRY

What Will I study and Learn?

Study a range of topics throughout the course including Inorganic, physical and organic chemistry. Physical chemistry topics include atomic structure, amount of substance, chemical bonding, energetics, kinetics, equilibria, redox, thermodynamics, rate equations, electrochemistry and acids and bases. Organic chemistry topics include nomenclature and mechanisms, alkanes, halogenoalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, chemical analysis, carbonyl chemistry, arenes, amines, polymers, biochemistry and organic synthesis. Inorganic chemistry topics include periodicity, group 2, group 7, period 3, transition metals, and metal-aqua chemistry.

How Is It Taught?

Lessons will be taught in Science labs. There will be a mixture of theory and practical work to support your understanding of the course material. Some lessons will prepare you for written exams (40%) and others will prepare you for Non-examination assessment (NEA) (60%)

How Will Chemistry Help Me?

This Chemistry specification is a stepping stone to future study- the specification was written in consultation with many universities to ensure it allows students to develop the skills that they want to see. This approach has led to a specification that will inspire students, nurture their passion for chemistry and lay the groundwork for further study in courses such as chemistry, medicine and pharmacy.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

At least a grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Maths and a grade 5 in English. Students who study combined science will need a combined score of 12 (e.g. a grade 6-6)

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Merrit,**
Head of Science
- **Mrs Steenton,**
Head of Chemistry

CRIMINOLOGY – (LEVEL 3 APPLIED DIPLOMA)

Extra

Entry Requirements:

No formal additional entry requirements. However, you will need to commit to regularly writing up and reviewing your notes, completing written tasks and keeping your work up to date in preparation for assessments in December/January and May/June of both years.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Tallis,**
Head of Social Sciences
- **Mrs McVerry,**
Teacher of Social Sciences
- **Mrs Evans,**
Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form & Post 16 Preparation, Teacher of Social Sciences
- **Mrs Hall,**
Teacher of Science & Social Sciences

What Will I study and Learn?

Criminology is the scientific study of crime and criminals. During the course, you will explore why crime happens, how crime is perceived and reported, and how the criminal justice system responds to it.

The WJEC level 3 applied diploma in criminology combines elements of psychology, law and sociology, making it a great choice if you are interested in understanding people, society and the world around you.

Year 1 unit 1 is Changing Awareness of crime (controlled assessment). You will explore different types of crime, how crime is represented and perceived, and why some crimes are not reported. You will consider questions such as why some crimes receive more attention than others and how our understanding of crime can be influenced. Unit 2 is criminological theories. You will explore why people commit crime. You will examine different criminological theories and apply them to real-life examples, building on your understanding from Unit 1.

Year 2 unit 3 is crime scene to courtroom (controlled assessment). You will follow the journey from crime scene to courtroom, exploring how the criminal justice system investigates crimes, gathers evidence and reaches a verdict. You will develop the skills needed to examine evidence and consider whether criminal verdicts are just. Unit 4 is about crime and punishment (exam). You will bring together what you have learned about crime, criminological theories and the criminal justice system. You will use this knowledge to evaluate how effectively society controls crime and delivers criminal justice.

How Is It Taught?

Much of your learning will involve discussion, question and answer, group and pair work, case studies and debate. You will also be expected to take responsibility for your own learning through personal reading, note taking, reviewing articles and developing your extended writing skills. Criminology is a subject where there is often more than one way of looking at an issue. You will be encouraged to question evidence, challenge assumptions and consider different explanations for crime and criminal behaviour. You will also explore real cases and current issues, making links between criminology, psychology, sociology and law.

How Will Criminology Help Me?

Studying Criminology will give you valuable insight into crime, criminal behaviour, law and the justice system. It is an excellent choice if you are interested in areas such as criminology, law, psychology, sociology, policing or social sciences. You will develop critical thinking, analytical skills, communication skills and the ability to evaluate evidence, all of which are valuable at university and in the workplace. Whether you are interested in a career in policing, law, social work, probation, forensics or the wider criminal justice system, or simply want to understand more about why crime happens and how society responds to it, Criminology will give you a strong foundation for your future.

DANCE

What Will I study and Learn?

The A Level Dance syllabus runs over two years and is split equally between practical and theoretical work. Practical work is divided between choreography and performance, with three practical examinations in total.

The choreography module offers you the independence to have complete creative control in innovating powerful pieces of dance that realise your full choreographic potential by creating a four-minute piece of group choreography that solves a choreographic task.

The performance module gives you the opportunity to explore a variety of different dance styles, honing your contemporary skills in the quartet performance, whilst the solo performance allows you to explore movement content from world-renowned practitioners such as Christopher Bruce, Bob Fosse and Richard Alston. These aim to push your performance capabilities to execute high quality work. The flexibility within the practical aspects of the course offers the unique opportunity for you to have command over the practical direction you take with your work. This ensures you are constantly producing something that not only highlights your practical strengths, but also is something you have genuine passion and enjoyment in doing. The theory aspect of Dance A Level consists of a singular written paper split into two: the development of Rambert dance company within the contemporary dance scene alongside Christopher Bruce's 'Rooster', and the development of American Jazz Dance alongside 'Singin' in the Rain' by Stanley Donan and Gene Kelly.

The written aspect of the course encourages you to think critically about dance as an art form, deepening your knowledge and understanding of how the cultural, historical and artistic significance of professional dance has shaped dance as we know it today. Through this, your analytical, interpretive and reflective skills can be developed. Throughout the two year course, there are countless performance opportunities as well as the chance to teach and lead dance, see and work with industry professionals and access a variety of dance formats through educational trips and visits. Essentially, A Level Dance offers you the chance to gain whatever experience you wish to benefit you as a choreographer, performer and practitioner.

How Is It Taught?

Per fortnight, you will have five practical lesson and four theory lessons. These are evenly dispursed, and the course is split into two so that all Jazz related work is led by Miss Henn, and all contemporary based work is led by Miss Lymn. Year 1 involves studying the development of American Jazz Dance, including professional works such as Cabaret and Chicago by Bob Fosse and West Side Story and Fancy Free by Jerome Robbins, as well as studying the set professional work 'Rooster' by Christopher Bruce, a work that explores the life of teenagers during the 1960's to the music of the Rolling Stones. In practical lessons, we being by exploring 'Rooster' by collaboratively creating a performance piece incorporating repertoire work alongside your own choreographic work. We also explore solo performances to support you in finding the solo most suited to your strengths and skills, that you also are passionate about and enjoy. In year 2, we study the professional work 'Singin' in the Rain', specifically why it became one of the most renowned filmed musicals even today, as well as the development of Rambert Dance Company from 1966–2002. Alongside this, we finalise solo work alongside the development of a quartet performance piece exploring the contemporary genre, which is created collaboratively between the teacher and students to a unique topic or theme. This is also when we the choreographic tasks are set by the exam board, which we explore in detail before progressing with a concept that inspires you to go on to create an innovative and intricate piece of group choreography.

How Will Dance Help Me?

Studying Dance at A Level can open doors for many career pathways and further study opportunities. The A Level course is highly respected and accepted due to the extended written elements and rigour in the analytical, interpretive and evaluative skills necessary for the course's completion. The opportunity to go on to study dance at University or a Conservatoire for careers in performance and choreography is a viable route to work towards performing in the professional industry. Likewise, other routes linked to dance include teaching, dance therapy and dance community work. Notably, the course develops an array of transferrable skills applicable to many career pathways, building confidence, leadership skills, creativity, the ability to work efficiently with others and impeccable attention to detail. Essentially, the wide range of skills built can open many doors to a successful future career.

**Extra
Entry Requirements:**
Grade 6 or higher at
dance GCSE.

**Who Do I See For
More Information?**

- **Miss Henn,**
Head of Dance



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCTION DESIGN

**Extra
Entry Requirements:**
GCSE D&T,
Engineering or Art
Craft & Design to
Grade 5

What Will I study and Learn?

A Level Product Design develops your ability to design, create and evaluate products for real users and real-world situations. Through a series of practical projects, you will learn how to generate creative ideas using freehand sketching, modelling and prototyping techniques, alongside industry-standard CAD/CAM technologies.

You will gain experience using laser cutters, 3D printers and a wide range of workshop machinery and manufacturing processes, from traditional techniques such as woodturning and sand casting to modern digital manufacturing methods. Alongside this practical work, you will study the technical, scientific and commercial principles that underpin successful product design, preparing you for both coursework and the written examinations.

How Is It Taught?

Product Design is taught through a combination of hands-on practical projects, workshop-based learning and technical knowledge lessons. You will work independently and collaboratively to design and manufacture products, developing confidence in using specialist equipment and modern design technologies. Practical projects are carefully structured to build essential skills in designing, modelling, prototyping and manufacturing, while regular technical knowledge lessons support your understanding of materials, processes, design principles and engineering concepts required for the examinations. The course encourages creativity, problem-solving and independent thinking, giving you the opportunity to take projects from initial concept through to a fully realised outcome.

How Will Design and Technology Help Me?

A Level Product Design develops a highly transferable set of skills valued by universities, apprenticeships and employers. You will strengthen your creativity, communication, problem-solving, project management and practical making skills while gaining experience with industry-standard technologies and manufacturing processes. The course provides excellent preparation for careers in product design, engineering, architecture, interior design, set design, manufacturing and many other creative and technical industries. Former students have progressed to careers as product designers, toy designers, interior designers and set designers, while others have gone on to engineering roles with leading organisations including Rolls-Royce, Mazak, Worcester Bosch, BAE Systems and Jaguar Land Rover. Whether your ambition is to become a designer, engineer or innovator, Product Design equips you with the knowledge, skills and confidence to turn ideas into reality.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Millicheap,**
Head of Design and
Technology

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

What Will I study and Learn?

The drama and theatre A level course is designed to run over two years and consists of three units of work: the first is "theatre workshop" which involves creating a performance that is a reinterpretation of a published text. A piece of written work accompanies this internally assessed unit, called the creative process log. This first unit also requires the use of methods of one practitioner or theatre company, so the work will involve multiple workshops looking at various practitioners. Unit two consists of two performances, one devised and one scripted, which are externally examined. Again, the devised element of this unit requires the influence of a recognised theatre practitioner. The third and final unit is a 2 hour and 30 minute written exam, which involves essay style questions on two set texts: one pre-1956 and one post-1956. The final section of the written exam is based on pre-released extract of the books of dust – La Belle Sauvage by Pjillip Pullman and Bryony Lavery.

How Is It Taught?

Lessons will involve practical and theoretical work. Practical work in the theatre includes working and collaborating with others, exploring ideas in different forms through improvisation, physical theatre, experimentation and using lighting and sound from technical perspective. Theory work includes reading and analysing texts and ideas of different theatre practitioners. You will be expected to do independent work and research in your own time, as well as group and pair work during lessons. You will attend a variety of live theatre performances over the two years in order to enhance and inspire your own creative work and knowledge.

How Will Drama and Theatre Studies Help Me?

Drama and Theatre A Level is widely accepted for university and college entrance. It is also widely accepted by universities that the Drama and Theatre course is both rigorous and academic, due to the extended writing and dedication required by candidates in order to complete the course successfully. It is a useful subject for any careers which involve working with other people or having confidence in public speaking, such as teaching, journalism, social work, police work, public relations, personnel/human resource work. It is also relevant to a career in the arts, such as performing arts, arts administration and media, film and television.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

Ideally candidates will have studied GCSE Drama, or will have taken an active role in either the school production or other Drama outside of school. All candidates will be considered if they show willingness to work hard and collaborate as part of a team. Otherwise entry requirements are as per the requirements for 6th Form as a whole.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Miss Jones,**
Head of Drama

ECONOMICS

Extra

Entry Requirements

While OCR sets no formal entry barriers, students are typically expected to meet our standard post-16 entry requirements (e.g., a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, ideally including English Language and Mathematics)

What Will I study and Learn?

Economics is the study of how societies, businesses, and individuals make choices when faced with scarce resources. By choosing Edexcel A level economics route A, you will dive into a traditional, highly respected academic discipline that blends theoretical rigour with the analysis of real-world global events.

You will learn to think like an economist, analyzing everything from individual consumer behaviour to the volatile movements of the global financial system.

The course is built around four central themes, evenly split between Microeconomics (how individual markets work) and Macroeconomics (how whole economies function):

- Theme 1: Introduction to Markets and Market Failure (Micro): You will explore the foundational principles of supply and demand, how markets allocate resources, and what happens when they fail (such as environmental pollution or public health crises), requiring government intervention.
- Theme 2: The UK Economy – Performance and Policies (Macro): You will analyze the UK's economic health, focusing on aggregate demand and supply, economic growth, unemployment, inflation, and how the government uses fiscal and monetary policy to manage these variables.
- Theme 3: Business Behaviour and the Labour Market (Micro): This builds on Theme 1, looking closely at how businesses compete. You will study monopolies, oligopolies, competitive pricing strategies, and how the labor market functions.
- Theme 4: A Global Perspective (Macro): This expands on Theme 2 to look at international trade, globalisation, poverty, economic development, and the role of the global financial sector.

How Is It Taught?

Economics is taught through an interactive mix of theoretical modeling, current affairs debates, and quantitative data analysis.

- In the classroom: You will explore complex economic models (such as market structure diagrams), analyze contemporary case studies, and debate issues like sugar taxes, interest rate changes, or trade wars.
- Assessment: This is a 100% linear qualification with no coursework. You will sit three 2-hour exams at the end of Year 13:
 - o Paper 1 (Markets and Business Behaviour): Covers Microeconomics (Themes 1 & 3).
 - o Paper 2 (The National and Global Economy): Covers Macroeconomics (Themes 2 & 4).
 - o Paper 3 (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics): A synoptic paper based on a case-study source booklet where you investigate real-world economic scenarios drawing from all four themes. The exam format tests multiple skills, featuring short-answer calculations, data-response questions, and extended evaluative essays.

How Will Economics Help Me?

Economics is a premier, highly versatile A Level that signals strong analytical capabilities to top universities and employers.

- Skills you will develop: You will develop elite critical thinking, the ability to build coherent arguments (KAA – Knowledge, Application, Analysis), and advanced evaluation skills—learning how to weigh conflicting evidence to reach a justified judgement.
- Future pathways: It provides an excellent foundation for university degrees in Economics, Finance, Accounting, Business Management, Law, and Politics (PPE).
- Careers: It opens direct pathways into high-flying careers in banking, corporate management, consultancy, stockbroking, data analysis, and governmental policy.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- Dr Buckler

ENGLISH LITERATURE

What Will I study and Learn?

Eduqas English Literature A level. this involves reading 8 texts across the two years, ranging from poetry to plays to novels, and across a wide range of time periods and genres. You'll study how writers craft their texts to make them powerful and engaging, and watch films based on the texts we've read.

How Is It Taught?

We read texts in class, then have lots of discussion and group work as we unravel the writers meanings. Films and theatre trips enhance our enjoyment and support understanding.

How Will English Literature Studies Help Me?

English Literature is very well regarded by universities and employers. The skills you'll learn are really helpful for jobs and courses that require you to build and sustain an argument, such as Law and Politics. English Literature also builds your creativity so is great for anyone who has aspirations in creative fields such as the Arts, television or film, journalism and similar careers. Recent English Lit students from DSHS have gone on to become published authors, presenters on national news programmes, teachers and barristers.

Extra Entry Requirements

At least a grade 5 in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- Mrs Giles

THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

Extra

Entry Requirements:

Students who are well suited to the EPQ are usually: Curious and motivated Able to work independently Well organised and good at managing deadlines Willing to research thoroughly Confident in asking for help when needed Prepared to reflect on feedback and improve their work There are usually no specific subject entry requirements, but students should be committed, responsible and ready to take ownership of their project.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Da Costa**

History teacher. Head of EPQ.

What Will I study and Learn?

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) allows you to investigate a topic of your choice in depth and develop the skills needed for independent study. You will learn how to plan a project, carry out research, assess the reliability of sources, analyse information and present your findings clearly. Depending on your chosen project, you may produce a dissertation, an investigation, a performance, an artefact or an event. The EPQ gives you the opportunity to explore something you are passionate about while developing valuable academic and practical skills.

How Is It Taught?

The EPQ is taught through a combination of taught skills sessions, independent research and regular supervision. You will be supported by a supervisor who will guide you through the process, but much of the work is self-directed. You will need to manage your own time, meet deadlines and make decisions about the direction of your project. This helps you become a more confident and independent learner.

How Will EPQ Help Me?

The EPQ is highly valued by universities, employers and apprenticeship providers because it shows that you can work independently, think critically and complete a long-term project successfully. It can help you develop skills in research, analysis, problem-solving, communication and organisation, all of which are useful for higher education, future employment and training. For university applicants, the EPQ can also demonstrate enthusiasm for a subject, strengthen personal statements and support preparation for undergraduate study. In the workplace, it shows initiative, commitment and the ability to manage tasks independently.

FILM STUDIES

Extra Entry Requirements

A passion for a wide range of cinema is essential for success in Film Studies A level but it is not necessary to have studied either Film or Media at GCSE. Students will need to have achieved a grade 5 or above in English Language or English Literature.

What Will I study and Learn?

A level Film Studies focuses on the analysis and deconstruction of film over a wide historical time frame. It allows you to engage with films from early silent cinema to 1930s Hollywood films to contemporary and experimental cinema.

How Is It Taught?

For the Eduqas board (WJEC) 70% of your mark is assessed through two 150-minute exams at the end of the two-year course. One focuses on American and British Film, whilst the other focuses on global, documentary, silent and experimental film.

Coursework makes up the remaining 30% of the Film Studies A Level. You can choose to create a either short film (4-5 minutes) or produce a screenplay for a short film of between 1600-1800 words. The screenplay must also be accompanied with a digitally photographed storyboard of a 2-minute section of the screenplay. and you must write an evaluation of your production, of between 1600-1800 words.

How Will Film Studies Help Me?

A level Film Studies students can go onto study Film, TV or Media at University. Students have the option to study a practical degree, theoretical degree or a combination of the two. This can lead to a very broad range of professions with many students able to develop skills that will enable them to apply for production roles within the Film, TV and Media industries. Some students opt for careers within Journalism and photo-journalism.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Habberton**,
Assistant Head of
Sixth Form, Teacher
of English & Film
Studies

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

What Will I study and Learn?

Unit 1 is nutritional needs across the life stages (written exam 90 minutes). This unit develops knowledge and understanding of food and nutrition across the life stages. You will understand why a range of individuals have different nutritional needs and how those needs can be met.

Unit 2 is practical food production skills (internal assessment). This unit develops your practical cookery skills allowing you to plan, prepare, cook and present food items to meet the needs of a specific target audience, using appropriate level 3 practical skills and techniques.

Unit 3 is principles of food hygiene and safety (written exam 90 minutes). In this unit you will develop an understanding of hazards and risks in relation to the storage, preparation, cooking and serving of food items in different environments and the control measures needed to minimise these risks.

Unit 4 is experimenting to solve food production problems (internal assessment). This unit allows you to understand the scientific properties of food to allow you to plan and carry out a range of experiments with the aim of solving real world food production problems.

Unit 5 is current issues in food science and nutrition (internal assessment). This unit allows you to carry out your own investigation into current issues within the world of food science and nutrition.

You will independently complete primary and secondary research into different topic areas of interest. The qualification is graded A* – E and is equivalent to A level for UCAS points.

How Is It Taught?

Qualification Breakdown: Year 12 = Unit 1 @ 25% Exam & Unit 2 @ 25% Internal Assessment
Year 13 = Unit 3 @ 25% Exam & Unit 4 OR 5 @ 25% Internal Assessment

How Will Food Science Help Me?

This qualification provides an in-depth understanding of food science, nutrition, and their application in real-world contexts. You will explore the relationship between diet and health, food safety, and the development of innovative food products. The food science sector plays a critical role in improving global health, food quality and sustainability. The course combines academic theory with practical skills, preparing you for apprenticeships, higher education or careers in areas such as catering, dietetics, nutrition, food science, public health, and product development. This course complements a range of subjects especially Sciences, Health and Social Care, Sport and Business.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

At least a grades 4 and 4 (i.e. combined score of 8) in GCSE Combined or Trilogy Science. At least a grade 5 in GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition would be ideal but is not essential.

Candidates need a passion for cooking and an aspiration to develop their knowledge of all aspects of food. This is not a cheffing course. It is essential for students to have good time management skills and be able to work independently in order to carry out individual research to support their classroom/teacher led learning.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Derwent**,
Head of Home Economics



FRENCH

**Extra
Entry Requirements:**
Grade 6 in French
GCSE

What Will I study and Learn?

In French A level you will learn about social issues and trends, aspects of French society, multiculturalism in hispanic society, political and artistic culture , artistic culture in the French world, and aspects of political life in the French world.

How Is It Taught?

French A Level is taught as a two-year linear course focusing on French society, culture, politics, and literature, culminating in three external exams at the end of Year 13.

Lessons blend advanced language acquisition with cultural studies.

The curriculum emphasizes dynamic interaction with both instructors and peers to cultivate advanced interpersonal and communication skills. Students will also have the autonomy to conduct independent research into a specialized topic of personal interest (Individual Research Project).

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Ms Fuentes-Zuniga,**
Head of Modern
Foreign Languages
- **Miss Ruse,**
Teacher of Modern
Foreign Languages

How Will French Help Me?

A French A Level is useful as it builds high-level communication, analytical and cultural skills that universities and employers value across many fields. You can combine French with subjects like Business, Marketing, Law or Tourism. Many top universities view modern foreign languages as rigorous academic subjects that demonstrate strong memory, logic, and communication skills. A French A-Level is a valuable asset for an apprenticeship, too, providing direct linguistic capabilities alongside high-level transferable cognitive and communication skills that appeal to modern employers.

GEOGRAPHY

What Will I study and Learn?

The course will be divided equally between physical and human geography. Physical geography includes the compulsory unit: water and carbon cycles coastal systems and landscapes, Hazards human geography: compulsory unit – global systems and global governance. Compulsory unit: changing places and the optional unit is urban environments.

How Is It Taught?

Both physical and human units are assessed with a written exam of 2 hours and 30 minutes each and worth a total of 80% of the final A level. Each student will be required to write a 3000–4000 word assignment (NEA – non examined assessment) on their chosen area, which is worth 20% of their A level grade.

How Will Geography Help Me?

You will gain these key skills, which are transferable across all of your studies • Analytical Thinking: Learn to evaluate complex environmental, social, and economic data. • Research and Fieldwork: Design independent investigations, collect real-world data, and test theories. • Communication: Build strong written and verbal arguments through extended reports and essays. • Systems Thinking: Connect local actions to global patterns, such as climate shifts and economic trends Students who study Geography at degree level will often choose career paths in the following areas • Environmental & Sustainability Roles: Tackling climate change, conservation, and green energy supply • Urban & Regional Planning: Including the design of sustainable cities and environments, managing urban regeneration, and improving transport infrastructure. • International Development & Law: Addressing global governance, human rights, and disaster relief.

Extra Entry Requirements:

At least a grade 5 in GCSE English Language. If you have achieved a 5 or below at GCSE Maths you will be required to study Core Maths to support your learning in Geography

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Gray,**
Head of Geography

GERMAN

**Extra
Entry Requirements:**
Grade 6 in German
GCSE

What Will I study and Learn?

In German A level you will learn about social issues and trends, aspects of German society, multiculturalism in German society, political and artistic culture, artistic culture in the German world, and aspects of political life in the German World.

How Is It Taught?

German A level is taught as a two-year linear course focusing on German society, culture, politics, and literature, culminating in three external exams at the end of Year 13. Lessons blend advanced language acquisition with cultural studies. The curriculum emphasizes dynamic interaction with both instructors and peers to cultivate advanced interpersonal and communication skills. Students will also have the autonomy to conduct independent research into a specialized topic of personal interest (Individual Research Project).

How Will German Help Me?

A German A Level is useful as it builds high-level communication, analytical and cultural skills that universities and employers value across many fields. You can combine German with subjects like Business, Marketing, Law or Tourism. Many top universities view modern foreign languages as rigorous academic subjects that demonstrate strong memory, logic, and communication skills. A German A-Level is a valuable asset for an apprenticeship, too, providing direct linguistic capabilities alongside high-level transferable cognitive and communication skills that appeal to modern employers.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Ms Fuentes-Zuniga,**
Head of Modern
Foreign Languages
- **Mr Ward,**
Teacher of Modern
Foreign Languages

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

What Will I study and Learn?

30% NEA and 20% examination in year 12, 30% NEA and 20% examination in Year 13.

F090 Principles of health and social care Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care settings. Legislation in health and social care settings. Best practice in health and social care settings

F091 Anatomy and physiology for health and social care Cardiovascular system. Respiratory system. Digestive system. Musculoskeletal system. Control and regulatory systems. Reproductive systems.

F092 person-centred approach to care taking a person-centred approach. Meeting needs and providing support in a person-centred way. Communication skills need to offer person-centred care.

F093 supporting people with mental health conditions. Definitions and views of mental health and mental health conditions, provision of mental health services, and treatments and support.

F094 supporting people with long term physiological conditions, long term physiological conditions, monitoring and treatment, and impact of long term conditions. Support individuals to plan their care and support.

F096 supporting people in relation to sexual health, pregnancy and postnatal health and advice and guidance on sexual health, pregnancy, birth and postnatal issues. Plan, deliver and review an advice and guidance session.

How Is It Taught?

Qualification breakdown is 30% NEA and 20% examination in year 12 and 30% NEA and 20% examination in year 13.

How Will Health and Social Care Help Me?

Together with other relevant Level 3 qualifications, learners will gain the required knowledge to progress to higher education degree courses, such as: BA (Hons) Health and Social Care. BA (Hons) Adult Social Care. BA (Hons) Social Policy. BA (Hons) Social Work. BSC (Hons) Midwifery. BSC (Hons) Nursing. BA (Hons) Working with Children, Young People and Families.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

At least a grade 5 in GCSE English. At least grade 4, 4 in Science, grade 5, 5 is preferable. Prior study of the subject at GCSE is useful but not essential.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Wood,**
Lead Teacher of Health Health and Social Care
- **Mrs Evans,**
Teacher of Health and Social Care
- **Mrs Derwent,**
Head of Home Economics

HISTORY

Extra

Entry Requirements:

A GCSE in History at a level 6 or above is recommended

What Will I study and Learn?

Students will study the rise of Mussolini in our liberal and Facist Italy unit and will study the rise of the British working classes in our industrialisation and the people unit. There is also an NEA on the voyages of discovery which is in our second year.

How Is It Taught?

Students will be taught in a variety of strategies, including reading and studying primary sources and contemporary historians interpretations as well as making their own presentations and discussion seminars. They will have the chance to make and record their own historical films and re-enactments of major events and wherever possible the department puts an onus on students demonstrating their understanding and undergoing active kinesthetic learning.

How Will History Help Me?

A-Level History is far more than a timeline of past events; it is a masterclass in critical thinking and analytical communication. By studying this subject, you will learn how to interrogate conflicting evidence, spot bias, construct compelling, evidence-based arguments, and understand the complex roots of modern global issues. Because it trains you to quickly process vast amounts of complex information and communicate your judgments clearly, it is heavily prized by top universities and employers as a rigorous "facilitating subject"—opening doors not just to history-related fields, but to highly competitive careers in law, journalism, government, academia, and business.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Drew,**
Head of History

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

What Will I study and Learn?

The OCR level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in IT is a dynamic, modern course equivalent to one A level. It explores how business manage, process, and secure the data that drives our modern economy. You will complete a total of 5 units across the duration of the course.

Unit 1 is fundamentals of IT, building a foundational understanding of computer systems, including hardware, software types, networks, and business IT architecture. Unit 2 is global information. This includes discovering how data is stored and utilized internationally, exploring data management, legal frameworks, and how information flows through multinational organisations.

Unit 3 is cyber security. This includes investigating the reality of modern digital threats, learning strategies to mitigate risks, protect networks, and safe-keep sensitive system infrastructure. Optional/Pathway units, you will also study two specialist optional units designed to build hands-on digital skills (common oaths include product development, project management, systems analysis and design, or the internet of everything).

How Is It Taught?

This course offers a balanced, practical, and highly active learning environment rather than just sitting at a computer screen. You will learn through a mix of classroom lectures, interactive group problem-solving workshops, and lab-based practical software design tasks. Assessment is evenly split to offer flexibility for learners who thrive beyond traditional testing:

- External Examinations (approx. 50%): You will sit written exams for the mandatory modules (Unit 1, Unit 2, and Unit 3).
- Internal Coursework (approx. 50%): The remaining modules are assessed through project-based portfolios, reports, and presentations graded directly by your teachers and moderated by the exam board.

How Will Information Technology Help Me?

Information Technology provides you with an ideal bridge between academic theory and real-world commercial employment. Because the course structure is deeply supported by industry giants like IBM, Cisco, and Fujitsu, you will graduate with employer-ready communication, technical analysis, and mathematical logic skills. This qualification carries full UCAS tariff points, unlocking pathways to a wide range of university degrees. It serves as a brilliant springboard into competitive higher apprenticeships or immediate careers in fields such as cybersecurity analysis, network engineering, database administration, and digital product management.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Dr Buckler,**
Head of Business, IT & Economics
- **Mr Russel,**
Teacher of
Computer Science
& Creative iMedia
- **Miss Gwilliam,**
Teacher of
Computer Science
& Creative iMedia

MATHEMATICS (CORE)

**Extra
Entry Requirements**
GCSE Maths Grade 4

What Will I study and Learn?

Core Maths is designed for students who have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics and wish to continue developing their mathematical skills alongside other A level or vocational courses. You will study practical applications of mathematics, including finance, statistics, probability and modelling, learning how mathematics is used to solve real-world problems and support informed decision-making. Topics are explored through contexts such as personal finance, taxation, mortgages, interpreting statistics in the media, medical testing, environmental data and business decision-making.

How Is It Taught?

Lessons focus on applying mathematics in meaningful contexts, using real data and examples drawn from everyday life, business and current affairs. You will develop your confidence through discussion, investigation and problem-solving activities, alongside regular practice of key mathematical techniques. Independent study and technology are used to support learning and develop analytical skills.

How Will Mathematics (Core) Help Me?

Core Mathematics complements a wide range of subjects, particularly the sciences, social sciences, geography, psychology, business and economics. The course strengthens the quantitative and analytical skills valued by universities, employers and apprenticeship providers. It helps you become a more confident user of mathematics, preparing you for further study, employment and the increasingly data-driven world beyond Sixth Form.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Pope,**
Head of KS5 Maths

MATHEMATICS

What Will I study and Learn?

A level maths develops your understanding of pure Mathematics, statistics and mechanics. You will build advanced algebraic, graphical and numerical skills, studying topics such as calculus, trigonometry, proof, probability, data analysis and mathematical modelling. Throughout the course, you will learn how to solve complex problems, reason logically and communicate mathematical ideas with confidence.

How Is It Taught?

Lessons combine clear teacher explanation with regular opportunities to practise and apply new techniques. You will work through a wide range of exam-style questions, investigate real-world applications of mathematics and develop your problem-solving skills through discussion and independent study. Regular assessments and targeted feedback help you track your progress and prepare for final examinations.

How Will Mathematics Technology Help Me?

A Level Mathematics is highly valued by universities and employers across a wide range of disciplines. It provides an excellent foundation for degrees and careers in mathematics, engineering, computing, economics, finance, the sciences and many other fields. The analytical thinking, resilience and problem-solving skills developed throughout the course are transferable skills that will support success in higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

Extra Entry Requirements

Minimum grade 7 in
GCSE Maths (Higher
Tier)

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Pope,**
Head of KS5 Maths

MATHEMATICS (FURTHER)

Extra Entry Requirements

Grade 8 in GCSE
Maths (Higher Tier) –
Must also pick A Level
Mathematics

What Will I study and Learn?

A Level Further Maths Further Mathematics is an exciting and challenging course for students with a strong passion for mathematics. Building on A Level Mathematics, you will study advanced pure mathematics through topics such as complex numbers, matrices and further calculus, alongside Further Pure Mathematics 1 and Decision Mathematics 1. The course develops a deeper understanding of mathematical structures and methods, encouraging logical reasoning, mathematical proof and sophisticated problem-solving skills.

How Is It Taught?

Lessons are fast-paced, intellectually stimulating and designed to challenge the most able mathematicians. You will explore new concepts through teacher-led discussion, collaborative problem solving and independent investigation. Regular opportunities are provided to tackle demanding examination questions, mathematical puzzles and extension work, helping you develop confidence, resilience and mathematical fluency.

How Will Mathematics (Further) Help Me?

Further Mathematics is highly regarded by leading universities and is particularly valuable for students considering degrees in mathematics, engineering, physics, computer science, economics and related disciplines. It demonstrates exceptional mathematical ability, commitment and academic ambition. The advanced analytical and problem-solving skills developed throughout the course will prepare you particularly well for the demands of higher education and a wide range of high-level careers.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Pope,**
Head of KS5 Maths

MEDICAL SCIENCE

Extra Entry Requirements

Grade 4 in English and Maths. Combined Science at least a 4–5. Separate Science students should have an average score of grade 5.

What Will I study and Learn?

Medical science is dedicated to understanding the human body, diagnosing diseases, developing treatments, and promoting overall health. It integrates various scientific disciplines to study the structure and function of the body, the mechanisms of diseases, and the ways to prevent and cure health issues. Medical scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services, as they are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures. They are involved in a broad range of activities, from basic research in laboratories to clinical trials.

How Is It Taught?

Lessons will be taught in Science labs. There will be a mixture of theory and practical work to support your understanding of the course material. Some lessons will prepare you for written exams (40%) and others will prepare you for Non-examination assessment (NEA) (60%)

How Will Medical Science Help Me?

Medical Science is primarily designed for learners aged 16–19 who are intending to progress to higher education and pursue graduate careers related to healthcare and medical research.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Merrit**, Head of Science
- **Mrs Steenton**, Head of Chemistry

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

What Will I study and Learn?

A-Level Philosophy and Ethics explores some of life's biggest questions: Does God exist? How can a loving God allow evil in the world? How can we speak meaningfully of a transcendent God? You will study philosophical arguments and explore ethical theories, considering whether moral decisions should be based on consequences, love or character, before applying these ideas to issues such as euthanasia, environmental responsibility and equality. Alongside this, New Testament studies explores the life and teachings of Jesus and the origins of Christianity. You will learn to question assumptions, analyse different viewpoints and construct clear, persuasive arguments, developing your independent thinking and your ability to reach well-reasoned judgements.

How Is It Taught?

You will learn through a combination of teacher-led explanations, discussion, debate and independent study. You will explore philosophical arguments, ethical dilemmas and biblical texts, considering different perspectives and developing your own responses. Guided reading, research and essay writing will help you deepen your understanding, while regular feedback and exam practice will develop your ability to explain, analyse and evaluate ideas with confidence.

How Will Philosophy and Ethics Help Me?

The EPQ is highly valued by universities, employers and apprenticeship providers because it shows that you can work independently, think critically and complete a long-term project successfully. It can help you develop skills in research, analysis, problem-solving, communication and organisation, all of which are useful for higher education, future employment and training. For university applicants, the EPQ can also demonstrate enthusiasm for a subject, strengthen personal statements and support preparation for undergraduate study. In the workplace, it shows initiative, commitment and the ability to manage tasks independently.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

You should have an enquiring mind, an interest in life's big questions and a willingness to consider different viewpoints. A good level of English is important, as the examinations require extended written answers in which you explain, analyse and evaluate ideas. GCSE Religious Studies is not essential.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Dew,**
Head of Religious Studies
- **Mr Tubb,**
Teacher of Religious Studies

PHYSICS

Extra

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE Physics and Mathematics and Grade 5 in English, OR grades 6–6 in GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy), Grade 6 in Mathematics and Grade 5 in English.

What Will I study and Learn?

A level Physics explores the fundamental ideas that explain how our universe works, from the behaviour of sub-atomic particles to the motion of planets and stars. You will study particles and radiation, waves, mechanics and materials, electricity, thermal physics, fields, nuclear physics and astrophysics. You will develop strong mathematical, analytical and problem-solving skills and learn how physical principles can be applied to real-world situations.

How Is It Taught?

Physics is taught through a combination of theory, mathematical problem solving and practical investigation. Lessons include explanations, demonstrations, independent and collaborative problem solving and regular experimental work. Practical skills are developed throughout the course, including completion of the AQA required practical activities. You will develop confidence in experimental techniques, data analysis, evaluation and scientific reasoning.

How Will Physics Help Me?

A-level Physics develops highly transferable skills including logical thinking, mathematical problem solving, data analysis and the ability to tackle complex problems. It provides an excellent foundation for further study and careers in areas such as physics, engineering, medicine, computing, space science, energy, architecture and other STEM fields. The analytical and problem-solving skills developed are also highly valued by universities and employers.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Merrit,**
Head of Science
- **Dr Steele,**
Head of Physics

PSYCHOLOGY

What Will I study and Learn?

Psychology (revised 2025 specification) is the scientific study of behaviour and the mind, offering you the opportunity to explore some of the most fascinating questions about what makes us who we are.

You'll discover why people conform and obey authority through social influence, explore how we remember and forget through memory, and investigate how our earliest relationships shape our development through attachment.

You'll also explore the major approaches in psychology, from biological explanations to cognitive and social approaches, alongside biopsychology, where you'll discover how the brain and nervous system influence behaviour.

You'll examine psychological disorders and their explanations and treatments, while developing the research methods skills needed to investigate psychological questions scientifically. Throughout the course, you'll encounter some of psychology's biggest debates, including the fascinating nature versus nurture question.

Beyond the core topics, you'll study 3 exciting options, which are relationships, gender or cognition and development, Schizophrenia, eating behaviour or stress, aggression, forensic psychology or addiction.

How Is It Taught?

Psychology is a dynamic, interactive and evidence-based subject. You'll take part in discussions, debates, critical analysis and practical research activities, giving you the opportunity to explore psychological ideas rather than simply memorising them.

You'll develop your understanding through individual reading and note-taking, collaborative activities, research investigations and regular exam question practice. You'll learn to think like a psychologist by analysing evidence, applying theories to real-life situations and evaluating different explanations for behaviour.

How Will Psychology Help Me?

Psychology gives you a fascinating insight into why people think, feel and behave as they do, while developing skills that are highly valued by universities and employers. You'll develop your critical thinking, analytical, research and communication skills, as well as an understanding of scientific research, data analysis and the relationship between biology and behaviour. Psychology can open the door to a wide range of exciting future pathways, including psychology, medicine, nursing, neuroscience, education, healthcare, social work, business and other social and health sciences. Whether you're fascinated by the human mind, interested in working with people or considering a scientific career, Psychology provides an excellent foundation for your future.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

A minimum of Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and Grade 5 in GCSE

Science is

recommended.

Psychology involves mathematical skills, data analysis and scientific research methods, so you should be comfortable working with numbers, graphs and scientific evidence.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Tallis,**
Head of Social Sciences
- **Mrs McVerry,**
Teacher of Social Sciences
- **Mrs Evans,**
Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form and Post 16 Preparation, Teacher of Social Sciences

SOCIOLOGY

Extra

Entry Requirements:

No formal additional entry requirements. However, you will need to be prepared to read independently, take detailed notes and develop your extended writing skills in preparation for regular assessments throughout the course.

What Will I study and Learn?

Sociology gives you the opportunity to explore the society you live in and question the forces that shape our lives. You'll investigate how families have changed and how they influence our experiences in families and households, before exploring the role of education in shaping opportunities, identities and social mobility. In crime and deviance, you'll explore why some people break society's rules and how crime is defined, measured and controlled. You'll also discover how sociologists investigate society through sociological theory and research methods, learning how to gather, analyse and evaluate evidence. You'll then explore either Global Development or beliefs in society. Global development will take you beyond the UK to explore differences between societies, the causes and consequences of inequality and the challenges facing communities around the world. Beliefs in society will explore the role of religion and belief in society, including secularisation, religious organisations, different forms of belief and the changing roles of religion in the modern world. Throughout the course, you'll encounter a range of sociological perspectives and thinkers, and you'll be encouraged to question what you might previously have taken for granted.

How Is It Taught?

Sociology is a thought-provoking, interactive and discussion-rich subject. You'll explore sociological ideas through debates, discussions and current affairs, making links between what you learn in the classroom and the world around you. You'll be encouraged to question assumptions, challenge different viewpoints and develop your own arguments, while learning how to support your ideas with sociological evidence. You'll also develop your skills through independent reading, note-taking, research and regular essay practice. Learning to construct a well-supported argument and evaluate different perspectives will be central to your success.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mrs Tallis**,
Head of Social Sciences
- **Mrs McVerry**,
Teacher of Social Sciences
- **Mrs Evans**,
Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form and Post 16 Preparation, Teacher of Social Sciences

How Will Sociology Help Me?

Sociology gives you a deeper understanding of people, society and the world around you, while developing skills that are highly valued by universities and employers. You'll develop your critical thinking, analytical, research and communication skills, as well as your ability to interpret evidence, construct arguments and understand different perspectives. These skills can support a wide range of university courses and future careers, including social sciences, law, journalism, business, social work, healthcare, education, market research and public services. Whether you're fascinated by people and society, interested in understanding inequality and social change, or simply want to make better sense of the world around you, Sociology will give you the tools to look beyond the obvious and ask why things are the way they are.

What Will I study and Learn?

In Spanish A level you will learn about social issues and trends, aspects of hispanic society, multiculturalism in hispanic society, political and artistic culture, artistic culture in the hispanic world, and aspects of political life in the hispanic world.

How Is It Taught?

Spanish A Level is taught as a two-year linear course focusing on Hispanic society, culture, politics, and literature, culminating in three external exams at the end of Year 13. Lessons blend advanced language acquisition with cultural studies. The curriculum emphasizes dynamic interaction with both instructors and peers to cultivate advanced interpersonal and communication skills. Students will also have the autonomy to conduct independent research into a specialized topic of personal interest (Individual Research Project).

How Will Spanish Help Me?

A Spanish A Level is useful as it builds high-level communication, analytical and cultural skills that universities and employers value across many fields. You can combine Spanish with subjects like Business, Marketing, Law or Tourism. Many top universities view modern foreign languages as rigorous academic subjects that demonstrate strong memory, logic, and communication skills. A Spanish A-Level is a valuable asset for an apprenticeship, too, providing direct linguistic capabilities alongside high-level transferable cognitive and communication skills that appeal to modern employers.

Extra Entry Requirements:

Spanish:
Grade 6 in Spanish
GCSE

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Ms Fuentes-Zuniga**,
Head of Modern
Foreign Languages

SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

(CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL – FOUNDATION DIPLOMA)

Extra

Entry Requirements:

Sports Science – Level 2 Pass or higher. If you did not study Sport Science at level 2, you will need an excellent, up to date, understanding of sport.

What Will I study and Learn?

Foundation Diploma Body systems and the effects of physical activity (exam).

Sports coaching and activity leadership.

Sport organisation and development (exam).

Practical skills in sport and physical activities.

Physical activity for specific groups.

Organisation of sports events.

Sports injuries and rehabilitation.

Working Safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure (exam)

How Is It Taught?

A mixture of classroom lessons, coaching sessions, creating diet plans, organising sporting events, completing a first aid course and designing presentations.

How Will Sport and Physical Activity Help Me?

Students will develop a wide range of practical, academic and employability skills, preparing them for further education and future careers. Throughout the course, students build confidence, leadership, communication, organisational and problem-solving skills through a variety of practical and theoretical experiences.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Boaler,**
Teacher of Physical Education & Co-ordinator of Vocational Courses
- **Mr Pope,**
Head of Physical Education

SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

(CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL – EXTENDED DIPLOMA)

What Will I study and Learn?

Extended Diploma Body systems and the effects of physical activity (exam). Sports coaching and activity leadership. Sport organisation and development (exam). Practical skills in sport and physical activities. Physical activity for specific groups. Organisation of sports events. Sports injuries and rehabilitation. Working Safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure (exam) Performance Analysis in sport and exercise Nutrition and diet for sport and exercise Health and fitness testing for sport and exercise Group Exercise to Music Improving Fitness for Sport and Physical Activity Working in Active Leisure Sports Psychology Sports Sociology The Business of Sport.

How Is It Taught?

A mixture of classroom lessons, coaching sessions, creating diet plans, organising sporting events, completing a first aid course and designing presentations.

How Will Sports and Physical Activity Help Me?

Students will develop a wide range of practical, academic and employability skills, preparing them for further education and future careers. Throughout the course, students build confidence, leadership, communication, organisational and problem-solving skills through a variety of practical and theoretical experiences.

Extra

Entry Requirements:

Sports Science – Level 2 Pass or higher. If you did not study Sport Science at level 2, you will need an excellent, up to date, understanding of sport.

Who Do I See For More Information?

- **Mr Boaler,**
Teacher of Physical Education & Co-ordinator of Vocational Courses
- **Mr Pope,**
Head of Physical Education



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