King Edward's

WITLEY

2026-27

SIXTH FORM OPTIONS

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Welcome to the Sixth Form at King Edward's Witley. This is an exciting stage in your educational journey, where you move from the broad foundation of GCSEs into a more specialised programme of study. The choices you make in the Sixth Form will shape not only your academic pathway, but also the skills, experiences and opportunities that prepare you for university and apprenticeships or the world of work.

At King Edward's, we offer a wide range of 25 academic and vocational courses, including A Levels, BTECs and Level 3 Diplomas, with the majority of Sixth Formers taking three of these subjects. This booklet sets out the options available to you, and we encourage you to think carefully, ask questions and make choices that reflect both your interests and your future ambitions.

In the Sixth Form, you will benefit from small class sizes, expert teaching and personalised guidance to ensure you are supported in achieving your goals.

In addition to your chosen subjects, you will take on leadership roles, participate in co-curricular activities and contribute to the wider school community through the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and the Bridewell Diploma. We are united by diversity, with Sixth Formers from many backgrounds learning together and supporting each other.

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ART & DESIGN A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL ART & DESIGN?

This course offers opportunities to use your creativity to express yourself. You will develop your understanding of creative processes, your ability to observe and to think, to solve problems and to communicate visually. It will enable you to work independently and to make your own discoveries by exploring ideas, other artists' work and different materials and techniques. If you have an adventurous, creative and enquiring mind and are excited by shaping and determining the visual world around us, there is a career opportunity waiting for you.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

This is a practical course in which you learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative personal work. Study of artists, art movements, styles and approaches will inform the development of your own practical art skills. The course covers many aspects of art, craft and design, including drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, ceramics, photography and fine art. You will discover how to use a broad array of different media, techniques, and processes, as well as developing your creativity, problem-solving skills, and independence of mind. Regular sketchbook practice is essential, and visits to galleries, museums and lectures will form an integral part of the course.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Coursework: Personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material – 60%.
Externally set assignment: The production of personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points - 40%. Work is internally assessed and externally moderated.

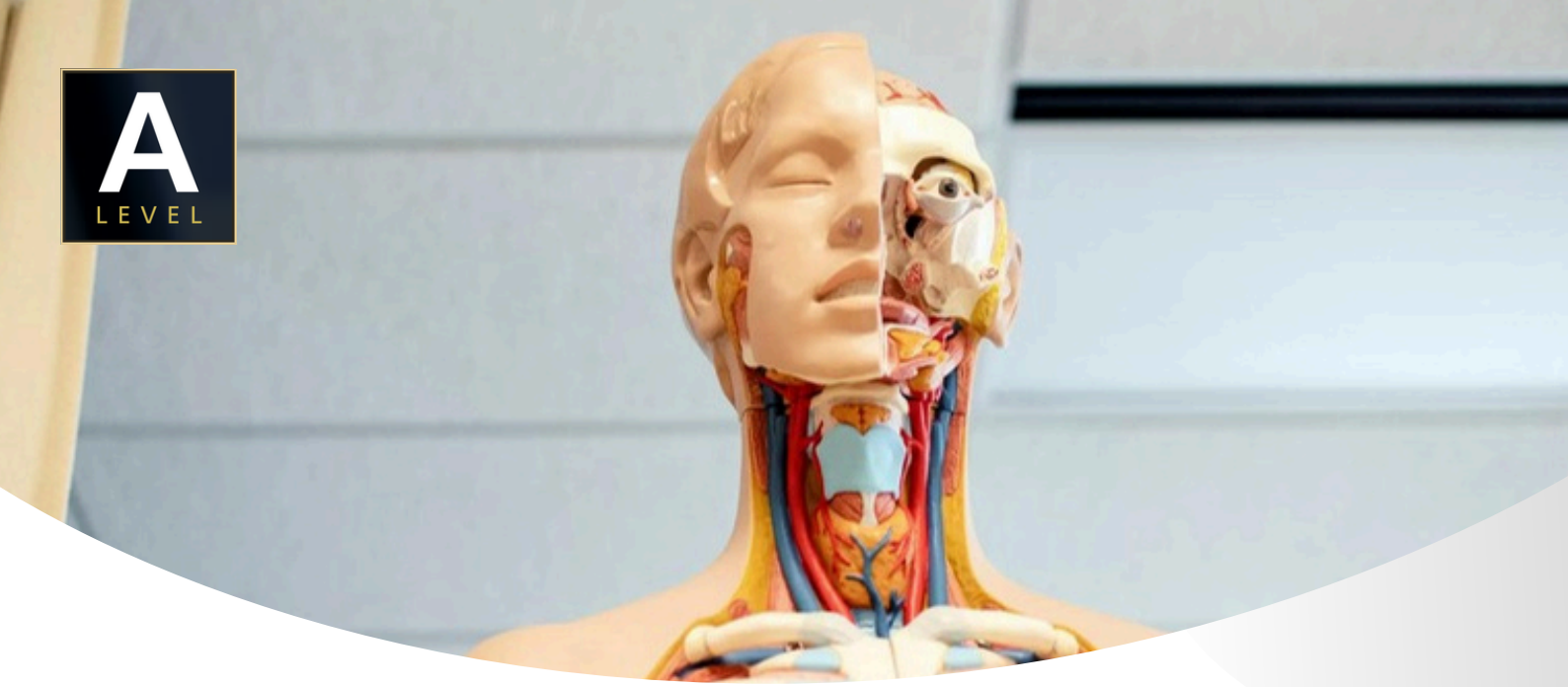
WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The study and production of visual arts is central to developing capable, inquiring, and knowledgeable minds. This course encourages an active exploration of visual arts and promotes creative thinking and problem solving. Art is about looking, learning, thinking and communicating. You will enjoy developing your understanding of the visual world, learning practical skills and responding to ideas and issues in ways that are personal to you.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

As well as developing the creativity that so many employers now seek, this course is particularly suitable for those wish to pursue a career in the arts, architecture, film and digital media, photography, or design. Digital media is one of the largest growth industries in the UK.

Exam Board: AQA



BIOLOGY A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL BIOLOGY?

Biology is the science behind life and all living things. Biology builds on concepts studied previously but delves much further into the depths of all living organisms, mechanisms and life processes. This is the most exciting time to be a biologist. Biologists are working to solve the biggest challenges currently facing humanity and our planet – fighting disease, protecting the environment and feeding our growing population. If you have a love for life, knowing how organisms work, head for figures and enjoy applying your knowledge to real life situations, Biology is for you.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

You will study 8 Topics over the two years; Topic 1: Biological molecules, Topic 2: Cells, Topic 3: Organisms exchange substances with their environment, Topic 4: Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, Topic 5: Energy transfers in and between organisms, Topic 6: Organisms response to changes in their internal and external environments, Topic 7: Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems, Topic 8: The control of gene expression.

Topics 1 – 4 are taught in the first year and topics 5 – 8 are taught in the second year. The specification is split into two; 7401 for the first year and 7402 for the second year. This is a practical subject thus enjoyment of laboratory work is a natural prerequisite. There are 12 practical activities that need to be completed over the two years and you will also do some other practical activities to help develop skills and knowledge. Mathematics is also important in Biology and the basics of statistical tests are taught throughout the two years. You will also develop your mathematical skills in other areas such as units, dilutions, and magnification.

Usually in the first year of the course, we complete a three-day residential field course, where multiple practical skills are covered. It is important to attend this as these skills are best taught in the field.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will have 3 Examinations at the end of the second year and you will be expected to complete all 12 practical activities to develop your skills, which will be assessed in class and in the examinations.

Paper 1: topics 1-4, 35% of A-Level, 2 hours and 91 marks (76 marks-short and long answers, 15 marks-extended response).

Paper 2: topics 5-8, 35% of A-Level, 2 hours and 91 marks (76 marks-short and long answers, 15 marks- comprehension question).

Paper 3: topics 1-8, 30% of A-Level, 2 hours and 78 marks (38 marks-structured questions, 15 marks-analysis of experimental data, 25 marks-1 essay of choice from 2 titles).

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Studying Biology will equip you with the tools in order to understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how science contributes to the success of the economy and society. At the same time, you will develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical, problem-solving skills, amongst communication and analytical thinking, to name a few.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Biology is a well-respected Science subject that is highly regarded by universities. Biology provides foundations for thinking critically and analytically and as a result it can lead to further studies in a wide range of both Science and non-Science subjects. If you are planning on studying any subject to do with living organisms, Biology is likely to be a requirement or highly recommended. It combines well with a number of subjects such as Mathematics, Chemistry, Physical Education and Geography but there are other combinations that also work very well. Please speak to the teachers about what you would like to do later in life, and they can advise you.

Exam Board: AQA

BUSINESS A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL BUSINESS?

Business is a dynamic and fascinating subject to study because business organisations are at the heart of how our society operates. The subject is both vibrant and complex, requiring pupils to obtain a holistic understanding of business practice. Moreover, because of globalisation, it is important to understand the international forces that shape business performance. Achieving an understanding of business practices will enhance your employability and enable you to develop a success career.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

How businesses make decisions and form strategies is central to the study of this subject. Therefore, you will develop your understanding of the role of leadership and management. You will learn how businesses set objectives using theories and models to assess options, and how performance is reviewed. The main functions of business - marketing, finance, production and human resources - are explored in detail so that you can develop a holistic understanding of business practice. Businesses face differing demands from a wide variety of stakeholders, and significant challenges and opportunities due to technological innovation, business ethics and trade rules. These issues are explored in detail.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will be examined through three papers. These papers provide a test of your understanding of the theories, concepts and models you have learnt, and your ability to apply them successfully to scenarios.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop your ability to critically assess information through case studies and how to apply theories and models to real world business scenarios. Crucially, you will develop your ability to bring together a range of interrelated factors to arrive at judgements that are based on your preceding analysis. Hence, your analytical, problem solving, quantitative and communication skills will be developed.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Many pupils go on to take business related courses at university. Even if you don't, your understanding of how businesses operate and their roles and responsibilities in a modern economy will serve you well as you enter the world of work as an informed citizen.

Exam Board: AQA

CHEMISTRY A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry provides essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other. Chemistry develops and demonstrates a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods as well as increasing competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical, and problem-solving skills. Pupils often go on to develop an interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including potential for further study and careers associated with the subject, all while understanding how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

A summary of the content for the A-level course is as follows: Module 1 – Development of practical skills in Chemistry, assessed in a written examination and in the practical endorsement; Module 2 – Foundations in Chemistry including atoms, compounds, molecules and equations; Module 3 – Periodic table and energy including the periodic table and periodicity; Module 4 – Core organic chemistry including basic concepts, alcohols and haloalkanes and analytical techniques; Module 5 – Physical Chemistry and transition elements including reaction rates and equilibrium (quantitative); Module 6 – Organic Chemistry and analysis including compounds, synthesis and chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

All three externally assessed components (01–03) contain some synoptic assessment, some extended response questions and some stretch and challenge questions. Stretch and challenge questions are designed to allow the most able learners the opportunity to demonstrate the full extent of their knowledge and skills.

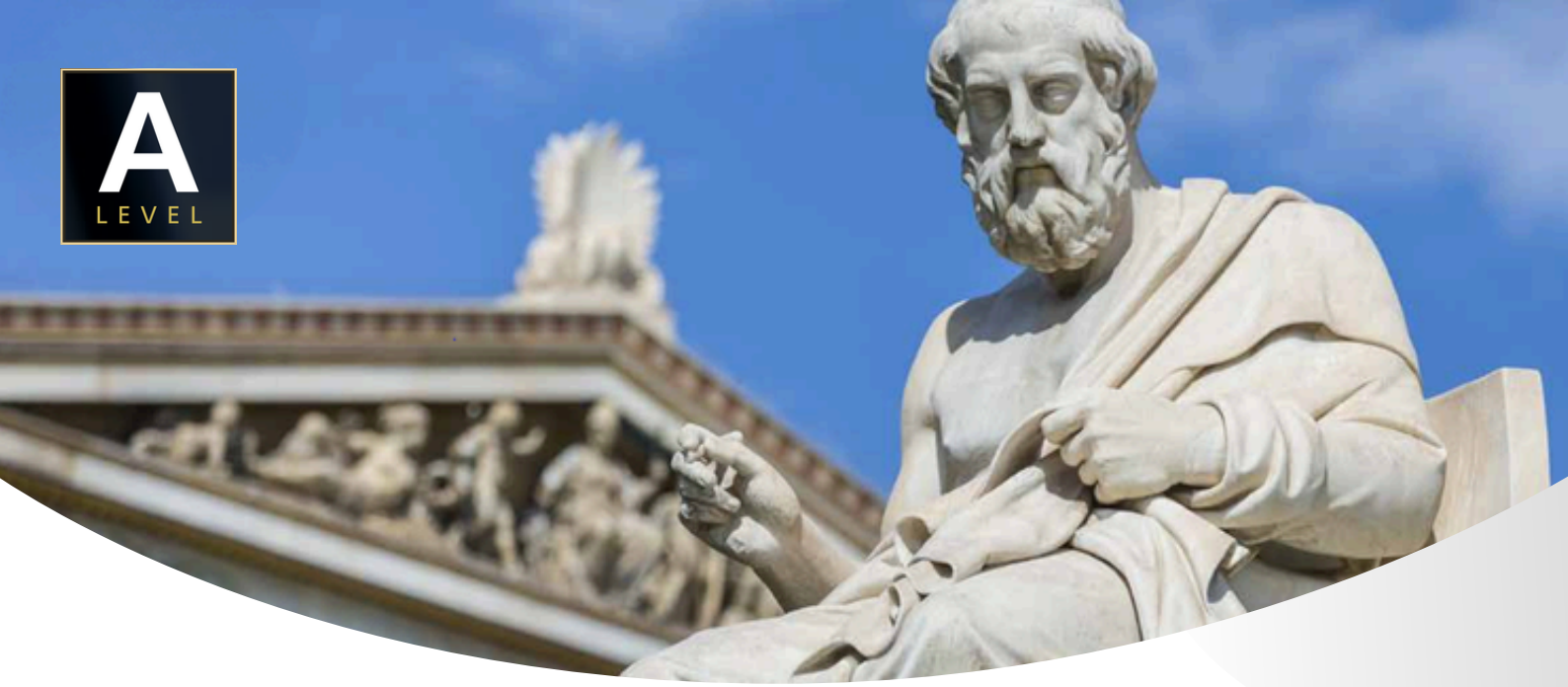
WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The ability to demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques, and procedures, in a theoretical and practical context and when handling qualitative and quantitative data. In addition, you will analyse, interpret, and evaluate scientific information, ideas, and evidence, to make judgements and reach conclusions, developing and refining practical design and procedures.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Chemistry is an important subject for many careers including those of environmental science, engineering, medicine, dentistry and pharmaceuticals to name but a few. To find out about other career opportunities through chemistry, please use the QR code below to view the slide show.

Exam Board: OCR A



CLASSICAL CIVILISATION A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL CLASSICAL CIVILISATION?

This course will be ideal for those who enjoy History, Politics, literature and the arts. It offers an in depth understanding of the Ancient world, without studying Latin or Ancient Greek.

Reading Greek and Roman epic poetry in English translation offers opportunities to make a personal response to some of the finest literature ever written.

Greek Art asks you to look at a different branch of Classics: interpreting the development of art across the classical period. No previous knowledge of Greek Art is required.

Politics of the Late Republic covers a completely different skill set. It involves learning about the turbulent history of the late Roman Republic and analysing ancient sources, in the form of a surviving law speech and private correspondence.

Classical Civilisation pupils have varied lessons as a consequence, where we are constantly comparing and contrasting ancient Rome to today's literature, art and society.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Homer's **Iliad** and **Odyssey** and Virgil's **Aeneid** are unique in their composition and introduce exciting tales of gods and heroes in the Greek and Roman world. In Greek Art, you will look at how the Greeks chose to display themselves, their mythology, their ideas and their military successes. You will consider how they pursued the concept of perfection and the influence that they have had on today's architecture and art. Politics of the Late Roman Republic will lead you through the fall of the Roman Republic, following the events which took place and considering the actions of specific individuals: Caesar, Pompey, Cato and Cicero. It also introduces you to Cicero's forensic legal speech attacking a corrupt governor, as well as asking you to read his private correspondence whilst the Roman Republic raced towards its own destruction.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment takes the form of three examinations the different units.
World of the Hero 40%
Greek Art 30%
Politics of the Late Republic 30%

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will learn how to develop an argument and support it with evidence, both verbally and in written form. You will be able to analyse texts and art, as well as evaluate their purpose, intention and meaning. Researching ideas and presenting them is an inherent part of the course. Classical Civilisation enhances skills of reading, comprehension and interpretation of evidence.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Classicists can be found in all different types of jobs, as the analytical and evaluative skills are transferable to most university courses and careers. Typical careers are: law; government; publishing; teaching; marketing. As an A-Level, it combines well with other humanities. A lifelong enjoyment of the Classical world is an added bonus.

Exam Board: OCR

COMPUTER SCIENCE A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL COMPUTER SCIENCE?

Computer Science is a fantastic subject to study as the most important aspect of this subject is problem solving, which is an essential life skill. Computer Scientists are needed in the digital age we find ourselves in to design, develop and apply software and hardware. In addition to this it provides excellent job opportunities as every industry uses computers, meaning computer scientists can pursue any sector they want.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Computer Science is a practical subject where pupils can apply the principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. Computer Science is divided into 2 sections, theory and practical. Computer systems gives you a knowledge of how computers and other digital devices operate. It introduces you to the internal workings of the central processing unit (CPU), networking and types of software. The practical aspect covers problem solving and pupils will be expected to identify a problem then analyse, design, develop and test a proposed solution, which will be written in Java. This is a very hands on subject and pupils enjoy the coding aspect of the course.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The A-level has 2 exams covering computer systems and algorithms and programming. Each exam counts 40% of the grade. The final 20% is achieved by completing a programming project in object-oriented programming.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Computer programming and coding teaches you perseverance, resilience, and problem solving and logical thinking, all of which are valuable life skills for any future career. Another benefit of this subject is it teaches you to listen to other team members and take on board other's opinions and ideas.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Taking Computer Science opens many doors for the future. Having a computing degree will provide you with the knowledge, problem-solving skills and logical thinking capabilities that serve as a competitive advantage in your career. There is a wide number of IT related careers including systems analysts and web designers and majority of Computer Science graduates go directly into employment.

Exam Board: OCR

3D DESIGN A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL 3D DESIGN?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives pupils the theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing prototypes of their choice in a range of materials. Pupils will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Pupils will learn about the physical and mechanical properties and classification of a wide range of natural and man-made materials. In the context of small focused practical tasks pupils will learn about many of the (commercial and industrial) processes available to manipulate materials for use in products. King Edward's has three well equipped workshops and a full-time technician so a wide range of tools, processes and techniques can be demonstrated, practised and used in lessons and after school clubs. Through drawing, Computer Aided Design (CAD) and modelling, pupils will design and make several prototypes, most notably the assessed project in the Upper Sixth.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Coursework: Personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material – 60%. Externally set assignment: The production of personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points - 40%. Work is internally assessed and externally moderated.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Most of the things in our lives have been designed. Good design is often taken for granted but we are quick to notice bad design. The nature of the subject is fantastic at developing key skills needed in life: researching, problem solving, time management, evaluation, project management, collaborative work, presentation and communication skills, creativity, and IT skills.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Design Technology will give you skills and knowledge to progress in many career paths. Engineering (e.g. automotive or aerospace), product design, construction, architecture, and robotics are obvious but also advertising, the food industry, fashion, film and many others.

Exam Board: AQA

DRAMA AND THEATRE A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL DRAMA AND THEATRE?

The course is varied and interesting. You will have the opportunity to develop practical performance skills and acting techniques and you will learn how to analyse play texts, interpret characters, explore themes and ideas, and understand the historical and cultural contexts. You will gain a practical understanding of the theatre production process, including lighting, sound, and costume design and you will create your own original theatre work to be presented to an audience. Alongside practical work, you will also engage in written assignments that require analysis, reflection, and evaluation of your own work and the work of others. You will be encouraged to attend live theatre performances and critically evaluate them allowing you to articulate your ideas and develop your written communication skills. You will be taught by subject specialist teaching staff and visiting directors, actors and designers from the industry will lead workshops with pupils.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

You will explore the work of influential theatre practitioners such as Littlewood, Brecht, Artaud, and practitioners associated with devising theatre such as Gecko, KneeHigh and Frantic Assembly. This will provide you with a broader understanding of different approaches to collaborative theatre making to inform your own devising process. You will explore two set texts in depth, 'Woyzeck' by Georg Buchner and 'That Face' by Polly Stenham and you will study 3 more plays which are chosen by the teacher each year to reflect current trends and issues and to suit the interests and skills of the students in the class. You will develop rehearsal and performance techniques and create production proposals which will include detailed ideas for technical aspects such as set, lighting and sound design. You will learn to develop ideas and reasoned arguments in relation to theatre productions you have seen, you will critically engage with statements such as 'acting is more important than design in theatre' or 'theatre today has nothing to say to young people'. Your lessons will range from practical rehearsals to discussion and debate to theory and essay writing.

Exam Board: Edexcel

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40% is based on the devising project which involves creating a unique and original performance for an audience and completing an audio or written portfolio to document the process. 20% is based on a theatrical production in the second year of the course and pupils may choose to be actors or designers. This is graded by a visiting examiner who watches the performance. 40% is the written exam at the end of the course. Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation. Section B: Page to Stage: Realising a Performance Text (That Face). Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text (Woyzeck).

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

This course encourages learners to develop their skills in performing, devising and researching a wide range of theatrical styles and genres. They learn to communicate with an audience through practical and creative work on performance texts and their own devised material, both as individuals and in groups. They learn to research, analyse, create and interpret, and to become skilled, well-informed and reflective theatrical practitioners.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Studying Drama and Theatre can open doors to various career paths. Besides pursuing acting or directing or designing, you can explore professions in areas such as playwriting, stage management, arts administration, teaching, or even using your transferable skills in fields like communication, marketing, or public relations. The A-Level course develops many transferable skills that compliment careers in all industries. By performing in front of an audience, you'll learn to overcome stage fright, develop resilience, and gain a sense of accomplishment. Theatre is a collaborative art form that requires teamwork and cooperation. Working with a diverse group of actors, directors, designers, and technicians teaches you how to communicate, compromise, and collectively create something meaningful. These skills are essential in many professional settings. Theatre provides a platform for exploring different cultures, historical periods, and social issues. Through studying plays from various time periods and cultures, you can gain a deeper understanding of society, history, and human experiences. Theatre encourages empathy and emotional intelligence by immersing you in the lives and emotions of diverse characters. It helps you develop an understanding of different perspectives, motivations, and emotions, which can foster compassion and empathy in your personal and professional relationships.

ECONOMICS A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL ECONOMICS?

Economics is a fascinating and vital subject. It uses theories and models to explain the decisions we, firms and governments make, and the impact they have on our wellbeing. The appropriate role of government and free markets in a modern economy is examined. Key issues explored including the role of international trade; poverty and income inequality; and how we might move away from mass consumption and ecological destruction. Economics provides you with the analytical tools to assess solutions to such key issues critically.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

To understand Economics, you must understand the theories, models and concepts that underpin the subject. Microeconomics is the study of how markets work and why they might not work so well. Most of us engage in markets daily when we purchase goods and services. Why are markets so widely used to allocate the planet's limited resources? When markets go awry what should the government do? Macroeconomics studies the whole economy and looks at how governments can steer it to achieve full employment, economic growth and other objectives. You will also learn the economics of globalisation and development.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will be assessed through three papers that will require you to produce a range of shorter and some extended responses to theoretical and scenario-based questions.

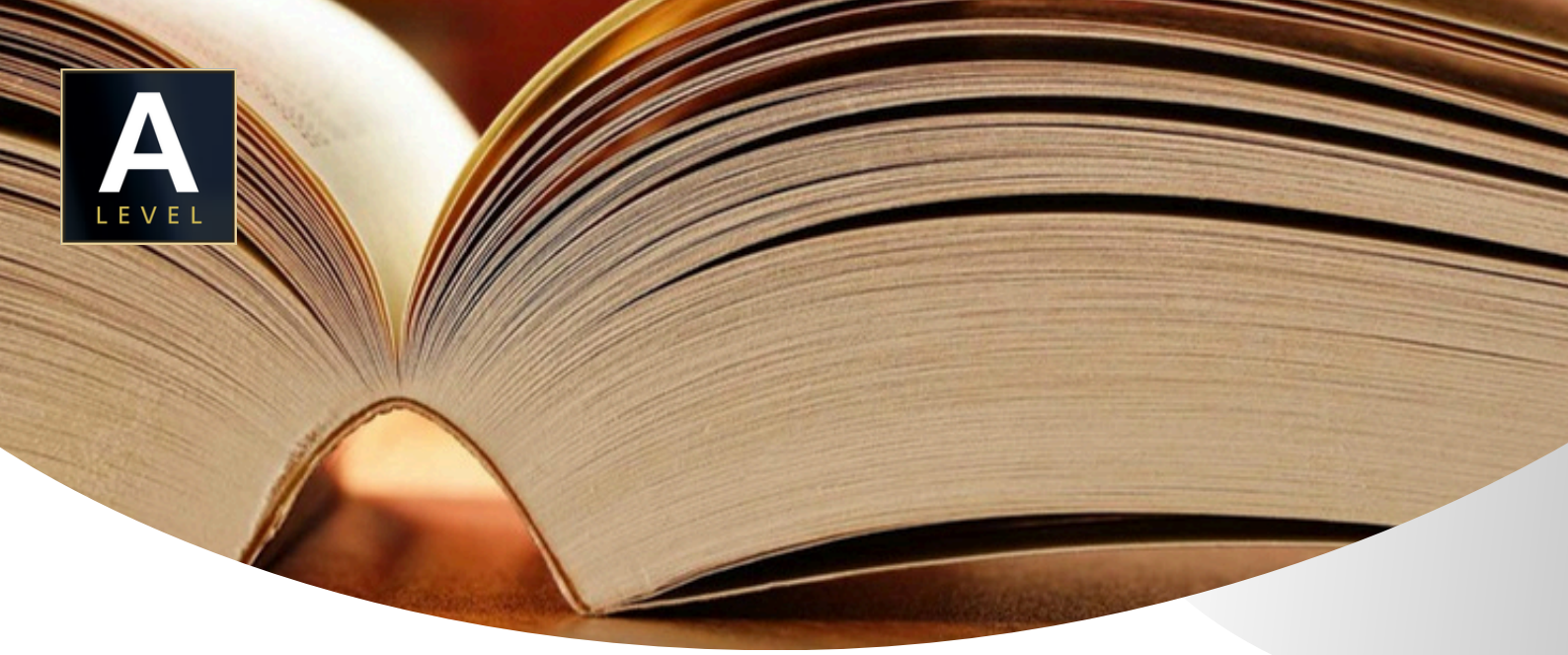
WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop a wide range of skills. Above all, Economics invites you to think about how national and global economic systems are organised, and to what extent they are working to the betterment of mankind. This is clearly a big question. You will develop your critical analysis, evaluative and quantitative skills.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Economists are employed in a wide range of private and public settings. They carry out work examining the economic impact of a proposed policy and generally provide forecasts for decision-making. Studying economics will enable you to go on to study a wide range of social science subjects at university.

Exam Board: Edexcel



ENGLISH LITERATURE A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE?

A Level Literature is more than the study of texts: it is the study of yourself. Through reading, analysing and discussing texts, you will gain a greater understanding of how you see the world, finding areas of connection with authors from across tome. You will foster a deeper appreciation of how writers address recurring themes, analytically engaging with a rich range of stimulating, challenging and compelling works. The course offers an opportunity to read and critically evaluate a diverse range of poetry, prose, and drama in addition to introducing you to the world of literary theory and criticism. If you want to study a wide range of influential and thought- provoking texts, this is the course for you.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

You will study two distinct but complimentary units: "Love Through the Ages" and "Texts in Shared Contexts - Modern Times: 1945 to Present." The current set texts for each unit are as follows:

Love Through the Ages:

- Othello (William Shakespeare)
- The Great Gatsby (F. Scott Fitzgerald)
- AQA Anthology of Love Poetry Through the Ages

Texts in Shared Contexts Modern Times: 1945 to Present:

- A Streetcar Named Desire (Tennessee Williams)
- The Handmaid's Tale (Margaret Atwood)
- Skirrid Hill (Owen Sheers)

In addition to the above, you will study another two texts of your choice (one pre-1900) for the Independent Critical Study, the non-exam assessment (NEA) unit. The study of all three units is supported by the Critical Anthology, an exam board-produced course accompaniment that covers a range of examples and approaches to literary theory and criticism, including narrative theory, feminist theory, Marxist theory and eco-critical theory.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will sit two externally-assessed examinations and complete the non-examination assessment unit:

- **Paper 1:** Love Through the Ages is open book - you will have access to the texts in the examination.
- **Paper 2:** Modern Times: 1945 to Present is closed book - texts will not be available.
- The Non-Exam Assessment comprises a single 2500-word critical study produced in the form of an extended analytical essay. This is an independent study which is fully supported by your teacher in a tutor/supervisor capacity, much like you might experience at university.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Studying A-level English Literature enhances critical thinking, communication, and research skills. You'll develop analytical abilities, articulate ideas clearly, and construct persuasive arguments with well-chosen evidence. The course fosters creative thinking, empathy, and cultural awareness by exploring diverse perspectives; engaging with literature deepens your appreciation for storytelling and offers unique insights into the human condition through the eyes and words of notable writers.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Pupils with English Literature qualifications are valued for their strong reading, writing, analytical and communication skills. You'll enhance your emotional intelligence and empathy, gaining insight into human behaviour and a broader world view. These skills are in demand across various careers, including law, journalism, and the civil service, and are also sought after in technology fields involving content creation and strategic communication consulting

Exam Board: AQA A

FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION LEVEL 3

WHY SHOULD I STUDY LEVEL 3 FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION?

Level 3 Food Science & Nutrition is a well-respected qualification. This national qualification awards the same number of UCAS points as an A-level and is accepted by 95% of universities including those in the Russell Group.

This is a practical based subject that involves an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition, and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts. Through on–going practical sessions pupils will learn highly skilled, complex dishes and how to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals. The course has been designed to offer exciting, interesting experiences through applied learning, and to acquire knowledge and understanding in purposeful, work-related contexts, linked to the food industry.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

There are four sections of the course: the importance of food safety; the properties of nutrients; the relationship between nutrients & the human body; and nutritional requirements. The theory pupils learn will be linked to practical work and applied to 'real world' scenarios.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are three units which must be completed over the two-year programme. There are two mandatory external assessments and two mandatory internal assessments. The course is equivalent to a GCE A level qualification. (Size depth, rigour, performance and UCAS points).

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Pupils will build on and extend practical food preparation skills. Each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning. This requires pupils to consider how your learning impacts on themselves, other individuals, employers, society and the environment. The applied purpose will also enable you to learn in such a way that you develop:

- independent learning
- the ability to solve problems
- the ability to apply mathematical and ICT skills
- the skills of project-based research, development and presentation
- skills to ensure your own dietary health and well-being
- the fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment
- the ability to apply learning in vocational contexts.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

This course is well placed to provide a foundation for studies in any food & nutrition related university course. It also provides a supplement to those interested in studying any other science at university as it provides opportunities to apply psychological, biological, sociological and technological concepts to their chosen Science

Possible degree options:
Food & Nutrition, Dietetics, Food Science, Food Technology, Public Health Nutrition, Food Business & Marketing, Hospitality & Catering.

Possible career options:
This qualification is relevant to many industries and job roles:

- The care industry and nutritionists in hospitals
- Sports coaches & fitness instructors
- Hotels, restaurants & hospitality
- Food photography & food styling
- Food manufacturers
- Food research & developers
- Food safety industry
- Government agencies & policy makers

Exam Board: WJEC

FURTHER MATHEMATICS A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL FURTHER MATHEMATICS?

A level Further Mathematics is a stimulating and challenging course with the following benefits: Increase knowledge and understanding of mathematical techniques and their applications; Support the study of other A levels; Develop key employability skills such as problem-solving, logical reasoning, communication and resilience; Excellent preparation for a wide range of university courses; Leads to versatile qualifications that are well-respected by employers and higher education.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

If you study Further Mathematics at A level, this can open many avenues and will make you a highly attractive prospect to many employers in a range of sectors. You should only study Further Mathematics if you really enjoy the subject.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1
25% - 1 hour 30 mins - 75 marks Compulsory content - any content
Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2 can be assessed on either paper
25% - 1 hour 30 mins - 75 marks
Paper 3: Further Mathematics Option 1
25% - 1 hour 30 mins - 75 marks (Students take two optional papers with options available in Further Pure Mathematics, Further Statistics, Further Mechanics, Decision Mathematics)
Paper 4: Further Mathematics Option 2
25% - 1 hour 30 mins - 75 marks

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Non-routine problem solving – expert thinking, metacognition, creativity; Critical thinking – such as analysing, synthesising and reasoning skills; ICT literacy – access, manage, integrate, evaluate, construct and communicate; Communication – active listening, oral communication, written communication; Relationship-building skills – teamwork, trust, intercultural sensitivity; Collaborative problem solving – establishing and maintaining team organisation; Adaptability – ability to cope with different personalities, communication styles and cultures; Self-management and self-development – ability to work remotely in virtual teams, work autonomously, be self-motivating and self-monitoring.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Applications of mathematics in technology:
Medical, games design, internet security, financial cryptography, programming, communications.
On-going applications in engineering, such as:
Aircraft modelling, fluid flows, acoustic engineering, electronics, civil engineering.
Applications relating to human behaviours and interactions:
Data science, psychology, law, economics, environmental modelling, climate change, political science, international development.

Exam Board: Edexcel

GEOGRAPHY A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is a highly valued academic subject that bridges the art and science disciplines. It gives us a sense of place in the world and helps us to identify, understand and respond to contemporary challenges on a range of scales: local to global. Through studying Geography pupils are equipped with a range of transferable skills that are highly desired by employers and universities. It is a flexible subject that combines well with a range of courses. In the words of the former president of the Royal Geographical society, Michael Palin, "Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future. What can be more important than that?"

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

A-Level Geography offers a breadth of Physical and Human topics drawing on the complex interconnectedness of these. The course extends prior geographical learning but also introduces new concepts not explored at GCSE. The physical units covered include: hydrology, river processes and hazards, atmospheric processes and global climate change, earth processes and mass movements, coastal environments and hazardous environments. The human units covered include: Population and migration, water resources and management, urban areas and management, and trade, aid and tourism.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are 4 exams each 1 hour 30 minutes which contain a range of questioning styles from short answer questions to a choice of essays. There is no coursework.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

A-Level Geography teaches pupils to develop both analytical and evaluative thinking skills. Learning through enquiry is at the heart of the course and a range of investigative skills are acquired through conducting fieldwork, using GIS (geographical information systems) and analysing cartographic and statistical data. Pupils become confident at researching and presenting information reflecting on the reliability and validity of a range of resources.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

2021 saw the highest increase of Geography A-Level entries of any subject because it is a highly desirable subject by employers, Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. Geography A-Level opens the doors for pupils who benefit from having valued awareness of the world around them, allowing them to understand the global and local context in which they will be operating.

Exam Board: Cambridge International AS & A Level Geography 9696

HISTORY A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY HISTORY A-LEVEL?

An understanding of history is essential to understand the world we live in today. It also gives us the evidence upon which many other disciplines are based and links closely to politics, economics, sociology. A broad, international perspective is increasingly important and relevant in the 21st Century and for our diverse pupil body. A-level History is an academic course for pupils with a passion for the subject and the skills it embraces.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

A-level History involves a breadth study of Russia 1855-1964 covering the fall of the Tsars and the rise and establishment of communism. There is also a Cold War in Europe paper and a British paper on the Early Tudors plus an independent investigation for coursework. The different papers cover not only a variety of topics but also wide-ranging historical skills.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Three exams, on each of the different topics. Plus coursework.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will become confident in key historical skills such as analysing cause, consequence, significance and evaluation of sources and interpretations. Through debate, discussion and written work you will become effective communicators, able to form and support your own, well substantiated views and arguments. History is also a very 'human' subject, developing understanding of and empathy for people and perspectives from different times and places.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

History is a well-regarded subject and pupils gain very valuable skills and knowledge applicable to many aspects of life. Pupils go on to pursue careers in many different areas such as law, politics, international relations, aid agencies, civil service, business, journalism, and many more!

Exam Board: OCR

IELTS (ACADEMIC)

WHY SHOULD I STUDY IELTS (ACADEMIC) ?

If you have studied outside of the UK and do not have a GCSE grade 5 or above in English Language (taken at a school in the UK), then you will require proof of your English Language level to apply to a UK or English-speaking university. In addition, Sixth Form study requires more academic and formal English language skills to be able to communicate effectively in your chosen subjects. IELTS is one of the most recognised English Language qualifications and is accepted by more than 11,000 employers, universities, schools and immigration bodies around the world with over 3 million people taking the test every year.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Academic IELTS provides you with the language skills to access the curriculum, thrive in your studies in Sixth Form as well as making you university ready.

IELTS covers a wide range of language skills needed for academic study such as reading and summarising complex information, organising and writing essays effectively, presenting ideas, and you will be able to develop your vocabulary to an advanced level on a range of topics from globalisation to arts and culture.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

IELTS is a task-based language test covering all four skills in language learning (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking). The test is taken outside of King Edward's Witley, at specific IELTS test centres. The nearest test centres are in London, Guildford and Portsmouth. These tests are held throughout the year.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Over the two-year course, you will develop reading and listening skills to extract relevant details. In writing, skills such as structuring an essay, writing an effective introduction and conclusion will be refined whilst developing grammar and vocabulary. Speaking skills are a continual focus and are practised and perfected in class discussions.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

For those pupils requiring proof of English ability for university and/or visa purposes, IELTS provides the perfect solution.

LATIN A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL LATIN?

Roman and Greek history and culture are everywhere around us in the modern world – they have provided us with some of our greatest artistic and historical treasures. Understanding the context of their creation, and the language they employ, will help you to appreciate all this at a much deeper level.

Studying the language is a fulfilling and rewarding exercise in itself, allowing you to tap into one of the most influential and undeniably beautiful of languages. Latin is also not completely dead, as it lives on in its modern forms in Italian, French, Spanish and other European languages; continuing the study of Latin will provide you with a springboard for learning these and others, developing your understanding of language structure and expanding your vocabulary – which also feeds into how you approach English.

The Romans produced many great works of literature, both prose and verse. At A-level you study some of these in the original language, and gain an understanding of why they are so highly regarded. Many of these works had a profound influence on later writers, so this will also help to contextualise later European literature through the ages. The study of Latin develops skills which are of great value, such as critical thinking, clarity of thought and expression, an eye for detail, and the ability to marshal and present arguments clearly and cogently.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

In the Language paper, you will be encountering and coming to grips with the writings of Caesar, Livy, Ovid and Virgil, among others, whose words in their various ways express the brilliance of Classical thinking. The literary set texts might include, for Prose: Cicero, whose forensic and caustic speeches remain persuasive even today; or Tacitus, whose histories are the basis of so much we know happened in ancient Rome.

For Verse: Virgil, Lucretius and Ovid are all poets whose visions capture the essence of the Ancient World, from the everyday to the mythic.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are four written papers:

Unseen translation is worth 33%
Prose composition or comprehension:17%
Prose literature: 25%
Verse literature: 25%

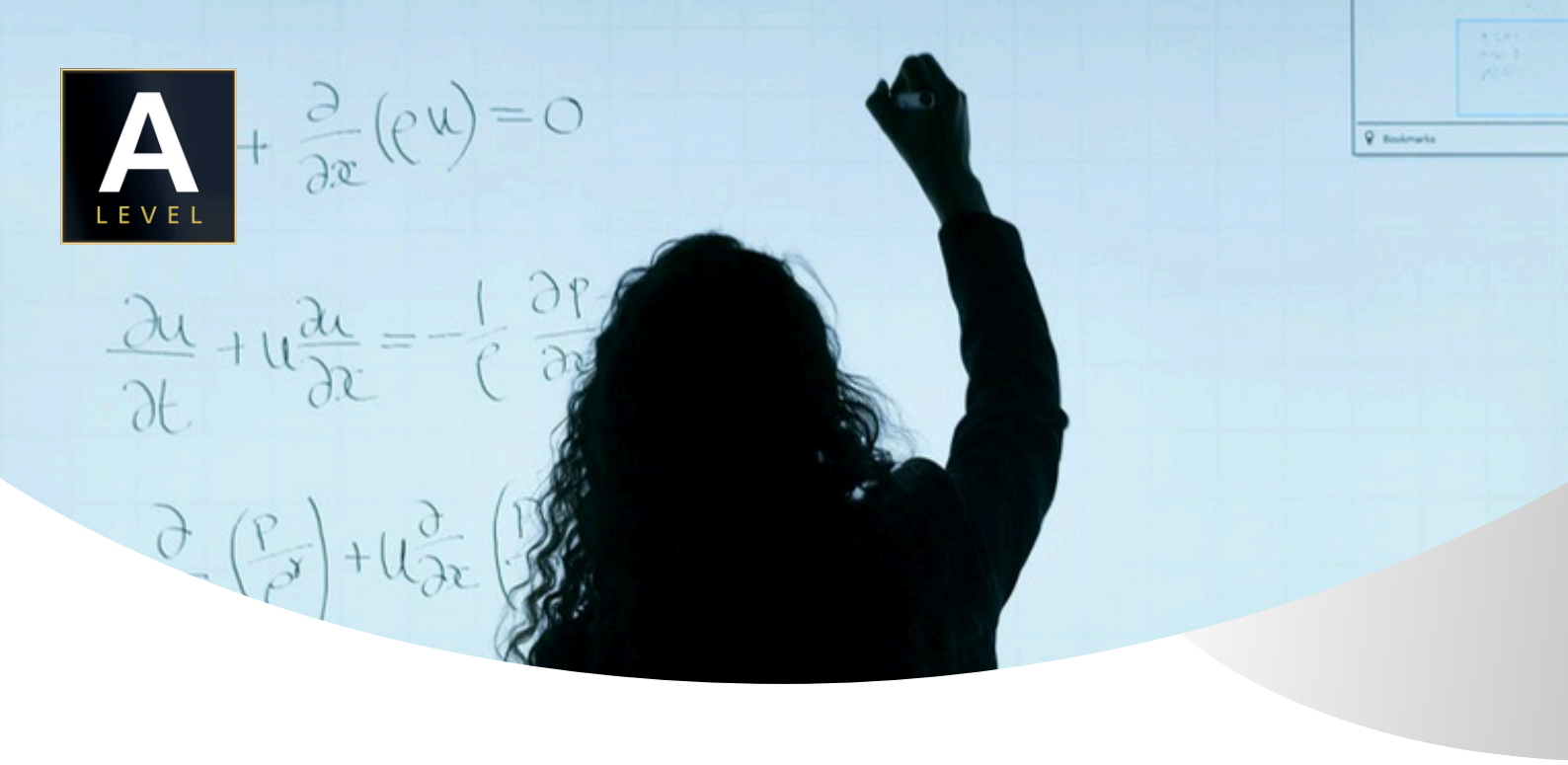
WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Once getting to grips with the beauty and complexity of more advanced Latin, you will be able to analyse the deep structures of the language and its vocabulary, through translations, comprehensions and even writing your own Latin. In the Literature papers there is an emphasis on dissecting and evaluating the intentions of some of the greatest writers whose work has come down to us from Classical times.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Classicists can be found in all different types of jobs, as the analytical and evaluative skills are transferable to most university courses and careers. Typical careers are: law; government; publishing; teaching; marketing. As an A-Level, Latin combines well with other humanities. A lifelong enjoyment of the Classical World is an added bonus!

Exam Board: OCR



MATHEMATICS A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL MATHEMATICS?

A level Mathematics is a stimulating and challenging course with the following benefits: Increase knowledge and understanding of mathematical techniques and their applications; Support the study of other A levels; Develop key employability skills such as problem-solving, logical reasoning, communication and resilience; Excellent preparation for a wide range of university courses; Leads to versatile qualifications that are well-respected by employers and higher education.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

A level Mathematics helps to support the study of subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, IT, Economics, Business, and Biology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Advanced GCE in Mathematics consists of three externally examined papers. Pupils must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year.

Paper 1 and Paper 2:
Pure Mathematics

Paper 3:
Statistics and Mechanics. Each paper is: 2-hour written examination

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Non-routine problem solving – expert thinking, metacognition, creativity; Critical thinking – such as analysing, synthesising and reasoning skills; ICT literacy – access, manage, integrate, evaluate, construct and communicate; Communication – active listening, oral communication, written communication; Relationship-building skills – teamwork, trust, intercultural sensitivity; Collaborative problem solving – establishing and maintaining team organisation; Adaptability – ability to cope with different personalities, communication styles and cultures; Self-management and self-development – ability to work remotely in virtual teams; work autonomously, be self-motivating and self-monitoring.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Applications of mathematics in technology:
Medical, games design, internet security, financial cryptography, programming, communications.

On-going applications in engineering, such as:
Aircraft modelling, fluid flows, acoustic engineering, electronics, civil engineering.

Applications relating to human behaviours and interactions:
Data science, psychology, law, economics, environmental modelling, climate change, political science, international development.

Exam Board: Edexcel

MODERN LANGUAGES A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL MODERN LANGUAGES?

Developments in media, information and communication technology require multilingual communicators. Employers like to take on graduates who have a second and even a third language. Speaking a foreign language gives you an advantage over others in an increasingly globalised labour market and it opens career opportunities in Europe and beyond. Languages develop important skills of analysis, debate and independent thought and learning Modern Languages gives you extended access to information as well as skills and experiences that will expand your horizons for the rest of your life.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

The approach is a focus on how society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where French, German or Spanish are spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources. Topics are relevant to the 21st century and could include the changing nature of family, cyber society, youth culture, immigration, racism, diversity, equal rights, music and cinema, to mention just a few! Students will study two set texts or one set text and one film. They will hone earlier grammatical foundations and develop their communication skills to help them function effectively in the target countries. There is an individual research project, where students research a subject of personal interest, relating to the target country or countries.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment takes place in listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. All questions are in French, German or Spanish. Students provide non-verbal responses to spoken and written passages from a range of contexts and sources. There is translation both into and from French, German or Spanish. Students will also complete a question on a set text/set film. This requires a critical appreciation of the concepts and issues covered in the work and a critical analytical response to features such as the form and technique of presentation, as appropriate to the work studied. In the speaking assessment students discuss one of the key themes that have been studied. They also present and discuss their individual research project.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The A-Level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and to society.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Students of languages are good listeners and good communicators. You may consider studying languages at university and become a translator or interpreter. Consider also opportunities in Sales, Journalism, International Development, Logistics, the Diplomatic Service, Education, Publishing and Tourism (amongst other careers). In this increasingly globalised world, languages have become like currency or stock - the more you speak, the higher your value rises!

Exam Board: AQA

MUSIC A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL MUSIC?

This is a highly respected qualification aimed not only at pupils who may want to study music at university, but those who wish to deepen their understanding of music. The course is designed to engage students critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Pupils study and analyse a range of set works in order to nurture in-depth musical understanding. The six Areas of Study are: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions and New Directions. Through eighteen pieces, in-depth appraising skills are developed. Creative tasks involve performance and composition where practical skills are developed.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are three areas of assessment. Coursework accounts for 60% of the total marks. This is split equally between performing and composing. Pupils record performances totalling eight minutes. The standard expected is around Grade 6-7. The composition component encourages pupils to explore different styles with the free composition. Whilst the stylistic exercises involve the study of more formal harmony.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Pupils build many transferrable skills including, appraising, and analysing, creativity, presentation, confidence for performing in front of other people. A development of critical and creative thinking, and cultural, aesthetic, and emotional awareness. It also encourages independent thought and the ability self-evaluate and refine work.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Music at university or Conservatoires is an obvious route, but many pupils go on to study other subjects in further education such as Sciences, Humanities, Architecture, Medicine and many more.

Exam Board: Edexcel

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY BTEC LEVEL 3

WHY SHOULD I STUDY BTEC MUSIC TECHNOLOGY?

BTEC qualifications are highly sort out courses focusing on a mixture of industry skills development and academia. Students do not necessarily need a GCSE in music but need to have a clear interest in using computers and hardware to make and produce music. The course is designed to engage students critically and creatively within the contemporary study of how technology has changed way we listen to, perceive and recreate music. BTECs are not as exam heavy over two years therefore balances well with other A-Levels giving you more time to revise for those final exams.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Pupils will first learn the fundamentals of music technology including microphone application, live and studio equipment, creative synthesis and sampling, DAW production and mix and mastering techniques. Students will then opt into areas of specialism of either:

- Digital Music Production
- Live Sound

If students choose Digital Music Production they will complete a music for sound and media project, whilst Live Sound students will complete a studio recording techniques project. At KESW we feel offering a course which allows students to opt into their strengths and interests will create a clear focus on skills development for each individual student.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The course is equivalent to one A-Level and there are 5 units to complete over the two years. As the course is a BTEC it is continually assessed which means students have weeks where they need to complete coursework in exam conditions. We will be completing 3 internally assessed units in the first year or first 4 terms. In the second year an internally assessed self-led unit is completed alongside an externally assessed double unit. The external assessment is around a third of your final qualification. This final unit would be set externally and completed in exam conditions over a period of time put forward by the examination board.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Pupils develop many industry focused skills, including in live sound, studio sound, sound design, creative practice, composition, specialist software skills and mathematical understanding of music technology peripherals. Transferable skills include communication, teamwork, planning and completing projects to high standards which are valued in the workplace and in higher education.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

This course could allow you to access apprenticeships, employment or university alongside other BTEC and A-Level qualifications.

Exam Board: Edexcel

PHYSICAL EDUCATION A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

A Level PE is an academically rigourous and stimulating course for those interested in both sports performance and bodily adaptations to exercise. It is a very well-rounded course that also encapsulates the sociological and psychological concepts involved in contemporary issues, such as drug taking and the impact of sports agents and sponsorship.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

The course is broken down into seven broad sections, including Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Skill Acquisition, Sport and Society, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanical Movement, Sport Psychology and the Role of Technology in Sport. These topics inevitably intertwine in areas and we encourage pupils to think about the course as one broad topic. Further to this, pupils will complete an Analysis of Performance in a sport of their choice where they will be expected to produce a presentation on their perceived strengths and weaknesses by drawing on aspects of the course. Beyond the theoretical content, pupils will have the opportunity to take their knowledge into the 'real world' will visits to Loughborough University and the Surrey High Performance Institute where they can apply some of the learnt concepts into sports specific scenarios.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Pupils will be assessed in two theory papers (35% each) as well as a practical performance (30%). The practical performance incorporates the Analysis of Performance assessment as well as physical performance levels.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Pupils will learn how to combine the broad topics that are covered and critically use the knowledge to evaluate their own performance in order to improve their capabilities. This involves skills in analysing and interpreting data and information as well as developing their presentation and communication skills.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

This course is well placed to provide a foundation for studies in any sports related university course. It also provides a great supplement to those interested in studying any other Sciences at university as it provides opportunities to apply psychological, biological, sociological, technological concepts to their chosen Science, for example.

Exam Board: OCR

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEVEL 3

WHY SHOULD I STUDY IT?

This qualification is a rigorous and enjoyable subject of study for those with a real passion for sport. The course is highly practical, meaning much of the course is spent out on the fields or in the Fitness Suite/Sports Hall practically honing your skills or learning new content. This is combined with some classroom study aimed at enhacing the theory behind the course. Level 3 Cambridge Technical Sport and Physical Activity is a nationally recognised qualification that is accepted at Universities across the country.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

The course has a variety of topics including:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Sports Psychology
- Sports Coaching and Leadership
- Sports Industry
- Sports Injuries
- Practical Sports
- Fitness Testing and Training
- Organisation of Sports Events
- Sports Performance Analysis

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The course is continually assessed internally through coursework, examinations and presentations, both individually and as small groups. This means there are no large end of course examinations. Instead, you will be continually producing work and being assessed, allowing you to understand exactly what level you are working at and, therefore, helping guide you towards appropriate university applications should this be the route you wish to take following Sixth Form.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

This qualification is the equivalent of one or two A Levels.
Pupils will build on and extend practical coaching skills as well as individual qualities. Through carefully considered assignment tasks, the course aims to develop or enhance skills such as:

- Creativity
- Independence
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Time-Management
- Goal Setting

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

This course perfectly provides a foundation for future study in any sporting course at university. The breadth of the course that covers coaching skills through to biological adaptations to exercise means that all bases are covered when applying for university courses. Should the pupil not wish to study Sport at university, it does provide strong foundations in psychological, sociological or science based courses. The methods of assessment are also far more similar to university based assessment meaning that the pupils will already have sound foundations in readiness for university. Alternatively, pupils may wish to go on and move directly into work, in which case any sports coaching, gym or personal training based career would be highly appropriate.

Exam Board: OCR

PHILOSOPHY A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY PHILOSOPHY A-LEVEL?

"The man who has no tincture of philosophy goes through life imprisoned in the prejudices derived from common sense, from the habitual beliefs of his age or his nation, and from convictions which have grown up in his mind without the co-operation or consent of his deliberate reason."
Betrand Russel, The Problems of Philosophy

In an age where we are besieged on all sides by a tumult of conflicting opinions that are magnified and distorted by the echo chambers of social media, the critical capacities that the study of Philosophy develops are arguably more essential than ever. Delving into fundamental questions such as "what is good?", "how do we have knowledge?", "what is the mind?" etc., develops the ability to reason with clarity, allowing you to gain insights into your own thoughts and how the world around you operates. Not only will these skills help you to live a happy and fulfilled life, but they will also more immediately directly complement your other A-Level subjects.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Your philosophical journey will focus on four key areas of Philosophy. We begin with epistemology, the study of knowledge, where we ask questions regarding what we know, how we know it and the limits of knowledge. We then move on to the study of ethics, where we consider how we can distinguish right from wrong action and the concept of goodness. In the second year your study will continue with a study of the metaphysics of the mind, delving into the nature of, and relations between, mind and body. Alongside this study you will also explore the metaphysics of God, exploring the existence of God, and the nature of divinity.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

At the end of the second year of the course you will sit two 3-hour examinations, assessing your ability to recall and evaluate the arguments and ideas covered throughout the four topics.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

By studying Philosophy, students develop cognitive transferable skills such as logical reasoning, analysis, abstract conceptualization, problem-solving, creative thinking and mental dexterity. These capacities will develop the ability to articulate clear, persuasive arguments in both a written and oral form, thus preparing you to meet the challenges of university life.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

The transferable skills outlined above mean that Philosophy is uniquely placed amongst the humanities to leave open a wide array of possible career paths, however, law, education, marketing, banking, government service and public policy are some of the areas that are typically pursued by those with degrees in Philosophy.

Exam Board: AQA

PHYSICS A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY PHYSICS A-LEVEL?

Physics is the ultimate subject to study if you wish to investigate how our universe works – from the forces and energy that drive everything, to the matter that makes up stars and people, to the waves that allow us to communicate. The scales range from the Quantum Physics of the tiny to the Astrophysics and Gravitation of the immense. Physics explores the fundamental concepts underlying other scientific disciplines and allows the scientific method to be practised and applied to many experiences and challenges.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

The A-Level course is divided into six sections: Development of practical skills in physics; Foundations of Physics; Forces and motion; Electrons, waves and photons; Newtonian world and Astrophysics; Particles and Medical Physics. As well as a comprehensive set of practical experiments and investigations.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment is carried out at the end of the course through three written papers:

Paper 1: Modelling physics 37%;
Paper 2: Exploring physics – 37%;
Paper 3: Unified physics – 26%;
Practical Endorsement in physics.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Physicists will develop and use a range of skills during the course, including: numeracy, data analysis, communication, concluding and evaluating, data logging, ICT, planning, manipulative skills, time management, problem solving, teamwork, research. These skills are developed through academic progress in the subject as well as through the investigative and practical approach taken to develop, understand and apply concepts.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Physics is a key subject for Engineering, Architecture, Medical Physics, Geoscientists, Meteorology, Oceanography, Teaching, Communications etc. The skills and concepts covered allow a physicist to approach many subject areas due to the ability to apply the underlying principles and skills to new challenges.

Exam Board: OCR A

POLITICS A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY POLITICS A-LEVEL?

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics, doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you." – attributed to Pericles, 5th century BC.

Politics is about power. Who has it, who doesn't and the 'how' and 'why' of its distribution. Aristotle once said that "man is a political animal" and he arguably captured something of our nature. We are all affected by the power dynamics in our society and although every successive generation has felt that they live in tumultuous times where the pace of change seems to be ever increasing, even the most cynical of analysts would concede that our present age is one of the most politically charged eras of human history. Studying Politics prepares you to understand how the world operates, and to take your place in it.

As a member of society, the question shouldn't be "why study Politics?" but rather "can you live well without studying Politics?"

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

The course covers three main areas:

- Government and Politics of the UK: You will study and discuss such questions as 'What is Brexit all about and why is it happening?', 'What powers does the Prime Minister have?', 'Why was the result of the 2017 General Election such a surprise?', and 'Is Britain truly democratic?'
- Political Ideas: You will examine some of the great ideas that have shaped our world for good or ill, including Liberalism, Socialism, and Conservatism; and at the work and influence of key political thinkers such as Karl Marx, Mary Wollstonecraft and Edmund Burke.
- Government and Politics of the USA and comparative Politics: Find out the answers to questions like 'How did Donald Trump become President?', 'Why it so easy to have a gun in the USA?', and 'Why is race such a big issue in America?' You will also have the opportunity to compare and contrast US and UK Politics.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The Politics A-Level is assessed at the end of the course through three exams:

- **Paper 1:** Government and Politics of the UK: This paper lasts two hours and requires you to answer three short answer questions, an extract analysis question and a long form essay question on UK Politics topics including democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and others.
- **Paper 2:** Government and Politics of the USA and comparative Politics: This paper lasts two hours and requires you to answer three short answer questions, an extract analysis question and a long form essay question on US Politics topics such as the constitution, congress, the presidency, the supreme court, civil rights, and democracy and participation, amongst others, along with comparative Politics questions exploring the nature of the similarities and differences between the voting systems, representation and powers of the US and UK political systems.
- **Paper 3**: Political Ideas: This paper lasts two hours and requires you to answer three short answer questions, an extract analysis question and a long form essay question on political ideas from the core theories of liberalism, conservatism and socialism, along with one other ideology taken from multiculturalism, feminism, ecologism, anarchism and nationalism.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Studying Politics will develop your understanding of structures of authority and power, how political systems differ, and enable you to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of Politics and government. You will also develop a range of transferable analytical, debating and communication skills, allowing you to express yourself with precision and clarity in both a written and oral form.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Politics is highly regarded by universities and is particularly beneficial for students who wish to pursue careers in law, government, the civil service public policy, journalism, international relations, the charity sector and education.

Exam Board: AQA

PSYCHOLOGY A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY?

The A-level Psychology course is the scientific study of the mind and human behaviour, and as such provides pupils with a fascinating insight into the world around us and how to interact with others. Being a mixture of both the theoretical and practical aspects of science, pupils will study how the brain works and what drives our behaviour as well as psychological therapies and treatments.
So, if you find the prospect of understanding why people act the way they do, and if you are open to challenging your own, and others' opinions and values, then this course is certainly for you.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

The AQA Psychology course is broken down into the following units:
Social Influence: Conformity & Obedience
Memory: include various models of memory, and how they are coded, how we forget, and reliability of eyewitness testimony.
Attachment: The development of attachment and its influence on childhood & adult relationships
Approaches in Psychology: the various approaches to psychology, including learning theory, humanistic psychology, as well as the biological, cognitive and psychodynamic approaches.
Clinical Psychology & Mental Health: explaining mental health issues, and the different ways of treating them, including counselling and drug treatments.
Biopsychology: How the nervous system and endocrine system effect psychological behaviours.
Research Methods: the various experimental methods required in the scientific study of psychology.
Cognition & Development: how thinking, learning, memory, and problem-solving abilities evolve.
Stress: The physiology of stress
Aggression: The biological, ethological, and social causes of aggression

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Pupils will take 3 written exams;

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology (33.3%),
Paper 2: Psychology in Context (33.3%)
Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology (33.3%).

These papers will test pupils' abilities using a mixture of MCQs, short answer, extended answer, and data response questions

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The Psychology course will involve the development of essay writing skills, data collection, data analysis and statistics and interpretation of evidence. It will allow you to critically analyse and question your own opinions on issues, as well as that of others. You will also develop a new insight into human behaviour and an understanding of differences in the people around you, helping to build your communication skills and improving your teamwork and leadership skills.

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Psychology is useful for any job that requires lots of interaction or an understanding of human behaviour and development. Psychology skills are therefore sought after in business, management, teaching, research, journalism, marketing, social work, and medical/healthcare careers. Since the subject occupies a niche between the Sciences and the Arts, it is valued by both when considering students for higher education.

Exam Board: AQA

TEXTILES A-LEVEL

WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL TEXTILES?

The textile design course offers the opportunity to develop skills over a broad range of textile and fashion techniques and applications, such as printing, weaving, knitting, mixed media, digital applications, surface design, embroidery and installation. Practical work is produced by researching and developing ideas using drawing, digital exploration, sketchbooks and worksheets, supported by critical evaluation and an awareness of contemporary and historical influences.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

This is a practical course in which you learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative personal work. Study of artists, art movements, styles and approaches will inform the development of your own practical textile skills. You will discover how to use a broad array of different media, materials, techniques, and processes, as well as develop your creativity, problem-solving skills, and independence of mind. Regular sketchbook practice is essential, and visits to shows, galleries, museums and lectures will form an integral part of the course.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Coursework: Personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material – 60%. Externally set assignment: The production of personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points - 40%. Work is internally assessed and externally moderated.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The textile design course content explores the following skills:

- Fashion design & Fashion textiles
- Costume design
- Digital textiles
- Printed and/or dyed fabrics and materials
- Domestic textiles, wallpaper & Interior design
- Embroidered Textiles
- Constructed textiles
- Art textiles
- Installed textiles

WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Possible degree options:
Constructed textiles, Contemporary textiles, Costume design, Digital textiles, Fashion design, Fashion promotion/merchandising, Footwear design, Printed textiles, Sportswear Design, Surface Design, Textile Design, Textile science and technology, Theatre design
Possible career options:
Studying a textile design-related degree at university will give you all sorts of exciting career opportunities, including: Textile technologist, Colour trend forecaster or Stylist, Costume designer, Interior designer, Fashion designer/ illustrator/journalist/stylist, Teacher or lecturer, Museum/gallery conservator, Wallpaper designer, Textile designer, Theatre designer.

Exam Board: AQA

EXPECTED REQUIREMENTS FOR SIXTH FORM PUPILS

Subject	6th Form Requirement	Additional Criteria	Head of Department
Art A level	Previous experience in a creative subject with a Grade 7 or above preferred	An interest in fine art, ceramics, painting, and printmaking with the ability to draw to a good standard.	Mrs Alice Witheridge
Art – Textiles A level	GCSE Grade 6 in a creative subject preferred	An interest in fashion, textiles and interiors and have a creative mindset	Mrs Alice Witheridge
Biology A level	GCSE Grade 7 in Sciences & Maths preferred	Sound understanding of key biological concepts and sound practical skills.	Miss Sophie Quiney
BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (equivalent to 1 A level)	Preferably a 5 or above in GCSE English and Maths (GCSE Music is useful but not essential)	No previous experience necessary, but ICT skills are essential especially in using a DAW application (such as Logic) to produce music of varying styles.	Mr Stasio Sliwka
Business A level	GCSE Grade 6 in Maths & English	An interest in the structure and evolution of businesses.	Mr Richard Arch
Chemistry A level	GCSE Grade 7 in Sciences & Maths preferred	A good grounding in a range of chemistry topics.	Mrs Sarah Rigby
Classical Civilisation A level	No previous experience	An interest in myth, art, history and philosophy.	Mrs Emily Campbell
Computer Science A level	GCSE Maths 7 preferred	Some knowledge of programming is an advantage.	Dr Tony Lennard
3D Design A level	Previous experience preferred (GCSE Grade 6 or above in Design Technology) and GCSE Maths pass (Grade 4/5)	The ability to draw, use IT design software and an interest in technology, manufacturing and engineering are ideal.	Mr Ewald Van Zyl
Economics A level	GCSE Maths 7 preferred English 6	An interest in economic theory and some mathematical ability.	Mr Richard Arch
English Literature A level	GCSE Grade 6 in English Literature as a minimum. GCSE grade 7 is desirable	Love of reading and enjoyment of plays, poetry, novels, and how language is used. Pupils who cannot evidence reading habit are strongly advised not to consider A-level Literature.	Mr Jonathan Parsons
Geography A level	GCSE Grade 6 in Geography & English	Fascination with the natural and man-made world.	Mrs Helen Thorpe
History A level	GCSE Grade 6 in History & English	Sound reading and writing skills, analytical ability and interest in exploring the past.	Mrs Emily Francis

Subject	6th Form Requirement	Additional Criteria	Head of Department
Latin A level	GCSE Grade 6 or above in Latin	An interest in the classical world and a curiosity for language learning	Mrs Emily Campbell
Level 3 Cambridge Technical Sport and Physical Activity (CTEC) (equivalent to 1 or 2 A Levels)	At least a GCSE Grade 4 in any Science subject. Ideally you should have a GCSE Grades 4 or above in Maths and English Language	An understanding of at least one team and one individual sport to include the skills, techniques, tactics and fitness requirements for each sport. Practical ability will not be assessed within the course.	Mr Mike Woodward
Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition (equivalent to 1 A Level)	Preferably GCSE Food Preparation Grade 5 or above	Passion for cooking and a keen interest in nutrition	Mrs Belinda Waldapfel
Mathematics A level	GCSE Grade 7 preferred or above in Maths, Grade C or above in Add Maths		Mrs Anel Meyer
Further Mathematics A level	GCSE Grade 8 or above in Maths, Grade A or B in Add Maths	A-level Further Maths is for pupils who truly enjoy Maths with the intention of studying it in some form at university.	Mrs Anel Meyer
Modern Foreign Languages A level	GCSE Grade 6 in relevant language		Mrs Maddy O'Keefe
Music A level	GCSE Grade 6 in Music	At A-level, pupils should have reached Grade 6-7 in instrumental exams.	Mr Stasio Sliwka
Philosophy A level	Minimum of a GCSE Grade 6 in English, or in a related essay-based subject such as History	No previous experience necessary, but pupils should demonstrate an interest in abstract and critical thinking, and a willingness to engage with challenging concepts across areas such as epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and philosophy of religion	Mr Simon Lightman
Physical Education A level	GCSE PE at grade 6. If not studied at GCSE it would be expected that a grade 6 is achieved in Biology	An ability to perform at a high level in one sport listed in the assessment criteria for practical sport assessment is essential.	Mr Ben Edwards
Physics A level	GCSE Grade 7 in Science & Maths preferred	Pupils opting for Physics should ideally study Maths at A-Level.	Mr Jim Culbert
Politics A level	Minimum of a GCSE Grade 6 in English, or in a related essay-based subject such as History	No previous experience necessary, but pupils should demonstrate an active interest in current affairs and demonstrate a basic understanding of UK and US politics and general political themes. They should have a willingness to engage critically with political systems, ideologies, institutions, and processes in the UK and the USA	Mr Simon Lightman
Psychology A level	GCSE Grade B/6 in Science, Maths & English		Dr Phil Attwell
Theatre A level	GCSE Grade 6 in Drama and/or English and some practical experience of performance	An interest in watching and reading plays, performance and backstage elements of theatre such as lighting, set and costume design.	Mrs Nikki Plowman

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