



The Willink
Village School, Global Outlook



Sixth Form

Course Guide 2022



Engage Respect Achieve

Contents

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Welcome	3
Head Students	4
5 Reasons to Study with Us	5
Life in the Sixth Form	6
Joining The Willink	8
Pathways	10
Our Subjects	11
The EPQ	12
Helping You Achieve	13
Results 2021	14
Destinations 2021	15
Subject Combinations	16
Applied Science BTEC	20
Art & Design/Textiles	22
Biology	24
Business Studies	26
Business Studies CTEC	27
Chemistry	28
Computer Science	29
Criminology Diploma	30
Drama & Theatre	31
Economics	32
English Language	33
English Literature	34
Film Studies	36
French	37
Geography	38
German	39
History	40
Mathematics	41
Further Maths	42
Core Maths (AS)	43
Media Studies	44
Digital Media CTEC	45
Music	46
Physical Education	47
Photography	48
Physics	49
Politics	50
Product Design	51
Psychology	52
Religious Studies	53
Sociology	54
Spanish	55



How to Apply

Willink Students

Applications to be made electronically.

Other Students

Download an application form from the Sixth Form area on our website www.willinkschool.org.uk, or call 0118 9832030

Welcome

www.willinkschool.org.uk

The Willink Sixth Form has an inspiring and friendly environment with fantastic, supportive staff. Willink Sixth Formers do very well in and out of school; 81% went on to University, including 30% to Russell Group universities last year. Our size is our strength, we are small enough to be able to focus on the aspirations and needs of all our students and large enough to be able to offer a wide range of courses with an excellent enrichment programme.



The next two years of your life will be an exciting challenge that will help shape your future. We look forward to helping you meet your potential through a combination of hard work, determination, enrichment, independence and fun.

The teaching here is excellent. I look forward to my lessons as I know my teachers want me to succeed just as much as I do.

Beth, Year 13



Gill Schofield
Head of Sixth



Marcus Leach
Assistant Head of Sixth



Aurelien Collot
Assistant Head KS5

Entry into Willink Sixth Form

We believe in the potential of all our learners and our Pathways Programme means that together, we can build a tailored study plan with the right combination of A Levels, BTEC / CTEC and enrichment opportunities that will suit you best.

Anyone capable of achieving five Grade 4s, or above, at GCSE, with a passion for learning could be qualified to join our Willink Sixth Form.

We'd like the opportunity to discuss your options based on your current predicted grades so do please make an appointment with any member of the Sixth Form team to start the conversation, we will be delighted to help you.

Head Students

www.willinkschool.org.uk



Megan



Jacob

Hi, thank you for considering the Willink Sixth Form!

The Sixth Form offers a supportive and proactive environment, that helps you gain the independence to prepare you for A Levels. We know we have really found this useful through year 12 and 13 where the Willink adapted so well to help us through the unpredictability of Covid. Now we are past that, we can look towards our final exams knowing we are receiving the best support and teaching.

We enjoy being a part of the Sixth Form community and school council, where we can take feedback from students and improve the Sixth Form experience. If you choose to join the Sixth Form, you can be sure that your voice will be heard, and your opinion will be valued. Inclusivity is something the Sixth Form really prides itself on.

A big part of Sixth Form is the student community, with regular sports competitions, social events and... 'Tea and Toast.' There are also boundless academic opportunities to enrich your Sixth Form experience such as, EPQs, MOOCs and work experience, that will benefit you when it comes to life after A Levels.

Both of us have had a phenomenal experience during our time at Sixth Form and are now prepared to take our next steps towards university.

We hope you choose to join the Sixth Form so you can experience this too.

Head Students, Megan & Jacob

Five Reasons to Study with Us

www.willinkschool.org.uk

1 A supportive working environment

You'll be studying with like-minded students who want to work hard, do well and get on in life. The step up from GCSEs is demanding, but our experienced teaching staff and pastoral team will ensure a smooth transition and provide you with the skills you need to succeed independently.

2 Excellent teaching that leads to success

Our teachers are experts in their subjects and enjoy excellent working relationships with students. We quickly learn students' strengths and how to get the best out of you. Nearly all students gain entry to their first choice of university including Oxford, Cambridge and the Russell Group of universities. We're proud of the results that our students achieve and the destinations they reach.

3 A rich and fulfilling student life

The Sixth Form has its own unique identity but remains a key part of the wider Willink community. We will offer you opportunities to act as leaders and role models to our younger students and take on responsibilities as senior students. Year 12 students have time and support dedicated to securing work experience.

Our enrichment programme provides opportunities to learn new skills and try new things. Throughout the year we offer a wide variety of talks, activities, clubs and sporting facilities culminating in our well established and hugely rewarding visit to Moldova.

4 Dedicated common room and study area

Sixth Formers have their own Common Room to study, socialise and take a break from lessons. The whole Sixth Form area has WiFi to allow students to connect anywhere. Students have a separate study room with PCs, access to course materials, online storage and printing.

I enjoy the independence and freedom that the Sixth Form give us - the teachers give us both responsibility and guidance to help us prepare for our future.

Phoebe, Year 12

It was clear to me that The Willink was the best place to do my A Levels. The environment is really proactive and the teachers encourage you to achieve the best grades you possibly can. Jacob, Year13



5 Dedicated guidance to the next step

We offer high quality advice, guidance and support from teachers and staff including a dedicated UCAS co-ordinator, a careers advisor (Clare Desai) and use of Unifrog, a comprehensive destinations planner. Whether your target is university, apprenticeships or work we have the resources and expertise to help you make the right choice. 100% of our Year 13 students say they had helpful support in the various application processes!

Life in the Sixth Form

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You will find life in our Sixth Form rewarding, stimulating and enjoyable. Alongside your academic studies we offer a wide range of activities, talks, trips and opportunities to develop your potential and provide an enriching experience.

Our students give their best in all areas of school life and are leading members of the community. Even while life was more limited in 2020/21, our students were involved in enrichment, personal development, and volunteering.

Trips abroad

We are proud to have sent an annual delegation of students to a partner school in Moldova every year from 2005–2019 and we hope to restart this trip in 2022. Students will work on rewarding projects with local children. Recent expeditions have included Thailand, Cambodia and Laos, Iceland, New York, China and Madagascar.



Volunteering and Community Work

We have close links with Brookfield's Specialist SEN School and a local Alzheimer's Group; a number of our students volunteer at each. Students are also encouraged to seek out other volunteering opportunities.

Working with the wider school

There is an active Sixth Form Council and team of Senior Students who organise charity events, social events and a Sixth Form Yearbook. Sixth Formers are encouraged to mentor lower school students and many volunteer to help out in lower-school lessons.

Personal Development

In our weekly programme, you will work on independent learning skills; debate key issues in society and work collaboratively with other Sixth Form students. Depending upon your pathway, you may take additional qualifications such as an Extended Project Qualification or a University-led online course (A 'MOOC').

Outside speakers and industry trips

We work closely with Speakers for Schools to bring a range of speakers into Sixth Form. Recently we've had talks from key people from the BBC, Amazon, Britvic and Olympic silver medallist Phil Burgess. Recent trips to industry include banknote designer De La Rue, Glaxo Smithkline and Prudential



"Moving up to sixth form was a new experience, we had to submit summer work, which helped me get a head start in my subjects. The teachers get to know which parts of the course each individual student finds challenging or straightforward meaning that the students can get more support or become more independent"
Curtis, Year 13

Leadership skills

Our debating team have represented the Thames Valley at the European Youth Parliament UK; Business Students repeatedly reach the finals of The Student Business Challenge. Leadership skills are embedded in our Development Programme.

Student groups and clubs

Students have the freedom to form and run groups or societies in all manner of interest areas. We encourage students to demonstrate independence and leadership by organising new clubs for either Sixth Form or other year groups in the school. Some examples of clubs are Film Club, Chess Club as well as running Football tournaments for Year 7 and running businesses through the School Business Challenge.

Self-Help Groups

Whatever you are trying to achieve, there will always be a like-minded soul. It's more fun and easier to achieve together. We encourage students to set up self-help groups to focus on their future dreams. You may want to be a lawyer, gain a degree apprenticeship, work in the Family Firm, become an artist, the list is endless. Forming a self-help group will help **you to achieve your ambition**.



Be Creative

Willink students are brimming full of ideas. We suggest a variety of creative activities including writing for the school magazine, creating a documentary, running an art / sculpture exhibition, a podcast, design using CAD or a Blog / Vlog. Maintaining your creativity even as you specialise will help you through the whole of your life.

Be Active

You could join one of the school sports clubs. Students enjoy reduced-rate sessions at our neighbouring gym and swimming pool. Matches are regularly played by the Sixth Form football and netball teams.

Independence Day

To ensure students have dedicated time to achieve their enrichment goals, all our Year 12 students have time off timetable every other Wednesday.

"The options for courses and help at The Willink allows me to grow as a student and find my passion for the future." Jarod, Year 12



Joining The Willink

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Many of the student comments in this Prospectus show that students who do their GCSEs at The Willink know the atmosphere is supportive and feel really confident staying on in Sixth Form.

We are also very keen to welcome students from other schools and help them integrate into life in the Sixth Form quickly and easily.

We asked two students, who came to us from other schools in 2021, to tell you about starting in The Willink in Year 12.



Ria joined The Willink Sixth Form from St Joseph's College. She is studying Psychology, Criminology and Design Technology. When she is not studying, Ria trains at Reading Athletics Club.

How did the school prepare you for joining The Willink?

The induction in June was very helpful. I met students at the school and new students joining as well as having an induction to my A Level subjects.

How did you find your first day?

All students and teachers were very friendly and welcoming.

"I look forward to my lessons because the teachers make them fun."



As a student from another school, were you treated differently to other students?

No, we were treated like all other students and had a mentor from the Sixth Form team which was helpful.

How would you describe the teaching at Willink?

At Sixth Form class sizes are a lot smaller letting your teacher understand your learner style well.

Are you thinking of doing an EPQ?

Yes, possibly something to do with interior architecture and how different designing can improve your mood and stimulate the mind for learning.

Jarod came to The Willink Sixth Form from High School in Chicago, Illinois after moving to America when he was in year 8.

Outside school Jarod likes hanging out with friends and playing video games.



What was your first impression of the Sixth Form?

I love the independence I get and the time I have to spend with friends I can't see outside school.

How quickly did you settle into Sixth Form?

I settled very quickly, as I found friends and people I like to be around.

What would you say to a prospective student about Willink Sixth Form?

It is a great independent place to learn and expand your horizons and future plans.

How would you describe Willink Sixth Form?

Independent, honest, respectful and amazing.



How to Apply

Download an application form from the Sixth Form area on our website www.willinkschool.org.uk,

or call 0118 9832030

Willink Students

Applications to be made electronically.

Pathways

www.willinkschool.org.uk

Every Willink Sixth Former is unique, with their own ambitions, strengths and weaknesses. You will need the flexibility to choose the right combination of subjects and enrichment that will propel you towards your next step.

Some of you will have your sights set on 3 or 4 A Levels, others will be heading for a mixture of BTEC/CTEC and A Levels. Some students are motivated by the individual study and academic rigour of an EPQ, others want to devote their time to work experience.

We want you to have the flexibility to pick the path that gives you the right opportunity to be the best you can possibly be.

Our Pathways Programme enables our students to use their qualifications at entry and their own individual goals to define a learning and development pathway.

	Extended Pathway	Academic Pathway	Applied Pathway
Recommended GCSE Entry Requirements	Seven grade 6 or better. To study 4 full A Levels, Grade 8 in almost all GCSEs	Five grade 5s or better plus subject entry requirements.	Five 9-4 grades at GCSE plus subject entry requirements
Number of qualifications	3+ Level 3 Courses	3 Level 3 Courses	Minimum one vocational and two other Level 3 courses
Additional qualifications and study	Extended Project Qualification or one AS-Level, to be completed in Year 12 (recommended)	Core Maths AS-Level, Extended Project Qualification (both optional)	MOOC (optional)
After Sixth Form you could move on to	Oxford, Cambridge, a Russell Group University, a degree apprenticeship or employment.	University, apprenticeship or employment	University, apprenticeship or employment

"The Willink had all the options needed, with a good sense of freedom.

Mattie, Year 12



Our Subjects

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The Willink, has a strong tradition of delivering excellent teaching in A Level subjects. More recently we have extended our range of subjects to include BTEC and CTEC courses.

All of our subjects lead to Level 3 qualifications that are recognised by Universities and Employers. Most of our A Level subjects allow students to take an AS level after one year of study.

All subjects are available on all Pathways, with some additional recommendations about the number and type of courses each person should take. The Extended Project Qualification is available to students on the Extended or Academic pathways.

A Level courses	Vocational courses
Art * Biology Business Studies * Chemistry Computer Science * Core Maths (AS-Level) Drama Economics English Language English Literature Film Studies French Further Maths Geography	German History Mathematics Media Studies * Music Physical Education * Physics Photography Politics * Product Design Psychology Religious Studies Sociology Spanish
	Applied Science BTEC Business CTEC Criminology Diploma Digital Media CTEC

* AS Levels are not available in these subjects

All courses are offered subject to suitable group numbers as course popularity varies from one year to the next.



Being in Sixth Form gives you that independence you crave when leaving Year 11, you also know you always have the support and guidance from the encouraging teachers here at The Willink.

Lydia, Year 13

"The size of the Sixth Form meant I could take a subject combination that wasn't possible at other schools."

Erin, Year 13

Some subjects have additional recommendations for qualifications. Please check the details, Having the right start point will help you to succeed.

The Extended Project Qualification

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The **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)** is an additional qualification that many students can choose to undertake alongside their A Level study. The project is designed to inspire, challenge and extend a range of skills through the development and realisation of a free choice topic, taking students beyond the scope of their A Level subjects. We strongly recommend all students on the Extended Pathway complete an EPQ.

The EPQ is worth half an A Level in UCAS entry points. You can pursue almost any idea; the final outcome could be a research article, a piece of art with a report, a physical item or "artefact" or a product to demonstrate a certain skill. Assessment is based on a portfolio of evidence to support the final project outcome.

Why study an EPQ?

An EPQ is an excellent taster of university-style learning as it is effectively an independent research project which can, but does not have to, relate to an A Level subject that is being studied.

Completing an EPQ in Year 12 will show Universities that you have the academic interest, rigour and skills to go above and beyond your core A Level studies. It will prove to future employers that you're a self-motivated and committed character with useful skills in your chosen field.

What could I study?

If you are interested in it, you can study it. With the support of our EPQ coordinator, you will pursue an idea for which you have a passion. If you want to pursue a career in medicine, you might decide to write a research article analysing the difficulties associated with management of the NHS. If you are fascinated by current affairs, you could choose to report on the way news is delivered and the effect that different platforms have on the way we consume news. If you are intrigued by military history and defence you could explore the role of nuclear weapons in contemporary international affairs. The only real limit is your imagination and enthusiasm.

When will I study my EPQ?

The EPQ will normally be completed in twelve months, starting in October of Year 12. Students will be taught key skills to help them with their project including: project management; research; presentation and referencing.



"I based my EPQ around my aspiration to become a teacher which has given me greater understanding on issues in Education and helped me confirm my decision on what to study at University."

Former Willink Student

"Not only is an EPQ a great opportunity to explore a subject of interest in greater detail but a means to developing key research skills"

Michael, Year 13

Helping You Achieve

www.willinkschool.org.uk

Our size is our strength, we know and understand how to support each of our students. Our support comes in many guises: expert subject teachers delivering academic excellence; the tutor team offering guidance across all areas of school life; the UCAS coordinator ensuring each student has the best possible application; the careers advisor helping people to find apprenticeships and jobs; our pastoral support team offering time and advice to those who need it.

Your subject teachers will discuss your work with you and help you to set targets for the future. Every year, you will attend Parents' Evening, to discuss your academic progress with subject staff and your parents/carers.

"The opportunities offered at Sixth-form have hugely benefited my experience and skills, making it a lot easier to apply for university. Even when work experience was difficult to get during lockdown, I was able to work closely with professional companies through an award scheme." Megan, Year 13

Your tutor will spend time with you both informally during the morning tutor session and formally in the weekly tutor period. They will have an overview of your performance, confidence and happiness across all areas of school life. When needed, the Head of Sixth Form will arrange individually tailored interventions.

"The support I received from Mrs Lake and the sixth form staff was incredibly helpful and allowed me to feel confident within my application to university. I gained great feedback for my personal statement and overall, I felt the application process was easy with the help I had."

Alice, Year 13

You will explore Unifrog (a platform delivering information about Universities and Apprenticeships) in guided sessions to ensure you make informed choices about your future. You will also benefit from tutor-led sessions on UCAS applications. Each student's application is supported by references from their tutor and subject teachers. It is brought together by our UCAS Coordinator. We support students engaged in early entry programmes for Oxbridge and Medical Science qualifications.

"When I first started in Sixth Form I was anxious about working in small groups. Mrs Downey has given me the confidence to speak up"

Year 13 student

Our Careers Leader, Ms Desai, runs a **Careers Programme** to match your needs including guidance on apprenticeships, work experience and business mentoring. Any member of the Sixth Form is able to book a one to one Careers Guidance Interview with Ms Desai.



We are proud of our excellent **pastoral system** in school. The Sixth Form has its own mentors who can work independently from, or in conjunction with, the pastoral team in Key Stages 3 and 4.

You access support in the way that suits you. Many students drop into the Sixth Form office for a chat from time to time, others arrange appointments to focus on specific issues when the need arises and some enjoy regular scheduled sessions. We take care to make sure any new students have access to the pastoral team and are supported as they transition into The Willink.

A Level Results

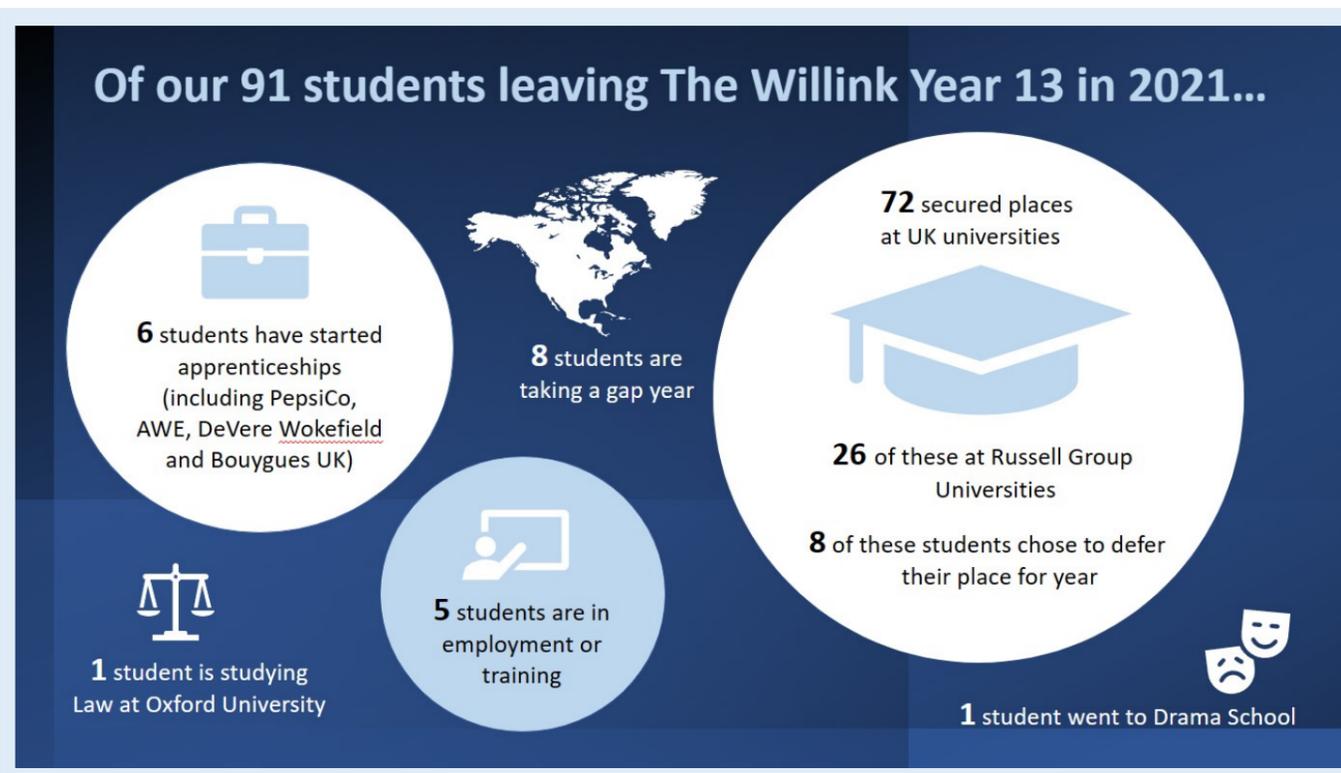
www.willinkschool.org.uk

At the Willink, we are proud of our record of student achievement. We constantly aspire to improve outcomes for our students by a combination of internal workshops, collaboration with other local schools and attendance at national conferences.

Willink School	A*/A	A*/B	A*/C
Three-Year Average	33%	60%	82%
2021	47%	73%	89%
2020	36%	64%	84%
2019	16%	42%	73%

Destinations Overview

Year 13 students who left us in 2021 went on to:



Destinations 2021 Leavers

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University Courses

Bath	Physics with Astrophysics Sport & Exercise Science	Manchester	Cognitive Neuroscience & Psychology Civil Engineering
Bath Spa	Creative Music Technology Film, TV & Digital Production	Manchester Metropolitan	Sport & Exercise Science
Birmingham	Psychology	Newcastle	Combined Honours
Birmingham (UC)	Baking & Patisserie Technology	Nottingham Trent	Games Technology
Bournemouth	Sociology & Criminology Media Production	Oxford	Law
	Business & Management	Oxford Brookes	Motorsport Engineering
Bristol UWE	Physiotherapy Filmmaking Creative Music Technology Accounting & Finance Forensic Science English Literature with Writing History Philosophy	Reading	Psychology Speech & Language Therapy Law
	Mechanical & Electrical Engineering Psychology Engineering Design	Roehampton	Law
Bristol	English Language & Linguistics Mechanical Engineering	Royal Holloway	Mathematics with Spanish Film, TV & Digital Production
Cardiff	Physiotherapy Media & Communications Chemistry Physiotherapy Medicine Zoology Computer Science	Royal Veterinary College	Bioveterinary Sciences
Chichester	Physiotherapy	Solent	Sports Journalism Live Event Technology Computer Games Technology
Coventry	Media & Communications		Physiotherapy
Durham	Chemistry	Southampton	Aeronautics & Astronautics Physics Law with Psychology
East Anglia	Physiotherapy		Fashion Marketing with Marketing Modern History & Politics
Exeter	Medicine Zoology Computer Science	Sparsholt	Applied Zoo Science
	Forensic Science	Surrey	Veterinary Biosciences Nursing Studies Law Economics
Kent	Forensic Science		Accounting & Finance Physics with Astrophysics
Lancaster	Mechanical Engineering	Sussex	Accounting & Finance Physics with Astrophysics
Leeds Conservatoire	Acting		Geography
Liverpool	Physics & Mathematics	University College London	Geography
Liverpool John Moores	Sport & Exercise Science	UWTSD	Education Studies: Primary
Loughborough	Product Design Engineering Sport & Exercise Science Design Accounting & Financial Management	Warwick	Politics & International Studies
		Winchester	Forensic Investigation Public Relations & Journalism
		Worcester	Sport & Exercise Psychology
		York	Sport & Exercise Psychology History & Politics English Language & Linguistics Law Chemistry

Apprenticeships

A number of students have taken up successful placements in employment and training with companies such as Bouygues Energies & Services and Specsavers. Others have started apprenticeships with AWE (Technical Authorship), PepsiCo (Supply Chain Management), DeVere Wokefield (Emerging Leader/Management) and Trinity School Newbury (SEN Teaching Assistant).

We wish them all every possible success

Subject Combinations A-C

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When choosing a course it is essential that you choose subjects which you enjoy and which interest you.

This guide is for general advice only and does not replace specific research for the courses in which you are interested. Universities are happy to take calls on queries about course combinations and have detailed information on their websites.

University Course or Career	Suggested subject combination at A Level	Notes
Accountancy	Maths, Business Studies or Economics with one other, but any combination is permitted.	Accountancy degree course provides exemption from 'foundation' accountancy exams, but is not necessary to enter the profession.
Administration, the Civil Service etc.	Almost any combination but subjects include English, History, Economics, Geography, Government and Politics and a Foreign Language, or two languages for overseas work and some diplomatic work, but Sciences for Scientific Branch careers.	Good class of degree needed to enter Diplomatic Service, which has a very competitive entry.
Agriculture, Agricultural Research, Land Surveyor	Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics, Geography.	
Architecture	Art usually recommended, though not always vital, but drawing experience and skills necessary. Maths very useful. English or Modern Languages and Physics all valuable. Also Design, History and Business Studies.	Must have GCSE Maths. Compilation of a portfolio is essential for entrance to most Architecture courses.
Banking, Finance, Insurance	Business Studies or Economics. Maths and a Language is very useful.	Finance and Banking degree courses available, but not mandatory for careers in this area.
Biochemistry, Zoology, Botany, Marine Biology, Micro-Biology, Biology, Bio-Medical Sciences	Chemistry, Maths and Biology desirable. Some courses emphasise Biology, some Chemistry. The most competitive demand strong mathematics.	Some of the most competitive courses welcome Mathematics at A-Level. For most Maths AS is sufficient but for Oxbridge A-Level is advantageous
Business Studies	GCSE Maths is essential and A-Level Maths would be an advantage. Languages strongly recommended.	More and more universities are offering combined courses in Business Studies and Languages; in some cases a language at A-Level is a condition of entry.
Chartered Surveyor	Geography, Maths, Economics, Art and Design.	
Chemistry	Chemistry, Maths, Physics or Biology.	Oxbridge applicants should have Maths at A-Level
Computer Science, Statistics, Numerical Analysis	Maths, Physics and a science / computer science as a third subject.	Good A-Level grades required for entry to popular degree course.

Subject Combinations D-M

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Design	Design Technology, plus Maths, Physics (engineering side) or Maths, Business Studies (commercial management side). Art if committed to a career in 'artistic' Design.	A portfolio of relevant art, drawing or design work should be developed especially if considering graphic/fashion/interior design.
Economics	Maths, Economics or Business Studies, indeed any combination of Art or science subjects. It is not always essential to have A-Level Economics (many universities now offer introductory courses). Most demand A-Level Maths, or perhaps Maths AS-Level, others require evidence of a strong GCSE performance.	For Oxbridge and other leading Economics courses, Maths at A-Level is needed and for PPE course at Oxford Maths AS or A-Level can be advantageous.
Engineering	Physics and Maths essential for the vast majority of universities. Design is useful, so is Economics, Electronics, Business Studies and a Language.	Maths or Further Maths A-Level is expected for Oxbridge entry.
English, Drama, English and Drama	English and a Foreign or Classical language or Classical Civilisation or History	Single Honours English is always more competitive for entry to university than English combined with one or more other subjects. Drama or English and Drama can be very competitive.
Fine Art	Art, English or any combination	Completion of Foundation Course needed as precondition of entry to degree course.
Geography (art emphasis)	Geography, History Economics, Business Studies, English, Language, Art, one Science.	Slightly higher entry standards for Geography BA than for Geography BSc degree courses.
Geography (science emphasis)	Geography, Maths or Physics, Biology or Chemistry.	A wide variety of careers available with a Geography degree.
Geology	Two sciences and/or Maths.	
History	History, Languages, English or Economics.	An A-Level Language is not essential to read History but is helpful, especially for Oxford. A wide variety of careers are available with a History degree.
History of Art	Art, History, English; a modern and/or classical language.	
Journalism	English and a Foreign language, but any combination of subjects will do.	There are degree courses in Journalism, but entry to them is very competitive and work experience is almost a precondition of admission.
Law	Any combination, though History, Maths, English, Government and Politics and/or Economics are useful. For Patent Law add a Science. (Art is not recognised as an entry qualification for Law School).	At Cambridge, Law (part 2) via Modern Languages or Classics (part 1) is popular. Law graduates need one year postgraduate study; non-law graduates, two years.
Management Studies, Management Science	Maths, Economics or Business Studies.	Courses at university may overlap greatly in content with Business Studies courses.

Subject Combinations M-P

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Materials Science, Metallurgy	Chemistry, Physics and Maths. Design is useful.	
Maths, Maths with Physics, Theoretical Physics	Maths, Physics and a third.	Maths at A-Level or Further Maths, especially for Oxbridge.
Media and Communication Studies	Any combination but an essay-based subject is useful.	Successful entry into the very competitive job market of journalism and broadcasting cannot be guaranteed with this qualification. Work experience in this area absolutely essential.
Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry	Chemistry and Biology. Some medical schools like a non-science subject at A-Level. A good level of Maths is also important.	The minimum standard entry for Medicine depends on the university but is usually AAA* points or more; the same for Dentistry. For Veterinary Science work experience is essential. Interview most important!
Modern Languages (degree) not including Oriental Language	French, German Spanish (any two) and English, History, Geography, Business, Art.	One modern language may be enough for a language degree and a single language is often combined with other subjects at university. Business Studies with a language is one of the fastest growing courses at universities. But two languages at A-Level widens the choice.
Music	Music A-Level and / or practical music skills (grade 8 on more than one instruments).	Practical music through Academies; Musicology at universities. Many combined courses, e.g. Music with German available.
Natural Sciences	Maths and two of Chemistry, Physics and Biology.	Maths or Further Maths A-Level is expected for Oxbridge entry. Physics and Chemistry routes applications must also study Maths A-Level. For the Biological route, Maths AS may suffice, but A-Level is recommended.
Nursing / Midwifery	At least one science from Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, Sociology, Applied Science	Work experience an advantage.
Pharmacy	Chemistry, another Science.	Pharmacists must have a degree in Pharmacy from an approved School of Pharmacy.
Physics, Applied Physics, Mathematical Physics	Physics and Maths plus one other (Economics, Business Studies, Chemistry, Biology, Further Maths).	
Physiotherapy	A biological science must be studied (Biology or PE)	Check universities for whether both are needed. Competitive courses to get on to, work experience an advantage.

Subject Combinations P-T

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Politics and International Relations	Any combination of social science, humanities or science subjects. Politics at A-Level not a requirement.	Universities often offer joint honours courses including Politics (such as Politics & Law or Politics & Sociology) that sometimes have a slightly lower grade requirement.
Psychology	No particular subjects required though the inclusion of a science subject or Maths is advantageous.	Approved Psychology degree recognised by BPS necessary, if wanting a career in Psychology. Competitive entry. Work experience very useful.
Sports Science / Therapy / Psychology	Two sciences from Biology, Chemistry, PE, Psychology	Work experience is an advantage and can lead to careers in professional sport.
Teaching	English, a science, Maths i.e. a National Curriculum subject if interested in primary teaching).	For Secondary teaching a degree the same as or at least containing the teaching subject is necessary, i.e. choose a degree at least some of the content of which is directly relevant to secondary education.
Theology and Religious Studies	Preferably an Arts course including English or History or both,	



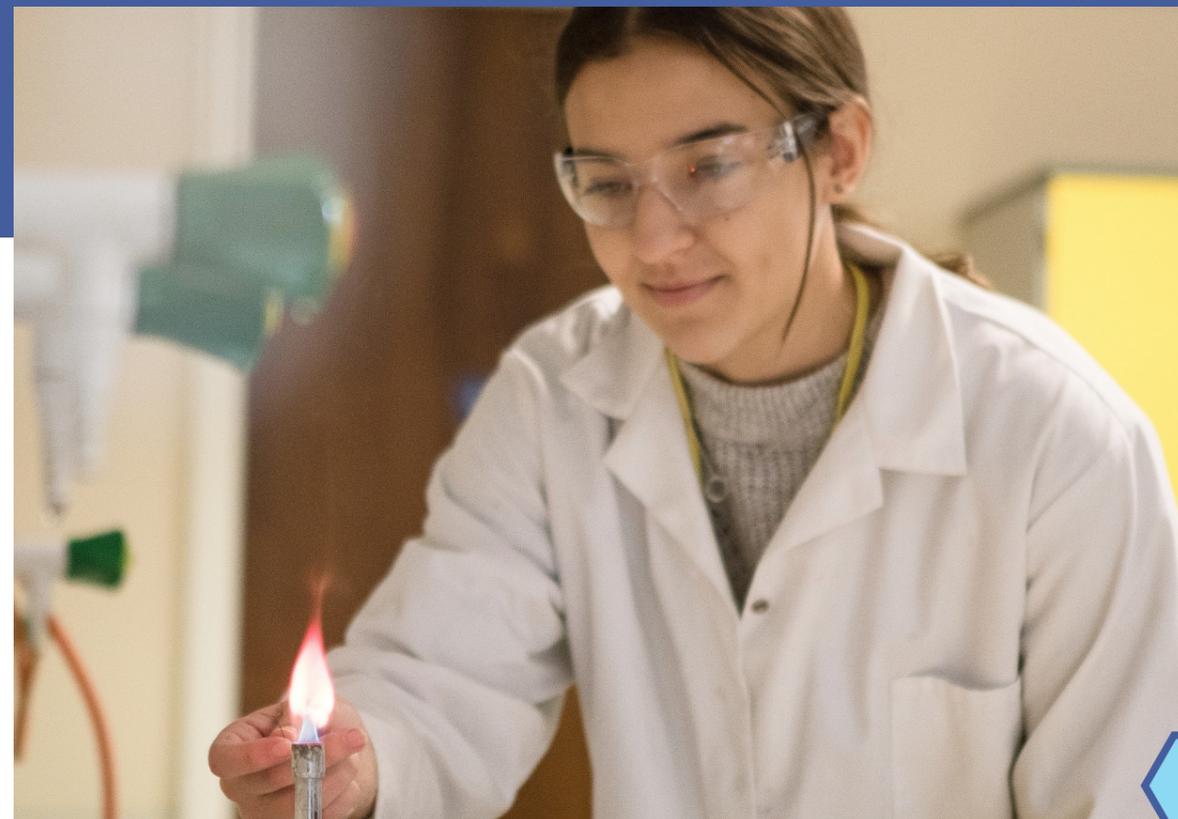
Applied Science BTEC

If you enjoy Science and would like to continue developing your scientific practical and research skills this is the course for you. It covers a wide range of topics in all three Sciences.

The skills you will develop in the course include organisation, self-assessment and problem-solving, and the ability to interpret data all of which will be needed as you continue your education after school. Students enjoy discovering the connection between the theory and practical and real-world applications of what they learn.

The combination of exams and coursework is great for showing the full extent of your knowledge.

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners. We do a lot of practical work in lessons introducing you to a variety of different scientific equipment. This practical approach allows Applied Science learners to develop and apply the knowledge and skills that employers and universities are looking for.



Assessments

Year 12: Unit 1 External Exams: 3 papers: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The papers will include a range of question types, including multiple choice, calculations, short answer and open response. Unit 2 Internally assessed and externally moderated: Portfolio of practical investigations written up as assignments.

Year 13 : Unit 3 External practical exam split into two sections Section A: 3 hour practical exam, Section B 1 1/2 hour written paper. Unit 8 Internally assessed and externally moderated: Portfolio of research assignments.



"You learn about all three sciences, rather than just one. The coursework lets me do my own research"

Rachel Year 13

To support your independence, you will have access to 2 textbooks and online digital resources. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCs on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus.

The Course

First Year

Unit 1 is a combination of all three Sciences allowing you to extend your knowledge from GCSE.

Unit 2 introduces you to standard laboratory equipment and techniques. You will develop proficiency in the quantitative analytical techniques.

Second Year

Unit 3 will develop the essential skills underpinning practical scientific investigations.

4th Unit (Unit 8) focuses on three body systems: musculoskeletal, lymphatic and digestive.

Where to next: You may also choose to go into Higher Education via a BTEC Higher National Certificate or Higher National Diploma before progressing to a full degree. The qualification is well regarded and accepted to help you gain entry into university or apprenticeships.

What skills do I gain?

research
problem solving
analysis
teamwork
communication

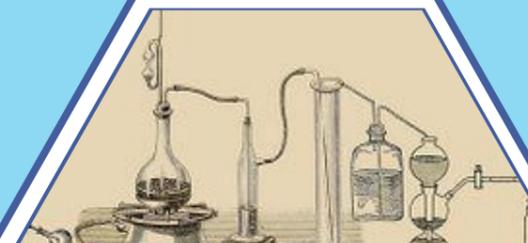
Rachel, Year 13

Studying: Applied Science, PE, Psychology and Digital Media.

Next Stop: Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy

Loves: sport, plays netball for her club team.

The study of Applied Science opens up exciting **career possibilities**. From Research scientist to Forensic criminologists, Lab Technicians to Health Professionals. Applied Science is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers.



GCSE

5, 4 in Combined Science or if taking separate sciences 5 and 4 in two of your three sciences. It is preferable that you have taken the higher paper in Science.

Art & Design

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Art and Design is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects. Art and Design is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

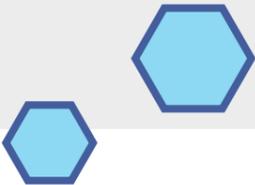
This is a broad-based course exploring practical, critical and contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and media. Art, craft and design gives you the skills and knowledge to create personal and imaginative work. You can choose to focus on a specialist area of study from a variety of exciting processes and media to suit your individual interests and abilities.

In our lessons there are opportunities to explore a range of techniques and processes within the various disciplines of Art and Design such as clay, textiles, painting, drawing, photography and 3D design. Lessons will combine group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercises and challenges.



Assessments

Component 1: 60% of the total A Level marks. This is an investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material.
Component 2: 40% Personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points which will count for 40% of your total A-level marks



"Art A level allows me to experience different techniques, to push me out my comfort zone. Coming from a textiles point of view I've been able to collaborate both textiles and other media together."

Amber, Year 13

"The community feel between the students helps us to gain inspiration."

Emily, Year 13

To support your independence, we will use student handbooks to guide you through modules and workshops, exercises to try and visits to galleries, museums and educational talks. Students come along to our weekly drop-in sessions to receive personalised support from our teachers.

Art A Level can lead to degree opportunities and careers ranging from painting portraits to producing exotic fashion costumes or designing futuristic architecture. 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. The A level is a practical course in which you learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative personal work. You will find out about a whole range of media, techniques and processes. You will develop your creativity and independent thought, learn to express yourself visually and let your imagination flourish. Art and design is a great companion to all other subjects as creativity, imagination and problem-solving are skills needed in all forms of study.



"The facilities for art at Sixth Form here are great. The Sixth Form Art Studio gives us lots of space to work, and inspiration to get our creative juices flowing!"

Erin, Year 13



Erin, Year 13

Studying: Art, German, Maths and Further Maths

Next Stop: Art or Maths at University

Loves: All forms of art, makes things in her spare time

Where to next?

Architecture, Art conservation, Art history, Art therapy, Fashion design, Film/video production, Fine art, Graphic design, Illustration, Interior design, Jewellery design, Photography, Product design, Textile design, Theatre design, Three-dimensional design, Web design.

Biology

A journey from molecule to ecosystem and everything in between! You will gain an appreciation of how organisms (including humans) work, how we evolved, the factors that can impact our health and how we can improve it. Whether you want to find out how to feed the planet or fight a global pandemic, Biology is the subject for you. You will gain many skills such as research, analysis and effective communication. Biology is a varied and interesting course.

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners. We do group work, discussions, exam question practice and it wouldn't be Biology without some card sorts and video clips! We also do practical work which will contribute to your Practical Endorsement Qualification.

Biology is the study of life and living processes. We cover a number of varied topics across the 2 years:

The molecular structure of key cellular components and how they interact within a cell. The structure of the cell and how cells are organised within an organism. How materials are transported and exchanged. The factors that affect human health and how the body responds to disease.

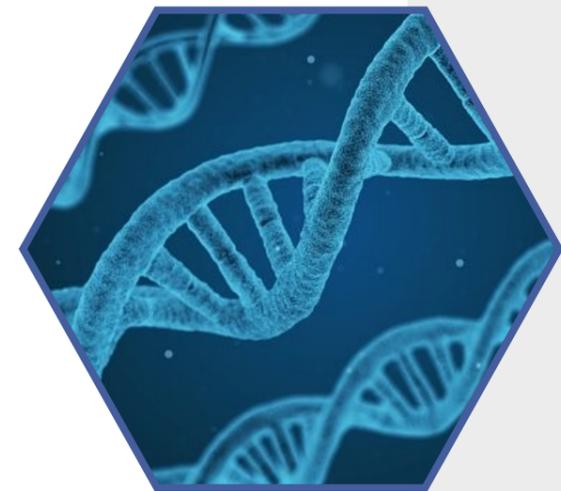
In year 13 we study the genetic basis of inheritance and how the body responds to change (both internal and external). We look at biodiversity, populations and sustainability and energy transfers (at a cellular level and within an ecosystem). We also cover modern scientific principles such as manipulating genomes and cloning.

As well these key biological principles you will have the opportunity to develop your practical experimentation skills and learn how to interpret and evaluate data. The skills and knowledge taught in Biology will prepare you for university, the workplace and beyond.

The study of Biology opens up exciting career possibilities. From conservation to cancer research, biologists are tackling important 21st century challenges. Biology is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers, thanks to the skills it provides such as research, problem solving and analysis, alongside teamwork and communication. Universities and employers regard all of these very highly.

"The lessons are always varied and the teachers explain things really clearly. We get to do lots of practical's which helps to deepen our understanding."

Tom, Year 12



You will have plenty structured, independent work using our online learning platform, Kerboodle, and textbooks.

There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCs on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.

GCSE

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Biology and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.



Assessments

AS Level

2 papers covering:
Development of Practical skills.
Foundations in Biology (the cell).
Exchange and Transport.
Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease.

A Level

3 papers covering:
The AS content plus:
Communications, Homeostasis and Energy. Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems.

Biology A Level also includes a Practical endorsement (Pass/Fail). There is no coursework for this subject. We follow the OCR A syllabus.

Niamh

Studying: Biology, Chemistry and Psychology

Next Stop: University to study Psychology or something in health/medicine

Loves: Playing the piano and learning new languages

Where to next?

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Pharmacology, Physiology, Sport Science, Psychology, Biotechnology, Zoology, Marine Biology, Agriculture, Environmental Science and many more.

"The structured independent study and regular feedback helps me to feel well prepared for all assessments"

Niamh, Year 12



Business Studies



Business will help you develop a variety of skills including problem solving, decision making, managing your own learning, using numerical techniques with confidence, working with others, judgment, and evaluation. By studying Business, you will find answers to these, and many other questions:

- How will businesses be impacted by 'Brexit'? and 'Covid-19'?
- What difference is modern technology making to working patterns?
- What makes a successful business?
- How are business people meeting the challenges of globalisation and competition?

Above all, studying business studies allows students to understand how businesses make decisions and why these are made.

The course introduces you to all you need to know about working in business, providing a solid foundation for further study. With a focus on helping you to become a good decision maker, you'll learn essential managerial skills, alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. These skills are all highly sought after and valued in a wide range of careers.

In our lessons subject experts deliver current and topical business issues. Lessons involve class discussions of real-world stimulus material and research exercises, role-play and presentations to the class, individual problem solving and the study of developing effective exam practice working on past papers.

Assessment

The course follows the AQA syllabus, all three papers cover the same topics, What is a business? Leadership and decision making; Marketing, Operational, and Financial performance; Human; Strategic position; Direction methods and how to manage strategic change.

Paper 1:
15 Multiple choice questions
Short answer questions
2 essays

Paper 2:
3 data response questions (made up of 3 or 4 part questions)

Paper 3:
1 case study with 6 questions

"I've really enjoyed getting to know the business world in more detail and would highly recommend the subject for anyone who wants to continue business in their future"

Tom, Year 13



Business Studies CTEC



The most important thing you need in order to take a vocational qualification in Business is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in Business, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively, whilst sticking to deadlines. You will develop transferable skills that are valued by HE and employers such as communication, planning, teamwork, research, analysis.

The course will give you hands-on experience and can focus on specific topics such as Human Resources, Marketing, Accounting and Business Planning. You will take five units: three of which are mandatory and they are: The Business Environment, Working in Business, Customers and Communication. For the other two units, you choose from a wide range giving you the opportunity to take a

In our lessons dedicated subject specialists deliver first-class lessons designed to engage and enthuse all pupils. Teaching time involves a wide variety of teaching, including group work, presentations, and individual assignments.

Assessment

In Year 1, you will study and be examined on two of the compulsory units (The Business Environment and Working in Business). If you take this course for one year only, the exam could lead to an award of the Cambridge Technical Certificate in Business (equivalent to half an A level for UCAS points).

In Year 2, you will build on this knowledge studying the third mandatory unit (customers and communication) and two more units that you will choose. You will complete your own project covering the three units of study. The work is graded, pass, merit or distinction and distinction* and it is the combination of the marks for all units taken that will determine the overall grade. Successful completion of five units leads to the Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Business (equivalent to one A level).

"The CTEC Business course is huge fun to teach; it's a great qualification for anyone who wishes to follow a career in business, whether they are a vocational or an academic learner. People with CTEC Business will be very well qualified for full time Apprenticeships or employment in a range of companies"

Mr Stark



Students develop transferable skills that are valued by HE and employers such as communication, planning, teamwork, research, and analysis. The independent learner would excel in this course as there is a wealth of real-life scenarios all around us in the business world.

Next steps:

Higher Education, such as Business, Business Management, Marketing, Business and Finance, Business and Economics and Accounting

Career Choices:

Marketing, Project Management, Accountancy, Human Resources, Banking, Retail Management.

GCSE

Grade 5 Maths and English Language.

GCSE

Grade 4 Maths and English

Chemistry



Atoms, molecules and the manufacture of absolutely everything!! You will gain an appreciation of how molecules are made up, work and interact with each other. You will: Explore a huge variety of chemical reactions from coating glass with a silver mirror to separating amino acids by Chromatography. Identify unknown substances by chemical analysis and synthesise organic molecules such as esters and aspirin. Gain many skills such as research, analysis and effective communication.

Foundations in Chemistry provides a bridge into AS Chemistry and explores atomic structure, electron orbital theory, moles and the shapes of molecules. We look at patterns in the Periodic Table, enthalpy changes, entropy and rates of reaction. The Organic module covers a range of different functional groups and spectroscopic analysis, which provides an insight into Forensic Science. In Year 2 we introduce aromatic chemistry and a wider range of functional groups and analytical techniques. This leads to developing a variety of synthetic routes for designing organic molecules for use in medicine and industrial processes. We also study Physical Chemistry, to include the reactions of acids and the importance of buffers in living systems. Transition elements and Redox reactions form the basis of colour chemistry and research into hydrogen fuel cells and fuel cell vehicles.

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners. We do group work, discussions, exam question practice, treasure hunts, competitions and lots of practical work, which will contribute to your Practical Endorsement Qualification.

Assessment

You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

AS Two papers worth 50% each, covering:
Foundation Chemistry
Periodic Table and Energy
Core Organic Chemistry

A2 Three papers:

Paper 1: Periodic Table, Elements and Physical chemistry (worth 37%)
Paper 2: Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (worth 37%)
Paper 3: Unified Chemistry (worth 26%)

A level Practical endorsement (Pass/Fail). There is no coursework for this subject.
We follow the OCR A syllabus for Chemistry.

Where next?

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Chemical engineering, Material Science, Quality control, Fuels technician, Research Scientist, Agriculture, Environmental Science, Analytical Chemist, Forensic Science

Studying Chemistry opens up exciting career possibilities. Chemists are always at the forefront of innovation.

"Chemistry can be difficult at times but it is a very rewarding subject.."

Andrea, Year 13



GCSE

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Chemistry and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.

Computer Science



Now more than ever, the central and key enabling role of technology is drawn into keen focus. A good grade in Computer Science at A Level is valued by universities and employers. You will have demonstrated strong analytical thinking and problem-solving skills. This course is also a stepping-stone to study Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or related subjects in higher education. This is a practical and theoretical subject, looking at the natural world through a digital prism. Students develop computational thinking skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence. They also enhance their knowledge of algorithms, data representation and logic, as well as considering the risks and opportunities posed by digital technology.

Subject specialists deliver a mixture of unplugged theory lessons, teacher-led discussions and hands-on coding and computational challenges. You will develop the ability to:

- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically;
- Apply skills in and an understanding of computing (including programming) in a range of contexts to solve problems;
- Delve into producing graphical user interfaces and object-orientated programming solutions.

Assessment

A Level Computer Science is assessed through two written exams; each of which lasts for 2 hours 30 minutes (140 marks, 40% of the overall grade) and a Programming Project (worth 20% of the overall grade). The awarding body is OCR.

Paper 1: Component 1, Computer Systems.

Paper 2: Component 2, Algorithms and programming.

Coursework: Component 3, Programming project, no time restriction.

A lot of scientific problems, engineering challenges, health care & medical research, and business issues in general can be solved efficiently and effectively with computer based solutions.

"The world is heading more and more towards digital technologies, so A-level Computer Science is one of the best courses to take if you'd like access to a huge array of job opportunities."

Jasper, Year 13

To support your independence we use a blend of teacher-led discussion, theory lessons, independent research (guided through worksheets and challenge questions) online learning from Isaac Computing Computer Science, and an open source ethos allowing you to use any programming language that meets the needs of the course.

GCSE

Grade 5 Maths, it would be an advantage to have studied Computer Science GCSE and secured a grade 5.



Criminology Diploma



Criminology is fascinating, rewarding and helps you to develop a range of skills. The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology not only develops your awareness of the function and workings of the Criminal Justice System, but it also provides insight in to the theoretical and practical nature and consequence of crime. If you are interested in studying a contemporary, topical and often controversial subject, then Criminology is for you!

This exciting and multidisciplinary course will encourage a deep, extensive understanding of how changes in technology and media contribute to the creation of new and stereotypical views of crime. We will explore the behavioural reasons for crime as well as the range of techniques and strategies used to deal with and punish criminal behaviour. As part of the course we will also consider the rationale and effectiveness of social policy.

The course is made up of four units which, combined, make up the Level 3 Diploma qualification in Criminology:

Unit 1 - Changing Awareness of Crime, which includes material on different types and perception of crime.

Unit 2 - Criminological Theories, which includes views on criminal and deviant behaviour and theoretical understanding of such behaviours.

Unit 3 - Crime Scene to Courtroom, which helps students to gain a detailed understanding of how the criminal justice system operates.

Unit 4 - Crime and Punishment, which includes work on the link between social control and policy.

In our lessons Criminology is taught in a variety of interactive ways, ranging from teacher led presentations through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.

Assessment

We will follow the Eduqas specification.

50% controlled assessment (units 1 and 3: 8 hours in total for each unit)

50% exam (units 2 and 4: 1.5 hours for each unit) .



To support your independence we encourage wider reading around the subject. We also set a variety skills based practice questions and/or booklets on all topics covered, as well as draw upon connections from the real world.

Further Study:

Criminology, Psychology, Sociology. Law, Social Policy, Forensics, Politics

"Criminology is an excellent choice as it broadens your understanding and is extremely informative about the society in which we live."

Daniel, Year 12

The world beyond:

Many who have studied Criminology work for the Police, Prison Services, National Probation Service, Legal Services, Youth Work & Social Work.

"A Level Drama is the most fun I've ever had at school and has given me a platform to creatively challenge my knowledge of theatre."

Luca, Year 13

The world beyond

Careers in the Performing Arts Industry, Drama in education or therapy; work in any fields where presentation skills or interaction with the public are highly valued (Law, Politics, PR ...)

GCSE Grade 4 English.

Drama & Theatre



A Level Drama & Theatre is an engaging and diverse course that develops your creative thinking, problem-solving and leadership skills. It challenges you to experience new things, build your confidence in public speaking and takes you out of your comfort zone; all of which builds resilience and makes you more able to face the world on your own terms.

In the course you focus on the work of:

- the actor: finding the truth in a performance and communicating character, emotion and plot
- the theatre designers: how they contribute to atmosphere, audience understanding and experiences
- the theatre director: how they create a production concept, developing the work throughout rehearsal and working closely with all creatives to bring their ideas to the stage.

Throughout all of these exploration you will work in all of those roles and discover the style that works best for you, your group and the theatre you are creating.

Through the analyses of Live Theatre, both on trips and through streaming services you will discover creative solutions to staging and performance and use these ideas to create engaging and inspiring productions.

Assessments

Component One 20% of A Level: the reinterpretation of a text extract in the style of a theatre practitioner accompanied by your own Creative Log.

Component Two 40% of A Level: the creation of two performances and process logs in response to a stimulus set by Eduqas - one devised and one scripted piece.

Component Three 40%: a written exam based on two set texts from different time periods and an extract from the play "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time".

To support your independence we set a range of tasks that deepen your understanding of theatre, researching practitioners, watching 'live theatre', writing scripts and rehearsal outside formal lesson time.

Our drama experts will lead you through a range of practical workshops and seminar-style lessons. Your teacher who will act as a critical friend while you develop your ideas. Group work and individual presentations complement the essay writing and analytical tasks.



GCSE Grade 5 Drama.

Economics



In Economics you will look at how people decide to use the scarce resources available to us to satisfy our unlimited demands. You'll look at issues like employment, international trade and poverty. You'll consider the decisions you make as a family and how the government and firms create structures for society. Economics is a subject that features lots of lively debate and allows you to draw your own conclusions and opinions about the decisions made. It is challenging but fascinating.

The course is 100% examined. Economics is split into two core concepts: - Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Microeconomics is the study of the individual or company - this involves considering the impact of individual economic decision making and how companies compete using price determination and the concerns around monopoly - where companies control an entire industry or commodity. There is also a consideration of how far governments should intervene in this process. Macroeconomics is about the economy in the wider world - considering how different financial markets coexist and compete and look at the wider international economy. You'll consider the role of government in taxing and distributing the revenue gained as well as looking at supply and demand.

In lessons you will be encouraged to think for yourselves about the decisions made in the wider world. You'll be provided with a variety of different question types, including data analysis and debating.

Assessment is linear. You will sit three examinations at the end of the course. Each paper lasts for 2 hours and is equally weighted.

A Level Exams:

Paper 1: Markets and market failure, including a 40 mark data response section and a 40 mark essay question.

Paper 2: National and international economy, including a 40 mark data response and a 40 mark essay question.

Paper 3: Economic principles and issues, including a 30 mark multiple choice section and a case study section worth 50 marks, drawing together your knowledge of micro and macroeconomics.

"Economics is truly an enjoyable and fascinating subject, it provides you with a real understanding of how economies function, from individual businesses to national governments. I have greatly developed my ability to assess and evaluate current issues through studying this subject, and this has proved invaluable to me outside of my academic studies."

Former Student

To support your independence, we subscribe to the Economics Review magazine. Tutor2U also provides excellent supporting resources.

Where to next::
University - Economics, Maths, Politics, Business Studies
Apprenticeships - Banking, Accountancy

The world beyond:
Management
Accountancy, Analysis,
Credit analyst,
Banking, Accounting,



GCSE Grade 5 Maths and English Language.

English Language



English Language is the fascinating study of Linguistics: how we write and speak. You'll be an investigative learner with an inquisitive mind as you seek answers to questions like: do men and women communicate differently? Is there a class divide in Britain? How do children learn to speak? Why is our English so different to Shakespeare's? Is there a right and wrong way to speak? How do the media use language to manipulate us? Your ability to ask probing questions and follow through with investigatory answers will make you attractive to universities and employers alike.

We follow the AQA Specification for A Level Language. The course is divided into three aspects: Language, the Individual and Society; Diversity and Change and Language in Action. **The Individual and Society** introduces methods of language analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. It also introduces the study of children's language development, exploring how children learn language and how they are able to understand and express themselves through language. In **Diversity and Change** we study the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode and explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts. This explores processes of language change but also social attitudes to, and debates about, language diversity and change. **Language in Action** is a Non-Examined Assessment folder (NEA) of creative writing in a chosen style and an in-depth linguistic investigation in an area of your choice.

Our teachers are linguistic specialists and teach through the medium of class-centred discussion and debate, interactive tasks that focus on group work, presentations and fun quizzes. Theory is taught through real-life contexts and knowledge is regularly assessed through class and homework essays.

What can I study at degree level?

Linguistics/Language, Publishing, Law, Media, Speech and Language, Psychology, Education, Marketing and Advertising, Digital Commerce.

Assessment

Assessment is a mixture of examination at the end of the two-year course and the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) folder.

Paper 1: Language, the individual and society (2 hours 30 mins.)
Section A: Representation and Meanings
Section B: Child Language Acquisition

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change (2 hours 30 mins.)
Section A: Diversity and Change
Section B: Language Discourses

NEA Folder: Language in Action
NEA 1: Original writing
NEA 2: Language Investigation

We use Seneca Learning to reinforce work done in class as well as independent tasks to complement current study. Towards exam season, focussed revision clinics are provided to boost confidence and practice exam technique. During the composition of the NEAs, individual tutorials and feedback sessions are offered.

The world beyond:

Teaching, Editor, Journalism, Copywriting, TEFL, Brand Manager, Speech and Language Therapy, Legal work and much more...

"The English Language course gives you a fascinating insight into how people use language and speak the way they do."

Year 12 Student

GCSE Grade 5 in either English Literature or English Language

English Literature

English literature is one of the most diverse and fascinating subjects to study at A level as it fosters skills in literacy, communication, history and social sciences. As a facilitating subject, an A level in English will make you more attractive to prospective employers as well as universities as you'll be able to communicate in writing and orally at the highest level. You will also be able to read and interpret complicated texts and disseminate information harvested from them to a range of audiences.

We follow the EDEXCEL Spec for A level Literature, divided into four separate components: **Drama, Prose, Poetry** and a **Non-Examined Assessment** (course work). The content of the course is flexible and offers teachers the ability to mould the selected texts around the interests and strengths of their groups. **Drama** consists of either comedy or tragedy, studying one Shakespeare text and one other play by a range of playwrights from various literary periods. Possible texts could include Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* or Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*. **Prose** focuses on comparing two novels from a multitude of texts under the banners of various headings including *Women and Society*, *Childhood* or *The Supernatural*. **Poetry** offers the opportunity to study a particular poetic movement or a named author from that period as well as an anthology of contemporary poetry. The **NEA** fosters a love of independent reading from outside the course in a comparison of two texts from any genre.



The course is taught through the medium of interactive discussions, group work, presentations, independent study tasks and class-based, as well as homework-based essays. You are encouraged to develop your love and opinions of literature with detailed feedback on how to communicate these in writing, as well as evaluate existing theoretical approaches and ideas.

Assessment

Assessments are by examination at the end of the two-year course and the NEA.

Drama Paper: 2 hours 15 minutes. 2 questions - 60 marks

Prose Paper: 1 hour 15 minutes. 1 question - 40 marks

Poetry Paper: 2 hours 15 minutes. 2 questions - 60 marks

You are encouraged to read around your set texts and will be given a range of independent learning tasks to complete in your focused-study time to complement your reading. Regular one-to-one guidance is given in the development of the NEA and regular revision clinics are held as exams approach.



Alina, Year 12

Studying
History, Politics, English Literature

Next step
University to study Law

Loves
Creative art, painting and drawing, swimming

"I love the variety of texts and it provides me a different perspective on life." Charlotte, Year 12

"English is compatible with so many subjects and helps me develop my analytical skills." Martha, Year 12

Where Next?

English, Language/ Linguistics, Law, Journalism, Creative Writing, Teaching,

The World Beyond:

Publishing, Communications Industry, Media, TEFL, Business Training and Consultancy, Hospitality, Management, Sales, Digital Copywriter and many more.

GCSE Grade 6 in either English Literature or English Language.

Film Studies



Cinema is about 125 years old and it is a medium that provides us with both intense feelings and a window on the world. Studying film enables you to see the world in a different light. You'll develop an excellent understanding of the history of cinema, from silent cinema to contemporary Hollywood. Film Studies students explore the processes behind film - the economic, technological, sociological and mental processes. In this course, you will be reflecting on how films conform to generic conventions, how far they make use of star systems and how they reflect national identity and culture.

We offer either the A Level or the AS Level - you would need to be sure about which path you are taking by Christmas as the coursework is slightly different for each path.

You'll explore the following topics; Hollywood 1930-1990. American film since 2005, British film since 1995 Global film, Documentary film, Silent Cinema and Experimental Film. The course will challenge you to take a keen interest in the development of film over time and will enable you to create your own short film or screenplay. You will also have an opportunity to evaluate your final piece of work.

Film choices need to be finalised but possibilities are: -

AS: Do The Right Thing, Winter's Bone, Shaun of the Dead, This is England, Some Like it Hot & Mustang.

A Level: All the above plus Selma, City of God, Stories We Tell, Sunrise and Pulp Fiction.

Assessments are linear and you will complete a coursework folder including either a short film or a screenplay plus a storyboard and an evaluative essay. The two exams are 35% of the course each.

A Level: Two exams, each lasting for two and a half hours, plus a non-exam assessment

AS Level: Two exams lasting one and a half hours each and a non-exam assessment

To support your independence, we provide students with a contents page and a book to create their own revision guides. Students also have access to a range of extra tasks to stretch them as well as access to Media Magazine to further their understanding of key concepts. We would also recommend that students read publications such as Sight and Sound and Empire.

"I chose to study film because it's a very influential media that's more complex than we realise. I find it fun and interesting to analyse films and understand why we react the way we do to them." Isobel, Year 12

In our lessons you will be taught by teachers who are passionate about the subject and keen to discuss the film industry. Students will be given opportunities to debate key ideas and respond to extracts from set texts.

The World Beyond: Editing, Producing, Directing, Film Critic, Journalist, Location Management, Production Design.

Where Next:

University - Film Studies, Media, Marketing, Journalism, Scriptwriting.



GCSE

Grade 5 in an English qualification would stand in you good stead for this course.

French



Learning French is more than just a boost to your CV or handy for travelling. It will make you smarter, more decisive and even better at English.

The course builds on your knowledge, understanding and skills gained in your language. 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. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where the language you study is spoken and language skills. Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater hindsight of the countries' culture.

In our lessons subject specialists with so much enthusiasm for their language will deliver well-paced lessons designed to meet the needs of all our pupils. Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers and speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants.

Assessments are linear, there is no coursework, you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

Paper 1 Listening Reading and Writing
Paper 2 Writing (essays on a French film and French novel)
Paper 3 Speaking

Your one to one sessions with our FLAs will give you an opportunity to gain confidence with your speaking. We track your progress and give you the confidence to achieve your next goal in your language.

Where Next ?

International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.

The world beyond
International import/export manager, EMEA trade positions, translator, teacher, immigration officer and any relevant jobs abroad using your English and language skills !

"Learning a Language unlocks a world of exciting possibilities whether that be travelling, working, or exploring culture. A Level Language is different to GCSE because you don't just learn the language, you learn the culture of the country and how they use the language in real life settings"

Charlotte, Year 13



GCSE

Grade 6 French.

Geography



So many of the world's current issues - at a global scale and locally - boil down to geography and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Global warming's impact on countries and regions, food and energy security, the degradation of land and soils from over-use and misuse, the spread of disease, the causes and consequences of migration, and the impacts of economic change on places and communities. These are just some of the challenges facing the next generation, which geographers must help solve.

Your A Level geography course will cover both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment. This is complex and dynamic and varies from place to place depending on people's resources, technology and culture. There is plenty of room for discussion and extended research which will help you become an independent thinker and learner.

You will learn in a wide variety of ways such as by using maps, GIS skills, data analysis, photos and videos. This will be undertaken in lessons, through fieldwork, and by yourself in independent study time both in the 6th Form as well as at home.

Assessments

Physical Systems - 22% of the A Level, 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. The inter-relationships between the land, oceans and atmosphere, understanding the processes, characteristics and impacts of those landscapes.

Human interactions - 22% of the A Level, 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. Investigate the actions, interactions and spatial patterns of people around the world, looking specifically at Human Rights and Migration as well as the changing shape of the places around us.

Geographical debates - 36% of the A Level, 2 hour 30 minutes written paper. Exploring the most challenging and fascinating issues facing the 21st century.

Investigative geography - 20% of the A Level, coursework project on an area of geography of your choice.

"A Level geography is a brilliant course and is very informative and enjoyable. I am so glad that I have chosen it because I have learnt lots about the world and how it works effectively. I would highly recommend it."

Ben, Year 12

Where to next?

Conservation, sustainability, environmental planning, town or transport planning, surveying, waste and water management, tourism, weather forecasting, research, law and business.

You will be encouraged to read around the subject in relevant news articles and academic journals.

The practical research skills geographers develop are highly sort after in many business sectors.



GCSE Grade 5 Geography. Consideration may be given to pupils who did not take GCSE.

German



Physiological studies have found that speaking two or more languages is a great asset to the cognitive process. The brains of bilingual people operate differently than single language speakers, and these differences offer several mental benefits. Here's a few examples :

- You build multitasking skills
- Your memory improves
- You become more perceptive
- Your decision-making skills improve
- You improve your English

German A Level 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. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of Germany. Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater hindsight of German culture.

In our lessons subject specialists with so much enthusiasm for their language will deliver well-paced lessons designed to meet the needs of all our pupils. Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers and speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants .

Assessments are linear, there is no coursework, you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

Paper 1 Listening Reading and Writing
Paper 2 Writing (essays on a German film and German novel)
Paper 3 Speaking

"The standard of teaching in Willink is super good throughout the school. Miss Taylor's love for German is unbeaten, she definitely knows her stuff when it comes to everything German from the vocab to grammar to culture"

Beth, Year 13

Where Next:
 International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.

The world beyond:
 International import/export manager, EMEA trade positions, translator, teacher, immigration officer and any relevant jobs abroad using your English and language skills !



GCSE Grade 6 German

History



History is the most valuable subject you can study in the current world. With lines being blurred between facts and opinions, and with so many debates based on the consequences of History, it is more important now than ever to have a strong understanding of the past and how it shapes our today. Furthermore, the skills learnt in History are highly sought after by employers and universities. Paramount are the skills of sorting through information and extracting the essential points which will reflect what you want to say. In addition to the analysis and evaluation which will become second nature. Finally, the modules we study for A-level reflect our purpose as a discipline.

The course is divided into three sections. For paper 1 we study the Crusades - this a breadth study covering 133 years and explores the rise and fall of the Crusader Kingdoms of Jerusalem. Imagine 'Game of Thrones', but real and fewer dragons. Paper 2 is a depth study of the Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007 looking at the political, social and foreign policies and how Britain changed during this period. The issues our current government face are completely rooted and shaped by the actions of the politicians that we study. In addition, the History we teach is your parents' lives! Also - Margaret Thatcher - she is like marmite - love or hate her. Section 3 is the coursework. You will become an expert on African-American Civil Rights. You will then produce a 4500 word essay on this topic. You will independently research and evaluate sources, a skill that students are so grateful for when they go to university.

We encourage students to create a revision guide of their own which reviews and builds on prior work. We provide extensive additional reading to stretch and deepen your understanding, from our extensive lending library. Furthermore, we run a 6th form History Help Hub to provide specific and targeted intervention where necessary.

In our lessons the teacher's passion for our subjects and topics shine through. There are lots of debates and discussions of the work we are undertaking.

Assessments

AS level exams:

Paper 1: 50% - Crusades 1 ½ hour exam (An extract question and one essay)
 Paper 2: 50% - Making of Modern Britain 1 ½ hour exam (A source question and one essay)

A level:

Paper 1: 40% - The Crusades 2 ½ hours exam (One extract based essay and 2 essays)
 Paper 2: 40% - The Making of Modern Britain 2 ½ hours exam (One source based essay and 2 essays)
 Coursework: 20% 4500 word essay.

The World Beyond:

Lawyer, Journalist, Business, Advertising, Marketing, Accountancy, Education, Publishing, Archaeologist, Archivist, Curator, Politics and Civil Service

Where to next?

History, Law, Journalism, Media, Politics, English, Geography, Economics, Medicine, Science, Accountancy

"I enjoy A Level History because it allows you to gain a deep understanding of some really useful eras. You also learn many transferable skills which will be incredibly useful in the future."

Jacob, Year 12

GCSE

Grade 5 History or Grade 5 English if you did not take History GCSE.

Mathematics



Maths is both fascinating and rewarding and will provide you with a varied set of skills (problem-solving, analytical, research, logic), which are indispensable to a very wide variety of careers. It will also enhance your enjoyment and performance in other maths-based subjects, as well as Engineering courses at university.

The Course is **2/3 Pure** and **1/3 Applied** (split evenly between Statistics and Mechanics). Each area is taught by experienced, and very enthusiastic, subject specialists. Pure Mathematics takes familiar topics to a new level, such as **Coordinate Geometry, Quadratics** and **Trigonometry**, and introduces fascinating new concepts, such as **Calculus**: the study of rates of change, important in all industrial optimisation processes, **Algebraic Methods**: Manipulating and solving higher order equations, **Logarithms**: the maths we use to understand biological populations; **Binomial Expansions**: how to expand brackets to the power of 10 or 1/2 or -3; Sequences and Series: ever wondered how mortgage payments and bank interest are really calculated?

In **Statistics**, you will study statistical sampling techniques and analyse large data sets and hypothesis testing using statistical distributions.

"Maths is a great subject to study at the Willink because it teaches you a wide range of skills and is really useful for the future. The teachers provide helpful resources and so much extra support during class and outside of school at maths aid to guide and help us."

Lili, Year 13

Assessments are linear, you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A-Level.

AS Level Exams:

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics, 2 hours, 100 marks.
Paper 2: Statistics and Mechanics, 1 hour 15 minutes, 60 marks.

A Level Exams:

Papers 1 and 2: Pure Mathematics
Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics

Where Next?

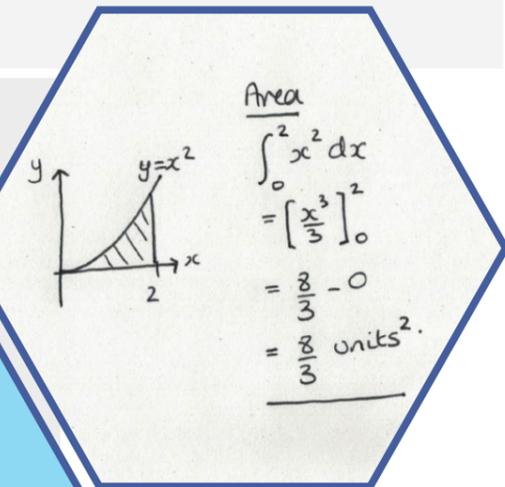
Mathematics, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Science, Engineering, Economics at University. Engineering, Accountancy apprenticeships
Leading to Accountancy, Banking, Analysis, Management Consultancy, Engineering, Architecture, Surveying, Teaching, Actuarial Work.

To support your independence we use an online learning platform equipped with walk-throughs, exercises to try, key points and section tests. Students come along to our weekly MathsAid drop-in sessions to receive focussed support from our Teachers.

In our lessons teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercise, challenges and exam practice.

"Maths has always been one of my favourite subjects. I like how there is a specific way to solve each problem. At A level it is split up into Pure, Statistics and Mechanics, all of which are hugely interesting! All the teachers are very supportive and always willing to help if needed."

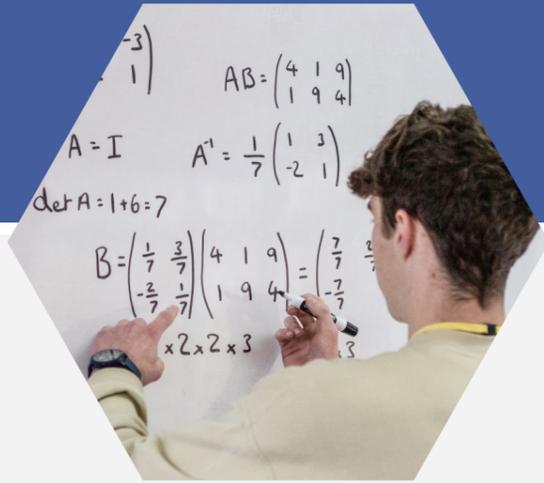
Grace, Year 13



GCSE

Grade 6 Maths

Further Maths



For someone who really enjoys Maths, Further Maths is a challenging subject, which extends and deepens their knowledge beyond A level Mathematics. Students will often say it's their favourite subject, as most of the content could be described as beautiful! Further Maths is also highly desirable, if not required, by many top universities for Mathematics, Science and Engineering courses, as well as Computing and Economics.

The Course is **50% Pure Maths** and **50% applied** (split evenly between Further Statistics and Further Mechanics), and is taught by subject specialists, who are all passionate about their area of expertise.

The **Pure** aspect introduces students to the exciting concepts of **imaginary numbers** and **matrices**, as well as **proof by induction**, **series** and **further calculus** involving **hyperbolic functions**. What is not to get passionate about!

Further Statistics involves studying **Hypothesis Testing** involving the **Poisson**, **binomial** and **geometric distributions** and will introduce students to the **Central Limit Theorem** and **Chi-squared tests**.

In **Further Mechanics**, we learn about **Momentum & Impulse** (what happens when objects collide) and **Work, Energy and Power**.

Where Next:

University - Maths, Engineering, Science, Computer Science, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Business.

Further Maths A Level is a great way to prepare for any course that relies on a logical, analytical approach.

Assessments

AS level - 2 papers Core Pure and applied, which comprises Further Statistics 1 and Further Mechanics 1. Both papers are 1 hour 40 mins each.

A Level

Paper 1 and 2 Pure Mathematics
Paper 3 Further Statistics
Paper 4 Further Mechanics
Each paper lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth one quarter of the overall mark.

The World Beyond:

Astronomy, Electronics, Technology, Computing, Surveying, Banking, Accountancy, Architecture, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Teaching, Operational Research, Statistical and Actuarial careers

"The content is challenging and extremely rewarding - it really demonstrates the beauty of Mathematics!"

Mr John

"If you're intrigued by the prospect of complex numbers, probabilities and bragging rights, Further Maths is your perfect A level pick. Challenging, but certainly worthwhile, putting you above the competition later in life."

Sam, Year 12

GCSE Grade 7 Maths

Core Maths



Core Maths (AS Level) is intended for students who have a keen interest in maths, but who do not wish to study it as a full A Level. It provides a valuable grounding in the quantitative skills that underpin many ungraduated courses, apprenticeships and jobs.

The course is divided into units that require and develop your skills in statistics, number and decision-making. Topics that are covered include: Analysis of data, Personal Finance, estimation, Critical Analysis and Critical Path Analysis. Real life data and resources allow you to make the connection to how Maths is used in everyday life and prepare you with essential skills that will be used now and in the future.

Our lessons are based on collaboration and team work. You will use maths to solve real-life problems that are commonly encountered in other subjects, work and life. You will have discussions and analyse data; you will learn a variety of problem-solving techniques.

"Taking Core Maths AS level was a last minute decision and I am so glad I did because the content we studied was interesting and applicable to many real-life situations, like sport or the economy. Many of the topics are based on GCSE knowledge we already had so this especially made it an easy transition up to AS level. Overall, skills like understanding mortgages, insurance rates and data correlation are some of the many things I feel made core maths so interesting and valuable." Sophie, Former Student

Students are encouraged to revisit GCSE topics to help prepare them for Core Maths.

Where Next:

The skills you will acquire by completing Core Maths AS Level support courses in Psychology, Health and Social Care, Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Science and PE.

Core Maths encourages students to link Maths in the context of real-world examples. Reading a newspaper, picking up The Economist, comparing the interest rates on different banks - there are endless places you can find links and content that support Core Maths.

Assessments

The qualification is an AS Level, there is currently no A Level equivalent. You will be assessed at the end of Year 12, so you will have gained UCAS points before you start applying to Universities.

Paper 1 - 50% 1 1/2 hour exam

Analysis of Data, Personal Finance and estimation

Paper 2 - 50% 1 1/2 hour exam

Critical Path and risk Analysis

The World Beyond:

The ability to analyse quantitatively helps you progress in a range of apprenticeships and jobs such as banking, accountancy and surveying.

People who run their own business will find Core Maths extremely useful.

GCSE Grade 5 Maths

Media Studies



Study this subject because Media is all around us - it is in our phones, on our screens and providing us with content to talk about and with. Media Studies is a great subject to get your teeth into. You will be able to see a project through from research and planning to an impressive cross-media piece. Near the end of the course, there is an enjoyable showcase evening to celebrate your work.

You will work on **Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences**. This is a whistle stop tour of a range of different media products through 1950s advertising, 1960s film marketing right up to the modern day with music videos by Beyoncé and Vance Joy and you will take a close look at the newspaper industry. You'll investigate texts that you may not have heard of before, like Late Night Woman' Hour. You will explore the impact of ownership and how the Internet has changed the ways in which we respond to texts.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth allows for a greater exploration of three key industries - Television, Magazines and Online. In this, we compare two sci-fi television series Humans and Les Revenants and see how genre is global. We will see how the magazine industry has changed, from 1960s Vogue to contemporary Big Issue and finally, in the Online unit, you will critically engage with Zoella and Attitude magazine online and consider gender as a performance.

Component 3: Non-examined assessment - Cross Media Production gives you a fantastic opportunity to create a cross-media campaign. In the past, students have created music videos and an online campaign or marketing materials and the opening to a true crime documentary.

A well-experienced and passionate team deliver engaging and interesting lessons designed to support all students. Most lessons are taught in a computer suite and there will be opportunities to put your theoretical understanding into practice by creating your own products. There is a lot of collaboration, group discussion and lively debate.

Assessment

The course is 70% exam and 30% non-examined assessment. You will take two exams at the end of the course. This is a two year A Level course but if you are interested in a one year course, we will offer AS Level Film or the Cambridge Technical Certificate in Digital Media.

To support your independence, we provide students with a contents page and a book to create their own revision guides. Students also have access to a range of extra tasks to stretch them as well as access to Media Magazine to further their understanding of key concepts.

Where Next:

University - Media, Marketing, Film Studies, Graphic Design, Journalism, Events Management.
Apprenticeships - Marketing, Events Management.

"We consume media every day, I've learned to see everything in a new way. No matter what types of media you enjoy the most (films, posters, music videos) the course will cover something that you'll already have an interest in."

Scott Year 13

GCSE

Grade 5 English.
GCSE Media grade 6 or Merit in iMedia is beneficial but not essential.

Digital Media CTEC



Digital Media is a practical and highly independent course that allows you to see two projects through from client brief to completion, creating industry standard documents along the way. You'll also consider a range of texts from either the film industry or the television industry and consider current concerns with the relationship between the audience and the text, do video games really make teens violent? In the second year, you will have an opportunity to pitch your advertising campaign ideas to a client. Past clients include Guide Dogs and Muc Off.

At the end of the two years, there is an enjoyable showcase evening to celebrate your work.

The course is 50% coursework and 50% examination. In year 12, you will sit the **Unit 1: Media Products and Audiences** exam, which includes a close study of three films or television programmes and understanding how regulation works. Other questions consider areas like audience data and the effects debate. You will complete a project which will cover **Unit 3, Create a Media Product** and **Unit 22, Scripting for Media products**. For this, students currently script, film and then edit the opening for a BBC III documentary on new and digital media.

In year 13, you will sit **Unit 2, Pre-Production and Planning**, drawing on all your experience across the two years of creating pre-production materials and understanding different job roles in the industry. You will also complete a project which will cover **Unit 20, Advertising Media** and **Unit 21, Plan and deliver a pitch for a media product** which will involve creating an advertising campaign based on a brief for a company and pitching directly to managers from the company.

This course can be taken as a one year course alongside three other courses or as a two year course.

Assessments are modular. You will complete one external exam and one project for coursework each year. The coursework is moderated by an external assessor during the year, so you will know how you are doing and then make improvements if necessary.

"Digital Media allows me to show of my creativity. It has allowed me to understand so much about how films are made, what makes adverts attractive to an audience and how social media has such a big impact on the world."

Layla, Year 13

Where Next:

University - Media, Marketing, Film Studies, Graphic Design, Journalism, Events Management, Web design.

Apprenticeships - Marketing, Events Management.

All lessons will be in a computer suite as you will often be working independently on your coursework.

"In this course you get to learn how to create and promote different media products, it gives you a chance to show and explore your own creative mind and you get the chance to feel more confident in yourself when having to present in front of your peers - it gives you that experience for whatever you want to do in the future."

Olivia, Year 13

Possible Careers:

Marketing, Producing, Social Media Manager, Journalist, Event Manager, Editor, Public Relations, Education.

GCSE

Grade 4 English.
Media grade 4 or a Merit L2 in iMedia is beneficial but not essential.

Music



Music provides a wide variety of transferable skills that will be very useful at university and in the world of work. A Level music involves written, analytical, practical and social/personal skills such as: independent learning; team working; performance and presentation skills; listening; analysis and essay writing.

Studying Music A Level will help you to develop these skills, all of which have applications in many areas of life. It will boost your confidence, helping you in all areas of study.

Your creativity and self-expression will gradually grow and you will learn to harness the power of your imagination.

The course is made up of three components:

Appraising (40%). You will study a variety of musical styles and genres. You will develop an ability to listen to, and appraise, music in depth, putting music into social and historical context.

Performing (35%). Solo and/or ensemble performance as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production (via technology).

Classes tend to be small, allowing for lots of individual support in composition and performance. Theory work is taught using as much practical work as possible, in combination with group discussions, listening task and individual work.

"This is a fantastic way to get into the music industry! We learn about the technology and the history of how all the equipment works. The practical aspects of the subject allow me to experiment and think like a producer."

Former Willink Student

You will be able to use music software and the recording studio in their own time to complete coursework.

Our students participate in extra-curricular music activities.

Assessment

60% of the marks are awarded for coursework based on composition and performance.

There is one final exam paper for the other 40%. You will answer questions based on both familiar and new music.

Where Next?

Performer, composer, publishing, music technician, music therapist, teacher, private tutor, work or internship in the creative arts industries.



GCSE

Grade 5 GCSE Music and play an instrument to Grade 5.

Physical Education



PE provides a fascinating insight into how the body, mind and social factors affect performance in sport and physical activity. PE A Level provides multiple skills including teamwork, oral presentation, analysis, critical evaluation, and practical performance. It is highly respected by employers and universities alike.

The course is split into 5 areas:

- Physiology and Biomechanics - 30%
- Sport Psychology - 20%
- Contemporary Issues - 20%
- Practical Performance - 15%
- EAPI (coursework in the form of an oral presentation) - 15%

Subject specialists focus in on each area and expand on knowledge gained in the GCSE PE course as well as introducing interesting new concepts, such as Energy Systems: how we create energy to enable our muscles to contract; Cardiac Control Centre: how heart rate is controlled; Projectile Motion: factors that determine distances and flight paths; Attribution: how success and failure are attributed; Modern Olympic Games: the background and how they have been politically exploited.

Assessments are linear, there is coursework which is both the practical and EAPI components, a set of exams are completed at the end of the course.

There are 3 exam papers:

Physiology and Biomechanics - 2 hours, 90 marks

Sport Psychology - 1 hour, 60 marks

Contemporary Issues - 1 hour, 60 marks

"I chose PE because it was a brand new subject for me and I was excited to see what the subject was like. I like PE because my class is small and this means I get more help with certain topics that I may need a bit more support with."

Curtis, Year 13

To support your independence we use the Everlearner package equipped with tutorials, tests and checkpoints. Students come along to weekly PE boost sessions to receive individually focussed support and feedback to further enhance understanding.

Lessons are designed to meet the needs of all our pupils. Understanding is checked regularly through group discussion, individual work, exam practise and peer assessment.

Further Education:

Physical Education, Sports Science, Exercise Science, Sports Psychology, Sports Coaching, Sports Analysis, Sports Administration.

Apprenticeships in Gym instructor, Coach, Fitness Instructor, Lifeguard, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Assistant

GCSE

Grade 5 PE or Grade 5 Biology if PE not taken.



Photography



Photography is about looking, learning, thinking and communicating ideas. It inspires creative thinkers. Photography means 'drawing with light' and that is what photographers do when they take a picture. Many photographers have explored various techniques to create images that make a personal statement about things that have interested or concerned them. The most exciting aspect of photography is that you are capturing the world as you see it.

The course is practical. You learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative personal work through a series of independent and guided projects. You will discover a whole range of techniques and processes, exploring digital and traditional methods. You will develop your creativity and independent thought through enrichment trips and analytical experiences, learn to express yourself visually and let your imagination flourish. Photography is a great companion to all other subjects as creativity, imagination and problem-solving are valuable skills in all disciplines. Independent projects may look at portraiture, landscape photography, still-life photography, documentary photography, photojournalism, fashion photography, experimental imagery, multimedia, photographic installation and moving image (video, film and animation). You will need access to a camera on which you can alter aperture, brightness, lenses, shutter speed and filters to manipulate images. At the end of the A-level course you will have the skills, knowledge and understanding needed for higher education.

In our lessons there are opportunities to explore composition, develop skills using digital and traditional methods of photography. Lessons will combine group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercise using Photoshop and other digital manipulation

"I love photography, it allows me to express myself and to be able to capture moments in my life through a lens. I also love the freedom of being able to create and display it in whatever way I please."

Livvy, Year 13

We will use student handbooks to guide you through modules and workshops, exercises to try and visits to galleries, museums and educational talks. Students come along to our weekly drop-in sessions to receive personalised support from our teachers.

Assessment

At A Level for **component 1** you will develop work for a personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material. This will count for 60% of your total A-level marks.

In **component 2** you will produce personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points which will count for 40% of your total A-level marks.

Where next?

Animation • Commercial photography • Creative and editorial photography • Digital media • Fashion photography • Film and television • Film and visual culture • Forensic photography • Graphics with photography • Medical photography • Visual communication



GCSE

Grade 5 Art & Design, Art Textiles or Media.

Physics



From the smallest quark to the largest galaxy, Physics explains it all! It develops logical, practical, mathematical and technical thinking. It is one of the facilitating subjects looked on favourably by the top universities. If you have a Physics A Level; "everybody thinks you are clever".

We start off with a short section learning about the foundations of Physics which underpin the rest of the A Level. This includes scalars and vectors, dealing with errors and uncertainties and using SI prefixes. Pupils then cover longer topics on mechanics and electricity, before moving on to work on waves and quantum physics. In Year 13 the depth of the content increases as we study thermal physics, simple harmonic and circular motion, astrophysics, nuclear and particle physics, gravitational fields, electromagnetism and medical physics.

Teaching staff will help to ease the transition to the more demanding content required in A Levels by building it up slowly from the knowledge you bring with you from GCSE. Lessons follow an established scheme of work with starters, plenaries, exam question practice, discussions, group work and practical work.

Assessment

You can choose to take this course as an AS or an A-level. The vast majority of students choose A-level.

AS Level Physics:

Two papers worth 50% each, covering:
Practical skills in physics
Foundations of physics
Forces and motion
Electrons, waves and photons

A Level Physics:

Three papers covering the AS content plus:
The Newtonian World and Astrophysics
Particles and medical physics
A Level Practical endorsement (Pass/ Fail). There is no coursework for this subject.

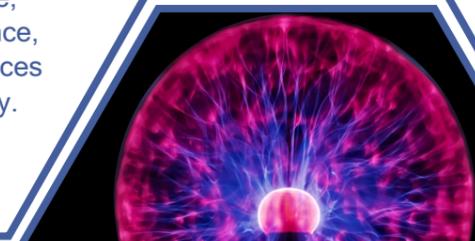
You will be given a week-by-week list of suggested independent study ideas. In your 11th lessons, you will have short self-assessment tests to help you identify weaker areas.

Physics students have access to the Kerboodle online resources and a range of textbooks are available for loan.

The world beyond: Accountancy, Banking, Engineering, Architecture, Management consultancy, Project management, Automotive design, Astronomy and Radiography

Where next?

Students have gone on to study Astronomy, Chemical Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Medicine, Maths, Computer Science, Robotics, Natural Sciences and Music Technology.



"All of the lessons are so well structured, making it easy to follow along. The teachers are supportive and always around to help go over any parts of the syllabus. In addition, you are given a wide range of resources and work for independent work."

Megan, Year 13

GCSE

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Physics and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.

Politics



Politics is a fascinating, ever-changing, and eye-opening subject which encourages you to discuss, debate and decide your views on a variety of topics. You get to delve into questions such as: What do you think of the current Prime Minister? Should we lower the voting age? How effective do you think Parliament is? Does socialism work? Why did people vote for Tony Blair? How could we hold governments and countries to account across the world? To what extent are China, USA and Russia superpowers? These are just a handful of topics which you will study in politics.

Studying Politics develops analytical, debating and evaluative skills as well as preparing you for the wider world. All of these skills are sought after at University for a variety of courses.

The course is split into three modules. In Year 12 you will study UK Government & Politics and Ideologies; followed by Global Politics in Year 13. UK Politics encompasses: democracy and participation, political parties, the types of electoral systems we use, voting behaviour and the influence of the media. UK Government includes: The UK's Constitution, the role and effectiveness of Parliament, the role and effectiveness of the Prime Minister and their cabinet and the relations between different UK institutions. The Ideologies module looks at the core doctrines of the UK - Socialism, Liberalism and Conservatism and in Global Politics we look at world theories such as Realism and Liberalism and how they affect the workings of the world.

Teachers are keen to support our students in their pursuit of excellence, putting them at the centre of our lessons. Debating, individual work, group work and project work are interwoven throughout the two-year course all whilst seamlessly helping you to develop your exam practise and skills. We offer a weekly drop-in for students to ask further questions or help with understanding the work to ensure you make the most out of an engaging and exciting subject.

Students are given access to Politics Review magazine and Pre-Chewed Politics to encourage them to delve further into subjects discussed in class and develop revision guides.

Students go on to study; Politics, Philosophy, Economics, History, International Relations, English & Journalism at degree level. Apprenticeships are also available in the civil service, government and local authorities.

"I joined the politics course because it helps connect me to the world and it will shape me into a person ready for the real world."

Caitlin, Year 13

Assessments for A Level Politics are linear with exams at the end of Year 13. Students taking Politics will sit the full A Level, which consists of three written exams (components), each one lasts 2 hours and is worth 33% of the overall mark (84 marks each).

Component 1 is UK Politics and Core-Ideologies
Component 2 is UK Government and Non-Core Ideologies
Component 3 is Global Politics

"I chose politics to learn more about our country and how it is run. I love debating with my classmates during lessons, and it's fascinating to hear everyone's different view points. It is by far my favourite subject and I definitely recommend taking it."

Bethany, Year 13

GCSE Grade 5 History, if taken, otherwise grade 5 English.

Product Design



Product Design gives you a creative and dynamic opportunity to develop a wide variety of skills; from designing, problem solving, project management and engineering to manufacturing.

Over the course you will study.

Research techniques: ergonomic and anthropometric, consumer/ technological, and eco friendly approaches to design.

Design techniques: sketching and rendering, technical and isometric drawing and CAD (computer aided design) through fusion 360 and sketch-up.

Manufacturing techniques: working in metal, plastic and wood you will cover computer aided manufacturing, alongside advanced machining techniques including but not limited to the centre lathe, milling machine, wood turning and laser cutting.

Product Design lessons offer you the opportunity to work independently in solving real life problems in the CAD suite, Design Studio and Machine workshops.

Assessment

Design and Technology (Product Design) is an A Level only course. Grades are awarded based upon coursework (NEA) and examined content, with 50% of the final mark being drawn from each.

The NEA starts at Easter of year 12 and is completed by Christmas of year 13. You develop an independent project covering a wide range of skills required to enter the world of commercial design and engineering and produces a report at the end.

There are two exams at the end of year 13 that cover the full range of materials, manufacturing processes, design processes and the history of design.

Where next?

Degrees and Apprenticeships in Engineering, Architecture, Project management, Industrial Design, Product Design Advertising and Business.

To support your independence, we offer access to the workshops and design suites outside of lessons and afterschool. As well as a KS4/5 only workshop.

People with D&T A Level find work in Mechanical, Industrial, Civil or Electronic Engineering, Architecture, Project Management and many other fields.

"Design has helped me bring my ideas to life and given me a better understanding of how things are made."

Leya, Year 13

GCSE Grade 5 D&T or a similar subject.

Psychology



Psychology is an extremely interesting and highly relevant subject. It provides students with an opportunity to explore the intricacies of human behaviour at a deeper level, whilst gaining knowledge of theory, all the while, making direct applications to the real world. Psychology will challenge you to question the root cause of all behaviour. You will consider individual motive and action and associated consequence. You will explore the impact of a variety of therapies and treatments and will consider the theories applied and methods used which enable psychologists to conduct meaningful research.

The course consists of a range of fascinating and complimentary topics. During year 12 there are two components. The first paper is based around 'Introductory Topics to Psychology', which includes content on social influence, memory and attachment. The second component is 'Psychology in Context' which encourages students to explore material on the differing approaches, issues relating to psychopathology and associated treatments and therapies, alongside biopsychology and research methods. In year 13 a third component is introduced. During this component a range of topic-based options are studied. These topics range from the formation, maintenance and breakdown of in person and virtual relationships, forensic psychology - focusing on criminal profiling techniques, psychological and biological reasons for offending and different the ways of dealing with offenders. We will also consider the causes and treatments for different eating behaviours. In addition to the listed topics, we will explore the range of methods used to facilitate effective research.

Assessment

We follow the AQA specification

The A Level is examined in 3 papers, each lasting for 2 hours. During the course, students' progress will be tracked and monitored via internal assessment. It is possible to sit an AS in Psychology. Further details can be obtained from Miss Flipping.

Psychology is taught in a variety of interactive ways ranging from teacher led presentations, through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.

Psychology is a popular subject to study and psychologists may work in all areas ranging from Education and Health, to the Economy, Research and Forensics.



To support your independence we encourage wider reading around the subject. We also set a variety skills based practice questions and/or booklets on all topics covered, as well as draw upon connections from the real world.

"It is so interesting being able to understand the human psyche at a much deeper level, learning why we behave in the way we do and why we do the things we do."
Lydia, Year 13

Most universities offer a Psychology degree, as well as related or combination degrees.
Criminology,
Psychology,
Sociology. Law,
Social Policy,
Forensics & Politics.

GCSE

5 in Biology (or 5 5 on Trilogy), 5 in English and Maths.

Religious Studies



Religious Studies is one of the most fascinating subjects to study. It forms the basis of knowledge for many humanities and social science subjects. Some of the key questions we will be considering are: Is capital punishment ever justified? When does life begin? Is embryo research ethical? Is evil inevitable? Do human beings have free will?

This course consists of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics in which the approach of philosophy to the study of religion and belief will be explored. In addition, this course provides strong grounding in the application of natural moral law, situation ethics and virtue ethics as well as an introduction to meta-ethics. Key to the topics will be the arguments put forward by imminent philosophers in this area including Hume, Kant and Anslem.

In the second part of this course there will be a strong focus on the study of Islam, the 2nd largest religion in the world. This component will investigate the key beliefs of Islam, values and its religious expression across different communities and societies. There will be exploration into Islam and its relationship to science and Islam and the challenges of secularisation as well as Islam, migration, gender, and religious pluralism.

Assessment

AS Level Exams

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

Written exam 2 hours - 67% of AS

Section A - Philosophy of religion

Section B - Ethics

Component 2: Study of Religion

Written exam 1 hour exam 33% of AS

A-Level Exams

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

Written exam 3 hours - 50% of A

Level

Section A - Philosophy of religion

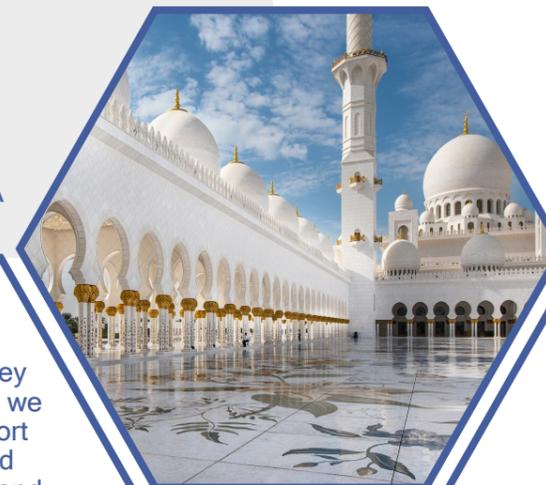
Section B - Ethics

Component 2: Study of Religion and Dialogues

Written exam 3 hours - 50% of A Level

Where to next?

Religious Studies can provide you with strong transferable skills including, debating and critical thinking through an exploration of different viewpoints. These skills are excellent grounding for many University degrees involving critical thinking and discussion e.g., Philosophy, Economics, English, Sociology, Politics, Psychology, Theology and Law.



Independent study is a key component of this course, we encourage and will support students with lesson and revision material. Further and wider reading is encouraged and access to a range of extra tasks and resources to stretch and challenge students will be available.

"The course helps students reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes to the wider world around them." Miss R Looker

The World Beyond
Lawyer, Journalist, Charity Sector, International aid/development, Business, Social Work, Academia, Civil Service

GCSE

5 in Religious Studies at GCSE

Sociology



Sociology provides students with a broad knowledge and appreciation of social processes and social change. From the development of cultures and subsequent subcultures, to the changing nature of family and education systems, all the way through to the causes and consequences of crime and deviance, alongside theory and methods, Sociology considers how differing individual life chances impact more widely. Throughout the course students will be encouraged to develop their own social awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world and will gain a wider range and depth of knowledge and understanding as well as highly developed skills of application, analysis, interpretation and evaluation.

The course consists of a variety of fascinating and diverse topics. In year 12, students will explore the evolving nature and function of the education system, alongside the impact of issues relating to gender, class and ethnicity on educational achievement. We will then move on to consider the changing nature of contemporary family structures and the associated impact on individuals as well as to wider society in general.

In year 13 we move on to study beliefs in society. As part of this topic we will explore the changing nature of religion, the reasons for the development of new religious movements all the while questioning if society has become secular. The course then moves on to look at issues relating to the causes of crime. As part of this topic we study patterns and consequences of crime for wider society.

Alongside all of the afore mentioned topics we will also consider sociological theory and methods.

Assessments

Sociology is a linear course meaning students sit final exams at the end of the course. We follow the AQA specification. The A Level is examined in 3 papers, each lasting for 2 hours.

All papers include short answers and extended writing. As part of the course, students' progress will be tracked and monitored via internal assessment. It is possible to sit an AS in Sociology. Further details can be obtained from Miss Flipping.

Lessons consist of teacher led presentations, group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.

"I am really interested in the world I am living in, and Sociology has provided me with a whole new perspective on society and how it functions. We cover so many different topics, lessons are always interesting!!"

Sam, Year 13

The subject provides a good insight into the structure of society and the effects of this on the individual, therefore it is a strong basis for careers in social work, the public sector including education and the police force, as well as journalism and research.

Where Next
Criminology,
Psychology,
Sociology, Law,
Politics, Education,
Media

GCSE Grade 5 in English.

Spanish



Zac

Studying: Spanish, History and Maths

Next Stop: Spanish and Portuguese at University

Loves: Sports, Scouting, football and languages

Learning a foreign language is more than just a boost to your CV or handy for travelling. It will make you smarter, more decisive and even better at English.

Physiological studies have found that speaking two or more languages is a great asset to the cognitive process. The brains of bilingual people operate differently than single language speakers, and these differences offer several mental benefits. Here are a few examples :

- You become smarter
- You build multitasking skills
- You stave off Alzheimer's and dementia
- Your memory improves
- You become more perceptive
- Your decision-making skills improve
- You improve your English

The course builds on your knowledge, understanding and skills gained in your language. 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. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where the language you study is spoken and language skills. Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater hindsight of the countries' culture.

We use a wide range of resources that will inspire you. They are linked to the topics in our AS/A Level courses as well as to our cultural topics. Your one to one sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will also give you an opportunity to gain confidence with your speaking. We track your progress and give you the confidence to achieve your next goal in your language.

Assessments are linear, there is no coursework, you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

Paper 1 Listening Reading and Writing
Paper 2 Writing (essays on a Spanish film and Spanish play)
Paper 3 Speaking

Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers and speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants.

Where Next: International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.

"I love learning Spanish A level because there are a lot more interesting topics and I love how inclusive and diverse they are. I love learning more in depth about Latin American culture and I think it would be extremely useful for the future."

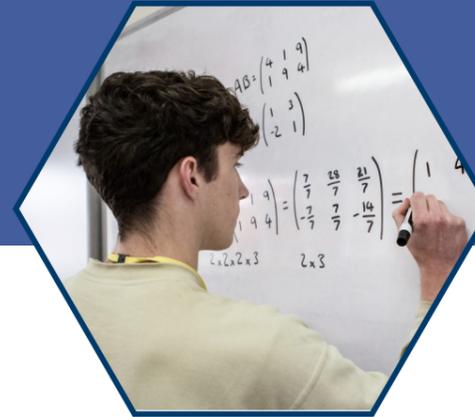
Imogen, Year 12

GCSE Grade 6 in Spanish.



The Willink

Village School, Global Outlook



Mrs G Schofield
Head of Sixth Form



Mr M Leach
Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Mr A Collot
Assistant Head Key Stage 5

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