

A LEVEL CHOICES 2024 - 2026

“WHERE THERE  
IS BELIEF THERE  
IS POSSIBILITY”

“I BELIEVE I CAN BECOME AN  
EXPERT GEOLOGIST”

VARUN

Luckley  
SIXTH FORM

# WELCOME TO THE SIXTH FORM

## HEAD'S WELCOME



The Sixth Form at Luckley House is dedicated to providing a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum that not only focusses on academic excellence, but on preparing students for university and beyond. In 2023 we continued our longstanding success in placing students at the university of their choice. This is testament, not only to excellent teaching, but also to the personalised guidance they receive.

Our small class sizes allow for a strong focus on the individual whilst also providing a vast range of courses, wider learning and social opportunities.

The Luckley House Sixth Form truly is a vibrant place to learn and develop and I'm extremely proud of the genuine, articulate, well-rounded students who leave us with the skills needed to face the wider world and live their lives well.

***Areti Bizior***  
***Head***

## A WORD FROM THE HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



I am extremely pleased to introduce our new options booklet for Sixth Form. Please do take your time to look through the exciting A Level options we are currently offering.

Our outstanding teaching underpins every A Level course and our teachers are all very welcoming, supportive and always available to answer any questions you may have.

We are also open to running courses that may not be advertised at the moment, so if there is something you want to do, please come and speak to us.

If there are any questions you have regarding any of the A Level options offered here at Luckley, please do contact me directly.

***Julie Rumble***  
***Head of Sixth Form***





# ART - FINE ART

## Head of Department:

Ms Lucy Harris, BA (Hons) Surrey

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY FINE ART?

A Level Art and Design is a fantastic course for those seeking to further develop their creative thinking and working skills. The course offers opportunities to explore and develop your own ideas, concepts and investigations into any subject area that you find interesting. Wonderfully cross-curricular, the course gives you the opportunities to collaborate and work independently and it encourages self-reflective review and analysis. Perfect for fine tuning your skill set in preparation for Foundation and Degree level courses in the Visual Arts.

## COURSE CONTENT

You will be encouraged to use an extensive range of materials and techniques to give visual form to individual thoughts, ideas and observations, enabling you to present your own way of seeing the world.

Through clear intention of ideas and sensitive manipulation of materials, you will each produce work that is a personal response to set themes.

Disciplines include painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture and alternative media (mixed-media, installation, digital, photography, film and video). You will be given time to work in most of these areas and develop a high command of skills and subject knowledge. Exams are taken at the end of the two-year course.

As part of the coursework, you will produce a piece of extended writing of between 1000 – 3000 words that relates to your coursework.

## ASSESSMENT

Students are given 12 weeks to develop ideas through sketchbook research from a theme set by Edexcel. The externally set paper is a 15 hour exam.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students taking this subject can go on to gain employment in a wide variety of areas.

For example:

- Fine Artist
- Illustrator
- Art Therapist
- Art Director
- Advertising Executive
- Community Arts Worker
- Graphic Designer
- Printmaker
- Ceramicist
- Sculptor
- Jewellery Designer
- Architect
- Special Effects Technician
- VFX Artist.





# ART - GRAPHICS

## Head of Department:

Ms Lucy Harris, BA (Hons) Surrey

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY GRAPHICS

The course is an exciting opportunity to work in Graphic design with the freedom of an Art course. Create your own professional brief or theme and work with your own ideas. Whether it's characters for computer games, designs for tee shirts and clothing, illustrating books and stories or even exploring different types of brands, if you enjoy designing then Art Graphics is definitely for you. The course guides you through the creative process and allows you the opportunity to work in a wide range of mediums and materials, utilising traditional ways of working alongside more contemporary and digital techniques and approaches.

## COURSE CONTENT

You will be encouraged to use an extensive range of materials and techniques to give visual form to individual thoughts, ideas and observations, enabling you to present your own way of seeing

the world. Through clear intention of ideas and sensitive manipulation of materials, you will each produce work that is a personal response to set themes that you have helped choose.

Disciplines include painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture and alternative media (mixed-media, installation, digital, photography, film and video). You will be given time to work in most of these areas and develop a high command of skills and subject knowledge. Exams are taken at the end of the two-year course.

As part of the coursework, you will produce a piece of extended writing of between 1000 – 3000 words that relates to your coursework.

## ASSESSMENT

Students are given 12 weeks to develop ideas through sketchbook research from a theme set by Edexcel. The externally set paper is a 15-hour exam.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students taking this subject can go on to gain employment in a wide variety of areas.

For example:

- Illustrator
- Art Therapist
- Art Director
- Advertising Executive
- Community Arts Worker
- Graphic Designer
- Animation
- 3D animation and animation design
- Architect
- Special Effects Technician
- VFX Artist
- Education.





# ART - PHOTOGRAPHY

## Head of Department:

Ms Lucy Harris, BA (Hons) Surrey

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography gives you the freedom to record your own view of the world around you in one click. Photography makes it possible to record in seconds an inimitable image that captures profound and personal responses to the environment. Through taking imaginative risks with this medium you are given a chance to manipulate and create unique images, and this diverse and personal response enables you to create highly individual and thought-provoking photographs.

## COURSE CONTENT

You will be encouraged to work within the disciplines of the darkroom, the studio and digital manipulation using ICT. Work will be generated through set themes and sketchbook research that aims to develop ideas through the manipulation of photographic techniques and extensive research into photo-based artists. A high command of skills and subject knowledge is developed throughout the

course, enabling you to make thought-provoking and original photographs. Photography is a lens and light based media, and includes work in film, video, digital imaging and light-sensitive materials.

Exams are taken at the end of the two-year course. As part of the coursework, you will produce a piece of extended writing of between 1000 – 3000 words that relates to your coursework.

## ASSESSMENT

Students are given 12 weeks to develop ideas through sketchbook research from a theme set by Edexcel. The externally set paper is a 15-hour exam.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students taking this subject can go on to gain employment in a wide variety of areas.

For example:

- Photographer
- Cinematographer
- Art Therapist
- Art Director
- Advertising Executive
- Film and TV
- Graphic Designer
- Event Management
- Health and Beauty
- Fashion Photographer
- Magazine Editor
- Special Effects Technician
- VFX Artist
- Education.





# BIOLOGY

**Head of Department:**  
Dr R Jones, PhD Aberdeen

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY BIOLOGY

Biologists study the natural world and all the living things in it, from the largest mammals to the structure and function of DNA. They try to understand how animals and organisms work, how we evolved and how we get ill. This knowledge can then be used to stop the spread of disease, improve public health, improve animal care and conservation as well as studying the impact of pollution on the environment. Biologists work with cutting edge technologies including genetic engineering and gene therapy.

Topic 6: Microbiology and Pathogens  
Topic 7: Modern Genetics  
Topic 8: Origins of Genetic Variation  
Topic 9: Control Systems  
Topic 10: Ecosystems

A variety of different practical tasks will be carried out that count towards the practical endorsement in Biology.

## ASSESSMENT

Three written exam papers and a practical endorsement. This is assessed internally and reported separately. It does not contribute to the final A Level grade.

## COURSE CONTENT

Topic 1: Biological molecules  
Topic 2: Cells, Viruses and Reproduction of Living Things  
Topic 3: Classification and Biodiversity  
Topic 4: Exchange and Transport  
Topic 5: Energy for Biological Processes

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students taking this subject can go on to gain employment in a wide variety of areas.

For example:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary Services
- Physiotherapy
- Pharmacy
- Geneticist
- Zoology
- Psychiatry
- Microbiology
- Marine Biology
- Anthropology
- Immunology
- Conservation
- Ecologist
- Optometry
- Nursing.





# BUSINESS

## Head of Department:

Mr J Higgins BA (Hons) Leicester

## Examination Board: Edexcel

### WHY STUDY BUSINESS

Do you enjoy:

- exploring and evaluating alternative courses of action?
- working with numbers to solve problems?
- keeping up to date with business news?

Whether you hope to start your own business one day or have an enquiring mind and are interested in learning more about how businesses work and the challenges they face, this course will help you to develop valuable transferable skills and commercial awareness that will prepare you for studying at university or moving into the world of work.

### COURSE CONTENT

Business is a dynamic subject. You will learn about the diverse nature of enterprise and the interdependence of the various parts of the business world, exploring success and failure, local, national and global markets, and the need to respond strategically to changing environments to survive and grow.

**Themes 1 and 2** cover how businesses work. You will be introduced to marketing and people functions before investigating entrepreneurs and business start-ups. You will explore how business finance and operations work, and understand the impact of external influences.

**Themes 3 and 4** move from functions to strategy. You will explore influences on business strategy and decision-making, and how businesses mitigate risk and uncertainty. You will explore global business and the opportunities and issues facing businesses in today's global world.

### ASSESSMENT

**Paper 1:** Data response and essay questions on marketing, people and global businesses (1 and 4)

**Paper 2:** Data response and essay questions on business activities, decisions and strategy (2 and 3)

**Paper 3:** A research task before the exam. The data response and essay questions are linked to the context you will research.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A very wide range of careers opportunities are available across commercial, public sector and charitable organisations including:

- Consulting
- Marketing, Advertising and Public Relations (PR)
- Banking and Insurance
- Retail Buying
- Retail Management
- Sales
- Logistics/Distribution
- Human Resources
- Accountancy.

Many Business students will move on to more specialised higher education courses such as business management, accountancy and finance, marketing, tourism management and international business.





# CHEMISTRY

## Head of Department:

Mr J Boyce, MPharm Reading

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is a challenging subject which seeks to explain what goes on in the world around us. Chemistry teaches students to think logically, to be objective and to solve problems - as a consequence an A Level qualification in Chemistry is highly regarded by employers and higher education institutions. Chemistry is often a mandatory requirement for scientific and other numerate degree disciplines.

## COURSE CONTENT

### Year 1

- Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Bonding and Structure
- Redox I
- Inorganic Chemistry and the Periodic Table
- Formulae, Equations and Amounts of Substance
- Organic Chemistry I
- Modern Analytical Techniques I
- Chemical Energetics I
- Reaction Kinetics I
- Chemical Equilibrium I.

### Year 2

- Chemical Equilibrium II
- Acid-base Equilibria
- Chemical Energetics II
- Redox II
- Transition Metals
- Reaction Kinetics II
- Organic Chemistry II
- Organic Chemistry III
- Modern Analytical Techniques II.

## ASSESSMENT

Three written exams:

- Advanced Inorganic and Physical Chemistry (30%)
- Advanced Organic and Physical Chemistry (30%)
- General and Practical Principles in Chemistry (40%)

There is also a separate 'Science Practical Endorsement'.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A very wide range of careers opportunities including:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary Medicine
- Forensic Science
- Scientific Research
- Pharmacy
- Pharmacology
- Chemical Engineer
- Environmental Health
- Dietician.





# CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

## Head of Department:

Mrs S Bouwer, BA (Hons) OU, MA Reading

## Examination Board: OCR

### WHY STUDY CLASSICAL CIVILISATION?

The Classical Civilisation A Level qualification provides students with a broad and rewarding study of the classical world. Students have the opportunity to study elements of the literature, visual/ material culture and thoughts of the classical world while acquiring an understanding of their social historical and cultural contexts.

### COURSE CONTENT

The course is made up of three modules.

#### Module 1: The World of the Hero

This is a compulsory component consisting of an in-depth study of one of Homer's epic poems and Virgil's Aeneid.

#### Module 2: Culture and the Arts - Imperial Image.

The idea of a politician 'spinning' their public image is one which is very familiar from our contemporary media; and so this exploration of a Roman politician Augustus Caesar

and his successful propaganda campaign is both highly relevant and engaging.

#### Module 3: Beliefs and Ideas - Greek Religion.

Religion was an essential part of ancient Greek identity. Studying the practicalities of religious ritual, and the role it plays in society, alongside the functions and layout of famous temple complexes, will help develop your understanding of the central role religion played in the life of everyday people.

### ASSESSMENT

Three written exams:

1. The World of the Hero 40%
2. Imperial Image 30%
3. Greek Religion 30%

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Humanities qualifications are popular with universities and employers alike, and show that you are able to deal critically and logically with subjective, complex, imperfect information.

You will build your skills in writing and critical reading and will learn to understand others through their languages, histories and cultures.





# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Head of Department:

Mr D Dodds, BSc Buckinghamshire New University

## Examination Board: OCR

## WHY STUDY COMPUTER SCIENCE?

Computer Science is part of every aspect of our lives. Understanding how it can be utilised to create more effective and efficient solutions is a necessary skill set for an educated person in the 21st Century. Computer Science drives innovation in Science, Engineering, Business, Entertainment and Education. Whether you want to be a Scientist, Engineer, Mathematician or develop the latest killer application, Computer Science will provide you the knowledge and expertise to achieve your goals.

## COURSE CONTENT

- Fundamentals of programming and data structures.
- Systematic approach to algorithmic problem solving.
- Theory of computation.
- Fundamentals of data representation and system architecture.
- Consequences of uses of computing.

- Communication and Networking.
- Graphic User Interface development.
- Database design/programming.
- Functional Programming

Lessons are very hands on with as much scope as possible for students to be creative with practical tasks backing up every concept that is taught. Students work is regularly assessed, so they always know where their strengths lie, which specific areas they can improve and how to improve them.

## ASSESSMENT

**Paper 1:** Online (40%)

**Paper 2:** Written (40%)

Coursework project chosen by the student, either a programmed solution to a problem or an investigation into an area they are interested in (20 %).

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Universities look very favourably on Computing, due to its logical, problem solving nature. It specifically helps students who wish to go on to study Computing, Maths or Science at university, as all degrees in Maths and Science will include modules in programming. Learning to program during the

Computer Science A Level will make these modules a breeze increasing your chances of achieving a higher class of degree, in addition to ensuring you are able to utilise computers effectively to become a leader at the cutting edge of your chosen field.

Computer Science jobs are among the most lucrative and in surveys consistently have the highest job satisfaction.





# DRAMA & TECHNICAL DESIGN

## Head of Department:

Mrs E Brown, BA (Hons) Wales

## Examination Board: AQA

## WHY STUDY DRAMA & TECHNICAL DESIGN?

Working alongside the actors, design students can explore how best to deliver themes and intentions to an audience through innovative use of sound, lighting, set and costume design. All students work towards practical examination performances and presentations showing off their new ideas.

Working within a fully equipped working theatre, with an industry professional technician gives our students the highest possible support in creating new theatre.

## COURSE CONTENT

### Year 1

- You will study a set play.
- You will see a variety of live performances and learn how to write about them.
- The group will rehearse and perform an extract from a published play.

### Year 2

- You will study and analyse two plays from different periods.
- The group will perform a piece of drama of their own devising using movement, music, improvisation and text.

## ASSESSMENT

### Component 1:

Written exam 40%

### Component 2:

Devised Drama 30%

### Component 3:

Scripted Play Performance

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to acting – on the stage or screen, you could also consider:

- Director
- Creating your own theatre company
- Being part of a theatre-in-education group
- Presenter
- Working in radio
- Studio Runner.

The list of jobs in the professional industry is huge, in particular the wealth of jobs backstage:

- Costumer Designer
- Set Designer
- Lighting and Sound Designer
- Make-up Artist
- Prosthetic Artist etc.





# DRAMA & THEATRE DESIGN

## Head of Department:

Mrs E Brown, BA (Hons) Wales

**Examination Board:** AQA

## WHY STUDY DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES?

Individuals who can generate innovative ideas, who can work as part of a team to develop those ideas and bring them to a successful conclusion. These are the people who are sought after by universities and business leaders alike. These are the skills you gain from the Drama and Theatre Studies course. Moreover, discovering a passion for theatre and performance art will enrich your life, whatever career path you choose.

- The group will perform a piece of drama of their own devising using movement, music, improvisation and text.

## ASSESSMENT

### Component 1

Written exam 40%

### Component 2

Devised Drama 30%

### Component 3

Scripted Play Performance

## COURSE CONTENT

### Year 1

- You will study a set play.
- You will see a variety of live performances and learn how to write about them.
- The group will rehearse and perform an extract from a published play.

### Year 2

- You will study and analyse two plays from different periods.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to acting – on the stage or screen, you could also consider:

- Director
- Creating your own theatre company
- Being part of a theatre-in-education group
- Presenter
- Working in radio
- Studio Runner.

The list of jobs in the professional industry is huge, in particular the wealth of jobs backstage:

- Costumer Designer
- Set Designer
- Make-up Artist
- Prosthetic Artist etc





# ECONOMICS B

## Head of Department:

Mr J Higgins BA (Hons) Leicester

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY ECONOMICS B?

“To change the world you need to understand it, to understand it you need to know Economics.” There could hardly be a more important time to study Economics. ‘Austerity’, ‘furlough’, ‘recession’, and ‘innovation’ have become part of our everyday language, as we see governments around the world struggle to balance their priorities and achieve their objectives. Studying Economics gives us the tools to address these complex issues; you may not have studied it before but that doesn’t matter! Society needs academics and professionals who can devise intelligent solutions in a constantly changing environment; this course will give you an insight into business operations and the global economy.

## COURSE CONTENT

Economics is about choice and the impact of our choices on each other. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or families to

the structures created by governments and firms.

In **Theme 1 and Theme 2** you will be introduced to the nature of economics, how markets work and why they fail, consumer choices and enterprise in the economy. You will also consider the role of banks and life in a global economy.

In **Theme 3 and Theme 4** you will explore the impact of globalisation on consumers, firms and the labour market. You will also investigate the role of the government and have an opportunity to consider the role and impact of the financial sector.

## ASSESSMENT

**Papers 1 and 2** comprise of one data response question, broken down into parts, and two extended open-response questions based on data.

**Paper 3** is comprised of extended open-response questions based on a pre-release context and stimulus material.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Economics students can follow a wide range of careers in industry, commerce, charitable/not-for-profit sector, finance, media, government and the civil service such as:

- Accountancy
- Insurance
- Banking and Investment Management
- Tax
- Marketing, Advertising and Public Relations
- Journalism
- Law
- Consulting.





# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Head of Department:

Miss D Bahbra, BA (Hons) Surrey, MSc Leicester

## Examination Board: AQA

## WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE?

Studying English Literature is both fun and useful. You will have the opportunity to read and discuss some of the most famous and exciting books ever written, as well as learning how to appreciate the craft of the writers who produced them. Wherever possible, we make sure that all drama texts studied are experienced as live theatre.

## COURSE CONTENT

### Paper 1: Love Through the Ages

**Unit 1:** Shakespeare and Poetry - An anthology of love poetry from across the ages: - 'Othello', 'Taming of the Shrew', or 'Measure for Measure'

**Unit 2:** Prose - 'Persuasion', 'Jane Eyre', 'Wuthering Heights', 'Atonement', 'Rebecca', 'A Room with a View', 'The Go-Between' 'The Great Gatsby' (F.Scott. Fitzgerald).

### Paper 2: Texts in Shared Context

**Unit 3:** Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to present day. Three texts from this list: 'Skirrid Hill' (Owen Sheers), 'Birthday Letters' (Ted Hughes), 'Ariel' (Sylvia Plath), 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof', 'A Streetcar Named Desire' (Tennessee Williams), 'Oranges are Not the Only Fruit' (Jeanette Winterson), 'The Help' (Kathryn Stockett), 'The God of Small Things' (Arundhati Roy), 'Waterland' (Graham Swift), 'The Handmaid's Tale' (Margaret Atwood), 'Feminine Gospels' (Carol Ann Duffy).

**Unit 4:** Independent Critical Study - You will write an essay comparing two texts from your own choice. These should reflect an area of personal interest.

## ASSESSMENT

**Paper 1:** Units 1 and 2 40% - One written exam

**Paper 2:** Unit 3 40%  
Coursework: Unit 4, 20%

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

English Literature is a highly respected A Level. In addition to choosing a degree course in the subject itself, students of A Level English Literature might go on to study for university degrees in a range of subjects including: History, Sociology, Psychology, Drama & Theatre Studies and Law. Even Medical Schools value the subject highly.

It is also very effective in developing transferrable skills such as interpretive abilities, communication, an understanding of how language works, close analysis, and the ability to construct a well-argued case. These are highly valued in a range of graduate careers such as:

- Teaching
- Business and Finance
- Marketing/Advertising/ Public Relation
- Journalism, Media/ Publishing
- Law
- Politics.

Some famous English Literature graduates include: Private Eye editor Ian Hislop, actor and broadcaster Stephen Fry, actress Emma Watson, Green Party MP Caroline Lucas and film director, Martin Scorsese.





# GEOGRAPHY

## Head of Department:

Mr J Samson, BSc (Hons) Keele

**Examination Board:** AQA

## WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is a dynamic subject, which is unique in bridging both the social and natural sciences. It therefore combines well with many subjects and is highly valued by universities as a facilitating subject.

It draws together the techniques of research, communication, analytical skills, problem solving and teamwork, whilst aiming to develop students as 'global citizens' focusing on the interaction between people and the planet.

Students have the opportunity to go on a residential fieldtrip in the spring term of Year 12 to help prepare them for their individual fieldwork investigation.

## ASSESSMENT

### Physical Geography:

Written exam 40%

### Human Geography:

Written exam 40%

### Geographical investigation:

Individual investigation marked by the teacher and externally moderated 20%.

## COURSE CONTENT

Topics include:

### Physical Geography

- Water and carbon Cycles; Coastal Systems and landscapes; Hazards.

### Human Geography

- Global systems and global governance; changing places; population and the environment
- Geography fieldwork Investigation, including fieldwork and research and geographical skills.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A vast array of careers including:

- Business management
- Finance and accounting
- Law
- Leisure and tourism
- Town Planning
- Journalism
- Environment and ecology
- Surveying
- Cartography (making maps)
- Conservation.





# HISTORY

**Head of Department:**  
Mr S Phillips, BA (Hons) York

**Examination Board:** AQA

## WHY STUDY HISTORY?

A good historian is a person who asks why and is willing to seek the answers. The study of History helps us to understand the world around us and where it might be heading. History is extremely well regarded by universities as a preparation for higher level study, being classed as a facilitating subject by the Russell Group, equipping students with analytical and evaluative skills, and the ability to synthesize material from a wide range of sources.

## COURSE CONTENT

**Unit 1: Breadth Study**  
Russia 1855-1964  
You will consider the changes in Russia under the last three Tsars and why Tsarism collapsed in 1917. You will go on to study how the Communists came to power and the economic, social and political development of the USSR under Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchev.

**Unit 2: Depth Study**  
The English Revolution 1625-60  
You will focus on the breakdown in the relationship between Parliament and King Charles I that led to the Civil War. You will then go on to study the period of the English Republic where experiments in government failed leading to the restoration of the monarchy in 1660.

**Unit 3: Coursework Essay**  
Crime in Victorian England c1810-c1918.

You will have the opportunity to take part in the national 'Team Maths Challenge' and will attend external Maths lectures.

## ASSESSMENT

There is no coursework or controlled assessment; assessment is by written exams only. Calculators can be used in all exams.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

By the end of the course you will have developed an appreciation that the key skill of an historian is uncovering information, analysing it critically and then presenting your findings.

History links directly to jobs in heritage or archives, but has applications way beyond that.

The ability to research and process information is needed for a whole range of different careers – law, administration, public relations, marketing, journalism, social policy and politics, to name but a few.





# MATHEMATICS

## Head of Department:

Mrs L Wintle, BSc (Hons) Sussex

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY MATHEMATICS?

Mathematics is the right choice for you if you enjoy thinking logically and solving problems. At GCSE, you discuss new ideas and apply them to questions. The same is true for A Level with a greater emphasis on writing convincing working and applying your skills in a more independent way. Mathematics plays an important role in many careers including computing, business management, economics, medicine, geography, psychology and social sciences. Mathematics can be usefully combined with any subjects.

the study of objects balancing, being rolled or thrown, and collisions. Statistics builds on the data handling topics from GCSE, by covering probability, scatter graphs and correlation, averages and variation, histogram, cumulative frequency, regression and standard deviation.

## ASSESSMENT

There is no coursework or controlled assessment; assessment is by written exams only. Calculators can be used in all exams.

## COURSE CONTENT

Two thirds of your course will be a pure maths element and one third is applied. The core modules build from the number, algebra, and shape topics at GCSE. These include quadratic equations, surds, coordinate geometry, graphs, trigonometry, sequences and calculus.

The applied module is a combination of Mechanics, and Statistics. Mechanics is

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Accountancy
- Dentistry
- Medicine
- Engineering
- Technology
- Banking
- Acoustic consultant
- Actuarial analyst
- Astronomer
- Chartered Accountant.
- Chartered Certified Accountant.
- Data Analyst.
- Data Scientist
- Investment Analyst
- Research Scientist (Maths)
- Secondary School Teacher
- Software Engineer
- Sound Engineer
- Statistician.





# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

## Head of Department:

Mrs L Wintle, BSc (Hons) Sussex

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY FURTHER MATHEMATICS?

If you find GCSE Maths easy and you enjoy algebra and trigonometry, you may feel that you want something more challenging than A Level Maths. In that case, Further Maths is for you! Typically the students who choose Further Maths are hoping to study Maths, Finance, Economics, Engineering, Physics, Medicine, Architecture or other subjects which demand excellent maths skills.

## COURSE CONTENT

Further Maths is easily tailored to the class. It will include further pure and a combination of:

- more Further Pure Further Statistics
- Further Mechanics
- Decision Maths.

Further Pure Maths covers topics such as complex numbers, matrices, numerical methods, polar coordinates, differential equations, hyperbolic functions, conic sections, vectors and multivariable calculus. Due

to the small group sizes, the applied units are chosen to suit the interests of the students where possible. In Decision Mathematics we study problems that require the use of algorithms to solve them. Many of these problems, such as maximizing profits or the timetabling of events, arise every day in the world of business.

Note that if you wish to study Maths and Further Maths, some universities require two other A Levels in addition.

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment is by written exams only. A calculator can be used for any exam.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Accountancy
- Dentistry
- Medicine
- Engineering
- Technology
- Banking
- Acoustic consultant
- Actuarial analyst
- Astronomer
- Chartered Accountant.
- Chartered Certified Accountant.
- Data Analyst.
- Data Scientist
- Investment Analyst
- Research Scientist (Maths)
- Secondary School Teacher
- Software Engineer
- Sound Engineer
- Statistician.





# MODERN LANGUAGES

## Head of Department:

Mrs H Molloy, BA (Hons) Southampton & MEd Exeter

## Examination Board: AQA

### WHY STUDY MODERN LANGUAGES?

Knowing a foreign language opens doors and broadens the mind. You will build on the skills learnt at GCSE and go on to gain a profound understanding of your chosen language, as well as a greater cultural awareness of the countries and communities where they are spoken. Your communication skills will improve, as well as your ability to appreciate the ideas of other people. Equally importantly, you will reflect on current social, cultural and political issues. A foreign language complements any other A Level subject and provides a sound base for further study.

### COURSE CONTENT

The course covers topics centred around social issues and trends, artistic culture and political life within the countries and communities where the language is spoken and this includes the study of literature and/or film. Study of these topics will help you to develop your listening, reading, speaking and writing skills,

so that you can understand and discuss different points of view, some of which may be controversial.

The A Level also includes an independent research topic on a subject of personal interest which will be assessed in the speaking exam.

Translation, which is an extremely useful skill in business, will also feature. There will be dedicated grammar lessons which will enable you to use the language independently and creatively as well as improve your ability to translate into English and into the language of study.

In addition to lessons with your subject teacher, there will be weekly lessons with the Foreign Language Assistant to improve your confidence and fluency when speaking the language.

### ASSESSMENT

- 1: Listening, Reading and Writing 50%
- 2: Writing, 20%
- 3: Speaking, 30%

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The ability to speak a foreign language can put you at a real advantage in a competitive job market as it is highly valued by employers, demonstrating wider cultural awareness, adaptability, problem solving and good communication skills (both written and oral). Study of a Modern Foreign Language at A Level can lead to a variety of career paths in the UK or abroad, in areas including:

- Law
- Journalism
- Business
- Education
- Diplomacy
- Intelligence services
- Politics
- Armed Forces
- Writing
- Media
- Sociology.





# MUSIC

## Head of Department:

Mrs J Ellwood, GRSM (Hons), DipRCM, PGCAPerf-  
The Royal College of Music, QTS Reading

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY MUSIC?

If you enjoy playing an instrument or singing, like exploring and creating your own music, enjoy listening to all kinds of music and are interested in how music has developed then A Level Music could be for you.

You will find the course stimulating and enriching with plenty of opportunities to develop your own individual skills, through performing both individually and as a group, developing your analytical, listening and appraising skills and creative composition.

## COURSE CONTENT

The course is divided into three sections of which 60% is course work.

**Component 1: Performing (30% NEA)** You will learn skills and gain experience in performing both individually and in ensembles. The performance can be solo and/or ensemble, with a total performance time of eight minutes.

**Component 2: Composing using Music Technology (30% NEA).** You will learn to compose in a wide range of styles using Sibelius and Cubase. You will produce two compositions, one free or free choice brief – minimum four minutes. One brief assessing technique – minimum two minutes. Together total minimum of six minutes.

**Component 3: Appraising (40% Exam)** You will study six areas of study with three set works in each, plus wider listening. • Vocal Music • Instrumental Music • Music for Film • Popular Music and Jazz • Fusions • New Directions.

There will be many opportunities to go to concerts featuring music from classical to jazz and the non-Western tradition, as well as visits to the opera and musical theatre.

## ASSESSMENT

**Component 1:** Total of 60 marks (12 marks available for difficulty of pieces).

**Component 2:** Two pieces 40 marks and 20 marks. Total of 60 marks.

**Component 3:** Exam Total 100 marks.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Music education
- Music Therapy
- Sound Technician
- Film, TV, Gaming Composer
- Song Writer
- Performer
- Conductor/Choral Director
- PR music marketing
- Orchestral/Pop Manager
- Music Theatre.





# MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (AS)

## Head of Department:

Mrs J Ellwood, GRSM (Hons), DipRCM, PGCAPerf-  
The Royal College of Music, QTS Reading

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY MUSIC TECHNOLOGY?

For those who feel that they want to pursue music from a modern, digital perspective, Music Technology offers a unique avenue into the music production and audio engineering world.

This course will develop your sequencing and recording skills using professional audio software, as well as further your listening and appraising skills and show you how to apply your music theory skills using digital software tools. You will have access to professional audio equipment to produce compositions and recordings individually, and in collaboration with the wider Music department.

## COURSE CONTENT

The course is divided into four sections of which 40% is coursework.

**Component 1 Recording** (20% NEA) Using hardware and software production tools and techniques to capture, edit, process and mix an audio recording.

**Component 2 Technology-based composition** (20% NEA) Creating, editing, manipulating and structuring sounds to produce a technology-based composition.

**Component 3 Listening and analysing** (25% exam) Knowledge of audio theory, development of recording and production technology, use of production techniques both creatively and correctively and understanding of audio principles in context of supplied works.

**Component 4 Producing and analysing** (35% written/practical exam) Understanding of editing, mixing and production techniques, as well as further knowledge of creative and corrective audio techniques and principles.

## ASSESSMENT

**Component 1:** Total of 60 marks (12 marks available for difficulty of pieces).

**Component 2:** Two pieces 40 marks and 20 marks. Total of 60 marks.

**Component 3:** Exam Total 100 marks.

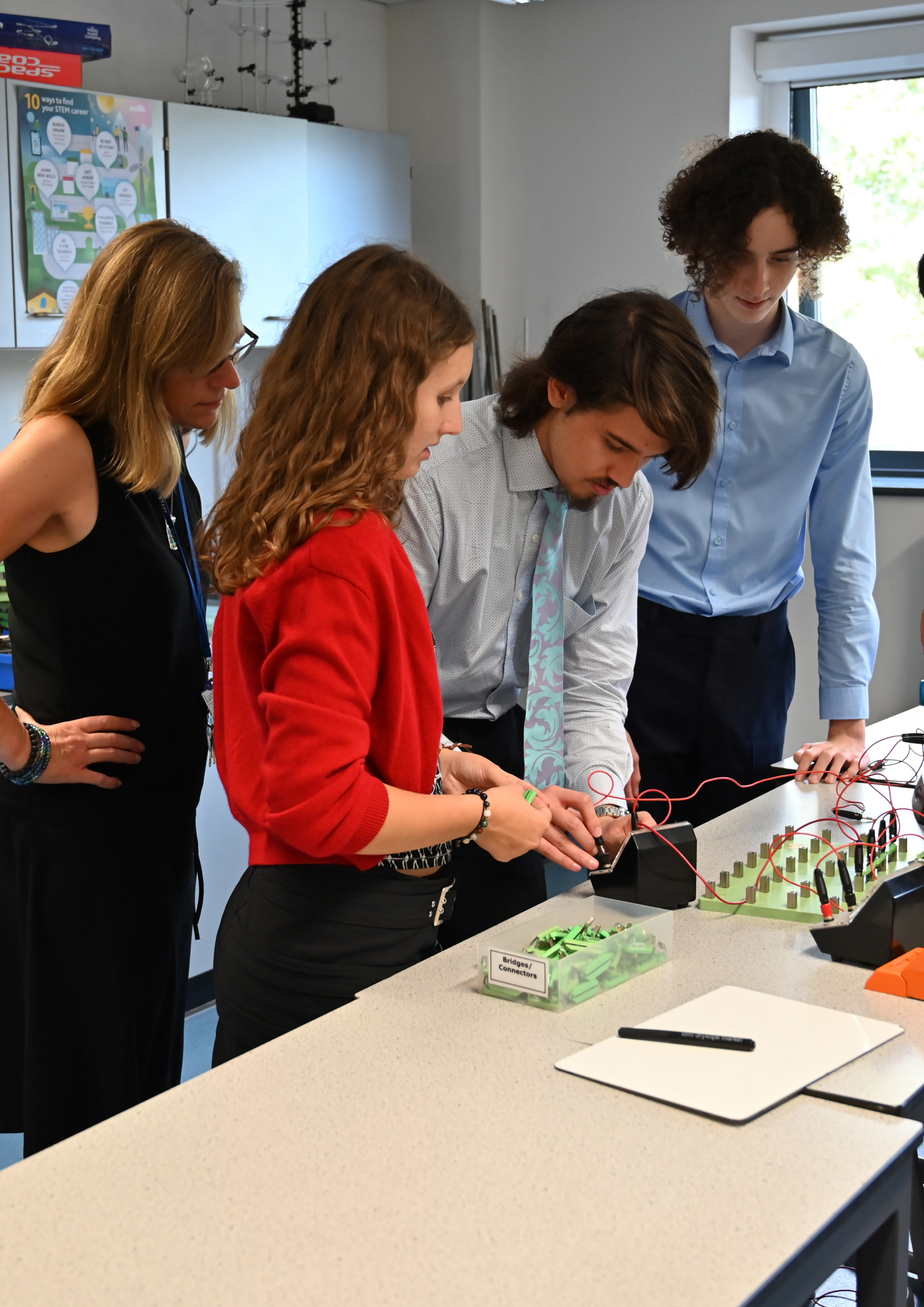
**Component 4:** Assessment

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Music education
- Music Therapy
- Sound Technician
- Film, TV, Gaming Composer
- Song Writer
- Performer
- Conductor/Choral Director
- PR music marketing
- Orchestral/Pop Manager
- Music Theatre.

*AS available depending on numbers.*





# PHYSICS

## Head of Department:

Mrs F Blackmore, BEng, CEng, MIET Brunel

## Examination Board: Edexcel

## WHY STUDY PHYSICS?

Physics will provide you with knowledge and skills that will always be highly valued by employers and educational establishments around the world. It provides the basis of all scientific study and becomes increasingly important as we delve deeper into any scientific discipline. Physics is the study of matter, energy, space and time and so deals with the behaviour of the smallest particles to the whole universe. Study Physics to broaden your knowledge, mind and opportunities.

Throughout the course you will carry out practical work. In so doing, a range of practical skills will be developed and this will enable achievement of an additional qualification in practical competency entitled "Science Practical Endorsement".

## ASSESSMENT

Three written exams:  
Paper 1 30%  
Paper 2 30%  
Paper 3 40%

## COURSE CONTENT

- Working as a Physicist
- Mechanics
- Electric Circuits
- Materials
- Waves and Particle Nature of Light
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Nuclear and Particle Physics
- Thermodynamics
- Space
- Nuclear Radiation
- Gravitational Fields
- Oscillations.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Armed forces and defence solutions
- Astronomy
- Education
- Engineering
- Medicine
- Meteorology and climate change
- Nontechnology
- Oil and Gas
- Renewable energy
- Scientific Researcher
- Space exploration industries
- Telecommunications.

Physics graduates are particularly attractive to companies outside the scientific industries because of their skills in analysing information and solving complex problems, and their high levels of numeracy and computer literacy.

Well-paid careers can be found in the banking, insurance and accountancy sectors, as well as the software, computing and consultancy industries.





# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Head of Department:

Mr M Humphrey, BSc (Hons) Portsmouth

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

This course builds upon your experience from Key Stage 4 and GCSE to enhance your knowledge and understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in PE. The course delves deeper into the physiology behind optimal sports performance, as well as the psychological process surrounding arousal, anxiety and information processing and acquisition of skills. We also look into the history of sport up to the 21st Century and how sport has become more of a commodity. This qualification covers a wide range of topic areas and allows you to play to your strengths and gain dynamic theoretical and practical skills for further education or work.

## COURSE CONTENT

**Component 1:** Physiological factors affecting performance Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics.

**Component 2:** Psychological factors affecting performance – Skill Acquisition and Sports Psychology.

**Component 3:** Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport – Sport and Society and Contemporary Issues in Sport.

**Component 5:** Practical or Coaching Performances (NEA).\*

**Component 6:** Evaluating and Analysing Performance for Improvement (EAPI) (NEA).

We expect pupils to be competing in their chosen sport at a minimum county level. If you have any questions or queries, please speak to Mr Humphrey.

## ASSESSMENT

Three written exams:

1. Physiological Factors Affecting Performance 30%

2. Psychological Factors Affecting Performance 20%

3. Socio-cultural Issues in Physical Activity and Sport 20%

As well as: Practical Performance (one sport) and Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for improvement (EAPI) - 30%.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Sports Scientist
  - Physiology or Biomechanics
- Personal Trainer
- Dietitian
- Therapist
- Sport Development
- Professional Coach
- Fitness and Leisure Industry
- Physiotherapy
- PE Teaching
- Sport Management.





# POLITICS

## Head of Department:

Mr S Phillips, BA (Hons), York

## Examination Board: AQA

### WHY STUDY POLITICS?

There has never been a more complicated time in British and International politics. Brexit and Covid have entirely shaken up the political status quo. Likewise, in international relations, there is a new US President, China is increasing its power, Russia is seeking to play more of a global role and the impact of climate change is barely understood but will be huge.

The course is increasingly relevant in the modern world. If you are intrigued, excited or worried about the changes that will happen in your lifetime, this is the course for you.

### COURSE CONTENT

#### The Government in the UK:

The British Constitution, structures and role of Parliament, the Prime Minister and cabinet, the judiciary and devolution.

#### The Politics of the UK:

Democracy and participation, elections and referendums, political parties, pressure groups and the European Union.

#### Government and Politics in the USA:

The constitutional framework of US government, Congress, the President and the Executive, the judiciary, the electoral process, political parties, pressure groups and civil rights.

#### Comparative Politics:

A comparison of constitutional arrangements, the executives, the judiciaries, electoral and party systems, pressure groups and civil rights of the UK and USA.

#### Political Ideas:

Core ideologies - conservatism, socialism and liberalism. Non-core ideologies - nationalism, feminism, multiculturalism, anarchism and ecologism.

### ASSESSMENT

#### Paper 1: Government and Politics of the UK

Written exam 33.3%

#### Paper 2: Government and Politics of the USA and Comparative Politics

Written exam 33.3%

#### Paper 3: Political Ideas

Written exam 33.3%

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Politics is a highly regarded academic qualification and can be used to enter a huge variety of university courses and careers. Recently, many politics students have chosen to study subjects such as law, journalism, history, criminology or politics itself.





# PRODUCT DESIGN

## Head of Department:

Mrs F Lennon, BA (Hons,) York St Johns

**Examination Board:** EDUQAS

## WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN?

Product Design is a creative and proactive course where experimenting, testing and modelling with a wide range of materials, machines, tools and CAD software all form an integral part of successful outcomes. Making products involves working with a range of materials. Only by experiencing working with materials first-hand can you start to understand their properties and the ways in which those materials can be used for a variety of purposes. When designing, you will need to understand what the user or client requires, and then go on to provide them with a functional prototype, which can be tested so you and your user or client can judge how successful it is.

## COURSE CONTENT

This course is a natural progression on the GCSE DT course. Core activities during year one will include designing and making a range of products using different materials and processes. The aim is to equip you with the skills, confidence, knowledge and safe working practices to be successful

when you work on your own major project during year two. Specific knowledge, that has to be learnt to be successful in the written examinations, is taught in a formal setting in the Product Design classroom. You will also use this knowledge to help you analyse why materials and processes have been used to make a range of commercial products. Both of these areas will help you to make decisions in your own personal project (NEA). Making sustainable choices when choosing materials, and the importance of recycling and designing products that meet current legislation will also be part of the second year of study.

## ASSESSMENT

Both of these parts will be assessed in the final examination. A Level students will sit one paper, lasting two and a half hours, which will cover core technical principles and core designing and making principles. The paper will combine to make up 50% of the A Level qualification. The other 50% is for the non-examined assessment (NEA) design and make project that you will complete.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Our students have gone on to study a wide range of subjects for different career pathways which include;

- Product Design
- Mechanical Engineering
- Product Design Engineering
- Product Design CAD
- Furniture Design
- Automotive Design
- Architecture.





# PSYCHOLOGY

## Head of Department:

Mrs Julie Rumble, BSc (Hons) Open

## Examination Board: AQA

### WHY STUDY PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, and attempts to answer some of the questions that have plagued humans such as: What causes mental disorders? How does our brain work? What makes someone aggressive? Do children think the same way adults do?

While studying this course you will learn to answer the questions above as well as a variety of skills to aid your own personal development. You will learn how to reflect on your own behaviours, enhance your understanding of others and the world around us and ultimately increase inclusivity.

### COURSE CONTENT

#### Year 12

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology
- Approaches
- Biopsychology
- Research methods.

#### Year 13

- Issues and Debates
- Cognition & Development
- Schizophrenia
- Aggression
- Research methods.

### ASSESSMENT

Three exams at the end of the second year, each worth 33.3% of the A Level.

Exams consist of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

**Paper 1:** Memory, Social influence, Attachment, Psychopathology

**Paper 2:** Approaches, Biopsychology, Research methods

**Paper 3:** Issues and Debates, Cognition & Development, Schizophrenia and Aggression.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Directly linking to

Psychology:

- Psychologist (Sports, Clinical, Forensic, Educational, Occupational)
- Psychiatrist
- Mental Health Nurse
- Counsellor
- Psychology Teacher.

Indirect options:

Doctor, Law, Policing, Human Resources, Social Worker, Religious Leader, Nursing, Creative Arts, Youth Worker, Marketing, Business Management.





# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## Head of Department:

Mrs C Woolner, BA (Hons) Durham, PCGE

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## WHY STUDY RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

This course comprises a study of some of the major questions which have faced mankind throughout the centuries, such as 'Does God exist?' and 'What is the right action?'.

You will learn to explore and evaluate a range of scholarly views to develop and substantiate your own conclusions. Along the way you will also develop key skills of critical analysis, research and written argument.

## COURSE CONTENT

### Philosophy of Religion

- Arguments for the existence of God
- Religious experience
- Problems of evil and suffering
- Religious language
- Life after death
- Science and Religion.

### Religion and Ethics

- Environmental ethics
- Equality
- A study of three ethical theories
- War and peace
- Sexual ethics
- Meta-ethics
- Medical ethics.

### Christianity

- The Nature of God and the Trinity
- The Nature of the Church
- Sources of Wisdom and Authority
- Practices that express religious identity
- New issues and movements in theology
- Salvation and atonement theory.

## ASSESSMENT

Three written exams:

Philosophy of Religion 33.3%

Religion and Ethics 33.3%

Christianity 33.3%

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Studying Religious Studies at A Level may lead to careers in the following:

- Law
- Politics
- Journalism
- Charity sector
- Education.

The skills and knowledge gained through an A Level in Religious Studies can also be used to support many different career paths, for example careers in the Police, Armed Forces or Medicine.





# TEXTILES DESIGN

## Head of Department:

Mrs F Lennon, BA (Hons) York St Johns

## Examination Board: AQA

### WHY STUDY TEXTILES DESIGN?

A Level Textiles Design is a versatile course that involves the creation, selection, manipulation and application of a range of materials and processes in order to produce fabrics and products for different purposes. You will work in an exploratory way to create ideas, concepts, materials and techniques for different purposes such as; fashion items, accessories and clothing for film/theatre, technological innovation, Interior design, fine textile art, soft sculpture and wall hangings.

### COURSE CONTENT

The course is a self-driven journey during which you will develop ideas through the analysis of designer and artists' work, other source materials and your own personal experimentation. You will be encouraged to use a range of materials and techniques to present your thoughts, ideas and observations. You will demonstrate clear intention of ideas through drawing and presentation techniques and sensitive manipulation of materials.

You will produce work that is a personal response to set themes that you have helped choose. Disciplines include fabric embellishment, print design and making, resist techniques, sublimation printing and felt making. You will be given time to work in most of these areas and develop a high command of skills.

As part of the coursework, you will produce a piece of extended writing of between 1000 – 3000 words that relates to your coursework. It is advised that students have studied either Art or Art and Design Textiles at GCSE level prior to embarking on the A Level Textiles Design course.

### ASSESSMENT

Assessment is ongoing. This is a 100% coursework based qualification. Students complete a personal investigation starting at the end of Year 12, which forms component 1 and is worth 60% of the grade. Component 2 is the second project, starting in February of Year 13 and culminating in a 15 hour practical exam in which students realise their plans. This is worth 40% of the grade.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students who study this course go on to further study in a wide variety of careers, for instance;

- Fashion Designer
- Fashion Buying
- Textile Technologist
- Interior Design
- Fashion Retail
- Fashion Marketing
- Costume Design
- Wardrobe Manager for theatre or television
- Visual Merchandiser
- Printmaker.





# EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

## Head of Department:

Mrs R Kempton, BA (Hons) Kingston

## Examination Board: AQA

### WHY STUDY AN EPQ?

This is an optional qualification that all students are encouraged to follow, as many universities are now taking the EPQ into consideration when making their offers. Some universities make a lower offer provided the EPQ is completed to a high standard and other universities are very happy to accept the UCAS points afforded the EPQ. Delivery of the Extended Project Qualification involves some teaching of the necessary skills, supervision and assessment of the student's progress. The key skills studied are not only necessary to complete the project but are also incredibly useful when moving on to study at university. Students learn skills helpful when writing dissertations as well as presentation skills.

### COURSE CONTENT

You will be required, with appropriate supervision, to:

- choose an area of interest (this is usually, but not necessarily, an area which complements possible topics to be studied at university).
- draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the centre.
- plan, research and carry out the project (this is usually a 5000 word essay).
- deliver a presentation to a non-specialist audience (approx. 15 minutes).
- provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.

### ASSESSMENT

- Written essay
- Presentation
- Completed project log

### EXAMPLES OF PAST PROJECTS

Can I create a healthy snack bar for young children between the ages of 5-10 years old?

- Should human germline gene editing be supported or stopped?

- Is intelligence inherited?

- Can I effectively design the lighting for the school production of 'Grease', incorporating other backstage disciplines using Howell Binkley as my practitioner?

- Is it ethical to breed dogs with obstructive airways syndrome?

- To what extent does the microbiome affect human health?

- How does the Pixar soundtrack provoke emotion and what affect does this have on the viewer?

- Is ME a Psychological or a Biological illness?

- To what extent can paediatric psychology be considered a success?

- Is the cost of space exploration worth it?

- How Important is it for a Third Culture Kid to Have a Sense of Home?



APPLICATION PROCESS *(External Applicants)*



Entrance Criteria

Demonstrate the ability to achieve the minimum entry standards (six good grades at GCSE).  
Demonstrate potential to gain a Grade 6 at GCSE for your chosen subjects, with a Grade 7 in the Sciences or Maths.



APPLICATION PROCESS *(Current Pupils)*



Entrance Criteria

Demonstrate the ability to achieve the minimum entry standards (six good grades at GCSE).  
Demonstrate potential to gain a Grade 6 at GCSE for your chosen subjects, with a Grade 7 in the Sciences or Maths.





“WHERE THERE  
IS BELIEF THERE  
IS POSSIBILITY”

“I BELIEVE I CAN BECOME A  
PUBLISHED AUTHOR  
**ELLA**







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